

## Wind offers power; education, too

New wind turbine installed for Northwest State alternative energy program

ARCHBOLD — The wind is now powering education, at least in Archbold.



Stark's Inc. finished installation of a Skystream 3.7 wind turbine for Northwest State Community College Tuesday. The installation was completed during a tower raising ceremony at the Archbold campus. (Photo courtesy of Stark's Inc.)

Community College Tuesday. The installation was completed during a tower raising ceremony at the Archbold campus. Numerous government officials and members of the public joined staff from Northwest State and Stark's Inc. for the ceremony.

The Skystream 3.7, which is mounted on a 45-foot monopole tower, is designed for residential and small commercial applica-

tions. It connects directly into the power grid and produces electricity when wind speeds are at least eight miles per hour.

The wind turbine will provide a portion of the power needs for Northwest State, but its primary function will be as an educational tool for the college's new alternative energy courses.

"The demand for alternative energy-related jobs is projected

to grow significantly over the next 10 years, especially in Ohio," said Dan Burklo, dean of Engineering Technologies.

"There will be jobs in the alternative energy design and service industries, it is our job to get a trained work force ready to fill the needs of this industry."

In addition to the installed wind turbine, the classes also have access to a cutaway model turbine. The model is full-size, but is mounted to a three-foot stand, which puts the equipment at eye level. A cutaway on the side allows the inner workings of the turbine to be visible to students.

"We are fortunate to have a forward-thinking educational institution like Northwest State

in our area," said Shawn Stark, Stark's Inc. president. "It's exciting to be a part of a project that will not only raise awareness about alternative energy, but also help prepare the future workforce for this field."

(Information provided by Stark's Inc.)

## Defiance County road projects progressing

DEFIANCE — Defiance County Engineer Warren Schlatter informed the Defiance County Commissioners Monday that crews are continuing roadside work on Powers and The Bend roads.

Crews also are completing the walls at the Stever Road bridge and should complete their portion by the end of the week. He also reported the 2009 cement stabilization and chip sealing project is expected to start next week.

The engineer expects to receive the last delivery of salt this week for the 2009-2010 winter season.

Mike Williams of Defiance County Veterans' Affairs presented an activity report for 2008. The office had 19,613 client contacts in 2008 and in 2007 received \$3.2 million in veteran compensation and pension. Figures for 2008 have not been received yet.

Commissioners were informed the Local Emergency Planning Subcommittee met July 28 to attend an Emergency Operations Plan course held by the Ohio Emergency Management Agency. The course concerned the development and maintenance of local plans.

The county Emergency Operations Plan describes how citizens, property and the environment will be protected in the event of an emergency. The Defiance County EOP subcommittee is reviewing the plan, which is done annually.

The Joint Board of Defiance and Williams Counties met at the Ney Legion Hall Monday night for the reconvened final hearing for the Lick Creek Ditch petition. The board viewed each parcel with which landowners objected to assessments. The hearing adjourned to Aug. 31 at 1 p.m. at the Defiance County EMA Building. A related story was published in Tuesday's *Bryan Times*. (Based on information provided by the Commissioners.)

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