

LEVY

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2007, expires at the end of this year.

Antonia Carroll, the office's director, said the next 10 years are critical for central Ohio, as it's believed that the local population of adults older than 60 will grow by 25 to 30 percent by 2020. More Franklin County seniors live at home than do those anywhere else in the state, according to the 2010 census, Carroll said.

"Franklin County is doing the best of any county in the state as far as keeping our elderly residents in their homes," Carroll said. But that success means that the office expects to be inundated with increased demand for its service during the term of the replacement levy, she said.

Chuck Gehring, the president of LifeCare Alliance, which provides some of the services paid for by the levy, said the tax dollars are also important because some federal programs that have helped pay for services are ending.

He said keeping seniors in their homes saves taxpayers millions of dollars a year by avoiding costly nursing-home and hospital stays.

"It keeps seniors who are frail and low-income in their homes, where they want to be," Gehring said.

On Tuesday, the commissioners are to consider a levy-approval recommendation from a committee that vets levy proposals for them.

The next steps would be to have the auditor formally certify the amount of money the levy would collect and have the ballot language approved.

The commissioners then would vote again this month to place the levy on the November ballot. jjjarman@dispatch.com @Josh_Jarman

ELECTRICITY

FROM PAGE B1

refuge from the heat and lack of electricity at his mother's house in Westerville, he said, he stuck it out at his Franklin Avenue house to care for the family's two dogs.

The heat finally forced him to sleep on his patio on Saturday night after he no longer could find comfort in his formerly cool basement. That's why he greeted the arrival yesterday morning of an AEP crew from Fayetteville, Ark., with excitement and hope.

It's not as if he lives in a remote area of southeastern Ohio, he said, or as if the outage was caused by a massive tangle of trees and power lines. It was just one tree, felled by high winds and still lying atop several parked cars.

Harris said the Fayetteville workers told him the tree is the city's problem, while Columbus employees have told him the power company has to remove it.

"I am concerned about who's going to take responsibility for the tree," he said, adding that he's happy enough to have his power back that the tree can wait.

Harris and his neighbors were among thousands of customers reconnected by AEP yesterday. The company said it has restored power to about 95 percent of the 660,000 customers who lost electricity because of the June 29 storm and storms on Wednesday and Thursday.

The largest number of customers without power in Franklin and its contiguous counties is the more than 5,000 in Licking County. More than 1,900 were without power in Franklin County as of last night. Many are in the eastern and southeastern sections of the

county.

AEP says that all transmission lines have been restored, including 683 transmission poles that were damaged statewide.

Because of lack of demand, the American Red Cross closed its emergency shelters in Fairfield, Franklin and Muskingum counties on Saturday night.

Shelters remain open in Guernsey County (Liberty Community Fire in Kimblton), Hocking County (Central Elementary School in Logan), Licking County (Cherry Valley Elementary in Newark) and Perry County (Crooksville High

School).

The promised break in the weather did not quite occur, as the high temperature reached 92 degrees yesterday at Port Columbus. The National Weather Service is forecasting highs of 87 today, 83 on Tuesday and 84 on Wednesday. A high of 85 degrees is normal for this time of year.

However, the forecast lows in the 60s will provide some relief at night, including a low of 62 degrees expected on Tuesday morning. The normal low is 66 degrees.

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TOM DODGE | DISPATCH

Chasing waterfalls | Makena Gardner, left, plays in the mist from the Hayden Run waterfall on a hot day. Makena's mother, Patti Gardner, was introducing Kona, their 11-week-old German shepherd, to water on Friday's visit. The temperature hit 100 that day, but today's outlook is for less-oppressive heat, with a high in the high 80s.

Trash colors

Today..... gold
 Tuesday..... gray
 Wednesday..... navy
 Thursday..... pink
 Friday..... ruby

Ohio Lottery

Numbers for Sunday, July 8

ROLLING CASH 5

5 10 27 29 30

DAYTIME PICK 3

6 7 5

DAYTIME PICK 4

2 6 6 5

NIGHTTIME PICK 3

2 7 1

NIGHTTIME PICK 4

1 7 7 9

▶ The Ohio Lottery's Classic Lotto jackpot will be \$13.1 million for the drawing tonight. There were no tickets with the correct combination for Saturday's drawing.

▶ The Mega Millions jackpot will be an estimated \$14 million for the drawing on Tuesday. There were no tickets with the correct combination for the drawing on Friday.

▶ The Powerball jackpot will be an estimated \$80 million for the drawing on Wednesday. There were no tickets with the correct combination for the drawing on Saturday. The winning numbers were 3, 5, 29, 39 and 59. The Powerball was 29.

▶ For results of the Ohio Lottery's Ten-Oh! midday and evening drawings, see Dispatch.com/lottery or call the lottery's hot line at 1-800-589-6446.

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SYRIA

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Yesterday's event at the Makoy Center was not a political rally, but a fundraiser to help provide medical care to those wounded by the violence in Syria, which grew out of a crackdown on anti-government protests that began in March 2011.

Numerous news reports estimate that at least 15,000 people have been killed in Syria in the uprising against President Bashar Assad. Protesters are demanding an end to five decades of Baath Party rule.

Many media accounts say that June was the deadliest month of the conflict, as Assad increased attacks on



THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

rebels in hopes of crushing the uprising.

Here, the violence has become a political issue as Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney has chastised President Barack Obama, saying he has done enough to topple Assad's regime and end the violence. Romney proposes

It costs about \$55,000 to get a small hospital started for victims of Syria's violence.

arming Syrian opposition groups so they can better defend themselves.

The White House rejects Romney's idea, saying that the opposition's fighting capabilities are unknown and that Obama does not want to escalate the conflict with more weapons.

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said yesterday that time is running out for a chance at peace in Syria, and she warned that the region could collapse.

Dr. Nora Alghothani, who practices internal medicine in Columbus, recently learned that her cousin was

shot and killed two weeks ago in Syria by Assad's army. She is trying to raise money to save others' lives in his memory.

"He was not a protester," she said. "This is a time of desperate need in Syria."

Al Kassem said supplies are needed to help transport the wounded out of unsafe areas and into safe houses or neighboring Turkey. He said Assad's troops are targeting doctors and ambulance drivers and are bombing hospitals that treat the wounded.

Al Kassem said he will continue to travel to Syria,

and he believes Assad's regime soon will fall.

"We have more than 40 hospitals set up, but we need more," he said.

It costs about \$55,000 to get each hospital started, and \$18,000 a month to keep it staffed with at least one nurse, one doctor and another care provider.

Those who wish to donate or get involved can contact Life for Relief and Development, a nonprofit group founded in 1992 by Arab- and Muslim-American professionals, through the website www.lifeusa.org.

As for the 11-year-old girl, she survived, but "her body is destroyed all over," Al Kassem said.

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GRAVE

FROM PAGE B1

in love and watched the world change in ways they couldn't have imagined.

Cruikshank has traced his roots to the 1300s, a task that saw him digging through old court records and visiting cemeteries to sketch a family tree 3,100 people wide. He's hoping to make it easier for others to find their roots.

"My whole purpose is to help people not have to go through what I went through," Cruikshank said, lifting his bucket of cleaning supplies and heading to the next tombstone in the Pataskala Cemetery.

Last year, he became one of a group of volunteers transcribing the state's cemeteries as part of the USGenWeb Project, a free online collection of genealogical information.

Robert Sizelove, the project manager for the so-named Ohio Tombstone Photo Project, said workers are trying to collect information from thousands of cemeteries before it's too late. "A lot of the tombstones are just literally melting away, and there's going to be a point in time when they're not readable," Sizelove said.

Volunteers have photo-

Volunteers have photographed their way through cemeteries in all 88 Ohio counties.

graphed their way through cemeteries in all 88 Ohio counties. Sizelove himself has documented dozens of them.

Tombstones, he said, give information one can't always find at courthouses: Birth and marriage certificates don't always exist, and records of children who were born and died between census counts might be found only in a cemetery.

Grave sites also can tell a different story from a piece of paper. Plots with rows of tiny headstones speak to plagues that devastated young families. Granite carvings show that a dead man was a war veteran, or that he loved music, or that his family wasn't ready to say goodbye.

"We're just fascinated with life stories and what happens to people," Sizelove said. "There's just so much behind the birth date and the death date, that little dash in between that they don't even talk about. It's your whole life."

In Pataskala, Cruikshank continues his work, stoop-

ing to snap another stone: "FRAVEL." The name reminds him of the puppet show *Fraggle Rock*, which reminds him of his two boys, which makes him think of his four grandchildren.

Out here, the mind can wander.

Click. This is Cruikshank's second cemetery. The first one, in Kirkersville, took him four months to document. This graveyard is one-third larger, and he'll finish it in a few weeks. He knows what he's doing now. He's addicted.

Married for nearly 40 years and retired from the airline-catering industry, he doesn't go out carousing or drinking, he said. His escape is the cemetery and the stories that surround him — and that breeze across his neck.

It's not the wind, he said. It can't be. It doesn't so much as flutter a leaf. Cruikshank thinks that whatever it is — and yes, he does believe in spirits — might be curious about the man photographing the tombstones of strangers.

So he answers it, sometimes aloud.

"I'm taking pictures," he says, "so people will remember you."
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TENT

FROM PAGE B1

Under city rules, legislation must be read on three days before it can be voted on. Monday is to be the second reading of the proposal.

Occupy Columbus — part of a national movement that began with the message of ending corporate influence in government — is still functional. Members recently appeared at ComFest and in the Doo Dah Parade, and they attended a rally against "fracking" — a process of drilling for oil and natural gas — continuing their mission of asking questions and trying to start conversations.

The blue-tarped tent is still used twice a week for meetings, said Robert Crane, a member of Occupy Columbus. But he said the number of people attending has decreased.

"Over the cold winter, many Occupy movements came to the realization that the tent city, which was the spectacle to let people know we were there, was not the true end goal of Occupy," Crane said. "Now we have the conversation."

For Crane, leaving the tents in front of the Statehouse was a "risk," trusting that the momentum begun last fall can be sustained if members are not permanently in a visible spot.