

Miami U. students, Boehner meet

Speaker of the House John Boehner welcomed students from Miami University this past week to Capitol Hill for the school's alternative spring break.

Miami University students participated in several programs to serve, learn and make a difference in the community. One of the groups of students was the Government Relations Network where 33 students and five staff and faculty members traveled to Columbus and Washington, D.C., to meet with legislators and observe government in action.

In D.C., they visited several congressional members, presented research posters in a "Posters on the Hill" event for the Ohio delegation and its staff, and attended an evening reception with alumni in the beltway.

Thursday, they visited Boehner.

"I thank the students from Miami University for making the trip to Washington to share their research with lawmakers and policy staff on Capitol Hill," said Boehner. "Posters on the Hill is a great opportunity for students from our local area to showcase their hard work, and I'm always impressed with their accomplishments."

Commissioner candidates forum on Monday

The Middletown Area Republican Club will host the four candidates for Butler County Commission on Monday at the MidPoint Library in Middletown.

The candidates – incumbent Cindy Carpenter, Liberty Twp. Trustee Christine Matatic, West Chester Twp. and author George Nafziger and Madison Twp. resident and former county dog warden Julie Holmes – are invited to the 7 p.m. forum at the library located at 125 S. Broad St. This is the rescheduled date for the February MARC meeting that was canceled due to the death of one of the party's members.

Common Pleas judicial candidates Ben Manning, Michael Oster and Ronald James, are also invited to the Monday evening forum.

Portman, Levin announce caucus

On Wednesday, U.S. Sens. Rob Portman, R-Ohio, and Carl Levin, D-Michigan, announced the launch of the Senate Auto Caucus, a bipartisan caucus co-chaired by the two senators designed to work to improve policy on issues affecting America's auto industry such as workforce development, regulatory issues, safety, technology, and fuel efficiency.

The caucus hosted a kick-off event on Capitol Hill Wednesday with auto companies, associations and other groups.

Portman said policies that would be supported by the caucus "will help ensure the auto industry continues to grow and thrive."

"America's auto industry employs 8 million Americans and drives more than \$735 billion into the economy annually," said Portman.

Levin said the manufacturing is the path to the middle class for millions

of Americans.

"The auto industry is the heart of American manufacturing," Levin said. "The Auto Caucus will help us stay focused on helping advance the U.S. auto industry renaissance that is so important to millions of families and countless communities across the country."

Boehner's goodwill gesture to Pelosi

Speaker Boehner gave one of his chief political opponents a taste of Cincinnati: Graeter's ice cream.

House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi turned 74 on Wednesday, and for her birthday Boehner sent her a note and 3 pints of Graeter's ice cream (dark chocolate truffle, black raspberry chocolate chip and caramel truffle).

Pelosi posted a picture of the gift on her Instagram account (nancy-pelosi) with this message: "Thank you Speaker Boehner for this gift—a delicious taste of Cincinnati—on my birthday. It's certainly testing me during lent!"



Miami's Emily Adams presents her research project on Thursday as part of school's alternative spring break event. The goal of Adams' project is to identify economically viable hydrocarbon accumulations taken from wells..