Fullerton Pike corridor plans moving ahead

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A contractor could be hired later this year to work on the first phase of the Fullerton Pike/Broner Road project.

Monroe County Public Works Director Joa Ridge said the county is finalizing right-of-way acquisition for a section of the federally supported project that begins just west of the Gordon Pike/Broner Road intersection with Walnut Street and heads out just past the routing intersection with Walnut Street.

The county plans to bid the project in August, and at the county commissioners’ regular meeting on Friday, an agreement with American Structurepoint Inc. was approved for construction inspection services for the project.

That contract is for $1,058,948.49, but county officials said it is less than 2 percent of that amount, while the project is fully funded.

The actual construction cost is approximately $7 million. Phase I of Ridge said federal funding also will help cover the construction costs.

SEE CONSTRUCTION | PAGE 6B

Solar energy potential in Monroe County

A study identifies areas of Monroe County where solar panels would be efficient. A GIS section of a typical section of the county

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Residents interested in viewing the solar energy potential of their property can do so by visiting Monroe County’s GIS website at maps.monroe.org/380/389/ESRI, which is how to access.

After searching for a property address, residents can check the “Annual Solar Potential” box located on the right-hand side under “Map Contents.” This tells if the property is a suitable area to take advantage of solar power technology.

SEE SOLAR | PAGE 4B
SYRUP: You get a straight taste from the tree.

ERIN O'LEIGH, BLOOMINGTON

"It tastes good," student Victoria Atten declared after trying a special syrup.

The activity was part of a larger unit of study on Native American culture and the early 19th-century explorations of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark for students in Cindy Creek and Michael Lowes' multi-age classroom at Rogers.

Alcohol Creek and Lewis intended to teach the children about history, they welcomed Gibbons into their classroom with the hope of finding other lessons. Despite hands on this is a great effort, and we really believe in the work that we're doing and getting them out and teaching them to be good stewards of the Earth."

Syrup-making the part of future conservation was a part of the fun of getting the kids to explore outside, and with around 300 people during the maple syrup-making season to do just that.

Kid-ronald Johnson, sixth-grader in the Monroe County Community School Corp., as well as students from Clinton Elementary School and Hennessey Elementary in Brown County, got a chance to find out how maple syrup is made.

"It's good for everyone to be out there and get some exercise. It's not just for kids, but it's good for everyone to be involved in the process and help out."

More information

Find out more about Syrupman and Syrup at a nearby community event.

**SCHOOL DIARY**

High schools could help students by giving them more freedom

As a high school senior who will soon be Lih and has never been a discipline referral in her four years of high school, she confesses that she will need to ask an adult for permission before crossing myself to the restroom.

High school is often described as an independent adolescent experience in which students are able to learn, develop, and find their way into adulthood. Yet, with their freedoms restricted in many ways, parents feel these are students truly supported in school and prison become the norm less preoccupied.

High school students are generally bound by these confines for four years of their lives, in years which they are supposed to develop.

Many of these students tend to move on to college, where they are afforded a vast collective of resources. Their professors don't take attendance; administrators don't decide what is appropriate for them to wear and certainly don't make them ask for permission before using the restroom.

As college students embark on these newfound freedoms, they are allowed to develop in high school. Some students have some freedom, but others find that the rules that were once enforced upon them, are now within the rights of students to neglect their responsibilities, do poorly in their classes or even drop out.

Schools should not be bound by these confines for four years of their lives, in years which they are supposed to develop.

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To prevent this, all too common, high schools should consider granting their students more freedom before they advance to the disadvantage of the whole world of college.

Under this proposal, students would possess the freedom to wear what they please and leave school when they need to. With guidance from teachers and administrators, high schools should be able to safely explore these freedoms and truly mature.

It's probable that many students would come to the conclusion that their tendency is to succeed and less likely to drop or drop out of college in the future.

When high schools receive the freedom of students in another manner would a child, these adolescents are inclined to rebel. However, by allowing these students more liberties, they can be encouraged to grow.