

"Well I'd have to say 'BJ and the Bear' mostly because there aren't enough shows on TV that show smart primates being taken on the road as 18-wheeler travel companions."

"I think that is a genre that is sadly missing in today's world of reality TV."

C.S.

Every week we ask readers a question they can reply to via email. Send your answers to [rmaloney@community.press.com](mailto:rmaloney@community.press.com) with [Ch@room](mailto:Ch@room) in the subject line.

"There was a show titled 'Watch Mr. Wizard.' It showed the science behind ordinary things in life. It was intended for grade school age kids. I think the concept would work today on the History or Discovery Channel. The great comedy shows of Dean Martin, Sid Caesar and Jackie Gleason et al might also

work today.

"Most other shows from that era would be stuck in that time warp and not accepted by today's audiences. Go Figure!"

T.D.T.

in that groundswell are committed to fully exploring options for retaining Milford Main, possibly as a community/cultural arts center or "maker" space for artisans and improving greenspace to serve residents of all ages and attract visitors. Artists are re-inventors who repeatedly bring buildings and communities back to life via a renewed sense of place and stronger economy. They come for the long term, not a quick fix or taxpayer drain. With renowned artists, galleries and strong arts programs, Milford is ripe

collection of artists under one roof and has grown to Middletown, Rising Sun, Indiana, and Ashland, Kentucky. Hamilton received a National Endowment for the Arts grant. So could Milford. "Art works to support creative, economically competitive, healthy, resilient, and opportunity-rich communities," according to the NEA. "Excellent art is an essential part of building strong community, as important as land-use, transportation, education, housing, infrastructure, and public safety" making "places more liv-

make positive change. This movement isn't about positioning artists as special outsiders who parachute in with easy fixes, but as neighbours who are one part of a whole set of things a community can do to be healthy." Since 2012, I've rented a studio at Main, hosting an arts exploration for local, at-risk kids, and recognize the potential. Out of the box, creative thinking can save our landmark and enhance the community on many levels. Cathy Barney is a resident of Milford.

# Advantages to exploring career options early

A panel discussion featuring regional business leaders discussed the need to develop local talent – young adults who have skills that are needed in their community. They said that those young adults are the key to the continued economic success of our region.



The best way to develop that talent has been discussed, and debated in news articles, political speeches and forums. Are four-year or advanced college degrees appropriate? When are industry training programs, community col-

leges, adult education courses, and hands-on training the right choice for young adults? The truth is that we need a variety of paths, and our youth need to have options. Research shows that current teenagers will change careers multiple times in their lives. Ohio's efforts to introduce career education

into lower grades is a step in that direction. Understanding choices early will help them to be successful more quickly. For many students, keeping options open means attending a career-technical school. They know that becoming ready for both a career and college by the time they graduate offers multiple paths. About half of Great Oaks graduates, for instance, go directly to college – many of them with credits they've earned in high school. Others use their career certification to get ahead; a cosmetology

student may use the license she earned to save money for further schooling. Or, numerous graduates from pre-engineering, manufacturing and robotics programs are now working for local employers who will pay for their college education. Apprenticeships in electricity, HVAC and other skilled trades allow graduates to earn their continued education. Healthcare graduates know that their certifications are a foundation for advancement in multiple directions. Some students even graduate from high school knowing that the field they thought they loved isn't for them – a much easier decision at 18 than after several years of college. The point is that our economy needs skilled professionals, and our youth need and want a variety of possibilities. The chance to explore choices early gives many a head start on success.

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