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freshman recently endured.
"Very intensive," she said. "A tremendous amount of reading."
Schneider is already in awe of Ohio's \$40 billion budget opposed to Madeira's \$4 million budget. "So it's a little bit of a jump," Schneider said.
Schneider, 46, served most recently as a Madeira council member. Schnei-

2002 budget will be top priority when Schneider steps in. Schneider said school funding and Medicaid are two other issues that will have to be addressed quickly.
Schneider won't get her committee assignments until mid-January, but she knows what she wants.
"I would love to get health, retire-

Current state representative Robert Schuler, whom Schneider is replacing because of term limits, doesn't think she will have much trouble getting acclimated.
"I think they'll (residents) find she'll give them good service," Schuler said. "She's got experience in local government."

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Teen Response grows into new facility

By JASON NORMAN
STAFF REPORTER

John Keuffer's law enforcement days are over, but his days of enforcing responsibility in adolescents has just begun.

Keuffer is co-founder of Teen Response, a local organization providing free, prevention-based programs for youths ages 10 to 18. The organization recently moved into its new home on Bramble Avenue in Madisonville.

"For once in our history we have a place that's ours," Keuffer said. Teen Response was sharing space at the Oakley Community and Senior Center.

An Oakley resident and former police officer, Keuffer helped start Teen Response in 1993. He wanted to give adolescents positive examples so that they could become responsible individuals.

"We wanted to do something to highlight the good things that they do," he said.

Keuffer said Teen Response stresses community service and leadership training.

"It helps them invest back in their neighborhoods," Keuffer said.

Empower MediaMarketing, a local strategic media management company, commemorated the organization's new home with a \$15,000 check.

"It's really a model program," Empower MediaMarketing President

Brian McHale said. "It helps youth find productive things to do with their time. It puts the responsibility in the youth's hands."

Keuffer said the money will be divided three ways: renovations to the new facility; youth activities; and marketing of the organization. The money will also take the fund-raising burden off of the youth.

"We can turn that money into things for the kids," Keuffer said.

Teen Response's purpose is to "make people productive citizens."

"I think there are negatives and positives and lots of kids are riding on the fence," Keuffer said. Bringing youth over to the positive side of the fence is Keuffer and Teen Response's primary goal.

"I'm making kids accountable for the program," he said.

Among the programs Teen Response has, the outreach program is the biggest, according to Keuffer. He invites Cincinnati Mighty Duck hockey players to go with him to different schools talking with youth.

"If you build it and they will come just doesn't seem to work," Keuffer said.

Keuffer is just happy to see Teen Response alive and still growing.

"We shouldn't be where we're at," Keuffer said. The first year, "We didn't

Response
Continued on A6

Brinkman already been working st

By AMY MONAHAN
STAFF REPORTER

Tom Brinkman Jr. is ready for his swearing-in Jan. 2 as state representative in the 37th District.

He has been making the rounds to local school boards, councils and other groups that he visited before being elected.

His message, Brinkman said, is, "I'm here to hear about your needs so I can serve you better. Tell me what your issues are. I believe in local control."

Since the election, he has been busy, including attending a recent training session offered by the Legislative Service Commission, in which incoming representatives learned the inner workings of the state government.

"It was very in depth and very well attended," Brinkman said. "We learned a heck of a lot," such as how to get bills written, and follow those bills through the legislature.

He has hired an assistant through the Legislative Service Commission, Kara Joseph, and is preparing to find a place to live in Columbus.

A father of six, Brinkman said one of his sons will most likely attend Ohio State University next year so it makes sense to also have a home in the capital.

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You are one of the 411,000 weekly readers of the 25 Community Press and Community Recorder newspa

...I want to teach them. ...
In addition, she's working with alumni
her high school alma mater, Withrow
School; working with the Hamilton

...Some of the most heartbreaking work,
she said, was helping families solve work-
er's compensation claims. "Many times peo-

limits is that more people will have the
opportunity to serve.

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a dime."
he best feeling Keuffer gets
when he's walking in the
neighborhood and an individual
approaches him.
It's about knowing that you
le some kind of impact,"
ffer said.
One of the requirements the
anization has is that parents
Teen Response youth volun-
40 hours a week.
Keuffer is happy to see the
gress Teen Response is mak-
in the lives of young people.
"I don't want my dream to
I with me," Keuffer said. "I
ays want to help more kids
n I can help."



Standing with the check from Empower MediaMarketing to Teen Response is, from left, Craig Connolly, Teen Response co-founder John Keuffer, Greg Rothschuh, a 13 year-old Teen Response participant, and Brian McHale, president of MediaMarketing.

ely to start again in the spring

ong Red Bank Road. Without
d, the project is stalled.
Fairfax wants to coordinate
widening of Red Bank Road,
nes.
of the Red Bank widening is
fax received a \$1.5 million

will pay about \$1 million.
Cincinnati Supervising Engineer Wesley
Wimmer said he's hopeful Phase III will start
next year. Cincinnati is in negotiations with one
Red Bank business for right of way acquisition.
"I would love to see it get going this sum-
mer," said Wimmer, who's the Duck Creek Pro-

man (R - 2nd District) and Steve Chabot (R -
1st District) helped get the cap language put in
the reauthorization bill.
"They were our initial contacts who got the
ball rolling," she said.
Fairfax was concerned two months ago that
Congress wouldn't address the Duck Creek Pro-
ject authorization before year-end adjourn-