

Sandusky Register

'Get out of our town'

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It's easy to be disappointed with government. Bureaucracies, red tape, rules and regulations slow everything down and provide an endless supply of frustration, both real and imagined, or even made up. So when government — in this case the U.S. Justice Department — steps up it's worth noting. That was the case a few years ago, when the U.S. Attorney indicted Republican Ohio House Speaker Larry Householder and Matt Borges, the former Ohio Republican Party chairman on crimes related to \$60 million in bribes involving FirstEnergy. Both men were convicted this year and the evidence against them seemed overwhelming to us, as well as a jury. That number — \$60 million — still astounds us and we worry they would have gotten away with it if it weren't for the USDOJ. Now the U.S. attorney has indicted two businessmen who allegedly manufactured millions of dollars in fake assets to leverage the purchase of Maui Sands, the waterpark on U.S. 250 at Ohio 2. They're charged with wire fraud, money laundering conspiracy and five counts of money laundering. In this instance these "investors" came in, occupied the resort for a short period and left it in shambles, beyond repair. We're glad that, if these men did what the U.S. attorney contends they did, that they are being brought to justice.

We love the emerging new look of the cafeteria at Sandusky High School. The most recent renovation is new chairs and tables, replacing the furniture that was there for more than 50 years. That in itself — purchasing and keeping the same furniture for five decades — is testament to the Sandusky school board's good stewardship, but it was time to keep bringing the room into a more modern era. "All of these adjustments and upgrades were imperative to bolstering the student experience and creating an atmosphere that is modern and inviting," said Sandusky Schools spokeswoman Kerstyn Pou. "The new tables and chairs provide students with more of a college atmosphere." The flooring and lighting were replaced last year and the murals in the cafeteria are sophisticated. The food is much better, too, than it was in the 1970s.

U.S. Rep. Marcy Kaptur was one of four panelists during a forum about the sustainability of Social Security and Medicare programs at BGSU Firelands College. About 300 residents attended and Kaptur, along with Max Richtman, director of the National

Commission for the Preservation of Social Security and Medicare, Liz Skrinal, a certified financial planner with True Alpha Wealth Management and Romina Boccia, director of budget and entitlement policy at the Cato Institute in Washington, D.C., took questions for 90 minutes. Kaptur, whose participation helped garner support for the forum, said she hoped bipartisan support emerges this year or next year during the presidential campaign so that Congress acts to preserve the Social Security and Medicare programs.