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ODOT - DISTRICT 9  
DISTRICT DEPUTY DIRECTOR

February 26, 2010

822 Chapel Cr. Rd.

Kingston, Ohio 45644

C. J. Baird - Please prepare  
D. Buskirk a response.

To Whom It May Concern:

Reference - Two traffic lights - one  
needed and one not necessary?

This letter we're writing mostly  
concerns the traffic light you have  
put on "flashing caution" on Bridge  
Street between the new "Aldi's Store"  
and across the street, "Tire Discounters"  
and the "Tractor Supply Store".

What can you be thinking? To  
take this light down would sooner  
or later be the cause of numerous  
accidents!

The shift changes at Kenworth  
and Adena Hospital, not to mention  
the other businesses on Rt. 159

and Bridge Street make it almost impossible to come out of Aldi's and turn across the highway to Chillicothe, and the same danger exists turning out of either of the two businesses across the road going north on Rt. 159! It's totally an accident just waiting to happen if you remove this light!! A lot of people come from Chillicothe to shop at these places! Please turn that light back on!! I've talked to several people here in Chillicothe and they agree that light should stay and should be working! Thank God you finally put one at Hopetown! It's been needed for years! This helps a little to slow the traffic down, but by

the time they reach Aldis and these other two businesses, they are speeding; your caution light means nothing, mainly to the shift workers! And Vocational School <sup>students</sup>!

Now, for the light that is not needed — Delano Rd. and Rt 159

I'm enclosing a couple of clippings from our Chillicothe Gazette which are pretty clear what happened!!

When people won't stop for a stop sign, what do they expect?

These young kids get a driver's license and then go out on the roads and disobey every traffic law there is and most of the time get by with it; but sooner or later it catches up with them and sometimes takes the lives of innocent people! Where this accident took

place, there is a clear view both ways; there was no need for this accident or any accident at this crossroads — if — people (all) are paying attention! But further south of this crossroads where this happened is the same road where you're considering taking this light down. PLEASE Do Not remove this light for everyone's sake.

Sincerely Yours,  
Pastor & Mrs Joseph Grafthofer

P.S. For 7,400 cars per average day traveling that road and only 5 crashes there between 2006-2008

I'd agree with you totally, no traffic light is needed.

# ZT pulls together after crash

## Teacher recovering at home; senior remains critical but stable

BY JONA ISON

Gazette Staff Writer

**KINNIKINNICK** — Saying Wednesday was a difficult day for the Zane Trace community doesn't begin to explain the level of emotional chaos.

The district was grappling with the layered effects of Tuesday's crash that involved a well-liked senior, Matt Boedeker, and a well-liked teacher, Pam Gallagher. Boedeker's father, Mike, is a coach and teacher in the district.

Many staff members watched Matt and his twin brother, Marcus, grow up, and Gallagher, who is home recovering, has been teaching at the school 26 years. Boedeker is one of Gallagher's former students.

"She's worried more about him than herself," middle school principal Bret Mavis said.

Boedeker was in critical but stable condition Wednesday at Ohio State University Medical Center. According to Zane Trace staff, he sustained three broken ribs, a skull fracture and a collapsed lung in Tuesday's crash.

The crash occurred fewer than three miles from the school at the intersection of Delano Road and Ohio 159.

According to the Chillicothe post of the State Highway Patrol, Boedeker pulled westbound from Delano Road into Gallagher's southbound path on Ohio 159 minutes after school ended Tuesday.

The investigation hasn't revealed whether Boedeker had stopped at the stop sign first or if he had been wearing a seat belt. He was trapped inside his car and had to be freed by mechanical means.

Gallagher, who was treated and released from Adena Regional Medical Center, was wearing a seat belt. According to Mavis, she was at the emergency room when she found out who had been in the other vehicle.

Some have questioned the safety of the intersection and potential need for a traffic light because of the volume of traffic around 3 p.m. — the time when students are traveling from schools and shifts end at Adena and Kenworth.

According to the Ohio Department of Transportation, there were five crashes at the intersection between 2006 and 2008. Last year, ODOT performed a signal warrant study, but determined traffic did not warrant a traffic light, public information officer Kathleen Fuller said.

That stretch of road has traditionally been well traveled, with a 2006 Ohio Department of Transportation traffic study showing that more than 7,400

cars per day on average traveled that year through the area where the crash took place. More recent numbers were not available

## ZT senior's friends, family share thoughts, prayers about teen after crash

BY JONA ISON

Gazette Staff Writer

As doctors tended late Tuesday to a Zane Trace senior seriously injured in an afternoon accident, friends, family and strangers came together online.

Facebook was abuzz with friends and staff sharing in-

formation, thoughts and prayers for Matt Boedeker and district teacher Pam Gallagher. According to the Ohio Highway Patrol, Boedeker, 18, of Kingston, was westbound in a Chevy Lumina on Delano Road around 2:52 p.m. Tuesday when he failed to yield at a stop sign and was struck by

a Dodge Ram 1500 driven by Pamela Gallagher, 48, of Chillicothe, who was southbound on Ohio 159.

Boedeker's vehicle then struck a guardrail and overturned. He was flown by MedFlight to Ohio State University Medical Center, where he was listed in critical condition as of 10 p.m. Tuesday.

Gallagher was taken to Adena Regional Medical Center for treatment of minor injuries.

Boedeker is the son of Zane Trace eighth-grade special education teacher Mike Boedeker. High School principal Todd Holdren was with the family in Columbus while scores of others

used the social networking site Facebook to share news, thoughts and prayers.

Haylee Vollmar started a Facebook group, "Pray for Matt," while Steffie Peters started a prayer chain event for Boedeker and his family.

The crash remains under investigation.

Wed. Feb. 24  
2010

