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## Talk of the County

### Gag order a crime

They say that the cover-up is worse than the crime. The court's decision in the Annette Zender case to impose a gag order in violation of basic First Amendment rights can only be seen as an attempt to cover-up the mistakes in her case. They have created a custody-visitation scandal case which is almost always an indication that the court failed to act in the best interests of children. The original crime (custody decision) forced a child to live with an abuser while being denied the love and support of a safe, protective mother. The gag order is designed to cover up the pattern of mistakes that has ruined the lives of thousands of children. I hope this gag order will spur the press to make the public aware of the thousands of children sent to live with abusers because of the failures in our family court system. When the public becomes aware of how much children are suffering they will demand reforms for a system that is broken.

### Listen to residents

I'm a resident of Windmill Arbor Creek area. It isn't just seniors that live in that area, but it is also young couples with families. I think the village of Antioch should listen to the residents before they build a pool. We need a full-time fire department and rescue squad before they build a water park.

### Know your neighbors

You guys need to take care of all the pedophiles that are in Lake County. Send out letters and let people know who lives on their block that they live there, so kids can play safe and know where the pedophiles live.

### Answers needed

Our family agrees with Saturday's editorial on the Vista East emergency room. We need answers to help us decide on what hospital to use. Victory has been our hospital for over 40 years, but recently a family member was given a longer waiting time in the ER than usual. We don't want to change doctors, but ours only practice at Victory. Isn't there a hospital board of review that could investigate the Vista East ER? We want to make sure that Vista East has met the standards for accreditation.

### School fees

About the complaint on school fees: I have grandchildren in Chicago public schools and Dixon and they all pay school fees. Yes, our forefathers were all immigrants but they did it legally, learned English and obeyed our laws. Also, in my opinion, Antioch's mayor is a joke.

### MONDAY

SEPTEMBER 4, 2006


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Sometime ago, The News-Sun had an article about Senator Obama going to Kenya and The News-Sun specified he was asked: Who's paying for this trip? He said he was. Since then there have been many people commenting that the taxpayers should not pay for his trip. I just wish there was a byline on every article about Senator Obama going to Kenya. Senator Obama did not go to Kenya at the taxpayers' expense.

## Crimes against kids

I am so thankful that you have shown the courage to report Annette Zender's story. Exposure of these crimes against children helps a child heal. I was the victim of molestation by a trusted family member and lived in silence for many years while suffering feelings of failure (that I did not stop him) and lack of personal value. I can now see that the majority of the long-term damage was due to the secrecy. I was ashamed and I had no reason to be. I did nothing wrong. He was never held accountable for his crimes, as family-member pedophiles often aren't prosecuted. I had no faith in the legal system to protect me or in society to not hold me accountable for the crimes committed against my young body and mind. At least one of this man's victims became an abuser himself, molesting countless other children. The legacy of sexual abuse is that many victims will do to others what has been done to them. I wish I would have had the courage to turn to my mom and dad for protection. Like mom Annette Zender, they would have spoken out loud and clear, and the shame I felt would have empowered me during the years I felt so worthless.

## Gagged and angry

09/02/06

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