

# Woods: Teaching is in her blood



MIKE ULLERY/STAFF PHOTO

Angela Woods works with her students at Bennett Intermediate School last week.

BY JOHN HAUER

For the Daily Call  
pdceditorial@civitasmedia.com

PIQUA — Sometimes life makes an ironic and wonderful full circle. Such is the case for Bennett Intermediate School sixth-grade teacher Angela Woods. When she was a small girl, she went to her mom's classroom to help out, and now years later, her mom volunteers to help out in her classroom.

Woods graduated from Springboro High School in 2004. She was a

member of student council and was very active in sports, playing volleyball, basketball, and softball for the Panthers. She spent her senior year in the Post Secondary Options Program and took classes at Wright State University earning both high school and college credit.

After high school, she enrolled full-time at WSU and majored in Middle Childhood Education. "I always knew I wanted to be a teacher," she said. "My mom, Kim Poore, was a



See Woods/Page 3

## Woods

Continued from page 1

teacher for many years with Middletown Schools, and my dad Jack Poore was a teacher and is now the assistant superintendent of the Miami Valley Career Technology Center. They have been very supportive of my efforts to become a teacher."

The Middle Childhood Education major at Wright State is actually a five-year program which leads to a bachelor's and a master's degree which Woods received in 2009. "It was a lot of work to go straight through in five years," she said. "But now that it's over, I'm glad I've got my advanced degree."

She quickly landed a job with Piqua City Schools teaching fourth-grade Language Arts at Bennett. After a year, she switched to sixth grade and has been there ever since. "The sixth-grade team is the most supportive people I have ever worked with," Woods said. "I couldn't do it without their help and experience." And, of course, her mom helps out with the special things. "Now that she is retired, mom will come in to chaperone field trips or to watch the talent show."

Woods enjoys working with the sixth-graders. "They are starting to find themselves, so I have more of a chance to make an impact," she said. "I know that if I save just one student, it is all worth it."

The sixth-graders are able to handle more com-

plicated tasks and assignments. Recently, the advanced class had a debate about cloning of human life. "The students gathered their facts and presented their points," Woods said. "The 'for' team won this debate." Another project had the students writing and performing news casts as if they were TV reporters on location at a hurricane. Woods' classroom is decorated with three life-size tracings of characters from novels the class has read. "The students draw the full-size characters and describe the qualities of that person," she said.

Outside the classroom, Woods has a full schedule of extra duties. She was the social chairperson for Bennett for three years, planning staff events and activities. She is the co-chair of the Spelling Bee and the Bennett Talent Show. And, she is a member of the school's Intervention Assistance team that works with at-risk students.

At home, Woods likes to exercise and travel. She and her husband Charlie who is a student at Wright State's Medical School have been married three years. "I met Charlie when I was a sophomore at WSU," Angela said. "We traveled to Paris, France for a week, and all my friends kept saying that he would propose to me, but after four days—nothing. Finally, on the fifth day, he proposed to me under the Eiffel Tower while it was snowing. It was so romantic."