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PERIODICALS
NEWSPAPER

THE

Banner

"The people must know before they can act, and there is no educator to compare with the press." - Ida B. Wells

Vol. XVI, Issue 46

March 4, 2015

Knightstown, IN

March 12 Meeting Open to the Public

The Banner and Knightstown Diner are hosting a public meeting Thursday, March 12, at 6:30 p.m. at the diner, 12 E. Main St. Featured will be Corey Murphy, New Castle-Henry County Economic Development director, who will explain the services available through his office.

Cemetery Items Will Be Removed

Glen Cove Cemetery will be picking up grave blankets and any other decorations that are not on foundations the week of March 16. The town asks that all items persons wish to keep be picked up before that date.

EH 3-on-3 Tourney Has New Category

The Eastern Hancock Athletic Boosters will hold their annual 3-on-3 basketball tournament at Eastern Hancock Schools on Saturday, March 14. There will be five divisions of play each for boys and girls. New to this year's tourney is the addition of an open division for those older than high school age. Early registrations are due by March 7. Space permitting, registrations will be accepted from 9-10 a.m. on tourney day. For more information, including an entry form, visit the school websites at www.ehathletics.org or www.ehhoops.org, or contact Greg Hall at gghall58@gmail.com.

Local Artist's Demo Slated for March 12

Local Knightstown artisan Jan McGuire will be doing a free, live demonstration of her glasswork at the Artistry Annex, located at the corner of South 15th and Broad streets in New Castle, on Sunday, March 12, from 6-8 p.m. McGuire will also have some of her work on display and available for purchase.

Expiration Dates Appear on Labels

Attention Subscribers
The Banner no longer mails renewal notices to subscribers of the print edition. The expiration date of every subscription is printed on the top of the mailing label each week, right above the subscriber's name.



K-town Electric Substation Will See Upgrades

by Jeff Eakins
for The Banner

The Knightstown Town Council recently approved three bids for improvements at the electric substation on the west end of town.

Council members voted 5-0 at their Feb. 19 monthly meeting to award bids totaling \$102,291.25 for fencing, foundation and anchor bolting, and earthwork and grading at the site. The work is part of larger project that involves replacement of the substation's old, obsolete switchgears, and is expected to have a total cost of around \$400,000.

The bid for the fencing work went to Capital City Fencing, the only bidder for this work. The Indianapolis-based company's bid was \$13,300.

There was also only one bidder for the foundation and anchor bolting, and the earthwork and grading. Power Construction Group, Uniondale, had proposed doing the foundation and anchoring for \$58,800 and the earthwork and grading for \$34,875, but offered a 5-percent discount if its bids for both were accepted, lowering the prices to \$55,860 and \$33,131.25.

Phil Lopresto, a representative of the Indiana Municipal Power Agency, the town's supplier of electric power, told the council that, weather permitting, earthwork and grading at the site may start as soon as March 9. He said all of the upgrade work at the substation may be finished by late May "if all goes well," or mid-June at the latest.

In other utility business, the council voted unanimously to pay half of a utility customer's \$1,600 bill for repairs made after discovery of a blockage that ended up being on the town's side of a lateral sewer connection. Richard Mosier told the council that excavation of the yard at 912 W. Center Dr., where his daughter, Tina Steimel, lives, revealed that there was no cleanout or PVC lateral line, as a town inspection report had indicated.

Greg Neice, the town's works manager, told the council that town

See Upgrades, Page 8

Disc Jockey



Two local students have been selected as top competitors at the Indiana Association of School Broadcasters State Finals, to be held March 9 at the University of Indianapolis, in the "Radio News" category. Jackson Edwards (above), a junior at Knightstown High School, and Tristian Holzhausen, an Eastern Hancock High School student, are two of six students from across the state who will compete in that category. (Photo submitted)

Conley Named 500 Festival Princess Candidate

Casie Conley of Knightstown has been selected as a 500 Festival Princess candidate. The 2011 Knightstown High School graduate is the daughter of Tim and Donna Conley.

Conley is currently an IUPUI student studying public relations. She works part-time as an advertising sales representative for *Farm World* newspaper, published in Knightstown. Conley is also co-owner and co-founder of Montgomery Creek Outdoors.

The 500 Festival Princess Program has a long history of celebrating Indiana's most civic-minded, poised, academically driven college-aged women. Serving as a 500 Festival Princess provides young women with once-in-a-life-time experiences and countless opportunities for leadership and professional development. Now through May, the 33 princesses will be involved with statewide community outreach programs, 500 Festival events and have a presence at var-

ious Indianapolis Motor Speedway functions, including the pre-race ceremonies and Victory Circle celebration for the Indianapolis 500.

New in 2015, each 500 Festival Princess will participate in the program's personal and professional development initiative, designed to empower participants to make a profound impact within their community and Indiana. In addition, each 500 Festival Princess will receive a \$1,000 scholarship, made possible in part by Marlyne Sexton, an Indianapolis philanthropist and president of The Sexton Companies.

"For more than 50 years, the 500 Festival Princess Program has recognized Indiana's brightest college-aged women. The program's new personal and professional development initiative and the scholarships given to each young woman will reinforce its rich history," said Leslie Carter-Prall, 500 Festival board member and princess

See Conley, Page 2



Casie Conley

Pancake Breakfast & Fundraiser for Charlottesville/Knightstown Boy Scout Troop 293

Please join Boy Scout Troop 293 for a Pancake Breakfast to help raise funds for a new Troop Trailer.

Freewill Donation - Saturday, March 7, 8 a.m.-12 p.m.
Charlottesville Lions Club, 10165 E. 25 N. Charlottesville



Sweepstakes Scammers Take Ruse to New Level

Criminals responsible for an international sweepstakes scam are now impersonating the Indiana Attorney General's Office in attempt to convince victims that their scam is legitimate.

According to a press release issued by IAG's office, the scammers are using a forged IAG seal on its letterhead and have forged the signature of Attorney General Greg Zoeller.

The Mega Millions International Lottery scam claims

to offer \$2 million in prize money, but the "winners" must first pay certain fees and taxes to receive the award. Once the fees are paid via a pre-paid debit card or wire transfer, the "winner" is, according to Zoeller's office, unlikely to see a dime from the scammers and will be out any money they paid.

In a letter faxed to one Indiana consumer earlier this month, the scammers impersonated the IAG's office to address concerns that their offer is fake. The letter claims that

the IAG's office conducted a thorough investigation into the offer and has determined that it is legitimate.

In a further attempt to validate the scam, the letter provides information about an agent that works for the "Mega Millions Headquarters" and alleges that he will present recipients with their winnings.

Do not be fooled, Zoeller's office cautions; this letter is fake. The IAG's office is working to determine its source. It is unclear how many people may have received this letter.

If a letter like this is received, it should be disregarded, and a complaint should be filed with the IAG's office online at www IndianaConsumer.com or by calling 800-382-5516. Hoosiers are urged not reply to any further correspondence by these scammers.

Sweepstakes scams are one of the most common scams reported to the IAG's office. Since the beginning of the year, nearly 150 consumers have called in to report these scams, and in 2014, nearly 850 reports were received.

Sweepstakes or foreign lottery promotions may come via mail or

phone. Providing information or payment to these scammers will likely result in more phony offers for other sweepstakes. The best bet, according to Zoeller's office, is to ignore all phone and mail solicitations for sweepstakes promotions. If something that looks like lottery material from a foreign country is received, it should be given to a local postmaster, as this type of foreign solicitation is illegal.

Remember if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. For more tips, visit <http://in.gov/attorneygeneral/2542.htm>.

Conley, from Page 1 ——————
program committee co-chair. "The 500 Festival is proud to take the lead on investing our time and resources to shape Indiana's next generation of leaders."

The 2015 500 Festival Princesses represent nine Indiana colleges and universities and 29 cities and towns across the state. With a cumulative GPA of 3.387, this year's 500 Festival Princesses were selected from hundreds of applicants based upon communication skills, poise, academic performance and community involvement.

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LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR A VARIANCE EXCEPTION UNDER THE MASTER PLAN ZONING ORDINANCE

Notice is hereby given that the Advisory Board of Zoning Appeals of the Town of Knightstown, Indiana on the 16th day of March, 2015 at 6:00 p.m., in the back meeting room of the Town Hall Building, will hold a Public Hearing on the Petition for a Special Exception for Variance of use under the Master Plan Zoning Ordinance No. 1989-3 for the Town of Knightstown, Indiana by 138 N. Madison Street, Knightstown, Indiana.

Written suggestions or objections to this hearing may be filed at the Town Hall at or before such meeting and will be heard by the Advisory Board of Zoning Appeals at the time and place specified.

A copy of the proposed Petition is on file in the Town Hall Building, 26 South Washington Street, Knightstown, Indiana for public examination.

The nature of this Petition is for the Special Exception of: Approval for Multi-Family in Residential Zone and Setback Variance for Building and Parking, Wayne Township, Henry County, Indiana.

By Order of the Advisory Board of Zoning Appeals to the Town of Knightstown, Indiana.

BZA Members: Bruce Brown, William Windsor, Marion Adkins, Ed Wright, Randy Gross (3/4)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS

OF PUBLIC HEARINGS ON ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION
Notice is hereby given that the Henry County Redevelopment Commission ("Commission") will hold public hearings at 8:30 a.m. on March 16, 2015 in the Community Center Conference Room, 100 South Main Street, New Castle, Indiana.

The purpose of the public hearings is to consider the appropriation of: (i) an amount not to exceed \$900,000 from the proceeds of the Commission's Redevelopment District Taxable Tax Increment Refunding Revenue Bonds of 2015 ("2015 Refunding Bonds"), and all investment earnings thereon, for the funding of the costs of the current refunding of certain outstanding Redevelopment District Taxable Tax Increment Revenue Bonds of 2004, and incidental expenses incurred in connection with the refunding, including costs associated with the issuance of the 2015 Refunding Bonds; and (ii) an amount not to exceed \$1,170,000 from the proceeds of the Commission's Redevelopment District Taxable Tax Increment Revenue Bonds of 2015 ("2015 Project Bonds"), and all investment earnings thereon, for the funding of the costs of the acquisition of real property in, serving or benefiting the 2012 Consolidated Economic Development Area ("Project"), funding a debt service reserve and incidental expenses incurred in connection with the Project, including costs associated with the issuance of the 2015 Project Bonds.

The foregoing appropriations are in addition to all appropriations provided for in the existing budget and tax levy.

Taxpayers of the Henry County Redevelopment District appearing at the meeting shall have the right to be heard in respect to this additional appropriations.

Dated this 4th day of March, 2015.

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*Anniversary announcement form with option to upload a photo. *Engagement announcement form with option to upload a photo. Visit www.thebanneronline.com

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Knightstown Christian Church's Revival Features Vintage Gospel Lads Shows

Southern Gospel Music enjoys widespread appeal, and the Vintage Gospel Lads are among the foremost artists who sing the old-fashioned gospel style.

The group will perform at Knightstown Christian Church, 138 W. Main St., April 10-12, as part of the church's weekend revival. The concerts are free and open to the public.

According to a press release, The Vintage Gospel Lads have revived interest in a foot-stomping, hand-clapping, heart-rending style of Christian music that is captivating to audiences of all ages.

In the past, the group appeared on a weekly telecast or in live performances with Ronald Reagan, Art Linkletter, Jerry Clower, The Oak Ridge Boys, Paul Harvey, The Imperials, The Cathedrals, Tom Netherton, Dale Evans Rogers and many others. The group has also been the featured entertainment for three Christian cruises to the

Caribbean and have hosted two tours to the Holy Land.

The Vintage Lads have also been featured in main sessions of North American Christian Conventions. One of the convention sessions had an attendance of 40,000 people.

When the group was traveling full-time they were in demand and often booked as many as 25 engagements in a month. They traveled to most of the states in the U.S. and to several foreign countries. Over the years they have produced approximately 50 recordings including their most recent, entitled "God Handled it All".

Individual members of the Vintage Gospel Lads reside in Missouri, Oklahoma, Indiana and California, where most of them are involved in full-time Christian ministry. But they continue to accept singing engagements several weeks out of the year.

Group members are Murray

Hollis of Joplin, Mo.; Steve Kehler of Mooresville; Ron Rasmussen of Yukon, Okla.; and Jon Stedman of San Francisco, Cal.

Three of the Vintage Lads are preaching ministers at their respective churches, and the other is the director of Christian Friends Connexion Ministries.

The group has recently added two other members. Hollis' daughter, Tammy Cady, who has performed in singing tours in the U.S. and in foreign countries, and Rasmussen's son, Adam, who is an accomplished instrumentalist and music minister, are now touring with the Vintage Lads.

The group has traveled domestically and abroad doing concerts, crusades and other performance and evangelistic events. They are deeply involved in Christian ministries and they, along with their families, count loving and serving the Lord and others as a top priority in life, according to the press release.

Public Meeting to Feature Economic Development Talk

The Banner is sponsoring a public meeting at Knightstown Diner, 12 E. Main St., aimed at stimulating discussion about local economic development on Thursday, March 12, at 6:30 p.m.

This open, public meeting will feature a talk with New Castle-Henry County Economic Development President and CEO Corey Murphy and Spiceland Town Council President Darrin Jacobs.

Coffee, tea and water, along with light refreshments, will be served, according to Knightstown Diner owner Kevin Richey, who is also president of the Knightstown Plan Commission. However, the restaurant's regular menu will not be offered. The meeting is free and open to the public.

"Anyone with a sincere interest in local economic development should consider this an open invitation to attend this meeting," said Banner Publisher Eric Cox, who organized the meeting. "Hopefully, this get-together will get people talking about a very important issue."

Murphy plans to discuss community leadership, asset-based community development, business attraction, business retention and entrepreneurship. Following his discussion, he'll engage in a 20-minute question-and-answer session.

Jacobs will offer an overview of his community's efforts to grow via annexation and utilities expansion.

S. Henry Board to Meet

The South Henry School Board will meet privately in executive session next week.

According to notice issued by the school board, the March 10 executive session is being held so board members can discuss employee job performance evaluations. This closed-door session is set to start at 6:30 p.m. and end at 7 p.m., when the board's regular monthly meeting, which is open to

the public, begins.

Both the executive session and regular monthly meeting will be held in Room 22 of the office of the South Henry Superintendent, located at 6972 S. SR 103, Straughn. Persons with disabilities that require special accommodations to attend the school board's meeting are asked to phone Lisa Butler in the school district's central office at 765-987-7882.

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Published weekly except Christmas week by Knightstown Banner LLC at 24 N. Washington St., P.O. Box 116, Knightstown, Ind. 46148. Periodicals Postage Paid at Knightstown, Ind. 46148. Subscription rate is \$40 per year (in state), \$45 per year (out of state).
Banner offices are open Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. All correspondence may be directed to The Banner, Post Office Box 116, Knightstown, Ind. 46148. Telephone number is 765-345-2292. Fax number is 765-345-2113. E-mail: thebanner@embarqmail.com
Letters to the editor must be signed by the author and contain a work or home telephone number for verification purposes.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to P.O. Box 116, Knightstown, Indiana 46148

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Printing Done by MidCountry Media of Knightstown

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Banner PERSPECTIVES

True Tales of Newlywed Bliss

This is a continuation of a series of columns about life at the intersection of Luck and Love. Several people responded to last week's column about the differences between men and women. Neil wrote that all couples have similar experiences. My old friend, John, mentioned the control of the thermostat. One of my friends surreptitiously turns down the TV's sound, but her husband always catches her. Anne was tickled by the image of Bill's socks stuck to the floor.

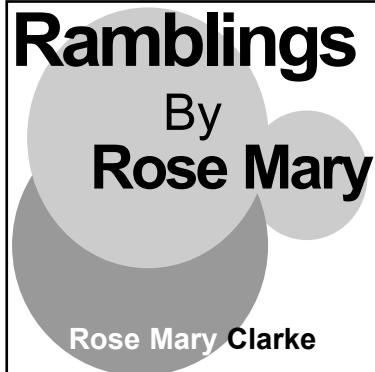
Oh dear, I've had another kitchen calamity. I was quietly removing clean pans from the dishwasher and stacking them on the bar while waiting for my coffee to brew before going to admire the rose-colored sunrise. The stack grew too high and toppled down onto the cat's water bowl. Kerbang, clash, clatter! Ms Kitty, who had been "snooperizing," flew out of the kitchen. Water soaked my slippers and spread across the floor. I shrieked, "Oh ---!" Of course, it woke Bill up.

The Newlyweds

Thinking about our life together has carried me back to stories from the early years that I'm going to repeat. I figure that if I can't remember what appeared in this paper several years ago, neither can the readers.

Shortly after our marriage, we bought a new refrigerator and

decided to move the old one to the basement of the double we were renting. I said, "We'll get a couple of friends to help." "We don't need help; we can do it ourselves." I have heard this phrase ad nauseum, ad infinitum all during the years of our marriage. I learned early on that self-reliance is one of Bill's



prime traits. "Don't worry! I have a plan. You just help me push the refrigerator to the basement door."

There was much grunting, moaning and panting interspersed with "Left, Rose Mary. You're pushing it to the right. Left, left, left!" "Whose left," I yelled. "Yours or mine?" We manhandled the fridge to the basement door where we discovered that it was half an inch too wide. (This has also happened frequently during our efforts.) Sighing, Bill said, "Help me back it up - I'll have to take the door off."

He announced the plan: "I'll tie

this nice thick rope that I've been keeping in the trunk of the car around the fridge. Then we'll lay the fridge on its back and lower it down the stairs." He paid no attention to my query about the age of the rope. While we were laying it down, he yelled, "My toe! That was my toe! You always turn loose of things too soon!" True; this has been one of my many shortcomings.

Bill sat on the floor with his feet braced against the sides of the doorway and said, "Now, help me push it gently and slowly ... Easy ... easy, hon ... That's it! ..." Thus encouraged, I gave it a really hard shove. The old rope broke with a loud snap, followed by an awful grinding noise.

As I left the kitchen, the last thing I saw was Bill, mouth agape, while holding a frayed piece of rope. I quickly tiptoed to the bedroom because even the stupidest newlywed wife knows better than to laugh at a spouse who is proud of his do-it-yourself persona. Along with the biblical injunction about faith, hope and love, knowing when to keep your mouth shut is also a key ingredient in a lasting marriage.

Other than a few dents, the fridge still worked perfectly. His stuff always turns out fine, but my botches - such as the time I cut the curtains an inch-and-a-half too short - can't be fixed.

wclarke@comcast.net

2056 K-town Will Be Better than 1956

Start thinking about it.

Start thinking about Knightstown in 2056. Picture this community 41 years from today. That's four decades away. We have time to plan.

But, first, I want you to mentally envision this town in the future.

What will Main Street look like? How will State Road 109 change? And what about the 109/I-70 interchange?

It seems so far off, but we all know how times flies. For many of you, 1956 seems like yesterday. In the blink of an eye we've bounced ahead 59 years - almost six decades. There was no warning. It just happened.

We can't let the next '56 pass without planning.

I think about Knightstown's future all the time - what it could be ... what it should be.

To me, this rural community isn't really all that rural. This burg sits on a major national thoroughfare - U.S. 40. Just above it is I-70, our nation's central east-west avenue. We're 30 miles east of Indianapolis, "The Crossroads of America."

It may have been rural for a long time. But, it's just outside the metropolitan donut now. Indianapolis is creeping outward, toward Greenfield. In turn, Greenfield will lurch toward us.

That realization presents a couple of stark choices: 1. Ignore this trend and hope for a repeat of 1956; or 2. Lay a foundation of infrastructure and annexation that would embrace this coming growth, making the most of additional tax revenues and bettering the community for those who already live here while improving it



for those who might call Knightstown home.

As far as industry goes, Knightstown may have missed the boat. The manufacturing boom is all but over, and this town never bothered to set aside any land for an industrial park anyway.

That's why I envision a future community aimed more at tourism and availing its natural bucolic beauty and peaceful countryside to those who would merely sleep here and work elsewhere.

A "bedroom community" is what they once called it. Knightstown should embrace this concept and aim at improving local goods and services in hopes of attracting home buyers who might be Indianapolis professionals seeking the quiet of rural living.

I see a community of older, but well-maintained homes surrounded by newer neighborhoods - all paying taxes into the town's coffers.

In 2056, Knightstown will still be a growing town, taking in nearby areas and offering them quality utilities, great schools and trustworthy, professional police, fire and emergency services.

Smoke-belching factories aren't in my crystal ball. I see a bevy of service jobs for locals, and maybe summer jobs for kids home from college.

I see an engaged town government that long ago eschewed rampant cronyism for a responsive and responsible system of leadership that puts a priority on its service to taxpaying citizens.

My vision includes more harmonious relationships all around - because those in control finally started doing things right, and in the light of day.

What do you see?

BANNER PERSPECTIVE

Knightstown isn't yet in a position to actively seek new businesses. But, it won't be long until the community needs a marketing strategy to lure new commerce. At present, we have little or nothing.

A stark reminder of this came when Henry County recently revamped its useful website, www.henryco.net. Beneath the "Communities" tab is a list of links to both school corporations and towns within the county. While towns as small as Kennard have an active website, there isn't one for the town of Knightstown. We don't even have a website yet.

It doesn't make much difference now. But, in the future, Knightstown will need a solid, comprehensive overview of all the town's information, including available business space or real estate, utility capability and availability, population demographics and other pertinent data.

Successful communities spend lots of time and ample dollars ensuring their profiles are accurate, updated and, most importantly, available to those who seek out such information. If it hasn't already begun, this is something Knightstown should strongly consider doing now.

Community profiles are like job applications and resumes for those seeking jobs. But, we don't want a job; we want those who can offer them. But, like any good employer, they will closely review each applicant.

The town should think of itself as an applicant for a kind of job - the job of being a good home for a new or expanding business.

First, we have to have the actual qualifications that would make us a good home. That includes updated and expanded infrastructure.

Once that's achieved, however, Knightstown should have ready to go a resume that will tantalize even the most fastidious business owners.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Excellent Banner Perspective in the Feb. 25 issue!

I have some additions.

I strongly object to the "secret" special meetings that are held with little or hard to find advance notice. At first, these meetings were held on opposite Thursdays from regular meetings. Now they're held on other days. These special meetings, which are poorly attended, are being used to deal with money matters that should be dealt with at regular meetings. Regular meetings are being used for insurance companies to present bids for town employees' health insurance.

The town is not proposing to pay for deductible or co-pay amounts for town employees. That was an incorrect choice of words by board members. But we are paying for town employees' insurance premiums, which is common practice. The insurance premium for town employees includes health, dental, vision and life insurance. The town also pays for half of the premium for employee dependents.

Another question on town monies is the "on-call" pay and whether those hours are worked or not. Now it's not only for electrical department, but for water department as well. I have wondered whether they are paid straight wages for these hours that they do not work, or if they are paid the ongoing rate of time and half, or even double time? Are all workers in these departments on call every weekend? Are they called out only in emergencies? Who verifies what is an emergency?

Why, after 19 years of excellent service, would the town consider hiring

See Letters, Page 7

The Banner values reader opinions and welcomes letters to the editor. To be considered for publication, letters must be signed by the author and contain a phone number and address for verification purposes. The Banner does not guarantee the veracity of factual assertions contained in letters to the editor, and their publication should in no way be construed as the newspaper's endorsement of the letters' contents. The opinions represented in letters to the editor, as well as any misstatement of fact therein, are solely those of the letters' authors. Letters to the editor may be edited, and, ideally, should be no more than 300 words in length.

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Hubert H. Humphrey

BITS & PIECES

◆A public meeting on Thursday, March 12, at 6:30 p.m. will feature a talk with New Castle-Henry County Economic Development Director Corey Murphy and Spiceland Town Councilman Darrin Jacobs. The meeting will take place at Knightstown Diner, 12 E. Main St. Coffee, tea and water, along with light refreshments, will be served. However, the restaurant's regular menu will not be offered. The meeting is free and open to the public.

◆Knightstown Business and Professional Women (BPW) will host a **mystery dinner theater** fundraiser on Saturday, March 14, at 6:30 p.m. and Sunday, March 15, at 2 p.m. at Sugabakers, 132 E. Main St., Knightstown. Cost is \$20 per person. Tickets are available at Ameriana Bank in Knightstown or from any BPW member. Call 765-571-2325 for more information.

◆Knightstown Christian Church, 138 W. Main St., will host three **free concerts** featuring The Vintage Gospel Lads on Friday, April 10, Saturday, April 11, and Sunday, April 12. The gospel concerts are part of the church's revival weekend. The public is invited. For more information, call 345-2854 or e-mail hisfamily1@yahoo.com.

◆Knightstown Neighborhood **Crime Watch** will host its next meeting on Monday, March 9, at 6 p.m. in the Hoosier Gym's east classroom. The meeting is open to the public.

◆Knightstown American Legion Post 152 will host a **St. Patrick's Day party** on Saturday, March 14. Dinner will be served 5-8:30 p.m. Live music, featuring The Free Radicals, will take place 9 p.m.-1 a.m. The event is open to the public.

◆Glen Cove Cemetery will be picking up grave blankets and any other decorations that are not on foundations the week of March 16.

Banner Forms Easy to Use, Cost-effective

The following forms are now available to fill out and submit to us online at The Banner's website www.thebanneronline.com:

*New subscription order form with online credit card payment option. *Subscription renewal order form with online credit card payment option.

*General news submission form for local clubs and for other news items with option to upload a photo.

*Anniversary announcement form with option to upload a photo. *Engagement announcement form with option to upload a photo. Visit www.thebanneronline.com

NOTE: Anniversary, birth, engagement and wedding announcements are no longer published for free. Each announcement costs \$25, or \$30 if a photo is included.

The town asks that all items persons wish to keep be picked up before that date. For more information, contact Lisa Hall at 345-9181.

◆Knightstown Public Library is hosting an **essay contest**, "Tell Us Why You Love Your Library." Three age-groups will compete for prizes. Age groups include kids 12 and under, teens 13-18, and adults 19 and up. In 500 words or less, contestants should tell how the Knightstown Public Library has been a help, what's been learned there and how the library has made a difference in one's life. Entries, which must contain the contestant's name, age, address and phone number, may be returned to the library's front desk. Library staff will judge the entries, and one winner in each age group will win a \$20 Frosty Boy gift certificate. Winners will be announced Friday, March 6.

◆Charlottesville Boy Scout Troop 293, which includes Knightstown scouts, will host a **pancake breakfast** fundraiser on Saturday, March 7, 8 a.m.-noon. A freewill offering will be accepted. Scouts are raising funds to purchase a new, larger troop trailer that will enable Scouts to pack all their gear for outings. The breakfast will take place at the Lions Club building, 10165 E. 25 N., Charlottesville.

◆Greensboro United Methodist Church will host the **Indiana Blood Center's Bloodmobile** on Saturday, March 7, 9 a.m.-noon. Appointments may be scheduled by visiting www.donorpoint.org. Those who plan to donate should bring valid photo ID. For more information, call Roxie Dalton at 765-686-5207.

◆Knightstown Youth Sports, Inc., has introduced a new web page for information and online **baseball and softball registration** this year. Parents can now register their chil-

dren online at www.knightstowntyouthsportsinc.com. Those who register before March get a discounted rate. Schedules, team standings and announcements will be available there. For more information, contact knightstowntyouthsportsinc@gmail.com. Those who do not have access to online registration, only two days remain for manual registration at the elementary school. The final date is Wednesday, March 4, 7-8 p.m.

◆"Dinner at the Diner" will take place Tuesday, March 17, 5-8 p.m. at the **Knightstown Café**. Psi Iota Xi will host this fundraiser to help fund local scholarships to be given this spring. Kevin Richey, owner of the Knightstown Café, 12 E. Main St., will donate a portion of the night's profits for this purpose. Celebrity sorority hostesses will wait tables. Free shamrock punch and door prizes will be offered.

◆Local Knightstown artisan Jan McGuire will be doing a free, live demonstration of her **glasswork** at the Artistry Annex, located at the corner of South 15th and Broad streets in New Castle, on Sunday, March 12, from 6-8 p.m. McGuire will also have some of her work on display and available for purchase.

◆Central Indiana **Girl Scouts** are selling cookies now through March 15. Each package of cookies is \$4. Proceeds benefit local troop activities and camping events. Two new cookies are being featured this year, including a gluten-free option. For more information, call Barb Mofield at 317-442-2620.

◆The Disabled American Veterans' **mobile service officer van** will be at Knightstown American Legion Post 152 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. on July 17. For more information, call Morris Cole at 906-241-3565.

◆New Covenant Worship Center, 815 Western Rd., New Castle, will

host the inaugural Reflected Light **Art Exhibition** this spring. An opening reception is scheduled for Friday, May 1, 6-9 p.m. The event is free, open to the public and family-friendly. Featuring painting, ceramics, photography, mixed media, sculpture and more, the event also includes free refreshments. For more information, call Brian Russelburg at 317-652-3120 or e-mail silvervisage@gmail.com.

◆The **Shirley Historical Society** is raising money to restore a railroad caboose and purchase a motorized rail inspection car. The items will be placed near the Shirley railroad depot. Donations may be sent to Joan Cupp, P.O. Box 407, Shirley, IN 47384.

◆Anyone locating unwanted, unused or outdated **prescription medications** may dispose of them at the New Castle Police Dept., 227 N. Main St., or the Henry County Sheriff's Dept., 127 N. 12th St., New Castle.

◆The **Historic Knightstown museum**, located on the Public Square at 22 N. Washington St., will have new winter hours. Winter hours will be 10 a.m.-12 p.m. each Friday

and Saturday. For more information, or to visit the museum by appointment, call David Steele at 765-345-7585. Family and individual HKI memberships are \$20 and \$15, respectively. Membership payments may be mailed to HKI at P.O. Box 74, Knightstown, IN 46148.

◆The Henry County **Disabled American Veterans (DAV)** organization meets the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at Knightstown American Legion Post 152. DAV Service Officer Morris Cole encourages Iraq and Afghanistan veterans to attend so they can learn more about DAV benefits. Cole is available at Post 152 10 a.m.-3 p.m. each Friday. For more information, call 906-241-3565.

◆**Alcoholics Anonymous** meets weekly, on Tuesdays, at 7:30 p.m. at the Hoosier Gym (enter on East side). Meetings will continue each Tuesday at the same time and location. For more info, call 765-571-1132 or 765-571-1662.

◆The **Parish Clothes Closet**, located in the basement of Bethel Presbyterian Church, 112 S. Franklin St., Knightstown, is open each Thursday from 3-5 p.m.

K-TOWN LEGION POST 152

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KHS Wrestlers Get Duals Invite

Knightstown wrestling team's head coach Jared Evans recently received a letter from the Indiana High School Wrestling Coaches Association stating that the Panthers have secured one of 36 positions for next year's 4th Annual IHSWCA Classed Team State Duals Championships, scheduled for Jan. 2, 2016.

Knightstown is one of just 12 teams in the entire state from Class 2A to earn the opportunity to compete at this event.

The top 10 teams in each class are invited to participate in the state duals. There are only three classes - 1A, 2A and 3A - in Indiana high

school wrestling.

Two more teams from each class will be voted on by the IHSWCA Team State Duals selection committee in April.

No wrestling team in Knightstown's history has ever been chosen to participate at the state duals.

This year's KHS wrestling team has had so much success, winning invitational, taking eight wrestlers to sectionals and then four wrestlers to regionals. The team is very hopeful for their chances to improve on this year's outstanding record as they are only losing one wrestler to graduation.

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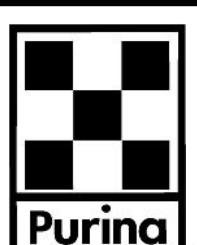
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Henry County Community Foundation Enjoys Leadership of New Castle Native Matthews

by Logan Cox
for The Banner

Officially incorporated on March 15, 1985, the Henry County Community Foundation is celebrating their 30th year anniversary as of 2015. New Castle native Beverly Matthews, the executive director and president of the community foundation, was open about the group's mission and history.

The Henry County Community Foundation, Inc. is a public trust dedicated to securing permanent funds for philanthropic purposes.

"We're a public trust," said Matthews. "So people, who we call donors, bring their money to us and they say, 'You know what? I would like to make a difference. This is something I care about. Can you help me do this.' So when they give us their money and establish a fund, we make sure that it goes on forever by investing it and spending out a percentage of earnings every year. That's what's nice: even when you're gone, you can still be supporting whatever you cared about while you were alive."

There is a community foundation for each of the 92 counties in Indiana, but the Henry County Community Foundation is the 16th to be founded in Indiana.

While Matthews works alongside four other staff members and volunteers, the foundation also has a board of directors made up of 15 people from different sections of Henry County.

"When we first started we were the New Castle Foundation, but we wanted to include everyone," she said.

The group that headed the Community Foundation in the 1980s thought they were established as an 501c3 non-profit, until they received a big donation one year. The IRS then sent them a letter informing them that they were not and would have to pay taxes. They quickly became incorporated as a 501c3 in 1985.

"We don't call it a trust fund, we call it an endowment," said Matthews. "We don't spend your money, we just invest it and preserve it. The one thing that's important to know about us is we cannot grant out money to individuals. We can only give to non-profit entities or we are also allowed to give to schools and government entities."

According to her, the foundation's origin began with a New Castle graduating class of 1924. They took up a donation for their classmates. They wanted to donate something back to New Castle because they received such a good education. They put one hundred dollars in the local bank. Throughout the years, different peo-

ple and groups added to the donation until 1939, when some local businessmen got together in New Castle. Citizen's State Bank, First National Bank, the county council, the mayor, and Indiana's fifth district court judge all appointed someone. This set the order for how the foundation would operate for the next few decades.

"We've got someone from every district," Matthews said of the board of directors. "We want to always make sure we are representing people from the whole country."

Matthews previously owned her own consulting business, worked in public relations for Indiana Gas and worked in human resources and communications for Chrysler Corporation. After those jobs withered, and she learned of an opening with the Community Foundation, Matthews set her sights on that.

"So I applied and ended up getting this job. I think a lot of it is because, you know, you've got to have the heart to want to help or be a community activist. It just fell right in line with what my passion was. My favorite thing to do is write about all the wonderful

things that we do, but now that I'm director I don't get as much time to do that as I would like," said Matthews.

She is a New Castle High School graduate, and graduated from Ball State University with a degree in journalism. With this, she worked for different weekly newspapers, such as the News Republican. She also graduated from Indiana Wesleyan University with a master's degree in management.

"Wherever I worked, I was always interested in volunteering and improving my community," she said. "So I was on boards myself, and helped with united fund campaigns. I had a passionate interest in improving the community."

Matthews also serves on the board of directors for the New Castle-Henry County Economic Development Corp. as well as Healthy Communities of Henry County.

"I just want to thank everyone in the community," said Matthews. "Because if you're a donor here, you are part of the foundation. You don't have to have a lot of money to be part of the foundation. 85 percent of our donors give \$100 or less a year, but they just continually make a donation. And a good thing to make a donation to is the unrestricted community grants fund. That enables us, directed by the board of directors and our community grants committee, to take that money and use it for something that can really make a difference."

THIS SECTION SPONSORED BY

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MEETINGS CALENDAR

Thurs., Mar. 5 - Hancock Co. Drainage Board meeting, 8 a.m., Courthouse Annex room 101, Greenfield

Thurs., Mar. 5 - Rush Co. Board of Zoning Appeals meeting, 6:30 p.m., courthouse assembly room, Rushville

Thurs., Mar. 5 - Kennard Town Council meeting, 7 p.m., Kennard Town Hall

Sat., Mar. 7 - Wilkinson Town Council meeting, 9:30 a.m., Wilkinson Town Hall

Mon., Mar. 9 - Rush Co. Commissioners meeting, 9 a.m., courthouse room 103,

Rushville

Mon., Mar. 9 - Carthage Town Council meeting, 6 p.m., Carthage Town Hall

Mon., Mar. 9 - Eastern Hancock School Board meeting, 7 p.m., corporation office

Tues., Mar. 10 - Hancock Co. Commissioners meeting, 8 a.m., Courthouse Annex room 101, Greenfield

Tues., Mar. 10 - Knightstown Public Library Board meeting, 4:30 p.m., at library

Tues., Mar. 10 - Rush Co. Historic Board meeting, 7 p.m., Historical Museum, 619 N.

Perkins St. , Rushville

Wed., Mar. 11 - Rush Co. Council meeting, 8 a.m., courthouse room 211, Rushville

Wed., Mar. 11 - Hancock Co. Council meeting, 8:30 a.m., Courthouse Annex room 101, Greenfield

Wed., Mar. 11 - Henry Co. Drainage Board meeting, 10 a.m., Henry County Office Building Suite 107, New Castle

Wed., Mar. 11 - Henry Co. Commissioners meeting, 6 p.m., Old Circuit Court Room, 2nd floor of courthouse, New Castle

FOLKWAYS

Local BPW Members Meet in Knightstown

The Indiana Federation of Business & Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. of Knightstown (BPW) had its monthly meeting in Knightstown on Feb. 16 with Barbara Mofield as hostess.

BPW President Penny Sitler presided at the meeting.

Mofield had the program, telling members about Indiana Women's Education Foundation, Inc. (IWEF), the history of IWEF and its programs. February is Indiana Women's Education Foundation, Inc Month.

IWEF has several programs, including The Reality Store. BPW District 2 presents this program to 24 schools and about 4,000 stu-

dents each year. The group also sponsors the eighth grade essay contest, a program in which any eighth grade student can participate. This helps prepare students for the I-STEP tests.

IWEF gives several scholarships annually. The scholarships are Girl Scouts Scholarship, Lynn Rhoades Memorial Scholarship, Teaching Indiana Future Scholarship, Women in Transition Scholarship, Working Woman Scholarship and the Dr. Bertha Beazley Memorial Scholarship. Information and applications are available on the IWEF website, www.inwomeneducation.org. The deadline for applications is Mar. 11. Send applica-

tions to Mofield at 510 E. Silver St., Knightstown, IN 46148.

BPW Knightstown will be hosting a Mystery Dinner Theatre on Saturday, Mar. 14, at 6:30 p.m. and Sunday, Mar. 15 at 2 p.m. The dinner theatre will be held at Sugar bakers in Knightstown, with a cost of \$20 per person. Reservations can be made by contacting Mofield at 317-442-2620 or e-mail, bmofield@centurylink.net.

Reservations must be made by Mar. 9. The Mystery Dinner Theatre will benefit Tina Williams' candidates fundraiser.

Mofield will be hostess for the Mar. 16 meeting at Sugarbakers at 6:30 p.m.

Avon Literary Club Meets at Museum

The Avon Literary Club met on Mar. 2 at the Historic Knightstown museum.

Arctic temperatures and heavy snow kept some members at home. In attendance were Karen Trent, Bev Bergmann, Lois Brooks, Barb Carter, Kelly Millhoan and Martha Avery.

The group discussed *The Orphan Train*, and related its stories to their own experiences and understandings.

Victory Lane CEO Attenda California Conference

Brett Fischer, founder and CEO of Victory Lane Camp in Henry County, recently returned from a trip to the Global Access Conference in Agoura Hills, Cal.

Joni and Friends International Disability Ministry coordinated the conference and invited Fischer to share a presentation. The theme of the week was "Where Disabilities and Possibilities Meet."

Fischer spoke on "Finding Hope in Nopeville," and also represented Victory Lane Camp to disability ministry leaders from 50 countries. The premise of his presentation was that a solid biblical worldview lays the foundation for making wise medical technology decisions in this culture of "Nopeville."

"We live in a culture that creates

excessive limitations on people with disabilities," Fischer said. "In addition, our own choices as parents limit our children's potential when it comes to using technology."

Fischer attended the conference with his 13-year-old son, Samuel.

Featured speakers included renowned disability advocate Joni

See Victory, Page 9

Sandra Wills' 2015

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Cruise! May 14 - \$70, Cruise the Ohio River and Have
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Dinner and Show! August 4 - \$75.00 "Tribute to Elvis"
by Mike Albert (Evening Dinner & Show)

7 Days, 6 Nights! September 13-19 - \$638.00*
Cape Cod - 7 Days/6 Nights (Double Occupancy)

Lunch and Show! October 2 - \$65.00 - Church Basement Ladies
"The Last Potluck Supper" - LaComedia

Lunch and Show! November 6 - \$65.00 - "A Christmas Story"
The Musical - LaComedia

5 Days, 4 Nights! Nov. 16-20 - \$519.00 - Nashville Show Trip
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Upgrades, from Page 1

workers had jet routed tree roots that were clogging the line. He told the council that town employees had only recommended installation of a clean-out at the property and that he didn't think the town should pay for the excavation that was needed to replace the 4-inch clay pipe with PVC.

Mosier told the council that the cost of the PVC pipe had been deducted from the bill and that he and his daughter weren't asking for any reimbursement for that. Neice ended up recommending that the council split the remaining \$1,600 with Mosier and his daughter, and the council voted 5-0 to do that.

Council member Clyde South said he wanted to know who, for the town, had signed off on the engineering report back in the 1990s that said this property had a clean-out and PVC lateral. He said he thought there might be other properties in the same situation, still having a clay pipe lateral with no clean-out even though the engineering report indicates otherwise.

The council briefly discussed the need to move forward with an increase of sewer rates and charges that had first been proposed last fall. South said the increase is needed to put the town in a better position to get grants and low-interest loans to help pay for needed improvements to the town's wastewater treatment plant and infrastructure.

Council member Valerie Trump said she agreed and didn't think the council should wait until its next monthly meeting on March 18 to act on this. The council was expected to discuss this issue during a special meeting it was scheduled to hold last night.

The council declined a request that the town hire H.J. Umbaugh & Associates to prepare annual reports for the town's water and electric utilities to file with the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission. Clerk-Treasurer Bart Whitesitt said the Indianapolis firm, which the town regularly uses as a rate consultant for the town's utilities, would have prepared the reports, which are due April 30, for \$2,500.

South asked Whitesitt who prepared these reports for the town in the past. Whitesitt said Linda Glenn, the town's longtime deputy clerk and utility office manager who retired at the end of 2013, had done them, and said that Glenn's replacement, Betsy Wilkerson, did them last year.

Whitesitt described the annual utility reports as "a huge project," and said having Umbaugh do them would ensure they are done correctly and would free up Wilkerson to do other work. The council, however, declined to contract out this work.

In other business, the council adopted an ordinance rezoning property at 38 W. Grant St. from commercial to manufacturing. This zoning change will allow the property owner, David Lukens, to start manufacturing firearms at the location.

Council members also agreed to pay \$579 to Nic Reidman to finish

Continued Below

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A Look Back



Here are the prom royalty candidates from Knightstown High School's 1971 prom. Any help naming these people will be most appreciated. Please, e-mail photo identities to Eric Cox at thebanner@embarqmail.com.



The Banner's Facebook followers help us out with some identifications on this photo.

Front row: Johnny Hill, ???, Steve Ingram, Bobby Sorrell, ???

Second row: Ike Caudill, Tom Schaeffer, ???, ???, Gary Schaeffer, ???, ???

Third row: Virginia Butler, Sue Walda, Donna Livingston, Patty Drake and Teresa Bovard

Back row: no IDs as of yet

Continued from Above

work started last year on a website for the town. Neice told the council it will cost \$110 a month for Reidman, who had already been paid about \$1,900, to host the website and provide technical support.

Council President Cort Swincher appointed former council member Cassandra Steele to the seventh seat on the town's plan commission. Steele will serve through the end of 2016, finishing out the four-year term of Marion Adkins.

Letters, from Page 4

someone else to start as police chief at the same time that Anthony Darling could start? Why start the process of locating a new town chief when we already have one working that is intelligent, qualified and liked by all?

I agree with the three-member town board idea, since legally you can not lower the salaries that the board has granted board members. Isn't that conflict of interest?

Since we have to train most of our new town employees, why not cross-train them so that they can get more hours in different departments - helping cover the shortage at the cemetery, for the "estimated" utility bills, and for locking down the recycling area (It was locked up early at least twice this week, before 4 p.m.)? Why can't both gates at the recycling area be open, as one resident asked for an older relative, especially when drivers are unable to plow snow through just one gate?

Why can't they lay down more gravel at the recycling area, since most of the time it's just a muddy mess?

More questions: why would a snow plow driver throw all the street snow onto parked cars when the other side of the street is posted "no parking" and empty?

Why would a town that's struggling for money to fix an antiquated sewer/water system spend \$50,000 for a

Swincher also announced that he will serve as the council's liaison to the New Castle-Henry County Economic Development Corp. He said he will try to attend as many of this group's meetings as possible.

Council members also heard brief updates on work being done by the town's park board and plan commission and the jointly run Knightstown-Wayne Township Fire Board. Payment of monthly

claims totaling \$178,392.21 was also approved.

More information about the Knightstown Town Council's Feb. 19 monthly meeting can be found in the Feb. 25 issue of The Banner and in the council's memoranda and minutes from that meeting. The latter are public records available for inspection and copying at Knightstown Town Hall, 26 S. Washington St., during normal business hours.

new dump truck? A decent used dump truck, which Knightstown seldom uses, could have been purchased for as cheap as \$900 for a 20-year-old truck, and 12 newer trucks listed online are under \$5,000. The town could even rent/lease one during summer months. Use some common sense!

Were you aware (I wasn't) that the tracking legal notice published by Knightstown Electric Utility is actually a fuel adjustment charge that we are paying to Indiana Municipal Power Association based on consumption? Do we need all that power for street lights on Main Street? Couldn't they burn every other light at night and save money?

How about reading aloud prior town meeting minutes, instead of passing them unread for awareness and errors?

As for doing a good job - I disagree. All you have to do is look around town at knee-level hacked-off trees, lights burned out at park and cemetery, the poor condition of our streets, sidewalks, drains and curbs, and the inability to follow state regulations required for different boards in town.

Worst of all, the first thing noticed by town visitors is the shameful condition of the tattered and wrapped U.S. flags along Main Street.

**Christena Jones
Knightstown**

'Old Lodge' Owner Files Lawsuit Against Knightstown

by Jeff Eakins
for The Banner

The town of Knightstown has been sued by an East Main Street property owner who claims the town is responsible for mold damage in his building's basement.

Dudley Wainscott, a resident of Woodland Park, Colo., who owns the property known as the "Old Lodge" building at 34-38 E. Main St., filed a complaint for damages in Henry Circuit Court 1 on Friday, Feb. 20, against the town. Also named as a defendant is Shroyer Bros. Inc., the Muncie-based company the town hired to raze a dilapidated building that stood just to the west of Wainscott's.

In the lawsuit, Wainscott's lawyers allege missteps in how the town and Shroyer handled the spring 2013 demolition of the building at 32 E. Main St. that once housed Hopkins Furniture and, more recently, The Bullet Hole gun shop. They also claim the town failed to make repairs to a common wall that the razed building shared with Wainscott's property that has been left standing.

Wainscott's lawyers say Shroyer was supposed to remove debris from the demolition and replace it with clean fill, but failed to do this. Instead, they claim the company left the material at the site, collapsed into what had been the basement, filling the rest in "with dirt and tombstones from the local graveyard."

The lawsuit also claims there had been over 10,000 vacuum tubes

inside razed building and that Shroyer had failed to remove them before starting the demolition. According to Wainscott's attorneys, an unknown number of tubes were crushed when the building was brought down, "potentially causing mercury to leak into the soil and groundwater."

It is also alleged in the lawsuit that Shroyer's demolition work left 161 holes above ground and 240 holes below ground in the load-bearing wall shared by The Bullet Hole and the Old Lodge. Wainscott's legal counsel claim the town ignored the advice of engineers it hired on how to repair this wall, and that this failure led to water getting into Wainscott's building, causing extensive mold damage in the basement that has left him unable to find a renter.

Wainscott is represented by Frederick Emhardt and Colin Connor, attorneys with the Indianapolis law firm of Plews

Shadley Racher & Braun LLP. The lawsuit they've drafted on Wainscott's behalf - to which the town and Shroyer must respond by next week - is divided into five distinct counts:

1. Equitable Claim Against the Town - Wainscott's attorneys claim the town failed to honor an equitable duty it owed their client not to do anything that would weaken or endanger the wall he shared with the razed building;

2. Breach of Contract Claim Against the Town - The town, Emhardt and Connor say, breached an oral contract it had with Wainscott when it failed to honor an agreement to repair the shared wall and address any issues affecting his building.

3. Nuisance Claim Against the Town and Shroyer - The razed building, the attorneys maintain, had been contaminated with asbestos and over 10,000 vacuum

See Lawsuit, Page 10

Carthage Infant Death Under Investigation

The death of a three-month-old infant in Carthage this past weekend is being investigated by the Rush County Sheriff's Department.

According to a press release issued by the RCSD, the agency was called to the residence of Jessica Seay and Dylon Lakes in the 200 block of Winters Way at around 5 p.m. on Sunday. Upon arrival, officers reportedly found the male infant deceased.

In addition to the RCSD, investigators from the Rushville Police Department and Department of Child Services were also called to the scene, as was the Rush County Coroner. An autopsy has been performed, but the medical examiner has not yet released findings that identify the cause of death.

Anyone with information about this matter is urged to contact Rush County Sheriff Jim Cowan at 765-932-2931, or RPD Chief Craig Tucker at 765-932-3907.

Victory, from Page 7

Eareckson Tada and Nick Vujicic of Life without Limbs.

"I really enjoyed the community feel to the whole conference, and I enjoyed watching every session being interpreted through American Sign Language," said Samuel.

The two built networking connections with international ministries such as Young Life-Capernaum and Joni and Friends: Family Retreats. Brett's focus shifts back to Victory Lane Camp, a non-profit organization based in Henry County designed to empower and equip families of children with special needs. Victory Lane Camp hosts family camps and

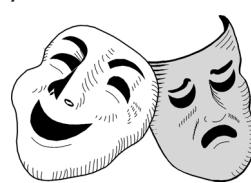
events throughout the year that create community and build healthy relationships to strengthen the families involved.

"God cares deeply about people facing disabilities and those parents who raise children with disabilities," Brett expressed. "There is international momentum toward disability ministry in the 21st century, and it is exciting that Victory Lane Camp is positioning itself to continue to make a huge impact on Henry County Indiana and beyond."

To learn more about Victory Lane Camp, visit at www.VictoryLaneCamp.org or call 765-591-4191.

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Henry Co. Commissioners' Certificate Sale March 10

The Henry County Commissioners' Certificate Sale is scheduled for Tuesday, March 10, at 10 a.m. in the Old Circuit Courtroom, second floor of the Henry County Courthouse, 101 S. Main St., New Castle.

This live tax certificate sale is for the delinquent properties that did not sell at the prior Henry County tax sale. Also, an internet auction sale will be conducted for any properties that do not sell at the live sale on March 10. The internet auction sale will start on March 13 at 9 a.m. and will close March 23 at 10 a.m. It will be held at www.sri.onlinelauctions.com.

In Indiana, county commissioners are authorized to offer for sale a tax lien on delinquent properties that remain unsold and unpaid from a prior year's county tax sale. On March 10 at 10 a.m., the Henry County Commissioners will offer 242 previously unsold tax sale certificates at a live public sale for opening bids that equal less than the total amount due in delinquent taxes, costs and penalties. The purpose of the commissioners' certificate sale is to offer delinquent properties at a discounted price for the purpose of collecting back taxes and returning these properties to the tax rolls.

The Henry County Commissioners have contracted with SRI, Inc. to conduct the county tax sales and commissioners' certificate sales. Persons interested in the sale should visit SRI, Inc.'s site at www.sri-taxsale.com.

Park Boards Balks at Contract

by Jeff Eakins
for The Banner

For a second month in row, the Knightstown Department of Parks and Recreation Board has declined to renew its annual contract with a local business that provides handyman services at Sunset Park.

At their Jan. 21 meeting, park board members delayed a vote on renewing their contract with Steve Ott of Economy Handyman, saying they wanted more information on how much Ott was paid in 2014. Despite having this information when it met on Feb. 18, the park board again put off a vote renewing Ott's annual contract, opting instead to continue on month-to-month basis.

Park Board President Randy Riggs advised other members of the board that Ott had been paid \$4,534.74 last year. That amount

was well below the cap of \$7,000 set by the terms of his contract, which pays him \$20 per hour for his work.

Riggs said the park board had three options: It could renew Ott's yearly contract; it could amend his contract; or it could choose not to renew the contract.

Suzi Neal, an ex officio member appointed to the park board by

the Charles A. Beard School Board, on which she also serves, voiced concern over Ott's hourly rate. While she said she was OK with paying him \$20 an hour for some of the heavier, more involved maintenance work, she said she felt it was too much to be paying for things like picking up trash at the park.

See Contract, Page 11

Lawsuit, from Page 9

tubes containing mercury, which created a nuisance when Shroyer failed to remove the tubes before beginning its demolition and ended up smashing an unknown number of them into the ground.

4. Negligence Claim Against the Town and Shroyer - Wainscott's lawyers claim the town and Shroyer failed to ensure the demolition was done safely and say they did not use reasonable care to avoid damaging their client's property.

5. Public Access Claim Against the Town - Emhardt and Connor say Wainscott requested copies of minutes from town council meetings that occurred over a 27-month period between September 2012 and December 2014, but that the town had only provided him, so far, with records covering 11 of those months, which they allege violated the state's Access to Public Records Act.

In late December, a claims adjuster for EMC Insurance Companies, the town's insurer, sent a letter to one of Wainscott's attorneys, denying Wainscott's claim. In that letter, the claims adjuster said the town had not received a tort claim notice for Wainscott's alleged losses within the time required by state statute and that no supporting evidence "to confirm (Wainscott's) allegations" had been submitted "except a letter from (Wainscott) giving his opinions."

According to town's insurer, the town had the site of the razed building inspected by a structural engineer in May 2013. According to the claims adjuster, the town "completed the recommendations suggested by the engineer" in order to keep Wainscott's building to the east "structurally sound."

Wainscott, who has owned his building since the fall of 2009, previously told The Banner that he and his attorneys were not concerned about the town's insurer's claim that a tort claim notice had not been filed in a timely manner. While state statute requires the notice of a claim against a political subdivision like a town to be filed within 180 days of when a loss occurs, Wainscott said his losses have been ongoing and that his deadline to file a tort claim notice has not passed.

BRYAN R. WILLIAMS
ATTORNEY AT LAW



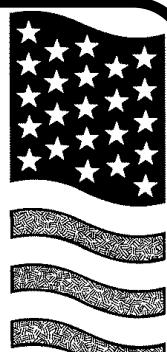
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Contract, from Page 10

Board member Belinda Grigsby said she agreed with Neal and thought Ott should be paid less than \$20 an hour for some of the work he does. Bruce Brown, the park board's vice president, added that he wanted to see some of Ott's work done in a more timely manner.

Board member Kevin Richey suggested the handyman job be divided into different duties that would pay different rates depending on the work being done. Neal said she liked that idea.

In his defense, Ott said the hourly rate for many people who do maintenance work is \$40-\$50 an hour. He told the board that if they reduce his hourly rate, he would not continue doing the job.

"This is my livelihood," Ott told the board. "It's what I do for a living."

"It's nothing personal," Neal told him. "It's about numbers."

"I really think we're complicating it more than is necessary," Riggs said. "... I don't really think we're off on the amount of money we're spending."

While he said he could see Neal's point about \$20 an hour being a lot to pay someone for cleaning up at the park, Brown said he thought it was a good rate for the maintenance work. He made a motion to renew Ott's contract for 2015, but, with no one seconding it, the motion died.

Neal made a motion to continue Ott's contract month-to-month until the board makes a decision on whether to renew it for its full one-year term. Grigsby seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

In other business, board members also raised a couple of issues during their discussion of the monthly financial report. They wanted to know why workers' compensation payments were being taken out of the park board's budget when the park has no

employees.

Town council member Clyde South, who attended the Feb. 18 meeting, told the park board he wasn't exactly sure why this was being done. However, he said it may be the case that workers' compensation payments are simply divided among all town departments.

"Whether or not you're getting a fair shake for your money is another question," South said. "... You need to talk to (Knightstown Clerk-Treasurer) Bart (Whitesitt) about that."

Brown also asked about a \$4,015 payment to Erwin Excavating for repairs made to a drainage pipe near the lake at Sunset Park. He said he thought the town, not the park, was going to be paying for that work.

"That was not our decision," Riggs said regarding that payment coming out of the park's budget, "but that is where the money was available. ... It had to be done. It was just a matter of where the money came from."

Richey asked whether payment of expenses from the park's budget are decisions that normally should be made by the park board, and Riggs said he thought they should. Riggs said he would check with the town's attorney and the town council about the payment to Erwin Excavating and the workers' compensation payments.

The park board voted at the Feb. 18 meeting to rent the Sunset Park shelter house to Joe McIntosh for a "faith-based event" that will be held 6-9 p.m. March 5-7. Board members agreed to charge \$21.40 rental per night, the same fee it charges a local woman who runs a Zumba class at the shelter house, plus a \$75 deposit.

Riggs advised the board that the Henry County Community

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Continued from Above

Foundation is still holding \$3,000 in grant funds for work to be done at the property off South Washington Street where a Blue River canoe launch has been proposed. He said this money will need to be spent by Aug. 1, or else the grant will be lost.

Brown suggested the park board meet at the South Washington Street property to inspect it and see what all needs to be done. Riggs said Jeff Ray of Healthy Communities of Henry County may have some recommendations for this site and suggested he be invited to meet with the park board.

The park board's next meeting has been set for 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 18. The board's meetings are open to the public and held in the back meeting room at Knightstown Town Hall, 26 S. Washington St.

More information about the park board's Feb. 18 meeting can be found in the board's memoranda and minutes from that meeting. Those public records are available for inspection and copying at Knightstown Town Hall during normal business hours.

Color Guard



The Hoosier Youth Challenge Academy Color Guard kicked off last Friday's home varsity basketball game at KHS by presenting the colors prior to the National Anthem. Staff Sgt. Nicholas Holliday (below, center) offers the group some instructions and encouragement prior to the presentation. (Eric Cox photos)



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Heim Earns Scholar-Athlete Award from National Football Foundation

Knightstown High School senior Derek Heim has been named as a scholar-athlete by the National Football Foundation/College Hall of Fame for the Central Indiana Chapter.

The NFF Central Indiana Chapter consists of 140 high schools with boundaries west to Terre Haute, east to Richmond, north to Muncie and Lafayette and south to Bedford.

There are five NFF chapters in Indiana but the Central Indiana Chapter is the largest.

Chapter president Geoff Bradley said a total of 16 scholar-athletes were chosen this year by their chapter. The standards are very high to be considered for the award. Bradley said it's so tough that two valedictorians from other schools did not make the cut.

The 16 chosen by the Central Indiana Chapter committee includes two students from Avon High School, two from Ben Davis High School, and one student from Bloomington South, Carmel, Center Grove, Fishers, Indianapolis Cardinal Ritter, Indianapolis Cathedral, Martinsville, Perry Meridian, Scecina, Terre Haute North Vigo and Western Boone High School.

Heim is the first from Knightstown to ever earn the scholar-athlete award in the Central Indiana Chapter's 21-year history.

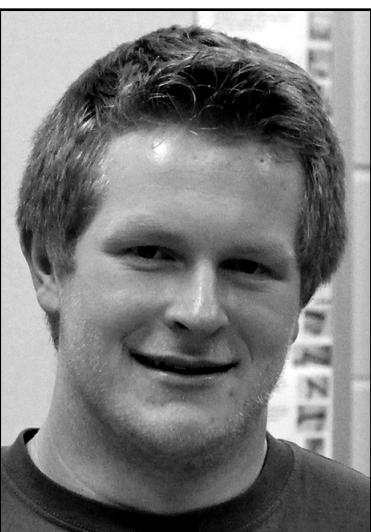
Bradley said all scholar-athletes names will be listed in the records at the College Football Hall of Fame in Atlanta.

Scholar-athletes are chosen by a committee within the chapter from nominations submitted by the player's coach.

The chapter makes their decision based 60 percent on the athlete's academic, citizenship and leadership abilities. The other 40 percent is based on their football statistics.

Not only did Heim play for four years on the Panthers' offensive and defensive lines, he also was on the track team and in the school band.

Heim is likely this year's KHS valedictorian, posting a 4.275 grade point average.



He was given this award not just for his grades and football skills but for his leadership. He is the senior class president and also the vice-president of the school's National Honor Society.

"This is an amazing honor for Derek, his family and Knightstown football," said KHS Head Coach Kevin Miller. "The term 'student-athlete' is the most important term when it comes to athletes. Derek has done a tremendous job balancing everything he has been involved in over the years. He is a well-deserving recipient of this award and I couldn't be more proud of him and his accomplishments."

Miller, along with his wife, plan to join Heim and his parents at an awards banquet for the scholar-athletes on April 18 at the Indianapolis Colts Complex. Bradley said each of the young men are presented with a large trophy with the bust of a football player, resembling the Heisman trophy.

The chapter also has a specific amount of scholarship money to distribute to the scholar-athletes.

Bradley said the amount given to the young men is need-based and not all the scholar-athletes will receive scholarship money. For example, Bradley said two of the scholar-athletes already have full-ride athletic scholarships so they will be excluded.

Dave Furst, sports director at Channel 6 television station in Indianapolis, and Greg Rakestraw, program director at 1070 AM and 107.5 FM radio stations, are emceeing the banquet.

Heim is in good company in achieving this award. Bradley said Andrew Luck won the same award when he was in high school. Scholar-athlete awards are also given out by NFF to college players. Peyton Manning, and Drew Brees are just two players who were given the award when they were in college.

Heim is the son of John and Kim Heim. His grandparents are Richard and Marylin Heim and Enoch and Wanda Duff. Following graduation, Heim plans to attend Ohio State University to major in molecular genetics.

KIS Girls Nixed By Rushville, Greenfield-Central

The Knightstown seventh and eighth grade girls basketball teams played two bigger schools last week, suffering losses to both schools.

On Feb. 25, the Knightstown Intermediate School girls team took on Rushville. The eighth grade team were defeated 22-50 by the Lady Lions.

Jessica Butler led the Lady Panthers with seven points and

three rebounds. Kaitlyn Jackson had six points and one rebound.

Elizabeth Moore got four points. Sidney Vise and Heather Jackson added two points each.

KIS' seventh graders lost to Rushville 6-36.

Katie Clark led KIS with four points. Alexis Howard had two points and eight rebounds. Rena Witham pulled down three rebounds and made two steals.

On Feb. 26, KIS was overwhelmed by Greenfield-Central.

Knightstown's eighth graders lost 8-48.

Vise had eight of the Lady Panthers' points and also grabbed eight rebounds. Butler had the other KIS point as well as two rebounds and two steals. Jackson also got two rebounds.

Knightstown's seventh graders also lost, 7-34.

Clark had three points. Cara Mullen and Emily Moss added two points apiece. Howard pulled in four rebounds and Taylor Newby got three rebounds for the Lady Panthers.



Jake Kwisz (above, left) drives the baseline during the varsity Panthers' one-sided victory over South Decatur last Friday night at home. Kwisz and his fellow seniors wowed fans on Senior Night, racking up a huge points margin. In the JV contest, guard Lucas Haase (above, right) shakes off a defender while looking for an open man. (Eric Cox photos)

KHS Wrestlers Orcutt, Dishman Recognized for Academics

Knightstown juniors Balin Orcutt and Jason Dishman have been recognized by the Indiana High School Wrestling Coaches Association for their success off the mat.

To be considered for the Junior Academic All-State, student-athletes must have a grad point average at least 3.25 on a 4.0 scale for five semesters. They must also be a sectional participant and nominated by a IHSWCA member.

Orcutt was named to the First Team Academic All-State team, quite an accomplishment to add to his already successful year.

Orcutt, the son of Jeremy and Kristi Orcutt, was this year's sectional and regional tourney winner, competing at the 170-lb weight class. He also won the Henry County title. He's been on the wrestling team since he started high school.

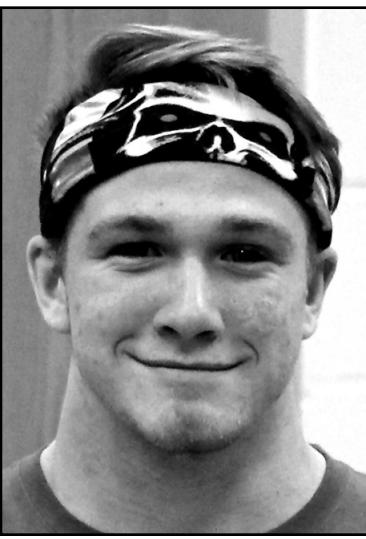
As a freshman, Orcutt was named most valuable junior varsity wrestler and also given the Unsung Hero Award.

In his sophomore year, he was presented with the Panther Pride Award and was champion at the Raider Rumble Invitational at Wapahani.

Besides wrestling, Orcutt also plays on the football team and is a member of the National Honor Society and Spanish Club. He helps



Dishman



Orcutt

achievements.

"These are the type of kids you want in a program," said Evans. "They are dedicated to not only wrestling, but to being the best they can be in all aspects of their life."

"We as coaches preach to the kids about being the best that they can be in all facets of life, and these two kids encompass all of that."

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LOCAL SPORTS

Senior Panthers Overwhelm Cougars

Three Knightstown seniors scored in double-figures in their final home game last Friday night in the school's annual Senior Night.

The Panthers dominated the South Decatur Cougars from the start, easily getting a 61-14 victory.

Knightstown took an 11-3 lead after the first quarter and had shot their lead up to 34-5 by halftime.

The Panthers again only allowed the Cougars two points in the third quarter to increase their lead to 48-7 at the end of three quarters.

The Cougars managed to score seven points in the final period but the Panthers added another 13 points to get the dominating 47-point win.

Zach Manley not only scored 12 points but achieved his only double-double of the year with his 17 rebounds. He also had four blocks and three assists.

Jake Kwisz scored 11 points and made five assists, one block and had four rebounds.

The third senior to hit double-figures was Riley Ruble, who finished with 10 points and added two

rebounds.

Tyler Hubble, another senior, got eight points and five rebounds. He also led the team in steals with five.

Senior Max Wever led the team on the boards with 17 rebounds. He added two buckets, two assists, two steals and one block.

Senior Kyle Rayburn had three points, two steals, one rebound and one assist.

The team's other senior, Sam Moore also scored one basket.

The four juniors on the team also contributed to the Panthers big win.

Drake Peggs had seven points, one rebound, one assist and one steal.

Coleman Wyatt sank two free throws and grabbed two rebounds and two steals.

Jackson Edwards also hit two free throws and pulled down five rebounds. He added two assists and one steal and Jake Bearhop made four rebounds.

The Panthers finished the regular season 15-7 overall and 4-3 in the Mid-Hoosier Conference. They begin sectionals tonight at Hagerstown.



KHS senior Max Wever (above) scores in the paint Friday night in the Panthers' huge win over South Decatur. It is the team's final regular season game as well as Senior Night. Three seniors, Sam Moore (30), Kyle Rayburn (12) and Zach Manley (42) look intense in their zone defense. (Eric Cox photos)



Boys Basketball Sectionals This Week at Hagerstown

The Indiana High School Athletic Association boys basketball sectional action is underway.

Knightstown will again compete in Class 2A's Sectional 41 - this year at Hagerstown - along with the host school, Eastern Hancock, Union County, Centerville, Cambridge City Lincoln and Northeastern.

The Royals are scheduled for the first game of the sectional on Tuesday, Mar. 3, at 7 p.m. against Union County.

Eastern Hancock finished the season at 10-12. Union County ended their regular season with a 12-11 record. In a game on Jan. 17, the Patriots defeated the Royals 49-40.

On Wednesday, Mar. 4, Knightstown takes on Hagerstown in the 6 p.m. game with the matchup between Centerville and Cambridge City Lincoln following at 7:30 p.m.

The Panthers currently have a 15-7 record.

Hagerstown's record stands at 16-

Spring Sports Parent Meeting Mar. 12

The Knightstown Athletic Department's previously set Mar. 4 meeting for parents of student-athletes in grades 7-12 who plan to play any spring sport has been canceled due to the boys basketball sectional.

The mandatory parent meeting has been rescheduled for Thursday, Mar. 12, at 7 p.m., in the high school auditorium.

Following the athletic department's meeting, each sport will break off and hold their own meetings with parents.

If you attended the winter sports meeting for parents, you do not need to attend the main parent meeting at 7 p.m. However, parents are expected to attend the meetings for the individual sport meetings with coaches. Those meetings will start about 7:30 p.m.

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DNR Says It Stocked More Fish in '14 Than Other Years

When it comes to stocking fish in Indiana waters, 2014 was a banner year.

The DNR and organizations with a DNR permit stocked 31.9 million fish in 70 counties in 2014. In a typical year, stocking numbers are between 22 million and 24 million fish.

The increase was primarily due to a near-record number of walleye eggs collected at Brookville Lake by

DNR biologists for hatchery production. Those eggs also had a higher-than-normal survival rate. As a result, biologists stocked approximately 10 million more walleye fry than normal.

Other species stocked throughout Indiana were bluegill, brown trout, crappie, channel catfish, chinook salmon, coho salmon, grass carp, hybrid striped bass, hybrid sunfish, largemouth bass, muskie, pike, rainbow trout, redear sunfish, saugeye, steelhead, striped bass and yellow perch.

Stocking fish size ranged from fry to channel catfish and muskellunge more than a foot long.

Stockings supplement natural reproduction or help establish a species in an area where it cannot reproduce on its own.

"Fish stockings not only add value to the fishery but also give a boost to the local economy by bringing additional anglers to the area," said Brian Schoenung, DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife fisheries chief.

District fisheries biologists evaluate fish populations to determine the best sites for stocking. For questions about stocking at a specific location, contact your district fisheries biologist. A map of districts and their biologists is at fishing.IN.gov/3590.htm.

It is illegal to stock public waters without a DNR permit.

The fish are produced at the state's seven hatcheries and one trout rearing station. Information on hatcheries is at fishing.IN.gov/3077.htm.

Fish were raised and stocked with the help of anglers through fishing license sales and the Sport Fish Restoration Fund, which collects excise tax paid by the manufacturer on qualifying fishing equipment.

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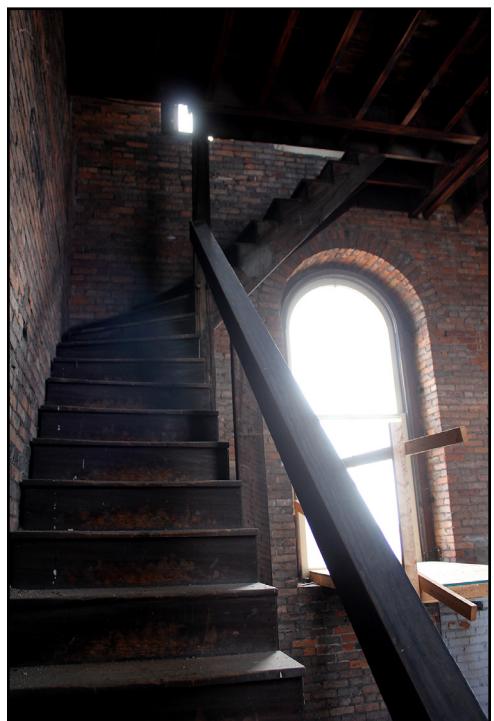
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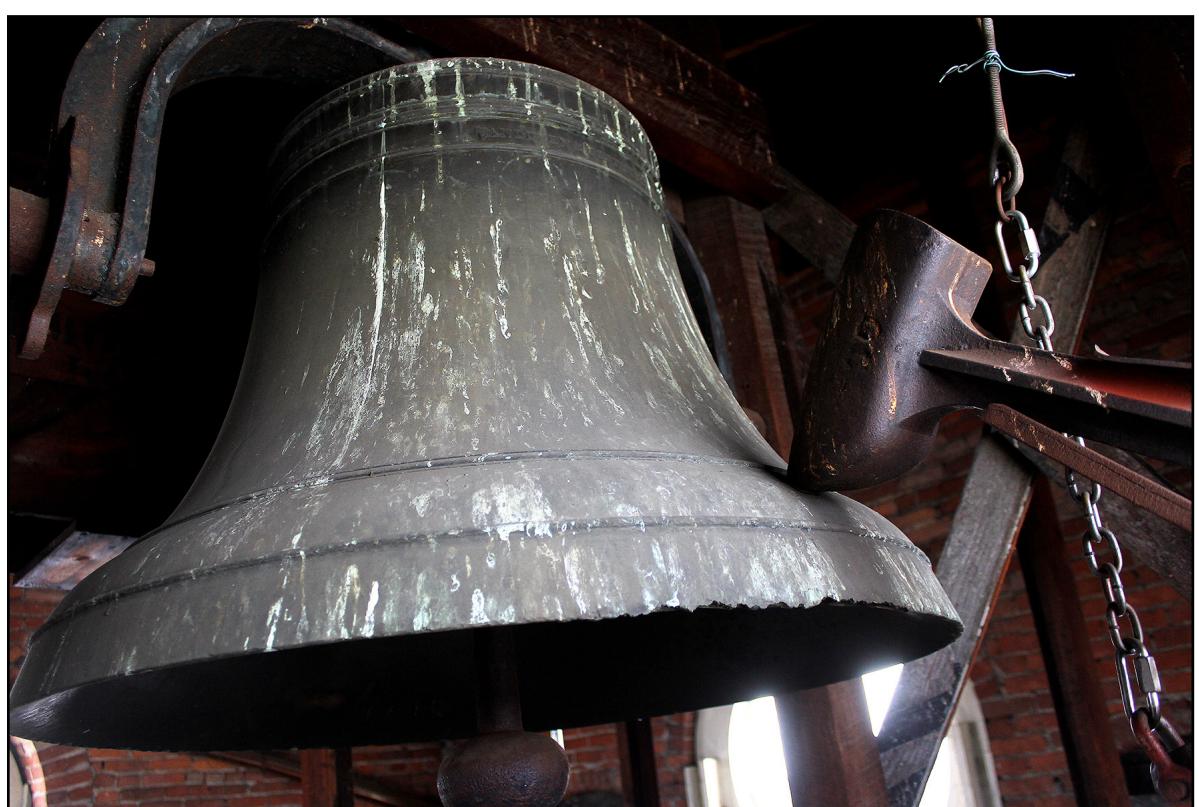
The People's Clock



Looming over New Castle like a peering, four-eyed sentinel, the Henry County Courthouse's 19th century striking clock is seen here from the inside. The clock has four faces and four time-keeping mechanisms, all controlled by a single synchronization gear located near the motor.



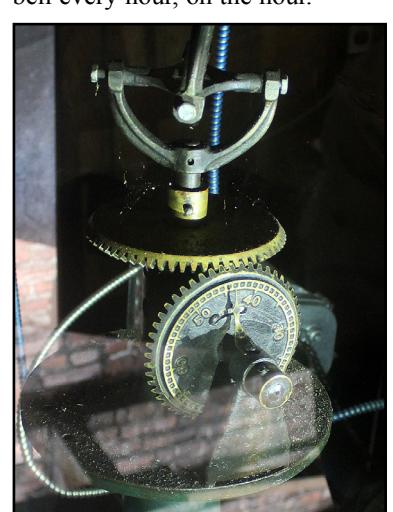
The courthouse's 110-foot tower is access by an old wooden stairway (above, left). On the tower's second floor (above, center), light pours in through one of the circular windows below the clock faces. Though the writing (above, right) is inverted, the clock manufacturer's name can be easily read. It says, "from the E. Howard Watch & Clock Co. - Boston."



The tower's enormous bell still strikes today, making the clock, officially, a striking clock.



Graffiti was part of the 19th century, too. This inscription - apparently by someone named Lon - is dated May 27, 1893. Another bit, this one newer, reads "County Commissioner 1980-1996, John & Aileen McGrady 12/29/94."



This central mechanism, located near the clock's electric motor, synchronizes the four clock dials.

According to Ken Johnson, a county maintenance man responsible for the clock since 1995, power outages dictate that he reset the clock faces using the synchronization mechanism pictured above. Johnson said a company is contracted to perform maintenance on the county's striking clock once a year. He said little has changed with the clock since he was put in charge of it in the mid 90s.

Photos by
Eric Cox

Henry County
Courthouse's
110-foot Tower
Home to Historic
Striking Clock

by Eric Cox
Publisher

After fire claimed Henry County's first courthouse in 1865, the county commissioners decided they wanted something a little more fire resistant.

According to Wikipedia, architect Isaac Hodgson designed what is today's Henry County Courthouse, complete with its relatively unusual mansard roof and the four-faced striking clock tower that rises 110 feet above New Castle's business district.

The new structure was built between 1865 and 1869. Astonishing by today's standards, the courthouse construction then cost a mere \$120,000.

Meanwhile, in Massachusetts, the Howard Clock Co. was enduring the struggles of maintaining a technology company in the throes of perpetual change. Having manufactured clocks since 1842, Edward Howard was changing gears, moving into the realm of personal watches.

After several innovations, mergers and reorganizations, the company in 1881 settled on a new name, E. Howard Watch & Clock Co. The same name appears today on a wooden box in the courthouse tower, leading one to believe that the same company built the tower's striking clock.

But, the new courthouse was completed in 1869 - 12 years before Howard reorganized his company with the new name. That could mean the clock wasn't installed until much later. Or, the clock was updated or repaired after 1881, and the namesake box is a bit of red herring.

In any case, the courthouse tower's striking clock is a fascinating device. Although it's powered by a modern electric motor, the movement looks to be made of brass. Silent in its operation, the clock does, however, strike a large bell every hour, on the hour.