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# Banner

**75¢**

PERIODICALS  
NEWSPAPER

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

**Vol. XVI, Issue 47**

**March 11, 2015**

**Knightstown, IN**

## Thursday 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 This Saturday

The Eastern Hancock Athletic Boosters will hold their annual 3-on-3 basketball tournament at Eastern Hancock Schools on Saturday, March 14. Space permitting, registrations will be accepted from 9-10 a.m. on tourney day.

## Commissioners Meeting March 18

Henry County Commissioners will hold a work session Wednesday, March 18, at 10:30 a.m. in the Commissioner's Meeting room, located at 101 S Main Street, New Castle. They will discuss policy handbooks, etc.

## Local Artist's Demo Tomorrow Night

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 Thursday, 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.



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## Duane Booth Selected as New K-town Police Chief

by Jeff Eakins  
for The Banner

In what may be one of the quickest promotions from patrol officer to department head the town of Knightstown has ever seen, the Knightstown Town Council voted last week to approve Duane Booth as the town's new chief of police.

The unanimous vote came during a special meeting the council held on Tuesday, March 3. The 43-year-old Booth, who had just been hired as a full-time patrol officer for the Knightstown Police Department in early November and still has nearly two months left before he is no longer a probationary employee, began his new duties as chief immediately.

Booth, one of six applicants for the police chief's job, told The Banner on Monday that, for him personally, the promotion is "a great opportunity." He said he is looking forward to getting the police department back to being fully staffed and returning it to a position of respect.

"My vision is for the police department to play a role ... not only in law enforcement, but for myself and the officers to be an active part of the community in different aspects," Booth said. "I don't think it's all about taking people to jail all the time. I think there are a lot of good programs in the community we can support and participate in just to help the community and be part of the community versus just being seen as the person who shows up and slaps handcuffs on somebody and hauls them away."

The town council's selection of Booth as the new police chief likely came as a surprise to many. Leading up to last week's council meeting, Anthony Darling, a 19-year veteran of the Henry County Sheriff's Department and a part-time KPD officer who had been serving as Knightstown's interim chief since December, had been considered a favorite for the position.

Darling, however, despite having initially expressed interest in what he hoped to turn into a full-time job once he retired from the HCSD, ended up not being among the half dozen who applied. Speaking to The Banner on Monday, he said that concern over losing health insurance benefits he has through the county was "a determining factor" in his decision not to seek the chief of police position.

"I think that Duane will do a  
See Chief, Page 2

## Scouts Honor



Boy Scouts Troop 293 members (l-r) Denver Campbell, Zachary Sickle and Ryan Dagley serve pancakes, scrambled eggs and sausage Saturday at the Charlottesville Lions Club. Scouts raised over \$1,000, which will be used to help finance a new, larger equipment trailer for all their gear. The troop includes boys from Eastern Hancock and Charles A. Beard schools, as well as homeschoolers.



Scouts get together for a group photo. Pictured (front row, l-r) are Owen Renie, Anthony Kress, Connor Pyle, Mason Lardon, Matthew Layman, Ryan Dagley, (row 2) Devon Inman, Caleb Pyle, Lucas Elliott, Ben Adkins, Drew Elliott, (back row) Harrison Collins, Kyle Willard, Zach Sickle, Daniel Campbell, Evan Nolen, Chris Watson, Denver Campbell and Will Huffman. Not pictured are Dillon True, Cameron Alberts, Clayton Cochard, Addison Jones and Matthew McDaniel. (Eric Cox photos)

## Health Communities Annual Meeting March 19

Jim Poyser, director of Youth Power and executive director of Earth Charter Indiana, will bring his presentation to the Healthy Communities of Henry County (HCHC) annual meeting at the New Castle Public Library Thursday, March 19, at 11:30 a.m. The public is invited to join in the celebration of

another year of achievements for HCHC. Poyser will tell about his adventures all over Indiana helping youth speak out, making their world and this state a better place to live.

Poyser is an energetic speaker who travels the state,  
See Healthy, Page 9

# County Library Hosting Book Sale Saturday

Friends of the Library are having a "Spring is Almost Here" Book Sale from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 14, at New Castle-Henry County Public Library. Books, music cassette tapes and CDs, audio books on cassette tape and CD, and VHS movies in the Book Room and basement will be on sale five for \$1.

There will be a food court in rooms A & B open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Donuts and coffee are available for purchase in the morning, and a walking taco lunch from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Local vendors will be set up in the lower level hallway.

Learn more about Friends of the Library at [www.nchcpl.org/friends](http://www.nchcpl.org/friends).

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# OBITUARIES

**Charlotte Morse Copeland**  
**May 26, 1930 - March 6, 2015**

Charlotte Morse Copeland, 84, of New Castle passed away Friday, March 6, 2015, at Stonebrooke Rehabilitation Centre.

A daughter of the late George and Helen (Morse) Anderson, Charlotte was born on May 26, 1930, in Knightstown. She graduated from Knightstown High School with the class of 1948. In August 1954 she married Dale Copeland in Henry County. Charlotte retired from Draper Shade, Inc., in Spiceland with over 20 years of service. In her leisure, she enjoyed animals, especially cats and dogs.

Survivors include her children, Duane (Trudi) Copeland and Barbara (Tony) Russell, all of Spiceland; a granddaughter, Alyssia Newby of Knightstown; two stepgrandchildren; three great-grandchildren; four stepgreat-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Charlotte was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Dale, in 1997; a brother, George Anderson; and a sister, Lida Ruth Lambert.

Family and friends may gather from 11 a.m. until the time of service at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, March 11, at Marshall & Erlewein Funeral Home in Lewisville. Pastor Chris Sitler will officiate. Burial will follow at Circle Grove Cemetery in Spiceland. Online condolences can be made at [www.marshallanderleweinfuneralhome.com](http://www.marshallanderleweinfuneralhome.com).

**Sara K. (Barton) Seivila**  
**1943-2015**



Sara K. "Sally" (nee Barton) Seivila, age 71, of Morgantown, Penn., formerly of Wilkinson, died March 5, 2015.

She is survived by her loving husband, David M. Seivila; two children, Michael B. Seivila and Casey S. Seivila; and two grandchildren, Anna Grace and Eve Marie Benner.

Relatives and friends are invited to her visitation Friday, March 13, 9-11 a.m. at the D'Anjolell Memorial Home of Frazer, 392 E. Lancaster Ave., Frazer, Penn., 19355, followed by her memorial service at 11 a.m. in the Main Chapel. Inurnment will be private.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Sally's memory may be made to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 22718, Oklahoma City, Okla., 7312-1718.

**William Ray Hauger**  
**February 1, 1950 - March 1, 2015**

William Ray Hauger, age 65, of New Point, passed away Sunday, March 1, 2015, at Heritage House of Greensburg. He was born Feb. 1, 1950, in New Castle, to Ray and Mary (Hopkins) Hauger.

William was a 1968 graduate of Knightstown High School and worked for RCA as a material handler. He served his country during Vietnam in the U.S. Army. He married Shirley Deboad on Oct. 23, 1984, in Jellico, Tenn. William was a member of New Point Christian Church and Knightstown American Legion Post 152.

William is survived by his wife, Shirley Hauger; five children, Angie Hauger, Daniel Hauger, Lisa Sledge, Christie Hauger and Tammy Hauger; four stepchildren, Phillip Walton, Kari Dean, Christi Walton and Tonya Walton; a brother, Ray Beck; and several grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two children, Maria Hauger and William Hauger.

Visitation was March 5, followed by funeral services at New Point Christian Church with Mark Vice officiating. Burial, with military graveside rites, followed at Riverside Cemetery in Carthage. Memorial contributions may be sent to New Point Christian Church, c/o Meyers Funeral Home, in Batesville. Online condolences [www.meyersfuneralhomes.com](http://www.meyersfuneralhomes.com).

**Chief, from Page 1**

very good job for them," Darling said. "He's got a lot of experience. ... He's got a lot of good ideas. ... I think that Duane's a perfect fit for Knightstown. He's got a lot to offer and he's going to be a long-term guy there, so I think they made a good choice."

A graduate of South Adams High School in Adams County and the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy, Booth left a job at Navistar in Indianapolis last fall when he was hired as a KPD patrol officer. He worked nine years as a part-time officer for the town of Mooreland, and had also served as a volunteer reserve officer and as a full-time officer for the town Geneva's police department.

Booth and his wife, Amy, reside in Wayne Township, just east of the town limits, with their two sons, Brandon, 15, and Tyler, 8.

"What I tell people is, 'I don't live in town, but I can see town from where I live,'" Booth said.

Among Booth's top priorities for the KPD is getting a third full-time officer hired to join him and patrol officer Jeffrey Van Hoy, who was just hired at the council's Feb. 19 meeting. Once that third position is filled, Booth said Van Hoy will be able to enroll in the ILEA's 17-week training course, something that must be completed within a year of being hired as a full-time officer.

Booth also said he wants to grow the ranks of the department's volunteer reserves. Currently, he said the KPD has four reserves, along with a handful of paid part-time officers, which includes Darling and two other current members of the HCSD, Elmer New and Stacey Guffey.

"By ordinance, we can have up

to 10 reserve officers, so that's going to be one of the big things I'm going to push for this year in addition to getting a third full-time officer hired," Booth said. "... It's a lot cheaper to have reserves working. They're still trained, they're still professional officers - we just don't have to pay them. So, it really helps the community out and it helps the budget, and it just gives us more boots on the ground and more eyes in the community to help protect everybody."

According to Town Council President Cort Swincher, the council's two-person police committee initially interviewed Booth and two others for the police chief position. He said Booth and one of the others, Russell Peper, were invited back for final interviews, but that Peper ended up withdrawing his name from consideration.

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**A. \*Previous experience with the funeral provider**  
\*Recommendation from others, \*Amount of parking  
\*Appearance of facility/accessibility (steps, etc.)  
\*Location of funeral home, \*Cost involved  
\*Whether follow up care after the service is provided  
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# Divided Council Takes First Step Toward Major Utility Rate Hike

by Jeff Eakins  
for The Banner

A divided Knightstown Town Council voted last week to take a first step toward enacting a new ordinance that will increase rates and charges for customers of the town's wastewater utility by 43 percent.

The 3-2 vote approving Ordinance 3-2015 came during a special meeting held Tuesday, March 3. Voting in favor of the increase were council members Clyde South, Valerie Trump and Vice President Sarah Ward, while Mitch Roland and President Cort Swincher voted against it.

The ordinance, which still must be approved on second reading following a public hearing, proposes to increase the average monthly residential bill for 4,000 gallons of usage \$15.52, from \$36.10 to \$51.62. It is hoped the increase will not only allow the utility's operating fund to get out of the red and provide money for needed repairs, but will also help the town's efforts to get grant funds to help pay for

needed improvements to the sewer plant and infrastructure.

The town of Knightstown's wastewater treatment plant frequently exceeds its rated capacity as the result of problems with inflow and infiltration (I and I) into the system. Engineering reports prepared by two different firms have estimated the cost of rehabilitating parts of the town's wastewater collection system and making upgrades to the sewer plant as being between \$3.9 million and \$5.2 million.

Christina DeWitt of H.J. Umbaugh & Associates, the town's Indianapolis-based rate consultants, gave a brief presentation at last week's meeting, going over the preliminary rate study she first presented to the council last October. While she said increases in rates and charges are "never fun ... (and) never easy," she said expenses for the town's sewer utility are higher now than they were, creating "even more of a need" for council action.

Based on the DeWitt's rate

study from last fall, Gregg Morelock, the town's attorney, prepared two proposed ordinances for the council to consider. The first called for a 30-percent increase in rates and charges, while the other one proposed the higher, 43-percent hike.

As council members discussed the two options, Swincher noted that it had not been that long ago that the council had voted to approve an increase in rates and charges for customers of the town's electric utility. South, however, said he thought it would be better to go for the higher increase now, saying "being aggressive" in getting sewer rates where they need to be could improve chances for getting grants to help with needed improvements.

South made a motion to approve Ordinance 3-2015, with the 43-percent increase, on first reading. Trump, who said she also favored a more aggressive approach, seconded the motion, and with Ward joining them, it passed 3-2, with Roland and

Swincher dissenting.

The proposed ordinance and its higher rates and charges has been published as a legal notice in this week's issue of The Banner. The council will hold a public hearing

on this matter at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, March 25, in the council's chambers at 28 S. Washington St., and may vote to adopt the ordinance on second reading at the conclusion of that hearing.

## 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.

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# Banner PERSPECTIVES

## Sweat Equity Soaks Drywall Effort

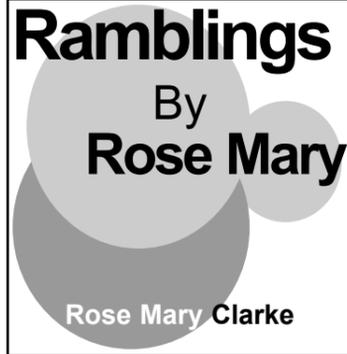
During my career as a Realtor, owners proudly showed me the improvements that they'd made. "We did everything ourselves. Working together was such fun!" I smiled because I knew what probably happened during their fix-up experiences.

As I've written before, I am a klutz. Bill, on the other hand, is a precise, persnickety and competent handyman/decorator. After we knocked down the plaster ceiling in our old house, he brought home large sheets of plasterboard with which to replace it. Plasterboard is limber, heavy and fragile. "Now we must be very careful not to crack it or knock the corners off, Dear," he said in his most patient, husbandly voice. "Gotcha!" Off we went from the front porch to the kitchen. "Gosh, this stuff's heavy," I said as I dropped my end. "You just knocked off a corner," Bill said.

I asked how we were going to get the sheets of plasterboard up to the nine-foot-tall ceiling. "Don't you think we need help?" "Don't worry. I have a plan." He brought in a big "T" that he'd nailed together out of two-by-fours. He set up the stepladder and announced the plan: "I'll climb the ladder with one end of a sheet of plasterboard and hold it against the ceiling while you hoist the other end up with the "T" and brace it, and I'll nail it in

place." "Sounds simple enough."

He went up the ladder. "Now!" he yelled. "Get the 'T' under your end! Hurry!" It was impossible to hurry with that heavy "T" in the small kitchen. "Hurry!" he moaned. "I'm hurrying, I'm hurrying." Finally I got the "T" in place. He shrieked, "Get it straight!" It wobbled.



Husband, plasterboard and "T" made a rapid descent. Leaning against the wall, Bill said very quietly, "It was my intent that you lift your end and brace it, rather than knocking me off the ladder with my cross."

We started over: "Hurry!" "I can't!" "You have to!" "I can't!" "Don't let it slip!"

Resignedly, "Let's start over." Finally I said, "I'm not strong enough to do this." (A phrase that I'm still using till this day.) "Let me be the beast of burden and go up

the ladder."

Weak-kneed, I got halfway up the ladder. "Are you O.K., hon?" "Don't talk to me - just hurry!" I yelled. At last the board was in place and anchored. Bill came up the ladder behind me and nailed it. The second sheet was easier. I stumbled up the ladder with the third sheet that had one inch cut off of it to fit since it butted against the wall Bill braced his end while I balanced mine against the ceiling with my head since my arms were as limp as spaghetti. It overlapped the preceding board.

I said, "It doesn't fit." "Push it over." I pushed. "No good."

"It has to fit!" he roared. I yelled, "It doesn't. You must have cut it wrong." He joined me on the ladder. "Sigh ... You're right; it's a quarter of an inch too wide at this end. The wall is crooked."

We learned that there is no such thing as a straight line in an old house that has leaned and shifted with the passage of time.

From that point on, every sheet had to be taken up, marked, taken back down and trimmed before being installed. Our hair and clothing were soaked with perspiration from the 95-degree heat. We learned firsthand the meaning of "sweat equity."

During our torment, neighbor Linda arrived with a pitcher of  
**See Rose Mary, Page 6**

## Freddy Z. Knows How to Fish Big Blue

The Boats, Sport & Travel Show (BST Show) has come and gone. That means warm weather and fishing are right around the corner.

Since I was a kid, that show always put the figurative hook in me. My dad and I, along with my brother, Chris, always went to the February show. It was a great place to find deals on fishing tackle and see some fishing demonstrations.

My brother and I would grab up all the literature we could from the hundreds of vendors, dealers and charter services. Once we got back home, we'd pour over all the information.

But, it only made our problem worse. Here we were, primed with new gear and lures and lots of data on where and when to fish.

Only problem was - the BST Show is in February, when there's still ice on lakes. Actual fishing was still months off. We were always left chomping at the bit to get out and wet a line, but with a long wait before it could actually happen.

Bill Dance's fishing shows made it worse, too. That professional bass fisherman, in his obligatory "T" (for Tennessee) ball cap, seemed to enjoy warm weather year-round. His Sunday morning shows often found us snowed in. We enjoyed them, though they made us long even more for sunny weather.

Each winter, I start to feel this recurring pang to get in Big Blue River. Whether it's wading by myself, or floating Freddy Zeilinga's kayaks, that little stream call to me. I know there are channel catfish, rock bass and common carp in there.

Those are fun catch, sure. But, I'm after those elu-

sive bronze-backs - the smallmouth bass, which pound-for-pound, fight as hard as any freshwater fish. The big ones have raw power, but even the smaller-shouldered ones offer a decent tussle.

Now I'm normally an artificial bait kinda guy. Finding the right spinners, jigs, rubber worms and plugs is a welcome challenge for me. But, I did get my eyes opened to live bait last summer, when Zeilinga and I fished Big Blue.

He encouraged me to join him in his fishing method. Freddy uses those golden hooks, much like one might employ for crappie fishing with minnows. There are no sinkers or bobbers - just a fat nightcrawler threaded onto the hook.

Once baited, he tossed the rig upstream along the bank in the fast current. The worm sank and bounced along the bottom.

As we waded that evening, Freddy had bite after bite, landing fish after fish. And it wasn't just smallmouth bass. He hauled in several healthy channel cats, along with others.

If he got snagged on a submerged branch, he just pulled hard and the soft-metal hook would straighten out and release. Then, he'd simply bend the hook back into shape, rebait and continue fishing.

Freddy put me and my box of colorful baits to shame that evening. In fact, so embarrassed I was that I eventually switched over to the gold hooks and nightcrawlers. The bites came more quickly and I caught more fish and a wider variety of them.

None of that stopped the sun from setting, though. We paddled back to his place just as it was getting dark. We were out of worms anyway.



## BANNER PERSPECTIVE

Warm weather means the town of Knightstown can tackle some of the beautification projects that have been piling up for years.

For starters, the town can clean up the site of the Bullet Hole building. The weeds, bricks and other trash can be picked up and discarded. That will go a long way toward making that prominent spot look much better.

Second, the town can police trash on Main Street, paint curbs and fire hydrants and trim overgrown trees. Also, trash can be collected - not just on Main Street, but the side streets as well.

Harsh winter temperatures have taken a toll on our roads. Spring is a great time to get out and evaluate the most serious potholes and where paving needs done. The town can fill those potholes, making the streets safer for our cars.

Big Blue River is a prime spot, not just for canoers and kayakers, but for visiting outdoors enthusiasts as well. The trash that's accumulated near the U.S. 40 bridge has grown to mammoth proportions. Knightstown should dispatch its robust workforce to that area. Let's get that area cleaned up. It's become an embarrassment.

Those are just a few of the problem areas in town. Many, many others need attention, too. Residents, whether they rent or own, can do their part by picking up trash, removing heavy trash in yards and generally sprucing up their properties.

If the town does its job and residents do theirs, there's no reason Knightstown can't look tidy and inviting for the coming tourist season. It's time everyone kicks in with their best efforts to roll out a red carpet for those who pass through and spend money in this town.

## Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

As the small Town of Spiceland prepares to clear the final hurdle of an almost two decade long plan of expansion and inclusion, I would like to take this opportunity to thank those past and present community leaders and citizens who have helped to ensure the future of our little town. I would also like to explain why having a locally-run municipal electric utility has been beneficial to our town and to over 6,000 Henry County residents and their respective towns.

Nearly 20 years ago, Spiceland officials saw the upcoming need to address our water and electric infrastructure, especially our aging water tower. Actions were taken to secure funding for a new water tower, build the infrastructure to supply water to the I-70 and State Road 3 interchange, and search for new wells to provide for our increasing demand. This process required the involvement and support of many Henry County elected officials. Without the assistance of these community leaders, Spiceland's vision of a thriving interchange would never have become a reality.

As one of the original members of the South Henry Regional Waste District (SHRWD), Spiceland was ecstatic to be a part of this organization's successful efforts to run sewer lines along US 40 and up State Road 3. With the addition of Spiceland's municipal water and SHRWD's sewer lines, the Spiceland interchange was positioned to help bring economic growth to all of Henry County.

Always thinking about the future and anticipating our customers needs, Spiceland moved forward recently with an unprecedented agreement with  
**See Letters, Page 16**

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.

<p><b>EDITORIAL BOARD</b> Eric Cox - Editor &amp; Publisher Stacy Cox - General Manager 765-345-2292</p>	<p><b>THE Banner</b> a responsible community newspaper</p>	<p><i>"Freedom is hammered out on the anvil of discussion, dissent and debate."</i> <b>Hubert H. Humphrey</b></p>
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# 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 Elementary School's **Kindergarten Round-up** will take place Tuesday, April 28, 12-7 p.m. and Wednesday, April 29, 12-7 p.m. To schedule an appointment, contact KES at 345-2151. Appointments take approximately one hour. Each child must be five years old by Aug. 1. This is a full day kindergarten program. Parents and guardians should bring each child's birth certificate and immunization records.

◆Knightstown High School Alumni Association **scholarship applications** are available in the KHS guidance office or online at [www.cabeard.k12.in.us](http://www.cabeard.k12.in.us). The scholarships are for KHS seniors and alumni. The application deadline is Friday, March 20, at 3:30 p.m.

◆**St. Rose Catholic Church** and all Catholic churches in the Indianapolis archdiocese are participating in "The Light Is on for You." On March 18, the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, through individual confession, will be available from 6:30-8 p.m. at all Catholic churches, including St. Rose.

◆The Shirley Historical Society is compiling a history of **Dr. Ralph Wilson**, which will be placed in the Shirley museum. Those who have specific memories of Wilson, whether serious, funny or precious, may share them with members of the

historical society.

◆Workers at **McCray Cemetery** in Wilkinson will remove and discard all grave site decorations starting March 15. Items must be removed prior to that date in order for them to be kept. This does not include permanent items, such as monuments.

◆Knightstown American Legion Post 152 Auxiliary will host a **fried chicken dinner** on Sunday, March 22, 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Menu includes fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, dinner rolls, dessert and drinks. The event is open to the public. A freewill offering will be accepted.

◆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 Sugarbakers, 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](mailto:hisfamily1@yahoo.com).

◆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.

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.

◆"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 Thursday, 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](mailto: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.

*Bits & Pieces news submissions are gladly accepted at The Banner. News items will be published as much as possible prior to events, space permitting. Items may be submitted to [thebanner@embarqmail.com](mailto:thebanner@embarqmail.com), or online at [www.thebanneronline.com](http://www.thebanneronline.com).*

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# KHS Academic Bowl Teams Compete at League Meet

Knightstown, along with 17 other teams competed in the Eastern Indiana Academic League Meet last Monday, March 2, at Jay County High School.

There were six different competitions, including math, English, social studies, science, fine arts and interdisciplinary.

Besides Knightstown, teams from Blue River, Cambridge City Lincoln, Centerville, Connersville, Cowan, Eastern Hancock, Hagerstown, Jay County, Monroe Central, Northeastern, Randolph Southern,

Richmond, Tri, Union, Union County, Wapahani and Winchester participated in the meet.

After winning the conference championship last year, KHS's fine arts team was edged out by one point, 19-18, this year by Winchester. Eastern Hancock's fine arts team came in third. Tri's fine arts team finished seventh.

Eastern Hancock's won first place in the science team competition with Wapahani taking second place and Union County coming in  
**See Academic, Page 11**

# For Local Martial Arts Instructor Mauri Pierce, Learning May Be More Valuable than Teaching

by Logan Cox  
for The Banner

Through teaching others as a senior instructor of the Progressive Fighting Systems (PFS) curriculum, Knightstown resident Mauri Pierce carries on the techniques of combat professionals and renowned martial artists.

"I've been doing this on and off probably from the time I was 8 or 9-years old," he said, regarding his martial arts background. "My brother was a member of Force Recon in Vietnam, and my dad was a Korean War veteran. Learning from them is where I got my first taste of combat and martial arts."

Pierce is a student of Paul Vunak, the president and founder of Progressive Fighting Systems. Vunak was himself trained by Dan Inosanto, a protege of legendary martial artist Bruce Lee.

"The heart of this program is Jeet Kune Do (JKD), which is Bruce Lee's style," said Pierce. "Bruce picked up about a dozen styles and took the cream of the crop from all of those styles, and created one system."

Indeed, Lee's brainchild, Jeet Kune Do, is different from other martial arts in that it is not beholden to any particular style. Rather, it combines useful aspects from various different styles into one versatile, free-flowing system. This follows Lee's own philosophy that a person should be "like water," easily adapting to whatever situation he or she encounters in order to prevail.

"This is how close we are to Bruce's teachings," said Pierce. "JKD is the foundation of what we do. And JKD's foundation is largely rooted in Kali, Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu and Muay Thai. Today, you put a knife in somebody's hand, then you do ground fighting, then you move on to firearms. It just gets nastier and nastier."

Unlike most other fighting and self-defense curriculums, Pierce's Indy PFS program is not open to the general public. Though he may at times advertise, Pierce prefers to personally hand-pick the attendees and students he will be instructing.

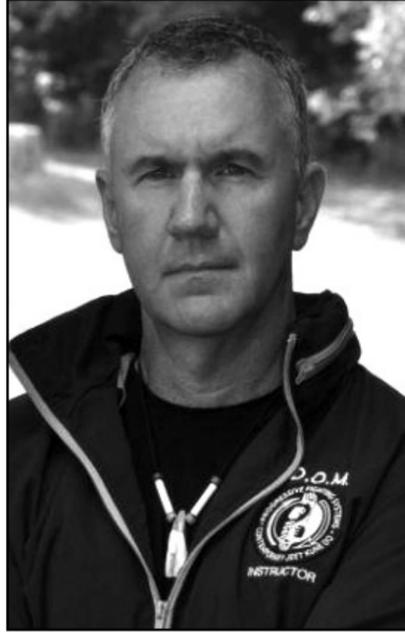
"I do have a general class, but it's really not one I advertise to the public. This is one that I've developed through my past combative experi-

ences with the military and also the Progressive Fighting Systems of Paul Vunak. Paul is the guy who started teaching the SEALs back in the '80s. They went to Paul for his curriculum," he said. "So it's that, and I also do a lot of firearm training."

He makes it clear that Indy PFS is purely about combat and self-defense as opposed to competition and athleticism. The method of training that participants undergo emphasizes pragmatic combat and highly lethal attacks. In other words, sportsmanship does not enter the equation.

"It's definitely combative in nature," Pierce said of the curriculum. "It's not anything you can use in the ring. The things that we do are illegal to do in the ring."

"We work closely with the military in varying capacities," he explained. "We do man-tracking; we do edged-weapon training; we do firearm training, both live and dry fire. Everything is integrated together. So we'll do a stick night, then a knife night, then a boxing night. It's everything, all together, all the time. There's no sport



aspect to this at all."

While he takes part in many seminars and private training sessions, Pierce normally runs his program three days a week. The program he operates in Knightstown is primarily attended by young adults. However, he is now considering specialized programs for various participants, such as young women or senior citizens.

"I'm more of a student than a teacher," said Pierce. "Learning, training, refining, and the day just starts over again. Because what I do today is not what I'm going to be doing next year. I learn more. I learn what not do. My body changes; situations change. You are constantly building the database. And you learn from everybody, from the worst student to the best teacher."

Pierce graduated from New Palestine High School in 1982, and later attended college at Ball State University.

Those who are interested can learn more about Progressive Fighting Systems online at [www.fighting.net](http://www.fighting.net). Pierce's own Indy PFS program has a Facebook page, and can be read about at [combat-martial-arts.webs.com](http://combat-martial-arts.webs.com).

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# MEETINGS CALENDAR

- 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
  - Thurs., Mar. 12** - Hancock Co. Planning Commission tech committee meeting, 9 a.m., Courthouse Annex room 101, Greenfield
  - Thurs., Mar. 12** - Lewisville Town Council, 6 p.m., Houston Brick, 101 E. Main St.
  - Tues., Mar. 17** - Hancock Co. Commissioners meeting, 8 a.m., Courthouse Annex room 101, Greenfield
  - Tues., Mar. 17** - Tri Elementary School PTO meeting, 6:30 p.m., school library, Straughn
  - Tues., Mar. 17** - Rush Co. Health Dept. board meeting, 7 p.m., Health Dept. office at courthouse, Rushville
  - Thurs., Mar. 19** - Hancock Co. Planning Commission plat committee meeting, 8:30 a.m., Courthouse Annex room 101, Greenfield
  - Thurs., Mar. 19** - Knightstown Town Council meeting, 7 p.m., town council chambers, 28 S. Washington St.
  - Thurs., Mar. 19** - Henry Co. Planning Commission, technical review meeting, 8 a.m., Old
  - Circuit Court Room, 2nd floor of courthouse, New Castle
  - Mon., Mar. 23** - Rush Co. Commissioners meeting, 9 a.m., courthouse room 103, Rushville
  - Mon., Mar. 23** - Henry County Fire Chiefs meeting, 7 p.m., Henry County Office Building meeting room
  - Tues., Mar. 24** - Hancock Co. Commissioners meeting, 8 a.m., Courthouse Annex room 101, Greenfield
- Rose Mary, from Page 4** — lemonade. "I thought you guys could use this right about now." I was grateful, but suspected that she had come to gloat secretly about my agony as I'd done when she was helping her husband, a professional carpet installer, lay a new kitchen floor. "Damn it, Linda! You've tracked adhesive onto the new tiles!" More to come.




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# FOLKWAYS

## Henry County Family Receives Hoosier Homestead Award

State Representative Tom Saunders (R-Lewisville) recently congratulated the Ice Family from Henry County for receiving the Hoosier Homestead Award. The award was presented by Lt. Governor Sue Ellspermann at the Indiana Statehouse.

The Hoosier Homestead Award Program recognizes farming families who have owned and

operated the same farm for 100 years or more. Families who have owned a farm for 100 years were presented with centennial awards, while those with 150 and 200 years of ownership were presented with sesquicentennial and bicentennial awards.

The Ice Farm, located in Henry County, has been in operation since 1843. They received

the sesquicentennial award for 150 years of ownership.

"The hard work and dedication that it takes to build and maintain a farm business for so long is exceptional," said Rep. Saunders. "I am proud to represent a district with a family with hard working individuals who have contributed to Indiana's

economy for over 150 years."

The program was established in 1976 to acknowledge the contributions made by these farming families to Indiana's economy, reputation and overall advancement. Since its inauguration, the program has recognized more than 5,000 farms for their dedication to Hoosier agriculture.

Two awards ceremonies are held each year, in the spring and summer, to commemorate the achievements of the many outstanding Hoosier farmers across the state. For more information on the Hoosier Homestead Award Program, visit [www.in.gov/isda/2337.htm](http://www.in.gov/isda/2337.htm).

## Common Threads Quilt Guild Hosting Kentucky Quilt Expert

Common Threads Quilt Guild will have Mary Bauer from Crestwood, Ky., as their guest speaker for their regular monthly meeting March 18 at 9:30 a.m. at Mount Comfort United Methodist Church in Mount Comfort.

Bauer will be doing a presentation on "The Edge." She will be demonstrating 10-12 different edge techniques for finishing a quilt. Bauer uses a PowerPoint presentation, as well as a trunk show, to illustrate each of the different techniques.

Bauer formerly served on the Kentucky State Fair committee. She is a national quilt winner at Houston and at the Indiana Heritage Quilt Show in Bloomington.

Common Threads meets 9:30-11:30 a.m. the third Wednesday of each month at the Mount Comfort United Methodist Church with approximately with about 60-75 members present at each meeting. Guests are welcome. The quilt guild does not meet if the Mt. Vernon Schools are closed or delayed for weather or road conditions.

Upcoming guest speakers for Common Threads include Ann Ward discussing landscape quilts on April 15, and Suzi Parron discussing barn quilts and the American Quilt Trail Movement on May 20.

# ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY!

## SATURDAY, MARCH 14 AT THE LEGION!



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### LEGAL NOTICE

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Knightstown Town Council will meet at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, March 25, in the town council's chambers at 28 S. Washington St., Knightstown, Indiana, to hold a public hearing on the council's consideration of adoption of Ordinance 3-2015, An Ordinance Amending The Schedule Of Rates And Charges To Be Collected By The Town Of Knightstown, Indiana, From The Owners Of Property Served By The Sewage Works Of Said Town And Other Matters Connected Therewith, which was introduced and passed on first reading at a special meeting of the town council on Tuesday, March 3, 2015, and which is set forth in its entirety below. At the March 25 hearing, users of the town's sewage works, owners of property served or to be served by the sewage works, and other interested persons may be heard concerning the proposed rates and charges set forth in Ordinance 3-2015. After the hearing, the municipal legislative body shall adopt the ordinance establishing the rates and charges, either as originally introduced or as modified. A copy of the schedule of rates and charges adopted shall be kept on file and available for public inspection in the offices of the board and the municipal clerk at Knightstown Town Hall, 26 S. Washington St.

#### ORDINANCE NO. 3-2015

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE SCHEDULE OF RATES AND CHARGES TO BE COLLECTED BY THE TOWN OF KNIGHTSTOWN, INDIANA, FROM THE OWNERS OF PROPERTY SERVED BY THE SEWAGE WORKS OF SAID TOWN AND OTHER MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH

WHEREAS, the Town of Knightstown, Indiana ("Town") has heretofore constructed and has in operation its municipal sewage works for the collection, treatment and disposal of sewage under the provisions of I.C. 36-9-23; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town previously adopted Ordinance No. 3 of 1974, Ordinance No. 1 of 1975, Ordinance No. 1 of 1977, Ordinance No. 4-88, Ordinance No. 4 of 1996 and Ordinance No. 6 of 2011 (collectively "Ordinance") establishing the sewer rates and charges for the use and services rendered by the sewage works of the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Town has caused a rate study to be completed by the firm of H.J. Umbaugh & Associates, Certified Public Accountants, LLP, Indianapolis, Indiana, in connection with the proposed refunding of certain outstanding sewage works revenue bonds; and

WHEREAS, based upon such rate study, the Town Council finds that the rates and charges established by the Ordinance are insufficient to enable the Town to properly operate its sewage works plant, service its bonds and finance additions and improvements to its sewage works system and should be increased.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF KNIGHTSTOWN, INDIANA, AS FOLLOWS:

#### SECTION I

The following rates established in Section 1 of the Ordinance are hereby amended and restated as follows:

<u>Monthly Base Rate:</u>	
5/8 - 3/4 inch meter	\$27.14
1 inch meter	\$62.66
1 1/4 inch meter	\$98.18
1 1/2 inch meter	\$140.80
2 inch meter	\$240.27
3 inch meter	\$548.12
4 inch meter	\$950.69
6 inch meter	\$2,158.41
<u>Monthly Flow Rate:</u>	
	\$6.12
<u>Unmetered Users:</u>	
	\$54.67

#### SECTION II

All other provisions of and all other rates and charges established by the Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

#### SECTION III

The ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its approval and due publication according to law.

#### SECTION IV

Introduced and filed on the 3 day of March, 2015. A motion to consider on first reading on the day of introduction was offered and sustained by a vote of 3 in favor and 2 opposed pursuant to I.C. 36-5-2-9.8.

Voting Affirmative: Clyde South, Valerie Trump, Sarah Ward;  
Voting Opposed: Mitchell Roland, Cort Swincher  
Attest: Bart Whitesitt, Knightstown Clerk-Treasurer

(3/11)

# Carthage Council President Questions Police Expenditure

by Jeff Eakins  
for The Banner

With the town's police chief and attorney both absent and no pressing business on the agenda, Monday's monthly meeting of the Carthage Town Council was brief, lasting only about 40 minutes.

Council members approved monthly claims totaling \$31,768.89. Of that amount, \$2,819.10 was for eight claims that came in after Clerk-Treasurer Linda McMahan had prepared the monthly claim docket.

Council President Bill Davis asked about an \$890 payment to Stephen R. Jenkins Co., a police equipment supplier on the east side of Indianapolis.

McMahan explained that this was for a protective vest for Town Marshal Danny Baker, and she said Baker told her he will need to buy similar gear for the department's reserve officers. She also told the council that a \$178 payment to Tech Electronics had been for two speaker-microphone units for the police department.

Davis told the rest of the council that he had spoken to Baker, who was not able to attend that night's meeting, the third monthly meeting Baker has missed in four months. He distributed copies of Baker's monthly report to other council members and advised them that one of the department's volunteer

reserve officers had resigned.

While Davis did not identify the reserve officer who resigned, a copy of Baker's report provided after the meeting identified the officer as Chuck Stephens. The department still has four other reserve officers, although ongoing concerns over failure to work a minimum of 16 hours a month could see those numbers further reduced in coming months.

Davis told the council that he had spoken to Baker about reserve officers not meeting the 16 hours per month requirement. Going forward, he said will personally make a motion to dismiss any reserve officer who fails to work meet this requirement for two months.

Works Manager Josh Douglas gave a brief monthly report. He said town employees had repaired a transmission in one of their work trucks, saving the town \$1,500-\$2,000, and said that, weather permitting, he hoped they would soon start filling potholes in town.

Douglas suggested the town consider having Main Street seal-coated. Davis suggested Dick Bonne as someone who might be able to do this work for the town, and said he would provide Douglas with Bonne's contact information.

With weather improving, Douglas said town workers also plan to do some needed work on a

Continued Below

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# A Look Back



Here are some scenes from Knightstown's Old Fashioned Days event. These photo were taken along Main Street by former Banner Publisher Tom Mayhill.



Continued from Above

fire hydrant in town. He also told the council he would like to hire a company to clean out the seven lift stations that are part of the town's wastewater collection system, with the work estimated to cost \$3,050.

Council members were provided with a written report from Dave Keiser of Keiser Consulting, a Lawrence firm that is working with the town on an economic development study project. Keiser, whose firm is being paid with the proceeds of a \$40,000 grant that was awarded to the town last year, did not attend Monday's meeting.

Tony Campbell, one of the town's reserve police officers, told

the council the police department had received a call about a youth killing a rabbit in town with a pellet gun. He said he and other officers would like some guidance about how to deal with the discharge of firearms, including BB and pellet guns, inside town limits.

Council member John Hancock said that state law already prohibits the shooting of firearms in town. He said he would not be in favor of placing similar restrictions on BB and pellet guns, a point on which Davis said he agreed.

"You start doing that, it's a slippery slope," Davis said.

Hancock suggested that if this

issue comes up again, that officers consider issuing a citation for criminal mischief or animal cruelty. Davis suggested that officers also make sure that parents understand they can be held liable for the acts of their children.

Carthage resident Rodney Hammond also briefly addressed the council about an alley that runs alongside his property and for which, he said, he pays property taxes. He requested that the council vacate the alley to him, and Douglas said he agreed with doing that. Hammond was told that the town's attorney will need to handle this matter.

## K-town Still Resolving Pay Issues

by Jeff Eakins  
for The Banner

Nearly three months after it first passed the town's 2015 salary ordinance, the Knightstown Town Council is still trying to resolve issues related to pay levels for town employees.

As previously reported, council members voted 4-1 at their Dec. 18 meeting to approve Ordinance 9-2014, which established compensation levels for town employees and officials for 2015. While the hourly pay for many positions was increased 50 cents, amounting to raises ranging from 2.9 percent to 4 percent, some received larger pay hikes, while others received none.

Percentage-wise, the largest pay increase for 2015 went to the five members of the town council, whose yearly pay of \$3,500 apiece was raised to \$4,000, an increase of 14.3 percent. The next highest pay hike went to Lisa Hall, assistant to the town's works manager, whose \$14 an hour rate of pay was raised to \$15.50, a 10.7-percent increase, while the hourly rate for Bruce Brown, a technician in the water department, rose from \$13.13 to \$14.50, a 10.4-percent raise.

Following the December vote to approve the 2015 salary ordinance, some council members expressed remorse and said they had not realized all of the details of the raises they approved. At their Jan. 15 monthly meeting, the council voted unanimously to rescind the

2015 salary ordinance, but the town's attorney, Gregg Morelock, subsequently advised the council it could not rescind the salary ordinance, but, instead, could only amend it.

After that failed attempt to rescind the salary ordinance, the council's two-person office committee, comprised of Council Vice President Sarah Ward and council member Valerie Trump, were asked to review pay levels with Clerk-Treasurer Bart Whitesitt. At the council's Feb. 19 monthly meeting, Ward and Trump presented their recommendations for amending the salary ordinance, and the council voted 5-0 to approve the proposed changes.

The changes approved in February, for the most part, affected employees who did not get raises when the 2015 salary ordinance was first passed in December. However, some employees who previously received raises received an additional boost in pay as a result of the February vote.

For example, Brown, the water utility's technician, had his hourly rate increased from \$14.50 to \$15.50, a 6.9-percent raise that is on top of the 10.4-percent raise he received as part of the salary ordinance passed in December. Combined, the two pay increases that took Brown's hourly rate from \$13.13 to \$15.50 amounted to an 18-percent increase.

See Issues, Page 10

Healthy, from Page 1



Jim Poyser will speak at the Healthy Communities of Henry County annual meeting on March 19.

from South Bend to Columbus, speaking to kindergartens and colleges. He uses humor and wit to engage young people in finding solutions to problems facing the planet.

How will monarch butterflies be saved? High school senior Molly Dennis makes monarch sculptures from pages of discarded *National Geographic* magazines. Poyser helped her carry her idea to a statewide level bringing monarchs from kids all over Indiana to be displayed at the Indiana Artsgarden in April.

How can people make food choices more sustainable? Ball State student Faye Lichtsinn started the Permaculture Initiative in Muncie to demonstrate how people can grow food and support natural ecosystems at the same time.

And the kindergarteners? They'll take on anything, according to Poyser. "They find out there's a problem

and they just want to solve it. Kids are brilliant and they're positive and they've motivated," he said.

Poyser is facing the challenges of this generation – climate change, species extinction, food scarcity. But he doesn't believe gloom and doom are the way to approach things.

"So many environmental advocates are 90 percent talking about the problem and 10 percent about what we can do about it," said Poyser. "I try to invert that. I'm 90 percent about what we can do and only 10 percent about the problems."

For 15 years HCHC has been transforming the landscape of Henry County with the "FUN" playground, schoolyard tree plantings and the Wilbur Wright Trail.

The public is invited to join Healthy Communities of Henry County at the annual meeting featuring Poyser.

## BZA, Plan Commission to Meet

The Knightstown Board of Zoning Appeals and Knightstown Plan Commission both plan to meet, separately, on Monday evening.

The BZA will meet first, at 6 p.m., to hold a public hearing on a request for special exception for variance that would allow construction of a multi-family apartment building at 138 N. Madison St. The hearing will be held in the back meeting room at Knightstown

Town Hall, 26 S. Washington St., which is accessible from the building's west side.

Following the BZA meeting, the plan commission will meet in the same location at 7 p.m. According to meeting notice provided to The Banner, the purpose of this meeting is so the plan commission can continue its work reviewing and considering changes to the town's comprehensive plan.

## Mystery Dinner Theater

Performed by the Rush County Players



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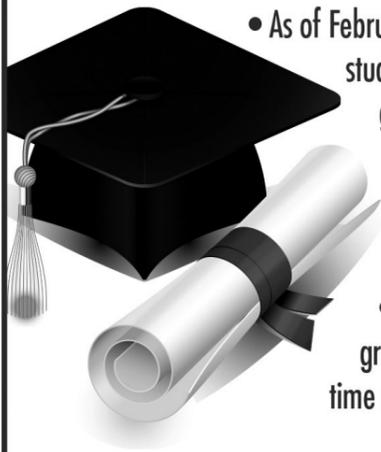
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**Issues, from Page 8**

Another employee who received a second raise as a result of the February vote was Angie Terry, the town's utility clerk. Under the salary ordinance passed in December, Terry's hourly rate was increased 3.4 percent, from \$14 to \$14.50 an hour, and then, with the amendments passed in February, it was raised another 3.6 percent, to \$15 an hour, resulting in a total pay increase of 7.1 percent.

Employee pay was again an issue at a special meeting the council held last week, on Tuesday, March 3. Commenting on Brown being given two raises, Ward said the second increase had been the result of she and Trump being given incorrect information when they met with Whitesitt to go over employee pay.

Ward recommended that the council take away the second raise that had been given to Brown, which would drop his hourly rate back to \$14.50. However, acting on a motion made and seconded, respectively, by council members Clyde South and Mitch Roland, the council voted 5-0 to table further action on employee pay until the council's March 19 meeting.

"To be fair," South said before the vote to table the issue, "I think everybody ought to have the same figures laid out before them."

Despite the vote to table, the council, it turned out, was not done dealing with employee pay issues at that night's meeting. Swincher announced that a town employee, unhappy with the raise she had been given, had previously filed a grievance "against the salary ordinance" that needed to be addressed.

Morelock told the council that, under the town's personnel policies, the grievant, utility clerk Angie Terry, was to be given an opportunity to present her case to the council. Then, he said, the council would need to vote to uphold her grievance or deny it, with a written decision being issued within two days.

Terry, who seemed a bit reluctant to address the council, said she had worked for the town for more than 11 years. She did not say during last week's meeting what she felt her rate of pay should be, though she did say that her grievance paperwork had "clearly state(d)" what she wanted.

Terry said she felt the town had not followed the first step in the three-step grievance procedure set out in the employee manual. She also complained that she thought it had taken too long to get the council to hear her complaint, the third step in the process.

"I don't know why I can't get an answer now," Terry said.

Whitesitt told the council that he and Deputy Clerk Betsy Wilkerson, the office utility manager, had drafted a letter to Terry on Dec. 30, providing an initial response to the grievance. Terry said she had never received the letter, which Whitesitt claimed had been left on her desk.

Swincher said he thought Terry's grievance should be dropped. He said it was "impossible to compare" jobs held by employees who work in different departments.

South said he understood Terry's complaint. While he said the council has often said it wants to attract and keep good employees, he said it has never expressed or implied any agreement to bargain with town employees on the issue of wages. Instead, he said it remains the "sole exclusive right of the council to set those."

"You should have known what you were doing in December," Ward said, addressing South, Swincher and Roland, who were all on the council at that time. Ward and Trump, both elected last fall, joined the council in January.

At Morelock's urging, Swincher asked for a motion denying Terry's grievance. Ward, who said she didn't like the way pay issues had been handled but didn't want to set a bad precedent, made the motion and Trump seconded it. It passed 4-1, with Roland voting against it.

"I hope you'll still say hello when I come into the office," Ward said to Terry.

"I will," Terry replied. "I'm just very disappointed."

Morelock told the council he would send a letter to Terry documenting the council's decision.

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# Basketball Magazine Tabs Top 60 Senior Girls

Hoosier Basketball Magazine publisher Garry H. Donna recently released the publication's list of the top 60 senior girls basketball players for the 2014-2015 season.

These girls were selected from approximately 1,600 senior players statewide.

Eight players that participated in the 2015 IHSAA State Finals highlight the list of the Top 60 invitees including Josie Fisher (Homestead) and Ali Patberg (Columbus North) from Class 4A; Darby Maggard and Katherine Smith (Fort Wayne Canterbury), Peyton Fallis, Sydney Hall and Allison Schofield (Heritage Christian) from Class 2A as well as Olivia Carroll (Barr-Reeve) from Class 1A.

The Top 60 Senior Workout includes six of the state's top senior scorers of Patberg (25.7 ppg), Michal Miller, Michigan City (25.5), Laurhen Pickett, Twin Lakes (25.1), Claire Cromer, Wabash (22.6), Samantha Dewey, Triton Central (22) and Stephanie Sherwood, Evansville Memorial (21.1).

Also among the 2015 Top 60 selectees are 14 girls who will play at in-state Division I basketball programs during the 2015-2016 season. Those girls are Nakeya Penny (Logansport) at Ball State; Alexa Bailey (Bedford North Lawrence), Tori Schickel (Evansville Mater Dei) and Brittany Ward (Pike) at Butler; Camille Coleman (South Bend Washington) at

Evansville; McKenzie Telfair (Indianapolis Ritter) and Regan Wentland (Center Grove) at Indiana State; Fallis (Heritage Christian) and Fisher (Homestead) at IPFW; Hall (Heritage Christian) at IUPUI; Patberg (Columbus North) at Notre Dame; Dominique McBryde (Bedford North Lawrence) and Tiara Murphy (South Bend Washington) at Purdue as well as Schofield (Heritage Christian) at Valparaiso.

Statistical evaluation, game observation and statewide research were conducted all season and throughout the state tournament to determine Hoosier Basketball Magazine's Top 60.

Two sessions of the 34th annual Top 60 Senior Workout will be hosted by Hoosier Basketball Magazine in conjunction with the IHSAA and the IBCA on Sunday, March 15, on the campus of Marian University in Indianapolis.

Thirty-two girls of the Top 60, primarily from northern and southern Indiana, will participate in the first session from 1-3 p.m. The remaining 32 girls of the Top 60, primarily from central Indiana, will compete during the second session from 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Six-time state champion coach Rick Risinger of Heritage Christian will direct both sessions. Three other outstanding Indiana girls high school coaches from the IBCA have been selected to join the 2015 Top 60 staff.

## Academic, from Page 6

third. Knightstown's science team was 16th and Tri's science team was 12th.

Knightstown did not have a math team competing. Union County's team won first place and Richmond took second place. Eastern Hancock's math team placed third and Tri's math team was seventh.

Richmond won the English team competition with Jay County sec-

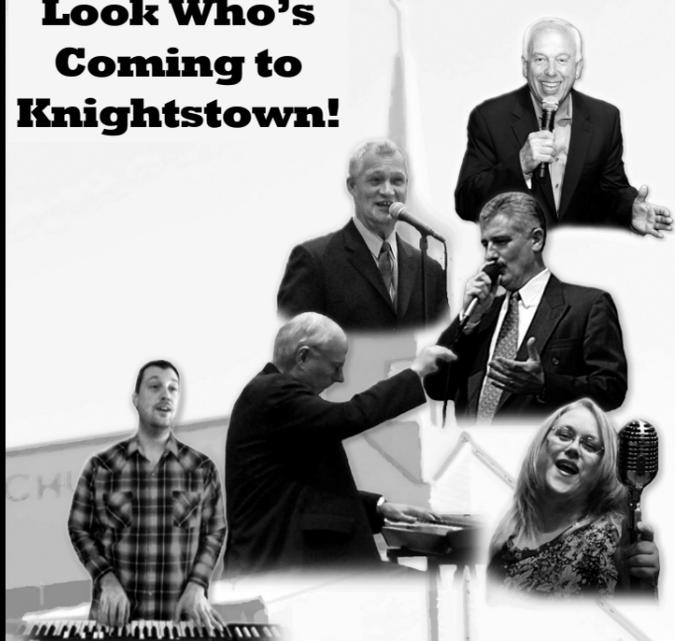
ond and Centerville third. Eastern Hancock's English team finished fourth. Knightstown's English team placed 13th with Tri's English team right behind them at 14th.

Centerville won the social studies team event with Cowan placing second and Monroe Central. Tri's social studies team took third place while Knightstown's social studies team finished eighth. The Royals team came in at 15th.

Centerville also won the interdisciplinary event. Jay County's interdisciplinary team placed second with Wapahani's team finishing third. Knightstown's interdisciplinary team was 13th, Tri's team was 10th and Eastern Hancock's team was 12th.

Knightstown's academic teams will compete again on March 11 at Hagerstown and on March 12 at Eastern Hancock.

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# In the Tigers' Den

*Sectional Hosts Hagerstown Tigers Roll Out Red Carpet; Promptly Oust KHS Panthers*



Hagerstown senior Martin Block gets a hand on Jackson Edwards' baseline shot Wednesday night in the first round of sectional. The Tigers bested the Panthers 62-51. Inclement weather forced the cancellation of the Panthers' regular season match-up with Hagerstown.

Photos  
by  
Eric Cox



Panther junior forward Coleman Wyatt (right) tries to shut off the lane in the second quarter Wednesday night at Hagerstown.



KHS coach Bob Allen instructs senior forward Zach Manley after the Panthers gave up an easy first half bucket.



Panther fans in the student cheerblock wish luck on free throw shooter.



Panther junior forward Riley Ruble passes to Coleman Wyatt (40), who found a spot to post-up in the paint Wednesday night.

# LOCAL SPORTS

## Sectional Hosts Hagerstown Show Panthers Early Exit

*Edwards' Double-Double Not Enough*

A fourth quarter rally by Knightstown's boys basketball team was not enough to overcome an unfortunate third quarter slump that put an early end to the Panthers' season.

Hagerstown got off to a good start early on and played consistent the rest of the game to claim the first round sectional game over Knightstown, 61-52, last Wednesday, March 4, in Sectional 41.

The Tigers jumped out to a 19-12 lead at the end of the first quarter, the Panthers picked up the defense in the second to cut the Tiger lead to five, 31-26, at half-time.

But, Knightstown's scoring went cold in the third period with the Panthers scoring just seven points while Hagerstown put another 15 on the board to increase their lead to 13 points, 46-33.

The Panthers rallied in the final minutes, scoring 19 points, but were unable to hold the Tigers down, allowing another 15 points to give the Tigers the victory.

Jackson Edwards had his best game of the year and third double-double of the season. Edwards scored 26 points, including two three-pointers and 12 free throws. He pulled down 11 rebounds and made six assists and two blocks.

Coleman Wyatt scored eight points. He also had two rebounds and two blocks.

Drake Peggs hit a three-pointer and another bucket for five points. Additionally, he grabbed two rebounds and made one steal.

Seniors Tyler Hubble, Jake Kwisz and Riley Ruble each scored three points.

Kwisz also made three assists, one steal, one block and got two rebounds. Ruble got three rebounds and made two assists and one block. Hubble added two

rebounds and one steal.

Zach Manley and Max Wever, also seniors, each contributed one bucket. Manley also had three rebounds and two blocks.

Hagerstown was led by two seniors, Thorin Stage and Andy Gevedon. Stage knocked down 26 points and had 10 rebounds while Gevedon added 10 points and two boards.

Despite the first round sectional loss, the Panthers had a successful season, posting a 15-8 record overall and 6-3 in the Mid-Hoosier Conference.

In the first game of Sectional 41 on Tuesday, March 3, Union County defeated Eastern Hancock 55-41. The Royals finished the season at 10-13.

Following the Knightstown-Hagerstown game on Wednesday, Cambridge City Lincoln beat Centerville 48-32.

Union County's advancement ended in the semi-final round when Northeastern, who had enjoyed a first round bye, whipped the Patriots 56-29.

Hagerstown played Cambridge City in the semi-final round following the UC-Northeastern game. The Tigers clobbered the Golden Eagles 62-39 to advance to the championship game against Northeastern.

The Tigers experienced their own third quarter slump in an otherwise close game against the Knights in the sectional championship. Northeastern claimed the Sectional 41 title with a 56-47 win over Hagerstown.

Centerville posted a 13-9 season record. Union County finished the season at 13-12. Cambridge City was 9-14 this year while Hagerstown ended the year at 18-5.

Northeastern takes its 22-3 record to the Greenfield-Central regional.

## *Panthers Finish Season at 15-8*

Though they made an early exit from the sectional, Knightstown's varsity boys basketball head coach Bob Allen saw his team post their best record in his five years as coach at KHS, improving to 15-8 from last year's 12-9 record.

In fact, it was the team's best record since the 2005-2006 season when the Panthers went 19-5 under coach Chad Ballenger, won the sectional and lost by just one point to Centerville in the regional.

With the Panthers' top scorer and top rebounder returning next year, the Panthers may continue its winning ways.

Jackson Edwards, a 6'1" junior, led the Panthers throughout the season. He averaged 16.2 points per game, playing in all 23 games. With his 372 points this season, on top of last year's 295 points, he's on track to crack 1,000 career points next season.

Edwards had three double-doubles this year, including his best performance of the year at last week's sectional when he scored 26 points and had 11 rebounds, six assists and two blocks.

He also led the Panthers this year on the boards, averaging 5.3 rebounds per game and finishing with 122 rebounds, 33 more than the next best on the team. Edwards was second on the team in assists (83) and steals (36) and added 11 blocks.

The Panthers will feel the loss of senior Jake Kwisz next year. He played in all 23 games and was the team's second leading scorer with 214 points, averaging 9.3 per game. Kwisz led the team in passing with 93 assists this year, about four per game. He also made a team-high 47 steals this season.

Junior Drake Peggs played in all 23 games and scored 200 points this year, averaging 8.7 per game. He finished the season with 59 assists, 46 rebounds and 34 steals.

Seniors Riley Ruble and Tyler Hubble were the only other Panthers to play in all 23 games.

Ruble scored 113 points this season, averaging 4.9 per game. He posted 58 rebounds, 11 steals, six steals and three blocks for the season.

Hubble averaged 3.9 points per game, scoring 89 points over the

See Season, Page 15



Panther senior forward Zach Manley pulls up for a jump shot Wednesday night at Hagerstown.



Panther senior guard Tyler Hubble looks for the open man as Hagerstown's Thorin Stage defends.

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## 8th Grade Girls Advance at Conference

Last week, the seventh and eighth grade girls basketball team participated in the Mid-Hoosier Conference tourney. The seventh grade Lady Panthers were eliminated from the tourney with a first round loss to South Decatur. Katie Clark had 11 points and Rena Witham got nine points to lead the KIS team. The eighth grade girls knocked off South Decatur 34-20 in the first game to advance to the finals at Indian Creek on Saturday. Results

from that game were not yet available. Leading the way for Knightstown's eighth graders in the game against South Decatur was Jessica Butler with 14 points and eight rebounds. Sidney Vise also had a huge game with 12 points, 12 rebounds and four steals. Kaitlyn Jackson finished with six points, three rebounds and two steals. Elizabeth Moore contributed two points, one rebound and one steal.

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## Nominations Sought for Math, Science Titles

Gov. Mike Pence announced last week that the state is now accepting nominations for the 2015 Mr. and Miss Math and Mr. and Miss Science awards. These honors recognize up to four outstanding high school seniors for exemplary performance in science, math, engineering, and technology (STEM) courses. Winning students receive \$1,000 college scholarships through Indiana's CollegeChoice 529 Direct Savings Plan. "It is a privilege to continue this tradition of awarding exceptional students with science, math, engineering or technology interests with college scholarships," Pence said in a press release issued last Thursday. "As our state continues to grow in life sciences and technological industries, it is important that students recognize these fields as impactful to our state's future." Indiana's Mr. and Miss Math and Science awards honor the top high school seniors in STEM classes, as well as extracurricular activities, work/research projects, leadership roles, and community service. The nominations will be reviewed by a panel of STEM experts, including teachers, college and university instructors, and staff from the Indiana Department of Education and the Indiana Education Roundtable. Pence will announce Indiana's Mr. and Miss Math and Mr. and Miss Science in May. Nominations for the awards can be submitted at [www.secure.in.gov/apps/mathscienceawards/](http://www.secure.in.gov/apps/mathscienceawards/). The deadline for nominations is 6 p.m. EDT on April 19. Former Gov. Mitch Daniels created the Indiana Mr. and Miss Math and Science awards in 2008. David Lu Liang of Carmel High School and Sonali Sunil Mali of Avon High School were named Mr. and Miss Science, respectively, in 2014.

### HELP WANTED

**Employment Opportunity**  
 The Town of Knightstown is seeking applications for a Full-time Police Patrolman. To be considered, applicants must meet the following criteria: be a United States citizen, be at least 21 years of age, be a high school graduate or have received the equivalent, possess a valid Indiana driver's license, be of good reputations and character, not have been found guilty of any offense except for minor traffic violations, be of good appearance and personality, possess an aptitude and attitude for police work, be in good physical condition with no infirmities except for corrected vision, and if discharged from the military, applicant must possess an honorable discharge. The applicant must either be an ILEA graduate or be able to successfully complete an ILEA basic course. If already an ILEA graduate, must be in good standing with the Indiana Law Enforcement Training Board. Preferred qualifications would be for an applicant have former police experience, be an ILEA graduate and live in the Knightstown area. The hiring process may include; a testing phase which will be both physical and written, a background investigation and criminal history and driver's record checks. Applications can be picked up at the Knightstown Police Department, 24 S. Washington St. and must be returned by Friday March 20, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. Applications will be on file for one year.

## KIS Girls Compete in Henry County Tourney

Knightstown's seventh and eighth grade girls basketball teams competed in the Henry County Tourney last week. The KIS eighth graders took second place in the tourney, after falling 18-34 to Blue River in the championship game. They had defeated Tri in the first round 29-15 to advance. Coach Shanna Smucker said the girls "lost their touch in the second round, seeing lots of good looks at the basket but going 9-for-46 from the field. Leading the eighth graders' effort was Kaitlyn Jackson with 19 points and 11 rebounds on the day. Sidney Vise had 12 points and 12 rebounds. Elizabeth Moore finished with 10 points and six steals. Jessica Butler added four points and seven rebounds. Shenandoah placed third and Tri was fourth in the eighth grade tourney. The seventh grade team placed third in their county tourney. The younger Lady Panthers lost to eventual county champ Tri in the first round game. They defeated Blue River in the consolation game. Rena Witham, Katie Clark and Alexis Howard led the seventh grade effort but individual results were not available at press time. Tri defeated Shenandoah in the championship game to win the county title.

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Season, from Page 13

season. He had 89 rebounds, second highest on the team, and made 38 assists and 27 steals.

Junior Coleman Wyatt played in 22 games, scoring 138 points for an average of 6.3 per game. He was second on the team in blocks with 19. Wyatt was third best on the boards with 87 rebounds but led the team on the offensive boards with 41. He also had 13 steals and 12 assists.

Senior Zach Manley, who played in 21 games, led the Panthers in blocks with 21 this year. For the season, he posted 64 points, 73 rebounds, 11 assists and four steals.

Max Wever, another senior who played in 21 games, scored 94 points his year, averaging 4.5 per game. He finished the year with 73 rebounds, 12 steals, 10 assists and nine blocks.

Seniors Sam Moore and Kyle Rayburn each played in 11 games. Rayburn had 20 points, four rebounds, four steals and one assist during the season. Moore added 10 points and five rebounds.

The team's other senior, Perry Milton, played in 10 games and had nine points, five rebounds, four assists and three steals.

Jake Bearhope, a junior, saw playing time in 11 games. He scored eight points and had 17 rebounds, eight assists and three steals.

LEGAL NOTICE

ANNUAL TOWNSHIP FINANCIAL REPORT  
WAYNE TOWNSHIP, HENRY COUNTY, INDIANA  
CASH & INVESTMENTS COMBINED STATEMENT -- 2014

Local Fund Number	Local Fund Name	Beg. Cash and Inv. Balance Jan. 1, 2014
01	Township	\$21,090.23
11	Fire Fighting	\$61,652.10
12	Emergency Fire Loan	\$0.00
13	Park and Recreation	\$38,443.15
16	Cumulative Fire	\$0.00
81	Township Assistance	\$37,851.45
91	Levy Excess	\$1,962.42
95	Payroll Deduction	-\$1,049.71
	TOTAL ALL FUNDS	\$159,949.64

2014 Receipts	2014 Disbursements	End Cash and Inv. Balance Dec. 31, 2014
\$23,295.46	\$31,106.88	\$13,2778.81
\$172,021.18	\$99,000.00	\$134,673.28
\$36,225.02	\$19,967.31	\$16,257.71
\$7,333.05	\$19,650.00	\$26,126.20
\$81.03	\$0.00	\$81.03
\$16,597.03	\$32,342.72	\$22,105.76
\$43.28	\$0.00	\$2,005.70
\$9,915.10	\$9,915.10	\$1,049.71
\$265,511.15	\$245,857.33	\$213,478.78

Fund Name Township	Category	Vendor Name	Amount
	Personal Services	Overman, Randall Wayne	\$14,580.00
	Personal Services	Overman, Christine	\$2,210.00
	Personal Services	Trimmell, Ronald	\$210.00
	Personal Services	White, Larry	\$210.00
	Personal Services	Sorrell, Nova	\$210.00
	Personal Services	United States Treasury	\$1,332.65
	Supplies	United Postal Service	\$296.87
	Supplies	Office Depot Credit Plan	\$251.56
	Services and Charges	Overman, Randall Wayne	\$4,999.98
	Services and Charges	Nine Star Communications	\$578.43
	Services and Charges	The Courier Times	\$261.32
	Services and Charges	Leakey Insurance	\$202.00
	Services and Charges	LandMark Accounts, Inc.	\$600.00
	Services and Charges	The Banner	\$111.41
	Services and Charges	Courier Times, The	\$99.13
	Services and Charges	MicroSpectrum LLC	\$1,200.00
	Services and Charges	Liberty Mutual	\$75.00
	Services and Charges	Fultz, Ronnie W.	\$3,478.53
	Services and Charges	Keith, Joe	\$200.00
		<b>TOTAL TOWNSHIP FUND</b>	\$31,106.88

DETAILED RECEIPTS -- 2014

<b>Township Fund</b>		
General Property Taxes	\$18,017.34	
County Option Income Tax (COIT)	\$3,014.50	
Financial Institution Tax Distribution	\$356.13	
Vehicle/Aircraft Excise Tax Distribution	\$1,663.90	
Commercial Vehicle Excise Tax Distribution (CVET)	\$153.58	
Earnings on Investments and Deposits	\$90.01	
<b>Total Township Fund</b>	\$23,295.46	
<b>Fire Fighting Fund</b>		
General Property Taxes	\$127,019.36	
County Option Income Tax (COIT)	\$33,159.49	
Vehicle/Aircraft Excise Tax Distribution	\$11,762.11	
Commercial Vehicle Excise Tax Distribution (CVET)	\$80.22	
<b>Total Fire Fighting Fund</b>	\$172,021.18	
<b>Emergency Fire Loan</b>		
General Property Taxes	\$33,433.21	
Vehicle/Aircraft Excise Tax Distribution	\$2,754.06	
Commercial Vehicle Excise Tax Distribution (CVET)	\$37.75	
<b>Total Emergency Fire Loan</b>	\$36,225.02	
<b>Park and Recreation Fund</b>		
General Property Taxes	\$4,983.42	
Financial Institution Tax Distribution	\$98.24	
Vehicle/Aircraft Excise Tax Distribution	\$459.01	
Commercial Vehicle Excise Tax Distribution (CVET)	\$42.38	
Refunds and Reimbursements	\$1,750.00	
<b>Total Park and Recreation Fund</b>	\$7,333.05	
<b>Cumulative Fire (Bldg/Rem/Equip) Fund</b>		
Commercial Vehicle Excise Tax Distribution (CVET)	\$81.03	
<b>Total Cumulative Fire (Bldg/Rem/Equip) Fund</b>	\$81.03	
<b>Township Assistance Fund</b>		
General Property Taxes	\$14,767.61	
Financial Institution Tax Distribution	\$292.26	
Vehicle/Aircraft Excise Tax Distribution	\$1,365.56	
Commercial Vehicle Excise Tax Distribution	\$126.04	
Earnings on Investments and Deposits	\$45.56	
<b>Total Township Assistance Fund</b>	\$16,597.03	
<b>Levy Excess Fund</b>		
County Adj. Gross Income Tax (CAGIT) Property Tax	\$43.28	
Replacement Credit	\$0.00	
<b>Total Levy Excess Fund</b>	\$43.28	
<b>Payroll Deduction Fund</b>		
Payroll Fund and Clearing Account Receipts	\$9,915.10	
Total Payroll Deduction Fund	\$9,915.10	
<b>Total Governmental Activities</b>	\$265,511.15	

CERTIFICATION

State of Indiana  
SS: Henry County  
I, Randall W. Overman, Trustee of Wayne Township, Henry County, Indiana, do solemnly affirm under the penalty of perjury that the preceding report is complete, true and accurate; that the sum with which I am charged in this report are all the sums received by me; and that the various items of expenditures credited have been fully paid in the sums stated; that such payments were made without express or implied agreement that any portion thereof shall be retained by or repaid to me or to any other person. I further affirm that a complete and detailed annual report, together with all accompanying vouchers showing the names of persons having been paid money by the township, have been filed as required by law in the office of the County Auditor, and that copies of such annual report are in the custody of the Township Board and the State Board of Accounts. Said report is subject to inspection by any taxpayer of the township.  
Randall W. Overman, Wayne Township Trustee  
Telephone: 765-345-7106  
Date this report was to be published: March 11, 2015

Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, the Chairman of the Township Board of Wayne Township at its annual meeting this 27th day of January, 2015.  
Ronald Trimmell, Wayne Township Board Chairman  
This report was received, accepted and approved by the Township Board at its annual meeting, this 27th day of January, 2015.  
Wayne Township Board:  
Ronald Trimmell, Chairman  
Jeff A. Van Hoy, Secretary

<b>Fire Fighting</b>	Services and Charges	KnightsTown/Wayne Twp.	\$99,000.00
		<b>TOTAL FIRE FIGHT. FUND</b>	\$99,000.00
<b>Emergency Fire Loan</b>	Services and Charges	Citizens Bank	\$19,967.31
		<b>TOTAL EM. FIRE LOAN FUND</b>	\$19,967.31
<b>Park and Recreation</b>	Services and Charges	Indiana Farm Bureau Inc.	\$400.00
	Services and Charges	KnightsTown Home Opt. Club	\$3,500.00
	Services and Charges	KnightsTown Youth Sports Inc.	\$14,000.00
	Other Disbursements	KnightsTown Home Opt. Club	\$1,750.00
		<b>TOTAL PARK &amp; REC. FUND</b>	\$19,650.00
<b>Township Assistance</b>	Personal Services	Overman, Christine	\$9,200.00
	Personal Services	United States Treasury	\$703.77
	Supplies	Ewing Printing Co., Inc.	\$439.90
	Township Assistance	Ernie's Supperette	\$2,233.22
	Township Assistance	Wal-Mart Pharmacy	\$145.43
	Township Assistance	Smith, Jason	\$1,350.00
	Township Assistance	KnightsTown Utilities	\$4,613.51
	Township Assistance	Newkirk, James	\$900.00
	Township Assistance	Vectren Energy Delivery	\$1,911.24
	Township Assistance	Walgreens	\$89.35
	Township Assistance	Anderson, Huelon	\$675.00
	Township Assistance	J & H Apartments	\$225.00
	Township Assistance	Lincoln Park Apartments	\$1,575.00
	Township Assistance	McRoberts, G. Diane	\$225.00
	Township Assistance	Adams, Gary	\$225.00
	Township Assistance	Kinnaman, Albert	\$225.00
	Township Assistance	Lukens Rentals, Jim	\$450.00
	Township Assistance	Hammer, Cheryl	\$1,350.00
	Township Assistance	CVS Pharmacy	\$1,244.54
	Township Assistance	Van Hoy Oil Company	\$405.26
	Township Assistance	Smith, Deanna	\$225.00
	Township Assistance	Rush Shelby Energy	\$516.50
	Township Assistance	Byrket, William	\$225.00
	Township Assistance	Easton, Gladys M.	\$225.00
	Township Assistance	Shafir, Joseph	\$225.00
	Township Assistance	Leaf, Spring	\$225.00
	Township Assistance	Gorman, Karla	\$225.00
	Township Assistance	Ernstes, Nicholas	\$425.00
	Township Assistance	Neal, Scott	\$225.00
	Township Assistance	Easton, Mickey	\$225.00
	Township Assistance	Wilfong Country Living LLC	\$225.00
	Township Assistance	Brandon, Marcus	\$225.00
	Township Assistance	Flamingo Motel & Restaurant	\$265.00
	Township Assistance	Neal, Cynthia	\$225.00
	Township Assistance	Norman Estates	\$225.00
	Township Assistance	Reginald Leisure	\$225.00
		<b>TOTAL TWP. ASSIST. FUND</b>	\$32,342.72
<b>Payroll Deduction</b>	Other Disbursements	Indiana Dept. of Revenue	\$1,576.21
	Other Disbursements	United States Treasury	\$8,338.89
		<b>TOTAL PAYROLL DED. FUND</b>	\$9,915.10
		<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	\$211,982.01

Letters, from Page 4

the City of New Castle to supplement our water supply as we continue to search for new water sources. Once again, we put the needs of our customers and residents above any past grievances to ensure our reputation for reliability.

Annexation up to I-70 has been a publicly stated goal for many years and through many different Spiceland Town Councils. When Spiceland first ran water lines up to the interchange, customers were informed at that time that they would be asked to join the town of Spiceland sometime in the near future.

We have taken small, steady steps during this process of growth, always making sure we were making wise, and financially prudent decisions. We never took on more than our town could handle, and never with the intention of ever becoming anything more than a thriving small town in Indiana.

Phase 1 annexation was completed last year and the electric utility change-over was completed a month ago. Phase 2 annexation, which is I-70 south on both sides of SR 3, was finalized in the fall and the electric utility change-over is currently underway. Neither annexation was fought by anyone.

The question remains: why is it important for Spiceland -- or any municipality -- to have its own utilities, and how does this benefit the residents and customers?

Spiceland has had its own electric utility for a hundred years. We are one of only 72 out of 569 municipalities in the state of Indiana that operate their own electric utility. Since we're a not for profit electric utility, we are able to offer some of the cheapest electric rates in the area. Our rates are set locally, our leadership is local, and the power lines are serviced locally, which means our employees live and work here in our community. Even more, if you have concerns or just want to pay your bill, you don't have far to go for assistance. We are not in the electric business to make a profit. As a municipal electric utility, we want to provide a needed service at the lowest cost and in the most reliable way.

Having our own municipal utilities is good for our citizens. We are able to stretch your budgets farther by being able to spread the cost of our equipment, insurance and personnel across many departments. We are able to have more staff on hand and respond quicker to

resident's issues because of the additional revenues that the utility brings to the Town. Without the utility revenue staying local, we would not be able to provide the level of service that our town residents expect without asking them to pay more in taxes.

Municipal electric utilities are about to become very political in the 2015 General Assembly. Utility companies like Duke Energy and the REMCs, with very deep pockets, are going to spend a lot of time and money to try and convince you that Spiceland and towns like us are antiquated and inept. Municipal electrics in Indiana have a 7 percent market share and it appears that is a threat to their 93 percent share. In a future letter I hope to convince you that this is an unwarranted attack on municipal electrics. This year, the biggest kids in the school yard have decided to stop fighting each other for a change and see if together they can steal the lunch money from the littlest kid -- without anyone throwing too much of a fuss.

For the Town of Spiceland, I sure hope they are not successful.

Darrin Jacobs  
president, Spiceland Town Council

Dear Editor,

I'm going to be 63 years old in a couple of weeks, and I don't suppose it's uncommon for people my age to reminisce about how things have changed over the years. There isn't much that hasn't changed. Sometimes a lot, sometimes a little, sometimes for the better, and sometimes for the worse. And probably sometimes, it just all depends how you look at it.

We went for a drive last week-end, and saw three bald eagles in various locations along the way. Eagles are a lot like white-tailed deer in this area, in that 50 years ago there were hardly any of them around. A few years ago the deer started making a comeback, and a few years later the eagles did the same, although it seems the deer are still more plentiful than the eagles. I do enjoy seeing them both, probably more so the eagles because they aren't quite as common yet.

One of the raptors we saw last weekend was rising out of a cornfield along the road, with a thrashing rabbit clutching in its talons. The scene made me think that as much as I enjoy the growing population of the state-ly birds, a lot of rabbits, this one in particular, probably

don't share my enthusiasm. I imagine anybody who has lost a fender or a few bushels of soybeans to the increasing deer herds probably doesn't share my enjoyment of them, either.

I'm convinced most things in our lives don't qualify as either completely good or completely bad. While there might be a few items or ideas in the world that have absolutely no redeeming qualities at all, I realize something I find repulsive might appear totally different to another person. Broccoli, for instance, comes to mind.

Over the last couple of months, the discussion of school funding, and particularly the funding of public and charter schools, has been receiving a lot of airtime. It seemed to come up at least partly because our Governor doesn't get along that well with our Superintendent of Public Instruction. It's not my intention to question how Mr. Pence and Ms. Ritz have gone about resolving their differences. Most of you likely have enough questions and answers of your own already.

I have, however, noticed a great deal of animosity towards charter and private schools by many supporters of public schools, and I think we all need to question that animosity. Alternate forms of education are not being created and tested as a means to end public schools, as many would have us believe. They are instead expanding educational opportunities and choices for students and parents, along with new opportunities in home schooling co-operatives and online institutions.

I'm a longtime supporter of educational choice, and I realize that doesn't mean we will all make the same choice. I wouldn't necessarily expect someone who is heavily involved in the public school system to share the same enthusiasm for school choice, but we shouldn't attempt to cast dispersions on one type of schooling in order to gain funding for another. In the end, we should be about seeing that each child gets the education that fits their needs best, and consider that different types of school might be what it takes to make that happen.

And then maybe after that, in our spare time, we could teach some of these deer to leave the soybeans alone and start eating broccoli.

Rex Bell  
Hagerstown

The Banner welcomes  
Letters to the Editor

send letters to thebanner@embarqmail.com