



THE

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 49

March 25, 2015

Knightstown, IN

CAB Kindergarten Round-up April 28-29

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.

Community Harvest Event Set for April 3

Blue River Community Harvest, Inc., the food and clothing pantry serving Rush County, southern Henry County and the surrounding area, invites the public to its annual fundraiser, Harvest Helpings, Friday, April 3, at 7 p.m. in the Knightstown High School gymnasium. "Feed and Be Fed: An Evening With Clayton Jennings" will be the sole event at the fundraiser. Jennings is a popular motivational speaker.

Local Lions Club Hosting Fish Fry

The Charlottesville Lions Club will host its annual fish fry on Saturday, April 4, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Drive-thru and carry-out orders are also available. The event will take place at the Charlottesville Community Building. Tenderloin sandwiches will also be available.

First Baptist Church to Host Breakfast

Knightstown First Baptist Church will host a pancake breakfast on Saturday, April 28, beginning at 8 p.m. A freewill offering will be accepted. The church will also host its vacation bible school June 15-19. The church is located at 210 E. Jackson St. The event is open to the public.

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.



Meeting on Rate Hike Tonight

by Jeff Eakins
for The Banner

The Knightstown Town Council is holding a public hearing this evening on a proposed increase in rates and charges for customers of the town's wastewater utility, but is not expected to take a final vote on the matter until sometime next month.

A divided council voted 3-2 at a special meeting on March 3 to approve on first reading Ordinance 3-2015, which, if approved on second reading, will put into effect a 43-percent hike in rates and charges. Under the proposal, the average monthly sewer bill based on 4,000 gallons of usage will increase \$15.52, from \$36.10 to \$51.62.

It is hoped that the increase will allow the utility's operating fund to get out of the red and provide money for needed repairs. Additionally, the increase could also aid the town's efforts to get grants and low-interest loans to help pay for needed improvements to the town's sewer plant and infrastructure.

As previously reported in The Banner, 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.

Based on a rate study prepared last fall by the town's utility rate consultant, town attorney Gregg Morelock had prepared two proposed ordinances for the council to

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Stray Relay



Panther varsity track member Jacob Hull is joined in the 3200 meter relay by a stray dog who managed to get on the Knightstown High School track field last week in a meet against Eastern Hancock. The dog seemed to want to participate, but was soon escorted off the field. (Eric Cox photo)

CAB Accepting Bids for Two Closed Schools

by Jeff Eakins
for The Banner

The Charles A. Beard School Board voted unanimously last week to move forward with trying to sell the former Carthage and Kennard elementary schools.

Board members voted 7-0 at their March 17 monthly meeting to give Superintendent Jed Behny permission to advertise for bids on the two properties, which include the buildings and land. A legal notice to that effect is published in this week's issue of The Banner.

As The Banner reported last week, CAB recently received the results of two appraisals done on the two properties. The high and low appraisals for the Carthage building and land, 511 E. 2nd St., were \$205,300 and \$172,000, while those for the Kennard property at 232 Vine St. were \$198,600 and \$195,00.

For both properties, the higher appraisals were the

ones completed by McQueen Appraisal Services of Rushville. The lower valued ones were done by Harmeyer Auction & Appraisal Co., the same company that handled the recent auction of surplus items that CAB held at the Carthage building last month.

With the two appraisals on each property completed, CAB can now move forward with trying to sell them. The district was previously granted a waiver from the state that allows CAB to dispose of the two properties without first making them available to interested charter schools for a period of two years, as state statute normally requires.

At last week's meeting, the board's attorney, Amy Matthews of Church Church Hittle & Antrim, Noblesville, told the board they had three choices with respect to the properties: they could do nothing; they

See Bids, Page 8



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Pendleton State Police Post Announces Sobriety Checkpoint

Lt. Tom Dujmovich, commander of the Pendleton State Police Post, has announced there will be a sobriety checkpoint held somewhere in Connersville, in Fayette County, during the evening hours of Friday, March 27.

This checkpoint will be a multiple agency effort, involving state police, state parole and state excise officers, as well as officers from the Connersville Police Department and the Fayette County Probation Dept.

Motorists are asked to have their driver's license and vehicle registrations readily available when entering the checkpoint, so as to minimize the amount of time that they are delayed. Motorists can expect short delays of only two to three minutes during the checkpoint.

The Pendleton State Police Post serves Delaware, Madison, Randolph, Henry, Wayne, Fayette, Union, and Rush Counties. Before and after the checkpoint officers will be holding saturation patrols.

OBITUARIES

Harry David White May 3, 1930 - March 17, 2015

Harry David White, age 84, died quietly at home in Knightstown on March 17. He was born in Knightstown on May 3, 1930, to Jesse and Margurite (Boren) White. Harry was the youngest of four children, who also included brothers Bob and Sam and sister Louise (Pennington). Two years after graduation from Knightstown High School in 1948, he married Sherry Sue Kinder, who survives. They recently celebrated 64 years of married life together. Their four children Julie (Greg), the late Jane (Roger), Joe (Marsha) and Jana (Scott) and eleven grand and great grandchildren (Chris, Robin, Carrie, Derek, Stephanie, Stuart, Kristen, Colin, Jesse, Laurie, and Isaac) brought them both much joy. He was known as Uncle Hay Hay to his many beloved nieces and nephews.

In high school, Harry was a state champion livestock judge. Afterward, he had a short but fun and successful career in go-cart racing. His first real job was in farming. Then he became a licensed land surveyor and helped lay out some early Weir Cook airport runways and portions of Glen Cove Cemetery. During the 1960s and 70s Harry served as a deputy policeman in Knightstown. Then, for more than 30 years, he worked for the Indiana Department of Transportation as a bridge engineer.

As a life-long member of the Knightstown Friends Church, Harry was a good Christian man and student of the Bible. He was also an avid student of history and a loyal Purdue Boilermaker fan. This last year Harry greatly missed the daily morning meeting of town elders at the Knightstown Corner Bakery.

Services were March 19 at the Knightstown Friends Church with Pastors Roger Campbell and Tim Basford officiating. Burial will follow in Glen Cove Cemetery. Friends called until time of service at the church.

Memorial contributions may be made to the National Parkinson Foundation (1-800-473-4636 or www.parkinson.org) or the American Diabetes Association, PO Box 11454, Alexandria, VA 22312. You may express condolences of share memories of Harry at www.hinsey-brown.com.

Hike, from Page 1

consider at the March 3 meeting. The first called for a 30-percent increase in rates and charges, while the other one proposed the higher, 43-percent hike.

Council members Clyde South and Valerie Trump made and seconded, respectively, a motion to approve the version of the ordinance calling for the 43-percent increase on first reading. Council Vice President Sarah Ward joined them in supporting the motion, which passed 3-2 with Council President Cort Swincher and Mitch Roland dissenting.

The council is holding a special meeting immediately following tonight's public hearing on the proposed increase in sewer rates and charges. However, with two members expected to miss tonight's

proceedings, there will be no final action on Ordinance 3-2015.

Last week, near the end of the council's March 19 monthly meeting, Ward made a motion to delay a final vote on the ordinance until April because she and one other council member would not be attending tonight's public hearing and special meeting. South seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Ward's motion to delay final action on Ordinance 3-2015 did not specify whether the vote to adopt it will come at the council's April 16 monthly meeting or during a special meeting scheduled for April 14.

Tonight's public hearing will be held at 6 p.m. in the town council's chambers at 28 S. Washington St.

In other utility-related news, council members also voted unanimously last week to hire Alan Hoy to fill the certified operator II position for the sewer department. Works Manager Greg Neice told the council that Hoy, who is currently employed by the town of Sheridan, would be willing to relocate to Knightstown within a couple of months.

Neice also told council members that Hoy is not yet certified by the state to be a wastewater treatment plant operator. However, he said Hoy should be ready to take his certification test in about three months.

The motion to hire Hoy was conditioned on him relocating to Knightstown within three months. His starting pay will be \$15.65 an hour.

The council also heard last week from two representatives of Triad Associates Inc., an Indianapolis-based engineering firm that is interested in working with the town on improvements to the sewer and water utilities. Triad's estimate on the sewer project is about \$4.2 million, a million dollars less than a cost estimate submitted by FPBH Inc., North Vernon, and is about \$700,000 less than FPBH's \$4.3 proposal for water utility work.

Council members tentatively scheduled a special meeting for 6 p.m. on Tuesday, April 14, to get more information from Triad about their proposals. This meeting will be open to the public.

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Town Council Resolves Lingered Employee Pay Issues

by Jeff Eakins
for The Banner

Two-and-a-half months into 2015, it appears the Knightstown Town Council has finally resolved issues involving pay levels for town employees and officials for the year.

A divided town council voted 3-2 at its March 19 monthly meeting to approve Ordinance 4-2015, which amends some of the pay levels set forth in the salary ordinance council members had passed at their Dec. 18 meeting. The amendments made by the new ordinance are based on recommendations made last month by the council's office committee, comprised of Council Vice President Sarah Ward and council member Valerie Trump, and unanimously approved at the council's Feb. 19 monthly meeting.

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, Bruce 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.

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.

At last week's council meeting, before the vote on Ordinance 4-2015, Ward attempted to undo, partially, the second raise that had

been given to Brown. She explained that when she and Trump had been reviewing the pay levels of town employees, Bart Whitesitt, the town's clerk-treasurer, had provided them with incorrect information that did not show the first raise Brown had received as a result of the December vote.

"So, to go from \$13.13 to \$15.50 (an hour) is just not acceptable to me," Ward told other council members, "and I would hope it would not be for the rest of you."

Trump said she agreed with Ward's explanation for how Brown ended up getting two raises. However, she also said Brown's hourly wage is now more in line with what other communities the size of Knightstown pay.

Ward made a motion to drop Brown's hourly pay to \$15 an hour, which would have allowed him to keep half of the second raise he had been given by mistake. Council member Mitch Roland seconded the motion, but it failed to pass, with Trump, Council President Cort Swincher and Clyde South all

voting against it.

The council then proceeded to vote on Ordinance 4-2015, which passed 3-2 on both readings. Ward and Roland cast the dissenting votes.

In other business at last week's meeting, the council:

*Agreed to pay \$2,000 to American Legal Publishing to have the Ohio-based company update the town's code of ordinances;

*Voted to advertise for price quotes on computer maintenance services;

*Approved paying \$200 to cover half the cost of dumpster that will be placed in town in mid-April

for town residents to use for town clean-up efforts, with the Henry County Community Foundation paying the other half of the expense;

*Voted to accept a notice of resignation from Randy Riggs, president of the Knightstown Department of Parks and Recreation Board, who is stepping down from the board due to new job responsibilities;

*Approved a request from Knightstown Crime Watch to close the alley just north of the Hoosier Gym on Friday and Saturday, April 24 and 25, for the group's annual

See Issues, Page 8

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Banner PERSPECTIVES

Hiding Out with Margaritas Fun

Last week I wrote about the process of preparing our Irvington house for sale. The owner of a ranch-style home on three quarters of an acre in nearby Warren Park had accepted our First Right offer. This meant that whoever showed up with a better offer could beat us unless we could proceed to closing. However, we had to have our house sold to do that.

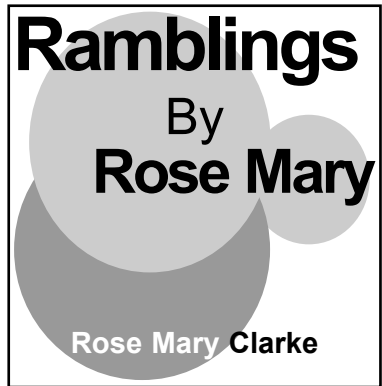
Gloria Kohlmeyer, who lived up the street, was our excellent Realtor and did everything possible to hasten a sale. She even roasted a turkey in our oven during an open house so that the house would smell yummy and homey.

Our first right was due to expire in two weeks, and the owner told his Realtor, who had been one of my former students in French, that he wouldn't extend it. Talk about stress! When I became a Realtor I understood the stress that owners and buyers suffer.

People who lived a block away looked at our house because they'd outgrown theirs. Meanwhile, we started a new round of cleaning and refurbishing. Dishevelment was the disorder of the day when Gloria called one afternoon: "The buyers want to come back in an hour for a second showing." "They can't," I shrieked. "The house is a mess! The beds aren't made; the dishes aren't done; Bill's repainting something; and I'm dirty from

weeding flowers." "You have to let them come. A second showing means they're serious. I think this is it! I'll be down to help."

She rushed in the front door, shouting, "I'll take the upstairs, you do the down." She ran upstairs, made beds, straightened up and tidied the bathroom. Bill and I took out the trash, ran through the downstairs with the vacuum clean-



er, washed the countertops and the sink, and stashed the dirty dishes in the oven.

We sneaked out the back door as the buyers arrived and went to Gloria's house, where her husband, Harold, stirred up a much-appreciated pitcher of margaritas. We were having a merry time that became even merrier when the other Realtor called and said that she was writing an offer.

Thinking about one memory is akin to putting fish on a stringer from the pond that exists at the

center of one's being: When Bill and I first lived on Ritter there was a big house up the street that had been converted to one-room apartments rented by single men. I always found it rather spooky when I went there to register people to vote.

Optimist Harold Kohlmeyer bought the trashy place and worked miracles. In addition to being a judge, Harold was a master craftsman who did his own work as his hobby. He put down gorgeous parquet floors, installed tiles from Spain around the fireplace, and built a wonderful kitchen and a new bathroom.

While putting in a new brick driveway, he had a pile of bricks in the front yard. About two o'clock one Sunday morning, he was awakened by a loud noise. "Ker-blam! ... blam! - - - blam! ... blam! ...!" A couple of drunk guys were stealing his bricks and throwing them into a truck. Harold called the police. One of the policemen said to the drunks, "Do you know whose house this is?" "Naw." "It belongs to a judge, that's who!" "Oh, - - -!"

Harold remarried a few years later, but, alas, he died suddenly in New York City. His widow called me, "I'd like you to list the house." "Are you sure you're ready? Yes, I need to move on with my life." "I'd be honored."

See Rose Mary, Page 6

Knightstown, Left Out Once Again - Why?

I couldn't believe it the first time. So I looked twice. Really?

I looked a third time - only one mention.

Knightstown is mentioned a single time in the state's 2015 official travel guide, *Honest to Goodness Indiana*.

Only in a brief description of "Antique Alley" is the town mentioned in the state's latest travel guide. The next closest Knightstown gets to recognition in that slick, professional magazine is in a full-page ad for the Indiana State Museum. Bobby Plump is prominently featured, along with a vintage Hickory warm-up jacket.

But, that's it. The Hoosier Gym isn't mentioned and Knightstown didn't get listed in the "East Region" section.

Maybe the town isn't big enough to warrant a subsection of its own, I thought. But, if that's the case, why is tiny Grabill on there? Or La Otto? Or Selma?

Somewhere along the line, someone in Knightstown dropped the ball by not getting us into this travel guide. Jubilee Days isn't mentioned, nor Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park Campground. The Main Street antique shops got left out, along with Sunset Park and Big Blue River.

Knightstown has always been rich with quality tourist attractions. But, apparently no one here wants anyone else to know about them. I'm not sure who's responsible for broadcasting Knightstown's attractions. But, my guess would be the Knightstown Chamber of Commerce.

In fairness, someone did trouble themselves enough to get Jubilee Days into the 2015 Indiana Festival

Guide, a smaller, less attractive calendar of events. But, we did miss the boat on Lt. Gov. Sue Ellspermann's Indiana travel guide, which is clearly one of the finest guides ever assembled by the state's Office of Tourism Development.

To some, this may seem like a terribly minor thing. That may be true, if one doesn't rely on out-of-town shoppers. But, in this microeconomy, every little bit helps our local businesses.

People who visit the Hoosier Gym or come to browse the antique shops may grab a burger at Knightstown Diner, or fill up their gas tank at National Road BP. They might stop in at NAPA, or visit Unique Boutique & Bridal after paying respects at the Henry County Area Veterans Memorial.

For Knightstown, having even a cursory presence in the widely distributed *Indiana Travel Guide* is extremely important. Any chance we get to tout our attractions should be taken quite seriously.

In a struggling economy like Knightstown's, it will pay to ensure all marketing opportunities - especially free ones like this - are quickly exploited. With practically no money for any extras, like a town marketing campaign, Knightstown simply can't afford to let freebies pass by.

I don't know the actual number, but my guess is that the state printed maybe 100,000 of those beautiful travel guides. I wonder how many Hoosiers and out-of-state visitors will grab a copy of that this spring and summer as they grow eager to explore our state.

I hope they're ready for an influx of visitors in Grabill and La Otto and Selma.



BANNER PERSPECTIVE

In its defense against a lawsuit recently filed by an upset Main Street property owner, the town of Knightstown is being represented by an attorney provided by the town's insurer rather than the town's regular legal counsel.

This is not unusual. In situations where they may be on the hook for damages, court costs, attorney fees, or all or some of the costs associated with settlement, insurance companies often select and pay for attorneys to represent those they insure.

There is, however, one very important thing to remember. While the insurance company may have chosen the town of Knightstown's attorney and be paying that attorney's fees, the insurance company is not the attorney's client - rather, it is the town, *and the town alone*, that is the client.

When attorney Wayne Uhl filed his appearance in Henry Circuit Court 1 on March 11, he did this on behalf of the town of Knightstown. He did not file his appearance on behalf of the town's insurer, which, though it may end up paying out money under the terms of the town's insurance policy, is not a party to the lawsuit.

Because Knightstown is his client, Uhl owes certain ethical duties to the town. Town officials would be wise to review the Rules of Professional Conduct that govern attorneys' representation of clients - conveniently available online at www.in.gov/judiciary/rules - so that they can have a better idea of what the town, in its capacity as a client, should expect from Uhl.

Unfortunately, the town of Knightstown has not always had great experiences with its legal counsel. Bad legal advice, both from the town's regular attorneys and those provided by its insurance company, has placed the town on the losing end of legal arguments in the past and cost taxpayers tens of thousands of dollars that could have been better spent on other things.

There have also been situations where attorneys who were supposed to be representing the town and its best interests seemed to be working against those ends.

It wasn't all that long ago, for example, that some members of the Knightstown Council were expressing unhappiness with how the town's regular legal counsel, attorney Gregg Morelock, was handling their efforts to get rid of the town's police chief. It appeared, they said, that Morelock was ignoring their wishes and working harder to come up with a favorable deal for the police chief, and they claimed Morelock didn't provide important information to those members of the council who favored terminating the chief in a timely manner.

There was also a situation a few years ago where Morelock was doing legal work on behalf of the Knightstown Town Court judge, who was facing a state investigation over some alleged impropriety. While Morelock's initial legal work on behalf of the judge presented a potential conflict of interest with his actual client, the town, the fact that he continued to work on the judge's case even after the town hired another private attorney to represent the judge raised, in The Banner's opinion, serious questions about whether Morelock was adhering to the ethical duties he owed the town.

It would be nice if Knightstown officials could simply sit back and let their attorneys handle everything when it comes to litigation involving the town. But, in light of legal issues that have faced the town over the past dozen or so years, town officials should strive to keep close tabs on any lawyer who purports to be acting on behalf of the town in order to make sure that's actually what they're doing.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Team Soccer Stadium scored a major victory last week in the second half of the Indiana General Assembly Political Game. Their opponent, Veterans, continue to be shutout! Senator Long led a huge \$20 million score that will be hard for veteran advocates to overcome, thanks to the lobbying efforts by Team Soccer Stadium. Senators for veterans have been unable to crack the staunch defenses of The Administration and select leadership in charge of key committees.

During the first half of this political game, House representatives for veterans were also blanked and at half time of the General Assembly game, nothing related to finance survived. Fans for the veterans will have to step up and cheer loudly if veterans are to get in the game. Matching the \$20 million score will be very difficult as the "pretty big wish list that ought to have been pared down" must have been a foul play, as it was cited with a yellow card.

Advocates are not professionals. They are passionate armatures working for the needs of veterans, and telling legislators. They know they will not get it all. This appears to be an offending maneuver play. In previous General Assembly tourney financial seasons, veterans lost big. It looks bad

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BITS & PIECES

◆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.

◆The Knightstown Ministerial Association will host a **Good Friday service** on Friday, April 3, at 7 p.m. at Knightstown United Methodist Church. KUMC Pastor Curt Hunt and Knightstown Christian Church Associate Minister Anthony Darling will deliver the message. The public is invited.

◆The Charlottesville Lions Club will host its annual **fish fry** on Saturday, April 4, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Fish and tenderloin sandwiches will be featured items. Drive-thru and carry-out orders are also available. Proceeds from the event, which will take place at the Charlottesville Lions Community Building, benefit scholarships, building maintenance and other Lions projects.

◆**Blue River Community Harvest, Inc.**, the food and clothing pantry serving Rush County, southern Henry County and the surrounding area, invites the public to its annual fundraiser, Harvest Helpings, Friday, April 3, at 7 p.m. in the Knightstown High School gymnasium. "Feed and Be Fed: An Evening With Clayton Jennings" will be the sole event at the fundraiser. Jennings is a popular motivational speaker.

◆Knightstown First Baptist Church, 210 E. Jackson St., will host **Good Friday services** on Friday, April 3, at 6:30 p.m. The public is invited.

◆Knightstown American Legion Post 152 will host an **Easter egg hunt** for children at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 4, at Sunset Park. The public is invited to this free event.

◆Knightstown First Baptist Church will host a **pancake breakfast** on Saturday, April 28, beginning at 8 p.m. A freewill offering will be accepted. The church will also host its vacation bible school June 15-19. The church is located at 210 E. Jackson St. The event is open to the public.

◆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.

◆Knightstown Christian Church, 138 W. Main St., will host four **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.

◆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 silversilvervisage@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@embarq-mail.com, or online at www.thebanneronline.com.

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James Jahrsdoerfer Cites Hands-on Learning Ability as Reason for Teaching Successes

by Logan Cox
for The Banner

"Art was always my favorite subject in school ever since elementary art classes," said James Jahrsdoerfer, Knightstown High School's visual arts teacher. "I myself am a visual/kinesthetic hands-on learner. Art teaches students how to think outside the box and become more creative problem solvers, more divergent thinkers."

Jahrsdoerfer also serves as coach to KHS's Fine Arts Academic Team, and has witnessed them receive their most recent victories and accolades.

In 2014, Fine Arts won the Eastern Indiana Academic League Conference Meet at Wapahanni, first out of 18 high schools. This year, KHS Fine Arts placed second in the Easter League Conference. KHS Fine Arts also placed first in the New Mid Hoosier Conference Meet at Eastern Hancock on March 12.



"All of the students are very active in extracurricular activities," said Jahrsdoerfer of the Fine Arts team. "Art club, band, choir, and sports. The Fine Arts team puts in numerous independent hours after school researching and studying before academic meets to prepare, so truly the students' efforts studying have resulted in their success this Academic season."

This year's Fine Arts team is comprised of many of the same students from last year: Caitlyn Fox, Hope Johnson, Caroline Horth, Cora Nolen, Rachel Imel, and Brady Hall.

"All the coaches also have to help proctor teams from other schools during meets, but our team coordinator, Mr. Scholl, makes sure we are free to watch our teams round during the meet," he said.

As he explains, academic meets are very different than sports meets. The coaches, teams and audience are all asked to remain quiet while the students answer questions. However, once the time is up and they project the answer on the screen, he notes that the coaches and teams are very vocal and excited when their school gets an answer correct and earn a point for their team.

"I usually shout out, 'Way to go Knightstown!'" Jahrsdoerfer said, regarding such moments.

While he enjoys practicing art and teaching it

to others, Jahrsdoerfer feels that supporting the development of imagination and artistry in young minds is just as important as the formal STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) disciplines that often take precedence in the majority of America's schools.

"Art and creativity are very important to me," said Jahrsdoerfer. "The human brain has two sides and science has proven that art, creativity and dreams come from the right side of the brain

while analytical reading, writing, and mathematics come more from the left side of the brain. In order to have a well-rounded fully developed mind students need to exercise all parts of their brain and art, music and creative learning outlets provide students with that type of mental development."

He believes that this is why colleges want well-rounded students out of high school to not only take the higher level

academic classes but also the arts. It is fortunate that Indiana's Core 40 and Honors diplomas require students to have at least one year of art credit for graduation.

Jahrsdoerfer graduated from Northrop High School's class of 1998 in Fort Wayne. His wife, Rachel Stevens-Jahrsdoerfer, is a 1999 KHS graduate from Knightstown High School. The two met at the University of Saint Francis, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Visual Arts K-12 and she earned a Bachelor of Arts in Fine and Commercial Art. They were married in 2003.

The Jahrsdoerfers currently live in Greenfield with their 9-year-old son, Alex, and 6-year-old daughter, Sonja.

"I have been a Visual Arts Teacher at Knightstown High School since 2004," he said. "Before that I was a Fuji Film One Hour Photo tech at SAM's Club in Fort Wayne Indiana while attending college at the University of Saint Francis School of Creative Arts in Fort Wayne Indiana from 1999 to 2003."

This is the third year Jahrsdoerfer has served as a coach for Knightstown High School's Fine Arts Academic team.

"I am very proud of the Fine Arts team and all KHS Academic team members this year, and look forward to their future success," said Jahrsdoerfer.

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MEETINGS CALENDAR

Wed., Mar. 25 - Henry Co. Council meeting, 3:30 p.m., Old Circuit Court Room, 2nd floor of courthouse, New Castle

Wed., Mar. 25 - Henry Co. Commissioners meeting, 6 p.m., Old Circuit Court Room, 2nd floor of courthouse, New Castle

Wed., Mar. 25 - Wayne Twp./ Knightstown Vol. Fire Dept. board meeting, 7 p.m., at fire station

Thurs., Mar. 26 - Hancock Co. Board of Zoning Appeals meeting, 6:30 p.m., Courthouse Annex room 101, Greenfield

Thurs., Mar. 26 - Henry Co. Planning Commission meeting, 7 p.m., Old Circuit Court Room, 2nd floor of courthouse, New Castle

Wed., Apr. 1 - Henry Co. Alcoholic Beverage Board meeting, 10 a.m., Old Circuit Court Room, 2nd floor of courthouse, New Castle

Thurs., Apr. 2 - Hancock Co. Drainage Board meeting, 8 a.m., Courthouse Annex room 101, Greenfield

Thurs., Apr. 2 - Henry Co. Technical Review Board meeting, 9 a.m., office bldg conference room, first floor

Thurs., Apr. 2 - Rush Co. Board of Zoning Appeals meeting, 7:30 p.m., courthouse assembly room, Rushville

Thurs., Apr. 2 - Kennard Town Council meeting, 7 p.m., Kennard Town Hall

Sat., Apr. 4 - Wilkinson Town Council meeting, 9:30 a.m., Wilkinson Town Hall

Mon., Apr. 6 - Rush Co. Commissioners meeting, 9 a.m., courthouse room 103, Rushville

Mon., Apr. 6 - Shirley Town Council meeting, 6:30 p.m., Shirley Town Hall

Mon., Apr. 6 - Greensboro Town Council meeting, 6:30

p.m., Greensboro Community Center

Tues., Apr. 7 - Hancock Co. Commissioners meeting, 8 a.m., Courthouse Annex room 101, Greenfield

Tues., Apr. 7 - Spiceland Town Council, 6 p.m., Spiceland Town Hall, 130 E. Main St.

Rose Mary, from Page 4

Listing such an exquisite house is an exciting part of being a Realtor. However, there is another side. She and I both cried so much that I had to rewrite the listing contract.

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FOLKWAYS

Hoosier Motorists Urged to Use Caution as Illustrated in Work Zone Awareness Week

Governor Mike Pence has proclaimed March 23-27, 2015 as Work Zone Awareness Week in Indiana. Work Zone Awareness Week marks the ceremonial start to highway construction season and intends to draw awareness to motorist and worker safety.

More than \$1.3 billion will be invested in construction projects to build and maintain Indiana's highways in 2015. As INDOT increases its focus on preservation, drivers will see more work on existing state highway roads and bridges. INDOT's goal is to maximize both the safety and mobility of motorists and workers while maintaining as much access as possible to businesses, residents and emergency services.

INDOT is dedicated to continuously improving work zone safety for workers and motorists. Last year, 11 people were killed and more than 600 people were injured in Indiana highway work zones. Most of these injuries and deaths are caused by rear-end collisions, following too closely or making improper lane changes.

Slow down and avoid distractions

Highway work zones leave no room for distractions and require attentive, cautious driving habits. Do not use cell phones while driving, especially in a work zone.

Letters, from Page 4

this political season, again.

Miracles can happen, maybe in "extra time" during reconciliation between the Senate and House - Let's hope veterans legislators keep trying and at least the final score will not be a shutout.

Jim Bauerle, BG, USA, (Ret.)
Veterans Team
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Several studies show drivers using a phone are four times more likely to be in a crash. Other distractions, anything other than driving, can be just as dangerous.

Motorists face fines of up to \$1,000 for speeding, up to \$5,000 for driving recklessly or aggressively, and up to \$10,000 and/or a prison sentence of up to eight years for injuring or killing a worker. These fines are used to fund additional Indiana State Police work zone patrols.

Pay attention to signs

Indiana State Police have 11 white pickup trucks patrolling in and around highway work zones across Indiana. The pickup trucks resemble typical vehicles normally seen in and around highway con-

struction zones. Motorists are urged to comply with posted and reduced speed limits in construction zones to promote safety for the highway workers as well as the motoring public. Motorists that speed or drive recklessly may meet troopers driving the special pickup trucks or other police vehicles.

Know before you go

Motorists can learn about highway work zones and other traffic alerts at indot.carsprogram.org, 1-800-261-ROAD (7623) or 511 from a mobile phone. Information about projects and restrictions is also available at www.INDOT.IN.gov, by following INDOT on social media, and subscribing to receive INDOT email updates.

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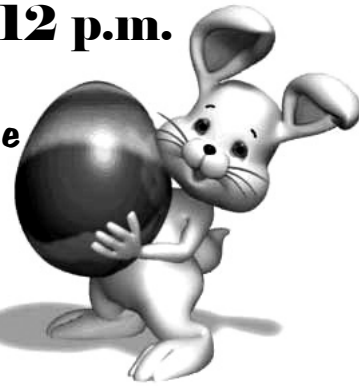
will visit

Knightstown Public Library

on Saturday, March 28

10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Be sure to hop in
this Saturday for free
pictures with the
Easter Bunny,
as well as treat!



Knightstown Public Library
5 E. Main St., 345-5095

BRCH Fundraiser April 3

Blue River Community Harvest's fundraiser, Feed and Be Fed/An Evening With Clayton Jennings, is Friday April 3, at 7 p.m., in the Knightstown High School gym. This event combines fundraising with getting to know Jesus through the words and experiences of Jennings, a press release said. Admission is one can of food and a free ticket. Visit Eventbrite.com/Feed and Be Fed to claim a ticket.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE FOR SALE OF REAL ESTATE OWNED BY CHARLES A. BEARD MEMORIAL SCHOOL CORPORATION

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Trustees of Charles A. Beard Memorial School Corporation ("School") will begin to receive bids on March 25, 2015 at 9:00 a.m., at the Charles A. Beard Memorial School Corporation Administration Building, 8139 W US Highway 40, Knightstown, Indiana, 46148, for sale of two school buildings located at 511 E Second Street, Carthage, Indiana, 46115 and 232 Vine Street, Kennard, Indiana, 47351, upon the following terms:

The real estate being offered for sale is at two former school sites, consisting of:

- A building and approximately 3.972 surrounding acres, located at 511 E. Second Street, Carthage, Indiana, 46115 ("First Real Estate Property"). The First Real Estate Property consists of the two following separate parcels as identified by the Rush County Assessor: 70-02-19-212-001.000-009, and 70-02-19-226-009.000-009.

- A building and approximately 12.51 surrounding acres, located at 232 N Vine Street, Kennard, Indiana, 47351 ("Second Real Estate Property"). The Second Real Estate Property consists of the seven following separate parcels as identified by the Henry County Assessor: 33-11-20-400-414.000-012, 33-11-20-400-415.000-012, 33-11-20-400-416.000-012, 33-11-20-441-416.000-012, 33-11-20-441-420.000-012, 33-11-20-400-412.000-012, and 33-11-20-400-411.000-012.

A copy of appraisals of both real estate properties, which include the legal description, is available for inspection at the office of the Superintendent at 8139 W US Highway 40, Knightstown, Indiana, 46148. The appraisals are for, \$172,000 and \$205,300 for property in Carthage, Indiana; and \$195,000 and \$198,600 for property in Kennard, Indiana. Bids will be subject to the following conditions:

1. Bids shall be submitted in writing. Bids will be opened at the close of receiving bids on May 26, 2015, 4 p.m. Bidders may raise their written bids up until the close of receiving bids. Bidders will be asked to waive the requirement that the School give written notice of any raise to other bidders, per I.C. 36-1-11-4(d). All bids will be open to public inspection after the time the bids are opened.
 2. The School will consider the bids and determine the successful bidder at a public meeting within thirty (30) days after the bids are submitted. Bidders will have the opportunity to raise their written bids at the meeting. Bidders will be asked to waive the requirement that the School give written notice of any raise to other bidders, per IC 36-1-11-4(d).
 3. Within thirty (30) days after the School determines the successful bidder ("Purchaser"), the School and the Purchaser will enter into a written purchase agreement, embodying the terms of this Notice and the successful bid.
 4. The purchase price will be payable in cash at the Closing. The sale will not be contingent on financing.
 5. In addition, the School shall have the right to conduct a sale of tangible personal property from the Real Estate. Any personal property not removed by the date of the Closing shall belong to the Purchaser.
 6. The Closing will be held within sixty (60) days after the execution of the written purchase agreement.
 7. The School will provide title insurance, at its cost.
 8. The purchase of the Real Estate shall be "as is."
 9. Time shall be of the essence.
 10. The minimum bids shall be \$169,785 for First Real Estate Property (90% of the average of the two appraisals of First Real Estate Property) and \$177,120 for Second Real Estate Property (90% of the average of the two appraisals of Second Real Estate Property).
 11. The School may, but shall not be required to, grant reasonable extensions of the Closing.
 12. The School reserves the right to waive procedural or minor irregularities in the bidding process.
 13. The School may reject all bids.
 14. The buildings shall be open for inspection of both real estate properties by appointment. Appointments may be made by calling the Administration Office at 765-345-5101.
 15. Each bid must state the intended purpose for the use of the Real Estate.
 16. The Real Estate may not be sold to a person who is ineligible under I.C. 36-1-11-16.
 17. Any bid submitted by a trust must identify each beneficiary of the trust and any settlor empowered to revoke or modify the trust.
- Charles A. Beard Memorial School Corporation (3/25, 4/1, 4/8)

Charlottesville Lions Club FISH FRY!



SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 11 AM - 7 PM
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Friday, April 10 at 7 p.m.
Sat., April 11 at 7 p.m.
and 2 Concerts on
Sunday, April 12 at
10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Bids, from Page 1

could take bids; or they could try to auction them if no bids are accepted.

According to CAB's legal notice, sealed bids will be accepted at CAB's central office, 8139 W. U.S. Hwy. 40, Knightstown, until 4 p.m. on Tuesday, May 26. Within 30 days of that date, the school board will hold a meeting to determine whether to accept any bids, with bidders having an opportunity to raise their bids at the meeting.

The minimum bid that CAB's legal notice says it will accept for each property is 90 percent of the average of the two appraisals. For the Carthage property, that minimum bid is \$169,785, and it is \$177,120 for the Kennard property.

In the event that one or both properties do not sell as result of the bidding process, the school board could consider hiring someone to auction them. The school board has been advised that Harmeyer, the company that handled CAB's auction of surplus items at the Carthage building last month, may be interested in handling the auctioning of those properties for the district.

Behny told board members at last week's meeting that the auction of surplus items had brought in a total of \$42,072, with only five lots out of 400 not selling. After paying Harmeyer for its services handling the auction, Behny said CAB was left with \$34,187.80.

Money made from that auction, Behny said, is supposed to be returned to the specific fund from which the auctioned item had originally been purchased. However, he said if the district cannot easily determine the original source of the funds, proceeds from the auction can be placed in CAB's General Fund.

In other business, the school board held a public hearing last week, immediately prior to its monthly meeting, on a request for an additional \$22,000 appropriation from CAB's Rainy Day Fund to pay for sidewalk repairs at Knightstown High School. After hearing from one citizen, the board proceeded to vote 7-0 to approve the appropriation before closing the hearing and moving on to its regular meeting.

Acting on a recommendation from Behny, the board voted unanimously to hire Erwin Excavating of Knightstown to make the sidewalk repairs. Behny said Erwin's estimate of \$15,856, one of five price quotes he obtained, was the lowest.

The board unanimously approved a new two-year contract, effective July 1, for Karen Gardner, assistant principal at Knightstown Intermediate School, that will give her a base salary of \$60,000 and \$4,363 in lieu of medical insurance. The board also voted 7-0 to raise the salary of Russell Spiker, CAB's transportation director, 9 percent, from \$55,000 to \$60,000.

The board also accepted several notices of resignation from longtime CAB employees last week, including KHS math teacher Gary Ogden (37 years), who is retiring at the end of the school year; varsity cheerleading coach Jana Burton (21 years), who stepped down March 17; and Knightstown Elementary School secretary Beverly Brammer (30 years), whose last day will be April 1. The board also received a notice of resignation from Knightstown Elementary Title I teacher Emily McCorkle, effective last Friday.

"This is an exceptionally tough personnel report," Board President Wade Beatty remarked before the board voted to accept it.

In other business, the school board:

*paid monthly claims totaling \$889,637.86, with \$329,047.77 of that amount being prewritten claims, \$278,257.02 for current claims and \$282,333.07 for payroll;

*approved amendments to five board policies on second reading; and
*agreed to seek an amendment to the district's bus replacement plan that would allow CAB to purchase another mini-bus.

More information about the CAB School Board's March 17 monthly meeting can be found in the memoranda and minutes of that proceeding. Those public records are available for inspection and copying at CAB's central office, 8139 W. U.S. Hwy. 40, Knightstown, during normal business hours.

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A Look Back



This photo is from the late 1960s and shows the Jubilee Days parade heading westbound, instead of eastbound. Many former Main Street businesses can be seen in the background.



Glenda Thompson e-mailed The Banner regarding last week's A Look Back photo. Thompson said it was taken in the Hoosier Gym in 1966. The occasion was a KHS National Honor Society induction. Pictured (front row, l-r) are Charles Brown, Jan Buehler, Joel Bush, Lynnann Cox, Diana Egan, Kenny Green, Marvin Hall, (back row) John Lansinger, Mary McCall, Jeannine Oaldon, Peggy Pidgeon, Mike Schatzlein, Mary Snider, and Glenda Thompson.

Flood Insurance a Spring Necessity

As part of National Flood Safety Awareness Week, the Indiana Department of Insurance encourages Hoosiers to prepare for spring flooding and to consider flood insurance before the flood season begins. In the past, Hoosiers have voiced concerns with not being properly informed about flood insurance and what their policies cover. Those who own property or rent need to be aware of the risks and financially prepare for the damage floods can cause.

"The Department wants Hoosiers to understand the facts

about flood insurance," said Indiana Department of Insurance Commissioner Stephen W. Robertson. "Flood damage is not usually covered under a standard homeowner's policy and it's a good idea to review your policy during Flood Safety Awareness Week to determine if any damage as the result of flooding will be covered."

Late winter snowmelt and thunderstorms throughout the spring and summer months often cause severe flooding across the state. In 2014, several counties in central

Indiana were hit with heavy rains that left a number of counties flooded.

"Spring is fast approaching. It's important to note that if you need flood insurance, you'll want to purchase it now because these policies normally do not go into effect until 30 days after you purchase the policy," said Robertson.

What is the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

In 1968, Congress created the See Flood, Page 9

Issues, from Page 3

hog roast fundraiser, and gave the group permission to place a sign at the south end of the public square April 17-25 that advertises their event;

*Considered a request for use of a portion of the public square from May 27-31 for a community rummage sale that would raise money to help the town pay for needed repairs to the wall that was left standing after an East Main Street building was razed in April 2013, but took no action;

*Voted to allow the Knightstown Police Department to reenroll in a program that allows it to get surplus equipment from the federal government at little or no cost; and
*Declined to vote on Chief of Police Duane Booth's recommendation that part-time officer Anthony Darling be made the KPD's captain after the town attorney advised Booth and the council that he believed that decision was Booth's to make.

More information about the Knightstown Town Council's March 19 monthly meeting can be found in the memoranda and minutes of that proceeding. Those public records are available for inspection and copying at Knightstown Town Hall, 26 S. Washington St., during normal business hours.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS

Complete details of the Bus Replacement Fund plan may be seen by visiting the office of this unit of government at the following address: 8139 W US Highway 40, Knightstown, IN.

Notice is hereby given to taxpayers of Charles A Beard Memorial School Corporation that the proper officers of Charles A Beard Memorial School Corporation will conduct a public hearing on the year 2015 AMENDED Bus Replacement Fund Plan pursuant to IC 20-46-5-6.1. Following the public hearing, the proper officers of Charles A Beard Memorial School Corporation may adopt the AMENDED plan as presented or with revisions.

Public Hearing Date: April 21, 2015
Public Hearing Time: 7 p.m.
Public Hearing Place: KHS Media Center, 8149 W. U.S. Hwy. 40, Knightstown, IN

Taxpayers are invited to attend the meeting for a detailed explanation of the plan and to exercise their rights to be heard on the proposed plan. If the proposed plan is adopted by resolution, such plan will be submitted to the Department of Local Government Finance for approval.

The following is a general outline of the proposed plan:

Year	No. of Buses Owned	No. of Buses to be Replaced	Total Estimated Replacement Cost	Total Contract Costs
2015	26	1	210,000	
2016	26	4	185,000	
2017	26	6	126,400	
2018	26		126,400	
2019	26		126,400	
2020	26		116,400	
2021	26		116,400	
2022	26	2	220,000	
2023	26	12	168,000	
2024	26		168,000	
2025	26		168,000	
2026	26		168,000	

SOURCES AND ESTIMATES OF REVENUE		2015
1) Projected January 1 Cash Balance		56,689
2) Less: Encumbrances Carried Forward from Previous Year		
3) Estimated Cash Balance Available from Plan (Line 1 minus Line 2)		56,689
4) Property Tax Revenue		162,825
5) Auto Excise, CVET and FIT receipts		14,400
6) Other Revenue		
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR PLAN (All Lines 3, 4, 5 and 6)		233,914

Park Board Takes No Action to Replace Riggs

by Jeff Eakins
for The Banner

Members of the Knightstown Department of Parks and Recreation Board took no action last week to name a new president following the resignation of board member Randy Riggs, who had held that position.

As The Banner reported last week, Riggs had turned in a notice of resignation, which took effect immediately, to the Knightstown Town Council the week before. According to Town Council President Cort Swincher, Riggs' resignation letter was dated March 10.

In Riggs' absence, Vice President Bruce Brown ran the park board's March 18 monthly meeting. However, because the council had not yet met and officially accepted Riggs' notice of resignation, Brown said he wasn't sure if the park board should select a new president before that happens.

The town council did end up accepting Riggs' resignation the following night, at its March 19 monthly meeting. Riggs was a Republican, but his replacement, who must be a resident of Knightstown, can be affiliated with any political party, or can be an independent with no party affiliation.

State statute and local ordinance limit the park board's four regular members to having no more than two from the same political party. Presently, of the park board's three other regular members, one is a Democrat and two are independents.

At last week's town council meeting, the town's attorney, Gregg Morelock, told the council he didn't think Riggs' replacement could be an independent since there are already two independents on the board. However, the statutory restriction only applies to park board members who belong to a political party, not those with no political affiliation.

Anyone interested in filling the vacancy on the park board left by Riggs' resignation should submit a letter of interest to the Knightstown
See Park, Page 10

Flood, from Page 8

National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) to help provide a means for property owners to financially protect themselves. NFIP is designed to provide an insurance alternative to disaster assistance to meet the escalating costs of repairing damage to buildings and their contents caused by floods. The NFIP offers flood insurance to homeowners, renters, and business owners if their community participates in the NFIP. Participating communities agree to adopt and enforce ordinances that meet or exceed FEMA requirements to reduce the risk of flooding.

Who may purchase a flood insurance policy?

NFIP coverage is available to all owners of eligible property (a building and/or its contents) located in a community participating in the NFIP. Owners and renters may insure their property against flood loss. Owners of buildings in the course of construction, condominium associations, and owners of residential condominium units in participating communities all may purchase flood insurance.

Condominium associations may purchase insurance coverage on a residential building, including all units, and its commonly owned contents under the Residential Condominium Building Association Policy (RCBAP).

The unit owner may separately insure personal contents as well as obtain additional building coverage under the Dwelling Form as long as the unit owner's share of the RCBAP and his/her added coverage do not exceed the statutory limits for a single-family dwelling. The owner of any condominium unit in a non-residential condominium building may purchase only contents coverage for that unit.

How can property owners or renters find out if their community participates in the NFIP?

NFIP coverage is available only in participating communities. Almost all of the nation's communities with serious flooding potential have joined the NFIP. The NFIP provides a list of participating communities in the Community Status Book. To learn if your community participates in the NFIP, refer to this list online at www.fema.gov/fema/csb.shtm or contact your insurance agent.

What types of property may be insured against flood loss?

Insurance may be written on any building eligible for coverage

with two or more outside rigid walls and a fully secured roof that is affixed to a permanent site. Buildings must resist flotation, collapse, and lateral movement. The structure must be located in a community that participates in the NFIP. Manufactured (i.e., mobile, travel trailers without wheels) homes that are affixed and anchored to a permanent foundation are eligible for coverage.

Contents coverage for personal belongings located within an eligible building can also be purchased.

How is flood insurance purchased?

After a community joins the NFIP, a policy may be purchased from any licensed property insurance agent or broker who is in good standing in the state, or through any agent representing a Write Your Own (WYO) Company, including an employee of the company authorized to issue the coverage. The agent will complete the flood insurance application, obtain the proper supporting documentation required, and determine the rates for establishing the flood insurance premium.

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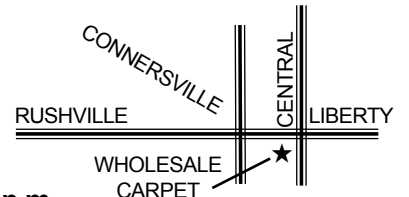
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Knightstown BPW's Mystery Dinner Theater Fundraiser Almost a Sell-out



Knightsdown Business and Professional Women (BPW) hosted its Mystery Dinner Theater March 14-15 at Sugarbakers in Knightstown. The fundraising event featured performances by the Rush County Players and BPW members like Shannon Dawson (below). Above, Rush County Player Bonnie Miller (above, right) gets a reaction out of Rush County Players Board of Directors President Richele Griffin of Rushville. Using a script based on a fictional play, *Poisoning at Buzby's Nightclub*, RCP members acted out mostly improvised dialogue as BPW members served a fried chicken dinner. The dinner and performance were aimed at raising money for BPW and the projects they undertake in the Knightstown area. (Eric Cox photos)



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Town, Contractor Get Lawsuit Time Extension

by Jeff Eakins
for The Banner

Attorneys representing the town of Knightstown and a Muncie company the town hired in 2013 to raze a dilapidated East Main Street building have been granted additional time to respond to a lawsuit filed by a disgruntled neighboring property owner.

Attorneys for Dudley Wainscott, Woodland Park, Colo., owner of the property known as the "Old Lodge" building at 34-38 E. Main St., filed a complaint for damages in Henry Circuit Court 1 on Friday, Feb. 20, against the town. Also named as a defendant is Shroyer Bros. Inc., the Muncie-based company the town hired to raze the building that stood just to the west of Wainscott's that had formerly housed Hopkins Furniture and, more recently, The Bullet Hole gun shop.

In the lawsuit, Wainscott's lawyers allege missteps in how the town and Shroyer handled the spring 2013 demolition of the building at 32 E. Main St. They also claim the town failed to make repairs to a common wall that the razed building shared with Wainscott's property that has been left standing, and say that failure led to mold damage in their client's building.

Henry County's online court records indicate that Indianapolis attorney Wayne Uhl of Stephenson Morow & Semler entered his appearance on the town's behalf on March 11. He also filed a demand for jury trial that day, and asked the court for more time to respond to the lawsuit.

On March 16, Indianapolis attorney Richard Skiles & DeTrude and Muncie attorney Donald Dunnuck of Dunnuck &

Associates, entered their appearances on behalf of Shroyer. They also asked for more time to respond.

The court granted all requests made for more time to respond to the lawsuit. Uhl was given until April 22 to file the town's response, and the attorneys for Shroyer were initially given until April 18, but that was extended through April 30.

Wainscott's lawyers, Frederick Emhardt and Colin Connor of the Indianapolis law firm of Plews Shadley Racher & Braun LLP, say Shroyer was supposed to remove debris from the demolition and replace it with clean fill, but failed to do this. Instead, they claim the company left the material at the site, collapsed into what had been the basement, filling the rest in "with dirt and tombstones from the local graveyard."

The lawsuit also claims there had been over 10,000 vacuum tubes inside the razed building and that Shroyer had failed to remove them before starting the demolition. According to Wainscott's attorneys, an unknown number of tubes were crushed when the building was brought down, "potentially causing mercury to leak into the soil and groundwater."

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

National Arbor Day Slated for April 24

National Arbor Day is Friday, April 24, this year, and the Arbor Day Foundation is making it easy for anyone to celebrate the annual tree-planting holiday. Join the Foundation in April and receive 10 free shade trees.

By joining the Foundation in April, new members receive the following trees: red oak, sugar maple, weeping willow, baldcypress, thornless honeylocust, pin oak, river birch, tuliptree, silver maple, and red maple.

The free trees are part of the

Foundation's Trees for America campaign.

"These trees provide shade in the summer and vibrant colors throughout the fall," said Matt Harris, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. "Through the simple act of planting trees, one person can make a difference in helping to create a healthier and more beautiful planet for all of us to enjoy."

The trees will be shipped post-paid with enclosed planting instructions at the right time for planting in April or May. The 6- to 12-inch trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge.

To become a member of the Foundation and receive the free trees, send a \$10 contribution to 10 Free Shade Trees, Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410, by April 30, 2015, or visit arborday.org/april.

Park, from Page 9

Town Council, 26 S. Washington St., Knightstown, IN 46148. The council has set no deadline for applications, and could announce an appointment at anytime.

In other business last week, the park board:

- *heard updates on improvements at the park's Babe Ruth ball diamond from representatives of Knightstown Youth Sports Inc., and voted to let KYSI run the diamond's concession stand this summer and keep the proceeds from all sales;

- *continued to request explanations on why the town was taking workers' compensation payments out of park funds when the park has no employees, and about whether town or park funds should have been used to pay for a drainage pipe repair near the park's lake;

- *voted to purchase seven lights to replace non-working fixtures on the circle drive in front of the park shelter house for \$180.19 from Kirby Risk;

- *did not vote to renew its yearly contract with Steve Ott of Economy Handyman, keeping in place last month's decision to continue contracting with Ott for handyman services on a month-to-month basis;

- *voted to advertise for mowing bids; and

- *agreed to meet at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, April 15, at the South Washington Street property where a canoe launch site on Blue River has been proposed.

More information about the March 18 park board meeting can be found in the memoranda and minutes from that proceeding. Those public records are available for inspection and copying at Knightstown Town Hall, 26 S. Washington St., during normal business hours.

Clear Thinking

"If we have learned one thing from the history of invention and discovery, it is that, in the long run - and often in the short one - the most daring prophecies seem laughably conservative."

Arthur C. Clarke

'Healthy' Members Hear Earth Charter Indiana

By Eric Cox
Publisher

Earth Charter Indiana Executive Director Jim Poyser was the guest speaker at Healthy Communities of Henry County's annual meeting last Thursday at the county library in New Castle.

A former editor of *Nuvo* newsweekly in Indianapolis, Poyser now serves as an advocate for ecology and the environment. Working with young people and schools across the state, his mission is to instill in youth the notion that they can, in fact, have an

impact on the future via sound environmental stewardship and a proactive approach to conservation.

Poyser brought with him one such youth, Maddie Brooks, an Indianapolis eighth grader who adheres to Poyser's message about youth action on a variety of environmental and conservation fronts. Brooks was serving in a kind of one-day internship.

Using a slideshow presentation, Poyser illustrated a few alarming trends in earth's ecology. He used three animated illustrations sup-

plied by NASA to show the planet's loss of arctic ice, as well as a world map that showed warming and cooling trends.

These animations served as Poyser's springboard for launching into his talk - not about what is wrong with our environment, but what people - particularly young people - can do to help correct it.

He explained that so many presentations and documentary films about pollution and climate change merely present what kind of trouble the planet is in. He said most experts and aficionados talk 90

percent about what is wrong, with only about 10 percent explaining what can be done about it.

"By the end of that 90 percent, I'm exhausted," he said. "How can we possibly solve our problems? They're too gigantic. So I'm trying to invert that. I'm gonna give you 10 percent of the bad things, and then we're going to get into some really inspiring stuff."

Poyser, like many climatologists, said increased carbon emissions from people's use of fossil fuels and other natural processes, is driving up earth's mean temperature. "Some scientists believe there will be an increase in temperature of about 7 degrees by 2060 on average," he said.

As an analogy, Poyser asked this reporter what his body temperature is. When supplied with the well-known average body temperature of 98.6 degrees, he said, "Now add 7 degrees to that and what would happen?" We agreed that a hospital stay would be required, at best.

He said guilt over environmental problems doesn't help solve them any more than blaming others

for the problems themselves. "That doesn't motivate us," he said. "Over the past year and a half, I've moved away from that type of guilt and blaming. I've moved into finding what works. And what's really inspiring is to find things that work in school."

Poyser went on to mention several Indiana school programs that relate to food, such as Farm to School, which guides locally grown meat and produce to local schools for school breakfasts and lunches. His own brainchild is "Every Student a Farmer, Every School a Farm."

"Sound impossible doesn't it? But, how cool would that be if every kid in Indiana had a garden at their school," he said.

Poyser highlighted an Indianapolis school that raises chickens and

goats, as well as produce. He also told about another program - Food Rescue which is aimed at recovering salvageable discarded food from school cafeterias.

He said discarded cafeteria food presents two problems. First, he said, it generates additional

HCHC Posted Major Gains; Ready for '15

By Eric Cox
Publisher

Last week's Healthy Communities of Henry County (HCHC) Annual Meeting and Lunch featured some updated information regarding Henry County projects.

HCHC Board President Chris Matthews highlighted several HCHC achievements from last year, including the planting of 1,400 trees across the county, raising \$1,000 for trail maintenance and \$228,000 for Wilbur Wright Trail expansion. Additionally, HCHC workers held the fourth annual Earth Day celebration, the 14th

See HCHC, Page 20



Earth Charter Indiana Executive Director Jim Poyser talks about climate change and ecology.



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Clever Clovers 4-H Club Elects Officers for 2015



On Feb. 23, the Wayne Township Clever Clovers 4-H Club met at Knightstown United Methodist Church at 6:30 p.m. During the meeting club members elected officers. Those elected include Jackson Lukens, president; Evan Adams, vice president; Lacy Thomas, secretary; Salina Hamm, treasurer; Jordan Ventresco, reporter; Austin Hilton, health and safety reporter; and Hannah Thomas, devotion leader. Recreation leaders include Mackinsy Fowler and Sam Thomas. Club members discussed service projects, including a canned food drive on May 9, Old Heritage-TBA. State Fair entries were due on March 2. The Clever Clovers will meet again on March 30 at Knightstown United Methodist Church at 6:30 p.m. (Photo submitted)

Joseph Trimmer of Carthage Completes Air Force Training

Air Force Reserve Airman 1st Class Joseph R. Trimmer graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic

warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Trimmer is the son of Angie and Derek Trimmer of Carthage.

He is a 2014 graduate of homeschooling in Carthage.

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Cadiz Policeman Arrested in Indianapolis After Refusing Field Sobriety, Blood Tests

On Wednesday, March 18, at 1:20 a.m., an Indiana state trooper traveling on I-70 westbound from Holt Road, observed a Ford Explorer traveling at a very high rate of speed and weaving in and out of traffic. The trooper caught up to the vehicle and paced the SUV traveling 113 miles per hour in a posted 55 mile per hour zone.

A traffic stop was initiated and during the course of the investigation, the driver, Brian Hedger, 33, of Camby, produced a police identification that indicated he was an

officer for the Cadiz Police Department in Henry County. Hedger was also exhibiting signs of intoxication.

Hedger refused to comply with field sobriety tests and refused a certified blood chemical test. He was subsequently taken into custody and transported to the Marion County Adult Processing Center where a warrant was issued for a blood draw. While at the APC Hedger complained of breathing difficulty and was transferred to Eskenazi Hospital detention center

for treatment where he remains. The results of the blood draw are pending.

Investigators have also determined that Hedger is a part time police officer for Cadiz and a full time Pike Township Police Officer.

Hedger is charged with Operating a Vehicle While Intoxicated (Refusal), a Class A Misdemeanor. This charge could result in his driver's license being suspended for 1 year and up to 2 years in jail. He is also facing several traffic violations.

Rush County Earns Certification as 'Work Ready Community'

In less than a year, Rush County has achieved 100 percent of its goals on becoming a Certified Work Ready Community through ACT. They are the first county in Indiana to achieve this certification. ACT launched its national Certified Work Ready Communities (CWRC) initiative in 2011. In June 2013, ACT began accepting applications directly from counties interested in participating, where there was not a statewide ACT CWRC program in place. Rush County and other Eastern Indiana counties took advantage of this opportunity.

Participants are leveraging the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC(tm)) through WorkKeys assessment testing to measure and close the skills gap and build common frameworks that link and align a county's workforce development efforts. To date, 281 Rush County residents have attained a NCRC. Area leadership is amazed by this accomplishment and will use this certified status to better leverage economic development efforts in the county.

"I am very proud of the effort that was made by our local team,"

said Mike Pavey, Mayor of Rushville. "It proves the strong commitment we have to education and workforce training."

John McCane, Executive Director of Rush County Economic & Community Development Corporation, agrees and stated "Being a certified work ready community helps make our county more competitive when it comes to attracting new business. Rush County is leading our state to close the skills gap and provide skilled workers to our employers. Focusing on these initiatives helps Rush County grow and prosper."

Mike Row, President/CEO for Alliance for Strategic Growth, states "This achievement is a testimony to the unwavering, collaborative commitment of city of Rushville, the Rush County Economic & Community Development Corp., and the Rush County Commissioners to better position their community for economic growth. Indeed, our organization celebrates with them at this news and considers it an honor to partner with them to cultivate a sustainable, world-class workforce. Congratulations, Rush County."

Eastern Indiana is the only area of the state that has counties involved in this initiative. Active and live counties include Delaware, Randolph, Rush, and Wayne coun-

ties. Fayette and Henry counties have also been accepted into the program and are in the training process. Currently, there are more than 80 Eastern Indiana employers supporting this initiative. For more information about ACT Certified Work Ready Communities and Rush County status, please visit <http://workreadycommunities.org/IN/139>.

ABOUT: Alliance for Strategic Growth, Inc. (ASG), recognized for its leadership and expertise, exists to support sustainable economic prosperity in Eastern Indiana through the development and implementation of collaborative initiatives that empower the regional workforce to meet the demands of the global economy. The corporation is a not-profit, public/private partnership that serves as the Workforce Investment Board for 8 WorkOne offices in Eastern Indiana, including Blackford, Delaware, Fayette, Henry, Jay, Randolph, Rush, Wayne and Union counties. Eastern Indiana WorkOne offices (www.workone.org) assist thousands of job seekers and employers every year through a variety of employment and job readiness services. For more information on ASG, visit www.asgcorp.org.

DNR Open House Events Focus on State Forests

People interested in how Indiana's State Forests operate can share their views at a series of open houses starting this month.

At each event, the DNR Division of Forestry will provide information about recreational activities, major projects, forest resource management and planning. Attendees can talk with DNR personnel or submit written comments. Some open houses will include a tour of facilities or a woods walk.

"These open houses provide Hoosiers with a chance to receive first-hand information about how state forests provide diverse wildlife habitat, forest products and recreational opportunities," State Forester John Seifert said. "They also allow us to receive valuable feedback from our neighbors and users about state forest management. I encourage everyone who has an interest to participate."

Events and open houses are (all times are Eastern):

*Greene-Sullivan State Forest: Thursday, April 9, 2-6 p.m., at the property office on State Road 159, approximately 1.5 miles south of Dugger, 812-648-2810.

*Yellowwood/Morgan-Monroe state forests: Saturday, April 18, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Yellowwood property office, 7 miles southwest of Nashville off State Road 46, 812-988-7945.

*Owen-Putnam State Forest: Wednesday, April 29, 3-7 p.m., at the property office, 5 miles west of Spencer and less than 1 mile north of State Road 46, 812-829-2462.

*Clark State Forest/Deam Lake State Recreation Area: Monday, May 11, 3-6 p.m. at Deam Lake Forest Education Center off State Road 60, approximately 5 miles east of Borden, 812-246-5421. A hike will begin at 6 p.m.

*Jackson-Washington State Forest/Starve Hollow State Recreation Area: Thursday, May 14, 3-6 p.m., at the Jackson-Washington property office off State Road 250, approximately 2 miles southeast of Brownstown, 812-358-3464. A forester-led tour of a recent timber harvest will begin at 4:30 p.m.

Property staff also is available during normal business hours. Go to dnr.IN.gov/forestry for contact information or to schedule a visit.



Carving Out a Victory

Cub Scouts from Pack 468 watch as their Pinewood Derby cars streak down the track at the Sunset Park Shelter House Saturday.

Braden Silver Wins Cub Scout Pack 468 Pinewood Derby



Winners from Saturday's Pinewood Derby include (front row, l-r) Josh Abbott Jr., eye appeal winner; Jacob Lund, fourth place; Eli Taylor, third place; Max Groce, second place; Braden Silver, first place; (back row) Baylor Hogan, eye appeal in cake auction; and Brody Hanna, cake auction highest bid.



Brody Hanna (left) poses for a photo with his highest bid winner cupcakes and Josh Abbott Sr., (center) and Josh Abbott Jr., who were the high bidders for the cupcakes.



Scout leader Charity Maxwell helps Braden Silver align his car on the track.



Maxwell takes bids as a young scout holds his oatmeal cookies.

Plan Commission Meeting Monday

The Knightstown Plan Commission will meet at 6 p.m. Monday to continue working on its review of the town's comprehensive plan. The meeting, which is open to the public, 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.

Pond, Lake Fish Kills May Result After Bitter Cold

Owners of shallow ponds and lakes, especially in northern Indiana, should watch for fish kills this spring.

Because ice cover measured 20 inches thick on some northern waters, Indiana fisheries biologists anticipate receiving fish kill reports once the bodies of water thaw.

Shallow, weedy ponds are susceptible to winter kills. The most common cause of fish kills in Indiana ponds is suffocation due to the lack of oxygen.

Aquatic plants can produce oxygen only when sunlight is available. While some sunlight can penetrate clear ice, snow and thick ice can often block sunlight, resulting in dangerously low oxygen levels. Then, as aquatic plants naturally die during winter, plant decomposition consumes oxygen that fish and other aquatic life need. Once a winter kill begins, little can be done to stop it.

Pond owners who experience a fish kill or need advice on other pond-related issues can refer to Indiana's Pond Management Booklet at dnr.IN.gov/fish-wild/3356.htm.

Pond owners can try to reduce

the likelihood of a winter kill by installing an aeration system and removing snow from the ice when safe. Building ponds with depths greater than 10 feet also reduces the likelihood of a fish kill.

Drilling holes in ice does not prevent a fish kill.

Biologists do not expect significant fish kills at deep natural lakes and man-made reservoirs. The exception could be gizzard shad, a species that is vulnerable to prolonged cold weather. But because shad can diminish a lake's panfish population, a shad kill may improve fishing.

On March 23, Tom Bacula, District 1 fisheries biologist, received the first report of a shad kill on Bruce Lake in Pulaski and Fulton counties.

Lake residents and anglers who observe significant fish kills on public waters should contact their district fisheries biologist. Contact information for each district is in the 2015 Fishing Regulation Guide or at dnr.IN.gov/fishwild/3590.htm.

For more information, contact Bacula at 574-896-3673 or tbacula@dnr.IN.gov.

Tax Scam Targets Hoosiers

A national telephone scam is targeting Indiana communities. Several Hoosiers have received threatening telephone calls from scam artists claiming to represent the Indiana Department of Revenue.

The department does not call taxpayers without first corresponding through mail and does not threaten to use local law enforcement.

"It's important that Hoosier taxpayers are aware of this scam and know how to avoid becoming a victim," said Commissioner Mike Alley. "Taxpayers should not be afraid to hang up the phone if they suspect they are being targeted by a scam artist. The department conducts business professionally and never threatens taxpayers."

How the Scam Works

A taxpayer receives a call from a person claiming to be from the department. The scammer claims there is an outstanding tax warrant in the taxpayer's name, and local law enforcement is on the way to arrest the taxpayer. The taxpayer is offered the option to pay the alleged amount owed over the phone to cancel the warrant and recall the officers. Those who do not answer the calls receive voice messages with urgent call back requests.

The scam artist sounds convincing and professional. They often have personal information about the taxpayer and can alter the caller ID to appear more legitimate.

The scam is similar to a previous ploy of scammers who pretend to be from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). The IRS telephone scam tops the "Dirty Dozen" list for 2015 tax scams.

Protecting Yourself

The department does not initiate calls without prior mail correspondence. Those who owe Indiana taxes first receive a notice that explains the amount due. If unpaid, taxpayers receive a second notice in the mail alerting the taxpayers they have 10 days to pay. Tax warrants are not issued until this period has passed, and the taxpayer is sent a copy of the warrant. Moreover, despite the name "warrant," a tax warrant cannot be used by law enforcement to make an arrest.

Those who suspect they are speaking with a telephone scammer should collect as much information as possible and report the scam to the Indiana Attorney General's Office ID Protection Line at 1-800-382-5516. This information might include:

If the voice offers a name or badge number, capture the number

*Whether the caller is male or female, or uses a regional dialect

*Any background noise

*The phone number from which the call came

*All details the caller provided, including amount of tax owed and requested payment type

Taxpayers who believe they owe individual income tax should call the department's general information line at 317-232-2240.

For more information on how to pay taxes and the collections process, visit www.in.gov/dor/3959.htm. For more information on staying safe from this scam and others, visit www.in.gov/attorneygeneral.

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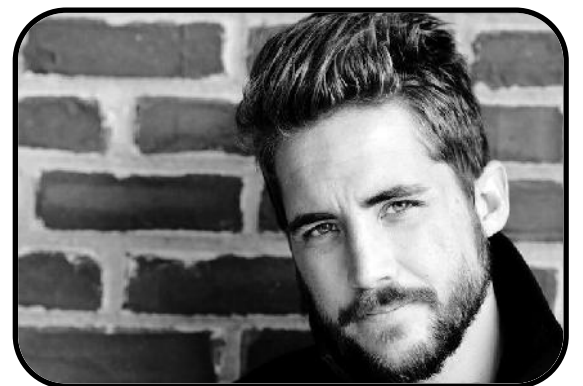


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FEED and BE FED: An Evening with Clayton Jennings

Friday, April 3,
at 7 p.m. in the
Knightstown High School
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The Blue River Community Harvest, Inc., the food and clothing pantry serving Rush County, southern Henry County, and the surrounding area, is pleased to invite the public to its annual fundraiser, Harvest Helpings, Friday, April 3, 7pm at Knightstown High School Gym.

FEED and BE FED: An Evening With Clayton Jennings, will be the sole event at the fundraiser. Clayton is a hugely popular motivational speaker who has set audiences on fire for Jesus Christ in all parts of the US. There will be no silent auction or banquet. People of all ages are invited to FEED the hungry with their donations and be FED by the words of Clayton Jennings.

Admission is FREE! (see below) and one can of food (peanut butter, veggies, fruit, meat, fish) or a non-perishable item (pasta, toilet paper, diapers, laundry soap) etc., PER PERSON. There will be a free will offering opportunity for those who feel led to help BRCH with finances for rent, utilities, equipment, and heat. ALL food donations will go to feed the clients in the BRCH service area. All monetary donations will go toward rent, utilities and equipment.

This is a ticketed event! There are a limited number of Free General Admission, Sponsor, and Free Will offering tickets. Go to www.Eventbrite.com and search for FEED and BE FED. Doors open at 6 p.m.. Seating preferences will be given to physically challenged individuals and those sponsoring the event.

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LOCAL SPORTS

Panther Boys Track Team and Lady Panthers Fall to Eastern

Knightstown's boys varsity track team kicked off their 2015 season with a 52-71 loss to Eastern Hancock on March 18.

"The boys had a really good opening night," said Coach Kevin Miller. "We came out on the short side, but the overall improvement from last year at this meet is huge."

The Panthers 400-meter relay team of senior Ben Haase and juniors Alex Fields, Riley Ruble and Kennedy Osborn took first place with a time of 47.59.

Osborn also won first place in the 100-meter dash with an 11.8 and in the 200-meter dash with a time of 24.4. His 5'2 in the high jump was enough to earn him a second place finish. He had 18 of the Panthers 52 points.

"Kennedy was a difference-maker this evening," Miller said.

"He has done the weight room work and regular training and it is really showing in his times."

Ruble also reached 5'2 in the high jump for a third place finish.

Junior Ben Willey and sophomores JT Butler, Jake Hull and Jack Sather competed in the 3200-meter relay, finishing with a time of 10:32.

The Panthers 1600-meter relay team of Haase, Alex Fields, Hull and sophomore Jon Lukens had a time of 3:56.6.

Haase came in second place, just behind Osborn, in the 200-meter dash with a time of 24.6.

Lukens and freshman Michael Haney took first and second places in the 400-meter run. Lukens had a time of 55.8 with Haney following with a 58.8.

Willey reigned in the long dis-

tance 3200-meter run with a first place time of 11:16.

Butler took third place in the 800-meter run with a time of 2:22.

Lane Parker, a freshman, was third in the 110-meter hurdles with a 19.8 and junior Josh Sayre took third place in the 300-meter hurdles with a 51.0.

The Panthers placed second and third in the long jump. Lukens finished with a jump of 17'2 and junior Zach Fields jumped at 16'8.

Knightstown had four competing in the discus and secured first and third places. Junior Coleman Wyatt threw for 125'2 for the top spot. Logan Johnson, another junior, was third with a throw of 98'11. Senior Derek Heim threw for 91' and freshman Garrett Thomas had a throw of 94'.

Three Panthers competed in the shot put event. Wyatt took second place, throwing a distance of 42'1. Heim got third place with a throw of 37'11.

Coach Miller was pleased with the effort his team put forth in their first meet.

"The have done a nice job preparing for this season. We look forward to the next couple of months," Miller said.

The girls team, coached by Jordan Chew, also fell to the Lady Royals, 42-81.]

Emily Sander took first place in the 110-meter hurdles with a time of 17.1.

Elaine Suesz got a first place finish in the long jump and Lori Thomas was first in the 800-meter run with a time of 2:5.

Knightstown also had several second place finishers, Chew reported, highlighted by the 4'10 high jump by Allison Sander. Other stats for the girls were not provided.

The track teams next meet comes after spring break when they host Shenandoah on April 9, beginning at 4:30 p.m.

Van Hoy Oil Sponsoring Racing Event

Champion Racing Association Powered by JEGS has announced that Van Hoy Oil will sponsor the Van Hoy Oil Hardcharger

This will take place at the upcoming sixth annual Cabin Fever Championships on March 29 at the famed Lucas Oil Raceway, located just outside of Indianapolis

Van Hoy Oil will award the driver advancing the most positions in both the Vore's Welding CRA Late Model Sportsman Powered by JEGS 40-lap feature and the Stealth Trailers CRA Street Stocks Powered by JEGS 40-lap feature, with a product certificate for 10 gallons of race fuel.

Van Hoy Oil will be at Lucas Oil Raceway at the open practice on Saturday, March 28, and Sunday, March 29, to provide all CRA teams with their Race Fuel needs. Van Hoy Oil is located in Knightstown and is owned and operated by Jeff Van Hoy.

For more information, visit www.cra-racing.com.

KHS Softball Coach Plans for Long-term Success

by Stacy Cox
General Manager



When Bret Mann took on the job as head coach of Knightstown's varsity softball team three years ago, he laid out a four-year plan for his players.

It was good move considering much of his roster at that time was made up of freshmen.

"First, we wanted to lay the groundwork for a winning culture and tradition," said Mann of his four-year plan. "By year three, we planned on competing for sectional and conference titles, and in year four, a state championship."

The long-term plan helped the players focus on improvement and not on their overall record in Mann's initial season.

"Our first year we started 7 or 8 freshmen all year and finished 7-13 which was progress from the previous few years. Our second year, we added five games, including 4A schools Richmond and New Castle, which we split with, defeating Richmond on the road and getting beat handily by semistate-bound New Castle," Mann recalled.

"After losing a very tight sectional game against Union County, our record ended up 12-13 for the season. Once again, we were very young after losing a couple of seniors pre-season to injuries and other circumstances," explained Mann. Last year's team started four freshman and five sophomores.

This year the team is dealing with "some nagging, possibly season-threatening injuries to a couple of very important varsity players." Mann said Sammi Eaks and Ryan Johnson are hoping treatment and cautious practicing will allow them to be available to play to start the season.

"Brooke Vise, our junior power-hitting first baseman has a sprained ligament in her foot as well that we are being very careful with," said Mann.

Johnson, a junior, will serve as the team's right fielder and clutch hitter if she's healthy. Eaks, a sophomore, plays several positions including leftfield, first base, third base and designated/flex player.

Vise was the team's home run and RBI leader last year. She hit four home runs, one triple, six doubles and 31 singles with 30 RBIs in 2014. She scored 18 runs, playing in 24 of the team's 25 games.

"Vise is pretty entrenched at first base as she's a big target, left-handed, experienced and just plain good," Mann said. "She made one error all season last year while receiving way more opportunities than the rest of the team combined probably."

Johnson played in 24 games last season, finishing with five doubles, 16 base hits and 16 RBIs with eight runs scored. Eaks played in 17 games. She hit one home run and 11 singles with seven RBIs and six runs scored.

Last season's top two hitters for the team were both freshman.

Now a sophomore, Vivian Goodpaster, was the team's MaxPreps Player of the Year in 2014 and one of the state's best 2A hitters, according to Mann. She led the Lady Panthers in singles with 37, in doubles with 12, in triples with three and in runs scored with 29. She also knocked in 19 RBIs in the 24 games she played and was second on the team in stolen bases with 19. Goodpaster is one of the team's catchers and also plays at second and third bases.

See Success, Page 18



Panther long-jumper Jon Lukens leaps for a second place finish at last week's varsity track meet versus Eastern Hancock. Lukens' jump measured 17' 2". (Eric Cox photo)

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LOCAL SPORTS

Unusual Journey Brought Coach Bret Mann to KHS

By Stacy Cox
General Manager

Knightstown's varsity head coach Bret Mann traveled an unusual journey to become a girls softball coach.

Just a few years ago, Mann was on television being interviewed by sports reporters from ESPN and CBS Evening News when his team of 12-year olds earned a shot at the Little League World Series.

Mann coached Little League teams for 14 years and, as any parent who ever had a Little Leaguer knows, the competition was tough.

With over 160 teams in the state, Mann coached teams to the state championship three times.

In 2006, his team made it to the regional championship game, which was broadcast on ESPN, and came up one game short of making it to the Little League World Series.

That team included Trey Ball, who was the seventh pick in the major league baseball draft in 2013 by the Boston Red Sox, and is currently pitching in the minor league

system," said Mann.

In 2010, Mann's team won the 10-year old state championship and went on to defeat Kentucky's state champion two out of three games in a series match up.

That 2010 team stayed together and, according to Mann, "defied all odds and doubts" to win the 12-year old state championship in 2012. They went on to win the regional championship, knocking off Wisconsin in the semi-final and then Kentucky on a walk-off hit. Both games aired on ESPN.

The regional victory sent the team to the Little League World Series in South Williamsport, Pa. It was quite an achievement for the 12-year old New Castle team. With more than 7,000 teams, only eight teams from the United States and eight other teams from around the world make it to the World Series.

Of course, at this point, every game is broadcast on national television. Mann's team defeated Oregon 4-0 in the first round game in front of a crowd of 20,000 fans.

The team lost the next two games, to San Antonio and then to Connecticut, and in a consolation game against China's Taipei team, Mann's team held on for a 2-2 tie after seven innings. His team finished in fifth place at the World Series.

The media was smitten with the New Castle team for its small town story of achievement, but also for the personal story Mann shared.

The team was playing each game in honor of Mann's best friend, Danny Smekens, who was head coach of the 2010 state championship team and had died from cancer a few months following that victory.

"I promised him I would stay and finish our dream of going to the World Series," Mann said. "He said he would be our angel in the grandstands."

Smekens' son, Cayden, was on that 2012 World Series team and was their ace pitcher and power hitter. He's now a sophomore on New Castle's baseball team.

His experience leading baseball teams to state and regional championships and to the

World Series - "the icing on the cake" Mann called it - have provided incredible memories. He said he gets asked to coach travel baseball teams often.

"But, after coaching girls now, I realize this is where my next challenge is supposed to be," Mann said, adding he's set a new goal of eventually coaching college softball one day.

"This is my third year with the program," Mann said of Knightstown's softball team. "And it gets more exciting each year as we have been building a foundation that hopefully stays intact for a long time."

Mann graduated from New Castle in 1988 then went into the army for a few years. Unlike most other KHS coaches, Mann does not work for the school system. He is employed at Tsunda in Mt. Comfort as team leader in production control. He has two sons, Damon, a junior at Indiana University, and Miles, a sixth grader at Westwood Elementary School in New Castle, where Mann lives with his wife, Mel, a hygienist at New Castle Family Dental.

Lady Panthers Compete Against EH in Season Opener



Her tongue out for added performance, Lady Panther Emily Sander competes in the long jump.

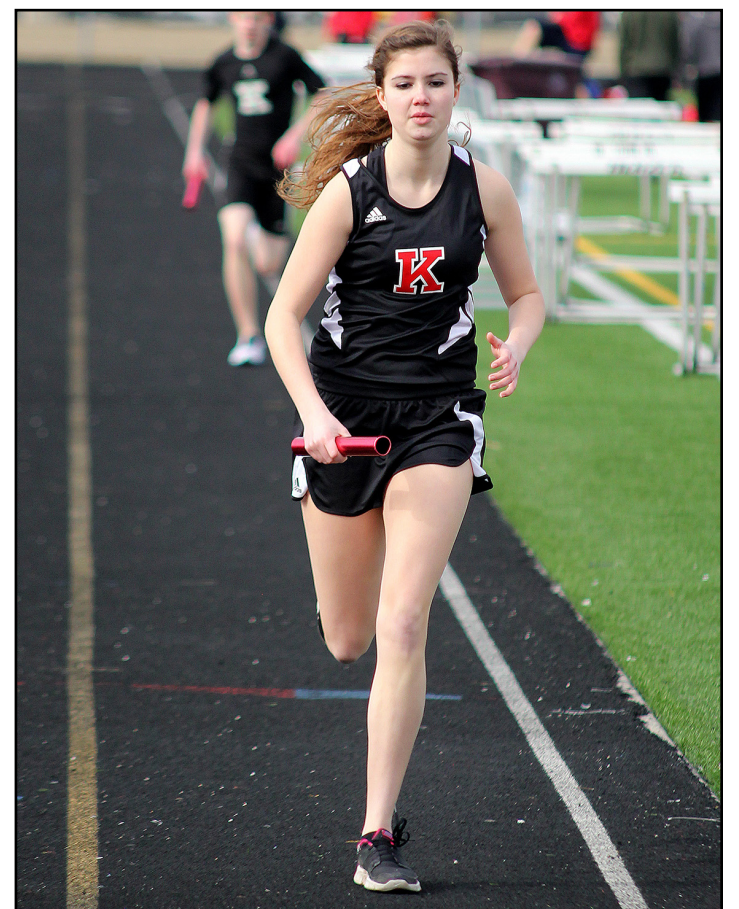


Junior Allison Sander competes in the high jump. Her leap of 4' 10" was good enough for second place. Annie Moore (below) competes in the 4x800 relay race. (Eric Cox photos)

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Success, from Page 16

Georgee Lawhorne, a sophomore now, played in all 25 games last year and was second on the team in base hits with 32 and in runs scored with 24. She also had 11 RBIs, six doubles and one triple.

"She has a loaded gun ready to pick off runners quickly," Coach Mann said of Lawhorne, his starting shortstop. "She is a great ballplayer that will most likely lead off for us again and plays the silent leader role."

Another one of the team's stars last year was Haley Fowler who Coach Mann described as having "a lot of grit, fire and athletic ability." Fowler played in all 25 games last year and pitched 104.1 innings. She faced 502 batters while on the mound. She struck out 95 batters and walked 67 while allowing 83 runs, 96 base hits, 12 doubles, two triples and two home runs. She won seven games and lost ten.

Fowler, a junior, led the team in baserunning with 22 stolen bases and was another one of team's big hitters. She knocked in 22 RBIs, second-best on the team, and had 29 singles, four doubles and two triples. She scored 15 times. Besides pitching, Fowler will also play shortstop and outfield.

Two other juniors will lead the Lady Panthers on the mound this year.

Maddie Lyall, who Mann said "is as accurate of a pitcher you will find," played in 13 games and pitched 49.1 innings in 2014, winning five games and losing three. She struck out 30 and walked just four in the 241 batters she faced. She allowed 62 hits and 46 runs.

Mann said Tori McDonald, who pitched just two innings and played in only 14 games last year, will also get time on

the mound this year.

"Tori is a nice counter to the others as she has a little bit of a unique windup that throws hitters off," said Mann. McDonald will also play some third base and flex player. She may have to fill in pitching on the junior varsity since that team has only one pitcher, Courtney Carlton, a freshman.

Robyn Clark, a sophomore left-hander, played in all 25 games last year and will get the start as centerfielder. She hit 25 singles, three doubles and 11 RBIs last year, scoring 17 runs.

"She's a very underrated hitter," Mann said of Clark. "She's got a lot of pop for a small stature and a cannon for an arm. She's no frills, just a ballplayer."

Junior Sidney Hastings started in left field last year and will continue in that spot but will likely do some time behind the plate too.

"Goodpaster and Hastings are going to be our catchers and they both get better every day," said Mann. "They've bought into the importance of defensive fundamentals and being an extension of the coach."

Hastings played in 22 games in 2014 and had nine base hits, one double and three RBIs.

Junior Hayleigh Ooten and sophomore Carmen Cleek are sharing time in practice at second base.

"Both girls are more than capable of playing an above average job there," Mann stated. "Cleek is also on our depth chart at shortstop and can fill in in the outfield too, if necessary. Ooten will primarily play second base and outfield.

Cleek played in all 25 games last season and finished

with one home run, two doubles, nine singles and seven RBIs with five runs scored.

Ooten saw playing time in 23 games in 2104. She hit one triple, two doubles and 11 singles. She had three RBIs and scored 10 times.

Junior Raeleigh Stallworth played in all but a handful of games last season. She will play at third base and is versatile enough to rotate in at other positions on the field. She had six base hits and four RBIs last year and scored three runs.

Sierra Pursley, a junior, and sophomore Kiley Breece played in a few games last year and return this year.

The roster also includes 11 freshman: Courtney Carlton, Mackinsy Fowler, Allyson Hauk, Dharma Holder, Makenna Leisure, Liz Loveall, Paige Nelson, Josie Riggs, Andi Skinner, Rande Sloan and Candice Wyatt.

Some of these freshmen will be competing for spots on the varsity team.

"We have a lot of parity and competition for positions, and I love using that as a positive," Mann said. "We stress to them every day that they will compete every day for their spot and never get complacent because someone on the bench or on JV is chomping at the bit for that spot."

The versatility and competitive nature of his players presents some potential dilemmas for Coach Mann.

"It's great to have solid depth, but will make decisions tough. It's a good problem to have, as long as all the girls realize our goals," explained Mann. "It's team first, always! The biggest stat we care about is the win. All their

See Success, Page 19

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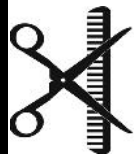
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Success, from Page 18

individual statistics are just feathers in their caps that they can reflect on after the season and be proud of. We want these kids to be a part of something real special and they are on the right path."

Mann keeps the girls focused on this year's goal, a sectional victory.

"We want to make sure we are striving to be better players every day and reach our peak when it counts, sectional time," said Mann. "On that note, Knightstown has won only one sectional ever, in 1988, the year I graduated from New Castle. We have a lot of connections to that team as well. Coach Darling was a student manager on that team. Freshman Candice Wyatt's mom was on that team and junior Haley Fowler's aunt was the coach."

The Lady Panthers' improvement over the past two seasons has caused other sectional teams to take notice, according to Mann.

"We have finally reached the point where we know, and the whole sectional knows, that we are competitive and not going to be an easy out," Mann said.

Mann will receive help again this year from assistant coaches Tosha (Hiner) Smith and Jason Kopp, both of whom have been on Mann's staff since he became head coach three years ago. Danielle Minchin, a recent Division 1 softball player at IUPUI, will also be assisting this year.

"Ironically, Danielle and Tosha competed against each other in high school," Mann said. "Tosha was the lead off hitter for Knightstown and Danielle was the lead off hitter for Greenfield. I even dug out one of their old score sheets from a game they played."

The junior varsity team will be coached by head coach Adrian Darling and volunteer assistants Debra Beabout and Jess Vaughn.

"We have a very enthusiastic JV coach and team and a junior high team starting this season. It's awesome to see the love and passion for the game trickling down to the youth leagues," said Mann. "This team is just scratching the surface of their potential and if they stay humble and focused, good results are on the horizon."

The Lady Panthers' season kicks off this week with a scrimmage against Blackford County on the road at Hartford City March 26. Their first game is after spring break on April 7 on the road at Southwestern Shelby. The girls hold their first home game the following day, April 8, at 5 p.m. against Mid-Hoosier Conference school South Decatur.

"We are going to believe we can win every game from now on and see what happens. I have a lot of confidence in these girls," Coach Mann declared. "They are a blast to be around and even though we preach a disciplined, structured atmosphere, we have fun together at the same time. And, winning's fun, and that's the plan!"

HCHC, from Page 11

annual Raintree Ride and participation in a blight elimination program.

Williams also highlighted the group's 2015 goals. A \$375,000 project to lengthen Wilbur Wright Trail by 1.1 miles will get started this spring. The trailhead is located at Henry County YMCA.

Healthy Communities will also spend \$7,000 to add three-quarters of a mile to National Road Heritage Trail westward from the Raysville area toward Big Blue River.

Kennard's Woolly Bear Trail will see the installation of a parking area at Kennard. That's a \$1,000 project.

HCHC will partner with another group or individual on a \$15,000 project that will see the installation of a pre-kindergarten "exercise and nutrition" trail at Raysville.

On the Rose City Trail in New Castle, HCHC is helping finance traffic lane restriping. Also, signs will be installed and bike lanes striped. Additionally, the Washington Street Path may see some improvements because the organization is assisting with a Safe Routes to School grant for sidewalks and paths. Plus, bike route signs will be installed.

Health Communities of Henry County also helped acquire a

blight elimination grant that will help finance the destruction of 14 blighted properties in the county.

HCHC also announced that the 15th Annual Raintree Ride will take place Saturday, Sept. 26, at 8:45 a.m. at Westwood Park, 1900 South C.R. 275-W., New Castle. The ride features 6-, 30-, 62- and 100-mile routes. The ride takes participants by several Henry County attractions, including the Hoosier Gym, Mt. Lawn Speedway, Wilbur Wright Birthplace, Memorial Park, Summit Lake State Park and more.

To find out how to join or support HCHC, visit www.hchc.in.org.



Indianapolis eighth grader Maddie Brooks talks about her responsibilities to ecology and the environment last Thursday at Healthy Communities of Henry County's annual meeting and lunch. (Eric Cox photo)

Healthy, from Page 11

methane as it decomposes in landfills. Second, he said the discarding of "perfectly good school food" presents a moral dilemma, since there's so much hunger in modern America.

Poyser said state nutrition guidelines dictate that students receive food in school that they sometimes simply don't want, or maybe can't have because of allergies or medical conditions. "Some kids are lactose intolerant," he said. "But, because of nutrition guidelines, the school is still required to put a carton of milk on their lunch tray. Even though they know if they drink it, who knows what'll happen."

"So for whatever reason, they're throwing that food away - right into the trash. So what kids are doing in 110 schools cafeterias in Indiana is they're actually putting aside those items that are being discarded," he explained.

Some of those items include packaged cheese,

milk, apples, raisins and crackers. He said literally tons of food is now being rerouted from landfills back to community food pantries that feed hungry Hoosiers. Poyser explained that some people get the wrong idea and think damaged or half-eaten food is being culled from cafeterias. In fact, the food being collected is new and perfectly safe for consumption.

One week, Poyser accompanied a student who had helped collect one week's worth of discarded food. The week's collection netted over 150 pounds of food, which he and the student took to a local church that housed a community food bank. "Multiply that by 110 school cafeterias," he said.

Poyser explained a variety of other youth-related environmental efforts supported by Earth Charter Initiatives. He travels the state speaking to youth about what they can do to help address environmental problems. To learn more, visit www.earthcharterindiana.org.

You're Invited ...

Hinsey-Brown Funeral Service of New Castle and Knightstown would like to invite your family to our **16th Annual Palm Sunday Balloon Release** Sunday, March 29th at 2:30 p.m. Located at our New Castle Chapel, 3406 S. Memorial Dr.

The purpose of this event is to offer anyone who has experienced a loss, an opportunity to pay special tribute to their loved one. Guest speaker is Fran Bullock. Each person will receive an Eastern Redbud seedling to plant in memory of their loved one. Our balloon release is open to the public as a service to our community. We will be looking for you to join us, as we continue to share and heal together.

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YOUTH PROGRAMS at Greenfield Parks & Recreation

Summer "Kid Kamp" Program For children ages 3-5 & 6-12

The Greenfield Parks and Recreation Department is accepting applications for our 2015 Kid Kamp program. This coming summer, Kid Kamp will be held from June 1, 2015 thru July 31, 2015. Registrations will be taken on a first come, first serve basis. Children must be in the age range of six (6) through twelve (12), or three (3) through five (5) the entire duration of the Kid Kamp program. Participant parents/guardians are required to have a copy of each participant's birth certificate at the time of registration. Also, a parent/guardian must sign a Kid Kamp contract at the time of registration to finalize the process. Parents and/or guardians are the only people permitted to complete the registration process. No grandparents.

Who: Youth 6-12 years of age -OR- Youth 3-5 years of age
What: Summer "Kid Kamp" Program at the Riley Park Shelter House & Elmore Center (ages 3-5) **When:** June 1-July 31, M-F 7 am-6 pm
Where: Greenfield Parks and Recreation Department: Riley Park Shelter House 210 Apple Street & Patricia Elmore Center 280N Apple St
Why: Great value, have fun, play games, meet new friends, play sports, arts/crafts, and so much more - A reputation of excellence-being the best!
Registration: Begins Jan.2, 2015 (First come-first serve! 75 max for 6-12 - 24 max for 3-5) Cost Benefit: \$80-Residents of the City of Greenfield/\$90-Non-Residents-per week. \$25 non-refundable registration fee, \$105-R/\$110-NR due at registration. \$45 cash only fee due at the Open House for field trips (this covers all trips!)

Greenfield Parks and Recreation Department - Patricia Elmore Center
 280 N. Apple St., Greenfield - Phone: (317) 477-4340, Fax: (317) 477-4341
 e-mail: parks_rec@greenfield.org - www.greenfieldin.org



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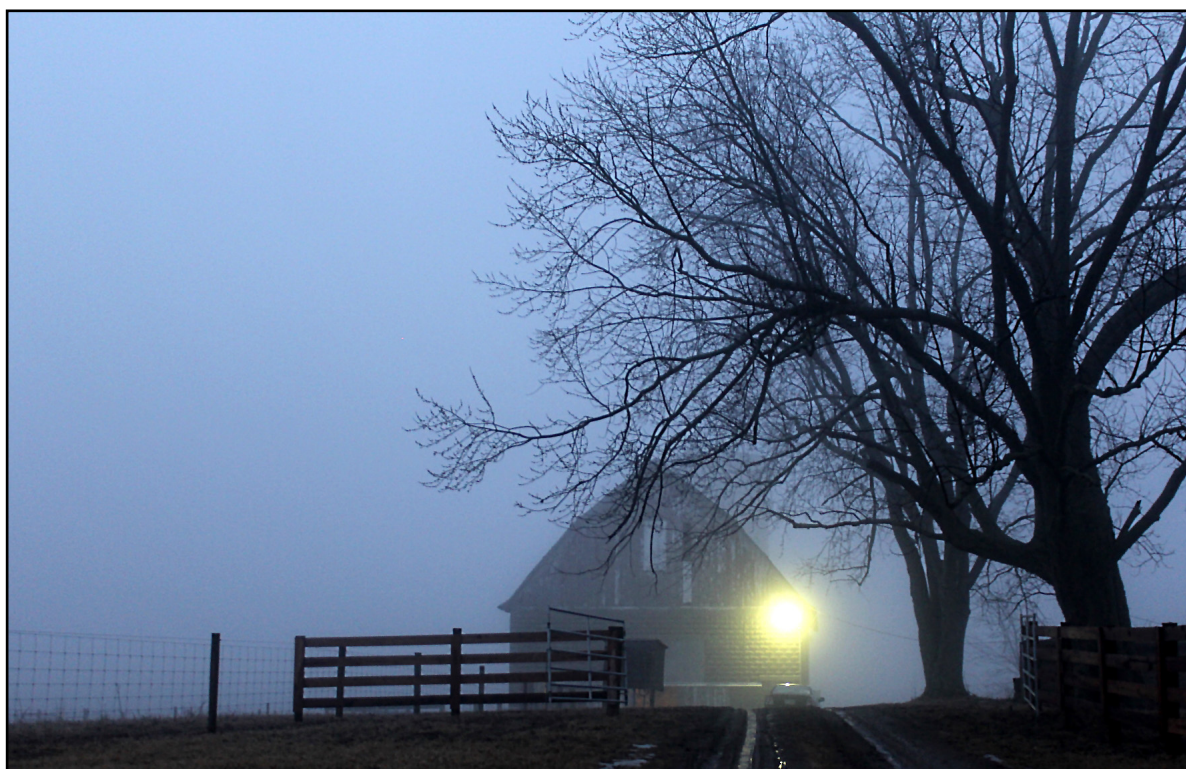
Springtime Scenes from Around the Area



Looking west along Broad Street in New Castle



Chilly ride in a vintage convertible at Kennard



Late winter fog enshrouds a barn near Kennard



American red squirrel covers on a branch above the Woolly Bear Parkway near Kennard.

Photos
by
Eric Cox



A horse farm along Grant City Road