



**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 51**

**April 8, 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 Yard Sale Items Sought

Donations are now being accepted at the Knightstown Cafe, 12 W. Main St., for the Beautify Knightstown Community Yard Sale, May 28-30. Any item that is clean, in good repair, and preferably priced will be appreciated. Proceeds will be used for beautification projects. Those interested in being a part of the steering committee on this project may contact Linda Lashbrook at 765-565-8007.

## Mays Academy Hosting Meeting

Mays Community Academy will host a public meeting on Sunday, April 12, at 2 p.m. at the Carthage Volunteer Fire Dept., This will be an informational meeting to explain the mission of the academy, a charter school organizers are planning.

## First Baptist Church to Host Breakfast

Knightstown First Baptist Church will host a pancake breakfast on Saturday, April 28, beginning at 8 a.m. This event is 100 percent free. 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.



## Indy Firm to Pitch Upgrade Projects

by Jeff Eakins  
for The Banner

An Indianapolis engineering firm hoping to land utility upgrade projects with the town of Knightstown will make another pitch to the Knightstown Town Council Tuesday next week.

Representatives from Triad Associates Inc. will go over their firm's proposals for improvements to the town's wastewater and water systems during a special town council meeting at 6 p.m. Tuesday. The meeting, which will be held in the council's chambers at 28 S. Washington St., is open to the public.

Triad presented preliminary reports to the council last November. According to the estimates in those reports, Triad proposed doing virtually the same work as another engineering firm that presented similar reports in the fall of 2013, but said it could do the work for less.

Triad's estimate for work on the sewer utility was about \$4.2 million, while improvements to the water utility were projected to cost \$3.5 million. These amounts are about \$1 million less on the sewer utility work and just over \$700,000 less for the water utility improvements than estimates FPBH, a North Vernon engineering firm that had given the town a year earlier.

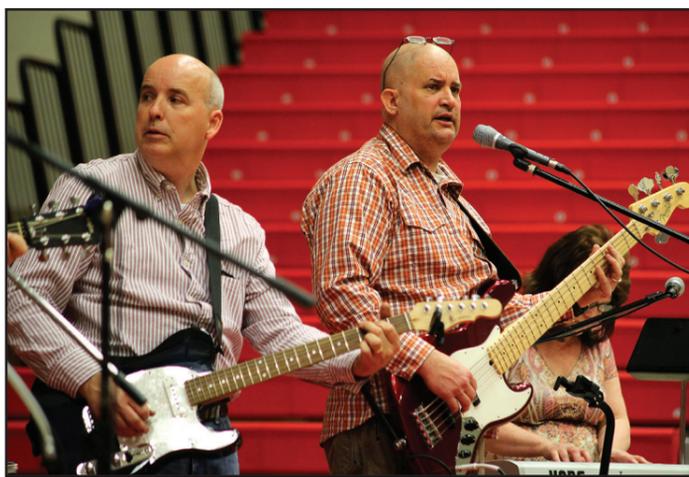
During their brief presentation to the council in November, the Triad representatives did not go into much detail about the specific differences between the work they

See Upgrades, Page 16

## Harvest Herald



Christian motivational speaker Clayton Jennings shares his story of salvation Friday night during Blue River Community Harvest's annual Harvest Helpings fundraiser, which benefits the Carthage-area food bank and resource center. (Eric Cox photo)



Dave Back (left) plays guitar while Erv Olsheske sings and plays bass Friday night in the Knightstown High School gymnasium. Both are part of the locally-based gospel group, Pure Grace. The group, minus its leader, Randy Gross, performed prior to Clayton Jennings' motivational talk.

Photos  
by  
Eric Cox



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**LEGAL NOTICE**

**TOWN CLEAN-UP WEEK**  
 April 20, 2015 – April 25, 2015  
 from 8:00 a.m.– 5:00 p.m.  
 A dumpster will be provided at the Knightstown Street Barn, located at 7605 W. U.S. Hwy. 40  
 Items accepted are trash and yard debris. Items not accepted are anything electronic, petroleum-based products (paint, oil, gas, etc), propane tanks and tires. Anything recyclable can be taken to the recycle bins at the sewer plant located at 4177 W. County Line Rd.  
 The dumpster is being provided by the Town of Knightstown and The Henry County Community Foundation.  
 For additional information contact Knightstown Town Hall at 765-345-5977.  
 (4/8, 4/15)

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**Notice for Bids**  
 The Knightstown Department of Parks and Recreation Board is now taking bids for the mowing of property over which the board has authority. Bids will be accepted until 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 15, and should be submitted to the Knightstown Department of Parks and Recreation Board at Knightstown Town Hall, 26 S. Washington St., Knightstown, IN 46148. Bid specifications are on file, and may be viewed at Knightstown Town Hall, during normal business hours. (4/1, 4/8)

Annual Banner  
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**OBITUARIES**

**Barbara Jean Otey**  
 April 20, 1930 - April 2, 2015



Barbara Jean Otey, age 84, passed away quietly in her sleep on April 2, 2015, at Community North Hospital, Indianapolis.

Visitation was Saturday, April 4, at Flanner and Buchanan in Carmel, followed by a brief memorial service. In keeping with her love of photographs, friends and family were invited to bring and share special pictures of Barbara doing the things she loved. Burial followed at Glen Cove Cemetery in Knightstown.

Barbara was born on April 20, 1930, in Farmland, the daughter of Guy and Bertha Ruble. The family moved to Muncie, where Barbara and her sister, Georgiana, grew up. Barbara was a model for Ball Stores of Muncie. She graduated from Ball State Teachers College and was a founding member of Alpha Chi Omega Sorority at Ball State. Upon graduation she married Charles William Stroup. The family moved to League City, Texas, for a brief period then returned to Knightstown, where Barbara earned a master's degree in education. Then she earned a specialist in education degree and taught elementary school children until her retirement.

Barbara's life was filled with family and many cherished friends. Later in life she married Earl Otey of Indianapolis. The Stroup-Otey family enjoyed many holidays and special events at their home. Barbara loved entertaining and attending theater and symphony with her many friends. She frequently traveled with friends and family. Among her travels were Canada, Belgium, Luxemburg, Great Britain, France, Netherlands, Mexico, Costa Rica, Panama Canal, Greece, Turkey, the Caribbean, Alaska and Hawaii. She continued to model for CARA charities fashion shows and Tri Kappa (Knightstown) Sorority events well past the age of 80. Barbara was a member and past president of Garden Club, and several bridge clubs in Knightstown and Indianapolis. She was also a member of Castleton United Methodist Church.

Barbara was preceded in death by her parents, Guy Clifford and Bertha Fern Ruble; her devoted husband, Earl Otey; and a beloved sister, Georgiana Davis. She is survived by a son, Bruce Stroup of Boerne, Texas, and a daughter, Julia (Stroup) Butera of Wichita Falls, Texas; a daughter-in-law, Mary Jo (Gross) Stroup; a son-in-law, Adam Butera; and three dearly loved granddaughters, Katherine Stroup, Michele Stroup and Aria Butera.

The family would like to thank the staff of Community North Hospital, Castleton United Methodist Church and the many friends who have provided support and prayer during this time.

**Debra Sue Keesling Narmore Bentley**  
 November 30, 1964 - April 1, 2015



Debra Sue Keesling Narmore Bentley, 50, of Indianapolis, went home to be with the Lord and Savior on Wed., April 1, 2015. She was born on Nov. 30, 1964, to Wilbur and Jessie (Clay) Keesling in Rushville.

Debra leaves behind to cherish her precious memory a son, Cody A. Bentley of West Palm Beach, Fla.; two daughters, Amber C. Bentley of Greenwood and Trista (Kenneth) Blair of Ashland, Va.; three grandchildren, Gabriel, Hayleigh and Aleigh Blair; her mother, Jessie Keesling of Knightstown; her grandmother, Katherine Keesling of Knightstown; a brother, Stephen (Beverly) Keesling of Indianapolis; three sisters, Lisa (Paul) Powell of Greenwood, Pamela (Kevin) Elliott of Knightstown and Dora (Steve) Stern of Indianapolis; several nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, aunts and uncles; and her dear friends, Cynthia and John Query.

She was preceded in death by an infant daughter, Regan Narmore; a sister, Terry Keesling-Gebhart; and her father, Wilbur Keesling.

Services for Debra will be held Thursday, April 9, at 2 p.m. at Heritage Funeral Care in Knightstown. Friends may visit from 4-8 p.m. Wednesday, April 8. Burial will be in Glen Cove Cemetery in Knightstown with Debra's uncle, Rev. Jack Clay, presiding. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the funeral home to defray funeral costs.

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**LEGAL NOTICE**

**Notice for Bids**  
 The Town of Knightstown will accept Sealed Bids for Computer Services for monthly Computer Maintenance. The service would be for approximately 21 computers.  
 We will begin accepting bids on Wednesday, April 8, 2015. Bids need to be delivered or mailed to the Clerk Treasurer's Office at 26 S. Washington Street, Knightstown, Indiana 46148. Bids are to be submitted no later than 3 p.m. on Wednesday, April 22, 2015. Bids received after 3 p.m. will be returned unopened. Bids will be opened at the next scheduled Town Council Meeting, after April 22. The Town reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids. Any questions should be directed to Knightstown Town Council President Cort Swincher at 765-345-5977.  
 (4/8, 4/15)

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# State Board of Accounts Releases Two-year Financial Report for CAB

by Jeff Eakins  
for The Banner

The Indiana State Board of Accounts recently released a two-year financial statement and audit report for the Charles A. Beard Memorial School Corp.

The 52-page report, issued by the SBA on March 31 and available on the agency's website, www.in.gov/sboa, covers July 1, 2012-June 30, 2014. Also issued by the SBA last week was a 12-page supplemental report that detailed a few shortcomings the SBA found in how CAB has been conducting business.

Once again, the SBA noted "several deficiencies" in how CAB handles financial transactions and reporting. The agency said it believed these deficiencies - a lack of segregation of duties and ineffective monitoring of internal controls - "constitute material weaknesses."

This is not the first time that the

SBA has identified these problems at CAB. In fact, similar critical comments can be found in the two immediately prior audit reports, issued in January 2013 (July 1, 2010-June 30, 2012) and March 2011 (July 1, 2008-June 30, 2010).

According to the SBA, CAB "has not separated incompatible activities related to receipts, disbursements, payroll and related liabilities, and cash and investment balances." The agency says that failure to segregate these types of duties and establish controls over them "could enable material misstatements or irregularities to remain undetected."

The SBA also took the CAB School Board to task, again, for not performing "either an ongoing or separate evaluation of their system of internal controls" over financial reporting matters. This failure "to exercise their oversight responsibility," the agency says, "places (CAB) at risk that controls may not

be designed or operating effectively to provide reasonable assurances that controls will prevent or detect material misstatements in a timely manner."

Speaking to The Banner on Monday, CAB Superintendent Jed Behny said insufficient segregation of duties among central office staff is likely to remain an ongoing issue for CAB.

"That's something that a school corporation our size, with a central office our size, is always going to struggle with," Behny said. While he said CAB will continue to try to address that issue, he said financial limitations will limit how much can be done.

In a Corrective Action Plan it submitted to the SBA, and which is included in both the main and supplemental reports issued last week, CAB said it will "review office procedures and attempt to institute duties that would involve, to some

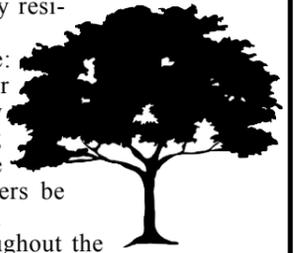
See Report, Page 10

## Three Rivers Offering Henry County Residents Free Trees

Three Rivers Solid Waste Management District is partnering again this year with Healthy Communities of Henry County to give away 1,000 trees to Henry County residents.

Ten types of trees are available: chinkapin oak; red oak; white oak; bur oak (2 years old); river birch; Kentucky coffee tree; sugar maple (2 years old); flowering dogwood; red bud; and white pine. Three Rivers is asking that orders be limited to no more than five trees total.

Orders for trees will be taken throughout the month of April, and order forms are available at Three Rivers office, located at 1121 Broad St., New Castle. Once delivered, trees will be available to be picked up at Three Rivers.



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# Banner PERSPECTIVES

## The Bloodroot is Blooming Early

"If winter comes, can spring be far behind?" - Percy Bysshe Shelley  
 Oh dear ... Here we are at Easter, and it seems as if we celebrated Christmas only yesterday! My life has followed an orbit as fixed as any planet's. Each season has had its own delectable essence: the brandy-hot passion of summer; the honey mead of autumn; and the aromatic wine of remembrance during the wintertime of my existence. And now here I am, back again, sipping the effervescent champagne of the springtime of my being - if not bodily, at least mentally.

Certain dates highlight the seasons of my life: July 4, Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Easter symbolizes spring and all things newly minted. The Easters of my youth remain ever fresh and bright in my memory: white-gloved girls shivering in fluffy white coats and spring dresses as Easter was often cold; black patent shoes that I envied since I could wear only Buster Brown Girl Scout shoes because of my long, narrow feet; candy and eggs colored with Peter Paas dye; and church followed by Mother's Easter feast of ham, mashed potatoes, chicken and noodles, assorted vegetables and relishes, deviled eggs, homemade rolls and three kinds of pie with all our family gathered round.

No one expressed springtime

better than King Solomon. His "Song of Solomon" is in the Old Testament, whose King James version I prefer to the rather sterile language of modern ones:

*For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone;*

*The flowers appear upon the Earth;*

*The time of the singing of birds is come ...*



Isn't that lovely? Fine poets such as King David, Solomon, Shelley and Shakespeare capture moods and emotions with an economy of a few well-chosen words.

Today is a glorious, blue-sky day. Twenty-nine white crocuses are blooming outside the greenhouse window, and daffodils nod in the gentle breeze. The pussy willow has catkins, and the magnolia is in bud.

Birds visit the feeder; sparrows twitter in the bush next to the win-

dow; and robins hop across the lawn. The cardinal perched in the oak tree is whistling its ode to spring: "Wheat ... wheat ... wheat! Cheer, cheer, cheer, cheer, cheer!" Ms Kitty crouches in the window, golden eyes huge, tail twitching while she pursues her daily ornithological studies.

Squirrelie interrupts foraging for seeds beneath the feeder when he sees one of us and zips to the front door for peanuts. Sometimes he sits close to the window to torment the cat as if singing that age-old chant of human kids, "N'ya, n'ya, n'ya, n'ya-n'ya! You ca-a-a-n't get me!"

To me, my mother was the personification of spring. One year we went fishing at a place called Pete's Pond near Arlington or some other village between Knightstown and Rushville. She found a bloodroot in the woods and transplanted it in her wildflower bed.

After marrying my stepfather, she took it to New Castle. Many years later she gave the bloodroot to Bill for him to plant under the persimmon tree in our backyard on Ritter. I cried at closing because I couldn't find it to bring to our current home. Several springs passed when I'd be filled with regret until the new owner gave me a start of it.

The bloodroot is blooming early this year. It gives me an ineffable

See Rose Mary, Page 6

## BANNER PERSPECTIVE

A town employee recently suggested Knightstown revert from paved alleys to gravel ones. The Banner says no way.

If the town is unable to afford materials for basic services like paved alleys, then it's time to reconsider the number of employees the town maintains. Clearly, things are upside down when tax money is able to finance a workforce, but no tools or materials for them to work with.

A group of concerned citizens and business owners is now undertaking a fundraising effort aimed at beautifying Knightstown, namely the site of the former Bullet Hole building, which the town left in a shambles. Volunteers' efforts and hearts are in the right place. However, they are raising public money for work that public money should already be funding.

What kind of government do we have that issues a series of employee raises, but cannot actually finance the work they're supposed to do? That's like employing engineers to design a highway for which there are no funds to buy asphalt. Why pay good money to design a bridge, when there is no money for the iron needed for its construction?

The town's employees aren't to blame, of course. There may be too many of them, but it's the town leadership that's got the equation wrong. They seem to spend money with seemingly no clue as to how budgeting actually works.

Perhaps the town council should've had a plan for the Bullet Hole building site - before they razed the building. Maybe the town should consider the cost of maintenance materials before they spend money on other things.

Reverting to gravel alleys? Taxpayers hosting fundraisers to finance things that should already be paid for by tax money?

These are situations that appear to be upside down. Hopefully, the town council will address these situations and set things right.

## Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, a time to raise public awareness about sexual assault and educate communities on how to prevent it.

Sexual assault is a major public health, human rights and social justice issue. It ranges from verbal sexual harassment to unwanted sexual contact. Every 107 seconds, another American is sexually assaulted. There is an average of 293,000 victims (age 12 or older) of sexual assault each year.

The impact is wide-ranging and long-term. Its trauma affects individuals, families, friends, partners and children. It has an impact on schools, workplaces, neighborhoods and religious communities.

We know it must stop. But can one or two people do it? The answer is a resounding yes. The Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence says one way to do it is simple ... we need to talk about it.

The conversations we have can keep sexual violence from happening in the first place. Conversations shape those relationships and eventually impact our culture. If we have conversations about consent, healthy sexuality, gender norms and respect, our relationships and the environments in which we live, work, learn and play will be safer and more supportive, protecting us from sexual violence risk factors.

Let's talk about consent. When sex is consensual, it means everyone involved has communicated their desires, needs, and level of comfort with different sexual interactions.

Let's talk about healthy sexuality. It means being comfortable with our bodies, having respectful relationships and respecting the rights of others.

Talk about gender norms. Respect others. Be aware of the impact of family, cultural, media and societal messages. Interact with all genders in respectful and appropriate ways.

Talk about respect. Respectful relationships are based on affection, friendship, trust, good communication and equality for everyone in them.

We need everyone's help to end sexual assault. In the words of the late Robin Williams, "No matter what people tell you, words and ideas can change the world."

Laura Berry, executive director  
 Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence

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

## All Over the World, Kids are Kids

People are basically the same all over the world. Kids illustrate that better than anyone else.

Take, for example, these Swedish kids, who stayed at the Hoosier Gym in Knightstown this week. Their home is about 4,300 miles away from Knightstown, in Strangnas, Sweden. But, at a glance, any of them could be from here, or California, or Hoboken, N.J.

The same could be said for Kenyan children, or kids from Ukraine or Australia or Yemen. If they didn't speak, we'd all be hard pressed to determine exactly where they're from.

Our humanity is singular. The only thing that divides us are imaginary lines drawn on maps and the flags under which we live.

These Swedish kids are like Knightstown kids. Some are shy about my camera. Others perk right up and smile, giving a cheesy thumbs-up.

They have pimples and they giggle. They wear hoodies featuring the logos of their favorite sports teams or bands. Some have crazy haircuts and some wear funky sneakers.

Could they have the same hopes and dreams of America's young people? Is it possible that the only true difference between the world's kids and our is the languages they speak?

These days, so many people all over the world seem to be searching for and emphasizing the differences between us. Their desire is to separate and exclude. But, they will always stumble in these endeavors because the scale is so heavily weighted on the side of our similarities. That, of course, is because we are all humans with the same basic hopes, dreams and desires.

After all, Swedish kids seem to want the same things American kids want. They enjoy playing music or simply listening to it. They all like sports. Education is important to them - just like their smart phones.

I imagine many of them, like Americans, want to have families, to have children, to celebrate holidays with their loved ones - just like we do.

Those who claim those in some parts of the world don't put the same value on life as Americans do are wrong. There isn't a single parent in the Middle East or China who doesn't want to see their child grow up and live a happy, peaceful life.

Too many times in America we have sought out the small, meaningless differences between races and religions as a way of dividing us, whether it's keeping "us" in, or "them" out. These practices have only served to inhibit our progress as a nation of tolerant, liberty-loving people who value diversity and the inherent strength that lies therein.

Those who founded these United States foresaw a land where those on this planet who hunger for freedom can find a place to plant roots and thrive. They set forth their dreams in our Constitution and Bill of Rights. Let's not second guess them by building a set of laws that enable a perversion of those dreams.

Legislators should think about these Swedish kids, and other kids around the world. They're the very same as our own kids. Sure, they speak a different language and live in a different place. However, they are basically the same. Their kids ... our kids ... the world's kids ... need our willingness to live as one, human race.



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Hubert H. Humphrey

# 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 town of Knightstown is sponsoring **Town Clean-up Week**, April 20-25, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. A dumpster will be provided at the town street barn, 7605 W. U.S. Hwy. 40. Trash and yard debris will be accepted. No electronics, petroleum-based products (paint, oil, gas, etc.), propane tanks or tires will be accepted. Recyclables can be taken to recycling bins at the sewer plant on West County Line Road. The dumpster is being sponsored by the town and the Henry County Community Foundation. For more information, call 345-5977.

◆**Mays Community Academy** will host a public meeting on Sunday, April 12, at 2 p.m. at the Carthage Volunteer Fire Dept., This will be an informational meeting to explain the mission of the academy, a charter school organizers are planning.

◆Donations are now being accepted at the Knightstown Diner, 12 W. Main St., for the **Beautiful Knightstown Community Yard Sale**, May 28-30. Any item that is clean, in good repair, and preferably priced will be appreciated. Proceeds will be used for beautification projects. Those interested in being a part of the steering committee on this project may contact Linda Lashbrook at 765-565-8007.

◆**Kids Day Away** is Saturday, April 11, 2-5 p.m. at Knightstown Friends Church, 214 E. Brown St.

Infants through junior high school students are invited to "get away" for the afternoon and come to the church for games, snacks, crafts and homework help. All area children are invited.

◆The **Nameless Creek Literary Club** will meet at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, April 8, at the home of Beverly Muegge. Martha Mae Cooper will bring the program. Devotions will be by Muegge. For information regarding the club, contact Judy Brown at 936-5704.

◆The Shirley Volunteer Fire Dept. will host a **pancake breakfast** on Saturday April 11, 7-11 a.m. at the fire department. Menu includes pancakes, eggs, sausage biscuits and gravy, milk, orange juice and plenty of coffee. Dine-in or carry-out orders available. Freewill donations will be accepted. Proceeds go to equipment maintenance and the scholarship program.

◆Hancock Hope House will host a **benefit concert** at Greenfield's H.J. Ricks Centre for the Arts, 122 W. Main St., on Thursday, April 16, at 7:30 p.m. The concert features Chris Knight. Tickets are \$16.50. All proceeds benefit Hancock Hope House. Call 317-467-2991 or visit hancockhopehouse.org to order tickets.

◆Henry County Historical Society will host a **grand opening** for its Maxwell automobile addition, featuring a 1911 Maxwell donated by Howard Joyner, on Saturday, April 25, at 1 p.m. The HCHS is located at 606 S. 14th St., New Castle. To RSVP, call 765-529-4028.

◆Straughn Community Chapel will host its 15th annual **pork chop supper** on Saturday, April 11, 4-7 p.m. Advance tickets are \$8; \$9 at the door. Carry-out orders will be available.

◆Knightstown First Baptist

Church will host a **pancake breakfast** on Saturday, April 28, beginning at 8 a.m. The church will also host its vacation bible school June 15-19. The church is located at 210 E. Jackson St. The event is free and open to the public.

◆Hancock Wellness Center, 888 W. New Rd., Greenfield, will host a **Zumba fundraiser** for the Hancock Regional Hospital Cancer Center on Friday, April 17, 5-6:30 p.m. Recommended donation is \$10 for participants over 12 years old. Complimentary childcare will be provided.

◆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 silversilverage@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.

◆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.*

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# For Carl Denny, Hancock Hope House His Way of Fighting Homelessness, Poverty

by Logan Cox  
for The Banner

For the past 24 years, Hancock County Hope House (HCHH) has been dedicated to providing shelter to those who are destitute, living clustered together or in their cars or on the streets. The HCHH serves the homeless residents of Hancock, Shelby and Rush counties. However, it has been known to broaden this by hiring or sheltering people from other areas, such as Henry County.

"Without Hancock Hope House, many people would not have a safe and secure place to sleep at night," said Carl Denny, Hope House's executive director. "When I come to work each day, I see children running through the hallways, playing and feeling safe. The school bus picks them up outside of the homeless shelter and takes them to school to earn an

education. Because people are living in poverty, it should not exclude them from human rights like, safety, security, enough food to eat and compassion."

Working on staff alongside Denny are program coordinator Chris Wiseman, and executive assistant Cindy Miller. Wiseman has worked at Hope House for over 14 years.

There also five shelter night monitors, seven WEARhouse staff members, eight members of the board of directors, and various other volunteers in service to the HCHH.

The mission of Hope House, as written on their website, is "to provide hope to the community while strengthening individuals and families on their journey to self-sufficiency."

According to Denny, Hancock Hope House provides those they take in with a structure that is missing in their lives. It is through this structure that they are able to help people get back on their feet.

"Everyone is required to clean up after themselves," said Denny. "Everyone is required to do chores in the facility to keep the shelter clean, everyone must adhere to a curfew and a set time for their children to be in bed as well as a time for lights to be out. If you stay at Hancock Hope House, you must be employed or seeking employment. We require those that stay with us to save 75 percent of their income. There is a criteria to get into Hancock Hope House and many rules to follow in order to stay at Hancock Hope House. This is by design."

As a nonprofit organization, the HCHH greatly depends on the support of volunteers and local officials to stay afloat. Those who want to help the shelter out can do so either by volunteering or by donating

and shopping from its own thrift store, which offers a wide selection of quality clothing.

Hancock Hope House will be hosting a fundraising benefit concert on April 16. This will be set at the H.J. Ricks Centre for the Arts in Greenfield. The musician featured is Chris Knight, a contemporary country singer-songwriter known for his novelistic songs about his upbringing in Slaughters, Ky., and the people he knew while growing up there.

The HCHH came into existence in October, 1991. Individual members from the welfare department, the Interlocal Community Action Program, and the Board of Realtors, as well as several local church pastors and other citizens, united to form the committee that would truly ignite what would be Hancock Hope House.

Despite starting out with very few resources to their name, The HCHH has always acted purely in the spirit of charity and good will. Primarily, it does this by taking in local citizens who are suffering hard times and living on the streets as a result.

Originally located in two older homes provided by Thomas E.Q. Williams, the Hope House eventually gained enough residents that, with a HUD federally-funded grant, allowed them to purchase an old factory/warehouse located at 35 Pierson Street in Greenfield. As of 1997, this has been their facility's location. The building has since been renovated thanks to the increasing growth in volunteer labor seen at Hope House.

The shelter now has a capacity of 35 beds, 15 reserved for men and 20 reserved for women and family units. The average length of stay for the people at Hope House is 60 days. In 2014, Hope House gave shelter to the community's homeless for nearly 4,000 nights.

Denny feels it is important for those who are on the outside of the situation looking in to realize and understand that homelessness is often very different from what most people believe it to be.

"Some people associate homelessness with the panhandler on the corner or the scruffy guy drinking a beer under the bridge," Denny explained. "In reality, homelessness is a working mother with three children who is not earning enough to pay the rent. Women with children is the fastest growing segment of the homeless population nationwide and it is no different for rural communities. As a society, it is important that we not be apathetic to those who are less fortunate than ourselves. We must provide compassion, shelter, food and help those who truly need it."

THIS SECTION SPONSORED BY  
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# MEETINGS CALENDAR

**Wed., Apr. 8** - Rush Co. Council meeting, 8 a.m., courthouse room 211, Rushville

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

**Wed., Apr. 8** - Henry Co. Drainage Board meeting, 9 a.m., Henry County Office Building Suite 107, New Castle

**Wed., Apr. 8** - Henry Co. Commissioners meeting, 6 p.m., Old Circuit Court Room, 2nd floor of courthouse, New Castle

**Thurs., Apr. 9** - Lewisville Town Council, 6 p.m., Houston Brick, 101 E. Main St.

**Mon., Apr. 13** - Carthage Town Council meeting, 6 p.m., Carthage Town Hall

**Mon., Apr. 13** - Eastern

Hancock School Board meeting, 7 p.m., corporation office

**Tues., Apr. 14** - South Henry School Corp. monthly meeting, 7 p.m.

**Thurs., Apr. 16** - Hancock Co. Planning Commission plat committee meeting, 8:30 a.m., Courthouse Annex room 101, Greenfield

**Thurs., Apr. 16** - Knightstown Town Council meeting, 7 p.m., town council chambers, 28 S. Washington St.

**Mon., Apr. 20** - Rush Co. Commissioners meeting, 9 a.m., courthouse room 103, Rushville

**Tues., Apr. 21** - Hancock Co. Commissioners meeting, 8 a.m., Courthouse Annex room 101, Greenfield

**Tues., Apr. 21** - Rush Co. Health Dept. board meeting, 7 p.m., Health Dept. office at courthouse, Rushville

**Wed., Apr. 22** - Henry County Council meeting, 3:30 p.m., Old Circuit Court Room

**Rose Mary, from Page 4** — pleasure, comfort and sense of completion to see the continuation of something that my dear mother started 65 years ago. Marcel Proust described how his aunt, the village of Combray and its people rose up before him out of a teaspoon of tea. Every spring Mother rises up before me out of the bloodroot's blossoms, looking and sounding just as she did when we dug up the original plant, and I become more deeply aware of the circularity of life and how it turns back upon itself.

# FOLKWAYS

## Eagle Scout's Service Project Sees New Ramps Added to Local Church



Eagle Scout Denver Campbell of Charlottesville Boy Scout Troop 293 stands on Warrington Church of the Nazarene's concrete handicap accessible sidewalk, a project he completed as part of his Eagle Scout service project. (Photo submitted)

On March 29, Boy Scout Denver Paul Campbell, a member of Charlottesville Troop 293, was honored at a special court of honor for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout, Boy Scouting's highest honor. The ceremony took place at Ninestar Connect.

In order to earn Scouting's highest award, Campbell had to earn 21 merit badges, serve as a leader in this troop, and complete a major community service project.

Campbell's service project was installing a concrete handicap accessible sidewalk for Warrington Church of the Nazarene, as well as improving the handicap parking spaces and driveway with crushed stone. The project took 54 hours to complete.

"Without the generous help of my financial donors and physical labor helpers, which includes Roland Concrete, Irving Materials, Caldwell Gravel Services,

Charlottesville Lion's Club, and BSA Troop 293, my project could not have been completed," he said.

On his path to Eagle Scout, Campbell earned 26 merit badges and served his troop in a variety of leadership roles, including senior patrol leader, quartermaster, patrol leader and assistant patrol leader.

He also is a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow, Scouting's honor society. Additionally, he has earned the rank of Firecrafter within the honor camper association known as Firecrafter.

A freshman at Eastern Hancock High School, Campbell, 15, currently raises his own cattle with his brother, under the guidance of their grandfather. He is also a member of 4-H, church youth group and band.

He plans to continue raising cattle and preparing for a future in the field of engineering. Campbell would like to spend his future improving the farming industry.

## Sorority May Join in Town Fundraiser

The April 2 meeting of the Gamma Eta Chapter of Psi Iota Xi (PIX) was held at Knightstown Christian Church with 15 members in attendance.

Kevin Richey, owner/operator of the Hoosier Home Court Café, presented an overview of plans to organize a community-wide yard sale with proceeds going toward the beautification of Knightstown. He outlined the support already garnered through other organizations and individuals for this event which is to be held on May 28-30 during National Road Yard Sale Days. Pending approval by the Knightstown Town Council, the sale will be held on the east side of the Public Square. Richey asked if the Gamma Eta Chapter would be interested in sponsoring this fund raiser, which would entail providing insurance and overseeing money until a beautification project is selected. Members voted unanimously in favor of sponsoring the event.

Preparations are underway to complete the scholarship approval process for the Isabelle Sigler Scholarships, the Wanda Smith See Sorority, Page 13

## National Trail Antique Mall

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Wellness Center



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**Friday, April 17, 5-6:30 p.m.**  
Hancock Wellness Center, 888 W. New Rd., Greenfield

*Recommended donation \$10 per person  
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## 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 settler empowered to revoke or modify the trust.

Charles A. Beard Memorial School Corporation (3/25, 4/1, 4/8)

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## Town-Township Fire Board Approves Clothing Allowance Stipend Increase

by Jeff Eakins  
for The Banner

Members of the Knightstown-Wayne Township Volunteer Fire Department will be getting an increase in their annual clothing allowances in 2016.

The Knightstown-Wayne Township Fire Board voted at its March 25 meeting to increase clothing allowances that will be included in next year's budget. The fire department's regular members' clothing allowance will increase from \$200 to \$300 twice a year, while the clothing allowance for the department's officers will rise from \$250 to \$350 twice a year.

Fire Chief Bob Schaeffer will not receive an increase in his clothing allowance, which is presently set at \$2,000, paid twice a year. When asked why the chief's clothing allowance is so much more than that of the regular members and officers, Schaeffer explained that the allowance is for more than just clothing and is intended to help compensate him for "everything he does" for the department.

Only four of the fire board's five members voted for the increase, with Jeff Van Hoy abstaining. Fire Board President Randy Overman said before the vote that he thought board member Van Hoy, who has a son on the fire department, should not vote on the clothing allowance increase due to a potential conflict of interest.

In other business, Schaeffer

provided board members with a monthly report that showed 18 runs during February. The board also approved eight claims totaling \$2,060.24 and approved the minutes from their Feb. 25 meeting.

Schaeffer also advised board members that the fire department had responded to several illegal burns recently. While he said small recreational fires are OK, he said if a fire becomes a nuisance to neighbors, the fire department will require it to be extinguished.

The fire board's next regularly scheduled meeting is set for Wednesday, April 22, at 7 p.m. in the fire department's meeting room, accessible from the west side of the fire station at 30 S. Washington St. The meeting is open to the public.

# ANNUAL MEETING OF NINESTAR CONNECT

## April 17, 2015

### Greenfield Central High School

### 810 N. Broadway

Dinner & Registration begin at 5:00pm for  
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or go to [www.ninestarconnect.com/annualmeeting](http://www.ninestarconnect.com/annualmeeting)

## to RSVP by 4pm on April 10<sup>th</sup>

[www.ninestarconnect.com](http://www.ninestarconnect.com)



\*Must be present to win.

### Knightstown Public Library

## Poetry Contest

Indiana Bicentennial Commission-approved "Birthday Book" project.  
Brick Street Poetry Inc.

The Board of Brick Street Poetry Inc. wishes to invite you to participate in the Indiana Bicentennial Commission-approved "Birthday Book" project. The book will showcase poetry written by citizens of each county that are submitted through the library. Submit your original poem for the book to the Knightstown Public Library. Current residents having lived in the county at least a year, and any non-resident born in your county having been a resident for at least twelve years, will be able to submit one poem for the book. These poems may be up to 40 lines in any form, but their subject must be one that adequately represents the history and spirit of your county. Three or four of the best poems entered will be selected by a local committee and submitted to the project board, and one poem will be selected for inclusion in the book; it could be yours!

The deadline is Tuesday, April 28, 2015

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

# COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP

Monday, April 20  
thru

Saturday, April 25  
8 a.m.-5 p.m.

A dumpster will be provided at the Knightstown Street Barn, located at 7605 W. U.S. Hwy. 40.

Items accepted are trash and yard debris. Items **NOT** accepted include any electronics, petroleum-based products (paint, oil, gas, etc.), propane tanks and tires.

Recyclable items may be taken to the recycling bins at the sewer plant, located on West County Line Road.

The dumpster is being provided by the Town of Knightstown and the Henry County Community Foundation.

For more information,  
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# Sharp Twins Endowment Detailed

The Sharp Twins Endowment Fund is dedicated to offering one-week resident summer camp opportunities for deserving girls and boys at YMCA Camp Tecumseh. The camp is located on 500 acres of woodlands and meadows bordering the Tippecanoe River and Richard G. Marsh Lake near Brookston, about 80 miles northwest of Indianapolis.

Family members and friends of the Sharp Twins established the "campership" endowment fund in 2009 through the Henry County Community Foundation and with the cooperation of the Henry County YMCA in New Castle. This initiative honors long-time New Castle residents Martha Sharp Clawson and Mary (Sharp) Wilson

Pidgeon, who went to Camp Tecumseh summer camp as youngsters and later returned to serve as camp counselors. Always remembering their camp experiences fondly, they sent some of their own children to the camp and taught camp songs to their grandchildren.

Born in New Castle on April 27, 1926, the identical twin sisters graduated from New Castle High School in 1944 and were active in local churches, Chapter H of the P.E.O., Tri Kappa, the Lady Elks Auxiliary and other community organizations. Mary passed away in 2007 and Martha in 2009. Both are buried in New Castle's South Mound Cemetery.

See Endowment, Page 16

# Free Dental Care Available April 24-25

A two-day dental clinic at the Indiana State Fairgrounds will provide free dental care for up to 2,000 Hoosiers on Friday and Saturday, April 24-25.

The IndianaMOM Mission of Mercy clinic will deliver approximately \$1 million in free dental care. The event is a charitable outreach program of the Indiana Dental Association Foundation for Dental Health, and is being sponsored by the Delta Dental Foundation as well as several other foundations and organizations.

The event will focus on providing free oral health care to patients of all ages who cannot otherwise afford or access care. The goal is to provide at least one dental service to up to 1,000 people each day of the clinic. Over 1,100 volunteers are expected to participate.

Patients will be treated on a first come, first served basis starting at 6:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Event organizers expect people to start lining up on Friday night, so potential patients

are encouraged to arrive early and expect a long wait. Patients will receive a health history screening and dental treatment as well as education on overall wellness resources, habits for improving dental health, and help with finding a dental home.

Patients are asked to come early and wear comfortable shoes. All patients should bring water and snacks, photo ID, medicine (if needed) and diapers (if needed).

Agents will be available to help patients register for available social services. Anyone interested in registering for social services must bring Social Security numbers for all family members, birthdates for all family members, photo ID, proof of address, paystubs and current insurance information.

Additional information and a patient FAQ is available online at <http://www.indianamom.org/patient-faq.htm>.

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## KHS Art Club event Friday, April 17

The Knightstown High School Art Club is hosting "Cookies & Canvas," a painting event open to all ages of the public on Friday, April 17.

For a cost of \$20, the Art Club offers delicious cookies and provides all participants with an 11x14 canvas and access to all paints and brushes.

Spaces are limited for the event. Those interested should contact James Jahrsdoerfer on Twitter @khs\_art or by emailing him at [jjahrs@cabeard.k12.in.us](mailto:jjahrs@cabeard.k12.in.us).

"Cookies & Canvas" takes place from 6-8 p.m. in the KHS cafeteria.

## Kennard Vol. Fire Dept. Hosting Papa John's Pizza Fundraiser

The Town of Kennard is holding a fundraiser for the Kennard Volunteer Fire Department next week.

Papa John's Pizza is bringing its mobile truck to Kennard on Monday, April 13, from 5-7 p.m.,

selling pizzas to the public. The fire department will receive 20 percent of the amount sold by Papa John's. The money raised is set to pay for equipment replacement and updates.

## TRI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT FOR THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR WILL BE HELD APRIL 27-28



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## Delaney Dawson Wins BPW Eighth Grade Essay Contest



Barbara Mofield (left), of the Indiana Federation of Business and Professional Women, Knightstown Chapter, presents Delaney Dawson with a certificate and \$25 check for winning the BPW's eighth grade essay contest. Dawson and her mother, Shannon, attended BPW's recent district meeting in Shelbyville. Delaney's essay, "What Can Be Accomplished By Working Together," was the judges' top choice. She was invited to the BPW state convention in Nashville on April 18. (Photos submitted)



BPW District 2 officers for 2015-2016 include (l-r) Tina Williams of Knightstown, district director; E. Ann Myers of Shelbyville, assistant district director; Rita Emsweller of Connersville, secretary; Jackie Woolard of Knightstown, treasurer; Claudia Thornburg of Winchester, state nominating committee member; and Carole Stevens of Fortville, state nominating committee alternate.

## WCTU Meeting April 11 in Russiaville

The Mid-Year Woman's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) will be meeting Saturday, April 11, at the Russiaville Friends Church in Russiaville.

All members and guests will be welcomed for brunch and fellowship from 9-9:25 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Sarah Ward will open the morning session at 9:30 a.m.

Wanda Tupps will lead singspiration. Pastor Jamie Lyon, of Russiaville Friends Church, will give devotions and prayer. Roll call by Carolyn Poer will follow. Tupps will give awards and the promotion director's report. Lois Anderson will give treasurer's report.

Other morning activities will include department directors' presentations; a report from Circulations Manager Betty

Montgomery; a report from Ward, editor of *The Message*; a report from Gail Lephart, chairman of the Literature Table; and a report from James Knight, director of honorary members.

Norwegian Margaret Ostenstad, WCTU world president, will speak. Morning session will close with the audience singing *Beautiful Hour of Noontide*.

Lunch will be served by the Kokomo WCTU Union.

The afternoon session will include pledges to the flags and membership pledge. The afternoon speaker will be Reba Harris of The Gilead House in Kokomo. The Gilead House opened to meet the needs of women and men after they are released from prison. They offer counseling and support

services. Many of these people have been involved in drugs.

The audience will sing *I'll tell the World That I'm a Christian*, the theme song for the year. WCTU field worker for Europe and former world vice-president Brita Nilssen of Norway will speak on "Showing We Care" as she reports on a Norwegian WCTU project in Guatemala. Nilssen and Ostenstad will be traveling to Guatemala following their visit with WCTU in Indiana.

The meeting will closed with a friendship circle and benediction as the audience sings *God Be With You*.

Russiaville is located on State Road 26, south and west of Kokomo. The church is on the north side of State Road 26.

## Plan Commission Continues Its Work

by Jeff Eakins  
for The Banner

After taking a week off, the Knightstown Plan Commission will be back to work Monday, continuing efforts to revamp the town's comprehensive plan.

Since late January, the plan commission has met almost every week, with most of those meetings devoted to going through the comprehensive plan and discussing proposed changes to it. At their last meeting, on Monday, March 30, plan commission members finished coming up with lists of planning items to include on a pie chart that looks at the town's immediate needs, as well as those two, five, 10, 15 and 20 years down the road.

The plan commission's secretary, Lisa Hall, was asked to compile a new pie chart that incorporates proposed changes for the plan commission to review at a meeting on Monday, April 13. Plan commission member Greg Neice, the town's works manager, said he would assist with this.

Once the plan commission approves revisions to the comprehensive plan, it will be sent to the town council for final review and adoption. Town officials hope a well-formulated comprehensive plan will help put the town in a better position when applying for grants and low-interest loans to help fund needed improvements to the town's wastewater and water utilities.

Plan Commission President Kevin Richey, though in attendance, did not chair last week's meeting. He said someone had been caught stealing from his par-

ents and that he was too upset and "not really in the right frame of mind" to run the meeting.

Plan commission member Clyde South, who is also on the town council, told Richey he could relinquish the chair at anytime. If no one else wanted to run the meeting, South offered to do it.

Valerie Trump, another town council member who also sits on the plan commission, noted that Bill Bergmann is the plan commission's vice president. Bergmann, however, declined to chair the meeting, so South took on that task.

Much of last week's meeting was spent discussing five-, 10-, 15- and 20-year plans for the town. The town's immediate needs and the two-year plan had been discussed at the plan commission's March 9 and March 23 meetings.

The plan commission also discussed at last week's meeting the proposed annexation of about a dozen properties on the north side of town. The plan commission had previously voted in February 2013 to recommend that the town council pursue annexation of these properties, but the town council never did follow through.

The town's attorney, Gregg Morelock, had told the town council he would send letters to owners of the properties being considered for annexation. Neice said at last week's meeting that these letters were never sent out.

See Plan, Page 11

## CAB Sees Marked Growth in Cash and Investments

by Jeff Eakins  
for The Banner

According to a financial statement and audit report the state issued last week, the Charles A. Beard Memorial School Corp.'s June 30 cash and investments balance hit its second highest mark in 10 years last June.

According to the Indiana State Board of Accounts, CAB's cash and investments balance last June 30 was \$2,417,182. The last time CAB had that much in cash and investments at the end of its fiscal year was on June 30,

2005, when its balance was \$3,096,449.

CAB's lowest fiscal year-ending cash and investments balance this past decade was \$894,543 on June 30, 2011, and, in the year that followed, the balance nearly doubled, registering \$1,642,696 on June 30, 2012. By June 30, 2013, the balance had fallen to \$1,384,648, before rising almost 75 percent to last June's \$2.4 million balance.

Looking back at financial information provided by SBA reports that go back to July 1, 2004, CAB's spending has outpaced its revenue in six out of the last 10 years. Most recent-

ly, this occurred during the July 1, 2012-June 30, 2013, fiscal year, and it also happened in the three consecutive fiscal years covering July 1, 2007-June 30, 2011, as well as during the two fiscal-year period of July 1, 2005-June 30, 2007.

For the fiscal year ending last June 30, CAB reported \$16,290,837 in receipts, and its expenditures for that same 12-month period were \$15,266,365. For the six fiscal years where spending exceeded revenue, the average deficit was \$764,997.16, with the two highest years being July 1, 2006-June 30, 2007 (-\$1,277,974) and July 1, 2008-June 30, 2009 (\$1,050,877).

### Report, from Page 3

degree, segregation of the work being performed by each of the office employees." However, as a small school corporation, CAB says "management has determined that the cost associated with employing additional staff necessary to properly segregate the duties in the business office would outweigh the benefits of a stronger internal control structure."

Despite limited funds to hire additional employees, Behny said CAB will continue to look for other ways to provide greater segregation of duties among employees who deal with the district's finances. School Board President Wade Beatty told The Banner on Monday that Behny, who has only been CAB's superintendent since July, has already taken steps to address concerns over segregation of duties in the central office.

"Well, I think Jed's done that since he's been there," Beatty said. "We've segregated it out to where at least two people have to look at invoices. ... We're trying to make sure there's more than one person who looks at it, and the board members see the claims every month, and we look them over."

Like Behny, Beatty said it can be difficult for small school corporations to address these sorts of concerns. However, he said he is comfortable with the way things are currently run, and said he didn't think spending more money to hire additional office employees would be the right thing to do.

"I feel that our responsibility is in the classroom and not administrative staff," Beatty said. "... Administrative staff doesn't make much sense when you have the quality of people we have in the central office."

Beatty said he believes that the seven-member school board also provides an additional layer of oversight for the district's finances.

"Board members understand the financial statements and the claims reports and where the money is going, the fund balances at the end of each month," Beatty said. "There's actually ... seven other people looking at that other than Jed."

In the reports issued last week, the SBA also found an insufficient segregation of duties related to CAB's breakfast and lunch programs. While reviewing claim reim-

bursements CAB submitted to the federal government, the SBA discovered "no signatures nor initials indicating which official prepared the claim, nor which official, if any, reviewed the claim," as required by CAB's procedures.

The SBA also found that CAB's balance for its school lunch fund exceeded its three months average expenditures the maximum allowed for 22 of the 24 months covered by the audit period. Some of the accumulated cash, the SBA said, had been for new cafeteria equipment planned for the Carthage and Kennard schools that were closed before purchases were made.

According to the SBA, by maintaining too high of a balance in the school lunch fund, CAB is "in noncompliance with program requirements that they must operate a nonprofit school food service program and limit net cash resources." The failure to comply with these requirements, the SBA said, "could cause (CAB) to be ineligible to receive future federal reimbursements."

In its official response, CAB said that spending money on new kitchen equipment

before final decisions were made on school closures "would have been financially irresponsible." Now that the Carthage and Kennard schools have been closed, CAB said it plans to use the excess funds in its school lunch fund "to purchase updated equipment."

The SBA also found a problem with CAB's payroll withholding fund balances, the result of CAB sometimes incorrectly charging expenses to various withholding funds, or placing withholdings in the wrong fund while paying from the correct fund, resulting in negative fund balances. Fund balances at June 30, 2013, and June 30, 2014, the SBA said, did not agree with CAB's actual liabilities based on subsequent vendor billings.

Behny told The Banner that he believed CAB has addressed the SBA's concerns over problems with payroll withholding fund balances. He also said the district is in the process of ensuring that CAB's treasurer and its extracurricular activity treasurer are properly bonded, something the SBA had discovered was not done for the two years covered by the audit.

THE **Banner** = ACCURATE NEWS REPORTING

# Sue Saunders Chosen as First Female IMPA Chairwoman

The Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) recently announced that Sue Saunders, clerk-treasurer for the Town of Lewisville, has been elected to serve as chairwoman of the agency's board of commissioners. Saunders will be the first woman to serve in this position in IMPA's history.

Lewisville, along with 58 other public power communities in Indiana and one community in

Ohio, purchases wholesale electricity from IMPA. As a member of the nonprofit, joint-action agency, Lewisville is able to provide low-cost, reliable and environmentally responsible power to its member utilities because the agency generates and purchases power in bulk quantities on behalf of its members. Saunders has represented Lewisville on the IMPA Board of Commissioners since the town joined IMPA in 2007.

"IMPA is a special place where the needs of a small community of 300 people like Lewisville are met as equally as larger IMPA communities," Saunders said. "I am honored and pleased to serve as the chairwoman of the Board."

"IMPA is proud to announce Sue as the board's first ever chairwoman," commented Raj Rao, IMPA president. "The board is gaining a strong leader in Sue and the agency looks forward to the

many goals we will accomplish in working together."

Saunders has served as vice-chairwoman of the board of commissioners since 2012 and was elected chairwoman at IMPA's annual meeting on March 27. As chairwoman, Saunders acts as a

liaison for the Agency and the Board. Saunders will also oversee and provide direction for monthly Board meetings and executive committee meetings.

In addition to serving as chairwoman, Saunders sits on several other committees at IMPA.

## 'Vintage Lads' Concerts This Weekend

The Vintage Gospel Lads will be leading a revival at the Knightstown First Christian Church April 10, 11 and 12. Friday and Saturday's concerts will begin at 7 p.m. On Sunday, there will be two concerts: one at 10:30 a.m. and another at 7 p.m. The Sunday evening program will be a full musical concert. The Gospel Lads have revived interest in a foot-stomping, hand-clapping style of music that is captivating to audiences of all ages.

Theme of the revival is "The Rest of the Story" which provides a follow-up to Easter and Jesus' resurrection. On Friday, there will be lots of music and Jon Stedman will deliver a sermon entitled "There is

a Body to Be Built Up". The message on Saturday is "There is a World to Be Won" by Ron Rasmussen and Sunday morning, Steve Kehrer will tell the rest of the story, "There is a King Who is Coming". A full concert of music will be presented on Sunday evening.

Individual member of the Vintage Gospel Lads reside in Missouri, Oklahoma, Indiana and California where most of them are involved in full-time ministry, but they continue to accept singing engagements several weeks out of the year. Group members are Murray Hollis of Joplin, Mo.; Steve Kehrer of Mooresville; Ron Rasmussen of

Yukon, Okla.; and Jon Stedman of South San Francisco, Cal. Three of Vintage Lads are preaching ministers of their churches, and the other is the Director of Christian Friends Connexion Ministries. The group recently added two other members. Murray's daughter, Tammy Cady, who has performed in singing tours in the U.S. and in foreign countries, and Ron's son, Adam Rasmussen, who is an accomplished instrumentalist and music minister, are now touring with the Vintage Lads.

The public is invited to attend any or all of these free concerts. The church is located at 138 W. Main St. in Knightstown.

### Plan from Page 10

According to an e-mail Morelock had previously sent Neice, if the annexation is not voluntary on the part of all property owners, the town council will need to hold a public hearing, giving at least 60 days advance notice to the property owners. After the hearing, the council would have to wait 30 days before voting to approve the annexation ordinance, and then, after that, property owners opposed to the annexation would have 90 days to file a remonstrance.

Since the the proposed annexations had already

been voted on once before, South said he didn't think it was necessary for the plan commission to take any further action. Richey said he would address this issue with the town council at that body's April 16 monthly meeting.

Monday's plan commission meeting will be held in the back meeting room of Knightstown Town Hall, 26 S. Washington St., which is accessible from the building's west side. The meeting, which will start at 6 p.m., is open to the public.

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Story &  
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Eric Cox

# How 'Swede' It Is ...

## Fresh Off a Gold Medal European Performance, Swedish Drum Corps Team Uses Hoosier Gym to Practice and Prepare for World Competition in Dayton

A 30-member Swedish percussion group made a temporary home at the Hoosier Gym in Knightstown this week, preparing for the WGI Percussion and Winds World Championship in Dayton, Ohio.

Hailing from Strangnas, a suburb of Stockholm, the musicians are comprised of young people, 15-20 years old. They are chaperoned by music teachers from their school, Strangnas Culture School, and parents.

The group flew into Chicago Sunday and arrived in Knightstown that night. Battling jet lag and a six-hour time differential, the drum corps nevertheless got to work practicing Monday afternoon.

According to Klements Rosberg, an adult music teacher, the group practiced about eight hours each day, Monday through Wednesday, in preparation for their world championship performance in Dayton Thursday.

Suffice to say, the group's hopes are high. They're fresh off winning gold at the European world championship in Belgium last week. Adding to their excitement is the fact that they're the first Swedish group to ever compete in world percussion competition.

This not an inexpensive endeavor for the group, which spent about \$50,000 for the nine-day trip.

The group had to rent their instruments

stateside, since transporting their own to America would've substantially boosted the trip's cost.

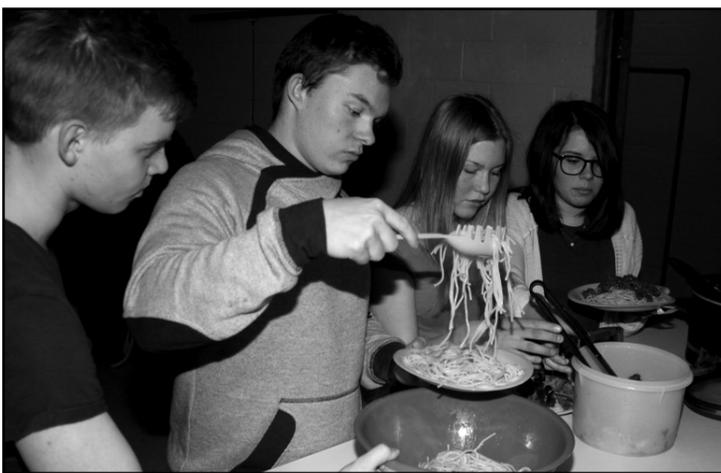
The group will perform a six-minute segment of Igor Stravinsky's *Firebird* ballet. The musicians will wear costumes and carry out choreography in time with the music.

Following practice Monday afternoon, group members sat down for a spaghetti and salad dinner in the Hoosier Gym's

**Continued Below**



Members of the Strangnas Culture School Drum Corps rehearse Monday in the parking lot of the former lower elementary school on North Adams Street.



Musicians line up for food in the Hoosier Gym's classrooms.

classrooms. Prepared by parents and teachers, the musicians filed through the food line, grabbing steaming plates of pasta and meat sauce, along with green salad and soft drinks.

Percussionist Erik Gustavsson told The Banner he was amused by American stereotypes, and how they turned out to be true, for the most part. He and the others pointed out passing yellow school buses, flags, porches and basketball courts as being typically American things.

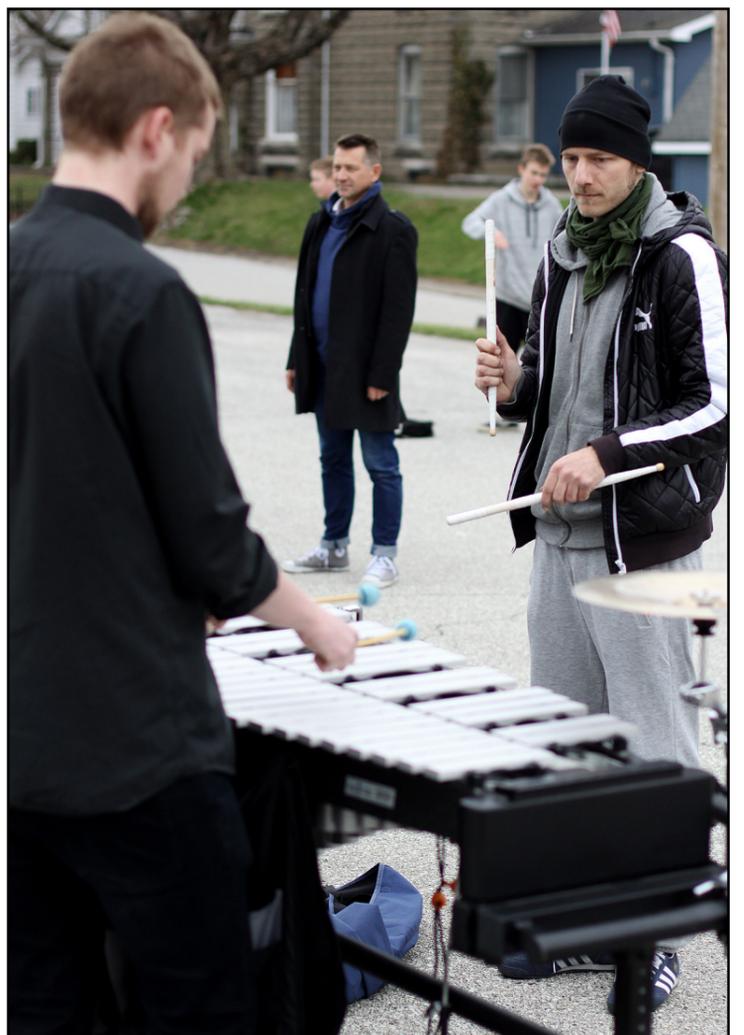
They're also interested in western food. Some want to try corn-dogs, while others want a taste of beef jerky. Steaks, hot dogs and hamburgers are also on the list.

All in all, though, Gustavsson said their hometown, Strangnas, is not very different from the Knightstown area. Situated west of Stockholm, on the shores of Lake Malaren, Strangnas is a city of about 13,000 people. According to Gustavsson, the city isn't home to much industry. The pharmaceutical giant Pfizer has offices there, but most the kids say Strangnas serves as a bedroom community for nearby Stockholm.

"We're the best thing that ever happened to Strangnas," Gustavsson mused.

Hoosier Gym volunteers are catering to the group's needs during their visit. Rosberg said the Swedish contingent is happy to be here.

"They've treated us very well," he said. "We have no complaints. We like it very much."



Percussion teacher Markus Neuendorf (right) keeps time on his sticks as he helps a drum corps member.



A young Swedish musician plays the crotales during rehearsal.

# LOCAL SPORTS

## KHS Establishes Inaugural Boys Volleyball Team

Boys attending Knightstown High School now have another option for sports participation.

Last year, Shanna Smucker, head coach for the KHS girls volleyball team, applied for and received a grant to start a boys volleyball program.

The grant covers three years and provides for a club program that is recognized by the coaches association.

Smucker had hoped to have both a varsity and junior varsity as the interest in the program

appeared high when it was first announced. However, when the season started, the numbers had dwindled.

"We decided we would operate our initial year as a JV-only team and play a limited schedule," said Athletic Director Matt Martin. "We're hoping next year we can field a full varsity and JV team."

The team got off to a great start for its first match on March 18 with a win over Fishers High School.

The Panthers won the first set

25-22, lost the second set 18-25 but secured the match victory with a 15-14 third set win.

Knightstown was led, according to a report filed by Martin, by the "dominating play from Coleman Wyatt and Zach Manley" and noted "serving was also key for the Panthers and leading the way in serving were Drew Greenwood and Jarrett Weidner."

The full roster includes two seniors, Spencer Roberts and Manley. Roberts is the team's set-

ter and Manley is a middle blocker.

Seven juniors are on the team including Wyatt, Greenwood, Weidner, Zach Fields, Chase Stevens, James Oldham and Matthew Gasson.

Wyatt is a middle blocker. Stephens and Oldham are both defensive specialists. Greenwood, Weidner, Fields and Gasson are all outside hitters.

Two sophomores are also on the team. Dakota Clark and Noah Stone will both play as

defensive specialists.

Smucker serves as the team's head coach and Carly Griggs is the assistant coach.

The team plays their next match at home on April 8 against Wapahani at 6 p.m. They will also play at home against Franklin on April 13. Their next two matches are on the road, at Southport on April 14 and at Columbus North on April 20. The public's last chance to see this new team is May 11 with a match at home against Muncie Central.

## Panther Football Team Drops to 1A

The Indiana High School Athletic Association recently announced new classifications for IHSAA member schools in several sports for the 2015-16 and 2016-17 school years.

Schools submit enrollment figures to the Indiana Department of Education each fall and the IHSAA uses that information, which includes the total number of boys and girls in each grade, to determine the classifications in the sports of baseball, boys and girls basketball, football, boys and girls soccer, softball and volleyball.

Based on those enrollment numbers, some schools will change classification in a given sport.

Knightstown is one of those schools.

The Panthers' football team will play as a Class 1A school for the next two years.

All other Knightstown High School sports teams will remain in Class 2A.

Other nearby schools also received reassignments.

Eastern Hancock's football team was moved up from Class 1A to Class 2A.

Shenandoah's football team was also moved down from Class 2A to Class 1A.

Cambridge City Lincoln's baseball team and softball team were moved from Class 2A to Class 1A.

### Sorority, from Page 7

Scholarship, and the PIX General Arts Scholarship, all of which will be awarded in May.

The second reading of eight prospective new Psi Iota Xi member nomination forms was completed. All prospective members will receive a letter of invitation later this month with pledging on May 7 and initiation on June 4. There will also be an important "education" meeting scheduled for each new member. This meeting will take place prior to the pledging meeting on May 7.

Nominations from the floor were accepted for officers for the 2015-2016 year. With no additions, the officer roster is as follows: president, Michele McGill; vice-president, Linda Lashbrook; treasurer, Lori True; recording secretary, Gabi Harper; corresponding secretary, Lee Vaughan; conductress, Darlene Livingston; advisor, Vickie Rhodes.

These new officers will be initiated at the June 4 meeting.

Vickie Rhodes and RaJean Pitts will attend the State PIX Association Meeting April 18 in the Southern Indiana town of Washington. Members will also be attending the 112th National PIX Convention in June in Ft. Wayne. The "Dinner at the Diner,"

fundraiser held on St. Patrick's Day at the Hoosier Home Court Café (formerly the Knightstown Café), was attended by approximately 55 guests. Customers enjoyed Irish dishes served by sorority waitresses. Julie Vaughan, a senior at KHS, was instrumental in the planning and successful implementation of this event. Members of the National Honor Society volunteered as additional wait staff and provided piano music. Proceeds will support local scholarships.

The Senior Girls Brunch for Knightstown will be held on Sunday, April 26, in collaboration with Tri Kappa. This annual event offers an opportunity to acquaint girls with the sororities while enjoying a meal and fellowship. Members from each of the sororities are assigned to meet and greet at each table.

Livingston secured a fish fry date at the recent Chamber of Commerce lottery meeting. The sorority will hold its fish fry Sept. 11-12.

McGill and her committee are working on securing queen and princess candidates for the upcoming Jubilee Days festivities.

Although the most recent Schwann's campaign has ended,

Gamma Eta will still receive a small commission from any orders placed under PIX for the remainder of the year. If anyone is interested in ordering from the Schwann's campaign, contact a PIX member.

In other business, the Thirty-One raffle sales will continue until April 30. The purchase of one \$10 raffle ticket will provide the holder 31 chances to win a Thirty-One bag or tote. One winner will be announced via Facebook and personal phone call every day in May. This fundraiser will provide income for the chapter to fund philanthropic requests made by local individuals/groups.

A donation will be sent to continue the support of PIX's National Long-Term Project Fund. This fund supports intensive stuttering clinics for adolescents and adults. Participant rooms and partial salaries for staff are being made available because of the \$10,000 gift provided by Psi Iota Xi last summer. The long-term project has generated both support and momentum for development of a research, clinical and service center - the Center for Innovative Therapy for Individuals with Communication Disorders.

Hostesses for the evening were Lashbrook and Livingston.

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**Endowment, from Page 9**

YMCA Camp Tecumseh was established in 1924 when citizens of Delphi raised \$3,000 to purchase the land which lies on a bend on the Tippecanoe River. The camp is named after Tecumseh, a Shawnee chief. Camp Tecumseh is fully accredited by the American Camping Association and currently serves over 4,000 campers every summer from throughout the Midwest USA and the world. With a "caring Christian atmosphere," YMCA Tecumseh has been called "Simply the best camp in Indiana, Illinois or anywhere in the Midwest."

For more information about YMCA Camp Tecumseh, see <http://www.camptecumseh.org/>. For more information about the Henry County Community Foundation, see <http://www.henrycounty-cf.org>. And for more information on the Henry County YMCA, see <http://www.henrycountymca.org>.

**Upgrades, from Page 1**

proposed to do and that of FPBH. A representative of FPBH who attended that meeting also did not identify substantive differences in the two companies' plans.

According to its report on the sewer utility, Triad estimated it would save the town almost \$570,000 in construction costs, nearly \$200,000 in engineering costs and a little less than \$210,000 for needed inspections. While Triad estimated a \$100,000 charge for legal, rate and bond work - something not included in FPBH's proposal - it had no costs for contract administration, an item that FPBH estimated at just over \$140,000.

For the water utility, Triad's construction costs were estimated to be about \$43,000 less than those proposed by FPBH, while engineering and inspection costs were projected to beat FPBH's by about \$180,000 and \$130,000, respectively. As with the sewer work, Triad estimated \$100,000 for legal, rate and bond work that FPBH had no charge for, and Triad again proposed no cost for contract administration, something FPBH estimated would run \$116,000.

Triad representatives have attended a couple of other town council meetings since last fall, including, most recently, the town council's March 19 monthly meeting. Triad's Lou Savka asked the council that night to schedule a special meeting so his firm could go through their proposals in detail, and that's the primary reason for Tuesday's meeting.

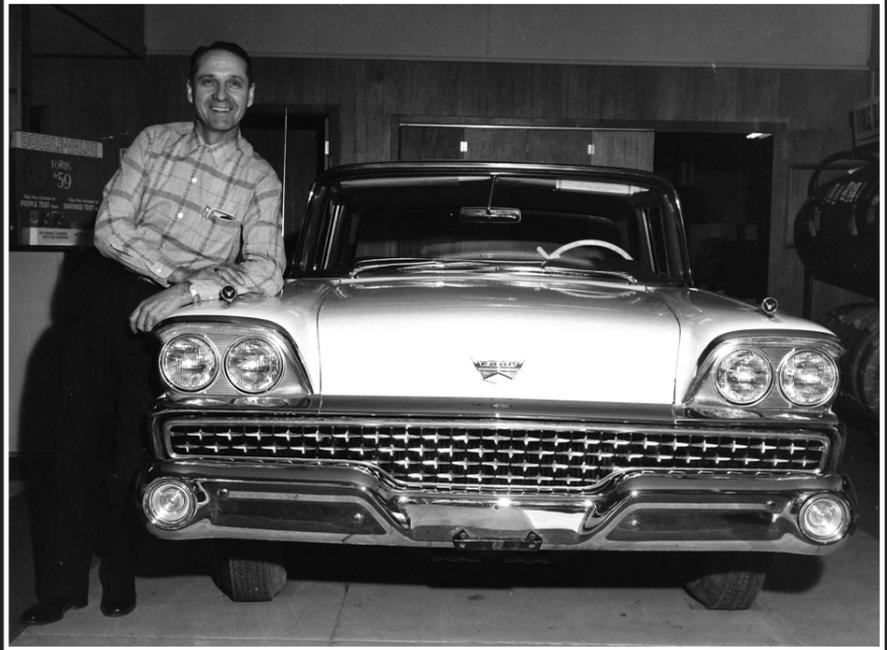
Council Vice President Sarah Ward said at the March 19 meeting that she thought the pricing differences between Triad and FPBH were large enough to warrant a closer look. Council member Clyde South, however, wondered if the council would be "putting the horse before the cart" if it selects an engi-

neering company before knowing if the town has funding in place for the projects.

Triad's James Frazell told the council at last month's meeting that, if selected, Triad would work with the town to identify the best options for funding the projects. He said he thought it would be in the town's best interest to select an engineering firm "earlier rather than waiting" to secure funding first.

"I would suggest that you make a decision one way or the other," Frazell said.

# A Look Back



Undoubtedly, this Banner photograph from the late 1960s shows a Knightstown auto dealer. Anyone who can identify this gentleman is encouraged to let us know by e-mailing [thebanner@embarqmail.com](mailto:thebanner@embarqmail.com).

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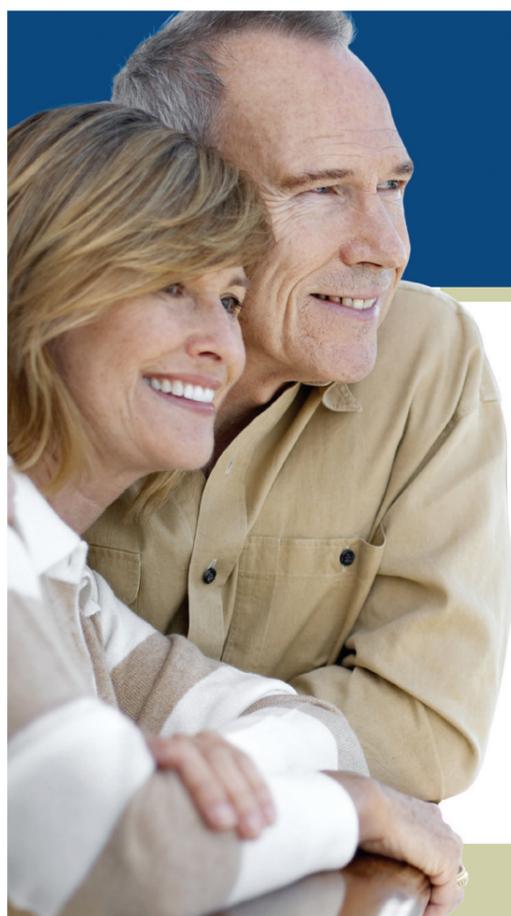
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