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THE

Banner

PERIODICALS
NEWSPAPER

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

Vol. XVII, Issue 8

June 3, 2015

Knightstown, IN

Farmers Market Gets Underway June 13

The Knightstown Farmers Market is gearing up for another season. A variety of new vendors are now being sought. Hand-crafted goods, including hand-knitted items, are welcome at the market, which will get underway Saturday, June 13, 8 a.m.-noon, on Knightstown's Public Square. Call Kelley Millhoan at 765-571-2325.

Crime Watch Hosting Baby Contest June 4

Knightstown Neighborhood Crime Watch will host its second annual baby contest on Friday, June 4, at 7 p.m. in the Ameriana Bank parking lot. Children from birth through 18 months can participate. No pets allowed. Registration forms are available at the bank. Cost is \$5 per child. Fee must accompany registration form. Deadline is Monday, June 1, at 5 p.m. Entries won't be accepted after June 1.

Alumni Banquet June 27 at KHS

The Knightstown High School Alumni Association Reunion and Banquet will take place on June 27. It will take place at Knightstown High School, 8149 West U.S. 40. The registration and social time is 2-4:30 p.m. Seating will take place at 4:30 p.m. Dinner is at 5 p.m.

KHS Football Camp Set for July 20-23

Knightstown High School head football coach Kevin Miller is hosting his youth and middle school football camp July 20-23 at KHS. Youth (grades K-6) will be at camp 5-6:30 p.m. each day, while middle school kids (grades 7-9) will be at camp 6:30-8 p.m. For more information, contact Miller at this e-mail address, kmiller1@cabear.k12.in.us.

Expiration Dates Appear on Labels

Attention Subscribers

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



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Knightstown General Fund Sinks Further Into the Red

by Jeff Eakins
for The Banner

As the town of Knightstown awaits its first property tax draw of 2015, its General Fund balance continues to go further into the red.

Clerk-Treasurer Bart Whitesitt advised members of the Knightstown Town Council at their May 21 monthly meeting that the General Fund balance was - \$77,794. This negative balance had grown over 50-percent from just the month before when it was a little under \$50,000.

Whitesitt told the council that once the tax draw is received - it is expected by the end of this month - that would get the General Fund back in the black. However, he said he expected finances to be "really rough" for the final six months of the year.

One way to take some of the strain off the General Fund, Whitesitt suggested, would be to transfer \$9,000 from the town's electric utility fund and \$27,000 from the sewer utility that had been accumulating as "payments in lieu of taxes" (PILOT). He said the PILOT program had been set up to allow municipalities that have their own utilities to get some financial benefit for their General Funds.

Whitesitt also said that some adjustments may be able to be made as to how Greg Neice, the town's works manager, and his assistant, Lisa Hall, are paid. By paying a larger portion of their wages out of the Motor Vehicle Highway Fund, Whitesitt said that would also ease the burden on the General Fund.

Another drain on the General Fund that Whitesitt identified has been overtime pay for officers of the Knightstown Police Department. While getting the KPD back to having three full-time officers and adding to the ranks of volunteer reserves should help keep overtime at the department in check, Whitesitt said the KPD payroll takes "probably the biggest chunk out of the General Fund."

Council Vice President Sarah Ward suggested that the council meet with Christina Dewitt, a financial adviser at Umbaugh & Associates who has worked with the town in the past on several utility rate issues. She said Dewitt suggested the council hold a special meeting in July to address budgetary and financial issues. Council President Cort Swincher asked Whitesitt to contact Dewitt to set up a meeting.

See Red, Page 19

Proud Memories



New Castle's delayed Memorial Day parade took place Saturday, May 30, under sunny skies. A short Memorial Day service preceded the parade on the Henry County Courthouse lawn. Once underway, the parade headed west on Broad Street, then south on Main. More photos on Page 16.

K-town Council Just Says No to Drug Testing

by Jeff Eakins
for The Banner

A divided Knightstown Town Council failed at its May 21 monthly meeting to garner enough votes to put into place a random drug testing program for town employees.

Greg Neice, the town's works manager, provided the council with pricing information on two drug-testing outfits. Midwest Toxicology, which could test

employees on site, would charge a one-time annual \$150 program fee, then \$61 for a 10-panel drug test and \$35 for an alcohol test; Hancock Regional Hospital's Community Employer Health Program charges \$50 for the 10-panel drug screen and \$31 for the alcohol test, with no program fee, but would not test on site, requiring, instead, town employees to travel to Greenfield for testing.

See Testing, Page 15

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OBITUARIES

James Robert Ewing
June 6, 1922 - June 1, 2015

James Robert Ewing, 92, a long time Rush County area resident, passed away June 1, 2015, in Columbus. He was born in Ripley Twp., Rush County, on June 6, 1922. He was a graduate of Carthage High School. After graduating, Jim served in the 9th Army Air Force - 397th Fighter Bomber Group, which supported General Patton's Army across Europe during World War II. Sgt. Ewing was placed on detached duty to supervise a building project on an airfield in Germany at the end of the war.

Upon returning home, Jim married Helen T. Pidlowska on Feb. 16, 1946. She preceded him in death on May 14, 2014. Jim and Helen owned and operated an appliance and furniture store in Knightstown for 13 years. They owned and operated a hardware store in Rushville for 13 years also.

Jim taught adult horticulture and master gardener classes in Rush and Fayette counties for 10 years. He was also active in Habitat for Humanity, a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church, the Disabled American Veterans, VFW, and was a fourth degree knight in the Knights of Columbus.

A mass of Christian burial will be held at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, June 4, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Rushville with Rev. Jeremy Gries presiding. Friends are welcome to visit at the church from 9:30 a.m. Thursday until time of mass. Burial will be in the Glen Cove Cemetery in Knightstown. Military rites will be observed at the cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the Jim and Helen Ewing Fund through the Rush County Community Foundation. Moster Mortuary, Rushville, has been entrusted with arrangements.

Zoey Lee Wagoner
May 12, 2014 - May 28, 2015



Zoey Lee Wagoner, 1, of Greenfield passed away Thursday, May 28, 2015, at Hancock Regional Hospital. She was born May 12, 2014, in Carmel. Zoey was a very loving, happy, bubbly baby with the prettiest red hair and most infectious smile possible, and she loved dogs and her sausage gravy. Zoey is survived by her siblings, Justin Thomas Goodpaster and Kaylee Ruth Goodpaster, both of Knightstown, Autumn Nicole Low of Eden, Hannah Rae Lynn Bennett of Kentucky; her maternal grandparents, Roxanne (Tom) Lane of Knightstown, Larry (Adona) Merriman of Shelbyville; her paternal grandparents, Louisa Wagoner Belcher of Charlottesville and Scott Spencer of Greenfield; her maternal great-grandparents, Joseph Merriman of Greenfield, Dale and Peggy Lane of Knightstown and Jay and Kay Maynard of Shelbyville; and her paternal great-grandparents, Peggy Wagoner of Greenfield and Lewis McClellan of Big Sandy, Tenn.

Zoey is preceded in death by her maternal great-grandparents, Ed and Marilyn Hiner and Alma Merriman; her paternal great-grandparents, Michael Wagoner Sr., Loretta Spencer and Phillip Spencer; and an uncle, Larry Eugene Gabbard-Merriman.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday, June 3, at Hinsey-Brown Funeral Service, Knightstown Chapel, with Rev. Joseph Merriman Sr. and Harold Rodgers officiating. Burial will follow in Glen Cove Cemetery. Friends may call from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be given to the Zoey Lee Wagoner Memorial Fund c/o Hinsey-Brown Funeral Service, 7355 S. State Rd. 109 Knightstown, IN 46148. Condolences and Memories of Zoey may be shared at www.hinsey-brown.com.

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Martin Luther King Jr.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of the Determination to Hire a Broker

Charles A. Beard Memorial Schools intends to hire a broker pursuant to Indiana Code 36-1-11-4(g) (1) to assist in the sale of property. The CAB Board of Trustees expects to make the determination at the June 16, 2015, Regular Session School Board Meeting held at Knightstown High School at 7:00 PM. The properties involved in this action include the former Carthage Elementary building and surrounding property as well as the former Kennard Elementary building and surrounding property. (6/3, 6/10)

Jubilee Days Queen Contest Tonight at KHS



Halcomb



Thomas



Darling



Cupp



Congdon



Vaughan



Burton



Mattix



Gross

Nine Girls and Their Princess Candidates Vying for Annual Tiara Title

The annual Knightstown Chamber of Commerce Jubilee Days Queen and Princess Contest will take place tonight at 6:30 p.m. in the Knightstown High School auditorium. The event is free and open to the public. Doors open at 6:15 p.m.

This year, nine queen candidates, along with their princess hopefuls, will take the stage.

Paige Halcomb is the daughter of Scott and Jennifer Halcomb. She is sponsored by the American Legion Post 152. Her princess candidate is **Emily Grace Scott**, daughter of Michelle Corbett and Brian Scott.

Hannah Thomas is the daughter of Joe and Christy Thomas. She is sponsored by Monica Sparks Photography. Her princess candidate is **Taylor Sparks**, daughter of Lance and Monica Sparks.

Allie Darling is the daughter of Adrian and Andrea Darling. She is sponsored by Knightstown Crime Watch. Her princess candidate is **Elizabeth Weller**, daughter of Mauri and Janice Pierce.

Meghan Cupp is the daughter of Danny and Jennifer Cupp. She is sponsored by Alpha Zeta Chapter of Tri Kappa. Her princess candidate is **Kaylee Imel**, daughter of Mike and Kate Imel.

Lauren Congdon is the daughter of Michelle Leonard. She is sponsored by Heritage Funeral Care. Her princess candidate is **Natalie McCartney**, daughter of Joe and Jessica Kwisz.

Julie Vaughan is the daughter of Richard and Lee Vaughan. She is sponsored by Psi Iota Xi. Her princess candidate is **Hannah Erwin**, daughter of Lloyd and Tammy Erwin.

Macy Burton is the daughter of Aaron and Jana Burton. She is sponsored by Ameriana Bank. Her princess candidate is **Mona Riggs**, daughter of Randy and Hannah Riggs.

Olivia Mattix is the daughter of David Mattix and Deanne Caudill. She is sponsored by Hoosier Home Court Cafe. Her princess candidate is **Gracie Goodpaster**, daughter of Shea and Robin Goodpaster.

Emily Gross is the daughter of

Don and Patty Gross. She is sponsored by Ktown/Wayne Twp Volunteer Fire Department. Her princess candidate is **Myranda Hall**, daughter of Mauri and Janice Pierce.

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"I wanted you to see what real courage is, instead of getting the idea that courage is a man with a gun in his hand. It's when you know you're licked before you begin but you begin anyway and you see it through no matter what."

Harper Lee
from *To Kill a Mockingbird*

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The Banner

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Banner PERSPECTIVES

Old Friends Like a Familiar Melody

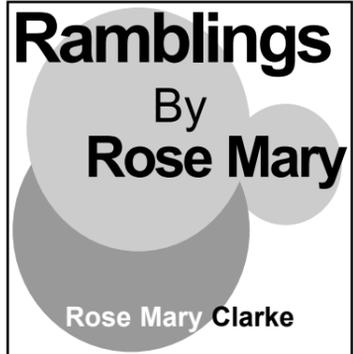
John Board called recently. "I wanted to make sure that you're OK ... After not receiving answers to e-mails." "I'm fine, but I didn't get your e-mails. I'll check my computer to see what's wrong."

How heartwarming it was that John called. He was my closest friend at Ball State. Both history majors, we'd sit in a booth at the Campus Cottage or on the steps of a church near the houses where we roomed, discuss everything under the sun and idealistically plan how we'd change American education. Sometimes we'd forget the 10:30 curfew for girls, and I'd throw pebbles at my bedroom window so that my roommate would sneak down and let me in.

Our paths diverged when John went to teach in Montana and married there, while I taught in Indianapolis and married Bill. We lost touch for many years until information about our 50th class reunion was published. One of the marvels of the computer is that it connects and reconnects people. John receives my columns, and we correspond occasionally about mutual interests such as books. A few months ago, he spent a night with us during a visit to Indiana.

When I was younger I thought that I had dozens of friends, but now I see that I've had dozens of acquaintances, but very few friends. Acquaintances move on,

but true friends are permanent. Like fine brandy, they pass the test of time. The friends of one's youth, no matter how rarely one sees them, have a direct pathway to one's heart. We don't have to get to know each other. There's no friend like an old friend. An old friend is like a familiar song whose words we may forget, but whose melody



is never lost.

When I was a high school freshman a group of girls befriended me. That changed my life dramatically as I had often been excluded from the various cliques. We hung out at Sullivans' Drive-in at the east end of town, rode around in their fathers' cars, had slumber parties at which no one slumbered, played euchre and clandestinely smoked. Thinking that we were ever so cool, we called ourselves - wait for it - "The Nine Nifty Nicitinos." However, we didn't

drink, and pot and other drugs were unheard of in little Knightstown.

I can still hear and see them with my mind's ear and eye: Clara, Darleen, Linda, Amelia ... and others - Sheila with whom I teeter-tottered during first grade, math whiz Laura Mae, farm girl Frances, sunny funny Jack Bundy who eventually died of muscular dystrophy ... neighborhood chums - the Forbes's, Mardella, Rex and Billy Vanduyne ...

I think that family life may have been different then. Our friends' parents didn't try to be our buddies, but they were a kind, dependable and cheerful presence. Alas, the only one of them who is left is the beloved, still vivacious Vivian Forst, who will be 104 years old in a few days. She is like a second mother to me and others.

When I was five years old, I met someone who has remained my friend for over 70 years. One day Mrs. Ward was visiting next door and brought her daughter, Sarah, over to our yard. I don't think that there is any adequate definition of the word "friend," but Sarah Ward fills the bill. Sarah is one of the most dependable, tenacious and totally honest of my acquaintances. We strongly disagree about several things. For example, she's the former president of the World Union and current president of the

See Rose Mary, Page 6

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

"Whoever loves God must also love his brother" ...1 John 4:21

I took a drive tonight ... and I didn't really go anywhere ... just up and down the streets of this town ... decompressing and reflecting on the end of a monumental week ... with months in the planning behind me.

My eyes were blind to any potholes, any yards of uncut grass.

Rather, I saw the children playing in their yards ... the old couples on their porches waving to cars as they passed ... on the same streets of my youth ... new faces ... new smiles ... new beautiful memories being made ... to replace those whose lives had toiled in those same yards, who now reap the harvest in heaven of the seeds they'd sown on earth.

And so it goes ...

I got down on my knees tonight ... and prayed ... (mind you, not while I was driving).

I returned to the Public Square long after we had all packed up to survey the quiet, serene area. With seemingly not a soul in sight the clouds were dark and threatening. I'd found an errant piece of trash that blew by me, picked it up and placed it in one of the trash receptacles. That's when my knees grew weak and I got down on my knees, holding on to the trash can. I may have been alone, but this community was embracing me as was my heavenly Father. I broke down, just like the boxes we had broken down earlier, holding on to the dumpster handle. But they were tears, not only of exhaustion and weariness, but mainly tears of joy and prayers of thankfulness.

I'm thankful for our gracious heavenly Father, for a community that came together, for the lack of rain during the sale, for blessing us with sales totaling close to \$3,500 for the Beautify Knightstown Community Yard Sale.

"I came on some woods, And stood at a fork in the road, My choices were clear, Yet I froze with the fear, Of not knowing which way to go, One road was simple, Acceptance of life, The other road offered sweet peace, When I made my decision, My vision became my release." -Dan Fogelberg

It is a very emotional time for me right now, reflecting not only on this seed that will start to help sew great things for Knightstown, but also the friendships made, the friendships solidified, the love shown for my town - our town - through donations, purchases and volunteer time and effort of so many - the many who are still here and the many who live far away - who still love our town and the memories that made them who they are.

I always feel sorry for the winners giving their acceptance speeches on award shows who literally thank the thousands (each and every name cited), rushing to cite them all before the orchestra is cued up to cut them off midstream. They never make it. Time for commercial break. And so I will not use this format to thank all those hundreds of people who gave so much of their time, effort, and money to make this sale a success. They will be thanked directly and appropriately soon.

But, I would be amiss to not note a few outstanding individuals who gave their all: strained muscles, aching feet, sunburn and hours upon hours of their time. This sale would NOT have happened without them.

Will Linda Lashbrook, Janet McGuire, Greg Bryze, Mary Jo Purtee and Belinda Grigsby please stand up and take a bow.? The community of Knightstown applauds you. You all exemplify the heart and soul of this community, and the spirit of pride in it. Linda Newkirk must also be recognized. She knows what she generously did, and we are ever so grateful.

The wonderful Psi Iota Psi sorority must be applauded for having faith in this little ragtag bunch, recognizing the potential and sponsoring this sale. The Town of Knightstown must be thanked for approving our use of the Public Square.

Once open a time, out of the ashes of the Alhambra Theater, the Henry County Area Veterans Memorial was born. Future rebirths will keep

See Letters, Page 7

Yard Sale Successful with Transparency

Congratulations to Kevin Richey and his supporters for their successful Knightstown community yard sale, which took place last week and over the weekend.

Aimed at raising money to beautify the community, the sale raised nearly \$3,500, according to Richey, who said the fundraiser's finances are completely open to public inspection.

Richey was moved to undertake the yard sale after the town of Knightstown began neglecting the site of the former Bullet Hole building, which is near to his restaurant, Hoosier Home Court Cafe.

The town had the building razed, but then left the lot and a huge expanse of decaying wall in an unsightly and unkempt condition.

The town council said it doesn't have any money for such work.

That prompted Richey to take action. He formulated a plan to host the sale on the Public Square, coinciding with the annual U.S. 40 yard sales. He sought permission from the town, which eventually granted it. Richey then partnered with Psi Iota Xi sorority in order to have property liability insurance.

Next, the Knightstown native began seeking yard sale donations from the community. In this, he was very successful, gathering an immense variety of items from across town.

Richey didn't do all this single-handedly, of course. He was aided by a group of like-minded volunteers who set out to acquire, organize, price and display all the items.

When sale time came, so did the buyers, who descended on the Public Square like hungry locusts. When the dust cleared, Richey and the volunteers had

netted almost \$3,500 - with small donations still rolling in. That's no small feat for any group in this community, especially one that opens up its financial records for all to see.

I'll be honest, I was reluctant to get The Banner too heavily involved in the project. Knightstown engages in a ton of fundraising, and not all of it's on the up-and-up. A few organizations conceal their finances and don't want others to see inside. Why?

Any non-profit organization raising funds within the community should gladly let the sun shine in on their finances. What is there to hide?

Richey and his group have nothing to hide. That's a breath of fresh air - and one that restores my faith in those who truly have the community's best interests in mind.

I congratulate them. I admire them. I respect them. You should, too.

The money they raised will be applied to community beautification in a way not yet decided. According to Richey, the community will help choose how those funds are applied.

He said he wants to include, rather than exclude, those who contributed to this project. Richey said the yard sale committee will hammer out some proposals on how to spend the money, then let community members weigh in on which one(s) they want to pursue.

Who ever heard of such a thing?

I'm joking, of course. It's a great idea. It's a commonsense solution to a serious problem. It's honest. It's up-front. People who contributed will know what happened to their money.

It's about time.



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"Freedom is hammered out on the anvil of discussion, dissent and debate."
Hubert H. Humphrey

BITS & PIECES

◆The Knightstown **Farmers Market** is gearing up for another season. A variety of new vendors are now being sought. Hand-crafted goods, including hand-knitted items, are welcome at the market, which will get underway Saturday, June 13, 8 a.m.-noon, on Knightstown's Public Square. The market will continue each Saturday at same time and place each Saturday through October. Call Kelley Millhoan at 765-571-2325 for more info.

◆Knightstown American Legion Post 152 will host a **parking lot party** Saturday, June 6, 7-11 p.m. The event will feature live music courtesy of The Free Radicals. Pork chop sandwiches are on the menu, and outdoor beer tent will be open. The event is open to the public.

◆Knightstown High School head football coach Kevin Miller is hosting his youth and middle school **football camp** July 20-23 at KHS. Youth (grades K-6) will be at camp 5-6:30 p.m. each day, while middle school kids (grades 7-9) will be at camp 6:30-8 p.m. For more information, contact Miller at kmiller1@cabear.k12.in.us.

◆Suzy Zeller at Knightstown's Unique Boutique & Bridal is seeking vendors for a **bridal show** to be held during this year's Fall Fest on the Public Square. For information about this event and how to get a vendor booth, call Zeller at 317-498-6096.

◆Southwest District Ambulance Service is hosting a **free community first aid and CPR course** on Saturday, June 13, at 9 a.m. The ambulance barn is located across from Knightstown High School on U.S. 40 west of Knightstown. To register, call 765-571-0285.

◆Knightstown **Main Street Inc.** is meeting Monday, June 8, at 5:30 p.m. in the back meeting room of the Hoosier Gym, which is accessible from the Adams Street side. This meeting is open to the general public. For more information about this meeting or KMS, contact Helen Gorman at 765-717-1593 or Kelly Millhoan at 317-508-1222.

◆The Knightstown High School **Alumni Association** Reunion and Banquet will take place on June 27. The class of 1965 will be honored. The classes of 1955, 1975 and 1990 will be recognized. It will take place at Knightstown High School, 8149 West U.S. 40. Parking is available behind the building. The registration and social time is 2-4:30 p.m. Seating will take place at 4:30 p.m. Dinner is at 5 p.m. Reservations are required by June 20. For more info, e-mail khsaa@myninestar.net.

◆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.

◆The **Historic Knightstown museum**, located on the Public Square at 22 N. Washington St., has new summer hours. The museum's summer hours are 10 a.m.-2 p.m. each Friday and Saturday, or by appointment. For more informa-

tion, or to schedule a museum visit 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.

◆A pre-kindergarten "**Super Hero Walk**" will take place Saturday, June 6, on the National Road Heritage Trail. Registration starts at 9 a.m. For more information, call Debbie Loveall at 765-212-7568.

◆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 the first Thursday of the month 3-5 p.m. and the second Saturday of the month 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Bits & Pieces news submissions are gladly accepted at The Banner. News items will be published as much as possible prior to events, space permitting. Items may be submitted to thebanner@embarqmail.com.

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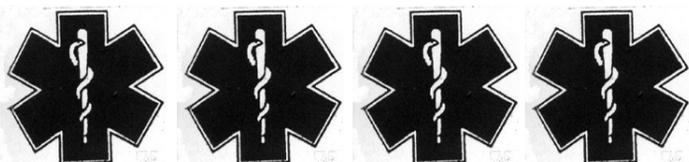
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One of Indiana's Original County Historians, Richard Ratcliff Himself A Piece of Living History

by Logan Cox
for The Banner

"I've always been interested in history," said Spiceland native and Henry County historian Richard P. Ratcliff. "I think it all dates back to my junior high teacher, Robert Wade. I think he developed that. Most of my courses in college were in history. I think it all dates back to that."

In 1981, the Indiana Historical Society created the what is called the County Historian Program in an effort to improve the state's historical communication network. Thus, each county was assigned a historian. Ratcliff has been one of these historians ever since.

"I think there's only two of us that are original left. Over the years, the others have been replaced. Mainly my interest is just Henry County," Ratcliff said.

Over the years, Ratcliff has written several books documenting the history of Henry County and his hometown of Spiceland. First, he wrote a history of the Spiceland Friends' Church in 1963. Then, in 1987, he wrote what is called *The Henry County Sampler*. In 1999, he wrote a book titled *Henry County at the Millennium*. And lastly, in 2014, Ratcliff wrote *Images of America: Spiceland Township*. That was the one printed by Arcadia Publishing in Charleston, S.C.

Outside of published historical works, Ratcliff has taken responsibility for putting together cemetery recordings. This work began in the early 1960s when Tom Mayhill began compiling inscriptions from many of the cemeteries in southwestern Henry County, mainly just four in the Spiceland, Wayne, Greensboro and Harrison townships.

However, Mr. Mayhill was only able to record what he found on the tombstones at the time. Many unmarked burials weren't recorded at all. This left people like Ratcliff to eventually take over where Mr. Mayhill left off and continue recording from there.

"What I've been doing for the last few years is redoing those records using all kinds of newspapers,

church records, courthouse records, trying to come up with names that were left out," he said. "For instance, I'm just getting ready to tackle the cemetery of Greensboro. So I've done a lot that in recent years. These aren't published works, but I've made them available to family members and various churches and the state historical society and Henry County Historical Society, places like that."

Ratcliff has served in many different capacities in the local area over the years. He has been the president and founder of the Spiceland Preservation and Tourism Society since 1997. They maintain Hoover Hall, the local community center, art gallery and museum.

He's been president of the Spiceland Alumni Association for 43 years, which meets annually, and had their 137th annual meeting just last month.

For 25 years, he served as either chairman of the board or president of the Henry County Historical Society.

For 41 years, he's been the president of the Spiceland High School and Academy Alumni and Former Students Association.

From 1967 to 2006, he was a member, and later president of the Spiceland Town-Twp Public Library Board.

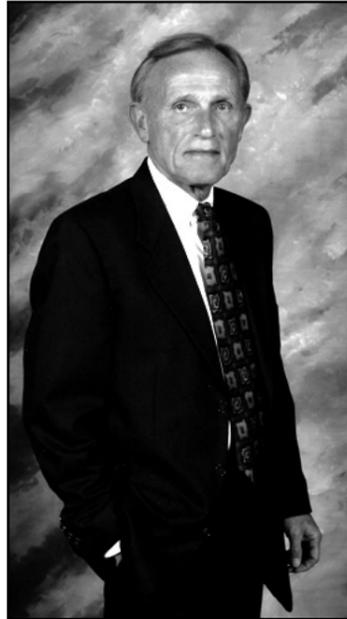
He is also the clerk and head of Spiceland Friends Church.

"I wish that perhaps more people would be interested in our local history than there are," said Ratcliff. "We have some really good resources at hand, particularly the Henry County Historical Society Museum. I think that's one of the best kept secrets in the county, it's a remarkable place."

According to him, other places that deserve merit include Historic Knightstown, Inc., the Wright Memorial, and the Hoover Hall in Spiceland, which serves as their local historical society.

"I think we often find that many outsiders are perhaps more interested in our local history than we are. We find that true with the Wright Memorial. I guess

See Ratcliff, Page 14



THIS SECTION SPONSORED BY

MidCountry Media, Inc.

Rose Mary, from Page 4

Indiana Woman's Christian Temperance Union. A teetotaler, she drinks sparkling apple juice at Christmas meals at our home while I quaff champagne.

No two friendships are alike. Each one of those

unique friends and pals from my distant youth enriched my life and reside in a special trunk of memories in my mental attic. More to come.

Next week: Wanda
wclarke@comcast.net

MEETINGS CALENDAR

Wed., June 3 - Henry Co. Alcoholic Beverage Board meeting, 10 a.m., Old Circuit Court Room, 2nd floor of courthouse, New Castle

Thurs., June 4 - Hancock Co. Drainage Board meeting, 8 a.m., Courthouse Annex room 101, Greenfield

Thurs., June 4 - Henry Co. Technical Review Board meeting, 9 a.m., Henry County Office Building Suite 107, New Castle

Thurs., June 4 - Rush Co. Board of Zoning Appeals meeting, 7:30 p.m., courthouse assembly room, Rushville

Thurs., June 4 - Kennard Town Council meeting, 7 p.m., Kennard Town Hall

Sat., June 6 - Wilkinson Town Council meeting, 9:30 a.m., Wilkinson Town Hall

Mon., June 8 - Carthage Town Council meeting, 6 p.m., Carthage Town Hall

Mon., June 8 - Eastern Hancock School Board meeting, 7 p.m., corporation office

Tues., June 9 - Knightstown Public Library Board meeting, 4:30 p.m., at library

Tues., June 9 - South Henry School Corp. board meeting, 7 p.m.

Tues., June 9 - Rush Co. Historic Board meeting, 7 p.m., Historical Museum, 619 N. Perkins St., Rushville

Wed., June 10 - Rush Co. Council meeting, 8 a.m., courthouse room 211, Rushville

Wed., June 10 - Hancock Co. Council meeting, 8:30 a.m., Courthouse Annex room 101, Greenfield

Wed., June 10 - Henry Co. Drainage Board meeting, 9 a.m., Henry County Office Building Suite 107, New Castle

Wed., June 10 - Henry Co. Commissioners meeting, 6 p.m., Old Circuit Court Room, 2nd floor of courthouse, New

Castle

Thurs., June 11 - Hancock Co. Planning Commission technical committee meeting, 9 a.m., Courthouse Annex room 101, Greenfield

Thurs., June 11 - Lewisville Town Council, 6 p.m., Houston Brick, 101 E. Main St.

Mon., June 15 - Rush Co. Commissioners meeting, 9 a.m., courthouse room 103, Rushville

Tues., June 16 - Hancock Co. Commissioners meeting, 8 a.m., Courthouse Annex room 101, Greenfield

Tues., June 16 - Rush Co. Health Dept. board meeting, 7 p.m., Health Dept. office at courthouse, Rushville

Thurs., June 18 - Hancock Co. Planning Commission plat committee meeting, 8:30 a.m., Courthouse Annex room 101, Greenfield

FOLKWAYS

Waits Hosts Homemakers

The May 19 meeting of the Town and Country Homemakers Club was held at the home of Kathryn Waits.

After reciting the pledge to the flag and the Homemakers' Creed, Kathryn read "Be a Wait Watcher," encouraging others to slow down and wait and watch for life's blessings. As a follow-up, each member complimented the person next to her. Eight members responded to roll call by giving the number of colors in the rainbow.

In the cultural lesson given by Sandra Van Hoy, members learned of the tremendous outpouring of sympathy in the state of Indiana during the passage of the funeral train carrying the body of Abraham Lincoln through the state. It was estimated that over 100,000 people waited in pouring rain to view the casket. A gilded eagle that hung

over the president's catafalque in the old statehouse is now on display by the Columbia Club in Indianapolis.

A timely health and safety lesson on allergies was presented by Waits, confirming that allergies are more prevalent and have more symptoms than they once did. Some newer approaches to allergy control that have been developed include immunotherapy, acupuncture and stress management.

The business meeting highlighted the upcoming home and family conference (June 9-11) in Indianapolis, and the Henry County Fair (July 8-18). All who attended the spring tea on May 5 agreed that the speaker's presentation on making quilted jackets from fabric remnants that memorialize people and events in people's lives was

both moving and entertaining.

Today's world seems to be overwhelmed by frightening situations, panic over possible tragedies, and epidemics that may never happen. Waits' lesson on fear reminded the group to look at each situation carefully and logically, and to realize that much of today's news is designed to entertain and attract audiences. Much of what people are warned about is highly unlikely to happen, or be much less severe than the warnings. Americans are given the worst possible scenarios. Folks should be cautious and logical in reacting to such scenarios for both our physical and mental health.

After the meeting, a cool and refreshing dessert was enjoyed by members Sonnie Thompson, Judy Martin, Melody Zapf, Norma Reece, Pam Bever, Van Hoy, Brenda Reece and Waits.

Summit Lake Youth Fishing Derby Saturday

Summit Lake State Park will host its annual youth fishing derby on Saturday, June 6.

The derby runs from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the boat rental. A casting contest will start at 10:30 a.m.

The derby is open to children ages 16 and younger. Bait will be provided, and participants can borrow fishing equipment if they do not have their own.

Basic instruction will be provided to children who are new to fishing.

Children should check-in by 9:45 a.m. A prize

drawing for all participants will be held at 11 a.m.

Participation is free after paying the standard gate fee of \$7 per in-state vehicle and \$9 per out-of-state vehicle.

Free fishing is available to all visitors, June 6 and 7, which is Free Fishing Weekend in Indiana. During Free Fishing Weekend, anglers do not need to possess a fishing license.

For more information, call 765-766-5873 or visit stateparks.in.gov/2967.htm.

Mounds State Park Hosting 'Get Outdoors' Day

Explore the White River or learn about creatures of the night during programs celebrating national Get Outdoors Day at Mounds State Park, June 13.

Both programs are led by park naturalists and geared toward families and children. Participants in

both programs should meet at the campground store.

Exploring the White River runs from 3 to 4 p.m. Participants should expect to get wet and bring old shoes to protect their feet. Water shoes are recommended. Nets and containers will be provided.

Learn about creatures of the night during the park's first night hike of the year. Visitors should meet at 8 p.m. for the hour-long hike. Parking will be available by the campground store for non-campers. The park is located at 4306 Mounds Road, Anderson.

Letters, from Page 4

happening. Future memories will be made. This seed money may just be a raindrop in the ocean, but it will make a difference because it was sewn with love.

"So it goes like it goes, Like the river flows, And time it rolls right on, And maybe what's good gets a little bit better, And maybe what's bad gets gone." - theme from *Norma Rae*

I took a drive tonight. I didn't really go anywhere, but I returned home not the man I was when I left on this short journey. Now go to bed. Time for church in the morning.

I'm home. I'm safe, and I love you all with all my soul.

Kevin Richey
Knightstown

Dear Editor,

Can't Beat Small Towns!
It's a good plan ... offer great food to nice people and success will follow. On Saturday, May 30, I spent time at our church's bake sale booth on the Knightstown Public Square. Homemade pies and other goodies are always a surefire way to draw curious crowds and, once they see the sumptuous baked goods, few people walk away empty-handed.

As delighted as I was with the ladies of our church who turned out a wonderful variety of terrific food for the sale, I was even happier with the fellowship the bake sale generated. The people who stopped by were pleasant and warm - just what you'd hope for in a small-town setting.

Since I don't live in Knightstown, it was a perfect way for me to see friends from the past and make new friends as well.

Hungry people spent some of their money at our booth that Saturday, but there was another type of hunger addressed as well-the need to just pause awhile and feed our souls with the privilege of being with friendly people who take time to say hello, or share a story about how the family's doing or what's new in the community.

That time on the square reminded me of how much we seem to be drawn to something akin to the "good old days," when people enjoyed taking time out to be part of a simpler time.

My thanks to everyone who has a positive vision for our little town, and thanks to all the people who recently reminded me that small towns are special.

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Knightstown First Wesleyan Church

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Banner Corrections Noted



The women in the above photograph, which accompanied a front-page story in last week's Banner, were misidentified in the photo caption. Carolyn Shryock, the Charles A. Beard Memorial School Corp.'s 2015 Teacher of the Year, is on the right, and Knightstown Elementary School Principal Danielle Carmichael is on the left.

Also, The Banner incorrectly listed Cort Swincher as holding the Ward 4 seat on the Knightstown Town Council and Mitch Roland as the Ward 3 councilman in the May 6 issue. In fact, Roland represents Ward 4 and Swincher is the Ward 3 councilman.

The Banner regrets its errors and apologizes for any confusion or inconvenience they may have caused. We will publish corrections on significant factual errors.

County Election Board Meeting June 16

The Henry County Election Board will be hosting a public meeting to discuss moving the county toward having vote centers instead of precinct-based voting locations for all upcoming elections.

This meeting, which is open to the public, will be held Tuesday, June 16, at 6 p.m. in the auditorium at the New Castle-Henry County

Public Library, located at 376 S. 15th St., New Castle.

The election board is expected to present a draft vote center plan and brief discussion. Board members will be accepting public input about the plan for 30 days, after which there will be another meeting to discuss those suggestions before the plan is finalized.

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Knights town High School senior Kaleb Kinnaman hovers around on a rope while other Class of 2015 members finish up their dinners.



Tyler Richardson dives under a leaping Kaleb Kinnaman as seniors get the fabled Keesling water slide going Friday evening.

Having finished dinner, Kori Biehl (right, at left) gets some help putting her hair up from Emily Sander.

Photos by
Eric Cox



Carthage Man Arrested in March Infant Death

The father of a Carthage infant who died in early March has been arrested and charged in connection with this son's death.

Dylon Lakes, 25, has been charged with neglect of a dependent resulting in death of his son, Jax Lakes, who was a week shy of being three months old when he died at their Carthage apartment at 206 Winters Way on Sunday, March 1. If convicted of this Level 1 felony, Lakes, for whom court documents list a Rushville address, could face 20-40 years in prison and a fine of up to \$10,000.

An autopsy report found that the child died from positional asphyxia, caused by placement in an unsafe sleeping position. The manner of death was ruled accidental.

According to police reports included with charging documents the Rush County Prosecutor's office filed last week, Jax had been left in Lake's care while the baby's mother, Jessica Seay, was at work at her job at a pizza place in Greensburg. Lakes reportedly told police he placed his son face down in his bassinet at around 9:30 a.m., then went back to sleep and didn't get up to check on him again until around 3:30 that afternoon, at which time he found him dead. Lakes, the court documents say,

admitted to officers that he had smoked pot the night before. He also said he and a 14-year-old male juvenile friend had stayed up until about 5 in the morning playing video games.

Police reports indicate Lakes and the juvenile did not immediately call 911 to report the death. Instead, they called the juvenile's mother, who allegedly drove to Lakes apartment and, at Lake's request, helped remove marijuana and paraphernalia from the apartment.

The call to 911 was made more than an hour after the baby had been discovered deceased.

While police didn't find any drugs at Lakes apartment on March 1, officers said in their reports that they could smell marijuana there. Eventually, after talking with the juvenile's mother and her boyfriend, they were able to track down the drugs and paraphernalia that had been removed from Lakes' apartment.

Lakes' demeanor was described as "very odd" by one officer. Lakes, he said, "didn't appear to be very emotionally upset given the situation."

The Rush County Prosecutor has also charged Lakes with
See Infant, Page 10

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Knightstown Elementary kindergarteners Megan Richardson (left) and Carter Gossett play with bubbles Thursday at Sunset Park. Kids not only got to play there; they also enjoyed brown-bag lunches, romped on playground equipment and waxed artistic with sidewalk chalk.

Play Date

Last Day of School Means Fun at Sunset Park for Knightstown Elementary Students



Kindergarten teacher Amanda McDonald (left) watches her students play on the Sunset Park seesaws.



Knightstown Elementary School kindergarten teacher Leslie Spooner throws a ball through hoops held up by her students.



Kindergarten parent volunteer Melanie Scott distributes sticks of sidewalk chalk to excited students.



Levi Willis (right) lets a ball fly as Kassie Peavler holds the hoop.



Toby Hunt clowns around with his classmates at the park Thursday.



Carolyn Shryock's kindergarten class enjoys the sunshine and brown-bag lunches.

Photos by Eric Cox

State Permits Town to Close U.S. 40 for Jubilee Days Parade

The Indiana Department of Transportation has issued a permit to the town of Knightstown to close eastbound and westbound U.S. 40 between Madison and Adams Streets this Saturday.

The community's annual Jubilee Days Parade requires this closure from mile marker 111.16 to 111.58 between the hours of noon and 2 p.m.

Local police will provide traffic control.

Most Jubilee Days activities will be staged on Knightstown's Public Square in the heart of town, just north of the National Road.

There will be a Citizen of the Year banquet, queen and princess contests, amusement rides, vendor booths and food stands.

Hunter Haines Hits Hole-in-one



Hunter Haines poses with his hole-in-one ball at Royal Hylands Golf Club's ninth hole. (Photos provided)



What a way to start the summer for Hunter Haines of Knightstown!

On May 28, Haines hit his first hole-in-one, while playing an evening round at Royal Hylands Golf Club in Knightstown.

The feat occurred on the ninth hole, an 80-yard par 3. His golf skills barely a year old, the young Haines hit a wedge on the uphill shot. The position of his lie couldn't be determined until he and his partner, Travis Titus, topped the hill.

There, Haines found he'd sunk it in one stroke. Royal Hylands Manager Brad Hale said Haines is "a natural lefty" who's picked up on golf quickly. He's the son of Darren and Phyllis Haines of Knightstown.

Planners Have Brief Meeting

by Jeff Eakins
for The Banner

With only four of its seven members present, the Knightstown Plan Commission meeting Monday evening was relatively short, clocking in at just over a half hour, well under their usual length of at least 90 minutes.

The absence of members Clyde South, Greg Neice and Ed Wright had an immediate impact. With member Val Trump abstaining from a vote to approve minutes from the previous meeting on May 4 because she had missed that meeting, the remaining three members - President Kevin Richey, Vice President Bill Bergmann and Cassandra Steele - were one vote

short of the four needed to approve them.

Richey initially declared that the May 4 minutes had been approved 3-0, but Trump pointed out that a fourth vote was required to provide the majority vote needed for the seven-member commission. Richey said the May 4 minutes would be tabled and dealt with at the plan commission's next meeting.

During brief public comments, local businessman Bill Gorman said he thought that various sales held in town last week in conjunction with the National Road yard sale had gone "very well," and Richey agreed that it had been "a good week." Gorman said he thought the town had been as busy as he'd seen it since the 1960s or '70s.

Lisa Hall, the plan commission's secretary, provided members with copies of Henry County's comprehensive plan. Richey said it appeared that the plan had not been updated since late 1999.

Trump suggested that the plan commission start looking for a grant writer who could help them

apply for a planning grant through the state's Office of Community and Rural Affairs. She offered to research this issue and report back at a later meeting.

Richey asked Hall to contact the town's attorney, Gregg Morelock, to see if he can attend a plan commission meeting on Monday, June 15. The plan commission wants to have Morelock review parts of the town's comprehensive plan that deal with zoning and other land use issues to see if changes are needed.

The plan commission did vote Monday to hold their June 8 meeting at 5:30 p.m. in the back meeting room at the Hoosier Gym, which is accessible from the Adams Street entrance. This meeting will be held in conjunction with one already scheduled for that date, time and location by Knightstown Main Street Inc., a local nonprofit group Gorman helped form. KMSI is preparing to seek a "Main Street" designation from the state that make the town eligible for grants that would help fund repairs to business facades and other downtown revitalization efforts.

Infant, from Page 8

criminal recklessness with respect to his son's death, and with possession of marijuana. These are both Class B misdemeanors that could bring up to 180 days in jail and a fine of up to \$1,000.

During an initial hearing in Rush Superior Court 1 last Thursday, May 28, Judge Brian Hill appointed Rushville attorney Bryan Barrett to serve as Lakes' public defender. Barrett has filed a request with the court, asking that Lakes' \$100,000 bond be reduced and Hill has scheduled a hearing for that on June 10 at 9:45 a.m.

Lakes has pretrial conferences scheduled for July 21 and Aug. 31. A jury trial is tentatively set for

Sept. 29.

In 2011, Lakes pleaded guilty in Henry County to a felony criminal reckless charge and, in exchange for his plea to that charge, the prosecutor dropped a more serious neglect of dependent charge that had been filed in that case. That facts underlying that case were not available to The Banner by the news deadline for this week's issue.

Lakes was sentenced to home detention for a year in the Henry County case. However, when he failed to comply with conditions of his probation, he was ordered to serve his time, less credit for 21 days, in jail.

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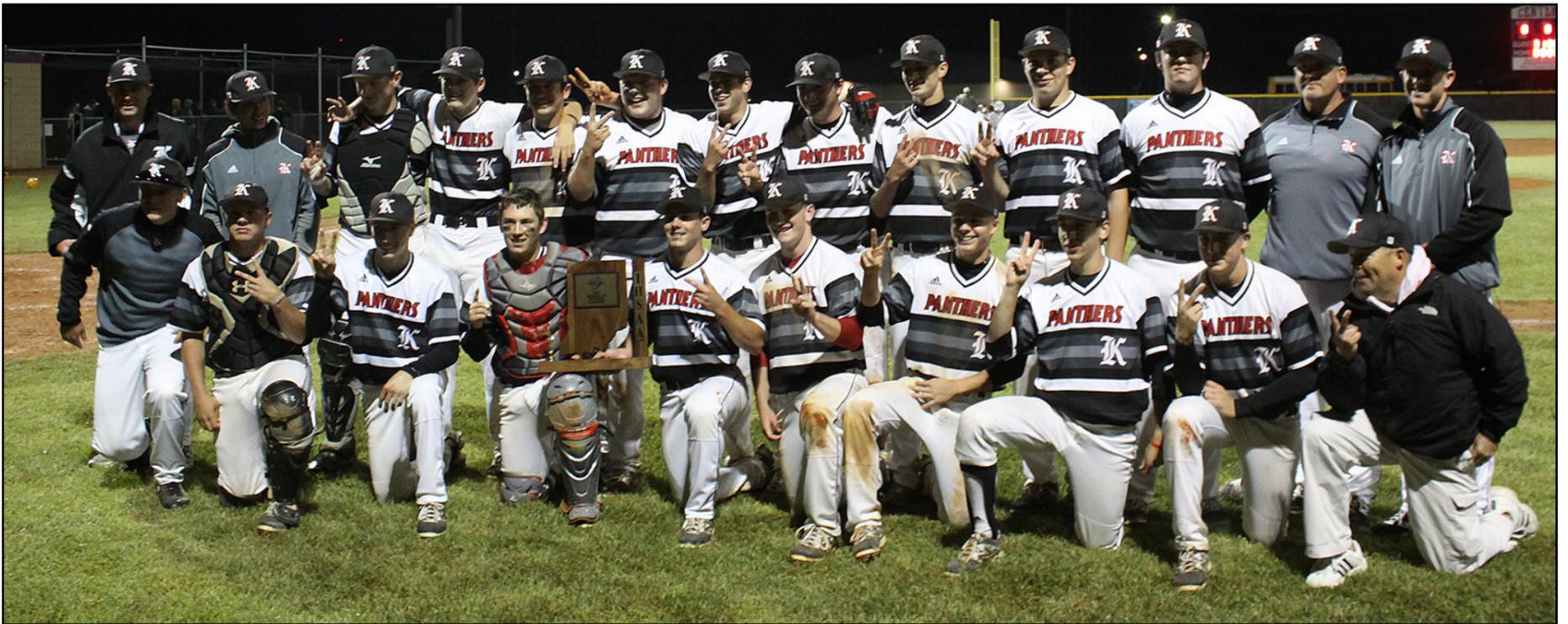
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LOCAL SPORTS



The Knightstown High School varsity baseball team and coaching staff pose with their sectional championship trophy. (Eric Cox photos)

Sectional Champs x 2

Panthers Knock-out Union County, Northeastern to Claim 2nd Consecutive Sectional Title

**By Stacy Cox
General Manager**

Last year when the Knightstown baseball team won the sectional championship, it had been 33 years since the school had won a sectional title.

Monday night in Centerville, the Panthers made it two sectional titles in a row.

Knightstown again enjoyed a first-round bye this year, as they had last year.

They faced Union County Monday morning after the Patriots had defeated Eastern Hancock in round one May 27. The Panthers held strong to get the 5-3 win over Union County, advancing to the championship game.

Following the Panthers-Patriots game, Northeastern and Hagerstown played. Northeastern had defeated Centerville in the first round May 28 and Hagerstown had advanced after beating first round opponent Cambridge City Lincoln May 28.

Northeastern clobbered Hagerstown 15-1 to move on to face Knightstown in the championship later that evening.

In the championship game, under the lights, the Panthers won 5-3 again.

"It was a great day for Knightstown baseball," said head coach Daren Hardesty. "We played two tough games and battled to win both. I'm proud of our senior pitchers, Jake Kwisz and Tyler Richardson, for their performances on the mound. They both competed and finished. We are now back-to-back sectional 41 champions and are excited about the opportunity to play in regionals this Saturday."

KHS vs Union County

In the morning game, the Panthers started in their usual fashion, getting on the board quickly.

Drake Peggs led off for KHS and was walked. Kaleb Kinnaman then smashed a hit to left field for one of his three singles on the day.

Richardson took a hit by the pitcher to load the bases up. Isaac McRoberts hit a grounder to the shortstop who threw to second base for the first out but then overthrew to first on a double-play attempt. Peggs and

Kinnaman both scored.

Kwisz pitched the entire first game for the Panthers. He walked the first batter of the game who then attempted to steal second but was thrown out by catcher Isaac McRoberts to Peggs.

The Patriots eventually got runners on at first and third but were left hanging when

Peggs stepped up and pounded the ball to right centerfield for a double. Jones advanced to third.

Kinnaman, who was named the team's Player of the Game, knocked a line drive up the middle, scoring both Jones and Peggs to increase the Panther lead 4-1.

Kwisz struck out the first batter in the

grounded out to the shortstop for the second out.

Kinnaman then ripped a grounder to left field to score Hubble. Richardson followed with a beautiful line drive to right field for a single, advancing Kinnaman to third.

Both players were left on base following a strikeout by McRoberts to end the inning.

Union County rallied in the bottom of sixth. Their first batter hit a single and was advanced to second after the next batter ground out to Kwisz.

Peggs made a good play to stop a shot up the middle by the next batter but his throw to Richardson at first was in the dirt, getting past him. With runners on second and third, the next batter hit another shot up the middle that Peggs snagged and threw to first for the second out, allowing one runner to score and the other to advance.

Though McRoberts' performance behind the plate was stellar all day, a wild pitch by Kwisz got past him and the Patriots scored again. The inning ended with a grounder to Kwisz who threw to first for the third out.

After six innings, the score stood at 5-3.

Burton out-hustled a grounder to the shortstop to get on base in the seventh but that was all the Panthers could get.

The Panthers dealt swiftly with the three Patriots at bat in the bottom of the seventh, including a nice stretch by Richardson at first to catch the throw by third baseman Spencer Mattix.

Through light rain and cold temperatures, the Panthers stayed calm against the Patriots for the 5-3 win.

Kinnaman led the team with three hits and three RBIs.

Kwisz struck out seven batters and walked four while giving up three runs on six hits and one error.

KHS vs. Northeastern

In the evening game, the rain had stopped but the temperatures felt more like football-playing weather.

Richardson had a solid game, both on the mound and at the plate. He was named the team's Player of the Game, executing with confidence throughout.

See Champs, Page 12



Freshman right-fielder Tyler Burton (right) gets a fist bump from senior Jake Kwisz after scoring a run.

Kwisz ended the inning with a strikeout, keeping the Panthers up 2-0.

KHS had runners on first and second in the second inning when the Patriots' shortstop made a diving catch of a Kinnaman line drive for the third out. The Panthers held UC scoreless again to stay up 2-0 after two.

McRoberts ripped a shot to left field for a single in the third inning but the Panthers were unable to score.

The Patriots got three solid hits in the bottom of the third, scoring one run to tighten up the score 2-1 after three innings.

Tyler Burton led off the fourth inning for Knightstown, hitting a long fly ball to centerfield that was caught for the first out. Tyler Hubble then grounded out.

But, with two outs, Mike Jones was sent to first after being hit by a pitch.

bottom of fourth then walked the next three to load the bases.

Hardesty came out to the mound for a brief chat with his pitcher. Kwisz then struck out the next batter and the following one hit an easy grounder to Kwisz who threw to first for the third out.

McRoberts drilled a grounder between the shortstop and third baseman for a single to lead off the fifth inning. But, the Panthers were unable to get much else going, leaving McRoberts on base.

The Panthers got three up and three down in the bottom of the fifth to hold the score at 4-1.

Hubble led off the sixth inning with a grounder to the second baseman and hustled to outrun the throw to first. Jones hit a sacrifice bunt to move Hubble to second. Peggs

Champs, from Page 11

The Panthers kicked off the championship game against the Northeastern Knights by getting on the board in the top of the first with three runs.

Peggs again was walked to lead off the game. Kinnaman then grounded the ball to the third baseman who threw to second, putting out Peggs.

But, the Knights' attempt to make a double play was too high for the first baseman and Kinnaman hustled to second.

Richardson stepped up and pounded a grounder between the first and second basemen for a single, advancing Kinnaman to third.

The Knights' left-handed pitcher then balked, sending Kinnaman across home plate and advancing Richardson to second.

McRoberts drilled a shot down the first base line for an RBI-single and safely stole second while Mattix was at bat.

Mattix hit a fly out to right field then Jake Bearhope lined a double down the first base line, scoring McRoberts from second. Kwisz grounded out for the team's third out.

Northeastern's lead-off batter got a base hit to right field but the Panthers put out the next three batters to take a 3-0 lead after the first inning.

Hubble grounded out to lead off the second inning then Burton stepped to the plate and nailed the first pitch to centerfield for a single.

Peggs put down a short hit to the second baseman, advancing Burton but getting the second out.

Kinnaman ripped a nice line drive down the left field line for a double, scoring Burton. Richardson grounded out to the second baseman to end the top half of the inning with the Panthers up 4-0.

Knightstown got three up and three down with grounders handled by Mattix at third, Richardson at the mound and Kwisz at second.

The Panthers were three up and down to start the third inning, including a hard line drive by Mattix straight at lower chest of the Northeastern pitcher, who recovered enough to make the out at first.

The Knights were scoreless in the bottom of the third with three straight outs.

Kwisz and Hubble were both struck out standing to start the fourth inning. Burton grounded out to the first baseman for the third out.

The Knights' lead-off batter in the fourth grounded out to Richardson. Then the next

batter was walked and the following two Northeastern batters hit singles to load the bases.

One Knight scored when the next batter hit up the middle to Kwisz, who threw to Peggs for the out at second.

With runners on third and first, the next Knight batter pounded out a long shot over the head of Kinnaman in centerfield for a double and two more runs scored.

Richardson struck out the next batter to put a stop to Northeastern's big inning. The Knights' three runs in the fourth would be their only runs.

Despite the top of the lineup at bat for the Panthers, they went scoreless in the fifth.

Northeastern's lead-off batter in the bottom of the fifth hit a nice shot along the left field line for a double. Richardson struck out the next batter and Kinnaman caught the next two batters' long flies to centerfield.

Both teams were scoreless in the sixth and the score stood at 4-3.

The top of the Panthers' lineup was up to start the seventh inning against a new pitcher for Northeastern.

Peggs put down a solid hit to the shortstop who overthrew the first baseman, allow-

ing Peggs to advance to second. He would move on to third on a bad pitch to Kinnaman.

Kinnaman struck out, then Richardson had one of the biggest hits of the game, drilling a shot up the middle for an RBI-single.

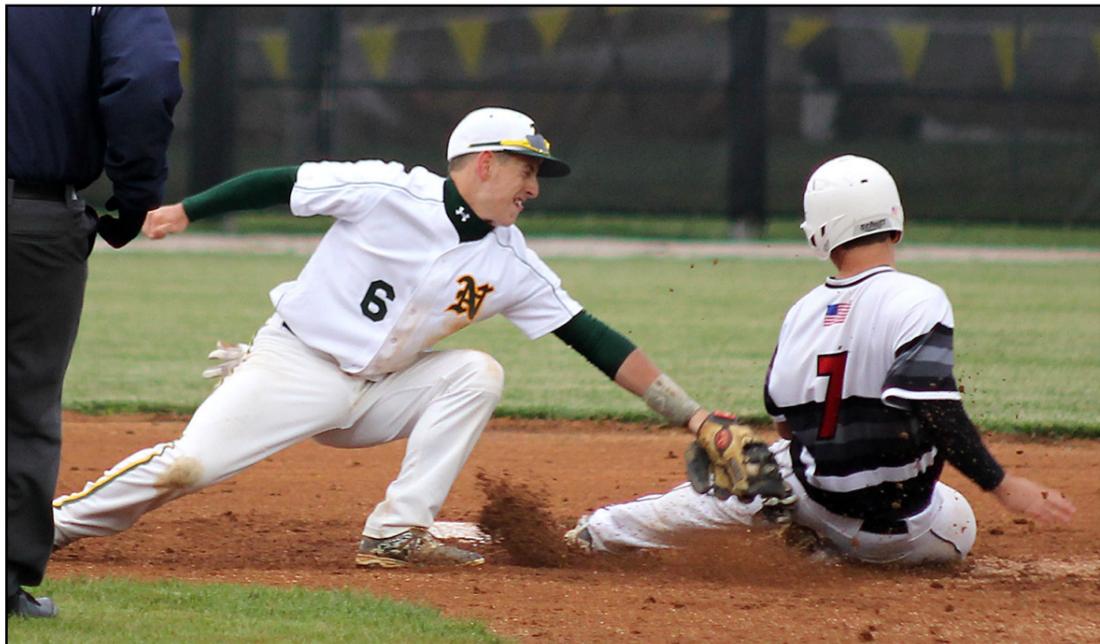
McRoberts walked but Bearhope struck out to end the inning, leaving Richardson and McRoberts on base.

Panther fans' hearts skipped a beat when the first batter for Northeastern smacked a deep hit to right centerfield, but freshman Burton made a great running catch for the first out.

Fans had barely caught their breath when the next Northeastern batter hit a shot long, out of the reach of Kinnaman and Burton, for a double.

Richardson then struck out the next two batters to win the championship. He finished with seven strikeouts and two walks. He allowed three runs on six hits and three errors.

The two sectional wins improved the Panthers' record to 26-3. They play Speedway in the first game of the regional tourney at Park Tudor High School on Saturday, June 6, at 1 p.m.



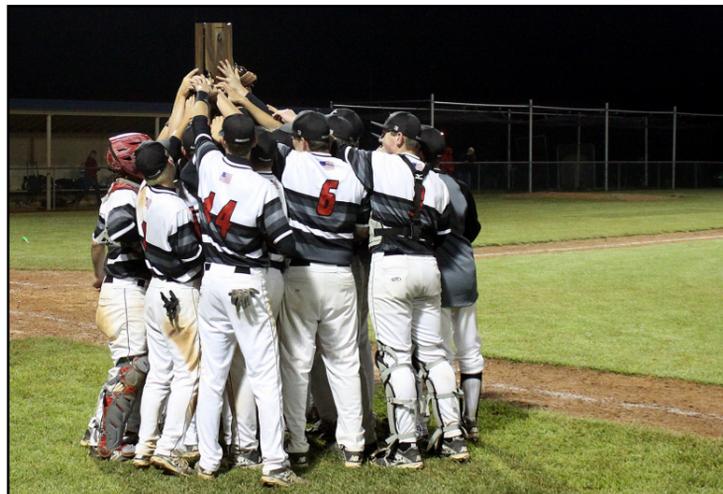
Sophomore Panther catcher Isaac McRoberts avoids the tag at second base.



Junior Panther third baseman Spencer Mattix prepares for the stop.



Senior Panther pitcher Tyler "Tank" Richardson enjoys some post-game celebration with teammates.



The team celebrates by hoisting the sectional trophy high.



Junior Panther shortstop Drake Peggs (left, at right) comes to the dugout after scoring a run against Northeastern.



Senior Panther second baseman Jake Kwisz looks closely at a pitch.

Park Tudor H.S. Hosting Regional Baseball; Panthers Will Face Speedway This Saturday

Knightstown's baseball team travels to Park Tudor High School this Saturday, June 6, to take on Speedway for the first round of the regional tournament. The game starts at 1 p.m.

The Panther's game follows the morning game between Heritage Christian and Indianapolis

Cardinal Ritter, who eliminated Knightstown at last year's regional.

The winner of the first two games will play for the regional championship at 7 p.m.

Park Tudor High School is located at 7200 N. College Ave. in Indianapolis. The baseball dia-

mond is located on the school's large campus. Entry to the facility should be made at the traffic light at 7200 N. College Ave.

Speedway is 10-12 on the year while Heritage Christian is 14-9 and Ritter's record stands at 21-6-1. The Panthers are 26-3 this season.

LOCAL SPORTS

Lady Panthers Weiland, Heim Advance in Tennis

It had only been two days since the Lady Panther tennis team had competed against New Castle when they had to face the Lady Trojans again in the first round of the sectional May 20.

"Tonight's match wasn't anything like Monday's match against New Castle although the result was the same," said coach Cindy Hammer, referencing the final score of 2-3.

New Castle's No. 1 singles player Jada Day did not compete at the May 18 match. Hannah Peters "had some nice volleys" with Day, but "struggled to score points" falling 0-6 and 1-6.

KHS No. 2 singles player Taylor Halcomb had the same outcome as Peters, losing her match 0-6 and 1-6.

Hope Johnson improved against her No. 3 singles opponent but not enough to win the match, dropping both sets 2-6.

Both of Knightstown's doubles team won again.

Rachel Weiland and Leah Heim won their No. 1 doubles match 6-2 and 6-0.

Abbie True and Emma Grubbs finished their sets 6-1 and 6-2 to win at No. 2 doubles.

"My doubles teams came out like gang-busters tonight finishing their opponents off in two sets pretty quickly," Hammer said. "Emma and Abbie were very confident

having beat this team Monday. Leah and Rachel not only wanted to win tonight for the team but also in order to continue on into the regional tournament. They have had that goal for two years and last year they came up short."

On May 27, Heim and Weiland traveled to Richmond for the regional tourney. They won their first round match against Union County's No. 1 doubles team. They lost 3-6 but adjusted their game by slowing down the pace of the play then won 7-5 and 6-3 to advance to the second round.

The following day Heim and Weiland returned to play Tri High's No. 1 doubles team, who had enjoyed a first round bye. Tri's duo was the same doubles team Heim and Weiland had defeated earlier in the season to win the Henry County title.

"I think they [Tri's team] were much fresher and ready to play on Thursday," said Hammer. "We just didn't show our best play like we had the night before. The girls were much less focused at times and struggled to make adjustments to Tri's type of play."

KHS lost the match 5-7 and 2-6.

"I am really proud of Leah and Rachel and the season that they had this year. As seniors there are so many things going on, lots of distractions good and bad, but they just really like playing this game

and they are great partners together," Hammer said. "Over the years and particularly this season, I've had several coaches from other schools comment to me after the match saying they wish their players enjoyed playing as much as these two do, and showing great competitiveness and teamwork as they do. Everyone loves how they communicate during their match. That's what it takes to be a great duo."

According to Hammer, Heim and Weiland have a career record as a duo of 41-21 and a two-year conference record of 9-3. They won the Eastern Hancock Invitational two years, were Henry County champs this season and the team's co-MVPs for three years.

"We will miss their excitement and leadership next year, more than I can even measure," Hammer continued. "Leah and Rachel have been irreplaceable for this team and this program as a whole. I personally will just miss having them around to laugh and joke and strategize with. All four of my seniors have been great this year, they are competitive and academically strong, which is also a plus in leading the team in a positive way. We will also miss Hannah Peters and Taylor Halcomb next season as all of them will be heading to college in the fall."



Rachel Weiland and Leah Heim

Schweizer State Farm Girls Now 5-0

The girls junior league team sponsored by Tracy Schweizer State Farm went to 5-0 early in May with wins over the teams sponsored by Gentle Dentist, Knightstown Meats & Catering and Dr. Armstrong & Ploeger DDS.

On May 2, Schweizer's team defeated Gentle Dentist's team 13-5.

Maddie Case went 4-for-4, including two home runs, and scored three runs to lead State Farm. Sydney Springman hit a home run, two singles and scored three times. Emily Scott also hit a home run and added a single, scoring a twice.

Lanee Swindell also had a good day at the plate, going 3-for-3 with two doubles. She scored one run. Teagan Yoder, Havyn Wisheart, Chyan Evans and Hannah Erwin each had a base hit and scored a run.

Miah Frost added a single and Presley Fowler also played for State Farm.

Gentle Dentist's team was led by Navaeh Cox, who was 3-for-3 with three runs scored.

Jaycie Cole and Brittany Grider each hit two singles and scored once. Maisey McVey also had two base hits while Macey Ballard and Brooklyn Barker added a base hit apiece.

Rylan Matthews, Megan Richardson, Adrianna Ross and Evelyn Berrier also played for Gentle Dentist.

On May 8, Schweizer's State Farm team beat Knightstown Meats & Catering 15-4.

Case and Springman both went 4-for-4 to lead State Farm. Case hit a home run, a double and two singles while Springman pounded out a triple and three doubles. Both girls scored four times.

Scott hit a double and two singles with two runs scored. Erwin also had a double and two singles.

Yoder got three base hits and scored three runs. Evans hit a double and a single, scoring once. Wisheart had two base hits and scored a run. Fowler and Frost

also played for State Farm.

Leading the Knightstown Meats & Catering team was Shyann Roland who smacked a triple and two more hits, scoring once. Taylor Jeffrey hit a double and single with two runs scored.

Emma Turpin had a base hit and scored the team's other run. Savannah Tumitty added a single. Gracie Goodpaster, Katelynn Howery, Savannah McDonald, Raegan Stallworth and Raeleigh Williams also played for K'town Meats.

The following day, May 9, Schweizer's State Farm team defeated team sponsored by Dr. Armstrong & Ploeger DDS, 13-6.

Scott, Springman and Case again were forces at the plate for State Farm. Scott hit a home run and two singles with two runs scored.

Springman also nailed a home run and a single with two runs scored. Case hit a triple and two singles, scoring once.

Evans scored two runs after getting on base with a double and two singles. Erwin also hit a double and two singles. She scored once.

Yoder hit three singles and Wisheart hit two singles. Both scored two runs. Miah Frost pounded out a double and single, scoring once.

Leading for Dr. Armstrong & Ploeger DDS' team was Alivia Putnam who had a home run and a single with one run scored.

Ally Pipe connected for a double and two singles with two runs scored. Kaylee Hersberger and Lilly Loveall each hit a double and scored a run.

Whitney Buckler added a base hit and scored the team's other run. Lexi Phipps, Addison Summers, Caralyn Summers and Baeli Renie also played for Dr. Armstrong's team.

The three wins for Tracy Schweizer State Farm's team improves their season record to 5-0 in the girls junior league.

Jacobi Farms Sox Kick Off Season with Win

The Jacobi Farms Sox kicked off their boys major league season play April 29 with a close win, 11-10, over the Knightstown Dental Marlins.

Colten Piper and Austin Wooldridge led the Sox at the plate. Piper smacked two balls over the fence for home runs for two

RBIs and three runs scored. Wooldridge hit an inside-the-park home run and a two singles, bringing three RBIs and scoring twice.

Logan Moss had one base hit, knocking in the winning run for the Sox. Mason Muncy scored two runs while Brady Howell, John Nelson, Mathew McDaniel and

Caiden Smith each scored one run. Levi Northern and Colton Leisure also played for the Sox.

For the Marlins, Brock Corbett hit two doubles with three RBIs and two runs scored to lead his team at the plate.

Kaden Humphrey got an
See Sox, Page 14

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Ratcliff, from Page 6

I just wish that there was a bit more interest in what there is, where people come from," he said.

Ratcliff graduated from Spiceland High School in 1959. Later, he graduated from Ball State University with bachelor's and master's degrees. He taught for 40 years at New Castle Jr. High School, where he taught eighth grade US history and Indiana history.

He has always lived in Spiceland.

"I'm an eighth generation resident of Spiceland," said Ratcliff. "And if you include my son and grandson, there's ten generations of us that have gone to Spiceland Church. My wife, Linda, is a retired county official. She held three offices. She was county clerk, county auditor and county treasurer. My son, Brian, is a state policeman. And I have two grandchildren. That's pretty much my pedigree."

Sox, from Page 13

RBI-single and scored twice. Marcus Cavaletto also hit an RBI-single, scoring one run.

Kevin Keninger knocked in a run on a base hit and Owen Renie added a single, scoring once. Jonathon Brading had an RBI and scored two runs.

Nathan Hochstedler and Cody Kohues scored the team's other two runs. Ralph Burns and Jace Carmack also played for the Marlins.

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Red, from Page 1

Ward also said she wanted to reveal some "shocking information" about heating costs for the chapel at Glen Cove, where Neice and Hall keep their offices, and at another small utility building on the grounds that is used by town employees.

According to Ward, from January 2014 to April 2015, the heating bill for the chapel had been \$6,388, with bills for six of those months topping \$500, with the highest month being \$839. She said the other building had a heating bill of \$3,815 for the same time period.

"These aren't hundred thousand dollar things," Ward said, "but you start getting things in order by looking at the little things you can do something about. ... You know, if you do some things like that, in the

Testing, from Page 1

Council Vice President Sarah Ward said she would like to see every town employee tested at least once during the year. She made a motion to have the drug testing done through Hancock Regional's program, but, before the motion was even seconded, council member Clyde South spoke against it.

long run, you save some money."

Swincher noted that Neice and Hall both used to have their offices at town hall. He asked why that had been changed. Council member Mitch Roland said the two offices at town hall were "very small."

Council member Clyde South said he thought the town needed to have an employee at the cemetery chapel to handle business. Ward said the town used to only have someone out there on a part-time basis a few days a week, and added that, even then, she thought there was "too much time and not doing anything."

Picking up on South's point, Neice said the biggest reason he wanted Hall's office moved out to the chapel was so there would be someone there to handle cemetery

South said he favored testing town employees who drive vehicles or operate heavy equipment for the town. However, he said he didn't think every employee, such as those who work in the office, need to be tested every year, saying he thought such testing would be "demeaning" and "asinine" and would contribute to "a hostile work

business.

"We need people on the worst days of their lives, and the last thing I want them to have to do is run around trying to find somebody," Neice said. "That was my whole premise."

"Well, \$839 for a month is pretty expensive to find somebody," Ward said. "If you were down here, they'd come to the town hall where we do business and get the help they need."

Swincher asked Neice to look into these cost issues and to be ready to report on the status of the chapel windows at the June meeting. Three windows on the east side of the chapel were broken this past winter when chunks of concrete, believed to have been sent airborne by a snow plow, went flying through them.

environment."

"I'm adamantly opposed to a program of that nature," South said.

After South made his comments, Council President Cort Swincher seconded Ward's motion. With South and council member Mitch Roland voting against it, a 2-2 tie resulted.

Bart Whitesitt, who, as the

town's clerk-treasurer, gets to break tie votes by the council, said he agreed with South's point about such testing creating a "hostile work environment." He proceeded to break the tie vote on Ward's motion by voting against it.

Swincher noted that the specifics of the drug testing, in terms of which employees would be tested, still remained to be worked out. The vote, he explained, was simply to choose a vendor to conduct the testing once those details are resolved.

Whitesitt said he would favor going with Midwest Toxicology. At that point, Swincher asked whether there was "another motion" or if the council should "move on and end the discussion."

"Move on," a clearly frustrated Ward said. "I don't expect to get any of this done, but at least I'm on record for what I think we ought to do. And there's a record of those who don't want to do it, so we all know and we can move on."

In other action at the May 21 meeting, the town council:

*awarded a contract for computer services to PC Remedies of Knightstown, a business owned by former Knightstown Town Council member Cassandra Steele, for \$300 a month, plus \$80 an hour for work exceeding what is covered by the monthly fee;

*passed a resolution establishing a town election board that will be in charge of setting up and running the fall municipal election for three of the council's five seats and the office of clerk-treasurer; the council did the same thing four years ago, for the 2011 town elections. The 2010 and 2014 elections were handled by the county.

*heard a brief update on five properties for which the town has sent out hazardous abatement notices; Swincher said he had received 19 messages from citizens complaining about the properties that need to be mowed;

*accepted a \$109,950 bid from Vail's Concrete for sidewalk repairs in town;

*received six bids for street paving work in town, ranging from \$34,800 to \$40,825, but tabled the matter to give Neice time to review the bids, with a recommendation expected from him at the council's June 18 meeting;

*approved hiring attorney Kim Blanchett of Barnes & Thornburgh, Indianapolis, as bond counsel for financing that will be required for a multi-million dollar sewer utility improvement project; and

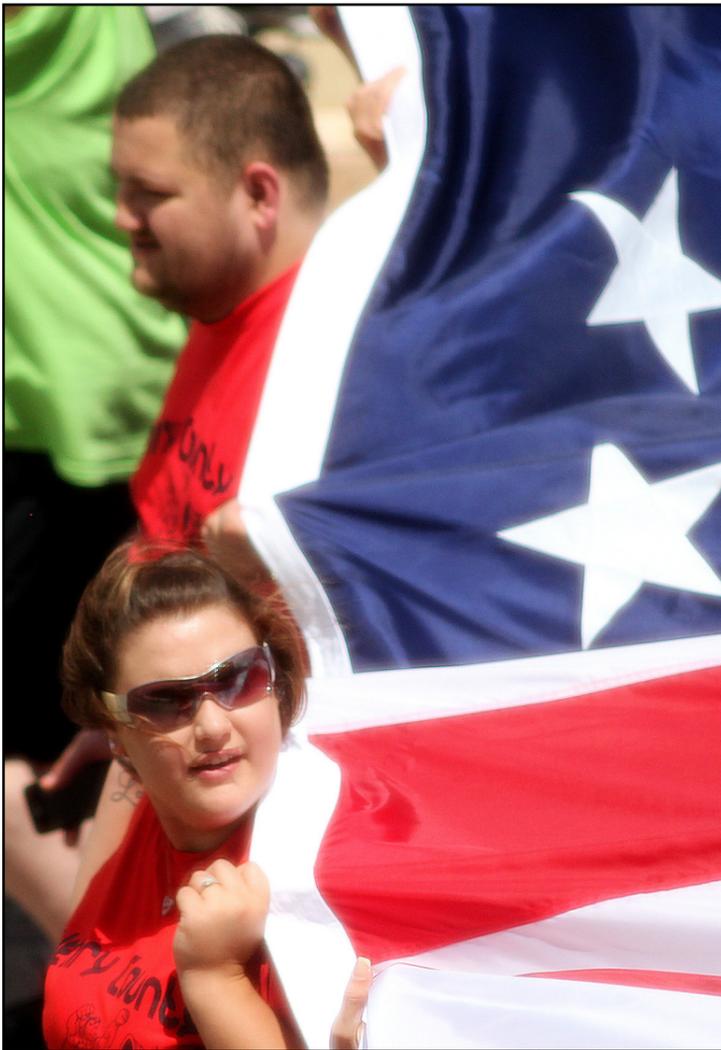
*voted to give the Knightstown Plan Commission permission to pursue a planning grant.

Parade of Smiles

Postponed Annual Memorial Day Parade Takes Place a Week Later Amid Sunny Skies in New Castle



New Castle-Henry County Chamber of Commerce's 2014 Citizen of the Year Jeff Ray waves to the crowd Saturday, as his wife, Judy, looks on.



Volunteers carry a large flag along Broad Street, leading the parade.



A Little League baseball player takes in the fresh air and sunshine along the parade route Saturday.



Travis Burgess of New Castle zips along the parade route on roller skates. He was part of a large group of skaters who joined in New Castle's annual Memorial Day parade.



A man and his friend ride atop a float in Saturday's parade.

Photos by
Eric Cox

 **The Banner**

Banner e-edition Bonus Page

Lots of Nice Photos of Area Folks Enjoying Different Activities



Knightstown Elementary School kindergarten students play at Sunset Park.



A little boy rides in the New Castle Memorial Day parade.



Knightstown High School baseball players watch the sectional championship game from the dugout.



Gary Thoe and Tony Gregory of MidCountry Media in Knightstown.

Photos
by
Eric Cox



The KHS senior hog roast was fun for all ages.