



THE

# Banner

75¢

PERIODICALS  
NEWSPAPER

"... the tyranny of 'the rat race' is not yet final." - Hunter S. Thompson

Vol. XVII, Issue 39

January 13, 2016

Knightstown, IN

## BKI 'Real Results' Open House Jan. 27

The public is invited to attend a "Real Results" open house hosted by Beautify Knightstown, Inc. (BKI) at Hoosiers Home Court Café on Wednesday, Jan. 27, at 6:30 p.m. A brief overview of BKI's mission and projects will be presented at 7 p.m., followed by the introduction of muralist Pam Bliss, who has been retained to paint a mural in Knightstown. Patrons will be asked to suggest ideas for the mural's design. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, call 765-445-2328 or email [km\\_krichy@yahoo.com](mailto:km_krichy@yahoo.com).

## Octagon House Tours Available

The Shirley Octagon House is open for free tours by chance or appointment. To get a free tour, stop by Shirley Hardware and one will be arranged. To schedule an appointment for a tour, call 812-583-0031 or 765-737-6856.

## Hearts in the Park Fundraiser Feb. 13

Beautify Knightstown, Inc. will host a mural fundraiser, Hearts in the Park, at the Sunset Park Shelter House on Saturday, Feb. 13, at 6:30 p.m. A five-course, authentic Italian dinner will be served in a cozy setting with entertainment and dancing for those wanting a special place to celebrate Valentine's Day or just enjoy a home cooked meal prepared by local Chef Luigi Perazzelli. Tickets are \$22 for singles and \$40 per couple with free child care provided by advance arrangement. Seating is limited and reservations are recommended. To order tickets call 765-445-2328 or email [km\\_richey@yahoo.com](mailto:km_richey@yahoo.com).

## Gleaner's Food Bank Visiting Jan. 16

The Gleaner's Food Bank food truck will visit Blue River Community Harvest on the following dates this year and in 2016. The truck will adhere to an each-third-Saturday schedule, arriving on Saturday, Jan. 16, March 19, May 21, July 16 and Sept. 17. For more information about Blue River Community Harvest and Gleaner's Food Bank, call 765-565-6960.



## Carthage Council Retains Officers; Approves Purchase

by Jeff Eakins  
for The Banner

The Carthage Town Council voted at Monday's regular monthly meeting to keep the same officers for 2016 that it had last year.

Council members voted 5-0 to keep Bill Davis as president and Rachael Brown as vice president. No other council members were nominated for either office.

In other business, the council approved the purchase of a new salt spreader for \$5,200 from Midstate Trucking Equipment in Greenfield. Works manager Josh Douglas told the council the motor on the old spreader will be repaired and it will be kept as a backup.

The council also approved Douglas' request to purchase a new pump from Ortman Drilling and Water Services, Kokomo, for one of the town water utility's two wells. Douglas said the purchase price is about \$11,000 and that the town would not be billed until April and will be allowed to pay it in three monthly installments.

Danny Baker, the town's part-time town marshal, did not have his written monthly report ready to turn in at Monday's meeting. He said he hoped to have it finished

and submitted by today.

Baker also informed the council that he had mistakenly thought new training requirements for law enforcement officers took effect this year. In fact, he said he learned they went into effect in 2015 and were supposed to have been completed by the end of December.

Baker told the council he had contacted the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy and that the Carthage Police Department was given an extension of time to complete these new training requirements. The council approved paying \$799 for online training for the department's officers that will fulfill some of the new requirements, with other training to be completed at the ILEA campus in Plainfield.

The council also approved paying \$299 for council member Ashley Davis to attend an Indiana Association of Cities and Towns training session in Indianapolis Jan. 19-21, plus \$250 for hotel lodging. Training for Clerk-Treasurer Linda McMahan and Deputy Clerk Sandy Jackson in Daleville on use of Keystone software for billing, budgeting and payroll was also approved at a cost

See Carthage, Page 3

## CAB School Board Keeps Beatty as President

by Jeff Eakins  
for The Banner

The Charles A. Beard School Board held its annual organizational meeting last week.

Board members voted 7-0 at the Jan. 5 meeting to keep Wade Beatty as the board's president for 2016. Tom Schaetzle was unanimously selected to serve as vice president, and John Swartz will serve another year as the board's secretary.

The board also voted to have Business Manager Stephanie Madison continue as CAB's treasurer, and to keep the Noblesville law firm of Church Church Hittle & Antrim as the district's attorneys. Also remaining the same for 2016 will be the annual \$2,000 stipend paid to board members, the maximum amount of com-

penetration state law allows school board members to receive.

Board members agreed to continue holding their monthly meetings at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month at Knightstown High School, 8149 W. U.S. Hwy. 40. If additional meetings are needed, they will be held, if possible, on the first Tuesday of the month.

The board approved Swartz as its legislative liaison for 2016, and Superintendent Jed Behny will continue as CAB's representative to the board that oversees the special education co-op to which the district belongs. School board member Gerald Leonard will continue representing CAB on the vocational education board, and board member Suzee Neal will serve another year as the ex officio member the school

board appoints annually to the Knightstown Parks and Recreation Board.

The board appointed third grade teacher Kristin Crawford to a seat on the Knightstown Public Library Board that is filled by the school board. Crawford will replace Jane Selvidge, who asked not to be reappointed.

Steve Ferrell was the only school board member to make a conflict of interest disclosure. He is the father of Madison, the district's business manager/treasurer.

In other business, board members voted to have the school board continue acting as CAB's board of finance. The annual board of finance meeting, which is open to the public, will be held at 6:50 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 19, just prior to the school board's regular monthly meeting.

## Tax Anticipation Warrants Will Buoy CAB

by Jeff Eakins  
for The Banner

The Charles A. Beard School Board has voted unanimously to accept a Merrillville bank's bid for a \$860,000 loan secured by tax anticipation warrants.

Board members voted 7-0 at their Dec. 15 monthly meeting to approve a bid submitted by Centier Bank. The \$860,000, which will be divided between CAB's General (\$376,000), Capital Projects (\$272,000), Transportation (\$167,000) and Bus Replacement (\$45,000) funds, will be paid back, at an interest rate of 1.74 percent,

by Dec. 31 with property taxes the district receive this year.

"That's the best interest rate we've had in a long time," Board President Wade Beatty said. A second bid on the tax anticipation warrants, from MainSource Bank, proposed an interest rate of 2.81 percent.

In other financial business at the Dec. 15 meeting, the board approved payment of monthly claims totaling \$716,795.35. Of

that amount, \$321,506.86 was for prewritten claims, \$229,966.73 was for current claims and

**Behny told the board the insurance premium dropped about \$10,000 as the result of the district selling the former elementary school properties in Kennard and Carthage.**

\$165,321.76 was for payroll.

The board also voted to approve a new yearly agreement with Leakey Insurance Agency, Knightstown, for \$158,221. Superintendent Jed Behny told the board the premium dropped about \$10,000 as the result of the district selling the former elementary school properties

in Kennard and Carthage.

CAB's business manager/treasurer, Stephanie Madison, was given permission by the board to make end-of-year transfers needed to avoid negative balances in any of the district's funds. Madison is expected to present the board with a report at its Jan. 19 monthly meeting detailing the transfers she made.

According to a financial report included in the packet of materials given to board members for that night's meeting, CAB was expecting to finish 2015 with a running cash balance of \$575,851.69.

## New Town Council President Hopes Jan. 21 Meeting Will Be Well-attended by Citizens

Three presentations on efforts to improve town infrastructure, planning for the future and economic development opportunities are scheduled for the Knightstown Town Council's Jan. 21 monthly meeting.

Dan Wright of FPBH Inc., a North Vernon-based engineering firm, is expected to update the town on efforts to secure funding for a multi-million improvement project involving the town's wastewater utility. The town hopes to address an ongoing problem with inflow and infiltration ("I and I") by rehabilitating parts of the wastewater collection system and making upgrades that will increase the capacity of the town's sewer plant.

Funding for these improvements would likely come from a combination of loans and grants from, most likely, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Office of Rural Development and Indiana's Office of Community and Rural Affairs. The town previously obtained a planning grant from OCRA that was used to pay for an engineering report prepared by FPBH.

The second presentation scheduled for the Jan. 21 meeting will be from Dave Kieser of Kieser Consulting Group LLC, Lawrence. Kieser's firm has been selected to help the town revise its comprehensive plan and update its zoning ordinance. KCG is also working with the town's park board to update its five-year plan, a step necessary for seeking grants that could help pay for improvements to the town's park and recreation offerings.

The final presentation of the evening will be by Corey Murphy, president/CEO of the New Castle-Henry County Economic Development Corp. He is expected to discuss economic development efforts and opportunities for the town and surrounding area.

"It should be an informative meeting," Knightstown Town Council President Sarah Ward said during a special meeting last week. She said she hopes the Jan. 21 meeting will be well attended by Knightstown citizens and representatives of local organizations.



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**The Banner Welcomes Letters to the Editor**

Do you have an opinion? If you do, then write us a Letter to the Editor. *The Banner* welcomes Letters to the Editor. Letters must be signed by the author and contain a phone number for verification purposes. Letters may be edited for length and clarity. For more information or to submit a Letter to the Editor, call *The Banner* at 765-345-2292.

**OBITUARIES**

**Patricia L. Midkiff**  
April 15, 1932 - January 4, 2016



Patricia L. Midkiff, 83, passed away Monday, Jan. 4, 2016, in Indianapolis. She was born April 15, 1932, to the late Charles H. and Edna R. (Sample) Anderson in Knightstown. She was in the graduating class of 1950 at Knightstown High School. She married Robert Midkiff on Feb. 19, 1955. She attended Knightstown United Methodist Church and was a member of Tri Kappa. Patricia liked to watch the birds, enjoyed flower gardens, dining out, a good glass of wine and attending musicals at Beef & Boards Dinner Theater. She will be greatly missed by her three daughters, Tammi Culmann, Tina Midkiff and Tobi Midkiff; four grandchildren, Jimmy, Kyle and Chelsea Culmann and Zackary Midkiff; and one great-grandchild, Rilyn Midkiff.

Services for Patricia will be Saturday Jan. 16, at 1 p.m. at Heritage Funeral Care in Knightstown. Friends may visit from 4-8 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 15. Burial will be in Glen Cove Cemetery in Knightstown.

**In Memory of Bryant Joseph Neal**



As long as memory lives, those we love never die. For as long as we live and remember, they are with us.

**Happy Birthday, Joe!**  
January 13

*We miss you and will always love you.*

*Pep and Gram*

**Lewisville Town Council, Knightstown Library Board Set Meeting Dates, Times**

Two local groups are meeting. Beginning with its Thursday, Jan. 14, meeting, the Lewisville Town Council will hold its regular monthly meetings the second Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Houston Brick, 101 E. Main St., Lewisville.

**K-town Library Board Keeps Same Meeting Dates, Times**  
The Knightstown Public Library Board will continue holding its regular monthly meetings at 4:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month at the library, 5 E. Main St., during 2016.

*(Due to inclement weather, the Knightstown Public Library, 5 E. Main St., was closed yesterday. The Knightstown Public Library Board rescheduled its Jan. 12 monthly meeting for 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 19. The meeting is open to the public.)*

**Rush County BZA Meeting Tonight**

The Rush County Board of Zoning Appeals will meet tonight, Wednesday, Jan. 13, at 6:30 p.m. in the Assembly Room of the Rush County Courthouse. This meeting is open to the public.

**EPA Grant Meeting Rescheduled**

A public meeting to discuss an EPA assessment grant was rescheduled from Tuesday, Jan. 12, to Tuesday, Jan. 19, at 5:30 p.m. at Middletown Town Hall, 653 Locust St. An official will be on hand to answer questions.

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# Ed Johnson to Lead K-town Parks and Rec. Board

by Jeff Eakins  
for The Banner

Members of the Knightstown Parks and Recreation Board selected a new president during a special meeting last week, the fourth one since early 2015.

On a motion made and seconded, respectively, by board members Bruce Brown and Kevin Richey at the Jan. 7 meeting, the park board's newest member, Ed Johnson, was chosen to be president for 2016. His selection had the board's unanimous support, with Johnson and the board's other two members, Ashley Lapham and Suzee Neal, also voting for his appointment.

Johnson is the park board's newest member. He was appointed to the park board by the Knightstown Town Council in November to fill a vacancy created

by Belinda Grigsby's abrupt resignation two months earlier.

At the time of her resignation, Grigsby had been the board's president, having replaced board member Randy Riggs in that top spot after he stepped down from the board. After Grigsby's departure, Brown, the board's vice president, had been chosen to serve as president for the remainder of 2015.

Immediately after his selection as president at last week's meeting, Johnson made a motion to appoint Brown vice president, the position he held before taking over the presidency last fall. Neal seconded the motion and it, too, passed 5-0.

Board members also voted 5-0 to appoint Lapham as the board's secretary for 2016. Despite Lapham's appointment, the board

still intends to utilize the services of Knightstown resident Jan McGuire, who has served as the board's recording secretary on a volunteer basis for several months.

In other business, the board heard a presentation from Dave Kieser of Kieser Consulting Group LLC, Lawrence. KCG is working with the park board to help it update its five-year plan, something that is necessary for the park board to be eligible for state and federal grants that could help pay for improvements to the town's park and recreation offerings.

Board members also voted at last week's meeting to purchase a video surveillance system from Fry Electronics for \$699 that will include eight security cameras and a digital video recording system. It

is hoped that the new system, which Johnson plans to install at no charge to the town, will help reduce instances of vandalism and other undesirable activities at the park.

The board approved paying the park's handyman, Dave Huffman, \$89 to rekey locks in the park. No action was taken on Huffman's proposal to build a 20-foot by 24-foot wooden deck on the back side of the park shelter house at a cost of \$6,986 to allow Huffman more time to check on fire safety and

handicap accessibility requirements.

The park board's next meeting will be its regular monthly meeting next Wednesday, Jan. 20, at 7 p.m. in the back meeting room at Knightstown Town Hall, 26 S. Washington St., which is accessible from the building's west side. Starting Feb. 9, the park board will hold its regular monthly meetings at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month in the park's shelter house.

## Ward Assumes Town Council Presidency

by Jeff Eakins  
for The Banner

The Knightstown Town Council approved new officers for 2016 during a brief special meeting last week.

After the town's new clerk-treasurer, Beth Huffman, administered the oath of office to them, new council members Kevin Knott and Roger Hammer made and seconded, respectively, a motion to nominate Sarah Ward for the presidency. Council member Valerie Trump joined Knott and Hammer in voting for the motion and it passed 3-0-1, with Ward, last year's vice president, abstaining.

Hammer then made a motion to nominate Knott for vice president, which was seconded by Trump. Ward and Knott both added their support, and the motion passed 4-0; the council's fifth member, Mitch Roland, missed last week's meeting due to confusion over its starting time.

In other organizational matters,

the council voted to keep members' annual salary at \$4,000, and agreed to continue holding their regular monthly meetings at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month. Ward said that, going forward, she would like all of the council's public meetings, including special meetings, to be held at 7 p.m., and no one voiced any objection to that plan.

Knott requested the scheduling of a private executive session to receive information about alleged misconduct by a town employee. Ward suggested the council hold that closed-door session at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 21, just before that night's monthly meeting.

Trump asked Knott whether other council members would be

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### Carthage, from Page 1

of \$100 apiece, and the council OK'd McMahan's request to attend one day of clerk-treasurer training at Ball State University in March at a cost of \$125.

More information about the Jan. 11 Carthage Town Council meeting can be found in the memoranda and minutes from that proceeding. Those public records are available for inspection and copying at Carthage Town Hall, 6 W. First St., during normal business hours.

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# Banner PERSPECTIVES

## Hold Memories Close, Family Closer

Henry David Thoreau wrote in *Walden* that we should love our life, whether we are rich or live in a poorhouse. To paraphrase Thoreau, I have tried to live consciously and deeply and suck up all the marrow of my life so that when I come to die, I shall not realize that I have not truly lived. I don't think that anyone has consciously loved being alive more than I.

My life has been rich in education, art, literature, music, theater, delicious food, travel, the beauty of the sunrise, sunset and nature, and loving relationships with husband, daughter, son-in-law, family and friends.

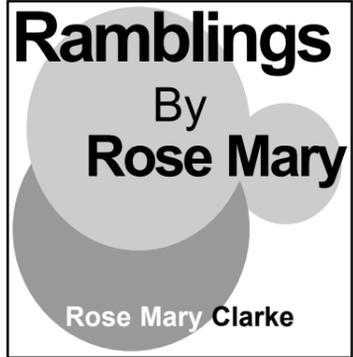
I've had two experiences since the beginning of November that have given me much to ponder: Most recently, I was so sick before Christmas that I wondered if I might die. I felt as if my mind were shutting down. I couldn't read, watch TV or write. During the quiet, lonely hours of the nights in the hospital, I thought about how suddenly life can change. Had the call come for my departure, I would not have felt cheated. The love of my dear husband and daughter kept me going.

This experience makes me even more determined to extract the maximum pleasure from each moment and, also, focus more intensely on the people and things that are most truly important to me and jettison the rest.

Last fall I had an e-mail from Jeff Thomas, the full-time chaplain

at Harrison Terrace, which is a care facility on the Indianapolis eastside, near 10th and Franklin. He reads my columns in *The Weekly View*, and he asked if I would speak on a topic of my choice at a gathering of 40 or 50 of its residents whose ages range from the 50s to the 90s.

Of course, I was honored to agree. It turned out to be an unfor-



gettable experience that opened a whole new dimension of thought. He said, "All of them suffer from some degree of dementia." "Eek!" I thought. "What can I possibly talk about?" I do try to write and speak to a high standard, but I knew very little about dementia, other than stories that we have all heard.

I did realize that caregivers try to help preserve for as long as possible the memory of those who suffer from dementia. Thus, I decided to try to trigger memories that we all share in common such as family holiday feasts, autumn bonfires, Halloween, sledding and visits to

beloved Aunts. I told stories about the seasons of my Hoosier past and recited poems such as "Ain't God Good to Indiana?" and Riley's "Out to Old Aunt Mary's."

Jeff started the meeting with activities designed to get the people to respond to memories, such as the singing of familiar Christmas carols. Later, there was a contest in which clues were given about a familiar figure - Jacob's brother, Esau, in this case. The kindness of the staff was evident as they moved among the people, encouraging them.

While I spoke, I watched the audience. I could tell that some were "with it" when they laughed at the appropriate places or responded to questions. My heart was stricken by one nice looking man. Looking straight ahead, his face was totally without expression as if carved from stone.

I have concluded that when we lose our past, we lose something that makes us so richly human, that shapes us, that brings us satisfaction and makes our existence meaningful. I think that sufferers from dementia become adrift without an anchor and descend into a darkness of the soul.

My own illness made me more thankful for my wonderful life, as did seeing those suffering from dementia - there but for the grace of God, go I! Also, I have gained a greater appreciation for special people like Jeff and caregivers who try to shine a light into the dark.

## Things I Noticed While Photo Hunting

It wasn't a heavy snow - just enough to cover the grass, leaving little frozen points of dark green jutting above the frozen frosting.

Light snow it was - light snow that came in heavy, on freezing, gusty winds.

The next morning, our world was snow-gilded, etched on one side with a frigid white frost. The leeward side of everything outdoors was spared the gale-force gusto of the northwesterly winds that pelted our area.

It did make for a few nice photos, as contrasting landscapes often will.

I ventured down to Sunset Park, hoping to catch a nice photo. I eased down the hill behind the shelter house, heading for the derelict Montgomery Creek bridge.

Beneath its aging timbers roared the fast and muddy creek, carrying on its brown back branches, twigs and other icy debris culled from the water's southerly journey. Fast water roiled and rolled over the little dam just upstream of the bridge.

I snapped a few photos of the snow-encrusted bridge railing with the creek as a backdrop. I wondered briefly what became of those fat catfish and clever smallmouth bass when the water is so cold and fast. Do they hang out in their usual spots? Do they go south for the winter? Are they ensconced comfortably in secret dens with warm fires burning? Underwater?

Nah.

I turned my attention to a large concrete tile on the creek's north side. It looked neat shaded with light snow

still attached to the exterior. On top of the tile, I noticed a bird had hopped through the powdery snow, leaving little footprints. A walnut shell, its contents recently pried loose and eaten by some hungry creature, lay nearby.

It occurred to me that, even in the dead of winter, there's still a lot of life at Sunset Park. I was reminded of this fact again later. I had posted some of the photos

I took on The Banner's Facebook page, as well as my own page. My friend Greg Bryze noticed the Montgomery Creek photo and commented that he'd seen some red foxes down there Wednesday. That's quite a bit of wildlife!

Montgomery Creek, of course, feeds into Big Blue River. That got me thinking about a proposed plan to install a canoe/kayak launch area.

Some want the launch area to be located upstream from the Big Blue River bridge near south Washington Street. But, maybe a better place is at Sunset Park on Montgomery Creek. That would save any property owner disputes and some construction cost. But, is there consistently enough water in Montgomery Creek to float down to Blue River? Also, is there enough clearance for boats to get underneath the Montgomery Creek bridge on County Line Road?

Maybe it won't work. But, it seems the park has both level ground near the creek to easily launch, and plenty of parking for those who do put in there. Other amenities are there as well, including bathrooms and trashcans.



## Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

To me, it is amazing how many changes are made when people are confined due to winter weather.

I will be 84 this April. So, I know some folks decide on getting a divorce, while others end up pregnant by just being shut in the house with their spouse.

For instance, take Roscoe Adkins, a farmer I knew 60 years ago. Seven of his eight children he blamed on bad weather, when he could not work in the fields.

At 80 and 84, my wife and I just look at each other and smile. We have slept in separate bedrooms ever since she told me I snored too loud and I then told her that her feet were too cold and I had miscounted how many sharp elbows she had. Still, to me, she is the world's best cook and a clean housekeeper. She tells me that I am a keeper because I go to church and have no habits, like smoking or drinking.

Yes, 56 years is a long time to look across the dinner table and see the same face that stole my heart back then. She found the 60 pounds that I lost. It makes no difference to me. Having four children caused that.

William O'Neal  
Shirley

Dear Editor,

This week, the Indiana General Assembly convened at the Statehouse for the start of the 2016 legislative session.

In the coming months, lawmakers will address a number of important issues facing Indiana, including supporting Indiana students, teachers and schools, funding infrastructure and road needs, and combating illegal drugs in our state.

I have authored several legislative proposals for the 2016 session:

\*Senate Bill 71 would require state inspection of all poultry served in food establishments. This measure would enhance food safety for consumers because poultry, when improperly inspected, has the potential to cause food-borne illness.

\*Senate Bill 72 would provide immunity for doctors conducting FDA-approved studies with controlled substances. This measure would protect doctors from being prosecuted if they are conducting the trial with a substance that is illegal in Indiana. Trials like these are necessary to compile research on the effects of nontraditional methods that may treat seizures in children who have severe cases of epilepsy.

\*Senate Bill 73 would require all school corporations and accredited nonpublic elementary schools to teach cursive writing to students. This skill is essential for children, since cursive writing has been proven to enhance cognitive learning and many historic documents and pieces of literature are written in cursive.

\*Senate Bill 74 would remove the requirement imposed by the gaming commission that requests information regarding the organizer's spouse, children and other members of their household when applying for a license. This unnecessary disclosure causes difficulty in these exchanges, and is an unnecessary invasion of privacy.

\*Senate Bill 139 would require that teachers' pay and schools' A-F ratings not be affected by the recent ISTEP scores for the next two years. Our teachers and schools should not be penalized for the drop in scores due to a more difficult test.

To stay informed and engaged as the legislature considers new laws, visit [www.in.gov/iga](http://www.in.gov/iga) to stream committee hearings and session meetings. Event calendars, meeting agendas, vote tallies and proposed legislation can also be found on this site.

You can keep up with my efforts along with Statehouse news by signing up for my electronic newsletters that are delivered directly to your email inbox. Newsletters provide further information about the General

See Letters, Page 5

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

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

Hubert H. Humphrey

# BITS & PIECES

◆The public is invited to attend a **“Real Results” open house** hosted by Beautify Knightstown, Inc. (BKI) at Hoosiers Home Court Café on Wednesday, Jan. 27, at 6:30 p.m. A brief overview of BKI’s mission and projects will be presented at 7 p.m., followed by the introduction of muralist Pam Bliss, who has been retained to paint a mural in Knightstown. Patrons will be asked to suggest ideas for the mural’s design. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, call 765-445-2328 or email [km\\_krichey@yahoo.com](mailto:km_krichey@yahoo.com).

◆Greensboro United Methodist Church will host a **blood drive** on Saturday, Jan. 30, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Those who want to donate blood must bring valid photo identification. For more information, call Roxie Dalton at 765-686-5207.

◆Beautify Knightstown, Inc. will host a mural fundraiser, **Hearts in the Park**, at the Sunset Park Shelter House on Saturday, Feb. 13, at 6:30 p.m. A five-course, authentic Italian dinner will be served in a

cozy setting with entertainment and dancing for those wanting a special place to celebrate Valentine’s Day or just enjoy a home cooked meal prepared by local Chef Luigi Perazzelli. Tickets are \$22 for singles and \$40 per couple, with free child care provided by advance arrangement. Seating is limited and reservations are recommended. To order tickets call 765-445-2328 or email [km\\_richey@yahoo.com](mailto:km_richey@yahoo.com).

◆**Beautify Knightstown** is taking mail or pick-up orders for academy T-shirts to support the upcoming wall mural project. Shirts are available in sizes up to 5X, starting at \$20. Orders and questions may be e-mailed to [km\\_richey@yahoo.com](mailto:km_richey@yahoo.com) or by calling 765-445-2328.

◆The Gleaner’s Food Bank **food truck** will visit Blue River Community Harvest on the following dates this year and in 2016. The truck will adhere to an each-third-Saturday schedule, arriving on Saturday, Jan. 16, March 19, May 21, July 16 and Sept. 17.

◆Knightstown Wesleyan Church has **welcome packets** available.

Anyone new to the area interested in receiving local business information and discounts may contact Kathie Rummell at 765-345-9660 or Amy Bell at 765-686-7063.

◆The Shirley Octagon House is open for **free tours** by chance or appointment. To get a free tour, stop by Shirley Hardware and one will be arranged. To schedule an appointment for a tour, call 812-583-0031 or 765-737-6856.

◆The **Historic Knightstown museum**, located on the Public Square at 22 N. Washington St., has

new winter hours. The museum’s current hours, in effect through March are 10 a.m.-12 p.m. (sometimes longer) each Friday and Saturday, or by appointment. For more information, 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.

◆**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.

*News items may be submitted to [thebanner@embarqmail.com](mailto:thebanner@embarqmail.com).*

## Letters, from Page 4

Assembly, important events and other news from state agencies. Visit [www.in.gov/s42](http://www.in.gov/s42) to subscribe.

As your state senator, I value your input as I participate in policy discussions at the Statehouse. Contact my office with any questions or concerns you may have by email at [Senator.Leising@iga.in.gov](mailto:Senator.Leising@iga.in.gov) or by phone at 800-382-9467.

**Jean Leising  
(R-Oldenberg)**

**Dear Editor,**

Having Spent over 40 years in education and retiring as the founder and CEO of the Anderson Preparatory Academy, a public charter school with 850 students and a state A rating, my heart goes out to the schools, teachers, administrators, and students who have endured the travesty of the 2015 ISTEP+ testing by the state of Indiana.

Public education in the United States has fallen victim to the worst piece of federal legislation in the history of education known as No Child Left Behind. In our nation’s attempt to make public education politically correct and leave no child behind, this piece of ineffective and inefficient legislation is leaving more children behind than ever before. In order to establish quality education in the U.S., No Child Left Behind must be repealed!

McGraw Hill, the company responsible for ISTEP+ has, over recent years, been riddled by technological flaws, production flaws, and now questionable testing content. Indiana needs to cut all ties with McGraw Hill.

On Oct. 19, 2015, I was invited to testify before the state committee on education that met to address the issue of a teacher shortage in our state. After sitting through four hours of testimony from invited experts who never addressed the real issues of the problem, I had to excuse myself from the House chambers. We need to look no further than the travesty of the 2015 ISTEP+ testing to understand a major aspect as to why there is a teacher shortage. Even when teachers are programmed to teach to the test, student performance scores are extremely low, reflecting on a teacher’s performance rating and perhaps their pay.

I believe our state legislators, members of the state board of education, and our state’s superintendent of public instruction should be required to take and pass both the math and language arts portion of the eighth-

grade ISTEP+ before serving in public office.

Establishing a means for measuring the effectiveness of educational instructional and assessing student performance is not difficult. In less than six months our state could implement assessments that would measure both teacher and student performance fairly, and leave no child behind. Today’s system has labeled thousands of children who have failed to pass the math, language arts or both portions of the ISTEP+ as failures. As well, their teachers and schools have been labeled as failures. This is an educational atrocity!

**Robert Guillaume  
Knightstown**

**Dear Editor,**

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers all the military and their families throughout the new year. We have brave men and women from our community who are currently serving our country in the United States and worldwide. They signed up voluntarily and we owe them much gratitude. Because of them, we continue to live in a free country.



**O'Donoghue Jr.**

I would like to thank my oldest son, U.S.A.F. Staff Sgt. Peter B. O’Donoghue Jr. for his military service.

Peter is a Knightstown High School graduate (2009), who enlisted in the Air Force in April 2010. He completed basic training at Lakeland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas, then attended six months of technical training at Sheppard Air Force Base in Wichita Falls, Texas. He was then stationed at Little Rock Air Force Base in Little Rock, Ark., in October 2010, performing duties as a C-130 airplane flight-line mechanic.

During his service in Arkansas as an Airman Basic (E-1), he was promoted to Senior Airman (E-4).

On April 7, 2014, Peter was given orders to report to Kadena Air Force Base in Okinawa, Japan, where he currently serves, having recently been promoted to Staff Sergeant (E-5).

This was our second Christmas without P.J. home. But we know even though many miles separate us, family and friends keep us close until we see each other again. Let freedom ring.

**Peter B. O’Donoghue Sr.  
Kennard**

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Council, from Page 3

"provided any details" before the executive session. Knott declined to provide any specific information during that night's public meeting about the nature of the alleged misconduct or the employee or employees involved.

Huffman told the council that she wanted to schedule a special meeting with H.J. Umbaugh & Associates, an Indianapolis accounting firm that has worked with the town on utility-related matters. The council agreed to try to set the meeting for Thursday, Feb. 4, provided Umbaugh's representative and the town's legal counsel are able to attend.



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Knightstown Native Conni Trump Ross Credits Hometown for Current Success

by Logan Cox for The Banner

Now a successful theater director, actress, and singer, Conni Trump Ross is candid about the passion she has for the arts and the appreciation she holds for those who influenced her. This includes her teachers at Knightstown High School who set her on her path.

"I was very fortunate that I had Jeri Horn and Gary Meek and Glen Orr as teachers at Knightstown," Ross said. "We didn't really have a theater department, but Glen Orr did speech and drama, and he got me started doing plays. And, of course, Jeri Horn and Gary Meek ran the music department and we did musicals. I found out that I absolutely loved it."

Though a talent for music seems to run on her mother's side of the family, with country music artist Clay Walker and the late 1930s entertainer Frances Langford as distant cousins, Ross cites her supportive parents and high school teachers as being key influences in her decision to pursue this passion.

She attended Indiana University, where she studied vocal performance and later graduated in 1974.

"When I was at IU, it was really at that time they didn't do musical theater, it was all opera," she said. "So I studied with William Shriner and Virginia MacWatters. MacWatters had been with the metropolitan opera so I got a very good understanding and training on opera."

Not long after, Ross awoke with a strong desire to return to musical theater.

"I realized I had two roads I could go down. I could pursue it professionally, and while I probably would have done fine, there's no guarantee," said Ross. "I'm a pretty secure person. I like my security."

She went into the Army for six years, where she served as an officer, continued singing, and met her husband, a West Point grad.

"I got out to follow him," she explained. "We happened to get stationed in Monterrey, Calif. We lived there nine years, and I literally did musicals back-to-back for nine years. I would be in a show and I would be rehearsing two others. Worked part-time, raised two kids, and I've probably done a hundred leads in a hundred shows. So for me, the road I took is the one

that fulfilled my passion."

The same thing happened when Ross and her husband moved to Washington, D.C. But she had an epiphany while sitting in an audience watching a show almost 14 years ago.

"I had always said to my husband, 'I will never come off the stage. I'll be doing theatre on stage until the day I die.' And I sat in the audience and I went, 'Wow, I could have done a better job directing that.' And next thing I know, I'm directing shows," said Ross.

Ross now works with Silhouette Stages, a community theater she helped found over 12 years ago.

While she still does an occasional part, Ross mainly directs now and admits to loving the process.

"I love figuring out what show I want to do, what I want it to look like, pulling it together. I was just saying last night during rehearsal that I love this process of getting to create something for other people," she said.

Ross's work has earned her D.C. Metro Theatre awards for best show and best director of the musical, *Monty Python's Spamalot* for 2015. She and her group also received additional best show for Baltimore area theater awards and numerous awards for best actors, supporting actors and ensemble.

According to Ross, the D.C. Metro Theatre reviews shows from New York to Washington, D.C., and that receiving their

awards put her group with professional shows in D.C., Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York City groups.

"You have to do a certain number of performances to be in the category, and this year we extended Monty because we knew it would draw a good audience," said Ross. "It was fabulous."

Ross's theater group is one of five groups to be nominated for best community theater group in the Maryland-Virginia area. She and her group have won awards in the past too.

She is currently in rehearsals for *Noises Off*, a non-musical British farce.

"I think I like the British stuff," Ross laughed. "I actually have acted in it twice myself, now I'm directing it. The fun part about this is it's a show within a show."

See Ross, Page 11



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MEETINGS CALENDAR

Wed., Jan. 13 – Rush Co. Council meeting, 8 a.m., courthouse room 211, Rushville

Wed., Jan. 13 – Hancock Co. Council meeting, 8:30 a.m., courthouse annex room 101, Greenfield

Wed., Jan. 13 – Henry Co. Drainage Board meeting, 9 a.m., Henry County Office Building Suite 107, New Castle

Wed., Jan. 13 – Henry Co. Commissioners meeting, 6 p.m., old circuit court room, 2nd floor of courthouse, New Castle

Thurs., Jan. 14 – Hancock Co. Planning Commission technical committee meeting, 9 a.m., courthouse annex room 101, Greenfield

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# FOLKWAYS

## Jan McGuire Hosts Local BPW Meeting

The Indiana Federation of Business & Professional Women's Clubs (BPW) of Knightstown had the December meeting at Sugarbakers in Knightstown on Dec. 21 with Janet McGuire as hostess.

Local president Barbara Mofield presided at the meeting. Plans were discussed for the Mystery Dinner Feb. 13 and 14. State convention will be April 16 at Corydon and all members were encouraged to attend. Tina Williams will be installed as BPW president.

Knightstown BPW welcomed three new members this year, Carolyn Siegfried, Betsy Wilkerson and Dana Jones.

A version of "Twas the Night Before Christmas" was presented by Williams and Carolyn Siegfried with sound effects. Everyone had a fun evening.

Debbie Banks will be hostess for the Jan. 18 meeting at SugarBakers at 6:30 p.m. Women in the community are invited to attend any BPW meeting on the third Monday of each month.

## Grace Borders on Indescribable

by Rev. Gail Whitmire  
Knightstown First Wesleyan Church  
765-759-5944



*"In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding."* (Ephesians 1:7, 8).

"Unmerited divine assistance" is one description of "grace" as found in Webster's dictionary. The hymn "Amazing Grace" (written by John Newton and published in 1779) is certainly on target too, isn't it? And yet, is there any way to really describe the grace we're reading about in the verses listed here?

We might add the following to our reason for celebrating God's grace: His Word tells us He "lavished"

this grace on us. To think, He pulled out all the stops and gave without ceasing. Thankfully, He still gives that grace to us today—for every day and every situation.

I recently reread a letter that I had received years ago from a dear cousin who was dying as a result of an inoperable brain tumor. She expressed how she was at peace with God's plan for her life. That, my friend, is a result of this gift called grace. What a legacy my precious cousin left behind to help her loved ones deal with her passing, even though losing her was difficult. Although many people did their best to comfort her as she went through the tough times of battling her disease, she was actually the one who brought comfort to us because of her ministry of grace.

Is there really a way to give a definition of this glorious gift, or is the whole thing just beyond description?



Walker Birth

Paul and Autumn (Hayes) Walker of Greenfield are pleased to announce the birth of a son, Declan Lawrence Walker, born Dec. 30.

Maternal grandmother is Mary Lou (Eichelberger) Hayes of Knightstown. Maternal grandfather is the late Larry J. Hayes. Maternal great-grandfather is Frank "Buster" Hayes of New Castle. Maternal great-grandmother is the late Vivian (Prosser) Hayes. Paternal grandmother is Linda Walker of Scottsburg. Paternal grandfather is Ron Walker of Lafayette.

## Quilt Guild Guest Speaker to Discuss 'Cotton Theory'

Common Threads Quilt Guild will host Lana Russell as the group's guest speaker on Jan. 20. Russell will discuss her "cotton theory" and present a quilt trunk show. She is a certified cotton theory instructor and fiber artist.

Russell will appear at the guild's Jan. 20 meeting at 9:30 a.m. at Mount Comfort United Methodist Church in Mount Comfort.

Common Threads Quilt Guild meets from 9:30-11:30 a.m. on the third Wednesday of each month at the church with approximately 60-75 members present at each meeting. Guests registration is \$5. Upcoming speakers include Jennifer Fulton on "Idiot's Guides: Quilting" on Feb. 17. The Harvest of Quilts Show will be Aug. 26-27.

Continued from Above

current library building, which includes that original Carnegie library, opened in 2006 and hosts dozens of events for community enrichment.

The centennial festivities aren't limited to Sunday's events. At 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 28, library staff will present a century of Henry County's characters in a live reenactment. Other programs

include a documentary, fashion show, and heritage day. Find more information about centennial-related events at [www.nhcpl.org/100years](http://www.nhcpl.org/100years).

The library's centennial celebration coincides with the State of Indiana's bicentennial and several of the events, including the opening ceremony, have been branded as officially endorsed legacy projects.

## County Library Preparing Century Celebration

New Castle-Henry County Public Library celebrates 100 years of serving this community with an opening ceremony at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 17. The ceremony will feature live music, brief comments from State Librarian Jacob Speer, and refreshments. There are several displays around the library highlighting the past 100 years in automotive history, a centennial quilt, and a scrapbook showcasing photos and stories from the past century. At 3 p.m. in the auditori-

um, the New Castle High School Jazz Band will perform. All in attendance can receive a gift commemorating the centennial celebration.

New Castle-Henry County Public Library opened its doors in January of 1916, with 4,000 books and 1,803 library cardholders. Funded largely by a donation from the Carnegie Foundation (formed by wealthy industrialist Andrew Carnegie), the building featured stylings popular in the Arts and

Crafts movement and replicated at other "Carnegie libraries" throughout the country.

Fast forward 100 years. The New Castle-Henry County Public Library boasts more than 190,000 books and thousands of other volumes including eBooks, magazines, audiobooks, CDs, and DVD/Blu ray discs. There are more than 28,500 library cardholders who checked out more than 300,000 items last year. The

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# LOCAL SPORTS

## Panther Wrestlers Win 4th Straight County Title



The sixth-ranked Knightstown varsity wrestling team hold up four fingers, indicating their fourth straight championship in the Henry County Tournament Jan. 6, after they defeated eighth-ranked Shenandoah as well as Tri and Blue River Valley. (Photo provided)

The Knightstown varsity wrestling team won its fourth consecutive Henry County championship Jan. 6. The Panthers defeated Blue River 76-3 and Tri 60-18 but had their toughest time of the day against Shenandoah. The Raiders are now ranked eighth while the Panthers are ranked sixth in Class 1A. Knightstown prevailed over Shenandoah 36-34. Six Panther wrestlers won individual county championships including Adam Bundy (132 lbs.), Cameron Fender (138 lbs.), Alex Fields (145 lbs.), Balin Orcutt (170 lbs.), Jason Dishman (195 lbs.) and Garrett Thomas (220 lbs.).

"Some of the wins and losses are not in their weight class as we moved our line up around against Shenandoah to capture the team championship," KHS head coach Jared Evans said. Going 3-0 on the day were Bundy, Fender, Jon Simmons (160 lbs.), Zack Clark (182 lbs.), Dishman and Thomas. Jacob Hanna (113 lbs.), Thomas Sollars (120 lbs.), Fields and Orcutt finished 2-1 at the tourney. Eric Adams (106 lbs.), Kaleb Buchanan (126 lbs.) and Alex Brading (152 lbs.) went 1-2 while Mason Tinkle (HWT) was 1-1.

## C.A. Beard Memorial School Corp. Spring 2015 ISTEP+ Test Results\*

	% Pass English/Lang. Arts	% Pass Math	% Pass Eng./LA and Math
<b>Knightstown Elem.</b>			
Gr. 3	74.1 (88.5)	71.8 (90.8)	62.4 (82.8)
<b>Knightstown Int.</b>			
Gr. 4	67.5 (86.7)	53.1 (89.1)	47.5 (80.0)
Gr. 5	59.3 (73.3)	59.8 (72.2)	46.9 (61.1)
Gr. 6	54.7 (75.3)	48.4 (78.7)	41.1 (69.7)
Gr. 7	51.5 (69.5)	39.4 (70.5)	34.3 (59.0)
Gr. 8	47.5 (80.4)	26.2(85.9)	22.8 (76.1)
<b>CAB Totals</b>	58.4 (78.7)	48.6 (80.9)	41.6 (71.1)
<b>State Averages</b>	67.3 (80.7)	61.0 (83.5)	53.5 (74.7)

\*The source for the above data is the Indiana Department of Education. The figures in parentheses reflect the percentages from the 2014 spring test. At the time the 2014 tests were administered, CAB's Carthage and Kennard elementary schools were still open, and fourth grade students were still being taught at the elementary schools, not the intermediate school. The third and fourth grade 2014 passing rates noted in parentheses reflect the passing rate for students in all three elementary schools that were open at the time that test was given, not just those at Knightstown Elementary.

## 2015 Spring ISTEP+ Test Results\* for County, Area School Districts

School District	% Pass English/Lang. Arts	% Pass Math	% Pass Eng./LA and Math
Blue River Valley	61.7 (76.1)	49.6 (77.7)	43.3 (67.7)
C.A. Beard	58.4 (78.7)	48.6 (80.9)	41.6 (71.1)
Eastern Hancock	66.9 (78.4)	68.8 (90.8)	56.6 (75.3)
Greenfield	67.2 (81.7)	70.1 (88.5)	58.8 (78.2)
New Castle	66.8 (81.2)	59.3 (84.1)	51.0 (76.2)
Rush County	68.3 (80.6)	64.9 (82.5)	56.8 (74.8)
Shenandoah	72.0 (84.8)	71.3 (91.1)	61.6 (81.4)
South Henry	64.1 (81.2)	49.1 (80.6)	41.6 (72.4)
<b>State Averages</b>	67.3 (80.7)	61.0 (83.5)	53.5 (74.7)

\*The source for the above data is the Indiana Department of Education. The figures in parentheses reflect the percentages from the 2014 spring test.

## Panther Football Players Honored

Knightstown High School head football coach Kevin Miller recently handed out awards for the 2015 Panther football season. Most Valuable Player awards were given to Tyler Burton (offense) and Zach Fields (defense). Logan Johnson earned the team's Sportsmanship award. Hagan Moore was given the Most Improved award. The Dr. Steven Smith Academic award was given to James Oldham. Coleman Wyatt was honored with the Don Willard Award. Other awards were presented to Dalton Moss (offense line), Riley Ruble (offense back), Josh House (defensive line) and Kennedy Osborn (defensive back).

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## Lady Royals Win Three More

The Eastern Hancock girls varsity basketball team got off to a quick lead and finished with a strong fourth quarter to clobber Southwestern by 23 points. The Lady Royals held the Lady Spartans to just 10 points in the first half and started the second half with a 12-point lead. Junior Leah Ferguson led Eastern Hancock's scorers with 12 points while Emily Carlton and Peyton West each added eight. The victory pushed the Lady Royals' overall record to 11-4 and to 3-2 in the Mid-Hoosier Conference.

Southwestern	2	8	7	15	- 32
Eastern Hancock	17	5	15	18	- 55

### Eastern Hancock Individual Results vs. Southwestern

Leah Ferguson - 12 points, 3 rebounds, 1 assist, 3 steals, 1 shot deflected  
 Emily Carlton - 8 points, 4 rebounds, 5 assists, 2 steals, 1 shot deflected  
 Peyton West - 8 points, 3 rebounds, 4 assists, 2 shots deflected  
 Kaysi Gilbert - 7 points (one 3-pointer), 2 rebounds, 3 assists, 1 steal, 1 block, 1 shot deflected  
 Megan Mench - 4 points  
 Hope Spaulding - 5 points (one 3-pointer), 1 rebound, 1 block  
 Haley Best - 5 points (one 3-pointer), 2 assists, 1 steal  
 Jenna Smith - 4 points, 5 rebounds, 2 blocks  
 Shelby King - 2 points, 2 rebounds, 1 assist, 3 steals  
 Bailey Allen - 3 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal

The Lady Royal varsity basketball team got another conference win on Jan. 7 after they defeated Hauser 61-58 on the road. EH girls held the Lady Jets to just seven points in the second quarter to take a 36-27 lead into halftime. The game evened out in the second half but the Lady Royals held on for the three-point victory. Emily Carlton topped all scorers with 20 points and Leah Ferguson added 10 to help the Lady Royals bring home the win. Eastern Hancock's season record is now 12-4 overall and 4-2 in the Mid-Hoosier Conference.

Eastern Hancock	21	15	11	14	- 61
Hauser	20	7	15	16	- 58

### Eastern Hancock Individual Results vs. Hauser

Emily Carlton - 20 points (one 3-pointer), 6 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 block  
 Leah Ferguson - 10 points, 7 rebounds, 4 assists, 2 steals  
 Peyton West - 7 points, 8 rebounds, 3 assists, 1 steal  
 Hope Spaulding - 6 points (one 3-pointer), 3 rebounds, 3 assists, 2 steals, 1 shot deflected  
 Haley Best - 6 points (two 3-pointers), 1 rebound  
 Jenna Smith - 4 points, 5 rebounds, 1 assist, 2 steals, 1 charge taken  
 Kaysi Gilbert - 4 points (one 3-pointer), 1 rebound, 2 assists, 1 steal, 1 shot deflected  
 Shelby King - 4 points, 1 assist

In their third conference game in less than a week, the Eastern Hancock girls varsity basketball team secured another league victory against Edinburgh at home Jan. 11. Both the Lady Royals and the Lady Lancers struggled to get their offenses going early on with each side putting just six points on the board in the first quarter. But, Eastern Hancock found their stride in the second quarter and never looked back, defeating Edinburgh 55-38. Junior Emily Carlton again led the way to victory for EH. She finished with 17 points. The Lady Royals are now 13-4 on the season and 5-2 in the Mid-Hoosier Conference.

Edinburgh	6	13	8	11	- 38
Eastern Hancock	6	17	13	19	- 55

### Eastern Hancock Individual Results vs. Edinburgh

Emily Carlton - 17 points (one 3-pointer), 2 rebounds, 1 assist, 2 steals, 1 block  
 Jenna Smith - 7 points, 3 rebounds, 3 assists, 1 steal, 1 block  
 Peyton West - 6 points, 6 rebounds, 2 assists, 1 steal, 1 shot deflected  
 Leah Ferguson - 5 points, 2 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal  
 Bailey Allen - 5 points (one 3-pointer), 1 steal  
 Shelby King - 4 points, 3 rebounds, 3 assists, 3 shots deflected  
 Hope Spaulding - 4 points, 2 rebounds  
 Kaysi Gilbert - 3 points (one 3-pointer), 2 rebounds, 2 assists, 1 steal, 1 block, 1 shot deflected  
 Haley Best - 2 points, 2 rebounds  
 Megan Mench - 2 points

## Two Banner Corrections Noted

The Banner made two errors in last week's edition. First, Robert L. Myers' name was left off the Banner Necrology. His obituary was published on page one of the Sept. 23, 2015 issue. Due to the non-typical placement, his obituary was overlooked. Second, publisher Eric Cox made a silly mistake in his "Blah Blah Blah" column, claiming Jonathan Knight was Knightstown's founder. In fact, Waitstill Munson Cary is the founder of Knightstown. The Banner regrets the errors and any confusion they may have caused.

# LOCAL SPORTS

## Panthers Defeat Titans at County Tourney

Knightstown senior Drake Peggs was on fire in the first round of action in this year's Henry County Tournament for varsity boys basketball Jan. 7.

Peggs scored 24 points to lead the Panthers to a 75-52 victory over Tri. Dylan Hiner had 12 points and Jackson Edwards added 11 points for KHS.

Knightstown got off to a great start, taking a 24-7 lead after the first period. A fairly even second quarter performance by both teams sent the Panthers to the locker room up 38-19.

The Panthers bumped up their lead to 58-29 at the end of three and held strong through a fourth-quarter Titan rally to advance to the championship game.

Kaleb Harrison and David

O'Neill led the Titan scoring effort with 13 and 12 points respectively.

The win moves the Panthers' season record to 5-3 while the Titans fall to 4-6.

Tri	7	12	10	23	- 52
Knightstown	24	14	20	17	- 75

### Knightstown Individual Results

Drake Peggs - 24 points (three 3-pointers), 3 rebounds, 5 assists, 6 steals

Dylan Hiner - 12 points (one 3-pointer), 2 rebounds, 4 assists, 1 steal, 1 block

Jackson Edwards - 11 points, 7 rebounds, 6 assists, 1 steal, 1 block

Riley Ruble - 9 points (one 3-pointer), 3 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal

Coleman Wyatt - 6 points, 8

rebounds, 2 assists, 1 steal

Tucker Personnet - 5 points  
Jake Bearhope - 4 points, 5 rebounds

Jarrett Weidner - 4 points, 4 rebounds, 1 assist

Daniel Rayburn - 1 rebound, 2 assists, 1 steal

Lane Parker - 1 rebound

### Tri Individual Results

Kaleb Harrison - 13 points (two 3-pointers)

David O'Neill - 12 points (two 3-pointers)

Alex Melton - 7 points

Carson Cox - 6 points

Masen Phelps - 6 points

Nick Wilson - 4 points

Austin Stroud - 2 points

Elijah Davis - 2 points

## Shenandoah Defeats Knightstown in Exciting County Title Game

The Henry County varsity boys basketball tournament championship game turned into an exciting one Jan. 9 at Knightstown, with Knightstown nearly giving Shenandoah its first loss of the season.

The Panthers took an early one-point lead, going up 17-16 after one period. Knightstown then experienced two unusually low-scoring quarters for this year's team, finishing with just eight points in the second quarter and 10 in the third.

Down 35-46 to start the fourth, Knightstown rallied in a big way to make the final few minutes some tense ones for both Panther and Raider fans. The Panthers outscored the Raiders 25-15 in the fourth quarter, ultimately coming up just one point shy of an overtime opportunity. The Raiders were awarded the trophy after the 61-60 win.

Knightstown hit 12 three-pointers in the game. Senior Jackson Edwards and freshman Dylan Hiner each scored 18 points and senior Drake Peggs hit four 3-pointers to lead the Panthers on the scoreboard.

Shenandoah junior Gavin Griggs topped the Raiders scorers with 20 points and senior Mason Griggs added 10.

The loss dropped Knightstown's overall season record to 5-4. Shenandoah maintains their perfect record this year, moving to 11-0 following the win over the Panthers.

Knightstown	17	8	10	25	- 60
Shenandoah	15	17	13	15	- 61

### Knightstown Individual Results

Jackson Edwards - 18 points (three 3-pointers), 4 rebounds, 8 assists, 3 steals

Dylan Hiner - 18 points (four 3-pointers), 5 rebounds

Riley Ruble - 5 points (one 3-pointer), 8 rebounds, 4 assists, 1 steal

Drake Peggs - 12 points (four 3-pointers), 2 assists

Coleman Wyatt - 7 points, 3 rebounds, 1 assist

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## Royals Beat Muncie Burris, Lose to N. Decatur

The Eastern Hancock varsity boys basketball team had a monster second half, scoring 42 points, to stomp Muncie Burris 71-55 on the road Jan. 8.

The Royals hit eight 3-pointers and knocked down 21 of 25 at the free throw line in their effort to defeat the Owls.

Five Royals finished in double figures with A.J. Muegge topping the EH scorers with 18 points.

Addison True was one rebound short of a double-double with 17 points and nine boards.

Eastern Hancock's season record improved to 3-5 with the win.

E. Hancock	15	14	21	21	- 71
Burris	8	18	16	13	- 55

### Eastern Hancock Individual Results vs. Muncie Burris

A.J. Muegge - 18 points (one 3-pointer), 3 rebounds, 3 steals, 2 shots deflected

Addison True - 17 points (one 3-pointer), 9 rebounds, 2 assists, 5 steals, 4 shots deflected

Ryan Speas - 13 points (three 3-pointers), 2 rebounds, 3 assists, 1 steal

Duncan Cherry - 11 points (two 3-pointers), 5 rebounds, 4 assists, 1 steal

Tom Barton - 10 points (one 3-pointer), 4 rebounds, 2 steals, 1 block, 1 shot deflected

Tyler Blattner - 2 points, 1 rebound, 1 assist

Jacob Eischen - 1 rebound, 1

shot deflected

Jordan Stillinger - 1 rebound

Eastern Hancock's varsity boys basketball team traveled to Indianapolis Jan. 9 to compete in a Mid-Hoosier Conference game against North Decatur. The Royals fell to the Chargers 44-57 in the Bankers Life Fieldhouse game.

The Royals shot just 27 percent overall, mainly due to their struggles behind the arc where they were 4-for-28. That performance from three-point land was 20 percent below the team's season average.

Addison True led the Royals with 14 points and eight rebounds.

The loss puts the Royals season record at 3-6 and 0-3 in conference action.

N. Decatur	20	10	8	19	- 57
E. Hancock	10	3	14	17	- 44

### Eastern Hancock Individual Results vs. North Decatur

Duncan Cherry - 20 points (two 3-pointers), 7 rebounds, 3 assists, 1 steal

Addison True - 18 points (two 3-pointers), 10 rebounds, 2 assists, 1 steal, 4 shots deflected

A.J. Muegge - 9 points (one 3-pointer), 2 rebounds, 1 steal, 1 shot deflected

Jacob Eischen - 6 points, 7 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal, 2 shots deflected

Ryan Speas - 5 points (one 3-pointer), 1 rebound, 2 assists, 1 steal, 1 shot deflected

Jarett Lewis - 2 points, 2 assists, 1 steal, 1 shot deflected

Tom Barton - 3 rebounds, 1 block, 2 shots deflected

Tyler Blattner - 1 assist

Jordan Stillinger - 1 steal

## EH Jr. Varsity Boys Beat Muncie Burris 58-36

Sophomore Brycen Napier scored 28 points and pulled down nine rebounds to carry the Eastern Hancock boys junior varsity basketball team to a 58-36 victory over Muncie Burris junior varsity Jan. 8.

The road win puts the Royal JV season record at 7-2.

E. Hancock	15	14	21	21	- 71
Burris	8	18	16	13	- 55

### E. Hancock JV Individual Results

Brycen Napier - 28 points (two 3-pointers), 9 rebounds, 4 assists, 6 steals, 2 shots deflected

Jake Hancock - 8 points, 2 rebounds, 2 steals

Trey Bittinger - 7 points (one 3-pointer), 4 rebounds, 1 block, 1 shot deflected

Peyton Gray - 4 points, 4 rebounds, 1 steal, 1 block, 3 shots deflected

Luke Splater - 4 points, 3 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal, 2 shots deflected

Tyler Castle - 3 points (one 3-pointer), 2 assists, 2 steals, 4 shots deflected

Nathan Mosher - 2 points, 3 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal, 3 shots deflected

Skyler Schrope - 2 points, 1 rebound, 1 assist, 2 steals

Brady Stephens - 3 rebounds

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## Jr. Varsity Lady Royals Now 12-3

Eastern Hancock girls junior varsity basketball team started hot and finished the same way to overcome a major scoring drought in the second and third quarters to beat Southwestern 43-15 at home Jan. 5.

Faithe Webster had 13 points, Morgan Collins scored nine and Bailey Allen added eight to lead the JV Lady Royals to the conference victory. The team is now 12-1 on the year and 4-1 in conference action.

Southwestern	2	7	2	4	-	15
Eastern Hancock	17	5	5	16	-	43

#### Eastern Hancock JV Individual Results vs. Southwestern

Faithe Webster - 13 points, 2 rebounds, 4 steals, 1 block  
Morgan Collins - 9 points (one 3-pointer), 2 rebounds  
Bailey Allen - 8 points, 3 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal  
Liberty Durham - 4 points, 3 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 block  
Micah Black - 4 points, 2 rebounds  
Megan Bever - 3 points, 2 rebounds  
Jenna Smith - 2 points, 4 rebounds  
Kayla Fancher - 3 rebounds  
Madison Clutinger - 2 rebounds, 1 steal

The Lady Royals JV girls basketball team suffered just its second loss of the year Jan. 7, falling 33-43 to Hauser on the road.

The junior varsity scored more in the third quarter than their combined total in the other three quarters. It was slow-going in the first half with the JV Lady Royals scoring just five points in the first quarter and two in the second. They came out of halftime on fire, hitting 17 points but were unable to hold Hauser in the final period.

The JV Lady Royals are now 12-2 on the season and 4-2 in the Mid-Hoosier Conference after the loss to Hauser.

Eastern Hancock	5	2	17	9	-	33
Hauser	11	13	8	11	-	43

#### Eastern Hancock Individual Results vs. Hauser

Micah Black - 9 points, 6 rebounds, 2 steals, 1 block  
Bailey Allen - 7 points (one 3-pointer), 5 rebounds, 1 steal, 1 block, 1 shot deflected  
Morgan Collins - 5 points (one 3-pointer), 1 steal, 1 block  
Faithe Webster - 4 points, 3 rebounds, 2 shots deflected  
Liberty Durham - 3 points, 5 rebounds, 1 steal  
Kayla Fancher - 3 points (one 3-pointer)  
Madison Clutinger - 2 points  
Jenna Smith - 2 rebounds, 1 steal, 1 block  
Megan Bever - 1 rebound, 1 steal

Eastern Hancock's junior varsity girls basketball team hit a scoring slump through the second and third quarters against conference opponent Edinburgh at home Jan. 11.

The JV Lady Royals rallied in the final period but came up short, falling to the Lady Lancers 42-48. The loss was the team's second in a row but just their third this season, bringing the JV's record to 12-3 overall and 4-3 in the Mid-Hoosier Conference.

Edinburgh	10	15	9	14	-	48
Eastern Hancock	11	8	6	17	-	42

#### Eastern Hancock Individual Results vs. Edinburgh

Liberty Durham - 10 points, 4 rebounds, 1 steal, 1 block  
Faithe Webster - 8 points, 4 rebounds, 1 assist, 3 steals, 1 block  
Micah Black - 7 points, 4 rebounds, 3 blocks  
Bailey Allen - 5 points (one 3-pointer), 2 blocks  
Kayla Fancher - 4 points (one 3-pointer), 2 rebounds, 1 steal  
Megan Bever - 4 points, 1 rebound, 1 shot deflected  
Morgan Collins - 2 points, 5 rebounds  
Jenna Smith - 2 points, 1 rebound, 2 steals  
Madison Clutinger - 2 rebounds

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## Tri Beats BRV in Consolation Game

After falling to Knightstown in the first round of the Henry County Tournament, Tri's varsity boys basketball team bounced back with a 66-60 win over Blue River Valley in the consolation game Jan. 9.

It was a close game throughout the first half with the score tied up at 27 at halftime. But, the Titans came out of the locker room fired up and outscored the Vikings 21-10 in the third quarter.

The Vikings fought hard in the final period but could not overcome their third quarter deficit.

Titan junior Carson Cox grabbed a double-double with 22 points and 12 rebounds. Cox was 6-for-11 from the field and 10-for-14 at the free throw line to lead the Titans in scoring.

The win improved the Titans' season record to 5-6.

Tri	7	12	10	23	-	52
Knightstown	24	14	20	17	-	75

#### Tri Individual Results

Carson Cox - 22 points, 12 rebounds, 1 assist

Nick Wilson - 13 points (one 3-pointer), 3 rebounds, 3 assists, 2 steals

Kaleb Harrison - 12 points (one 3-pointer), 5 rebounds, 4 assists, 3 steals

Masen Phelps - 7 points (one 3-pointer), 2 rebounds

Eric Bilby - 4 points (one 3-pointer), 3 rebounds, 1 steal, 2 blocks

David O'Neill - 4 points, 3 rebounds

Austin Stroud - 3 points, 3 rebounds, 3 assists, 1 steal

Alex Melton - 1 point, 3 rebounds, 1 assist, 2 steal

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## Lady Panthers Fall to Shenandoah, Beat Blue River Valley in Henry County Tournament

The Shenandoah girls varsity basketball team came into the Henry County Tournament just 3-10. They picked a great time to catch fire.

The Lady Raiders defeated Knightstown 54-51 in the first round Jan. 8 then took Tri's girls to overtime where they came away with another county championship trophy.

Knightstown had one of their better first halves, taking a 31-22 lead into the locker room. But, Shenandoah was on fire in the third quarter, scoring 22 points, and holding the Lady Panthers to just seven.

The Lady Panthers outscored the Lady Raiders 13-10 in the final frame but came up short to fall 51-54.

Brooke Vise got her sixth double-double of the season, scoring 15 points and pulling down 17 rebounds to lead the Lady Panthers. Hannah Thomas contributed 12 points and six boards.

The loss dropped the KHS girls' record to 3-13 and moved them to the consolation game against Blue River Valley the following day.

Shenandoah	14	8	22	10	-	54
Knightstown	13	18	7	13	-	51

**Knightstown Individual Results**

- Brooke Vise - 15 points, 17 rebounds, 2 steals, 1 block
- Hannah Thomas - 12 point s, 6 rebounds, 4 assists, 2 steals
- Carmen Cleek - 8 points, 3 rebounds, 4 assists, 1 steal, 4 shots deflected
- Lacy Thomas - 6 points (two 3-pointers), 1 rebound, 3 assists
- Lori Thomas - 4 points, 6 rebounds, 1 assist
- Jordan Ventresco - 4 points, 4 rebounds, 3 assists, 2 steals, 3 shots deflected
- Dharma Holder - 2 points, 1 steal

After losing a close game to Shenandoah in the first round, Knightstown's varsity girls basketball team traveled to Blue River Valley to take on the Lady Vikings in the consolation round.

Blue River jumped out to the early lead and held on through the second quarter to take a 23-20 lead at halftime. The Lady Panthers hit their stride and picked up the

defense in the second half to defeat the Lady Vikings 44-38.

The victory sets the Lady Panthers' record at 4-13. Blue River Valley is now 7-11.

Knightstown	8	12	13	11	-	44
Blue River	15	8	4	11	-	38

**Knightstown Individual Results**

- Brooke Vise - 18 points, 8 rebounds, 1 assist, 3 steals,
- Carmen Cleek - 13 points (one 3-pointer), 2 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 shot deflected
- Hannah Thomas - 7 points, 9 rebounds, 3 assists, 1 steal
- Lori Thomas - 3 points, 3 rebounds, 2 assists, 1 steal
- Jordan Ventresco - 3 points, 1 rebound, 1 assist, 1 steal, 1 shot deflected
- Lacy Thomas - 4 rebounds, 1 block
- Dharma Holder - 1 rebound, 2 assists
- Jessica Butler - 2 rebounds
- Sidney Vise - 2 rebounds

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Ross, from Page 6

Noises Off, originally written by Michael Frayn, also features a rotating, two-story set and incorporates pantomime and slapstick humor.

"I feel very fortunate that we get to do this, because it opens on Broadway this week. So the fact that we got the rights to it and we're literally just down the road from New York is kind of remarkable," she said.

Because her main occupation has her traveling all over the country and even to Europe, Ross only does one show per year. Outside of the world of theatre, she is a management consultant and certified executive leadership coach.

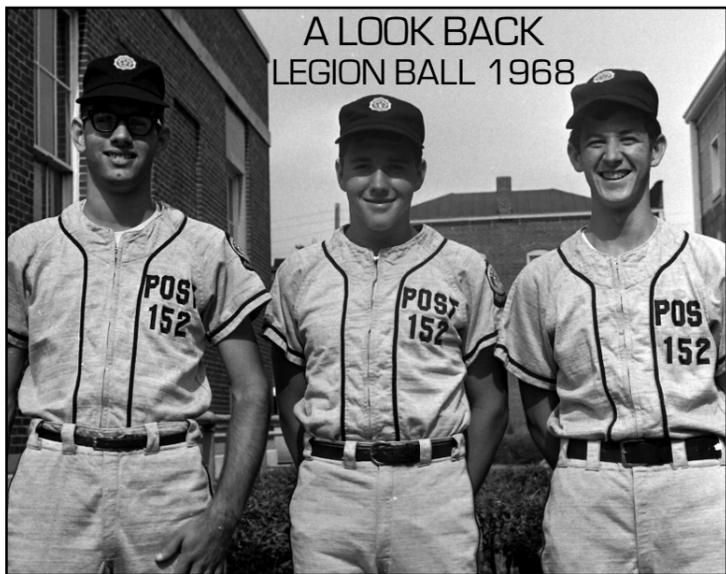
Ross currently lives in Columbia, Md., but she is from Knightstown originally and graduated from Knightstown High School in 1970.

"For a small town kid, I've done a lot of stuff," said Ross. "I've got to tell you, the education I got at Knightstown afforded me the opportunity to pursue a lot of the things that a lot of people don't get to do. You'll never see me turn my back on Knightstown."

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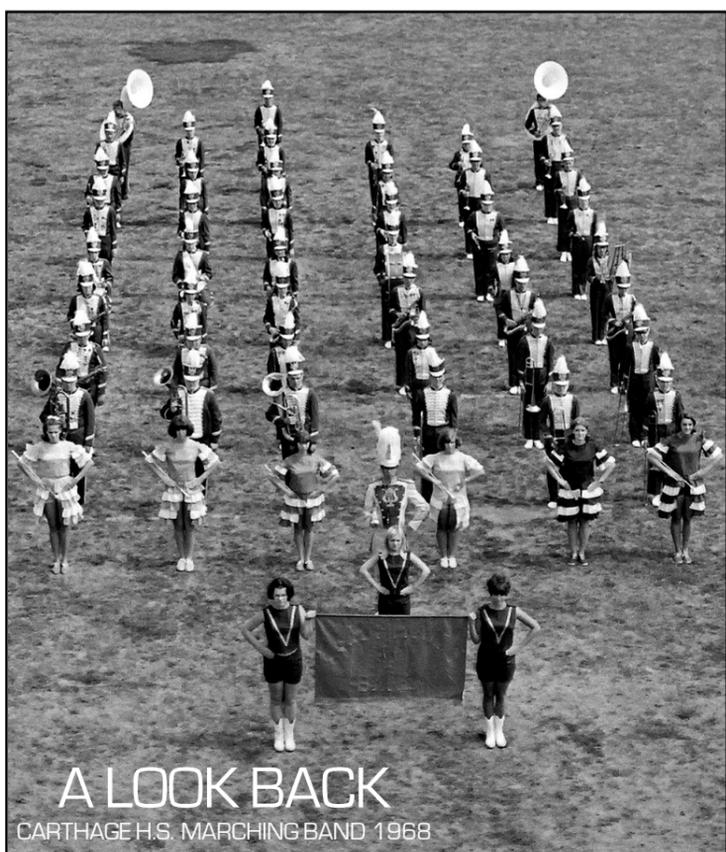
A LOOK BACK  
OLD FASHIONED DAYS - 1968



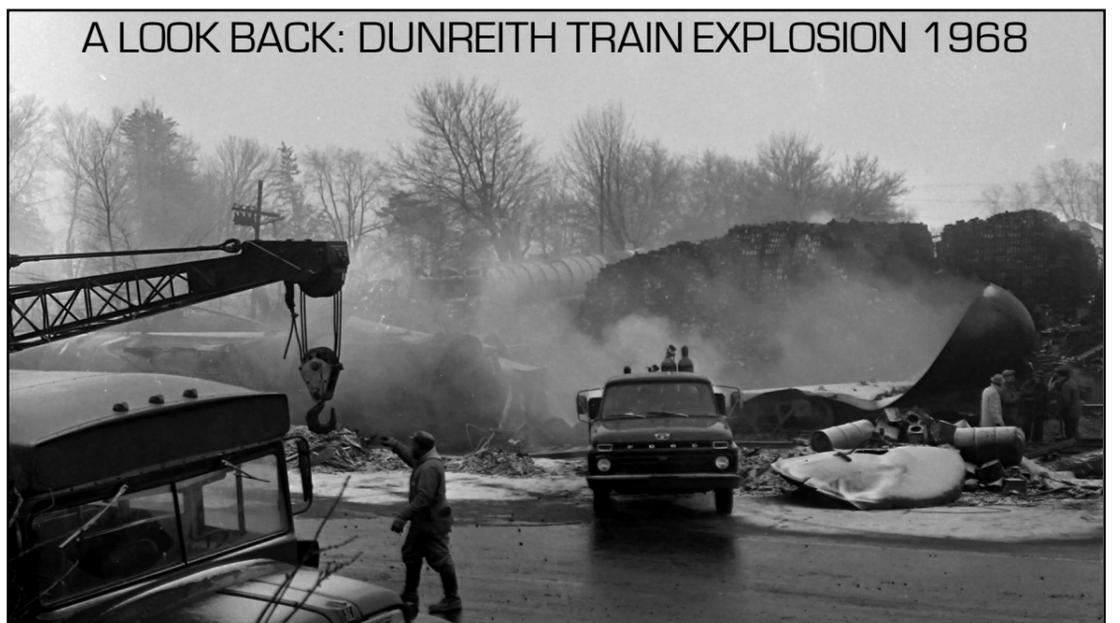
A LOOK BACK  
LEGION BALL 1968



A LOOK BACK  
OLD FASHIONED DAYS - 1968

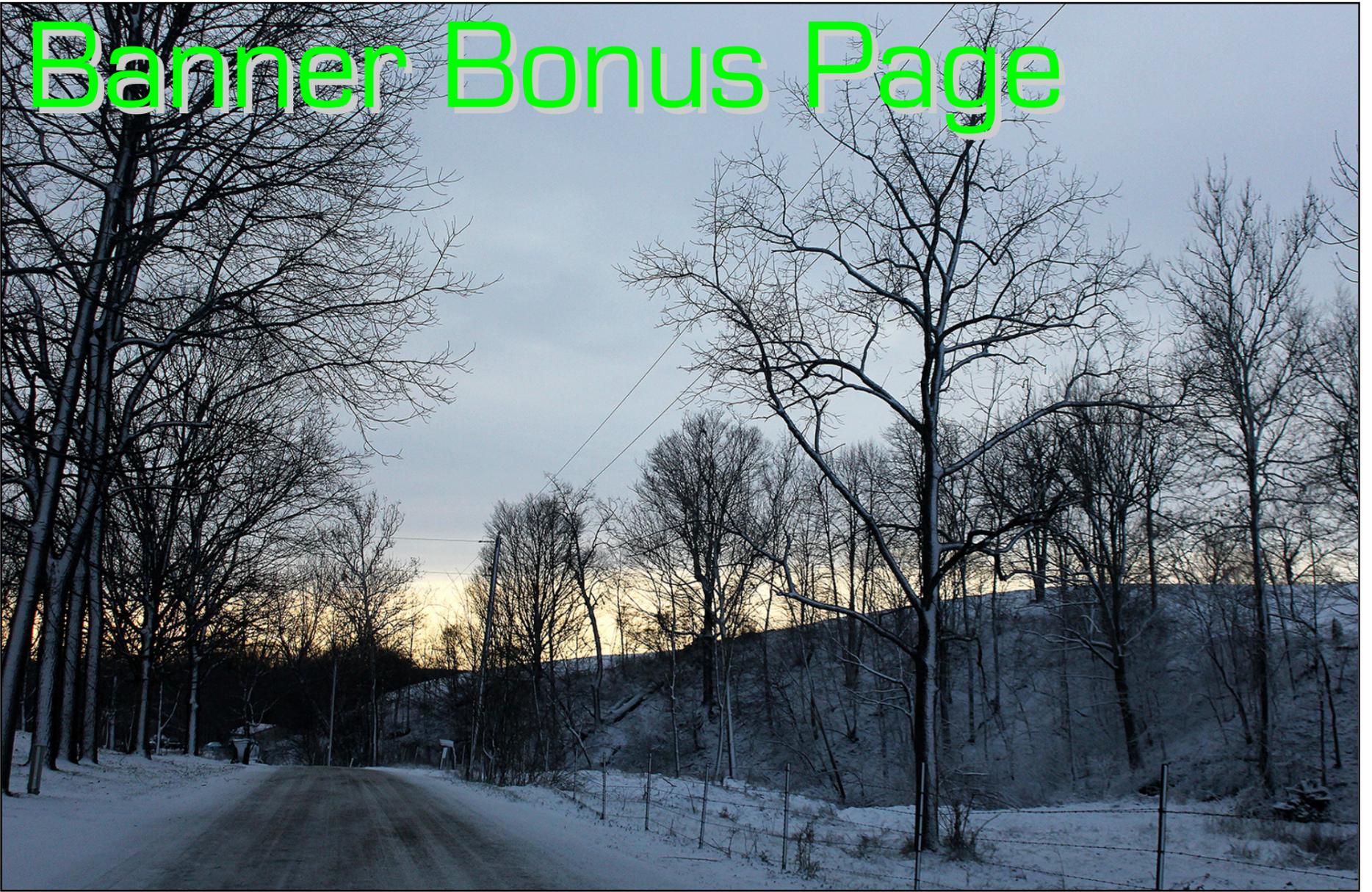


A LOOK BACK  
CARTHAGE H.S. MARCHING BAND 1968



A LOOK BACK: DUNREITH TRAIN EXPLOSION 1968

# Banner Bonus Page



Photos by  
Eric Cox

