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*"Men occasionally stumble over the truth, but most of them pick themselves up and hurry off as if nothing ever happened."*

- Sir Winston Churchill

**Vol. XIX, Issue 48**

**March 14, 2018**

**Knightstown, IN**

## Mt. Olive Rejoice Singers Performing

Knightstown Church of God, 405 North St., will host gospel singing, featuring Mt. Olive Rejoice Singers, on Saturday, March 17, at 6 p.m. The public is invited to attend this free, family-friendly gospel concert. For more information, call 317-936-5849 or 765-345-7442.

## Steinwachs Car Show Set for May 12

The 10th annual Justin Steinwachs Memorial Car Show will take place Saturday, May 12, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. in Knightstown. Watch for parking restriction information in the coming weeks.

## KES Kindergarten Round-up Starting

Knightstown Elementary School will host its Kindergarten Round-up event in mid-March. Parents are encouraged to make appointments, each of which will last about one hour, for their children by calling the school at 345-2151. Enrolling full-day kindergarten children must be at least five years old by Aug. 1. Appointments can take place on Tuesday, March 20, 12-7 p.m. or Wednesday, March 21, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Parents should bring children's birth certificates and immunization records.

## Sherri Dugger to Speak in K-town

Monday, March 19, Knightstown Business & Professional Women will host an open discussion with Sherri Dugger. Dugger is the media and outreach director for the Indiana Farmers Union, the state branch of the National Farmers Union. The meeting is being held in a classroom at the Hoosier Gym. The discussion will begin at 7 p.m. and is free. To join BPW members at 6:30 for a \$10 dinner catered dinner, call Shannon Dawson at 317-501-2105 to make a reservation by 6 p.m. Saturday, March 17.

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## Carthage Upgrades Include Paving, New Lights

by Jeff Eakins  
for The Banner

Weather permitting, improvements to downtown Carthage, including street and sidewalk repairs, could get started before the end of the month.

Dave Kieser, owner of Kieser Consulting Group LLC, the Lawrence-based firm working with the town on downtown improvements and road resurfacing projects, told the Carthage Town Council at Monday's monthly meeting that work could be underway in just two weeks.

"We're going to have a pretty busy spring," Kieser said. "... These are not big projects, so they should be done pretty quick."

The council voted in January to hire Floyd Crim & Sons, Manilla, to resurface nearly three-quarters of a mile of local roads for \$86,046. The town will pay for this work with proceeds from a \$61,365 Community Crossings Initiative grant the town was awarded in September from the Indiana Department of Transportation, with the balance paid from town funds.

Crim & Sons make is expected to do road resurfacing at four locations:

\*Fifth Street, from Main Street to the west (0.166 miles);

\*First Street, from Market Street to Main Street (0.122 miles);

\*Market Street, from First Street to Mill Street (0.128 miles); and

\*Main Street, from town limits to County Road 800-North (0.36 miles).

**The work that will be done by Smith Projects will not include the new street lights. Those will be supplied and installed by Duke Energy, with the cost of that work expected to run a little less than \$29,500.**

Initially, the downtown improvements project was to include installation of 10 new street lights, eight curb ramps, new trash receptacles, planters, benches and bike racks. But, due to higher than expected prices, some items have been put on hold.

The council had voted in January to hire Smith Projects Inc., Maxwell, to handle the downtown improvements project for \$118,305. This work will be paid for with an \$89,000 Rural Business Development Grant

from Rural Development, a \$6,000 grant from the Rush County Community Foundation and the remainder with town funds.

The work that will be done by Smith Projects will not include the new street lights. Those will be supplied and installed by Duke Energy, with the cost of that work expected to run a little less than \$29,500.

Kieser also reported at Monday's meeting that his firm's work with a local committee on development of a comprehensive plan for the town is continuing. He said they are still in the process of finalizing the goals and objectives section of the plan.

Normally, comprehensive plans are prepared and approved by towns' plan commissions before being sent to their town councils for final adoption. Because Carthage doesn't have its own plan commission, however, its process will be a little different.

Once the steering committee helps Kieser Consulting come up with a draft of a comprehensive plan, it will be sent to the Carthage Town Council for its ratification. If the council approves the plan, it will then forward it to the Rush County Area Plan Commission, along

**See Upgrades, Page 2**

## As Summer Nears, Splash Pad's Future Still Uncertain

by Jeff Eakins  
for The Banner

The Knightstown Parks and Recreation Board continues to look into options that could possibly allow it to open the splash pad water attraction at Sunset Park this summer.

In January, the park board voted to further investigate altering the splash pad so that water drains into Montgomery Creek instead of going to the town's sewer plant. By

diverting the water to the creek, the park board hopes it will be able to eliminate the monthly sewer bill for the splash pad, which makes up the biggest part of its monthly utility bills.

At the park board's Feb. 19 monthly meeting, however, Vice President Bruce Brown said he thought the town would still assess a sewer bill for the splash pad, even if the water is not going to the

sewer plant. Randy Anderson, head of the town's water department and one of the town's three co-works managers, agreed and said it would "open a can of worms" if the town didn't charge a sewer bill in that situation.

Anderson also repeated to the park board what he had told the Knightstown Town Council in January - that he believes the splash pad is contributing to

water leaks in town.

Based on his own experience on the job and his review of past data, Anderson said he is convinced that when the splash pad turns on, it creates a "hammering" effect in the water system that can cause water lines to burst. He said he believed the only way to remedy this problem is to install a water holding tank and recirculating system.

**See Uncertain, Page 2**

## Lawsuit Over K-town Christmas Tree Cross Dismissed

by Jeff Eakins  
for The Banner

A federal lawsuit filed in late 2016 against Knightstown over the town's placement of a large cross on a tree decorated for Christmas on the Public Square has been dropped.

"It's been dismissed," Gregg Morelock, the town's attorney, announced at the Knightstown Town Council's Feb. 15 monthly meeting.

The American Civil Liberties Union of

Indiana had filed the lawsuit the December before last in federal court in Indianapolis on behalf of Knightstown resident Joe Tompkins. The lawsuit, contrary to inaccurate reporting in the Indianapolis Star and some other news media, sought no monetary damages. Rather, it sought a court declaration that having the Latin cross - a Christian symbol - at the top of the tree is unconstitutional and requested a permanent injunction preventing it from being

placed there in the future.

Days after the lawsuit was filed, town officials, acting on Morelock's advice, opted to remove the cross from the tree. This prompted protests from those who wanted the cross returned and led to widespread state and national news coverage of this issue, as well as a bevy of crosses being posted on some local businesses and town residents' lawns and homes - some

**See Lawsuit, Page 8**



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# OBITUARIES

**Shirley Shafer**  
October 17, 1930 - March 9, 2018



Shirley Shafer, 87, of Greenfield, and formerly of Charlottesville, passed away Friday, March 9, 2018, at Crownpointe Senior Living in Greenfield. She was born Oct. 17, 1930, in Southport, a daughter of the late Harry and Cecil (Toon) Ferguson.

Shirley was a member of the Knightstown Friends Meeting. She was a longtime bank teller with Hancock Bank and Trust and First National Bank in Knightstown, where she retired. Shirley enjoyed spending the winters, with her husband, George, at their home in Arizona.

Shirley leaves to cherish her memory her three daughters, Pamela (Ronald) Helms of Pimento, Peggy (Wade) Beatty of Knightstown, and Penny (Darrell) Weidner of Carthage; two grandchildren, Carla and Joshua Counciller of Columbus, Ohio; and two great-grandchildren, Elijah and Lilian Counciller.

In addition to her parents, Shirley was preceded in death by her husband, George Shafer; and a grandson, Adam Beatty.

Services were Monday, March 12, at Hinsey-Brown Funeral Service, Knightstown Chapel, with Tim Basford officiating. Burial followed in Glen Cove Cemetery. Visitation was March 12 at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to Knightstown Friends Church, 214 E. Brown St., Knightstown, IN 46148 or Riley Hospital for Children, 705 Riley Hospital Dr., Rm. 4510, Indianapolis, IN 46202. Condolences and memories of Shirley may be shared at [www.hinsey-brown.com](http://www.hinsey-brown.com).

**Uncertain, from Page 1**

According to Anderson, the town experienced 26 water leaks in 2015, with 10 of those occurring during the months the splash pad was in operation. In 2016, the last year the splash pad was open, nine of the 22 water leaks his department dealt with happened in those months.

By contrast, Anderson said the town only faced 14 water leaks in 2017, the first year the splash pad was kept closed for the season. During what would have been the splash pad's normal months of operation, he said there only four water leaks.

"Without any doubt in my mind, this hammering (in the pipes) is what's creating the prob-

lem with the leaks," Anderson told the town council in January.

Linda Lashbrook, a representative of local nonprofit Beautify Knightstown Inc. who has been working with the park board to try to find a solution that will allow the splash pad to reopen, said that a holding tank and recirculating system are not financially feasible. With respect to the hammering effect on the water pipes, she proposed installing a device that would reduce that or eliminate it altogether.

The park board ended up approving three motions with respect to the splash pad at the Feb. 19 meeting. Board members voted to continue reviewing

monthly their decision to keep the splash pad closed; to ask the town council if it will waive the sewer portion of the utility bill if the splash pad's water is sent to the creek instead of the sewer plant; and to apply for a grant from the Henry County Community Foundation for funds to help pay for the equipment needed to divert the water to the creek and for an anti-hammering device to protect the pipes.

In other business at the Feb. 19 meeting, the park board:

- \*agreed to let a local girls softball team use the Babe Ruth diamond at Sunset Park during March for practices, with continued use being reviewed on a monthly basis;
- \*voted to advertise that bids are being accepted for a groundskeeper/mower for the park; and
- \*approved allowing park board member Jan McGuire to keep using the park shelter house at no cost on the first and third Thursdays of each month for adult art classes, and for three to five Thursdays in June and July for children's art classes.

More information about the Feb. 19 monthly meeting of the Knightstown Parks and Recreation Board can be found in the memorandum and minutes of that proceeding. Those public records should be available for inspection and copying at Knightstown Town Hall, 26 S. Washington St., during normal business hours.

The next scheduled meeting of the park board is 7 p.m. Monday in the park shelter house. The meeting is open to the public.

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**Upgrades, from Page 1**

with a request that the county adopt the plan and incorporate it as an addendum to the county's comprehensive plan, which applies to the town.

As previously reported, the council voted at its Feb. 12 meeting to approve spending up to \$950 for two appraisals of a former bank building on South Main Street that the town is considering buying to renovate into a new town hall. Kieser told the council at Monday's meeting that he would like to meet with the building's owner and the owner's real estate agent before having the appraisals done.

Josh Douglas, the town's works manager, told Kieser that he should ask them about the condition of the building's boiler. He said he thought it had had a major leak.

The town had obtained appraisals on the former bank building several years ago when it was first considering purchasing the property for a new town hall. However, because of the amount of time that has gone by, new appraisals are needed.

# Carthage Town Council Amends Salary Ordinance

by Jeff Eakins  
for The Banner

Less than two months after adopting the town's salary ordinance for 2018, the Carthage Town Council voted Monday to make several changes to it.

Near the end of the council's March 12 monthly meeting, its five members voted unanimously to approve changes to the pay ranges for three different positions: the water/sewer/street operator, more commonly referred to as the town's works manager; utility and street employees; and utility clerk helper/clerical.

For the works manager position, the council voted to increase the cap of the current \$18 to \$30 hourly rate to \$35. The hourly pay range for utility and street employees was increased from \$11-\$22 to \$13-\$24, while the cap of the \$11-\$18 per hour range for probationary employees was dropped to \$15.

Starting pay for the utility clerk helper/clerical position remained unchanged at \$11 an hour. The council agreed, however, to increase the top hourly rate from \$18 to \$20.

The changes made to the salary ordinance at Monday's did not affect the hourly rates currently earned by the employees holding those positions. The amendments to the ordinance simply changed the range of pay those employees are eligible to earn.

Immediately after voting to approve the changes to the salary ordinance, however, the council did, as its final item of business that evening, give one of the three employees, Works Manager Josh Douglas, a pay raise. Beginning with the next pay period, Douglas'

hourly rate will increase 12.4 percent, from \$27.58 to \$31.

During his monthly report to the council, Douglas said that installation of a lower ceiling and heater in the chlorine room at the town's water plant had recently been finished.

"I think it will help out a lot on our energy bill," Douglas said. "... It also looks really nice."

Douglas provided the council with pricing information for repairs needed for a couple of pieces of equipment at the town's wastewater treatment plant. He was not certain if a \$2,000 estimate received from one company was

just for an inspection, or if that price also included repairs, and said he would check on that.

Douglas told the council he is still gathering cost estimates for fencing at McNabb Park and the town's cemetery. He said he hopes to have that information for the council's April 9 meeting.

In other business at Monday's meeting, the Carthage Town Council:

- \*voted to keep Adam Forrest as the town's attorney for the year, with the terms of his legal service contract with the town unchanged from 2017;
- \*also heard monthly reports

from Carthage Town Marshal Danny Baker and the town's building inspector, Bob Bullock;

\*received information from Chris Ross of CGS about options the town has with respect to its contract with CGS for trash and recycling services, which expires at the end of May; and

\*approved minutes from its Feb. 12 meeting and voted to pay monthly claims totaling \$46,937.91.

More information about the March 12 monthly meeting of the Carthage Town Council can be found in the minutes and memoranda from that proceeding.

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# Banner PERSPECTIVES

## Oldman Stunning in Darkest Hour

Hitler and his Nazis got more than they bargained for when Winston Churchill was made British prime minister. An irascible character who often drank alcohol morning, noon and night, Churchill's staunch antifascism was a pivotal building block for allied power in World War II.

I recently watched Gary Oldman's depiction of the cigar-smoking leader in last year's award winning *Darkest Hour*, directed by Joe Wright. This film is a kind of companion piece to the film *Dunkirk*, which details the evacuation of nearly 300,000 surrounded British troops in France.

Both are very good films, but the acting in *Darkest Hour*, particularly on Oldman's part, is far superior.

From the movie's start, Churchill is embroiled in stressful political maneuvering as English officials lose confidence in Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain's handling of the war, which had just started. England's King George VI asked Churchill to assume the role, which he did.

Churchill had grown somewhat unpopular in the preceding years due to his persistent warnings about Germany's growing rearmament following World War I. He was critical of Chamberlain's attempts to appease Hitler in lieu of invasion. Though several prominent British officials steadfastly urged Churchill to engage in negotiations with Hitler's government, the prime minister consistently balked, urging full-on armed resistance instead.

The curmudgeon prime minister punctuated his

stance with several fiery speeches, including his legendary "Finest Hour" speech, which helped reignite the United Kingdom's fighting spirit.

*Darkest Hour* isn't just a great performance by Oldman; it's also a winner in terms of cinematography. Great camera work and lighting brings to life Parliament's colorful characters, not to mention the gorgeous, age-old buildings and palaces in which the British government operates.

A "period piece" in every sense of the phrase, *Darkest Hour* convincingly relays the physical look and the emotional trepidation prevalent at this hour in history. I think the sign of any great movie is evident when we believe what we're seeing is real.

Oldman's performance definitely lends itself to that belief. His portrayal of Churchill's angst, fear, frustration and stalwart patriotism in the face of intimidating odds is remarkable. So believable and poignant was Oldman's role that he recently received an Academy Award for best actor, of which he is most deserving.

Both *Darkest Hour* and *Dunkirk* illuminate a terrible but interesting time in world history - a time when the planet was on the brink of a dark and evil downturn. Through the actor Gary Oldman, we're given an intimate look at the trials and tribulations of those who, sometimes, seem to bear the weight of the world on their own shoulders. Getting such emotions to surface in the context of a film is a rare trick. In *Darkest Hour*, Oldman makes that magic look easy.



## Minor Adventures Worthwhile, Too

(Originally published March 12, 2008)

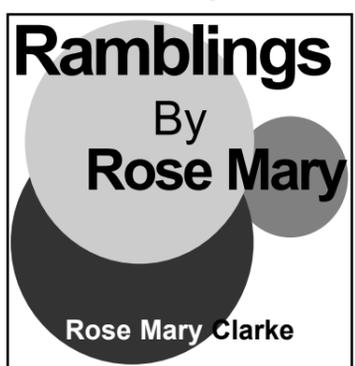
Last week I saw an amazing sight. Linda, my manager, a colleague and I were touring some homes in eastern Indianapolis when we saw at least 200 robins out in a grassy plot. I assume that they were migrating. Has anyone else seen this or have a better explanation for it? We've had large numbers of crows in our yard, but nothing like this. Old Granny said that when crows gather like this they're having a "cawcus."

My mother would have loved seeing those robins. I also wish that she and my sister, Christine, could see our semi-tame beggar squirrel who sits on a stump outside the greenhouse window and stares in intently until we notice it and go to the door with nuts. A couple of weeks ago, Bill said, "Someone's at the door." "There's no one there," I replied. Then I heard an odd noise. "Squirrely" got up on the snow shovel that Bill had left by the door and used it as a platform from which to jump onto the window frame where it clung until it slipped off. "Bring me some nuts this minute!" Sometimes it scratches at the door. It would like to come in the house-no thank you very much!

Thomas Aquinas said, "The world is a book, and those who do not travel read only one page."

However, until recent years most people didn't have the money to jaunter off to foreign lands. Also, they married young and had to become responsible citizens. I knew elderly people when I was a girl who were never outside of Henry County.

My parents longed to see the exotic and wondrous places of the world. They never got farther away than Canada, although Mother did



achieve a lifelong dream of seeing the ocean when my stepfather and she went to Florida. Edgar was a poppet, but he was not adventurous. No sooner had they arrived than he said, "Well, we're here - I suppose it's time to head back!"

My parents had to settle for second-hand adventures. They learned about the world from books, radio programs and movie shorts at the old Alhambra Theater that used to be on the Public Square. One of their favorites was Lowell Thomas. Thomas was a self-promoting,

innovative adventurer-explorer-movie director-radio star-entrepreneur. He did so many different things that the Library of Congress had to create a special category for his biography.

During World War I, he went to the Middle East where he met Lawrence of Arabia, whose legend Thomas established when he toured the world, narrating a film that he made. It included incense burners and exotically dressed women dancing in front of the Pyramids.

My parents read his books such as *With Lawrence in Arabia*, *Beyond the Kyber Pass* and *India - Land of the Black Pagoda*. I heard them discussing the Black Pagoda. "Well, did you ever! A temple with statues that no woman should see!" Boy, did that whet my curiosity!

They also listened to his radio news broadcasts that he ended with "So long until tomorrow." He made some hilarious bloopers that Eric probably wouldn't print in this family newspaper. Only Paul Harvey has had a longer radio career than Thomas. I remember Thomas's TV series during the 1950s called *High Adventure*. During his travels he developed a huge group of friends from the Dalai Lama to Franklin Roosevelt.

Sometimes when I read about  
See Rose Mary, Page 6

## Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Wind turbines are multiplying across the U.S., and most are installed in rural areas overlooking crops, cattle, timber, and lakes. Rural communities receive several benefits from the development of wind energy, but the growth of the industry has also presented a challenge in the form of local regulations that may be insufficient or out-of-date.

We suggest residents and local officials take the following steps when drafting new zoning regulations or ordinances.

1. Consult experts on key issue areas in a proposed ordinance, for example, measuring the potential impacts of a wind energy system on sound/noise and frequency. Anecdotal evidence should not be substituted for expert guidance; it does not provide a sound foundation for zoning standards.

2. Communicate with officials from neighboring counties who have wind development experience. They can provide valuable insight and identify useful items to include in an ordinance.

3. Encourage developers to hold community meetings early in the process to provide education on wind energy development, offer details about the project, and answer questions.

4. Consider potential unintended consequences of ordinances and zoning standards. Items such as setbacks and noise limits can eliminate potential development if they are too strict.

5. Counties should seek out ways to ensure developers address land and infrastructure concerns. For instance, a common requirement is that developers submit road use plans that include clear measures for mitigating impacts and steps to repair any damage incurred during construction.

More recommendations and common requirements can be found on our website at [cfra.org](http://cfra.org).

Lu Nelsen  
Center for Rural Affairs

Dear Editor,

As we near the end of another winter, many parents and children are already beginning to think about summer. Sadly, though, the thought for some parents is: "How will I feed my children?"

Childhood hunger is a persistent problem in many parts of rural America. This especially so during the summer when school is out and many poor kids do not have enough to eat. My agency, USDA Rural Development, is working closely with our sister agency, the Food and Nutrition Service, in an innovative partnership to help alleviate hunger by providing nutritious meals to children during the summer. Together, we are working to implement Secretary Perdue's vision to "Do right and feed everyone."

This year we're expanding our reach into rural communities. We're looking at innovative ways to strengthen partnerships and support infrastructure in rural communities. Rural Development is committed to providing efficient and effective customer service while improving the quality of life and creating prosperity in rural communities. The summer meals collaboration provides a great opportunity to build innovative partnerships and leverage our collective resources to feed rural children during the summer.

Our approach to this work is governed by the three priorities Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue established for USDA Rural Development: Infrastructure, Partnerships and Innovation.

Modern infrastructure is a necessity - not an amenity - for any  
See Letters, Page 8

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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THE **Banner**  
a responsible community newspaper

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

# BITS & PIECES

◆Citizens State Bank is now offering a **\$5,000 scholarship** to a qualified student who has been accepted at an accredited institution, college, university or school in Indiana. The scholarship applicant or a relative or guardian of the applicant must be a customer of Citizens State Bank, and the applicant must have a current GPA of at least 3.3 on a 4.0 scale. Scholarship applications are due March 31 and will be reviewed by a scholarship selection committee, with the recipient selected by the end of May. For more information about the scholarship and its requirements, contact Citizens State Bank at 765-529-5450.

◆Starting April 1, patrons of the **Knightstown Public Library** will no longer be able to use their old library cards because the library will no longer have access to its old system. Instead, patrons wishing to check out materials after this date will need to apply for a new Evergreen library card, and will need to show a picture ID before they can check out anything. For more information about this, contact Library Director Linda Davis at 345-5095.

◆Monday, March 19, Knightstown Business & Professional Women will host an open discussion with **Sherri Dugger**. Dugger is the media and outreach director for the Indiana Farmers Union, the state branch of the National Farmers Union. She'll

discuss new benefits being offered by the union as well as the growth of small and minority-owned farms in Indiana. The meeting is being held in a classroom at the Hoosier Gym. The discussion will begin at 7 p.m. and is free. To join BPW members at 6:30 for a \$10 dinner catered dinner, call Shannon Dawson at 317-501-2105 to make a reservation by 6 p.m. Saturday, March 17.

◆Tri Elementary School will host its **Kindergarten Round-up** for the 2018-2019 school year on Monday, April 23, and Tuesday, April 24. To register, call the school at 765-987-7090, ext. 301.

◆Through March, **Historic Knightstown Inc.** will observe the following hours of service: 10 a.m.-12 p.m. each Friday and Saturday, or by appointment. The museum may be closed during major holiday weekends. For more information or to schedule a visit, call David Steele at 765-345-7585.

◆The **Henry County Historical Society**, 606 S. 14th St., New Castle, is currently featuring an education exhibit, entitled "Henry County Schools, Then and Now." On display are teachers' hand bells, bricks from old schools, senior cords and a variety of yearbooks from various decades. For more information, call 765-529-4028 or visit the museum's website at [www.henrycountyhhs.org](http://www.henrycountyhhs.org).

◆Knightstown Church of God,

405 North St., will host **gospel singing, featuring Mt. Olive Rejoice Singers**, on Saturday, March 17, at 6 p.m. For more information, call 317-936-5849 or 765-345-7442.

◆Knightstown Elementary School will host its **Kindergarten Round-up** event in mid-March. Parents are encouraged to make appointments, each of which will last about one hour, for their children by calling the school at 345-2151. Enrolling full-day kindergarten children must be at least five years old by Aug. 1. Appointments can take place on Tuesday, March 20, 12-7 p.m. or Wednesday, March 21, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Parents should bring children's birth certificates and immunization records.

◆A GriefShare **grief support**

**group** will be meeting Thursday mornings 9:30-11 a.m., through April 12, at Spiceland Friends Church. The 13-week class provides a warm, caring environment and covers different topics utilizing informative videos, group discussion and a reference book for personal use. Each session is self-contained and participants are welcome to begin at any point. The class is free and open to anyone grieving the loss of a loved one. For more information call Cathy Harris at 765-465-0994.

◆The Shirley Octagon House is open for **free tours**, by chance or appointment. To get a free tour by appointment, call 765-738-6736 or 812-583-0030.

◆Beautify Knightstown, Inc. offers a **welcome basket** to all new residents of Dunreith, Knightstown, Charlottesville, Carthage and Wilkinson. The baskets can be obtained at the Knightstown Utility Office. Any business, church or organization is encouraged to provide items for these baskets such as pens, cups, magnets, key chains, coupons, brochures and etc. For more info call 317-345-9660. Linda Lashbrook at [lnashbrook@gmail.com](mailto:lnashbrook@gmail.com).

◆**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 765-571-1662.





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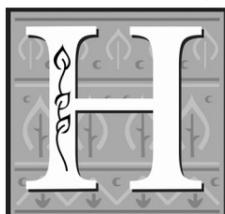
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Solution to Last Week's Puzzle

D	A	A	T	K	R	O	N	A	B	A	T	A
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## Henry County's Purdue Extension Agent Says He Loves Agriculture and Serving Community

by Logan Cox  
for The Banner

"This is a dream job for a person who loves agriculture and cares about his community," said Justin Curley of Purdue Extension. "I have the opportunity to have a positive impact on the community."

Purdue Extension is part of a nationwide program dedicated to providing scientific research-based information and education. This most specifically refers to information and education in the areas of agriculture and natural resources, health and human sciences, economic and community development, as well as 4-H youth development.

Curley has found that 4-H and agriculture extension allow him to help give people the tools they need to be more successful. This can range from a 4-H youth gaining life skills to a farmer improving their profit margin, or a homeowner better understanding the landscaping in their yard.

"From a personal standpoint, I love that this job provides me with ongoing education and development. I love to learn new things and with this job that happens every day," said Curley.

This July will mark Curley's two-year anniversary working for Purdue Extension, having started in the middle of the 2016 Henry County 4-H fair. He is now county extension director as well as an agriculture and natural resources/4-H youth development educator.

"I have the pleasure of wearing many hats with Purdue Extension," he said. "My position is essentially a three-headed monster."

As the county extension director his work consists of administrative, fiscal, office and personnel management. Secondly, he is an agriculture extension educator. In that role, he tries to keep tabs on the agri-

cultural community's needs and works to bring programming to the community that addresses those needs.

"I see myself as a conduit to the specialists and experts on (the university) campus," said Curley. "I work to bring the resources of Purdue University to Henry County."



He said the third aspect of his job is being heavily involved in 4-H youth development, along with his fellow extension educator, Kelsey Meyers. The two are tasked with running Henry county's 4-H program as a team, which seems to work well.

Although he is the county extension director, Curley does not actually live in Henry County.

"I hope that's not treasonous! I live in Hagerstown over in Wayne County," he said. "Although I feel like

I am a Henry County resident. Nearly all of my programming and work takes place in Henry County. I work in partnership with countless agencies and groups within Henry County. I am a member of the Henry County Planning Commission. My son is a Henry County mini 4-H member."

Curley's devotion to the 4-H program and his confidence in its value is evident in his every word.

"4-H provides such an opportunity for personal growth for kids. They not only gain knowledge but they gain the self-confidence that opens so many doors to success later in life," said Curley. "I strongly encourage anyone who reads this to get their children or grandchildren involved in the 4-H program if they are not already. If your child has an interest or a passion, we have a project that will help them develop it further."

He acknowledges that his own past played a

See Curley, Page 8

## Water Officials Urge Well Owners to Test

This week (March 11-17) is National Groundwater Awareness Week, and the Indiana Department Environmental Management (IDEM) is reminding Hoosiers about the importance of protecting and conserving Indiana's groundwater resources.

In 1999, National Groundwater Awareness Week was created to provide an opportunity for people to learn about the importance of the resource and how it impacts lives.

According to the National Groundwater Association (NGWA), approximately 132 million Americans rely on groundwater for drinking water. It's also used for irrigation, livestock, manufacturing, and several other purposes – which makes it one of the most widely used and valuable

resources on the planet.

In Indiana, almost 70 percent of Hoosiers rely on groundwater for their drinking water supplies. More than half of Hoosiers use individual water wells and another 2.4 million rely on public water supplies that draw all or part from groundwater.

This year's theme of "Test. Tend. Treat." is especially important for Hoosiers who have private wells. It's the homeowner's responsibility to ensure their well water is safe to drink. The "Test. Tend. Treat." method will provide some insight to understanding when to hire a water treatment professional.

**Test** – It is recommended to sample water on a routine basis as

See Water, Page 8

## St. Rd 3 Lane Restrictions Will Remain Until Early Fall

E & B Paving has begun lane shifting on State Road 3 to begin lane reconstructions on about eight miles of highway between New Castle and Muncie.

The company will close the passing and left turn lanes of northbound and southbound SR 3 between County Road 200 North and County Road 950 North. In June, traffic will be switched to allow construction of the driving lanes. Traffic will be restricted down to one lane in each direction during the lane reconstruction.

Some right-turn access to and from State Road 3 and some left-turn access across the median may be temporarily prohibited.

The project will be completed by early fall.

## MEETINGS CALENDAR

**Wed., Mar. 14** – Hancock Co. Council meeting, 8:30 a.m., courthouse annex room 101, Greenfield

**Wed., Mar. 14** – Rush Co. Council meeting, 9 a.m., courthouse assembly room, Rushville

**Wed., Mar. 14** – Henry Co. Work Session meeting, 3:30 p.m., old circuit court room, New Castle

**Wed., Mar. 14** – Henry Co. Commissioners meeting, 6 p.m., old circuit court room, New Castle

**Wed., Mar. 14** – Rush Co. Area Plan Commission meeting, 6 p.m., courthouse assembly room, Rushville

**Wed., Mar. 14** – Rush Co. Board of Zoning Appeals meeting,

7 p.m., courthouse assembly room, Rushville

**Thurs., Mar. 15** – Hancock Co. Planning Commission tech committee meeting, 9 a.m., courthouse annex room 101, Greenfield

**Thurs., Mar. 15** – Henry Co. Planning Commission, reg. monthly meeting, 5 p.m., old circuit court room, New Castle

**Thurs., Mar. 15** – Knightstown Town Council meeting, 7 p.m., town council chambers, 28 S. Washington St.

**Mon., Mar. 19** – Rush Co. Commissioners meeting, 9 a.m., courthouse assembly room, Rushville

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### Rose Mary, from Page 4

the adventurous lives of people like Thomas, *National Geographic Explorers* or those who filmed the marvelous TV series *This Planet Earth*, I feel as if there's a feast out there of which I have not partaken. So much to see and do and taste and experience - so little time or the will and energy to do it.

If you haven't seen *The Bucket List* starring the incomparable Jack Nicholson and Morgan Freeman, do so. It's funny, poignant and beautifully acted. Two terminally ill men concoct a list of the things they'd like to do or see before they kick the bucket and then set off to do them. Along the way they learn some lessons.

I'm wise enough to know that at age 70 I'm not apt to set off on exotic adventures. I'm never going to climb even the flanks of Mt. Everest, explore the Amazonian jungle, deep-sea dive or go on safari to see the great beasts of Africa. I must do better at extracting every bit of pleasure from the minor, everyday adventures that life abundantly throws my way such as experiencing a sauna for the first time, seeing those robins and being entertained by Squirrelie.

# FOLKWAYS

## New Castle Career Center Students Earn Recognition



The Family, Careers and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) held a state leadership conference recently. Several local high school students from the New Castle Career Center earned recognition there. The Education Careers class was awarded a plaque for being a Gold Honor Chapter. Only 10 FCCLA Chapters in the state achieved that. Pictured (l-r) are the FCCLA members that helped organize the honor chapter portfolio, including New Castle High School students Bailey Guffey and Annie Gillock, Education Professions Instructor Leesa Meyers, NCHS student Morgan Gustin and Eastern Hancock student Grace McCartney.



Also recognized (l-r) were FCCLA State Officer Brady Harrison of KHS, New Castle Career Center Director Chris Lamb, who was named FCCLA Administrator of the Year, and Leesa Meyers, who was recognized for her 10th year as an FCCLA advisor. (Photos submitted)

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**Sherri Dugger**  
**of the Indiana Farmers Union**  
**Speaking in Knightstown Monday, March 19**

Knightstown Business & Professional Women will host an open discussion with **Sherri Dugger Monday, March 19.** Dugger is the Media and Outreach Director for the Indiana Farmers Union, the state branch of the National Farmers Union. She'll discuss new benefits being offered by the Union as well as the growth of small and minority-owned farms in Indiana. **The meeting is being held in a classroom at the Hoosier Gym; the discussion will begin at 7pm and is FREE of charge.** If you would like to join BPW members at 6:30 for a \$10 dinner catered by Sugarbakers, call Shannon Dawson at 317-501-2105 to make a reservation by 6pm Saturday March 17.

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## You're Invited - Meet the Easter Bunny

### Friday, March 23, 3:00 - 5:00

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# KES Incubator Eggs Hatch



Second graders at Knightstown Elementary School got a thrill last week when the chicken eggs they've been watching via in-classroom incubators finally hatched after weeks of anxious waiting on the part of students. After all the kids got to see and hold the chicks, they were taken to a farm. Knightstown High School FFA, as well as the Henry County Purdue Extension Office joined forces to educate local kids about chickens and chicken embryology.

Photos Submitted

## Lawsuit, from Page 1

of which, more than a year later, have never been taken down.

The town council voted unanimously in 2016 to reject passage of a resolution that would have resolved the legal challenge and led to dismissal of the case if the town agreed to keep the cross off the tree. A tentative agreement between attorneys for the ACLU and the town resulted in the cross being returned to the tree prior to Christmas, but with it placed in a less prominent position on lower branches of the tree among some less religious ornaments.

At the request of the ACLU, the court granted a motion in early 2017 that administratively closed the case. The ACLU had requested the case be put on hold until such time that the town decided how it was going to handle the tree decorating in 2017 and the ACLU had time to evaluate the town's actions.

This past November, the council proposed new guidelines that it hoped would keep the lawsuit from being revived. That strategy worked.

Under the new guidelines, a cross was placed on the tree, but not in its original location at the top of the tree. Instead, a star was placed atop the tree, with the cross hung closer to the center of the tree.

Other than the one cross, no other crosses or Christian religious artifacts or icons were to be placed on or around the tree. While the new guidelines allowed additional decorations to be placed on and around the tree by town employees, the items had to be secular in nature.

On Feb. 5, the ACLU filed a Notice of Voluntary Dismissal in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Indiana. Judge William Lawrence acknowl-

## Curley, from Page 6

significant factor in his choice of career. Curley grew up on a dairy farm, and he got involved in 4-H during his childhood as well.

"I am a huge believer in the 4-H program and a life-long lover of agriculture," he said. "So I feel very at home in this job. I have a tremendous amount of respect for farmers, and that comes from watching my dad get up every morning, seven days a week, 365 days a year, to head to the barn and go to work. If the work I do and the programming I bring to this county can help make a farmer's day either a little easier or a little more profitable, I will be happy."

Curley is a graduate of both Penn State University and Indiana State University.

edged receipt of the document the following day.

In other business at its Feb. 15 monthly meeting, the Knightstown Town Council:

- \*voted to appoint David Millhoan to another two-year term on the Knightstown-Wayne Township Fire Board;

- \*approved hiring Mike Hill, Shirley, as an assistant operator at the town's wastewater treatment plant;

- \*received monthly reports from co-works manager Brian Lane and then-interim town marshal Mike Rossiter;

- \*OK'd minutes from two meetings held in January and payment of monthly claims totaling \$342,923.36;

- \*was advised by Clerk-Treasurer Beth Huffman that the town's proposed budget for 2018 had been approved by the state as submitted, and approved a cash-fund statement prepared by Huffman for 2017;

- \*received a brief update from Dan Wright of FPBH Inc., the North Vernon-based engineering firm working with the town on its multi-million dollar wastewater utility improvement project; and

- \*heard an update on plans for a car show scheduled to be held in town on Saturday, May 12.

More information about the Feb. 15 meeting of the Knightstown Town Council can be found in the Feb. 28 issue of The Banner, and in the memoranda and minutes of this proceeding. The last two items are public records that should be available for inspection and copying at Knightstown Town Hall, 26 S. Washington St., during normal business hours.

The next scheduled meeting of the town council is 7 p.m. Thursday at in the council's chambers at 28 S. Washington St. The meeting is open to the public.

"I love this job! It's a truly rewarding place to work," said Curley. "I would also like to say that I am only able to be successful in this role due to the fact that I am surrounded by terrific staff in our office!"

It is Curley's hope that he and his colleagues can continue to develop the county's 4-H program, and that they can partner with county schools to get more students involved.

"I am also very excited to roll out precision ag programming this summer," he said. "We are one of 17 counties in the state that purchased drones as a part of Purdue Extension's precision ag initiative. I am hopeful that this technology will be able to help farmers use their resources more efficiently and economically."

# National Ag Day Showcases Industry's Impact on Economy

Indiana Farm Bureau (INFB) joins the Agriculture Council of America (ACA) in celebrating America's farmers and agribusiness professionals on National Ag Day, March 20. Indiana relies on the agriculture industry to supply jobs and make significant contributions to the state's economy.

According to the United States Department of Agriculture, agriculture currently supports more than 107,000 Indiana jobs, ranging from crop and livestock farmers to agricultural engineers and soil scientists.

The USDA also reports that Indiana ranks 11th in the nation in agriculture sales, contributing an estimated \$31.2 billion in sales to the Indiana economy each year. Roughly \$10 billion of those sales are of actual agriculture products sold by Indiana's farmers, such as crops and meat and dairy products. Those products don't all stay in the state. More than \$4.6 billion of agricultural products are exported around the world.

Indiana's farmers are known for their production of corn and soybeans, but Indiana agriculture is diverse. In fact, according to the USDA's national ranking, Indiana is ranked fifth nationally for corn (for grain) and soybeans, but the state also ranks:

- \* Number one in duck production.

- \* Number two in popcorn production, tomato processing and ice cream.

- \* Number three in egg layers inventory and total eggs produced.

- \* Number four in turkeys raised, peppermint, spearmint, fresh market cantaloupe and snap bean processing.

"Corn and soybeans remain the leading sources of income for Indiana farmers, but if I've learned anything from traveling to all 92 counties to meet with farmers, it's that Indiana agriculture is incredibly diverse," said Randy Kron, INFB president and Vanderburgh County farmer. "Most folks don't think of mint, popcorn, blackberries or watermelon farms when they think about agriculture in Indiana, but they should because our farmers produce a vast variety of products."

INFB represents more than 72,000 Hoosiers that are involved in agriculture.

## Water, from Page 6

water quality can change over time. Well water pollutants are often colorless and odorless, making detection at home difficult. For information on testing procedures and how to understand the results, please refer to the Indiana State Department of Health's Well Water Quality and Testing page: [isdh.IN.gov/26973.htm](http://isdh.IN.gov/26973.htm).

**Tend** – Regular inspections of wells can protect and reduce the possibility of future issues. Annual inspections should be completed by a licensed or certified water well system professional. In between a professional inspection, well owners are encouraged to visually inspect the well to look for any warning signs including a cracked well cap, debris on or around the wellhead, or ponding or

flooding around the well after storm events.

**Treat** – Based on the type of contaminants reported in the test results there are several types of treatment options. NWGA has provided a list of options for various contaminants ranging from whole-house treatment to point-of-use treatments: [wellowner.org/water-treatment](http://wellowner.org/water-treatment). More information can be found in IDEM's Well Disinfection fact sheet: [www.idem.IN.gov/cleanwater/files/gw\\_wells\\_disinfection\\_inst.pdf](http://www.idem.IN.gov/cleanwater/files/gw_wells_disinfection_inst.pdf).

For more information about National Groundwater Awareness Week, visit [www.ngwa.org](http://www.ngwa.org). For more information about the Groundwater Section in IDEM's Office of Water Quality, visit [www.idem.IN.gov/cleanwater/2450.htm](http://www.idem.IN.gov/cleanwater/2450.htm).

## Letters, from Page 4

community to thrive. No matter what zip code you live in, infrastructure is a foundation to provide a high quality of life and economic opportunities. USDA's Community Facilities and Rural Housing programs have helped to finance modern facilities such as libraries, schools, community centers and apartment complexes that will serve as feeding sites. If we address rural infrastructure needs, many of the other challenges in rural places become much more manageable.

Rural Development is committed to expanding our impact through partnerships. Our collaboration with partners in the Summer Food Program is a great opportunity to build more partnerships and leverage collective resources to feed more rural children during the summer.

Finally, USDA will seek to improve the Summer Food Service Program and all of its programs to better serve customers through innovation. With Secretary Perdue's creation of the Innovation Center, USDA staff are empowered to develop new approaches that better serve our mission and to collect new ideas and turn them into best practices. We welcome any new and innovative approaches and partnerships that will allow us to deliver our programs more efficiently and effectively to rural communities and customers.

Rural Development is committed to providing efficient and effective customer service while improving the quality of life and creating prosperity in rural communities. The summer meals collaboration provides a great opportunity to build partnerships and leverage our collective resources to feed rural children during the summer.

To be successful in our efforts, we need your help.

If you know of a great location to host meals this summer, please contact me at 317-295-5760. My staff and I will be reaching out to schools, libraries, community centers and other locations throughout the state during the next several weeks. We will invite them to host a summer meals site.

Let's work together like never before to establish more summer feeding sites in Indiana this year!

For additional information about the Summer Food Service Program, go to [www.summerfood.usda.gov](http://www.summerfood.usda.gov). For more information about how to sign up to host summer meals, go to [www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/how-become-sponsor](http://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/how-become-sponsor).

Together we can make a difference!

**Michael Dora**

**USDA Rural Development Indiana state director**

# LOCAL SPORTS

## Special 'Firsts' Coming Up for Panther, Titan Spring Athletes

Knightstown baseball players, Tri softball players and Tri track team members will all enjoy doing something this month that no previous teams have done before.

On March 28, Knightstown's varsity baseball team will host South Decatur for the first official game to be played on the school's new baseball field. Since the new high school was opened more than a decade ago, the Panthers have continued to play at the field near Knightstown Intermediate School, what not long ago was once the district's high school. The Panthers' new field was mostly completed last fall so fans coming out to the football and soccer games watched the construction progress of the field located to the west of the football field.

After all their success the past three seasons, including their state final runner-up accomplishment last year, the Lady Titan softball team will reap the benefits when they host New Castle on Thursday, March 16, for a preseason scrimmage. Current team members of Tri's softball team joined Lady Titans from previous teams last June for the first alumni game. The good-natured fun game was held on the new field but Thursday's scrimmage will be the first action with two competing teams.

As Tri football players and fans already know, construction of the school's new track course encircling the football field was completed last fall. The boys and girls Titan track team will host a three-way meet with Blue River Valley and Union next week on Tuesday, March 20, to try out Tri's new amenities.

## Knightstown Junior High Wrestlers Compete at TEC

Knightstown Intermediate School's wrestling team placed fifth in its first time competing in the Tri-Eastern Conference tourney.

Dawson Muncy was the lone first place winner for the Panthers. Elijah Back placed second while Tyler Dailey, Noah Cook, Aaron Sutton, Caiden Smith and Hunter Hayworth all placed third in their individual matches.

Kamden Smith and Will Groce finished fourth and Luke Thomas was fifth in their weight classes.

### LEGAL NOTICE

Knightstown Board of Parks and Recreation is now taking bids for the 2018 season for lawn mowing the Park Grounds and Grounds upkeep. Bids need to be sent to the Utility Office, 26 S. Washington. Knightstown, IN 46148. (3/14, 3/21)

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## Panther Kaunner Cleek to Play Baseball at Lincoln Trail College



Knightstown senior Kaunner Cleek (above, pitching in the Panthers' May 25, 2017 sectional game) still has his senior year of play ahead of him starting up this month. But, Cleek was joined by his family and KHS head coach Daren Hardesty (right) recently to sign a letter of intent to continue his baseball career at Lincoln Trail College in Robinson, Illinois, following graduation this year from Knightstown High School.

Cleek played in all 30 of the Panthers' games during his sophomore year and saw time on the field in 18 of 21 games last season for his junior year. Over the past two seasons, he's pitched 86.2 innings, giving up 54 hits while striking out 116 batters and walking 58. He got the start on the mound in 15 games and has a 9-5 record with two shutouts. When he's not on the pitching mound, Cleek is counted on to provide solid fielding from third base or shortstop. He's



also a major hitter for the Panthers. During his sophomore and junior years, he was at bat 138 times resulting in 39 hits, 33 RBIs, three home runs and six doubles along with 22 walks. He reached base another 20 times by fielders choice, by fielder error or after being hit by a pitch.

Cleek is the second Panther baseball player this school

year to sign a letter of intent. Senior Tyler Burton announced several weeks ago that he had accepted the offer to play at Anderson University next year. The two will join the rest of the Panther baseball team and their fans for the first game ever on the school's new baseball field when Knightstown takes on South Decatur at 5 p.m., March 28.

## Eastern Hancock Hosting 3-on-3 Tournament This Saturday

The Eastern Hancock Athletic Boosters will hold their annual 3-on-3 basketball tournament at Eastern Hancock schools on Saturday, March 18.

There will be 11 divisions for the male players. For players still in school, the divisions are sectioned by grade level including grades 1-2, grades 3-4, grades 5-6, grades 7-8, grades 9-10 and grades 11-12 and a new high school "B" division for male players not attending a specific school.

Male players under age 35 will have two divisions, "A" and "B" categories. Male players over age 35 will also have "A" and "B" divisions.

There will be five divisions of play for school-aged girls including for grades 1-2, grades 3-4, grades 5-6 and grades 7-8. For all females high school age or older, there will be just one division.

The cost for a team to participate is \$80. Space permitting, registrations will also be accepted from 9-10 a.m. the day of the tourney.

For more information, including an entry form, visit the school websites at eathletics.org or contact Greg Hall at gghall58@gmail.com. Registration can also be handled directly online at easternhancock3on3.eventbrite.com.

# LOCAL SPORTS

## Jarred Porter, Nick Wilson Make Tri-Eastern All-Conference Team



Tri's Nick Wilson earned a spot on the All-Conference team of the TEC after leading the Titans this season. (Stacy Cox photo)

Boys basketball All-Conference selections for the 2017-2018 season were announced this week by Tri-Eastern Conference officials.

Knightstown senior Jarred Porter and Tri senior Nick Wilson were among the players chosen for the All-TEC team.

Lincoln's Garrett Pumphrey and Hagerstown's Jalen Oliver, both seniors, will share the TEC Player of the Year recognition. Pumphrey led the conference in total points scored with 388 and was second in rebounds with 283, just behind Centerville's Justin Dupree's 289 boards. Oliver was third in the TEC in scoring with 388 and in rebounds with 211.

Knightstown's Porter was fifth in the TEC in scoring and led the Panthers with 304 points. He played in all 23 games for KHS, averaging 13.2 points, 3.4 rebounds, 1.8 assists and 1.3 steals per game this season.

Tri's Wilson was eighth overall in scoring in the TEC this season. During his last season as a Titan, Wilson played in 22 games averaging 11.3 points, 3.4 assists, 2.5 rebounds and 1.6 steals per game.

Other players named to the All-TEC team included Union County's Mason Miller, Cameron Donovan, Preston Scott, (Honorable Mention, Denton Shepler); Hagerstown's Cody Swimm, Branton Payne, (Honorable Mention, Noah Dale); Northeastern's Freeman Brou, Carter Lumpkin, (Honorable Mention, Jalen Hillard); Lincoln's Caleb Craig, (Honorable Mention, Bryce Smith); Centerville's Justin DuPree, Kody Witham, (Honorable Mention, Dante Torres); Winchester's Isaiah Jordan-Miller, Trey Graft, (Honorable Mention, Trestin Enis); Knightstown's Jose Olivo (Honorable Mention); Tri's Masen Phelps (Honorable Mention); and Union City's Trevor Spence, (Honorable Mention, Trevor Thompson).

Union County and Hagerstown shared the Tri-Eastern Conference title this year. Both the Patriots (20-7) and the Tigers (15-8) finished 7-1 in the TEC. Northeastern was third with a



Knightstown's Jarred Porter led the Panthers in scoring this season to earn All-Conference recognition in the TEC. (Stacy Cox photo)

5-3 record and a 15-11 record overall. Lincoln, Centerville and Winchester tied for fourth place in the TEC with 4-4 records. Lincoln was 11-12 overall while Centerville was 11-13 and Winchester was 7-14.

Knightstown, in its first season in the TEC, came in with a 3-5 record and was 6-17 overall. Tri and Union City were both 1-7 in the conference. The Titans finished the season 7-15 overall and Union City was 5-19 overall.

Check out our photos on Instagram!  
@knightstownbanner

### Year-round Camping Reservations, Spring Discount Available at State Parks

Indiana State Parks is now offering advance campsite reservations for spring, winter and fall.

Camping has always been available year-round at state parks. But in the past, campers could not reserve a site in advance between November and April. Sites were available only by registering on-site the day of camping, and they were administered on a first-come, first-served basis.

Beginning March 9, a handful of sites at every state park where camping is offered will be available year-round for reservations on Camp.IN.gov or by calling 1-866-622-6746. For those who like to plan ahead, the ability to make year-round reservations is a convenient option.

The maximum booking window of six months prior to arrival

still applies.

For more spontaneous campers, many sites will remain available from November through April on a first-come, first-served basis for the day of arrival.

Also, an offer from Indiana State Parks will make weeknight camping more affordable this spring. Those who book a new campsite reservation for one or more consecutive weeknights (Sundays through Wednesdays) with an arrival date between April 15 and May 23, will receive 25 percent off of their reserved weeknights at the time of booking.

The discount is available only for campsites, and will not apply to any Thursday, Friday or Saturday stays. Use the promo code SPRING18.

### Reserved Youth Turkey Hunts on DNR properties April 21-22

Youth hunters can apply for reserved turkey hunts during the special youth wild turkey hunting season, April 21 and 22, on selected DNR properties.

Youth hunters must be younger than age 18 on the day of the hunt.

Participating Fish & Wildlife Areas are Atterbury, Chinook, Crosley, Deer Creek, Fairbanks Landing, Glendale, Goose Pond, Hillenbrand, Hovey Lake, Jasper-Pulaski, Kankakee, Kingsbury, LaSalle, Pigeon River, Roush Lake, Sugar Ridge, Tri-County, Wabashiki, Willow Slough and Winamac. Two participating reservoir properties are Mississinewa and Salamonie.

A limit will be placed on the number of youth hunters allowed to hunt a property on each hunting day. Registration begins March 19 and runs through March 30. Interested hunters or an adult representing them must register in person or by phone during office hours for the property they wish to hunt. Hunters can register for only one property.

Those wanting to sign up for Chinook or Wabashiki hunts should do so at Deer Creek FWA. Those wanting to sign up for Fairbanks Landing or Hillenbrand hunts should do so at Goose Pond FWA.

At properties where the number of registered hunters exceeds the spots available, a drawing will be held on Monday, April 2. A youth hunter may be drawn for either one or both hunt days, depending on the number of applicants. All applicants will be notified of drawing results by mail.

Applicants must possess a 2018 youth consolidated hunting & trapping license, a 2018 non-resident youth spring turkey license with a gamebird habitat

stamp privilege, or lifetime comprehensive hunting license. Apprentice hunting licenses of the types named above also may be used.

Hunts will be conducted one-half hour before sunrise until noon at properties in the Central Time Zone, and one-half hour before sunrise until 1 p.m. on properties in the Eastern Time Zone.

Youth hunters who are selected for the hunt may check in at any time each day until the end of legal hunting hours for that property. Properties will not have a daily "no-show" drawing. Hunters interested in possible unfilled quotas at a property should call that property for more information before showing up.

During youth wild turkey season, hunters younger than age 18 on the day of the hunt can take a bearded or male wild turkey. The youth must be accompanied by someone 18 or older.

The youth hunter may use any legal shotgun, bow or crossbow. The adult accompanying the youth hunter must not possess a firearm, bow or crossbow while in the field. The adult does not need to possess a turkey hunting license unless the youth is using an apprentice license, or unless the adult is calling turkeys.

Phone numbers for information or to register at a specific property are available online at [dnr.IN.gov](http://dnr.IN.gov).

To purchase a Youth Consolidated or Turkey license go to [wildlife.IN.gov/5330.htm](http://wildlife.IN.gov/5330.htm).

For wild turkey hunting regulations, go to [eregulations.com/indiana/hunting/wild-turkey-hunting](http://eregulations.com/indiana/hunting/wild-turkey-hunting).

For turkey hunting safety tips go to [wildlife.IN.gov/2710.htm](http://wildlife.IN.gov/2710.htm).

### Adult Slow Pitch Softball League - Greenfield Spring-Summer 2018 Season



Monday - Men's "Over the Hill" Division ages 40 & Up - Competitive League (4 teams) - NEW Double Header Games (10, plus tourney) start April 2, 7:15 p.m., 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday - NEW! - Open Play

(for team players AND those that are not on a team)

All season long, starting April 3, 7:15-9:45 PM. \$35 per person for the season - need 8 people min. to register. Call your own game/rules, pick your own teams (or go by a sign-in sheet), bring your own ASA legal bats, keep your own score, (we can provide a ball) - no formal field prep.

Wednesday: Co-Ed Division - Just For Fun League (4 teams, ages 16 and up)

Double Header Games (10, plus tourney) start April 4, 7:15 p.m., 8:30 p.m.

Thursday: Men's Church Division - Competitive League (4 teams, ages 16 and up)

Double Header Games (10, plus tourney) start April 5, 7:15 p.m., 8:30 p.m.

Friday Evenings, Saturday Afternoon/Evenings - possible for overflow/new league, if needed (maybe Mondays and Tuesdays depending on registration numbers)

Rosters are frozen at the completion of week/game 4 (see local rule packet). Registration (first-come, first served) ends Friday, March 23 at 3 p.m. Cost is \$485 per team (team registration only, individuals can call office and get on a list)

Greenfield Parks and Recreation Department - Patricia Elmore Center  
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