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OBSERVER

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VOLUME 62, Number 9 Kewanna, IN 46939 Thursday, Jan. 10th, 2008 USPS 401-840 PRICE :-: 40c Per Copy



Town council/clerk sworn in

The recently elected Kewanna town council was sworn in Thursday evening at its first council meeting of the year. Taking the oath of office were, left to right, Dan Birge, Mark Smith and Jeff Finke, with notary public, Jean Urbin, officiating. Jenny Kay, the newly elected clerk-treasurer, was sworn in Monday by notary public, Jack Urbin.

Jeff Finke, the only incumbent on the council, was elected president.

Other items of business included a reminder from Casi Cramer, Area Plan Director, that the council needed to appoint two members to the Kewanna/Fulton board of zoning appeals. Larry Kimble was chosen to be one of the members and the other will be appointed at the next council meeting.

John Cochran gave an overview of what the council could expect from the Purdue group that was to meet with council Tuesday evening on health care in the area. However, this meeting was subsequently postponed due to the heavy rainfall and flooded streets and roads.

Fire Chief Larry Baldwin reported on departmental elections. Baldwin will continue to serve as fire chief. The assistant chiefs are Jay Cunningham and Tony Pesaresi; captains are Brock Hinderlider and Dave Stangle; and lieutenants are Jamie Shaffer and Jim Felda. Tony Pesaresi offered the fire department report for December noting two town calls, both medical, and five township calls, one fire and four medical. Department personnel participated in nine activities involving a total of 312 man-hours.

The fire department requested that the town council consider appropriating funds to help purchase a support vehicle to transport fire department members to out-of-town training sessions. The council agreed to consider the request after the 2008 budget is approved by the Department of Local Government Finance.

Two complaints from citizens pertaining to trash, dogs and

Jean Urbin, right, presided as town council members, (l-r) Dan Birge, Mark Smith and Jeff Finke, repeated their oath of office.

housing being used without heat, electric and water.

Mark Smith was elected building commissioner and Dan Birge, police commissioner. The council retained all other department heads and personnel. The fire chief (Larry Baldwin), town marshal (Dennis Price) and town superintendent (Mike Molitor) will make up the board of safety. The town council will also make up the water board and the sewage board.

Marshal Dennis Price submitted his December report detailing no traffic arrests, two traffic warnings, two criminal arrests, one accident report, 38 calls answered, one gun permit, one vehicle check and 1,189 miles patrolled. He also noted that the new council members and the new clerk-treasurer would have to become NIMS qualified.

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Meeting Notices

The Fulton County Drainage Board will meet Monday, January 14, at 9 a.m. in the Fulton County Office Building, 125 E. 9th St., Rochester.

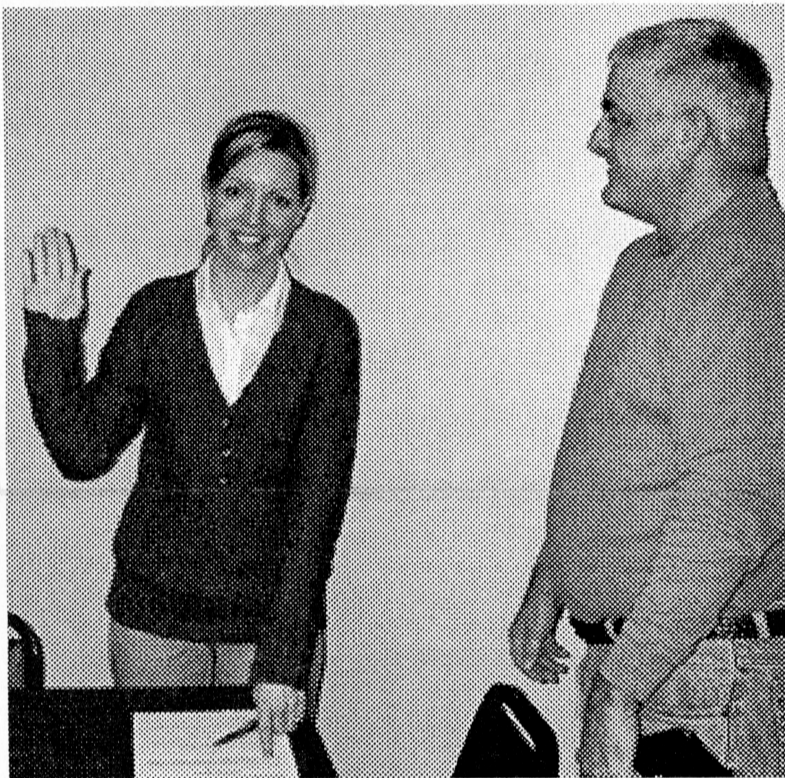
The continued reconstruction and maintenance rate hearing on the Henry Guise Arm #1 Tile will be held Monday, January 14, at 9:30 a.m. in the Fulton County Office Building.

The Criminal Justice Advisory Committee will meet at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, January 16, in the Fulton County Office Building.

The Fulton County Board of Health will meet in regular session at 12:15 p.m. Tuesday, January 15, in the small conference room of the Fulton County Office Building.

The Fulton County Board of Finance will meet at 8:30 a.m. Monday, January 14, in the commissioner/council room of the Fulton County Office Building. The agenda includes re-organization and review of interest earned in 2007.

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Jenny Kay, town clerk-treasurer, was sworn in Monday by Jack Urbin.

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Chicken and noodle dinner at Caston

The Caston music department will serve a chicken and noodle dinner from 4 to 7 p.m. Saturday, January 19, in the Caston cafeteria. The cost of the meal is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children age eight and under.

The dinner includes chicken and noodles, mashed potatoes, green beans, dinner roll, cookie and beverage. Carryouts will be available.

Tickets must be purchased in advance and will be sold through January 15. Tickets are available from the Caston bookstore, from any music department student or from Mr. and Mrs. Byrn.

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James F. Talbott VFW Post January Activities

January 8 - Men's meeting, 6:30 p.m.

January 15 - Ladies Auxiliary meeting, 7 p.m.

January 22 - Men's Auxiliary meeting, 6:30 p.m.

January 27 - Open Sunday at noon. Free food and euchre

Remember - Ladies Auxiliary dues need to be paid

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Legislative breakfasts

Three legislative breakfasts are planned for the Manitou Banquet Hall in Rochester. The first session will be held January 19 at 8 a.m. The other two breakfasts are scheduled for February 23 and March 22, both also at 8 a.m.

The breakfasts provided local residents a chance to interact with State Representatives Eric Gutwein and Bill Friend and State Senator Tom Weatherwax.

The breakfasts are sponsored by the Rochester and Lake Manitou Chamber of Commerce and include doughnuts and coffee.

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Clerk announces office hours

Jennifer Kay, new clerk-treasurer for the Town of Kewanna, has announced that her office hours will be 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday, except for holidays, or by appointment. Her office will be in the town hall building at 308 S. Logan St. Water and sewage bills can be paid in person at the town hall, by depositing your payment in the drop box inside the front door, or by mail at Box 5, Kewanna, IN 46939.

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Two blood collection days in January

The American Red Cross will conduct two blood collection days in Fulton County during January. The first one will be held Friday, January 11, from 12 noon to 5 p.m. at the Talma Community Building. All presenting donors at this blood drive will have the opportunity to enter a region-wide drawing for a \$1,000 shopping spree.

The second blood collection day will be Monday, January 14, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the St. Joseph Parish Hall in Rochester. All participants at this blood drive will have the opportunity to enter a region-wide drawing for a high-definition television worth \$800.

If you are at least 17 years of age, weigh a minimum of 110 pounds and are in good general health, you may be eligible to donate blood. All donors need to present positive identification. For more information or to schedule your blood donation appointment, call 1-800-448-3543.

The blood supply often drops to critical levels during the winter months due to holidays, inclement weather and illness. All eligible donors are asked to donate blood in January in recognition of National Blood Donor Month and help ensure a stable blood supply when patients need it most.

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Annual donkey basketball game at Caston

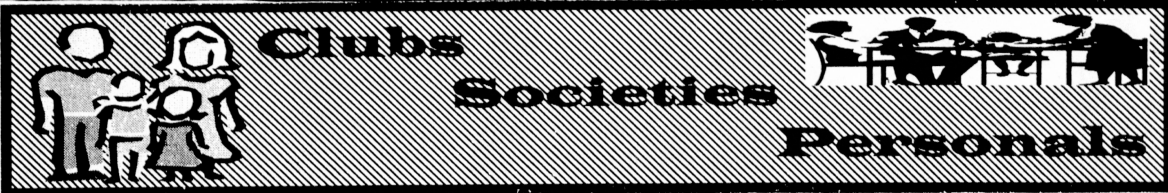
The Caston Athletic Department will host its annual donkey basketball game at 7:30 p.m. Friday, January 18, in the high school gymnasium. Advance tickets are \$5 each. Tickets purchased at the door will be \$7 each. Children age six and under are free. Tickets can be purchased at the door or from any rider. Some of the celebrity riders are Coach Firth, Coach Spietel, Mrs. Paschen, Coach Hartman, Coach McCreedy, Dave Johnson, John Fagan, Sr., Reegan Homburg and Abby Jenkins.

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Local couple on Young Farmer committee

The Indiana Farm Bureau Young Farmer Committee has a new officer team and 10 new members. Among the new members are Nick and Christa Sommers of Fulton County. The State Young Farmer Committee is an advisory committee to the Indiana Farm Bureau board of directors on Young Farmer programs, such as the Young Farmer leadership conference, summer outing, competitions, and district Young Farmer activities. It also represents the interests of young farmers in the policy development process.

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Benefit for John Larson

The VFW Post #1343 in Rochester will be hosting a fund-raising event Saturday, January 19, from noon until 7 p.m. for John Larson, post commander and Vietnam veteran. The afternoon event will feature three bands, lots of food, door prizes, raffles and a silent auction. The money raised will go to help cover John's medical and living expenses resulting from his recent illness and hospitalization. Donations can be made to the John Larson Benefit Account at the Lake City Bank in Rochester. Those having questions about the event can contact the post at 574-223-4297 or Tom LaFollette at 653-2627.

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Aubbee Grads Plan Reunion

Plans are underway to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the closing of Aubbeenaubbee High School. The focus of this first gathering will be on classes from 1964 through 1974. The get-together is not just for graduates of Aubbee or Culver, but also for former classmates who may have attended Aubbee only briefly. Other interested persons are also welcome to attend.

A hog roast will be held Saturday, August 2, 2008, at the Leifers Ford Community Building from 12 noon until 6 p.m. with lunch beginning at 1 p.m. Those attending should bring a side dish or dessert to share and your own drinks (non-alcoholic). Donations will be accepted to offset expenses.

Planners are seeking current addresses of individuals who attended Aubbee and were in the 1964-1974 classes. Please contact a committee member if you have information or questions, or if you would like to help with planning and organizing the

gathering.

Current committee members include Sherry Engle Anderson 574-653-2625 farmhair@rtcol.com; Donna Rawles Baker 574-842-2368; Margaret Nelson Barrett 574-542-4598; Debbie Bell Berger 574-784-3427 sdberger@netzero.net; Nancy Kirkland Cannon 574-542-484/ nlcannon1971@yahoo.com; Candice Dunsizer Engle my-spitfire@juno.com; Terry Engle terry.engle.47@gmail.com; and Cathy Reinholt Perkins 269-659-0986 csrperkins@hotmail.com.

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EASTERN PULASKI MENU

January 14 - 18

Elementary Breakfast

Monday - Cereal, graham cracker, juice and milk

Tuesday - Breakfast pizza, juice and milk

Wednesday - Donut, string cheese, juice and milk

Thursday - Muffin, yogurt, juice and milk

Friday - Toaster pastry, juice and milk

Elementary Lunch

Monday - Cheese pizza, green beans, pineapple, cookie and milk

Tuesday - Fish sticks, fries, applesauce, bread and butter and milk

Wednesday - Hamburger sandwich, fries, banana, cookie and milk

Thursday - Chicken and noodles, mashed potatoes, fruit ice, hot roll and milk

Friday - Chili soup, peanut butter sandwich, orange and milk

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Friday - Chicken nuggets,
peanut butter sandwich, potatoes,
fruit and milk. Choice - salad bar
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Hours

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Wed., Thurs. & Fri., 8:30-5:00

Sat., 8:30-12:30

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Advertising & News
Deadline.....
Noon on Tuesday!

Recycling Dates

Thurs., Jan. 3rd,

Jan. 17th & Jan. 31st

KEWANAW CURBSIDE RECYCLING INSTRUCTIONS

The following materials are accepted for curbside collection:

METALS: Aluminum cans, foil, tin cans, steel cans.
Include metal lids from glass bottles and jars.
Can include small pieces of scrap metal.

GLASS: UNBROKEN food and beverage containers.
All lids must be off containers.
Includes clear and all colors.
DO NOT include light bulbs, mirrors, dishes, etc.
WE CAN ONLY RECYCLE BOTTLES AND JARS.

PLASTIC: #1, #2, #3, #4, #5, #6, #7 plastic containers.
Look for the Recycling symbol with a number in it.
After rinsing, the lids can be put back on.
Clean, dry plastic bags can be included.
Please put all plastic bags in one bag and tie it off.
DO NOT include Styrofoam.

PAPER: Includes newspaper and inserts, junk mail, magazines, catalogs, phone books, cereal boxes and other paperboard items, cardboard, post-it notes, office paper, computer paper, fax paper, carbonless paper, construction paper, and most other paper items. Shredded paper can be placed in a bag separate from other paper.
DO NOT include carbon paper, wax coated paper or wax coated cardboard (milk cartons, for example), tissue paper, paper towels, paper with food or other residue on it.

HOUSEHOLD

BATTERIES: Includes all batteries that are not meant to have liquid in them. Examples would be AA, AAA, C, D, hearing aid, camera, electronic, rechargeable and many other batteries.
DO NOT include car, boat or motorcycle batteries.
Batteries must be separated from other recyclables.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

◆ Pickup schedules are every other week. If a major holiday falls on a collection day, the collection will be on the day after.

◆ Pickup will begin at 7AM, so get your bins out early.

◆ The materials put out must be reasonably clean and free of garbage.

◆ The Solid Waste District will furnish one bin to each participating household; if you find you need additional containers, please feel free to use any plastic or cardboard container you'd like as long as it's smaller than 55 gallons. If you wish to use a cardboard box or two, and want them back, please mark them plainly "Not to be Recycled".

◆ While separation of materials is not being required, separation as follows will be greatly appreciated: Metals, Glass, Plastic, Paper, Batteries.

◆ You need to put out your bin(s) where they can be seen and gotten to, easily, from the street.

◆ If you would like to begin participating in the curbside recycling program, you can pick up a bin at the Town Hall.

◆ All residences in Kewanaw and within one half mile of the city limits, are included in the collection. Whether you live in an apartment, condo, duplex or a single home, you are eligible to participate.

◆ For further information, questions or comments, call the Fulton County Solid Waste District at 223-4939 or call Town Hall at 653-2112.

The collection day is changing in January 2008 to Thursday.

Collections are scheduled every two weeks. Your normal collection day is Thursday

Next Pick-Up, Thursday, January 17th



HOSPITAL NOTES....

WOODLAWN HOSPITAL

December 28

Births – Scott and Leslie Wilburn, Rochester, a daughter
December 31

Admissions – none published
Dismissals – Heather Haug and son, Plymouth; Tyrone Stidham, Rochester; and Sara Pomeroy, Akron

January 1

Births – Ryan and Libby Hake, Rochester, a daughter; Chris and Lindsey Williams, Rochester, a son

January 2

Admissions – none published
Dismissals – Steve Jackson, North Manchester; Leslie Wilburn and daughter, Rochester
January 3

Admissions – Violet Troutman, Rochester

Dismissals – Marilyn Cannedy, Rochester; Terry Reed, Kewanna

Births – Brandon and Rachel Isom, Rochester, a son; Cara New, Rochester, a son
January 4

Admissions – none published
Dismissals – Gary Richardson, Libby Hake and daughter and Lindsey Williams and son, all of Rochester

PULASKI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

December 28

Admissions – Dorothy Strasser, Winamac

Dismissals – Jane Pries and

Devin Trusty, Medaryville
December 29

Admissions – Doris Mithcell, Winamac

Dismissals – Louise Dommer, Winamac

December 30

Admissions – Claude Olds and Donna Harper, Winamac

December 31

Admissions – Barbara Gildon, Francesville; Kameron Clingler, Monterey; and Alice Brown, Winamac

January 1

Admissions – Lawrence Perry, Kewanna

Dismissals – Dowanna Harper and Claude Olds, Winamac

January 2

Admissions – Nancy Muir, Kewanna

Dismissals – Lawrence Perry and Nancy Muir, Kewanna; Alice Brown and Claude Olds, Winamac; Kameron Paul Clingler, Monterey
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Pulaski Memorial Hospital Calendar

Prenatal classes will be held on consecutive Thursdays, January 3 through January 31, from 7 to 9 p.m. in the PMH conference center. There will also be a breastfeeding class February 7, from 7 to 9 p.m. To register, call 574-946-2193 Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you deliver at PMH, there is no charge for the classes.

The Help for the Hurting Parent bereavement support group of PMH is open to residents of any

county who have experienced the death of any aged child. Call 574-946-2180 for more information. The next meeting will be November 7. This is a free service offered by PMH.

The Multiple Sclerosis Support Group will meet January 12 at 10 a.m. Eastern Time in the PMH board room. This group will focus on sharing experiences and positive solutions for dealing with MS. January's guest speaker is Kristy Kay Showley, PT, speaking on "What Physical Therapy can do for MS". Patients, families and caregivers are all welcome. For more information, call Lori Semrau at 579-946-2157 Monday, Wednesday or Friday.

Abused? Home shouldn't hurt. Call the crisis center at 1-800-933-0374, 24 hours a day. The crisis center offers emergency shelter, complete confidentiality, support groups, and crisis intervention. The staff acts on behalf of the client with service agencies, serving Jasper, Newton and Pulaski counties.

There is a walk-in immunization clinic from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Healthy Family Office on the third floor of the Pulaski County Building in Winamac. Vaccines available include DTaP, EIPV, Hib, Hep B, MMR and Td. Please bring any previous immunization records. Call 574-946-6071 for more information.

The Sweet Beginnings Prenatal Program at Healthy Families offers a walk-in clinic at the Pulaski County Building,

Winamac, providing prenatal care coordination services. Services include free urine pregnancy testing, risk assessment and referral to other community services including medical provider and financial coverage. Services are offered during regular business hours, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Call 574-946-6017 for information.

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Bereavement support group

The next meeting of the Hope Hospice bereavement support group will be Thursday, January 17, at 7 p.m. in the hospice office. The 30-minute video, *Healing Your Grief Wounds (Part 1)*, will be shown and a discussion will follow. Ann Beattie will be the group leader. Anyone who has lost a loved one is invited to attend and there is no charge.

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NIPSCO's EnergyHarvestSM Program Provides Rebates on Energy Efficient Appliances

Saving Energy. Money and the Environment Are the Focus of New Program

Merrillville, Ind. – Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO) today introduced a new energy efficiency initiative called EnergyHarvestSM, which will be targeted to all NIPSCO natural gas customers.

The EnergyHarvestSM program offers natural gas customers an incentive to purchase certain energy-efficient appliances, including water heaters, ENERGY STAR[®] furnaces and programmable thermostats through cash rebates.

In addition to customers saving money on appliance purchases, in the long-term customers can also lower their heating bills as a result of buying the energy efficient models. This makes the EnergyHarvestSM program ultimately a good thing for both conserving energy and the environment.

"This program has short-term and long-term benefits," said Colleen Reilly, NIPSCO's Director of Communications and Public Affairs. "The EnergyHarvestSM program gives something back to both the customer and the environment and provides customers an immediate way to take action to minimize increasing energy costs."

EnergyHarvestSM is one of a family of three new NIPSCO customer cost savings and conservation initiatives in the MyPower program (www.nipSCO.com/MyPower). The three initiatives – EnergyHarvestSM, Home Energy SolutionsSM and Home Energy ManagementSM – are designed to help NIPSCO customers manage their home energy costs through rebates on energy efficient natural gas appliances; weatherization support for those who may not be able to afford home improvements; and home energy management technology, which will

be launched later this year and focus on energy efficiency options for electric customers.

The MyPower web page provides more information on energy efficient appliances and money saving tips to help NIPSCO customers manage their energy costs. Using purchase receipts, customers can claim rebates at www.nipSCO.com/MyPower or by calling NIPSCO's EnergyHarvestSM hotline 800-721-7385.

Facts about NIPSCO's EnergyHarvestSM

The EnergyHarvestSM residential rebate program brochure, qualifying appliance descriptions and rebate information, the rebate form* and Energy Efficiency Tips for the home are available online and in downloadable PDF format by visiting www.nipSCO.com/MyPower and clicking "EnergyHarvestSM".

EnergyHarvestSM appliance qualifications and rebates offered:

Natural gas furnaces must be 92% AFUE or higher.

Natural gas water heaters must be 0.65 EF or higher and 30 gallons or more. **Rebate: \$50**

Programmable thermostat** must be ENERGY STAR[®] qualified.

Rebate: \$20

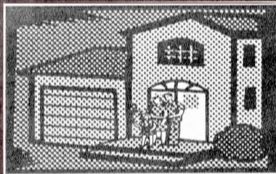
The complete list of qualifying appliances is available at www.nipSCO.com/MyPower (click EnergyHarvestSM).

* EnergyHarvestSM program applicants must download, print and complete the Rebate Form for Residential Appliance/Product Rebates located at www.nipSCO.com/MyPower.

** EnergyHarvestSM program applicants must use natural gas space heating to receive the thermostat rebate.

About NIPSCO
NIPSCO, with headquarters in Merrillville, Ind., is one of the 10 energy distribution companies of NiSource Inc. (NYSE: NI). With over 712,000 natural gas customers and 445,000 electric customers across the northern third of Indiana, NIPSCO is the largest natural gas distribution company, and the second largest electric distribution company, in the state. NiSource distribution companies serve 3.8 million natural gas and electric customers primarily in nine states. More information about NIPSCO is available at www.nipSCO.com.

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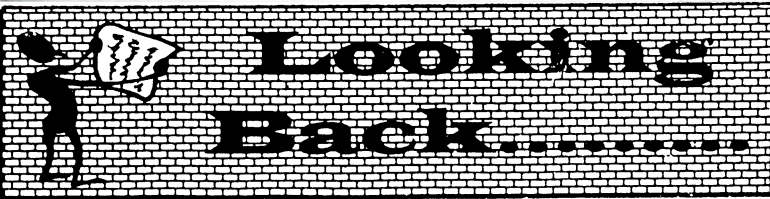
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**SIXTY YEARS AGO**

January 8, 1948

A son, Eric Kraig, was born recently to Mr. and Mrs. Ben Fort, Indianapolis. The baby, born at Coleman Hospital in Indianapolis, weighed 7 pounds and 4 ounces. Mrs. Fort is the former Madlyn Master of Kewanna. Mr. Fort is an economics instructor at the Indianapolis Center, Purdue University Technological Institute.

Mrs. Charles Pritchard was hostess to her bridge club Friday afternoon in her home. Mrs. P.J. Dwyer, Mrs. Hugh Cook and Miss Margaret Mary Dwyer won the prizes. Guests were Mrs. Woodward Fisher and Miss Dwyer.

An early morning fire was discovered in the seed power house Saturday at the H. P. Troutman farm. The telephone lines were down due to the recent storm and the Troutmans were unable to call the fire department. With the help of the neighbors they succeeded in putting the fire out. There was about 1000 pounds of seed corn in the dryer at the time the fire was discovered. The amount of damage is unknown at the present.

Oliver Darl Lamborn of Sturgis, Michigan, was struck and killed by a truck near Middlebury Christmas Eve. He and his family were enroute to Rochester to spend Christmas. Lamborn was the son of the late Frank Lamborn, formerly of Kewanna. He was also the nephew of Mrs. Arthur V. Smith, Kewanna.

Edwin Smith, 74, died in South Bend Sunday morning December 19. He was born in 1873, the son of John and Jemima Smith. He

married Utica Showley in 1895 and was a farmer in Fulton county until 1931 when they moved to Michigan for six years. In 1937, they moved to South Bend where he was employed by his son, Garland Smith, at the Ramble Inn in Roseland. Pallbearers were friends and neighbors Erv Myers, Lowell Myers, John Harris, Arthur Smith, Oscar Enyart and Ira Overmyer.

Donald Linden, age 9, son of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Linden of Logansport remains in critical condition at Memorial Hospital in Logansport. The youth was struck by an auto while playing on his sled. Mrs. Luella Linden of Kewanna is his grandmother.

Fifty-Five Years Ago

January 9, 1953

Charles Gidley will retire from the Pennsylvania Railroad February 1, after serving as tower operator for fifty years. Mr. Gidley came here in 1932. He and his wife will leave for Florida soon where they expect to visit for three months. They have one daughter, Mrs. James Collins, of Dayton, Ohio.

Fred Russell, brother of Carl Russell of here, died Sunday at his home in Peru. He had been ill for a long while. Jim Russell, son of Carl Russell, came from New York, for the funeral which was held Wednesday in Peru.

Norman Foust of here was involved in an automobile accident Friday afternoon on U.S. 35, about 1000 feet south of the U.S. 30 overpass. Foust was traveling south when a car driven by Mrs. India Squires Mack bumped into

the Foust auto, causing her auto to go out of control and overturn. She was taken to Starke Memorial Hospital where she died of a skull fracture. Mr. Foust was not injured, nor was his car damaged.

Mrs. Carl Branson received a cablegram Tuesday, January 6, from her husband, Pvt. Carl Branson, stating that he has arrived safely in Tokyo, Japan. He is to go on to Korea, but he does not know how soon. Mrs. Branson is the former Pat Hurlburt.

A semi tractor-trailer driven by Howard Swafford, Kewanna, was hit by a car Christmas Eve on U.S. 35. The car was driven by Elmer Budd, Logansport and was damaged to the extent of \$350.

Fifty Years Ago

January 9, 1958

Bobby Metzger of Rochester will spend from Thursday until Sunday with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Metzger.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Urbin and family of Fulton, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Warfield and sons, and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Robbins were Sunday evening supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ned Warfield and son. Mrs. Richard Warfield, Mrs. Ned Warfield and Gerald Urbin were celebrating their birthdays.

Jane and Linda Buskirk of Logansport spent the weekend in the Van Tuyl Gillespie home.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Jennings had as their Monday evening supper guests, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Harbett and Kathy of Rochester. The occasion celebrated Mr. Jennings 75th birthday.

Jerry Jones returned to Purdue University Sunday evening after spending the holidays in the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Jones.

Dorothy Douglass has returned to her studies at Ball State College after spending the holidays here.

Marvin Wills has returned to Ft. Hood, Texas, and Phil Wills has returned to Purdue University after spending the holidays in the M. E. Wills home.

Forty-Five Years Ago

January 3, 1963

Kathryn Mae McKinney, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James McKinney, Rt. 1, Kewanna, and James Brown, son of Mr. and Mrs. I. V. Brown, Talbot, were united in marriage December 27 at the Kewanna Methodist Church. Mary Ruth Ingram, Kewanna, attended her cousin as matron of honor. Theresa Nufer, Winamac, college roommate, was a bridesmaid. Mickey Heil, Talbot, served the groom as best man.

A/1c David Gault is spending a three-week furlough from Biloxi, Mississippi, with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Gault.

Bob Newgent arrived home December 8 for a 30-day re-enlistment leave. He will spend the time with his mother, Mrs. Rosetta Newgent and family. He will report back to the USS Kaskaskia home ported at Mayport, Florida, January 6.

John Newgent, 16, Rt. 1, Kewanna, lost control of his auto on an ice-rutted county road northeast of Kewanna Saturday evening. The car hit and broke off a United Telephone pole, made a U-turn and crashed into a fence on the Charles Miller property.

Forty Years Ago

January 4, 1968

The Kewanna Metal Specialties plant on West Main Street was completely destroyed by fire early Tuesday morning, January 2. Town marshal Vern Biber had checked the plant at 2 a.m. and there was no fire in evidence at that time.

However, the alarm was sounded about 3 a.m. and within a short time, the building had collapsed. Allen Finke, president of the company, has announced that they plan to rebuild at the same location. The company employs 21 persons, mostly women.

Dr. George Rosero will hold open house at his newly redecorated office in Kewanna Saturday, January 6.

The Kewanna Church of Christ recently elected Sunday school officers for the new year. Chosen to serve were Jake Engle, superintendent; Gary Troutman, assistant superintendent; Shirley Zartman, secretary; Gayle Smith, assistant secretary; Lois Shidaker, pianist; Victor Heiden, assistant pianist; Ron Powell, song leader; and Larry Donathen, assistant song leader.

Jim Walters left Wednesday for Los Angeles, California, after spending the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Vachael Walters.

Daniel Walsh of Purdue spent his vacation in the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Al Walsh.

Jane Walters has returned to her studies at Michigan State University.

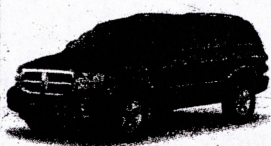
LuAnne Adams has returned to her home at Elkhart after spending the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Adams.

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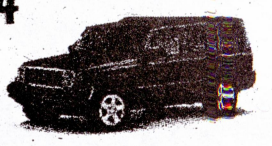
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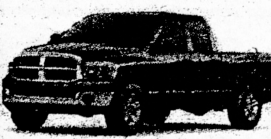
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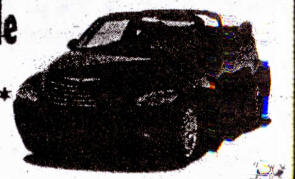
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Flame Red, Power Seat, 5.7 Hemi Multi Displacement, Trailer Tow, Chrome Wheels, Loaded

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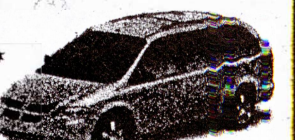
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Kewanna/Union Township Public Library News...

New books at the library:

ADULTS:

Unabridged Christian Audiobooks— *A Case of Bad Taste* written by Lori Copeland, read by Christine McMurdo-Wallis, on 6 cassettes and 8.5 hours in length; *A Case of Crooked Letters* written by Lori Copeland, read by Christine McMurdo-Wallis, on 7 cassettes and 9.5 hours in length; *Silent Star* written by Tracie Peterson, read by Christina Moore, on 3 cassettes and 3.5 hours in length; and *Whispers of Winter* written by Tracie Peterson, read by Christina Moore, on 8 cassettes and 9.5 hours in length.

Christian Fiction— *Monday Night Jihad* by Jason Elam and Steve Yohn; *Forevermore* by Cathy Marie Hake; *Splitting Harriet* by Tamara Leigh; *Nobody* by Creston Mapes; *In All Deep Places* by Susan Meissner; and *Catherine Wheels* by Leif Peterson; and *A Daughter's Inheritance* (#1 of The Broadmoor Legacy series) by Tracie Peterson and Judith Miller.

JUVENILES:

Fiction Picture Books— *Knuffle Bunny Too* (from the Knuffle Bunny series) by Mo Willems and *Go To Bed, Monster!* by Natasha Wing.

Ages 10 and Under General Fiction— *The Magic Rabbit* by Annette LeBlanc Cate and (from the Little Critter series) *The Alien from Outer Space* and *Golden Eagle* by Erica Farber.

Teenage General Fiction— *The Entertainer and The Dybbuk* by Sid Fleischman; *Book of A Thousand Days* by Shannon Hale; and *The Unmaking of Duncan Veerick* by Betty Levin.

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THOUSANDS APPLY FOR HEALTHY INDIANA PLAN COVERAGE

INDIANAPOLIS - Thousands of uninsured low-income Hoosiers are signing up for the state's innovative new Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP), which goes into effect January 1.

Governor Mitch Daniels said today that in its first week, nearly 4,500 Hoosiers have submitted applications to the Family and

Social Services Administration (FSSA) for coverage with the new plan. The state began to process applications on December 17 and has funding to cover about 130,000 Hoosiers annually who do not have health insurance.

"Passing landmark health care legislation was great. But seeing real people beginning to benefit from it is far better, so we are out to spread the word for all who might qualify," said Daniels.

The HIP plan that will provide health insurance for uninsured adult Hoosiers 19 to 64 years old whose household income is 22 percent to 200 percent of the federal poverty level and who are not eligible for Medicaid. A family of four, for example, would be eligible if income does not exceed \$41,300; the maximum income level for a family of two is \$27,380. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services recently approved the state's request for a Medicaid waiver, the final step toward implementation.

"HIP is a bold experiment that has already attracted national attention, and the early surge in applications from throughout the state is a clear sign that the need is great and that the people are ready to respond," said David Roos, state program director for Covering Kids and Families of Indiana.

Among the first applications to receive approval -- and likely representative of other Hoosiers who will obtain HIP coverage - is a young mother from Mishawaka who heard about HIP through a postcard she received in the mail. She works at a small insurance agency that does not offer health insurance and determined that that private insurance, at \$600 a month, was out of her reach.

Another early applicant who has been approved is a self-employed Ft. Wayne woman who has not had health insurance in more than 35 years. On occasions when she has been too ill to nurse herself back to health, she has visited the

emergency room and struggle to pay off her bills. She learned about HIP by watching a news story on television.

HIP participants will have a Personal Wellness and Responsibility Account, known as a POWER Account. Contributions to the account are made by the state and participants, who are required to make a modest contribution based on their ability to pay (not to exceed 5 percent of gross annual income). Coverage for preventive services of up to \$500 annually is included.

FSSA Secretary Mitch Roob said this component of HIP will not only offer health care coverage but encourage and reward Hoosiers to adopt healthy behaviors and utilize preventive measures of the plan, such as annual check ups.

More information about HIP is available at www.in.gov/fssa or www.hip.in.gov.

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NIPSCO ANNOUNCES GAS COST ADJUSTMENT FOR JANUARY

MERRILLVILLE, Ind. - Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO) announced today that natural gas costs for January 2008 decreased compared to last month, due mainly to a decrease in wholesale natural gas prices as compared to the previous month. NIPSCO residential customers will see a decrease in natural gas costs of 1.52 percent when compared to December 2007. The Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) approved the adjustment subject to refund.

A typical NIPSCO residential customer using 200 therms of natural gas should expect a decrease of approximately \$3.17 from last month's statement in their January billing, although total bill amounts will vary as a result of actual consumption.

Rochester License Branch Hours
 Tues., 8:30-7:00
 Wed., Thurs. & Fri., 8:00-5:00
 Sat., 8:30-12:30
 Closed Sun. & Mon.
 +++

HEALTH AWARENESS

Stay Healthy This Winter: Wash Those Hands

by John Heinze, Ph.D. (NAPS)—When it comes to staying healthy, mother knew best. Countless studies prove that handwashing is one of the easiest and most effective ways of preventing disease.

Washing your hands frequently not only protects your health, but also helps to protect the health of everyone close to you—your children and other family members, friends and colleagues.

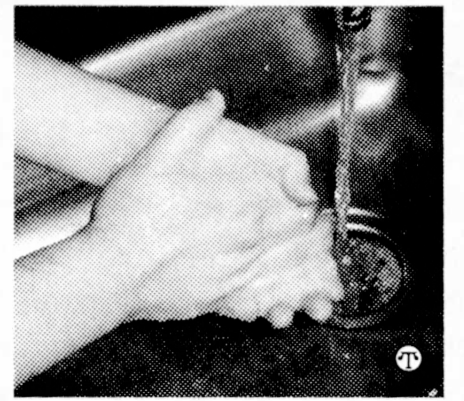
At this time of year, diseases that spread through hand-to-hand or hand-to-object contact include the common cold, flu and several intestinal disorders, such as infectious diarrhea or norovirus. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control—which stresses the importance of handwashing—estimates that 23 million Americans contract norovirus each year, particularly in the winter months.

If you don't wash your hands enough, you can infect yourself with these germs by simply touching your eyes, nose or mouth—and you can spread these germs to others by simply touching them, or touching surfaces they also touch, from computer keyboards to door handles. And remember, others can do the same to you.

Common sense tells us that it is impossible to keep our bare hands free of germs all the time. But there are times when it is especially critical to wash your hands to limit the transfer of bacteria and viruses.

According to the Mayo Clinic and other medical authorities, these include:

- Before and after preparing food, especially if handling raw meat, poultry or fish;
- Before eating;
- After blowing your nose or coughing or sneezing into your hands;



Washing your hands frequently not only protects your health, but also helps to protect the health of everyone close to you.

- Before inserting or removing contact lenses;
- After using the toilet, especially in public restrooms.

You can probably think of other occasions—for example, the many things and people you touch when traveling this winter, whether to an exotic vacation destination or to visit with family and friends.

How do you wash your hands enough to provide protection?

Make sure you wash your hands vigorously, including the backs of your hands, wrists, between your fingers and under your fingernails. Lather well and use warm running water whenever possible. It should take at least 15-20 seconds.

Yes, washing your hands is very simple and costs practically nothing. Yet it is still amazingly effective in preventing disease. Please help spread the word. And listen to your mother's advice on handwashing—no matter your age.

John Heinze, executive director of the Environmental Health Research Foundation, received his doctorate in microbiology from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

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Town & Country Chatter...

by: Julie Brown (574) 653-2451

Ruth Cogdill returned home Monday, Dec. 31, following a week-long visit with her daughter and son-in-law, Linda and Gordon Ligocki near Winamac. Earlier in the morning, Ruth and Linda did some shopping and then were treated to lunch by Gordon at the China Wok restaurant in Winamac. Christmas Eve was a beautiful celebration with family and friend, Dale Fleming. A traditional candlelit table was set. Champaign was served for the toast and a delicious meal of crepes was enjoyed. Among those in attendance were Linda and Gordon's daughters and their children, Sonya Kleiner and Sid of Colorado Springs, Colorado and Renata Crissinger, Doran, Lily and Roan, of Winamac, and Dale Fleming. Ruth's brother, David Norris, wrote of the wonderful Christmas Day together, so for Ruth, it was a wonderful holiday.

Ruth Ann Anderson enjoyed spending the holidays in South Bend with her daughter, Becky Lincoln, and her family.

Mildred McColley had company Wednesday, Jan. 2. Coming up to escort her to Plymouth were her son, Ron McColley of Frankfort, and her son and his family, Steve and Ruth Ann McColley and Matt of Muncie. They were making the trip to attend the funeral viewing of Mildred's sister-in-law, Ruth McNear.

Jerry and Kay Brown left Thursday, Jan. 3, for a three-day visit to Lawrenceburg. They had a good time as houseguests of their son and daughter-in-law, Kerry and Karen Brown. While in the area, they did some sightseeing and attended a high school boys' basketball tourney. (Kerry's team was one of the participants.) While they were driving around the area, they happened to see the local ski resort making snow for its customers.

Linda Garner met her sister, Phyllis Koontz of Rochester, for a visit over lunch Saturday, Jan. 5.

Saturday guests of Joe and Karen Good for a belated Christmas celebration included Jeff and Tonya Good, Jeffrey, Tosha, Allie and Devin, and Sami Good and Shayne of Indianapolis, Bruce Baker, Forrest and Elnora Baker, Mark and Kelly Smith, Kara, Zachary and Lindsey and Lindsey's friend, Broderick Schmidt.

Tom and Barb LaFollette were busy Sunday, Jan. 6. They began their day by delivering baked goods and cash to VFW Post #1343 in Rochester. The baked goods were for the John Larson Benefit auction sale that afternoon. (The LaFollettes would like to give a special thanks to Carol Broda, Scrubby Tennent and the rest of the Lake Bruce community for their many contributions.) After making their delivery, the LaFollettes headed to LaPorte for an overnight stay with their son and his family, Chris and Nita LaFollette, Michele, Michael, Rebecca, Elizabeth and Thomas.

Mr. and Mrs. Steven Pugh and Kyle and Hannah Plummer, Kewanna, Mrs. Jackye Pugh, Lake Bruce, Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Pugh, Lizzie and Ashley, Rochester, Mr. and Mrs. Wade Shedrow, Levi and Madison, Monterey, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Baker and Alleisa, Fort Wayne, and Mrs. Sandy Baker, Mr. and Mrs. Josh Pugh and Steven, and Mr. and Mrs. Mike Snyder, all of Culver, were Sunday brunch guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gene Baker, Claire and Allie, at Culver.

Bill Yoder and Sandra Best of Monticello were Sunday afternoon callers of Forrest and Elnora Baker.

Wilma Wilson had an enjoyable day Sunday. She accompanied her daughter and her family, Judy and Jack Graham and Emily of Lucerne and Kurt Graham of Michigan, to Monticello. They were guests of the Grahams' son and his family, Nathan and Emily Graham and Lucas. Everyone had a fun time being entertained by Lucas throughout the day.

Mathilda Lamb was near Winamac Sunday. She had a nice time attending the Delores Foerg family Christmas gathering at Moss Creek Golf Club. Accompanying her for the day were her siblings, Jo Illingworth of Fowler, Patricia Koons of Logansport and Dave Besse.

Helen Whiteman had working visitors Sunday. Coming over in the afternoon for a chat and to take down her Christmas decorations were her son and daughter-in-law, Kevin and Monica Whiteman of Pulaski.

I think Mother Nature and Father Time did a little too much celebrating New Year's Eve: 12 inches of snow, rain, fog, thunderstorms, sub-zero wind chills and above 60° temperatures—just in the first week of January! Do we really want to know what the remainder of the year will bring?

Those persons who will be having birthdays next week (so please remember to give them your best regards) are: Jacob Kiss, Dave Patty and Jay Urbin, Jan. 13; Micah Cook, Kristen Evers and Sarah Johnston, Jan. 14; John Carlisle, Bill Foerg and Jeff Johnston, Jan. 15; Sarah Burch, Traci Burch, Shirley James, David Kimble, Ed Mollencupp Jr., Wendy Sutton and Marsha Tomerlin, Jan. 16; Caleb Baldwin, Jason Federer and Shaun Wilson, Jan. 17; Devin Good, Jan. 18; and Kevin Easterday, Becky Lincoln, John Stacey and Brenda Warner, Jan. 19.

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Norway and Oakdale Dams on Tippecanoe River Remain Structurally Sound

Weather Service Statement Has Been Corrected

MERRILLVILLE, Ind. — A statement made today by the National Weather Service suggesting there may be structural damage to NIPSCO's Norway and Oakdale dams on the Tippecanoe River was incorrect. The Weather Service has rescinded their earlier statement. Currently, the Tippecanoe River is experiencing record flows of water, however the integrity of the dams has not been affected and they are both operating normally.

"We want to assure residents of the area that there is no threat that

the dams might fail," said Colleen Reilly, Director of Communications and Public Affairs for NIPSCO, the operator of the dams. "We are experiencing record flows, but the dams are operating as designed."

Earlier this morning, a flood warning was issued downstream at 4:15 a.m. CST today, and then raised to a flood emergency at 7 a.m. CST as water levels continued to rise.

At the present time, over 26,000 cubic feet of water per second is flowing through the dams. The previous record for both dams was approximately 22,000 cubic feet of water per second. Typically, flooding begins to occur around the 14,000 mark.

Although NIPSCO operates the dams to produce electricity, it

does not control the water levels or the flow of water through the river, as the flooding is a result of melting snow and the recent storm activity.

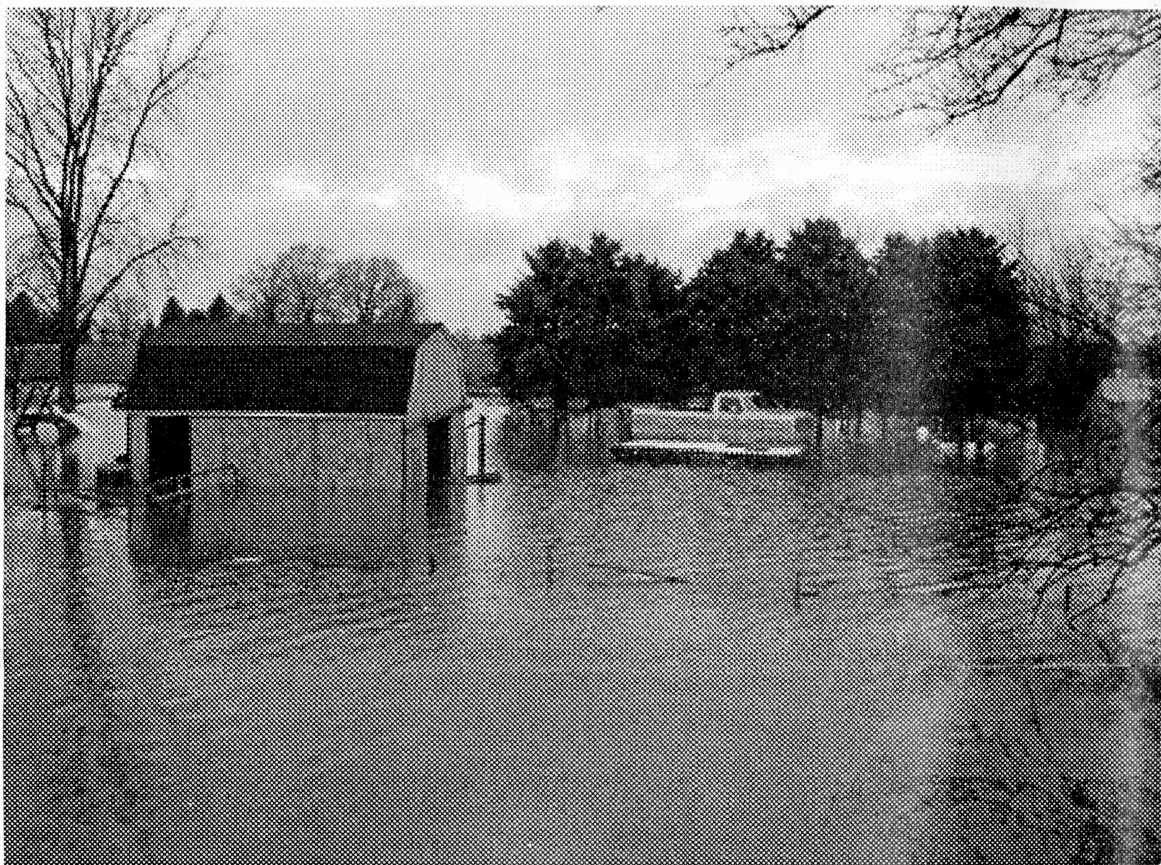
If customers are experiencing flooding they are advised to contact their local authorities.

Notice To Subscribers

PLEASE notify The Observer office whenever you have a change of address. New addresses may be sent to The Observer, P.O. Box 307, Kewanna, IN 46939; or, telephoned to (574) 653-2101.

Recycling Dates

Thurs., Jan. 3rd,
Jan. 17th & Jan. 31st



High water

Many people in Kewanna and Indiana woke up to lake front property Tuesday morning.

New Year's Day brought heavy snow that melted in 50-60 degree temps later in the week, which was topped off with heavy rain fall during the night hours. Mike Molitor, town superintendent, reported over four inches of rain

at the sewage treatment plant. The ditches, creeks and rivers filled up so fast that there was no where for the accumulation of water to go but yards, streets, basements and crawl spaces.

At 11 a.m. Tuesday, the Indiana Department of Transportation closed State Road 17 through Kewanna from State Road 14 to State Road 16. Caston students

The back yard of the Richard Miller residence on State Road 17 at the north edge of Kewanna was under water Tuesday morning after a night of heavy rain.

were dismissed at 1 p.m. Tuesday and school was eventually canceled for Wednesday.

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The field between the Richard Miller residence and Winamac Coil Spring (in the background) was completely inundated

Tuesday morning. Many motorists found it hard to get in and out of town. The high water caused the Kewanna branch of

the Community State Bank to cut its operating hours as employees were unable to get to work.

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EARTH TALK

Questions & Answers
About Our Environment

Dear EarthTalk: Where do the leading presidential candidates stand on the issue of climate change and other environmental issues? -- Max S., Seattle, WA

The outcome of the 2008 presidential election could very well have a big impact on a wide range of environmental issues, especially climate change.

All of the Democratic candidates—Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama, John Edwards, Bill Richardson and Dennis Kucinich—support reducing carbon dioxide emissions nationally upwards of 80 percent by 2050 in order to stave off global warming. Likewise, each would like to see fuel efficiency standards for cars and light trucks raised to at least 40 miles per

gallon within the next few decades. Meanwhile, only one of the major Republican contenders, John McCain, has even articulated a position on the issue of global warming, with most favoring expanding our base of greenhouse gas-spewing coal-fired power plants.

As for specific track records, Clinton has an impressive record of introducing pro-environment legislation into Congress, and for her time in the Senate scores a 90 (out of 100) on green voting from the nonprofit, non-partisan League of Conservation Voters (LCV). Obama is newer to the politics of the environment, but scored a 96 for his two years in the Senate from LCV, and has garnered kudos from environmental leaders for the aggressive climate and energy plan he unveiled in October 2007.

Ohio Congressman Dennis Kucinich wants to launch a Works Green Administration similar to the Works Progress Administration of the Great Depression, only this time to benefit the environment through

the development of alternative energy technologies and infrastructures. Bill Richardson, who served as Secretary of Energy under Bill Clinton and more recently as governor of New Mexico, wants to be the "energy president," and has an 82 lifetime rating from LCV to back it up. He has proposed the most ambitious carbon reduction plan of any of the candidates (90 percent by 2050). John Edwards was the first candidate to make his campaign carbon neutral in March 2007, and greens consider him perhaps the most progressive of all the Democrats on the climate issue.

On the Republican side, the environmental bright spots are few and far between. McCain is really the only choice with any declared concern for the environment. In 2003 he co-sponsored the first Senate bill aimed at mandatory economy-wide reductions. While the bill didn't garner enough votes to pass, it set the stage for future iterations that could put the U.S. on par with European nations as leaders in the fight to cut carbon emissions. McCain is also the only Republican candidate specifically opposed to drilling for oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

Mike Huckabee scores some points with greens for his willingness to consider a specific increase in automotive fuel efficiency standards and for his (limited) embrace of alternative energy. Mitt Romney is willing to consider a cap on emissions, but only if enacted on a global basis (including China and India, that is). The remaining Republicans (Rudy Giuliani, Fred Thompson and Ron Paul) have best been non-committal on climate change and environmental issues in general.

CONTACT: For more detailed information on specific candidates' positions and track records on environmental issues, check out the League of Conservation Voters' Voter Guide, www.lcv.org/voterguide.
GOT AN ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTION? Send it to: **EarthTalk**, c/o **E/The Environmental Magazine**, P.O. Box 5098, Westport, CT 06881; submit it at: www.emagazine.com/earthtalk/thisweek/, or e-mail: earthtalk@emagazine.com. Read past columns at:

www.emagazine.com/earthtalk/archives.php.

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Rep. Eric A. Gutwein Begins Work at the Statehouse

Indiana House Gavel In for 2008 Legislative Session

(STATEHOUSE) Jan. 8, 2008 – Rep. Eric A. Gutwein (R-Rensselaer), along with House colleagues, opened the 2008 session of the Indiana General Assembly at the Statehouse. Rep. Gutwein starts the session with a number of goals to improve the lives of Hoosier families.

"The 2008 legislative session will have a large amount of focus on property taxes," said Rep. Gutwein. "By the end of the session, I hope we will have a solution that is in the best interest of the state, one that provides permanent long-term relief and more control of government spending on all levels."

During the session, Rep. Gutwein will sit as a member on three House legislative committees:

- Agriculture and Rural Development. He is the ranking minority member.
- Labor and Employment.
- Natural Resources.

The Indiana General Assembly is a part-time legislature, meeting on a two-year cycle — 2½ months in even-numbered years and four months in odd-numbered years. Historically, there has not always been a short session. Until 1969, Indiana legislators met only once every other year. In 1970, the legislature decided to allow for short sessions during off years to deal with important issues facing the state.

As the session moves forward, these are some important legislative dates:

JAN. 15: The last day to file bills. (House members each have a limit of five bills during this session).

JAN. 31: Deadline for the House to pass bills originated in the House.

FEB. 27, 28: Deadline for both

House and Senate to pass bills already approved by opposite chamber.

MARCH 14: Deadline for both chambers to adjourn.

Rep. Gutwein serves House District 16, which includes Cass, Fulton, Jasper, Pulaski and White counties.

Rep. Gutwein encourages constituents to contact him with questions or concerns through e-mail at h16@in.gov, or by calling the Statehouse toll-free at 1-800-382-9841. It is also possible to write him at 200 W. Washington St, Indianapolis, IN 46204.

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Wind Easements Topic of Meeting

Farmers who have been contacted about easements for wind energy development are the targeted audience for a special meeting sponsored by the Indiana Farm Bureau and the Indiana Agricultural Law Foundation.

The session will be January 23 from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the 4-H Community Building at the Franklin County fairgrounds in Frankfort. An earlier meeting on the same topic was held in November in Randolph County.

Ryan Brown of the Indiana Office of Energy & Defense Development will provide the brief overview of the facts related to wind energy development.

Jimmy Bricker, Benton County Extension Educator, will provide insight about the projects currently under development in Benton County and how things proceeded.

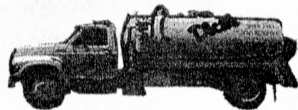
Kit Earle, a utility attorney with Bose McKinney and Evans in Indianapolis, will lead a discussion with landowners on issues related to easements and leases for wind energy development.

For questions, contact IFB's legal affairs team members Maria Spellman, 317-692-7840 or Justin Schneider, 317-692-7835.

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Full-time Clerk position open at the Fulton County Highway Department. Complete Job Description is available upon request at the Fulton County Auditor's Office. Please submit resume and cover letter to: Highway Clerk Position, % Denise Chandler, Fulton County Auditor, 125 E. 9th Street, Suite # 108, Rochester, Indiana 46975

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County Prosecutor seeks office of judge



Richard Brown

Fulton County Prosecutor Richard Brown announced Monday that he will seek the office of Circuit Court Judge in the 2008 election.

Brown, a lifelong resident of Fulton County, is the son of Jesse and Helen Brown and a 1972 graduate of Rochester High School. He received his undergraduate degree in accounting from Valparaiso University in 1976 and his law degree from Indiana University Indianapolis Law School in 1979. He returned to Rochester upon his graduation and practiced with his father until his death in 1993.

He and his wife, Elaine, were married in 1977. They have three children, Nicholas, Aaron and Grace. Nicholas and Grace are currently attending Purdue University and Aaron is a Purdue engineering graduate now living in the Knoxville, Tennessee area. Elaine has worked at the Rochester Telephone Company since 2001 and previously worked for many years in accounting having attained her CPA status.

His personal interests are varied and include camping, backpacking, canoeing, wood-

working, fishing, shooting, golf and automobile restoration.

Brown is Fulton County's longest serving prosecutor having first been elected in 1982. He has served in that position continuously since then, having just completed his 25th year in office. From 1983 through 1966, he was a "part-time" prosecutor and maintained a private law practice as well. Brown has handled virtually every kind of matter that comes before the Circuit Court, including civil suits of all kinds, guardianships, estates and adoptions and as prosecuting attorney has handled juvenile delinquency cases and everything from speeding to capital murder. He has been involved in several civil jury trials and has conducted dozens of criminal felony trials in his tenure as prosecutor.

Brown stated "I thoroughly enjoy serving Fulton County as prosecuting attorney, but at this point in my career I would like a new challenge and feel that I am ideally suited to contribute in the role as Circuit Court judge."

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Lorie Hurst seeks Republican nomination for treasurer

Lorie L. Hurst has announced that she will seek the Republican nomination for the office of Fulton County treasurer in the May primary. Judith A. Reed is currently serving her second term as Fulton County treasurer and by law cannot run again for that position.

Lorie was born and raised in Fulton County and lives at 1219 West 9th Street in Rochester with her husband, David K. Hurst. Lorie and David have lived the majority of their 29 years of married life in Fulton County. They have three children,

Kenneth Hurst, Greencastle; William Hurst and his wife, Kimberly, Plymouth; and Terry Hurst, Huntington. Lorie and David are active members of the Rochester First Baptist Church where she currently serves as choir director and on the Christian Board of Education. Lorie is the daughter of Charles and Corabelle Crippen, Rochester, owners of Athens Oliver Sales.

Loris is currently working her eighth year as first deputy treasurer for Fulton County and is the co-owner of Hurst Farm and Truck Service in Athens. Her prior work experience includes first deputy for the Fulton County Clerk, deputy for the Fulton County Auditor, shipping coordinator and payroll clerk for Pioneer Hybrid in Plymouth, dispatch and safety supervisor for Dedicated Fleet, Akron, and editor/office manager for the Akron-Mentone News.

She is a member of the Fulton County Republican Women, past secretary for the Fulton County Republican Central Committee, member of the Fulton County Election Board and is currently serving as a precinct committee woman.

Lorie has a skilled and working knowledge of Excel, Word and Windows programs that include the software the county currently uses for accounting, payroll, investments, funds, taxes and local government budgets. She has had special training in computer software, accounting, tax sales, financial management and Association of Indiana

Counties Government classes. She enjoys working with people and is dedicated to providing honest, dependable, friendly service to the taxpayers in Fulton County.

The change in property taxes in the last few years has brought much attention to the treasurer's office where the taxes are collected. Professional and experienced help is vital to understanding the changes and problems taxpayers face today. With the new changes proposed by the legislature, it is important to understand the function and purpose of the county treasurer, and have an honest person with knowledge of the taxing process to help the local residents make decisions on the future of county government.

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Reed announces candidacy for auditor

Fulton County Treasurer Judith A. (Judy) Reed is seeking the Republican nomination for Fulton County Auditor in the May primary election.

According to Reed, she has "enjoyed the past 15 years in county government. I have served as your auditor for eight years and am presently in my 8th year as county treasurer. I feel the experience I have will be a major contribution as the next auditor of Fulton County, especially with the changes proposed for county government. I would like to continue working for the people of Fulton County."

Judy was born in Fort Wayne, the daughter of Warren and Mary Simmons of Fulton. They moved to Fulton from Kosciusko County in 1960. Judy graduated from

North Caston High School in 1963. She was employed with the former First National Bank of Rochester until 1990. She then worked at Farmers and Merchants Bank in Logansport until she began her term as auditor in 1993.

Judy and her husband, Kenneth, were married in 1964 and live on a farm in southern Wayne Township. They have three children, Michael B. Reed, Rochester, a manufacturing engineer with Symmetry Medical/Othy in Claypool; Mark A. (Leslie) Reed, Westerville, Ohio a Due Diligence officer with the Ohio State Teachers Retirement System; and Michele L. (Edwin) Buswell, Monon, a math teacher who is presently staying home to raise two children. Judy has three grandchildren Alexandra Reed, Grace Buswell and Andrew Buswell. One grandson is deceased. Her husband, Kenneth, is employed with McGrew Well Drilling, Fulton.

Judy attends First Assembly of God church, Logansport. She is a member of the Fulton County Republican Women's Club and is a Friend of Casa. Judy enjoys spending time with her grandchildren, reading, scrap-booking, sewing, ceramics and quilting.

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PLEASE notify The Observer office whenever you have a change of address. New addresses may be sent to The Observer, P. O. Box 307, Kewanee, IN 46939; or, telephoned to (574) 653-2101.

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