

THE CITY-COUNTY OBSERVER

A Non-Partisan Publication Dedicated To The Reporting Of Your Local Government At Work
Serving Posey, Vanderburgh & Warrick Counties & Their Communities

DECEMBER 2, 2009

VOLUME II, ISSUE 30

Redevelopment Commission Loan to GAGE

By Jamie Grabert, Publisher

In the November 18, 2009, issue of the City-County Observer, we announced that we would be reviewing the loan agreement between the Evansville Redevelopment Commission (ERC) and the Growth Alliance for Greater Evansville, Inc. (GAGE).

The agreement was signed on July 17, 2009. The only signature on the agreement was that of Tom Barnett, Executive Director of the Dept. of Metropolitan Development. According to the last page of the agreement, there were no other signatures. No representative of GAGE signed the agreement.

According to the "Recitals" section of the agreement, GAGE applied to ERC for a loan in the amount of \$280,000.

Article I includes the definitions.

Article II contains the "Terms of Note and Mortgage." According to Section 2.01, "Promissory Note. The Note has been executed and delivered by the Borrower [GAGE] contemporaneously with the execution and delivery of this loan agreement. The terms of the Promissory Note are as follows:

- (a) Principal Amount: \$280,000.00.
- (b) Interest Rate: No interest.
- (c) Payments: No monthly payments required. The entire remaining unpaid balance of principal owing

hereunder shall become due and payable on November 17, 2009.

(d) Disbursements. The principal amount will be distributed upon signing all of the Loan Documents."

Under Section 2.03, which is the guaranty section, the loan agreement states this is an unsecured loan.

Article III discusses the representations and warranties. Section 3.01 (d) states, "Neither the execution nor delivery of this Loan Agreement nor the consummation of the transactions herein contemplated, nor the compliance with the terms hereof, or the Loan Documents, will conflict or be inconsistent with, or will result in any breach of, or constitute a default under, or result in the creation or imposition of any lien, charge or encumbrance upon any of the property or assets of Borrower, pursuant to the terms of any indenture, mortgage, deed of trust, security agreement or other instrument to which Borrower may be a party or by which any may be bound."

Article IV talks about the Events of Default on the Note. It gives terms for the ERC to call the Note due with and without notice.

Article V contains the remedies of the Loan Agreement. Section 5.02 states, "No Waiver or Election. The failure of the ERC to elect action upon any violation or

continued on page 2

Check out the City-County Observer every day! We are now featuring daily updates on our website about issues important to our readers!

STAY TUNED!!
The City-County Observer is holding a "MONSTER" announcement about the next mayoral race!

— THE CITY-COUNTY OBSERVER —

COVER STORY

Redevelopment Commission ... from page 1

breach of this Loan Agreement shall not thereafter prevent it from so electing upon any subsequent violation or breach, and neither the failure nor delay upon the part of the ERC to exercise any right, power or privilege hereunder shall operate as a waiver thereof nor shall any single or partial exercise of any right, power, or privilege preclude any other or further exercise thereof or the exercise of any right, power or privilege of the ERC with respect to the Borrower.”

There are no clear terms as to the purpose of this loan. According to the Loan Agreement, there are no stipulations as to how the money is to be spent.

Next week, we will review the land purchases made this week for the new arena by the Redevelopment Commission.

IS IT TRUE...



we are *still* wondering about the status of the McCurdy Condo Project?

JOSEPH H. HARRISON, JR.

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Railroad files complaint against Posey Drainage Board

By Franz Schroeder, Staff Writer

Evansville Western Railway, Inc. filed a petition for judicial review and complaint for declaratory relief against the Posey County Commissioners as the County Drainage Board. The complaint was filed November 19, 2009, in Posey County Superior Court.

According to the complaint, "In early 2009 the petitioner/plaintiff initiated a project to construct immediately adjacent to its mainline in Posey County Indiana a siding approximately 9,000 feet in length for purposes of accommodating increased business."

Two bridges needed to be constructed over a tributary from McFadden Creek to complete the project. Morley and Associates was hired to design the bridges and "obtain all appropriate governmental approvals." The bridges were supposed to be approximately .4 of a mile apart and 61 feet long. The bridges were also to be identical and constructed of timber with concrete caps.

As required by law, Morley and Asso., on behalf of Evansville Western Railway, filed an application on April 1, 2009 with the Indiana Dept. of Natural Resources (IDNR). According to the complaint, the application was reviewed by IDNR on May 6, 2009. On June 17, 2009, IDNR returned the report that showed the review of application and asked for additional information as was provided by Morley and Asso.

The complaint and the information provided by IDNR also state, "On July 24, 2009, IDNR approved the application filed with IDNR by Morley and Asso. on behalf of the petitioner/plaintiff [the railway] and issued a permit allowing the construction of both bridges."

According to the complaint, "On or about July 24, 2009 a 'Notice of Right to Administrative Review' regarding both permits was issued by certified mail. Among the various entities set forth on these service lists was the Posey County Drainage Board." The notices required that those who choose to review the issuing of the permit submit a written petition within 18 days of the mailing date. None of the interested parties submitted a petition for review.

Work began on the construction of the two bridges on August 1, 2009.

According to point 14 of the complaint, "During the second week of October 2009 the Posey County attorney who also acts as counsel for the respondent/defendant [Posey County] contacted the petitioner/plaintiff [Evansville Western] indicating that the respondent/defendant had not approved the construction of the bridges and directing petitioner/plaintiff to cease construction."

Upon the request and demand of the county attorney, construction on the bridges ceased. The railway company then met with the county attorney to attempt to resolve the county's concerns. The railway then prepared two options to modify the design of the

bridges to accommodate the county attorney's concerns.

On November 2, 2009, the Posey County Drainage Board unanimously voted to deny permission to construct the bridges and rejected the options presented by Evansville Western Railway to accommodate the county attorney's concerns. According to the complaint, the board's decision was unsupported by any objective engineering data.

Under Count 1 "Judicial Review," the complaint states that the railway requests that Posey County Superior Court reverse the Drainage Board's decision; enter a mandatory injunction enjoining any interference by the Drainage Board; and grant the railway permission to proceed with the construction of the bridges as approved by the IDNR.

Under County 2 "Claim For Declaratory Relief," states that "the construction of bridges within the [railway's] right-of-ways is in all respects under the exclusive jurisdiction of the federal government and, therefore, the attempted regulation of the construction by the [Drainage Board] under state law is specifically preempted by federal law." It goes on to say that the Drainage Board stepped out of its jurisdiction to regulate the construction of the bridges.

The Posey County Drainage Board is represented by the law firm of Bamberger Foreman Oswald & Hahn LLP, which employs State Representative Trent VanHaaften.

Evansville Western Railway is represented by Les Shively.



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thru
Adult*

RISING STARS

This week's "Rising Stars" are recognized for a job well done in their professions.

**Jennifer
Cahill,
Reporter
WEHT**

**Les
Shively,
Political
Pundit**

**Audra
Levy,
Mayor's
Media Dir.**

**Marsha
Jackson,
EVSC**

**Dan
Shaw,
Reporter
C & P**

**Todd
Denk,
SMG**

**Lana
Abel,
Dept. Met.
Develop.**

**Local 357
Evansville
Fire
Fighters**

EVSC Schools Receive Pre-Engineering Certification

The Southern Indiana Career and Technical Center, Central High School and North High School were recently recognized for their high quality pre-engineering curriculum and have earned national certification in their Project Lead the Way Pre-Engineering courses.

This certification means that students enrolled at these schools in pre-engineering courses and who have registered for dual credit at one of the participating institutions of higher education, now have the opportunity to receive multiple college credits for their Project Lead the Way classes. The schools received the commendation after members from the Project Lead the Way certification team visited each site to review practices and standards implemented.

The certification team - comprised of individuals from post-secondary education, industry leaders, parents of current students and Project Lead the Way state representatives and instructors - verified the program at each location, looking at curriculum, technology use, classroom equipment used and more.

Certification of the schools' pre-engineering programs allows

students the opportunity to receive multiple college credits in the areas of civil engineering, architecture, digital electronics and computer integrated manufacturing.

"Project Lead the Way courses are very important to student development and we are excited that our programs are being nationally recognized," said Andy Beadles, Project Lead the Way instructor at the Southern Indiana Career and Technical Center. "We have worked hard to develop our curriculum so that it not only builds upon high-level math, science and English skills students have already learned, but also allows students the opportunity to understand how projects and theories relate to real-world application and technology."

Project Lead the Way pre-engineering courses are currently offered at Bosse, Central, North, Reitz and the Southern Indiana Career and Technical Center. Reitz had previously received certification. Bosse is in the beginning stages of developing its program and will undergo the certification process once the program is completely developed.

The City-County Observer Mission Statement

The primary focus of this online publication will be built upon the foundation of honesty, trust, and strong principles of journalistic integrity. Our mission will be to give our readers the answers to vital, often complex information they need to live safer and more enriched lives. This publication shall be non-partisan with consistent and objective reporting. We will not only report and inform our readers about political events, but we will seek out and provide insight into the not-so-apparent political issues, which help shape our lives. In essence our publication will be built on the cornerstone of service and trust to the taxpayers and citizens of Posey, Vanderburgh and Warrick Counties. While we strive to educate and inform, we shall serve as a community watchdog by sounding the alarm whenever our citizens' rights are in danger of being violated by our elected and appointed officials.

A Special Thanks

to our hardworking and dedicated City Council members Dan McGinn, Dr. Dan Adams, Wendy Bredhold, Connie Robinson, and Don Walker for challenging the administration on their choice to close neighborhood fire stations #10 and #14. Also a special thanks to Jim and Charlene Braker, members of the United Freedom Makers, for spearheading the effort to keep the fire stations open.



This ad paid for by Proud American Pat Pittman

OP-ED

Wishing you a Merry Christmas

By Jamie Grabert, Publisher

“Tis the season to be jolly, fa la la la...” you get the picture. This is the time of year most people truly enjoy. Mailbox both online and off fill with gifts and cards from family and friends. It’s normally a warm, fuzzy time of year.

Last week, the greetings were “Happy Thanksgiving.” By this time of the year, the greetings have quickly changed to “Merry Christmas.” But not anymore. Once again, tradition and freedom of speech give way to political correctness. When is enough going to be enough?

Am I wrong or was this country founded on solid Christian principles? Have people around the globe not said the words “Merry Christmas” for centuries? And yet, today, 2000 years later, our government is telling us that to we need to be more tolerant of other religions and beliefs and merely say the words “Happy Holidays.” Has anyone stopped to consider that maybe this is the reason this country and the world is in the shape it is today?

This whole situation astonishes me. We really have no one to blame but ourselves. Why? Because time and time again we have chosen to allow our rights to be cut short.

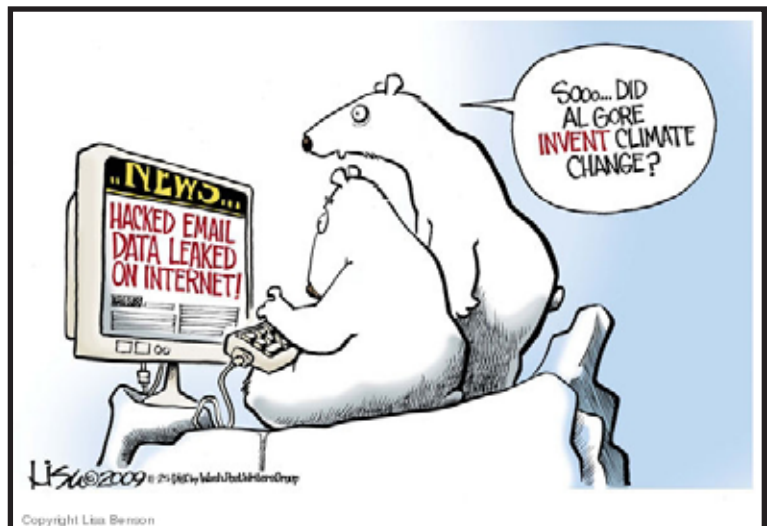
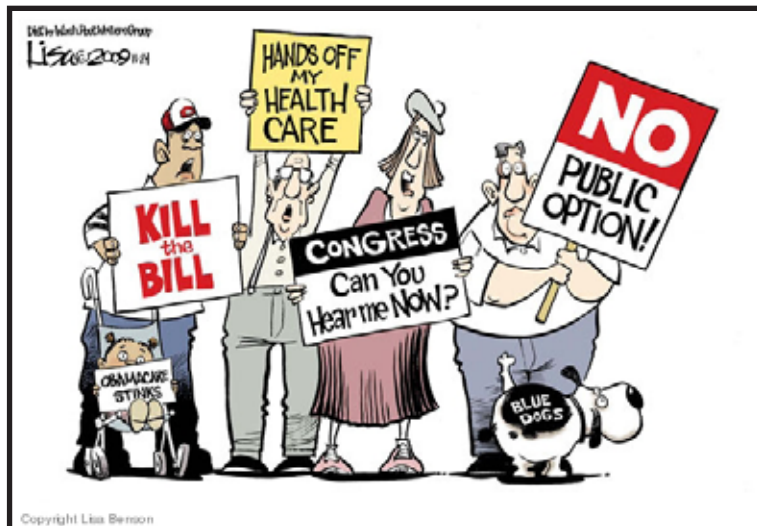
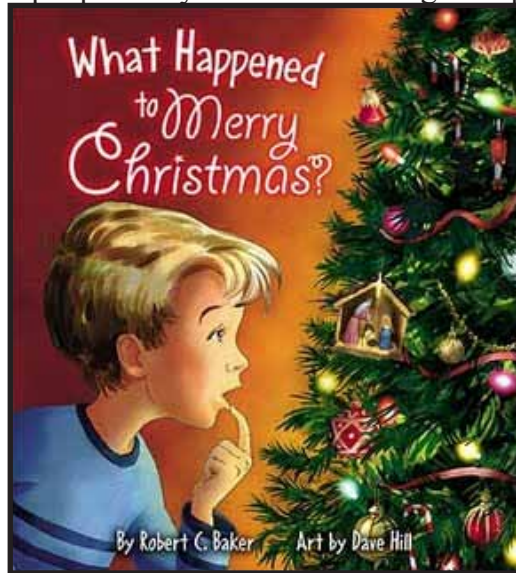
This year, with the lack of leadership shown locally and on a national scale, we have come to a point where we are no longer stepping on the toes of others, but we are allowing our own toes to be crushed.

Please don’t misunderstand this. I’m not telling you to deliberately go out and offend people. I don’t think that’s something any rational person would do, but I do believe that if we are going to be tolerant of other religions and beliefs, then our rights as Christians should be tolerated. Truthfully, it does not offend me in the least to hear Jewish people say “Happy Hanukkah” or Muslim people great each other for their holidays or African-Americans wish each other well on Kwanza.

We don’t all have the same beliefs.

That is something beautiful about this nation. We can all live harmoniously and believe what each of us chooses to believe. The Constitution of the United States affords us all the right to practice what we believe on an individual basis.

In an effort to see if I was alone in my beliefs, I posted a message on FaceBook. It turns out I’m not the only person who is angry about this. I’ve been receiving messages via FaceBook and email in support of my state-



OP-ED

Merry Christmas...from page 6

ment. People are wishing me a “Merry Christmas” and telling me they don’t care if it offends anyone. People are rising up and taking a stand.

The people have been vocal this year on a local and national scale. Marches and Tea Parties have been organized. Petitions have circulated the nation. Demonstrations are held at federal office buildings. These are all great ways to preserve the First Amendment by using it. But we must also remember that Freedom of Religion must be handled in the same manner.

On my morning commute, I listen to the radio. Typically, it’s Fox News or NPR. But this time of year, it’s Christmas music. This morning, as I was pulling into the parking lot, the song “Happy Holidays” came on the air. My skin crawled.

I began to think about the news regarding two simple words, “Merry Christmas.” I thought about how the

White House no longer refers to it as a Christmas Tree, it is now the “Holiday Tree.” The City of Evansville didn’t have a “Christmas Parade” this year, but the city did have a “Holiday Parade.” On school calendars, it doesn’t say “Christmas Break” anymore, but it does say “Holiday” or “Semester” break.

What are we becoming? Have we become so void of hope that we have forgotten the true meaning of Christmas? It’s the celebration of Christ that makes Christmas special. He is a sign of all things good and hopeful. The way this year has gone for most Americans isn’t hope needed now more than ever? When things are bad, isn’t that when people cling the tightest to their faith? Why then should we allow our rights and faith to be trampled?

Take stand. I dare you to say, “Merry Christmas.” The Staff of the City-County Observer wishes you an early Merry Christmas.

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EDITORIAL

IS IT TRUE?

Compiled by Moles Number 1 through 109...and counting

PUBLIC BIDS?

Is it true we are wondering why bids for jobs regarding the arena project are not being opened in public meetings as is typical with most government-run projects? Is it true sealed bids and bid bonds are supposed to remain that way until opened in a public meeting and the bids should then be read and made part of the minutes of said meeting? Is it true that the public has a right to hear or see what the bids are on such a project? Didn't the City of Evansville learn this during the trash can debacle?

ECONOMIC STIMULUS PACKAGE, EVANSVILLE-STYLE

Is it true we are wondering when local contractors and tradesman are going to get to show their skills so they can be proud of the work they did on the new arena? Is it true that yet another high-dollar contract went to an out of town firm this week? Is it true that Bloomington-based Weddel Brothers Construction received the contract for approximately \$3.8 million to complete the work on the foundation of the new arena?

WATER AND SEWER NEED LOBBYISTS?

Is it true that Harry Lawson recommended to the Evansville Water and Sewer Utility board to pay \$15,000 to Peck, Madigan, Jones, and Stewart Inc.? Is it true that as of December 1, the utility has paid them \$82,515.69? Is it true this is for federal lobbying assistance? Is it true we are wondering why the Water and Sewer Utility needed federal lobbying assistance?

YOUR KIDDING- A BASEMENT OFFICE

IS IT TRUE that the city of Evansville provides an office (approximate 10 by 10 with no windows) located in the basement of the CIVIC CENTER? IS IT TRUE that the person housed in this office has been on the city payroll for about one and a half year? IS IT TRUE his main responsibility of this INDY lawyer over the last year and half was to fend off the FEDERAL -EPA from suing the city over the non-compliance problem of dumping our waste water (treated

and un-treated) into the Ohio River?

IS IT TRUE the only way you can get to his basement office is by using the Freight Elevator? IS IT TRUE we think this was the same individual we saw on television (WNIN T V showing of City Council Meeting) defending not only the reasons for sewer rate increases but also answering questions about the new proposed trash can program? IS IT TRUE at that meeting

he was introduced as an Executive with the Water and Sewer Department and not a consultant housed in an office located in the basement of the CIVIC CENTER? IS IT TRUE this the only person who has an office located in the Civic Center basement? IS IT TRUE we wonder cannot find this attorney's salary and position listed in this year's city budget?

PROPERTY ANY ONE?

IS IT TRUE that we wonder if the Mayor and Fire Chief Jarboe have plans what to do with the soon to be vacant fire stations 10 and 14? IS IT TRUE we hope the administration will not let the building sit and deteriorate like old fire station #10 located across the street from present fire station # 10?

SARDINES

IS IT TRUE we wonder if the Mayor and Fire Chief Jarboe have come up with a plan how to house 30 fire fighters into a fire house built for 15 fire fighters? IS IT TRUE we suggest that the Mayor and Fire Chief Jarboe go to the local grocery store and purchase a can of sardines so they can get an idea how 30 fire fighters can be housed in a facility built for 15 people?

WHO'S IN CHARGE?

IS IT TRUE we wonder why Fire Chief Jarboe was adamantly in favor of the neighborhood concept when he was a City Council member? IS IT TRUE that than Councilmen Jarboe spearheaded the effort not to close our neighborhood



The Mole



EDITORIAL

MORE IS IT TRUE?

Compiled by Moles Number 1 through 109...and counting

swimming pools? IS IT TRUE that than City Councilmen Jarboe pushed the administration to build Multi-Million swimming pools in existing neighborhoods? IS IT TRUE that Mr. Jarboe was right by doing this because it was a quality of life issue for our neighborhoods? IS IT TRUE we now wonder why Chief Jarboe has change his views about protecting our neighborhoods by going along with the Mayors Flea Brain idea of closing two neighborhood fire stations? IS IT TRUE we get it, Jarboe works for the Mayor and is doing what he wants? IS IT TRUE the answer is YES?

“YUGO CLUB”

IS IT TRUE that the soon to be announced candidate for County Commission is looking at starting a political fundraising club called “THE YUGO CLUB”? IS IT TRUE you can become a member of this political fundraising club by donating little as \$1.00?

NEXT MAYOR?

IS IT TRUE 1st Ward Evansville City Councilmen Dan McGinn got it right by wanting to charge renters a fine for letting trash pile up in their yards? IS IT TRUE this kind of PRO Active stance in directly taking on our Urban Blight problems is one of many examples why people would like to see Mr. McGinn to run for Mayor of EVANSVILLE?

EVSC STIMULUS PACKAGE!

IS IT TRUE we are proud of the EVSC for their decision to award the overwhelming majority of the contracts for the new North High School to local builders and tradesmen? IS IT TRUE the answer is “yes”? IS IT TRUE Arena Czar John Kish should follow the lead of the EVSC and do similar in awarding future construction contracts for the new Downtown Arena to local builders and tradesmen?

OVERSIGHT?

IS IT TRUE that the Democrat Party

may have shown signs of division and internal conflict at the Holiday (Christmas) Parade recently? IS IT TRUE many local Democrat Office Holders were not asked to participate in the event? IS IT TRUE that County Commissioner Troy Tornatta and Evansville Second Ward City Councilwoman Missy Mosby organized not only the float theme but also the participants to ride on the float? IS IT TRUE we hope this wasn't intentional? IS IT TRUE we feel that Commissioner Tornatta and City Councilwoman Mosby need to apologize to the other officer holders who were not asked to take part in the event?

RIVER CITY COVER-UP

Is it true we have been flooded by phone calls regarding a new project downtown? Is it true our Moles are standing in line to make the public aware of more backdoor deals? Is it true we are waiting for one more reliable piece of information to break the story? Is it true these people were told specifically told not to speak with the City-County Observer? Is it true employees of a local department were told to bring all documents and correspondence to their supervisor to be shred? Is it true this could prove to be political tampering at its finest?



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EDITORIAL - GAVEL GAMUT

LINDA SUE GOES TO COURT

Woe is I; woe is U; woe is IU; we lost again. The curse must be lifted! We have until next September, but we must start now. Perhaps Indiana University football coach Bill Lynch has been made aware of my position on both the curse and the possible cures. Regardless, there are enough broken hearted and long suffering Hoosier fans that surely someone has brought the matter to the Coach's attention. Anyway, I believe I have done all I can do. The Furies must be appeased by higher authorities.

As to this week's column, my friend, Judge Neil Harris from Pascagoula, Mississippi, has forwarded the following letter from his friend, Billy Bob.

In the 'Cleave
Dear Mom

Last weekend Linda Sue had some legal trouble and had to go to our new Court in the 'Cleave. The County Commission rented a storage room at Mike's Kwick Stop where Linda Sue works and set up the new Court. It's on Friday nights and the Commission hired a TV Judge from Louisiana. He is called Judge "Jake from the Lake". He holds his Court here in the 'Cleave on Friday nights at 5:30. I had never been to his Court before so I went with her. Anyway.

Judge Jake "axs" all the questions. You can take a lawyer with you if you want. Linda Sue didn't have one though. Anyway.

Last Friday night when Linda Sue went the Judge only had three cases: theft of some collard greens from Mike's Kwick Stop, Linda Sue's cousin Bart McCardle filed a property line dispute about the new 57 highway against the State of Mississippi, and Linda Sue's "Too Fast Through a School Zone" ticket. The fellow who took the collard greens plead guilty and got a \$50.00 fine and 6 months in jail. The Judge let the jail time go. When the Judge called Bart's case the fancy lawyer from Jackson, Mississippi who represents the State of Mississippi said the TV Judge couldn't hear a case about highway 57 and Bart's claim. Cousin Bart said he wanted the highway moved about 300 feet to the East so it wouldn't mess up his laying hens. Judge Jake said the State had to move the High-

way and he told that fancy lawyer with pretty teeth, pretty socks, and shiny shoes from Jackson he better not come back to his Court and talk bad about the folks in the 'Cleave. The lawyer doesn't vote in this district anyway.

Then Judge "Jake from the Lake" got to Linda Sue's case. She stood up from the makeshift table in front of the Judge. She had on her best polyester stretch pants you gave her last Christmas and house shoes. She looked really nice. Judge Jake asked why she was speeding through the school zone. She said she didn't know you couldn't drive the speed limit on Sunday Morning. She told him she was headed to The Church of What's Happening Now to make sausage biscuits for the Men's Prayer Breakfast. He ask the policeman why he gave the ticket. The policeman looked at some papers he had and said it must have been a mistake because he was headed home from the night shift he works in Biloxi and had his days mixed up. The Judge dismissed Linda Sue's case.

On the way back to her house, Linda Sue said she was going to drive "all the speed limits from now on". I hope she does. I sure will. That's all that's happening here.

Love,
Billy Bob

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

New Federal Unemployment Extension Available

INDIANAPOLIS - Hoosiers who have previously exhausted their unemployment benefits and remain unemployed may file for the new federal unemployment extension beginning Monday. The federal government enacted the up to 20 week extension of benefits on November 6.

Any Hoosier who has previously exhausted either of the first two federal extensions of unemployment or state extended benefits and remains unemployed may be eligible to receive this new federal extension. Hoosiers currently collecting unemployment will be directed to this new extension automatically.

Hoosiers who have previously exhausted their unemployment can file for this extension as follows:

- Beginning Monday, November 23, 2009 - reopen unemployment claim through Uplink, Indiana's online benefits system
- Beginning Tuesday, November 24, 2009 - return to Uplink to complete two weekly vouchers, covering the time since the extension became law on November 6, 2009
- Beginning Wednesday, November 25, 2009 - deposits for eligible vouchers will be posted to individual debit cards
- Each subsequent week - file your weekly voucher online similar to other unemployment programs

Uplink and answers to "Frequently Asked Questions" about this extension can be accessed through www.in.gov/dwd. Hoosiers without internet access can also apply online through their local WorkOne Center.

The Department of Workforce Development estimates that

approximately 50,000 Hoosiers may qualify for this extension between now and the end of the year.

New Federal Extension Prompts Next-Day Payment Guarantee of 5:00 p.m.

Due to the increased number of claims generated by this federal extension, next-day deposits on eligible claims without unresolved issues can no longer be guaranteed by 10:00 a.m. Deposits are now guaranteed by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time the next business day.

"DWD hopes this change of a few hours does not cause any hardship for our claimants, but this extension is arriving at Indiana's peak period of unemployment filings due to traditional holiday factory shutdowns and the end of seasonal construction," said Marc Lotter, Communications Director at the Indiana Department of Workforce Development.

Claimants can sign up to receive a free phone or e-mail notification once their weekly deposit has been posted to their account. Claimants can sign up for notification by calling 888-393-5866 or visiting <http://www.eppicard.com/>.

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WEEKLY HAPPENINGS

EVERY MONDAY

Monday Night Football on 4 TVs
Jay Johnson, 8pm
\$1.50 Domestic Long Necks
\$2 Wells & \$3 Jager Bombs

EVERY TUESDAY

College Karaoke with The Experience
\$2.50 Bacardi & Bacardi Flavors
\$1 Domestic Drafts
\$4 Domestic Pitchers
\$2.75 Jim Beam & \$3 Rumple Mintz

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Karaoke with The Experience
Hosted by BK
\$3 Jack Daniels, \$3 Captain Morgan
\$3 Jager Bombs

EVERY THURSDAY

College Night w/ John Hussman, 8pm
\$4 Busch Light Pitchers
\$2.50 Long Island Ice Teas
\$2.00 Blue Moon 16 oz. Draft

EVERY FRIDAY

\$3.50 Jager Bombs
\$3 Select Martinis & \$3 Goldschlager
\$5 Domestic Pitchers

EVERY SATURDAY

\$3 Select Martinis
\$3 Select Bottle Beer (Bass, Corona, Guinness, Heineken, Land Shark, Newcastle, Sam Adams, Shock Top, Stella Artois and Fat Tire)
\$2 Canadian Mist



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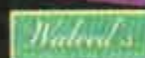
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LOCAL POLITICS

**VAN HAAFTEN BRINGING
STATEHOUSE OFFICE TO DISTRICT
DEC. 10, 11**



INDIANAPOLIS

- In preparation for the 2010 session of the Indiana General Assembly, State Rep. Trent Van Haaften (D-Mount Vernon) will be bringing his Statehouse office to the 76th House District on December 10 and 11.

“Early indications are that next year’s

session of the Legislature will be dealing with a number of issues that have generated attention across Indiana, including efforts to place the 1-2-3 property tax caps in the state Constitution, programs to jump-start our economy and get Hoosiers back to work, and ethics reforms,” Van Haaften said.

“I want to give the people who live and work in the 76th District every chance to make their feelings known about these issues, so I have decided to conduct office hours at several locations around the district for a couple of days in December,” he continued.

Joining the legislator for his appearances will be his legislative assistant, Ashley Johnson.

“Whenever people contact me at the Statehouse, Ashley is usually the first person they get a chance to speak to,” Van Haaften said. “She is the person who helps me answer their questions and cut through government red tape, and I want my constituents to

see the face of the person who helps me help them.

“If you have a problem with a government agency, or if you simply want to register your opinions about anything being faced at the Statehouse, then I encourage you to join me on December 10 and 11 when we travel the district,” the legislator concluded.

Here is the schedule for Van Haaften's office hours:

DECEMBER 10

1:30 to 3 p.m.: POSEYVILLE - Poseyville Community Center, 60 North Church Street.

4:30 to 6:30 p.m.: MOUNT VERNON - Alexandrian
Public Library, Meeting Room A, 115 West Fifth Street.

DECEMBER 11

10 a.m. to 1 p.m.: EVANSVILLE - Evansville Vanderburgh Public Libraries, Red Bank Branch, 120 South Red Bank Road.



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EDUCATION

Advocacy forum launches Center for Social Justice

An educational public advocacy forum will be offered in December by the Center for Social Justice (CSJ) at the University of Southern Indiana. The forum is the first public event planned by the center, formed this year to foster advocacy for social justice and empowerment through education, research, and collaboration.

The Center for Social Justice is planning a series of public advocacy discussions on how to move beyond volunteerism and affect policy change at the legislative level.

The inaugural event will feature Indiana state representatives and a state senator discussing public advocacy and legislation at 10 a.m. on Thursday, December 10 in Mitchell Auditorium in the Health Professions Center. Panelists will be state representatives Dennis Avery, Trent Van Haaften, Suzanne Crouch, and Gail Riecken and State Senator Vane-

ta Becker. USI student Kenton McDonald will be the moderator. The forum is open to USI students, faculty, and staff.

The center is dedicated to advancing individual and societal well-being through awareness of inequities in societies. It supports university faculty, students, and staff in engaging in collaborative, community-based research and projects to advance social justice.

The center has established partnerships with for-profit and not-for-profit entities such as the Vanderburgh Community Foundation, Youth Build, Posey County Community Corrections, Vanderburgh County Drug Court, and Wal-Mart.

Dr. Iris Phillips, USI associate professor of social work, is the center's director. She said, "Social justice issues are complex and require committed, diverse partnerships to promote social and economic justice. Social workers have

an ethical responsibility to address inequities in our communities and throughout the world. In order to face our responsibilities, we need extended networks and partnerships to advocate for equal rights for all. The public advocacy forums will highlight strategies to achieve that goal."

The center invited Wal-Mart, and the company agreed, to donate baby items and supplies for those in need. USI students in social work will deliver the Wal-Mart items to the YWCA, House of Bread and Peace, and ARK Crisis Shelter on December 10.

"We hope to facilitate many such partnerships and activities as the Center for Social Justice develops community connections and support," said Phillips.

The center is located in the Department of Social Work in the Bower Suhrheinrich College of Education and Human Services at USI. For information, contact Johnna Denning, program coordinator for the Center for Social Justice, at 812-461-5411 or visit the web site at <http://www.usi.edu/socialwork/csj/>.

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EDUCATION

USI and United Way raise over \$37,000 in 2009 fundraising campaign

The University of Southern Indiana and the United Way of Southwestern Indiana would like to thank USI employees for their contribution to the 2009 USI United Way Campaign. These contributions helped raise over \$37,000 for the Southwestern Indiana community, compared to \$28,000 in 2008 and \$32,000 in 2007. Such a considerable increase in giving demonstrates the powerful impact USI can have on the surrounding region.

The 2009 USI United Way Campaign ran from October 26 to November 4, and during this time USI employees donated their money and time to make the campaign a success. Financial contributions went to 70 local programs in 33 agencies that work to meet critical needs of individuals and families in Vanderburgh, Spencer, and Warrick counties.

As part of the campaign, local vendors donated a variety of prizes for winning contributors. The United Way would like to thank Coldstone Creamery, Fazoli's, First Avenue Car Wash, Grease Monkey, Hilltop Inn, Holiday World, Lic's Deli & Ice Cream, McDonalds, New Harmony Theatre, ProMark, Simon/

Eastland Mall, SouthWest Graphics, The Loft, USI, USI Athletics, the USI Bookstore, the USI Theatre, and Walther's Golf & Fun for their donations. Winners of the prizes were Rachel Acker, Susan Ahmad, Yvonne Beavin, Vicki Bierley, Jennifer Briggs, Virginia Bryant, Tim Buecher, Denise Bulger, Debbie Butler, Keith Carter, Thuy DaoJensen, Deanna Engler, Linda Evinger, Patricia Flake, Peggy Harrel, Ronnie Jessie, Andrew Jones, Jean Kuebler, Charmaine McDowell, Jane Meyer, Melissa Miller, Rebecca Miller, Jimmy Prior, J. Wayne Rinks, Susan Ruholl, Diana Rumsey, Kim Schauss, Deborah Schmuck, Suzanne Schroeder, Jeff Seyler, Marlene Shaw, Mary Swartz, Curtis Truitt, Shirley Webster, and Katherine Weinzapfel.

In these tough economic times, more of our friends, relatives, neighbors, and coworkers than ever are reaching out for support from the United Way and its member agencies. Because of the generosity of the USI community, the United Way can continue to assist people in need throughout Southwestern Indiana. Together, USI and the United Way have made a difference.



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COLLEGE EDUCATION

Rochon Named Provost at USI

President Linda L. M. Bennett today announced the appointment of Dr. Ronald S. Rochon as provost and vice president for Academic Affairs at the University of Southern Indiana. He will assume official duties July 1, 2010.

As part of the announcement, President Bennett said, “Dr. Rochon is enthusiastic, energetic, and brings a tremendous level of excitement to the position of provost. He is known nationally and internationally for his work in the area of education and education policy issues. His record of leadership in higher education and his accomplishments in outreach and engagement make him a perfect fit for the University of Southern Indiana.”

Rochon will provide administrative leadership and oversight for all academic and operational components of the University, and serve as the chief executive officer in the absence of the president. His office will guide planning

and implementation of a learning environment that promotes a comprehensive, critical skills-focused student experience and prepares USI students to be active and involved citizens in their communities.

He brings 14 years of experience to the position, including service as associate vice president for Teacher Education and dean of the School of Education at Buffalo State College, and director and co-founder of



Dr. Ronald S. Rochon

the Research Center for Cultural Diversity and Community Renewal at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. He also held the position of director of Master of Education-Professional Development Program and interim director of the School of Education and associate dean of the College of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Teacher Education during his tenure at the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse. Several roles he held simultaneously.

In addition to his current positions, Rochon is currently on the Executive Board of the American Association of Colleges of Teacher Education (AACTE), and is the chair-elect for 2010.

He earned his undergraduate degree at Tuskegee University. His graduate degrees are from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. His doctoral work was in educational policy studies, with an emphasis on educational history and policy analysis. His teaching career has included work at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Texas A & M University, Washington State University, and University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse.

He has garnered distinction for teaching, dedication to students, and community work. He is the recipient of the Ronald McNair Scholarship, a 2009 mentor award. He was the 2009 Black History Month “Change Maker” award recipient and received the distinguished alumni award from the College of Education at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2007.



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3.42 GPA Produces NSCAA Award For Women

For the third consecutive year, and for the fifth time in the past seven years, the University of Evansville women's soccer team has earned the NSCAA/adidas College Team Academic Award. The honor goes to programs that have compiled team grade point averages of 3.0 or better in the most recent grading period. UE far exceeded the requirement, with a 3.42 team GPA.

"Our girls understand that they are here for school and soccer, so it's always nice to see them being successful in the classroom as well as on the field," said Head Coach Krista McKendree. "We stress to them that when they are done playing here, most of them will move on to jobs or graduate school rather than continuing to play soccer. The school is very accommodating with getting our athletes whatever help they need to be successful in the classroom, and I think that is apparent with how well our team does. At the end of

the day, the responsibility still falls on our girls to put the work in; this is one of their rewards and a testament to the quality of individuals we have in our program."

UE placed two seniors on the 2009 Missouri Valley Conference Women's Soccer Scholar-Athlete Team: Kellee Widener and Kasey Kutzler.



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TIRE & SERVICE

Aces Win Double-OT Thriller 91-90

COOKEVILLE, Tenn. -- Even when it was over, it wasn't over. But two overtimes and 91 points later, the University of Evansville finally defeated Tennessee Tech 91-90 Tuesday night.

The game came down to the final seconds of the second overtime, and it was freshman Colt Ryan who scored the game-winner, a 12-footer with five seconds remaining that gave Evansville a 91-90 lead. But it wasn't over yet. Zach Bailey tipped in a shot for Tennessee Tech moments after the clock went to 0:00. Five minutes later, after all three officials had peered at the video replay, Evansville was eventually declared the winner. The Aces are now 3-2 going into Friday's home game against Alabama State.

Evansville trailed by 15 points twice in the first half, but after Tennessee Tech built a 26-11 lead midway through the period, baskets by Ryan, Clint Hopf and Bryan Bouchie began a comeback that eventually brought the Aces to within one at halftime, 33-32. UE's first lead of the night came in the first minute of the second half on Ryan's runner off the glass, and the Aces upped the lead to six on Bouchie's hook shot to make it 56-50 with just under 10 minutes to play. Right back came the Golden Eagles, who led by as many as six in the final three minutes of regulation thanks to the three-point shooting of Frank Davis, who buried four in the second half.

With Evansville still down by four in the final minute of



Ned Cox scored a game-high 22 Tuesday in the Aces' double-OT win at Tennessee Tech.

regulation, Kavon Lacey hit a 10-footer to make it 72-70, and after a Tech free throw, Ryan made his first three-pointer of the game with 13 seconds remaining to tie the game at 73 and send it into overtime after the Eagles missed in the final seconds.

Evansville trailed through most of the first overtime before Ned Cox made a three-point play with 35 seconds remaining to send it into overtime number two at 81-81.

Bailey's layup in the final 13 seconds of the back and forth second OT put the Eagles up 90-89, leading to Ryan's game-winner in the final five seconds.

"This was all about the effort of our players," said UE Coach Marty Simmons. "They didn't play well early, but to come back from 15 points down on the road shows the kind of determination they had. It was nice to see a happy locker room after a road game."

Cox, who had scored only four points total in his last three games, went 4-for-6 from three-point range and led all scorers with 22. Ryan added 19, James Haarsma scored 17 and grabbed 10 rebounds, and Bouchie added 16 points.

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SPORTS

USI Volleyball inks three for 2010

EVANSVILLE, Ind.—The University of Southern Indiana volleyball team announced that 6'0" middle blocker Emily Diedrich, 5'10" outside hitter Kristy Gerardot, and 5'7" freshman defensive specialist Kayla Heldman signed national letters of intent during the early signing period to compete for Head Coach Leah Mercer's Screaming Eagles in 2010.

Diedrich is currently a senior at Castle High School (Newburgh, Indiana) where she was a member of four sectional championships. Diedrich, who earned All-Conference honors three times and All-Metro honors once, was selected to the Indiana South All-Star team this past fall.

An all-around student-athlete at Castle, Diedrich earned All-Conference and All-State honors on the track and competes in basketball as well.

"Emily played a significant part on the Hoosierland Volleyball Club top 18's team last year," Mercer said. "It has been exciting to watch her mature into a successful student-athlete during the last three club seasons."

Diedrich led her club team to a regional championship in 2008 and helped them qualify for Junior Olympic Nationals in 2007 and 2008. "Emily has played with and competed against some of the nation's top talent," Mercer said. "She is the type of student-athlete we need to take us to the next level. I expect her to make an immediate impact on our program."

Gerardot is currently a senior at Bishop Luers High School (Ft. Wayne, Indiana) where she earned three All-Conference honors as well as two All-Area accolades on the volleyball court.

Like Diedrich, Gerardot has been recognized for her athletic ability in multiple

sports. In addition to volleyball, Gerardot competes in basketball and softball. She is a two-time All-Conference honoree on the softball field and helped BLHS to sectional championships in volleyball, basketball, and softball.

"I had the privilege to coach Kristy at our camp this past summer," Mercer said. "She had the opportunity to get in the gym with our team and she really caught my eye."

"Kristy had a great run with her high school program this year winning sectionals and has been a huge part of the N3 Volleyball Club success last summer as they placed seventh at Junior Olympic Nationals," Mercer continued. "I look for her offensive and defensive abilities to play a big part on our team next year."

Heldman is currently a senior at Center Grove High School (Greenwood, Indiana) where she has earned varsity letters in volleyball and basketball. A first-team Academic All-State performer in 2009, Heldman helped lead CGHS to four Johnson County Championships, three sectional championships, and the 2009 regional title.

"I also got to work closely with Kayla at our summer camp and I see her only improving as a defensive threat in the conference," Mercer said. "Defense and ball control will take our team to the next level and Kayla is one of the best defensive players I have seen in a long time."

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SPORTS

Women's hoops open GLVC play Thursday

EVANSVILLE, Ind.—The University of Southern Indiana women's basketball team opens GLVC play Thursday at 5:15 p.m. when it hosts long-time rival and East Division foe Bellarmine University at the Physical Activities Center. USI also hosts No. 20 Northern Kentucky University Saturday at 1 p.m.

Fans can listen to the games on WPSR 90.7 FM and via the internet at www.820theedge.com. The games also will be televised live on the internet through B2 Networks. Audio, video, and live stats can be accessed by going to www.gousieagles.com.

USI (7-2, 0-0) has won six straight games heading into its conference-opening clash with Bellarmine. Junior guard Ellen Young and senior guard/forward Abby Williams have led the Screaming Eagles during their winning streak with 14.0 and 12.0 points per game, respectively.

Williams, who has averaged 14.3 points and 6.5 rebounds in USI's last four games, was named to the Bellarmine Thanksgiving Classic "All-Classic" team after leading the Eagles with 16.5 points and 6.5 rebounds during the two-game stretch.

Junior guard Amie Newhart, who joined Williams on the "All-Classic" team, chipped in 15.0 points and 5.0 rebounds per game as the Eagles posted a 76-61 win over the University of Saint Francis (Indiana) and a 91-83 victory over Midwest Region foe Hillsdale College.

For the season, Newhart leads the Eagles with 13.0 points per contest, while Young is chipping in 12.8 points per appearance. Williams, who is second on the team with 5.2 rebounds per outing,

has seen her season average jump up to 8.8 points per appearance, good enough for fourth on the squad.

USI is looking to snap an eight-game losing streak to Bellarmine, which leads the all-time series 38-16 after defeating USI 77-58 last year in Louisville, Kentucky. This marks the first of two games this season between USI and Bellarmine.

The Knights (4-0), who have won 13 of the 17 meetings between the two teams since 2000, are coming off an 86-68 win over Saint Francis. They also defeated Hillsdale, 79-77, this past Saturday.

Senior forward Brittany Edelen, a transfer from the University of Kentucky and cousin to USI senior forward Anaris Sickles, leads the Knights with 15.8 points and is second on the squad with 8.3 rebounds per contest. Sophomore guard Allison Matheis is contributing 14.0 points per game.

USI also trails the all-time season series to Northern Kentucky, 34-17, after suffering a 62-48 setback at the PAC to the then top-ranked Norse last season.

The Norse (3-1), who visit No. 8 University of Indianapolis Thursday evening, are coming off a tough 62-57 setback to Wayne State University last Saturday. Sophomore guard Casse Mogan leads the Norse with 15.8 points and 7.8 rebounds per game.

Saturday's contest also is the first of two meetings between USI and Northern Kentucky, which is 12-6 against the Eagles since 2000.

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— THE CITY-COUNTY OBSERVER —

COMMUNITY

Radio series on local WWII veterans to debut

The World War II radio series *Heroes of the Tri-State: Stories of Area Men That Served In the War* will debut at noon on Saturday, December 5 on WSWI and <http://www.820theedge.com/>. The first episode can be heard again at 6 p.m. on Monday, December 7, on WPSR 90.7 FM.

The series was produced by John Morris, communications instructor and general manager of WSWI. Each episode will feature a World War II radio drama intertwined with a recorded interview of a local World War II veteran.

The interviews were conducted by WNIN-TV for their program on local veterans, and the radio dramas were made by faculty and students in USI's communications and theatre departments. Morris decided to merge the two in an effort to educate others about the "greatest generation," and share their stories. As an instructor of college students," Morris said, "I just can't separate how many of the soldiers were the age my students are

now. That somehow makes it more personal. World War II soldiers were put in unbelievable circumstances. They saw things that no one should have to see. I want their stories told. They really are heroes to me."

The first episode will feature Evansville native and Bosse High School graduate Benjamin "Eddie" Newman, who fought in the Battle of Saipan, where 3,000 American soldiers lost their lives. Other local veterans in the series will be Guy Stephens, who was involved in the Battle of the Bulge and became a POW; Frank Moll, who served as a tailgunner on a B-17; P.G. Williams, who was part of a group that helped liberate Jewish slave laborers; and Chris Nix, who was in Japan at the end of the war and served as a guard outside of General McArthur's home.

Heroes of the Tri-State: Stories of Area Men That Served In the War will air at 6 p.m. the first Monday of each month, December 2009 through April 2010 on WPSR 90.7 FM.

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— THE CITY-COUNTY OBSERVER —

COMMUNITY



As the holiday season begins to draw near, you can be sure that your local Marine Corps Reservists are gearing up for their annual Toys for Tots campaign. Since 1947, Marines have been making Christmas wishes come true for needy children.

Toys for Tots in Evansville, makes a difference in the lives of the less fortunate children of our community. Last year approximately 3,000 children in the Evansville area received toys through Toys for Tots. As you know the economy is at its all time worst, this year we expect the need to be greater than ever, and we are asking you to help.

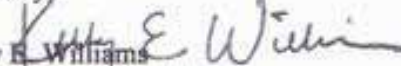
The Marines work very hard to make Toys for Tots a success, but we could never do it without the help of concerned citizens and business leaders. We rely on local businesses for assistance in a number of areas, including:

- Providing toy collection sites;
- Assisting in the transportation and storage of toys;
- Helping to promote Toys for Tots in the media;
- Underwriting special events;
- Providing a product or service suitable for raffling (donate a toy to enter);
- Assisting with such critical services as printing;
- Provide Cross Merchandising Materials
- And providing cash donations to purchase new toys.

For the many volunteers who make Toys for Tots possible year after year, Toys for Tots embodies the true spirit of Christmas. The gift of a shiny new toy – something that most children take for granted – means to a needy child that someone cares, that he/she hasn't been forgotten, that Christmas hasn't passed him/her by.

The Marine Corps Reserve believes that "Every Child deserves a Little Christmas," and we are asking you to help us, with a monetary donation. Your cash donation will help us to purchase toys and send the needy children of our community a message of hope this Christmas through the gift of a new toy. We will be happy to meet with you to discuss the Toys for Tots Program in greater detail.

Sincerely,


Kelly E. Williams
Toys for Tots Coordinator
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Two new funds join Posey County Community Foundation's "family of funds"

Posey County, Indiana – Bill Gillenwater, board president of the Posey County Community Foundation, announced today that the Foundation has welcomed two new funds: the Posey County Soil and Water Conservation District Fund and the Ella and Stanley Maynor Memorial Fund.

The purpose of the Posey County Soil and Water Conservation District Fund is to support the conservation and educational endeavors of the Posey County Soil and Water Conservation District. According Jim Droege, Chairman of the Posey County Soil and Water Conservation District, these past few years have been difficult for our natural resources in Posey County. "The rain events from last year along with the recent high rain fall should serve as a wake-up call regarding the tremendous amount of conservation work that remains to be done," said Droege. "One of the primary goals of the Posey County Soil and Water Conservation District is to ensure that future generations will be educated about the importance of soil and water to our quality of life and survival"

The Ella and Stanley Maynor Memorial Fund was established with a gift from the estate of Ella Evelyn Maynor. Mrs. Maynor did not place any restrictions on her gift to the Foundation, entrusting its board of trustees to determine how it could best serve

Posey County. The board chose to establish the Ella and Stanley Maynor Memorial Fund, an endowment named for Mrs. Maynor and her son that will allow the Foundation to address the community's changing needs and respond to evolving opportunities. "We are so grateful for Mrs. Maynor and her passion for giving back, and we are pleased to be the vehicle through which her philanthropic wishes will continue to be fulfilled," said Gillenwater. "Naming the community foundation as beneficiary in a will is an ideal way to leave a legacy that will touch lives in Posey County forever. We only wish we'd known in advance of Mrs. Maynor's intentions so that we could have thanked her properly during her life."

The Posey County Community Foundation now administers 75 charitable funds established by individuals, families, businesses, civic groups, and agencies to improve the quality of life in Posey County. Founded in 1992, the Foundation is a charitable organization formed to strengthen our community by awarding grants to local nonprofits, by bringing individuals together to address community needs, and by offering personalized charitable gift planning services to our donors. Contact Julie Eickhoff at 812.838.0288 or visit www.poseycommunityfoundation.org to learn more.



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INCOME TAX MANAGEMENT FOR FARMERS IN 2009

Indiana farmers and others with an interest in agriculture will have an opportunity to learn about recent tax law changes and tax planning options on Thursday, December 10, 2009 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. CST. Purdue University Extension will present a discussion of year-end tax planning and management implications of recent tax law changes.

The program, conducted using Adobe Connect will be available at the Vanderburgh County Extension Office in Darmstadt. Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions by computer or e-mail. There is no charge for the program and handout materials will be available. Individuals with high-speed internet connection can view the program by going to <https://gomeet.itap.purdue.edu/tax/>. If you have any questions about the program or would like more information, contact Jon Neufelder at the Purdue Extension office at: 838-1331. Please contact the office if you plan to attend, so that we can be sure and have enough handouts available for participants.

“Many Indiana farmers have surprises with respect to their taxable incomes in 2009. Some farmers sold crops for high prices, while other producers did not do as well.” notes George Patrick, Purdue University Extension Economist. Because most Indiana producers report income and expenses on a cash basis, taxable income can vary widely from year-to-year. Farmers should review their receipts and expenses no later than early December. “I’ve got some producers who sold both their 2008 and 2009 crops in the 2009 tax year and they will need to prepay some expenses for 2010.” indicates David Frette, a CPA with a large farm clientele from Washington, IN. “I like my farmers to think about tax planning over several years rather than just minimizing taxes in one year.” Frette indicates.

Some producers may be facing a net operating loss in 2009 and will need to plan to take advantage of their situation. Although farmers have a number of options for managing their taxable income, many require actions before the end of the year. “Even if you use a tax professional to complete your tax return, you need to be aware of the tax management options and know when to ask questions.” reminds Patrick.

Patrick and Frette will review recent tax changes which

affect most individuals. They will also review basic depreciation options, explain the 50-percent additional first-year depreciation, expanded Section 179 expensing, and new 5-year recovery period for new farm machinery. Examples will illustrate the depreciation management alternatives available for producers for 2009. Procedures to allow the deferral of income from commodity sales in 2009 to the 2010 tax year will be explained.

Procedures to be followed to be able to prepay 2010 input purchases and to be able to deduct these expenses in 2009 will be reviewed. How to avoid net operating losses and making effective use of the loss will be discussed. Other tax related topics affecting farmers and their managerial implications will be discussed.

“Many of the provisions of the tax law interact and these interactions make tax planning more complicated.” indicates Frette. “Many of the current tax provisions are effective only for limited periods and long-run income tax planning is especially difficult given the uncertainty with respect to future tax law.” explains Patrick.

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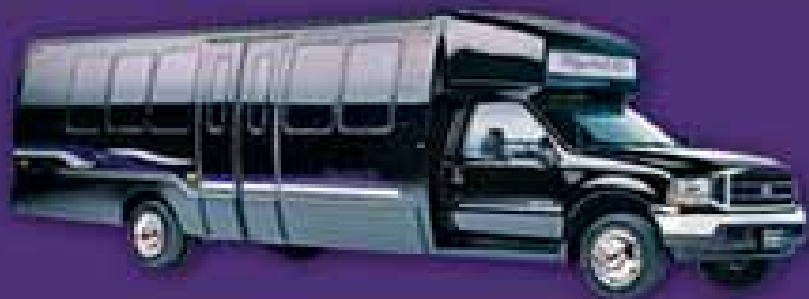



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New Harmony Theatre 2010 season tickets, gift certificates on sale

New Harmony Theatre, the Tri-state's only professional Equity theatre, announces its 2010 season, including summer productions at Murphy Auditorium in New Harmony and bonus spring Repertory Project productions on the University of Southern Indiana campus. Season tickets and gift certificates are on sale now.

The summer season opens on June 11, 2010, with *The School for Scandal*, a comedy by Richard Brinsley Sheridan. In the lusty, back-biting world of 18th century London, Lady Sneerwell and Joseph Surface scheme to break up two lovers they want for their own. In the tradition of NHT's 2007 production of *The Importance of Being Earnest*, this scintillating, saucy comedy of manners combines uproarious satire with real heart and the triumph of true love. It runs through June 27.

The season continues with *The Glass Menagerie*. Lenny Leibowitz, New Harmony Theatre's artistic director, describes Tennessee Williams' most lyrical, personal play as "luminous, poetic, haunting, and full of yearning." The beautifully-drawn characters and powerful dialogue make this one of the most memorable, beloved dramas of all time. It runs July 9 -25 at New Harmony's Murphy Auditorium.

The summer season concludes with *Finian's Rainbow*. The current revival of this forties-era musical now running on Broadway has won critical acclaim. The New York Times said *Finian's Rainbow* has "infectious songs, exuberant dancing, jokes both lovably corny and unexpectedly fresh, and of course the satisfying pairing of a him and a her...the score...is by turns yearning and bouncy, mocking and sincere, soft as a rose petal and clever as a crossword." Finian and his daughter Sharon arrive in the fictional state of Missitucky, pursued by a leprechaun whose pot of gold Finian has stolen. According to Variety, "High spirits, extravagant comedy, political satire, and irrepressible, twinkle-eyed wit" ensue. *Finian's Rainbow* runs July 30- August 15 in New Harmony.

In addition to the summer season at Murphy Auditorium, New Harmony Theatre joins with University of Southern Indiana Theatre to offer The Repertory Project, featuring two classic plays in rotating repertory at the Mallette Studio Theatre on the campus of University of Southern Indiana. The third Repertory Project season features two masterpieces of 19th century dramatic literature: *A Doll's House* by Henrik Ibsen, and *Arms and the Man* by George Bernard Shaw. With its frank and controversial portrait of middle-class marriage, *A Doll's House* caused a scandal at its opening in 1879. The play is set at Christmastime, and Nora is happily engaged in holiday preparations for her family. But she has been keeping a terrible secret from her husband, and the arrival of a stranger on Christmas Eve threatens to ruin her apparent domestic bliss. In *Arms and the Man*, Shaw's comic take on love and war, Raina, the beautiful and wealthy heroine, finds herself in a love triangle with a war-weary Swiss mercenary and the self-absorbed Bulgarian

calvary officer to whom she is engaged. The comedy is full of Shaw's usual razor-sharp wit, and is as popular and relevant today as when it was first produced in 1894. The two plays run from March 18 to April 4, 2010.

All plays in the summer mainstage season are performed at Murphy Auditorium at 419 Tavern Street in New Harmony. Show times are on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Subscriptions for the summer mainstage productions are on sale now. Subscriptions are \$55 for adults and \$50 for seniors (60 and over). New Harmony Theatre subscribers can add on The Repertory Project productions for an additional \$25. Gift certificates are available for delivery before the holidays!

For more information about New Harmony Theatre's 2010 season or to purchase tickets, contact the box office at 812/682-3115 or toll free at 1-877-NHT-SHOW (648-7469).



Indiana's Historic Pathways designated to America's Byways collection

The United States Department of Transportation has designated Indiana's Historic Pathways to America's Byways collection. Created in 1991, the National Scenic Byways program is a collaborative effort to help recognize, preserve, and enhance selected roads throughout the United States. It has funded 2,672 projects for state and nationally designated byway routes in 50 states, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia.

Indiana's Historic Pathway is a Y-shaped route that stretches 250 miles across the southern half of Indiana, along U.S. 50/U.S. 150 from Vincennes to the town of Shoals. At that point, it forks and continues along U.S. 50 to Lawrenceburg and along U.S. 150 to the Falls of the Ohio. The byway tells the story of early settlement, westward migration, and transportation in Indiana. It was designated a state scenic byway in 2004.

Historic Southern Indiana, a regional outreach program of the University of Southern Indiana, provides administrative support for Indiana's Historic Pathways and wrote the national nomination application. "The designation is the culmination of hard work by a group of dedicated vol-

unteers over the years," said Leslie Townsend, director of Historic Southern Indiana. "Indiana's Historic Pathways is truly a grassroots organization and many exciting things are planned for the byway in the future including a web site, brochure, signage featuring the byway logo, and teacher workshops."

The U.S. Department of Transportation recognizes certain roads as All-American Roads or National Scenic Byways based on archeological, cultural, historic, natural, recreational, and scenic qualities.

Historic Southern Indiana was created in 1986 to serve the southernmost 26 counties of Indiana. Its goals are to identify, preserve, protect, enhance, and promote the historical, natural, and recreational resources of the region. It seeks to implement those goals through programs in historic preservation, history education, heritage tourism, community development, and scenic byways. Its office is a part of Extended Services.

For more information, contact Townsend at 812/465-7014.

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Office	3,000	2,500	Retail	3,000	1,876	Warehouse	5,700	2,375
Office	7,200	6,000	Retail	12,000	3,500	Warehouse	12,000	3,000

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— THE CITY-COUNTY OBSERVER —

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Arena Project Committee to meet Thursday to see proposed interior design



EVANSVILLE – Kathy Kleindorfer, Chair of the Evansville Arena Project Committee, announced today that the Committee will meet Thursday, Dec. 3, at 5:30 p.m. in the Locust Rooms of The Centre.

Representatives of architecture firms Populous, VPS Architecture and Hafer Associates will present plans for interior design of the arena.

The Committee also will hear an update from Project Director John J. Kish and consider the formation of subcommittees with responsibility for specific aspects of the project.

The Evansville Arena Project Committee was appointed by Mayor Jonathan Weinzapfel to review the arena project and help keep the public informed about its progress.

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