

THE CITY-COUNTY OBSERVER

An Online Community Newspaper Dedicated To Serving
The Citizens of Posey, Vanderburgh , and Warrick Counties

JANUARY 28, 2010

VOLUME III, ISSUE 02

Introducing Libby Calhoun, Esq.

This is the story about Libby. She was born on a farm in Southern Indiana. Tall, blond and flamboyant, she was the youngest of 7 kids and quite the fireball. She had big dreams and even bigger ambition. She had 2 best friends, Jane and Maurice. After high school graduation, she set her green eyes ahead to the future and picked her course. She wanted to blast out of Southern Indiana like a rocket leaving nothing behind but a vapor trail to remember her by.

Libby went to Indiana University. Jane went abroad looking for adventure. The war came and Maurice got drafted. Libby continued her education and pursued advanced degrees in government and law at Harvard. The three friends parted ways for a time.

Libby had a thousand watt smile and mile long legs. She took those looks and the brains behind them all the way to New York City. She became a Broadway dancer and high-kicked her way into many hearts.

No one knew Libby had a secret and lived a double life. By all outward appearances, she was a ditzy showgirl. No one knew she was a CIA operative, highly-trained in counterintelligence and an expert marksman. She spoke French, Italian, Spanish, German, Russian Mandarin and Swahili fluently. She extracted intelligence, using any means necessary. She was one of the government's most lethal weapons, smart and shrewd but ditzy and pedestrian. She loved caviar, champagne, and fur coats but also NASCAR, beer and county fairs. She

was one of a kind.

After ten years of traveling all over the world as a double agent, Libby met an old oil man from Chicago who convinced her to settle down with him in his hometown. There was a 25-year age difference between them, but it didn't matter in the beginning. They were two kids in love. Just after their first year of marriage, the unthinkable happened. It was their anniversary and Libby's husband's 75th birthday. She planned, and executed a huge celebration. They went out for a big meal, followed by a concert, then nightclub dancing lasting well into the early hours of dawn. The next morning, Libby found her husband dead. He had a massive heart attack. Libby was devastated. She was now alone with a \$30 million inheritance.

Libby couldn't stay in Chicago, the memories were too much. She decided to return to Southern Indiana exactly 25 years after she left. She bought a grand old mansion in the heart of Evansville's Historic District. She spent a year renovating it and put

her personal taste into everything.

She gave me a tour of her home recently when we met to interview her about her big announcement she is making. The property is truly awe-inspiring. From the outside it looks like your typical red brick mansion you would find in the Historic District. You know the kind, very taste-



continued on page 2

NEWS

Libby Calhoun...continued from page 1

ful, 3 stories with a full porch around the first floor and balconies off the second floor. There's a long driveway in the front and a carriage house in the back.

I won't bore you with every detail just touch on the good stuff. The parlor is magnificent. Libby has books from all over the world. Currently, she is translating 5th century Sanskrit into English and writing her books on the history of Evansville politics. The room is stuffed with mementos from Libby's travels. I saw Egyptian artifacts, Persian carpets, mounted exotic animal heads, and a 150-lb, yellow-eyed wolf, named Precious, is curled up in the window seat. A picture of Libby in a bunny suit with Dale Earnhardt, Sr. sits on the table. All these as impressive as they were, dwarfed when compared with the magnificent 6 x 8 foot autographed portrait of Tiger Woods above the fireplace. Like you, I was speechless.

Libby led me into the sitting room of her master suite to conduct our interview. It is a confection of hot and pale pinks. We sunk into deep cowhide chairs to talk. Libby was the picture of domestic bliss curled up in her chair with Precious laying at

her feet.

Libby unraveled her life story like a ball of pure silk yarn. Finally, we reached the end. Exhausted, I put my pen down and began to close my notebook when Libby told me she had another surprise for me. I looked at her with anxious anticipation, sweat pouring from my temples. It was then Libby told me about the coffee shop on St. Joe. Obviously, something important had just happened there. It's nothing fancy, just an old German place with a good cup of java. Libby came in on a rainy morning dripping cold water from head to toe. The only seat left was at an obscure table in the back. Her usual waitress brought over a steaming cup of caffeine. Libby held in her hands warming her fingers. A man, sitting to next her, in a dark coat with the hood pulled tight over head murmured, his voice sounding like gravel under a tractor, "It that you green eyes?" Libby knew that voice instantly and couldn't believe her eyes. It was Maurice, aka the Mole. His face was scared from years of covert activity. A knife scar here, an old bullet wound there, but the grin was still the same.

JOSEPH H. HARRISON, JR.

CONCENTRATING IN:

- ~ Family Law
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Sundays

MICHELLE SHELTON
January 3



JAY JOHNSON
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**ANDREA
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NEWS

CountryMark Receives “Top Tier” Gasoline License

The small – but prestigious – fraternity of America’s elite fuel retailers gained one more member earlier this month with the selection of Indiana-based CountryMark as the newest “Top Tier” licensee. As such, CountryMark’s line of PLUS gasoline is now an officially recommended fuel for leading auto makers, including BMW, Audi, Toyota, Volkswagen, General Motors, and Honda.

“We’re extremely pleased and honored to have our PLUS gasoline fuels licensed by the Top Tier organization,” said Jon Lantz, CountryMark Vice President of Marketing. “This designation will let the automotive world know that our home-grown, All-American CountryMark gasoline is a world-class product and an excellent value for our customers.”

Top Tier detergent gasoline standards were developed by four auto manufacturers (BMW, GM, Honda, and Toyota) to create a winning situation for consumers, auto manufacturers, and gasoline retailers. Currently, many gasoline retailers provide fuels with lower-quality additive packages that can build up deposits on fuel injectors and intake valves, creating a negative impact on engine performance and vehicle responsiveness.

By contrast, Top Tier is a new class of gasoline containing enhanced detergency that far exceeds the current EPA intake valve deposit standards. This translates into optimum performance for today’s modern fuel-injected engines through better fuel economy, cleaner air, longer engine life, unsurpassed anticorrosion protection, and fuel stability.

“The Top Tier performance package in our PLUS gasoline is the new voluntary gold standard for gasoline detergency,” stated CountryMark Sales Manager Steve Thomas. “It’s added value for the consumer.”

To earn the TOP Tier designation, prospective gasoline retailers must meet stringent standards and have all grades of their gasoline approved. In addition, all gasoline outlets carrying the brand of the approved retailer must meet the Top Tier standards.

CountryMark began adding its proprietary PLUS formula to its gasoline products in August of 2008. In addition to the Top Tier performance package, the PLUS line also has two other distinct features: 1) it’s made from 100% American crude oil, and 2) includes a 10% blend of ethanol made from corn grown by Indiana farmers.

By being licensed as a Top Tier retailer, CountryMark became only the twenty-first gasoline retailer in the United States to receive this fuel quality designation. CountryMark is also the only Indiana fuel refiner to have reached this status, and the only farmer-owned fuel refiner that is producing Top Tier gasoline. The company will now be able to use Top Tier trademarks in the promotion, sale, and distribution of its gasoline products.

The PLUS package is available in all octane choices at all CountryMark retail and commercial fuel sites. Customers may also arrange to have All-American PLUS gasoline delivered to their business or farm by contacting a CountryMark branded dealer.

People You Should Know...

Eric Abbott, Sales Mgr. & Lance Turner, Sales



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NEWS

TAA Assistance Approved for Whirlpool Workers

(EVANSVILLE, IN)- Mayor Jonathan Weinzapfel has just been informed that the U.S. Department of Labor has certified Whirlpool workers for Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA).

Whirlpool workers who were terminated on or after December 6, 2008, or have been threatened with termination through January 19, 2012 are eligible to apply.

"This is a difficult time for Whirlpool workers and their families who are faced with an uncertain future when the Evansville plant begins closing in the spring. The fact that they are eligible for TAA will certainly help them as they make this transition," said Mayor Jonathan Weinzapfel. "We are grateful to Senators Bayh and Lugar, and Congressman Ellsworth, for their support in getting this certification for Whirlpool workers."

The Department of Labor's investigation found that Whirlpool workers satisfied the criteria for receiving TAA. Those criteria include:

1. A significant number of workers have become totally or partially separated from employment.
2. The production of goods by the workers' firm has been shifted from the U.S. to a foreign country.

TAA was created to provide benefits and support workers who become unemployed due to the impact of international trade. Workers can now apply for benefits and services such as: 156 weeks of full- or part-time training, a tax credit covering 80% of the worker's monthly premium for qualified health insurance, and monies to fund a job search.

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

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 out 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.

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Touching Lives Everyday



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ASK THE TAX MASTER

TIP INCOME

*By Jeffrey Day,
Tax Master*



I had a young lady at my desk that is a waitress at a restaurant in a large hotel on Hwy 41 North last night. She mentioned that the management of that restaurant, had told her that it was required she report 15% of the sale as tip income and nothing more.

Similar to last week, when I complained that attorneys-at-law should keep their advice to law and not taxes, so should managers of restaurants not try and give advice to the waiters/waitresses concerning what should be reported as tip income on a tax return.

This particular waitress had earned \$3,990 in wages by the restaurant. The W2 showed tip income of \$291 only.

Since this is the lady's only income, and she has one child reporting on a tax return, this income will generate an earned income credit of \$1,352. She would receive a refundable child tax credit of \$148. If she actually received and reported \$2,000 in tips, that she thinks she is better off not reporting, she would receive an earned income credit of \$2,092 and a refundable child tax credit of \$448. Out of the credits there would be a payment of \$150 to self-employment tax. The additional payments into the social security account allows a larger amount to be drawn on when she is old enough to receive the benefits.

This does not mean I support the notion of inflating income solely to get larger refunds. It does mean I do not support restaurant management encourag-

ing employees to lie and minimize their income, especially when oftentimes it costs the person that qualifies as being poor monies to which they are entitled, but have no idea they are in fact entitled to the benefits!

If you have questions for the Tax Master, please email him at jeffrey.day@tax.hrblock.com

In order to protect the privacy of your information, you should avoid sending confidential information (such as Social Security numbers, credit card account numbers, etc.) via email. Please call your Tax Professional to discuss other options for providing confidential information.

First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

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REFLECTION Caricatures

Now Available

Have you ever been on vacation and walked through the treasure stores featuring local flare and artwork? Remember the Rastafarian sitting under the tent offering to draw a caricature of you and your traveling companions? Some of you may have stopped, while others passed up the opportunity. Later, you realized it would have been nice to have the picture as a keepsake.

Today, after months in research and development, the City-County Observer has an awesome opportunity for you!

We, through the creative genius and talents of our own Staff Artist Daniel Kisner, are offering a prestigious upgrade from your average caricature.

These caricatures were designed as a special, perhaps once in a lifetime, gift or award to pay tribute to someone special in your life. Caricatures can be uniquely created for weddings, wedding anniversaries, graduations, outstanding sporting or academic achievements, retirement, fine social accomplishments, civic awards, military accomplishments, career milestones, political achievement, or just because. Whatever the occasion, Dan will work with you, so that your gift is created just as you envisioned.



What does your caricature include?

Well, the caricature you request will be drawn and presented to you in full color. It will be up to 14 x 18 in size, including a digital copy on CD so that you can electronically share your caricature with your friends and relatives. The staff of the City-County Observer will feature the recipient of your caricature by writing a brief bio to tell their story in our publication.

These caricatures are a one-of-a-kind treasure. The recipient of your gift will truly appreciate the quality of the caricature and your thoughtfulness.

At only \$400.00, this is a gift that is sure to become a conversation starter!

To schedule an appointment to sit down and discuss your caricature or for more information, please send an email to citycountyobserver@live.com and type "Caricature" in the subject line. Please include your phone number in the email.

We have attached a recent, commissioned caricature created by City-County Observer Staff Artist Kisner.

EDITORIAL

IS IT TRUE?

Compiled by Moles Number 1 through 117...and counting

IS IT TRUE about three weeks ago the city officials quietly asked a few select construction companies to submit bids to tear down Roberts Stadium?

IS IT TRUE that the City-County Observer is proud to announce a contributor in-kind who has finally decided to nest in the Downtown Historic District? IS IT TRUE this well-traveled, well-educated, yet extremely down-to-earth Southern Indiana native is proud to return to her roots? IS IT TRUE that her desire is to remain quasi-ambiguous until she is ready to formally announce her political and social intentions? IS IT TRUE only CCO staff Artist Daniel Kisner has been allowed to capture her image at a private setting in her downtown Historical home?

IS IT TRUE Evansville Mayor Weinzapfel 2009 Political Donation Report is an amazing 212 pages long? IS IT TRUE it seems like the Mayor Weinzapfel has lived the lifestyle of the RICH AND FAMOUS when one reviews the expenses section of this report?

IS IT TRUE that Mayor Weinzapfel's 2009 Political Donation Report showed he received the following "in-kind" political donations from John Mark Zeidler for private plane flights out of Evansville? IS IT TRUE the date and use of private plane costs listed for these "in-kind" political donations are; on 5-3-09 flight cost was \$1,179.50, on 5-14-09 flight cost was \$942.50, on 8-17-09 flight cost was \$1,219.00, on 8-31-09 flight cost was for \$942.50, on 9-2-09 flight cost was for \$942.50, on 9-11-09 flight cost was for \$942.40, on 9-28-09 flight cost was \$942.50, on 10-17-09 flight cost was for \$1,258.50, on 10-29-09 flight costs was for \$1,140.00. IS IT TRUE the flight the Mayor took on 10-17-09 was to the Kendallville Ind. area? IS IT TRUE on Oct. 17, 09 the Mayor flew in to speak to the Noble County Democrats at the Jefferson/Jackson Dinner? Is It True on 10-29-09 the Mayor flew to Kokomo, Ind., out of Evansville on a private plane for yet another political event? IS IT TRUE we wonder where the Mayor flew to on many occasions at the cost of \$942.50? IS IT TRUE was this for trips to INDY?

IS IT TRUE Jeremy Meeks surprised the local political establishment by announcing today that he will run against a well-known political figure, Marsha Abell in the upcoming Repub-

lican Primary? IS IT TRUE that the political camp of present Vanderburgh County Commissioner, Troy Tornatta is extremely pleased to hear about the above Republican primary battle? IS IT TRUE that County Commissioner Troy Tornatta can continue to increase the size of his bulging political war chest to ready for the General Election in the fall? IS IT TRUE people within the Republican Party hope the race between Marsha and Jeremy will focus on the issues and not personality? IS IT TRUE we strongly believe that this primary be an issue only campaign?



The Mole

IS IT TRUE if a person does a back ground check on potential political candidate's credit rating is totally against Federal law? IS IT TRUE that this act is called an "invasion of privacy and is a felony"? IS IT TRUE when all of the alleged persons that may have experienced an unauthorized credit check find out this is true you can expect the S---- to hit the fan?

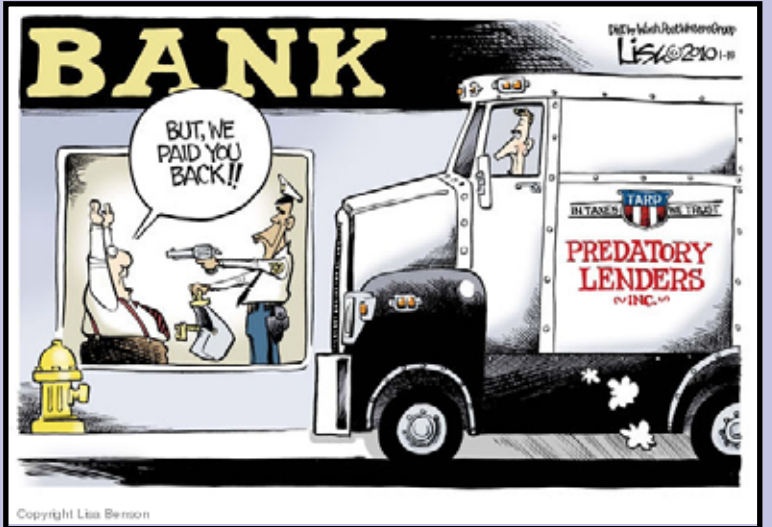
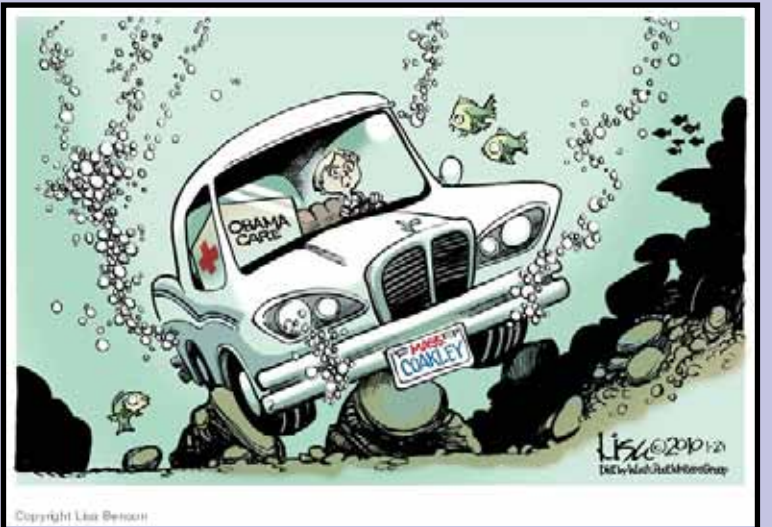
IS IT TRUE we are extremely pleased the Evansville City Council members are asking the tough questions concerning the proposed renovation of the Stonehenge Apartments located on the Eastside of town? IS IT TRUE if this project is approved, the city will lose thousands of dollars of property tax revenue because the new developers are listed as not-for-profit? IS IT TRUE that 1st Ward City Councilmen Dan McGinn was right on the mark to question this project from the get go?

IS IT TRUE that the members of the Firemen's Union Local 357 voted at their January meetings to file a formal, written grievance against Fire Chief Keith Jarboe? IS IT TRUE that Union President Paul Ansigner has failed to file the formal grievance as of press time today? IS IT TRUE this grievance was to be filed because Chief Jarboe would not let Union Officials off to conduct Union business? IS IT TRUE the firemen are wondering why the grievance is yet to be filed? IS IT TRUE that Union Pres. Ansigner is up for re-election in March? IS IT TRUE his failure to act in a timely manner could cost him some much-needed votes in his re-election bid?



EDITORIAL

For your enjoyment



EDITORIAL

GAVEL GAMUT ~ SNAKES ALIVE

By Judge James Rediwne

"There's something about a woman that doesn't like a snake." Some women who face childbirth with the courage of Achilles quiver and run from a legless, armless, harmless garter snake.

My grandmother would grab a chicken by the neck with each hand and wring their heads off. Then she would scald the feathers, pluck the birds bare and gut them without flinching.

My mother could cower her war hero brothers and her large husband with a mere glance if they talked in church.

And Peg is not one to be trifled with if there is a sale on yarn or a coach who does not play one of our grandchildren.

Yet all of these otherwise heroic amazons have quickly yielded when face to fang with a snake. What gives?

I know some blame that nefarious serpent who brought down Eve or that asp that ended Cleopatra's reign. Still others see the snake-haired Medusa as the culprit. It is a mystery. So let's you and I puzzle on this.

Here's a critter that not only has no juxtaposed thumb, it doesn't even have a hand. Almost all adult females, now this is not a comment on their weight, outweigh almost all snakes. And in the good 'ole U.S. of A. there's hardly any snake much longer than most women are tall. Most importantly, except for rattlesnakes, copperheads, coral snakes and cottonmouths/water moccasins, America's snakes aren't even poisonous. And those types are as rare in populated areas as a Bret Favre fan in Dallas.

I figure that by now you have either quit reading this column ten minutes ago or you just wish it would either make sense or end; neither outcome is likely. But what brought us to this

topic was Peg's encounter with a snake today while swimming.

You may recall Peg demanded a WalMart special above ground pool last year which she used until the ice forced her to buy a pass to an indoor pool. Well, my friend(s), snakes get cold too and much prefer heated pools to cold hibernation. One such herpetologist's heartthrob joined Peg for a swim this morning.

When I got the call I was busy serving the public; okay, I was gazing at the fog that hid the Ohio River. Anyway, I did manage to convince Peg to take her cell phone and go back inside before the icicles formed. I, also, suggested that chances were good the snake headed 180° away from Peg and was probably back in its nest until spring. In other words, I did not see it as a practical solution for me to go home, get a gun, and hunt the snake.

Well, it has been a fairly cold winter up to now at JPeg Ranch, but I fear the temperature is about to drop.

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