

Weather

Storms possible today with a high of 63 and a low of 47. Showers Saturday.

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Happenings!

Area activities, events listed Pages A6-A7



LaGrange Focus

Habitat for Humanity lands \$10,000 grant Page A5



Boys Tennis

Knights, Cougars advance in sectional Page B1

THE NEWS SUN

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Back in the air

Capt. Chesley 'Sully' Sullenberger and 1st Officer Jeffrey Skiles go through their pre-flight routine before leaving for North Carolina at LaGuardia Airport in New York Thursday.

Flint & Walling offers tours Saturday

KENDALLVILLE — Flint & Walling will offer tours of its historic offices and factory during an open house Saturday at the manufacturing facility at 95 Oak St.

Office tours will be 11 a.m.-1 p.m., and guided tours of the factory operation will be 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Established in 1866, Flint & Walling is Kendallville's oldest manufacturer and has always operated at the corner of Mitchell and Oak streets near downtown Kendallville making water pumping equipment.

The company employs an average workforce of about 150, several of whom are third- and fourth-generation employees.

Several of the original Flint & Walling windmills have been restored and on display at the Mid America Windmill Museum on Allen Chapel Road.

Skatepark donations being accepted

KENDALLVILLE — Kendallville Skatepark supporters will be selling sloppy joes, slaw dogs and refreshments at the Apple Festival of Kendallville Main Street Village in downtown Kendallville Saturday and Sunday.

Donations will be accepted to the Kendallville Skatepark Fund. Checks should be addressed to the Noble County Community Foundation with the memo indicating the Kendallville Skatepark Fund.

Skatepark supporters are raising funds to build a skatepark at the Kendallville Outdoor Recreation Complex on Allen Chapel Road. For more information go to the Web site at kendallvilleskatepark.us.

Pageant winners to 'Raise A Ruckus'

BY DENNIS NARTKER dennisn@kpcnews.net

KENDALLVILLE — Miss Americana Katie Pollard and Miss Indiana Nicole Stam will appear at the Apple Festival of Kendallville this weekend, know each other very well.

Pollard was first runner-up to Stam in the 2008 Miss Indiana Scholarship Pageant, and Stam went on to be crowned Miss America — Indiana's first Miss America.

Both will perform in the East Noble Theatre and Music departments' cabaret 'Raise A Ruckus' in the show arena at the Noble County Fairgrounds. Stam is scheduled for performances at noon and 2:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, and Pollard is scheduled to perform with the student cast at 9:30 a.m., 10:45 a.m.

and 1:15 p.m. Saturday and 10:45 a.m., 1:15 p.m. and 3:45 p.m. Sunday.

Tickets for performances are \$5 and can be reserved by stopping by or calling the East Noble High School box office today from 4-6 p.m. at 347-7167. Tickets will also be available at the 'Raise A Ruckus' box office on Saturday and Sunday.



Stam



Pollard

Pollard's performances are free of charge. Both young women are accomplished vocalists.

Stam, 23, of Seymour, sang a stirring rendition of 'Via Dolorosa' for her Miss America talent despite suffering from a throat infection.

Pollard, 22, of Lafayette, was first runner-up in the Miss Indiana pageant twice before winning and won preliminary talent three times. She graduated from Indiana University in May with a Bachelor's

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BOB BRALEY

An employee of Leatherman Construction Inc. works Thursday at replacing the soffit on the front of the Noble County Public Library — Central

in Albion. The library's board of trustees discussed the work Thursday at its monthly meeting at the west library in Cromwell.

Collaboration to benefit library patrons

BY BOB BRALEY bobb@kpcnews.net

CROMWELL — Collaboration was king at the Noble County Public Library Board of Trustees meeting Thursday at the west library in Cromwell.

Library director Sandy Petrie expressed excitement about the county's three library systems working together, and hope that the collaboration between the Noble County Public Library — Central in Albion and Central Noble Community School Corp. will continue after the departure of outgoing CN superintendent Dr. Stacey Hughes.

The joint in-service Friday (see related story) led the county's library directors to decide to have all in-services together and to work to figure out how to network more effectively, Petrie said. "I can't even express how amazing this was. ... The bottom line is, it's going to be great for the patrons." Better service will be offered as a result, she said.

The teamwork with Hughes has led to programs that Petrie hopes will continue, such as Kindergarten Preparation School (KiPS) in the summer and the after-school program currently in place. The cooperative effort has extended to the school's buses being used, Petrie said.

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County's libraries working together

BY DENNIS NARTKER dennisn@kpcnews.net

ALBION — Noble County's three public library districts are working together to find ways to combine services, reduce costs and better serve the public.

Directors of the Noble County Public Library, Kendallville Public Library and Ligonier Public Library represented by several members of the each library's board have been meeting to discuss ways the three library systems can share services, according to Jenna Anderson, Kendallville Public Library marketing manager. "Their discussions have been in direct response to legislation that would combine area libraries," she stated.

Noble County Public Library director Sandy Petrie said the county's public libraries need to prepare for such legislation even though the latest bill was defeated in the House. "We know there is something on the horizon," she said. "We need to be proactive now so that we have a bigger say in what happens locally."

Friday the staff from the three library districts held their first joint in-service. The top four

priorities for this session included similar policies and procedures for all three library systems, a countywide computer network, resource sharing and communication, according to Anderson. Staff decided to hold quarterly joint in-services with the next one scheduled for December.

"The libraries believe that working toward these goals will provide patrons with stronger library service that uses tax money more wisely," stated Anderson. Library staff working together will also prepare the libraries for the future, she added.

The list of other goals to work toward include combined health insurance, county-wide transport of materials, job sharing, aligning holidays and benefits at all the libraries and beginning a county-wide Friends of the Library network, according to Jenny Draper, Kendallville Public Library director.

The directors were thrilled with their staff participation in the first joint in-service, according to Jerry Nesbitt, Ligonier Public Library director. "All of our staff members working together accomplished so much in a short amount of time."

Couple admit meth-making

BY BOB BRALEY bobb@kpcnews.net

ALBION — A husband and wife each admitted to making and possessing methamphetamine Thursday in Noble Circuit Court.

Steve A. Frain, 44, and Donna L. Frain, 46, each of Kendallville, each pleaded guilty to manufacturing meth, a Class B felony, and an unrelated charge of possession of meth, a Class D felony, in separate hearings Thursday. Each was present for the other's hearing.

The Frains each separately admitted to making meth at their residence in the 300 block of East Gertrude Street, Kendallville, on July 30, and to possessing meth in the 100 block of South Cavin Street, Ligonier, on Dec. 9, 2008.

Each would receive a different sentence for the offenses if Noble Circuit Judge G. David Laur

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Citizens vent anger about bridge

Some call for councilman to resign

BY DAVE KURTZ dkurtz@kpcnews.net

CORUNNA — More than 50 citizens packed Corunna's Town Hall for a heated meeting of the Town Council Thursday night.

Several people called for Councilman Phil Arnett to resign. They accused him of acting alone to sell the town's historic bridge for scrap metal last month.

The buyer cut the bridge into small pieces, ending plans to erect the 91-year-old structure as a historic monument next to the town's fire station along U.S. 6.

The bridge carried S.R. 327 over the Norfolk Southern railroad until the state replaced it with a new, concrete structure last year. The town bought the old bridge for \$4,000 and moved it to

Corunna

the site of the fire station, aiming to install it beside a pond.

At a meeting last week, Arnett said the bridge posed a hazard and the fire department wanted it removed.

Thursday night, Arnett continued to claim that council President Steve Faulkner agreed with selling the bridge. But Faulkner denied doing so.

Arnett said he told Faulkner in August that Mike Smith had offered to pay \$1,000 for the bridge. He said Faulkner replied, "That sounds like a deal to me."

Faulkner said Arnett left out the second part of his response. Faulkner told the audience he really had said, "That sounds like a hell of a deal ... for the guy that made the offer."

A friend of Faulkner's said he

heard the conversation and confirmed Faulkner's version.

Faulkner said Arnett had "hounded" him, calling him once or twice a week to say the bridge should be sold because it was an eyesore.

"We can play 'he said, she said' all night. It doesn't change the fact that Phil sold the bridge without bringing the offer on the bridge to the meeting," Faulkner said.

Councilman Jay Christian, who led the effort to keep the bridge as a monument, charged that Arnett "deliberately kept me in the dark" about his plan to sell the bridge.

Christian's daughter, Stephanie Mayberry, said the State Board of Accounts would investigate the sale of the bridge if the county prosecutor requests the agency's help. After the meeting, Mayberry said she intends to take the issue to the prosecutor Monday.

ONLINE:

PHOTO CONTEST

Vote for your favorite photo in the KPC Photo Contest! kpcnews.net/photocontest

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