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NEW CASTLE, INDIANA

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Spiceland's Christmas on Main Street is Dec. 7

Town council tables fire contract

By KATIE CLONTZ
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Christmas on Main Street, presented by Spiceland Freedom Days, will take place from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Dec. 7 at Hoover Hall, 103 E. Main St., Spiceland.

Santa will arrive on a firetruck at 4:30 p.m. Photos with Santa, by Simmons Photography, will be available for \$10. A chicken noodle dinner can be purchased for \$5 per person. The movie "The Grinch" will be shown at 5 p.m. The Christ-

mas tree lighting will take place at 5:45 p.m.

Fire contract tabled

The Spiceland Town Council met Nov. 12. Council president Darrin Jacobs, along with council members Jack Garner and Robert Blake, were present. One main topic of discussion was the two-year fire contract for 2025 and 2026.

Spiceland Township Trustee Donna Tauber presented the proposed 2025 and 2026 fire service contract at the council's Octo-

ber meeting. The 2024 contract expires Dec. 31.

The proposed \$10,000 contract covers fuel, fire barn rental and insurance for Spiceland Corporation, Spiceland Township and the Spiceland Fire Department. Under the proposed contract, the township would maintain fire equipment. The council voted in October to table the contract and took the same action at the Nov. 12 meeting.

According to Tauber, there is currently a \$3,500 funding difference between Dunreith and Spiceland.

Jacobs asked Tauber what prompted some changes to the contract.

"I intend to do things equally with the Town of Dunreith," Tauber said. "That way, the township can say we treat Spiceland the same way we do Dunreith ... It would balance things out."

Garner asked Tauber what Spiceland is being compensated for that Dunreith isn't, and Tauber cited the turnout gear that was just purchased from the cumulative fire fund. Tauber said the Town of Dunreith owns 100 percent of its fire equipment. Spiceland does not.

Garner asked why there has been an ongoing funding discrepancy and Tauber

said she didn't know.

"I want to see it kind of 'even Steven,'" Tauber said of the proposed changes.

Jacobs said Tauber could distribute the money as she saw fit, but he didn't understand why the contract had to change.

"It makes it simpler," Tauber said. "We're the only department, town, in all of Henry County that does it the way that we do it. The only one. All the other townships contract with the town and the department."

Tauber said Spiceland officials could go back to the previous contract, but the town would lose about \$3,500 per year.

"To me, if we're going to work on changing a contract, it makes more sense to have this conversation in January about the next year" Jacobs said. "I think we need more time to look at those numbers."

Other business

Spiceland Superintendent Jeff Lane informed the council some roads have been crack sealed, the sidewalk project near the park has started and the tornado siren project remains ongoing.

Roads that were crack sealed included: from west

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HERE COMES SANTA CLAUS

The 35th annual All American Knights of Pythias Christmas Parade marched down the streets of New Castle Saturday afternoon. The parade started at Baker Park and heads north on Main Street, ending at Santa's headquarters: 'Tis the Season Flowers and Gifts, 1206 Broad St.

RIGHT: Wearing a Rudolph nose and reindeer antlers, Emma McWhorter, 4, New Castle, watched the Christmas parade Saturday afternoon.

BELOW LEFT: Santa and Mrs. Claus, along with their elves, arrived in New Castle Saturday afternoon during the 35th annual Knights of Pythias All American Christmas parade.

Katie Clontz / C-T photos



Parade grand marshals were Shonda Kane and Cindy Brooks of the New Castle-Henry County Chamber of Commerce.



The Grinch waved to community members as the Christmas parade headed north on Main Street in New Castle.



A marching band performed festive Christmas songs along the parade route.

'Helping Hands' reach out to provide Christmas gifts for children

Provided by SARAH THOMPSON

For the past 16 years, Huffman Family Chiropractic has been reaching into the Henry County community to assist those who need a "Helping Hand" this Christmas season.

The office partners with the Christian Love Center in receiving names. These are families that will not receive help from any other source this season.

Drs. Joseph Huffman, Doug Ripley and John Ripley and their staff have an Angel Tree in the office decorated with the names of local children showing their Christmas wishes.

Anyone wishing to help make Christmas special for these children may come and pick up the details at the office from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays and 9-11 a.m. Thursday. Huffman Family Chiropractic is located at 2021 S. Memorial Drive between Myer's Furniture and Webb's.

All gifts need to be returned to Huffman's before 5 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 4.



Photo provided

Family names hang on the Helping Hands Christmas tree at Huffman Family Chiropractic, 2021 S. Memorial Dr., New Castle.

The staff say they can be flexible too, if you are willing to help! If you want to give, but don't want to do the shopping, they will take care of that!

Stop by if you are able to lend a "Helping Hand." Helping others this Christmas season is a wonderful way to share the love of Christ.

Shaping future educators in the Education Careers program at NCCC

By CHRISTY RAGLE

The Education Careers program at the New Castle Career Center (NCCC) equips students for employment in education and related services. This program serves as a foundational stepping stone for further education at post-secondary institutions, potentially leading to various child-related career paths.

While gaining hands-on experience in the classroom, students earn 14 college credits.

Presently, 33 students are enrolled in Education Careers under the leadership of Education Careers Instructor Melynda Huckeby. First-year students are currently finishing EDUC 101 (Introduction

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Volume 184, issue number 230



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QUICK READ

Historic preservation November meeting canceled

The New Castle Historic Preservation Commission meeting scheduled for today, Nov. 19, has been canceled. The next meeting is 6:30 p.m. Dec. 9 in city hall, 227 N. Main St.

Park board meeting rescheduled

Due to not having enough members available to have a quorum, the Knightstown Park and Recreation Board has re-

scheduled its November regular monthly meeting to 6:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 25 in the Sunset Park Shelter House, 206 S. Hill Ave.

Library of Trees at Bundy Auditorium this year

The New Castle-Henry County Public Library is partnering with Bundy Auditorium to host the 2024 "Library of Trees" event. The Library of Trees event invites

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Inside BRV's Gibson signs with Southern Indiana