

Weather

Showers today with a high of 73 and a low in the mid-50s. Storm Saturday. High 72. Page A11

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Hospital association recognizes Corey

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana Hospital Association honored Jack Corey, former president and chief executive officer of DeKalb Memorial Hospital in Auburn, during the IHA annual meeting last week in Indianapolis.



Corey

The American College of Healthcare Executives presented its Regents Awards to Corey and Vincent C. Caponi, president and chief executive officer of St. Vincent Health, Indianapolis.

Corey retired Aug. 31 after 29 years as the top officer at DeKalb Memorial Hospital.

'Girl of Limberlost' author to receive posthumous honor

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — One of Indiana's earliest environmentalists — 20th century writer Gene Stratton-Porter — is set to be inducted into the Indiana Conservation Hall of Fame.

Porter, who died in 1924, will be posthumously inducted today during a banquet in Indianapolis. She's among more than a dozen people being honored for their contributions to Indiana's natural or cultural heritage.

Porter authored 12 novels and other works that helped bring environmental issues to the public's attention.

She's best known for the 1909 novel "A Girl of the Limberlost" that tells the story of a girl living with her mother on the edge of northeastern Indiana's Limberlost Swamp.

That 13,000-acre swamp was drained a century ago to create farmland.

ONLINE:

ONLINE POLL

Should the U.S. send more troops to Afghanistan?

kpcnews.com

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LINDSAY WINSLOW BROWN

Veteran Steve DeWald enjoys his flight on the B-17 Aluminum Overcast Thursday afternoon.

DeWald flew 30 missions as a B-17 pilot during World War II.

Veteran returns to air in bomber

BY JENNY KOBIELA-MONDROR
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AUBURN — Steve DeWald of Fort Wayne flew 30 missions in a B-17 Flying Fortress bomber in 1944. On Thursday, he got to fly one more.

But this time, instead of a 10-hour flight dropping bombs over military targets in Germany, DeWald took a calm, 20-minute ride over DeKalb County.

DeWald had the opportunity to fly in the B-17 Flying Fortress Aluminum Overcast, which is visiting the DeKalb County Airport this weekend as part of the Experimental Aircraft Association's Salute to Veterans tour.

"I enjoyed it," DeWald said. "It always brings back memories."

DeWald was a lead B-17 pilot in the 457th Bomb Group out of Glatton, England, near Peterborough. Normally, B-17 crews had to fly 35 missions, but as lead pilot, DeWald was only required to fly 30.

DeWald was a student at Butler University on Dec. 7, 1941, when the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. He didn't immediately enlist in the Army, but after his fraternity brothers began getting drafted and enlisting, DeWald decided to join up.

"It seemed to be the proper thing to do, considering what had been happening in that area in the last 10 or 15 years," he said.

He chose the U.S. Army Air Forces because "I thought flying was more glamorous than being in a submarine or something," DeWald said.

DeWald began training in 1943,



LINDSAY WINSLOW BROWN

Rural DeKalb County and propellers are seen from the nose of Aluminum Overcast, a B-17 Flying Fortress.

when he was 21 years old, and earned his wings in March 1944. DeWald was the oldest in his crew — most men were 17 or 18 year old "kids," he said.

"I say kids, but that made men out of them," he added.

He flew his 30 missions near the end of the war — in fact, his final mission was the last one out of the base at Glatton — and targeted cities such as Dresden and Regensburg. DeWald said he recalls that his sixth mission was over Meersburg. Out of 36 planes in his bomb group, only six came back, and the B-17 he was flying

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B-17 Flights, Tours

WHEN: Friday, Saturday and Sunday

WHERE: DeKalb County Airport, 2710 C.R. 60, Auburn

TICKETS: \$385 for EAA members, \$425 for non-members

GROUND TOURS: \$5 for adults, free for WWII veterans and children under age 8, \$15 per family (adults and children under age 18). Tours will begin after flights are done for the day.

INFORMATION: Call 437-7702 or (800) 359-6217.

Wilcox to run for commissioner seat

AUBURN — Sandra Wilcox announced Thursday that she will run for the Republican nomination for DeKalb County Commissioner, southwest district, in the May 2010 primary election.

Wilcox, 48, is a lifetime resident of DeKalb County. In a news release, she said she has a strong passion to see the county grow and develop into an even better community.

"We need structured leadership and guidance to keep the county on its feet and thriving," Wilcox said.

Wilcox graduated from Indiana University with a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting and also earned her Master of Business Administration degree at Indiana University. She has owned and operated Countryside Tax Service for the past 22 years and worked for Lincoln National Life, where she held a number of leadership positions in the annuity and corporate divisions.

Wilcox is Six Sigma proficient and has received her FLMI

(Fellowship of Life Management Institute) and her AAPA (Associate Annuity Product Administration) certifications.

"The skills I learned through these programs, along with my education, will provide a strong basis for this position," she said.

As commissioner, Wilcox said, she "will use her demonstrated leadership experience and strong ethical foundation to lead the county and prepare it for its next level of development. It is important that the commissioners look to provide long-term planning while taking into account its monetary resources. I will seek input from the community and will listen to their concerns and ideas."

Wilcox said another area of importance is her desire to improve interdepartmental cooperation.

"As a commissioner of DeKalb County, I will strive to improve the working relationships among county agencies in an effort to have increase communication and improved efficiencies. It is vital that there be cooperation among county boards to assure resources are used wisely and the best interests of the community are

SEE WILCOX, PAGE A11



Wilcox

Standoff nets no charges

Couple in court on warrant issues

BY AMY OBERLIN
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ANGOLA — A Montgomery, Mich., man and his girlfriend arrested Wednesday night in a police standoff face minimal local charges.

Jerald L. Sours Jr., 44, appeared before Steuben Superior Court Judge William Fee on a case alleging criminal mischief, a Class A misdemeanor.

Sours was last in court concerning the case in December 2007, but missed a March 28, 2008, hearing, and a warrant was issued.

"He's not a bad person," said 25-year-old Brandy A. Mercer, who said she lives with Sours in Montgomery. The two have been a couple for seven months, she said, and had been staying at an Angola hotel for the past couple of days.

The pair held police at bay for three hours Wednesday afternoon after a tip led Michigan State Police to the hotel, a Steuben County Sheriff's Department news release said. Sours allegedly refused to leave the room, despite numerous police vehicles and the Northeast Indiana SWAT team stationed outside.

"Sours had a lengthy criminal history and was known to be violent with a firearm," says the press release. Representatives from Steuben County's crisis negotiation team spoke to Sours by telephone and eventually he and Mercer surrendered themselves peacefully.

Mercer described the situation as "heartbreaking."

She said there was no gun in their room, and that Sours is not dangerous. She said he has a big heart and would help out a friend

SEE STANDOFF, PAGE A11



Sours



Mercer



SUE CARPENTER

J.E. Ober Elementary School students Tristan Taylor, Connor Stockdale and Sydney Weaver model new book bags that will be used for the Boomerang Backpack program that begins today.

Garrett school sending food home for weekends

BY SUE CARPENTER-
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GARRETT — About 100 J.E. Ober Elementary School students will be taking home more than school papers in their backpacks today.

This group of kindergarten through fourth-graders is part of the school's Boomerang Backpack program. Students who qualify for

free and reduced-price lunches will be given a drawstring backpacks full of nutritious snacks to take home for the weekend.

Sixty percent of the 660 students at J.E. Ober qualify for free and reduced-price lunches, according to principal Greg Myers. All were sent letters from the school inviting them to be a part of

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