

Weather

A chance of showers today with a high of 47 and a low of 33. More rain Friday. High 47. Page A7

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Food pantry plans open house Saturday

GARRETT — The Community Care Food Pantry in Garrett is planning an open house for the public Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in its new and expanded location, 108 W. Houston St. For more than a decade, the pantry has been housed in the basement of Garrett United Methodist Church. Over the last nine months, renovation and structural improvements created a new home for the pantry in a 93-year-old parsonage next to the church.

A brief program with remarks from community leaders and food pantry staff members and supporters will begin shortly after 11 a.m. Saturday. Donors will be recognized for their gifts of money equipment, volunteer support and food.

Guests will be invited to tour the renovated food pantry and refreshments will be provided.

Jane Avery of Community Harvest Food Bank and state Rep. Dave Yarde, R-Garrett, will help cut a ribbon.

For more information on Community Care Food Pantry services and hours, contact Community Care's executive director, Steve Gallaher, at food@garrettumc.org or 357-3315. To support the pantry, send donations by check to Community Care, Attn: Beth Bechdol, P.O. Box 337, Garrett, IN 46738.

18-year-old gets hit twice by cars

FORT WAYNE — An 18-year-old is in critical condition after being struck by two cars Wednesday morning, NewsChannel 15 reports.

Police said Britney Castiaux of Fort Wayne and her boyfriend were walking along the roadway near the intersection of Lahmeyer and Stellhorn roads when the first car hit her. The driver of that car stopped and rendered first aid to Castiaux, according to police.

Moments later, a second car struck the victim. The driver of that car stopped momentarily and then continued southbound, according to witnesses.

Car hits cycling councilman

Walter reported in fair condition

AUBURN — Auburn City Councilman Mike Walter sustained serious injuries Tuesday night when a car struck him and his bicycle on West Fifteenth Street, Auburn Police said.

Walter, 62, had injuries to his head, legs, hands, back and back, according to a police accident report. It said the most serious injury involved severe bleeding from his head.

The report said Walter was riding eastbound, near the Tower Automotive factory, when an eastbound car hit him from behind at 10:49 p.m. The impact threw Walter onto the car, damaging the windshield and hood.

According to the report, Nadia

R. Winter, 20, of the 700 block of Griswold Court, Auburn, was driving a 2001 Chevrolet Monte Carlo that hit Walter. She told police she did not notice Walter, and she at first thought someone had thrown something onto her vehicle. She stopped, heard someone moaning and called 911 for help.

A police report said Walter was admitted to Parkview Trauma Center at Fort Wayne in critical condition. At 9:30 Wednesday morning, Parkview Hospital listed him in fair condition.

At a council meeting Oct. 6, Walter discussed the need for bicycle lanes on West Fifteenth Street and other areas in the city.



AUBURN POLICE PHOTO

Auburn Police said this car struck City Councilman Mike Walter while he was riding his bicycle Wednesday night on the city's west side.

Last Lessons at McIntosh School

Firefighters are final students

BY JENNY KOBIELA-MONDOR
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AUBURN — Next week, the McIntosh School building on South Main Street will be demolished, but this week the school took on a few final students.

The Auburn Fire Department used the deserted, three-story school building to train firefighters in techniques used in large buildings such as schools, factories, hotels and commercial structures.

Training in such a large building is a rarity for firefighters, according to Deputy Fire Chief Michael Good.

"We just don't get the opportunity to do this," he said. "It's going to be great training for the seasoned guys and the ones who just came out of mandatory training."

Firefighters must use very different techniques for entering, exiting, searching and using hoses in larger buildings, and the experience is very different from a residential structure, Good explained.

The McIntosh building features security doors and glass, solid wood doors and strong door frames, making it difficult for firefighters to forcibly enter the building in an emergency.



JENNY KOBIELA-MONDOR

Auburn Fire Department Division Chief Doug Cox, left, helps firefighter Jim Hile with a rope during a training exercise in the McIntosh School building Wednesday afternoon.

The building's walls are solid brick covered with drywall, a different type of construction than most residences.

Firefighters practiced getting in

and out of rooms with heavy doors equipped with strong locks.

"They're built a lot stronger

SEE FIREFIGHTERS, PAGE A7

Stealing from elderly

Area woman pleads guilty of taking more than \$100,000

BY DOMINIC ADAMS
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FORT WAYNE — A Kendallville woman admitted Wednesday in Allen County Superior Court that she stole more than \$100,000 over three years from a Fort Wayne nursing home where she worked.

Michelle M. Wagoner, 38, admitted to stealing the money from Canterbury Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, 2827 Northgate Blvd., while she worked there from 2006 to 2009. As part of the plea deal with the Allen County Prosecutor's Office, Wagoner most likely will serve two years of a four-year sentence, be on probation for two years and pay restitution.

By pleading guilty to the Class C felony, the prosecutor's office dropped four felony forgery charges against Wagoner. She will be in court for sentencing Nov. 9.

According to court records, Wagoner billed both Medicaid and

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Comeback

Stocks above 10,000 for 1st time in a year

NEW YORK (AP) — The Dow Jones industrial average is back above 10,000 for the first time in a year.

The Dow crossed five figures Wednesday seven months after it hit a 12-year low of 6,547.05 on March 9. The comeback by the stock market's best-known indicator is the most visible sign yet that investors believe the economy is recovering from the financial crisis and recession.

Cheering erupted from traders on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange as stocks first moved above the psychological barrier.

"People feel more comfortable and feel like there's less risk in the market when you get above a psychological point like 10,000," said Carl Beck, a partner at Harris Financial Group.

Upbeat earnings reports from chip maker Intel Corp. and banker JPMorgan Chase & Co. Wednesday gave the Dow its final push past 10,000.

Investors are increasingly shaking off lingering doubts about the economy. However, analysts still warn that problems like rising unemployment and a weak housing market pose a threat to a solid recovery.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

First Boomerang Backpacks

DeKalb County Alternative School students fill backpacks for DeKalb Central school district's Boomerang Backpack program, which will send needy students home with food on weekends. Friday, the district plans to send its first backpacks home with participating students at Waterloo Elementary School. Backpacks will be filled with nutritional,

nonperishable, vitamin-fortified and child-friendly food items to be eaten over the weekend. Alternative school students fill the backpacks as community service work toward their work ethic certificates. From left are Maranda Gowins, Cassandra Christian and Lucretia Williams.

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MIKE WILSON COLUMN
How to recover from the 2008 market drop
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