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Redevelopment to occur

Bunker Hill apartment complex given tax credit

BY JONATHAN KLEYER

A Bunker Hill apartment complex will be redeveloped using more than \$600,000 recently allocated by the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority.

of 24 housing development projects throughout Indiana to receive funds from the Internal Revenue Service Section 42 Rental Housing Tax Credit program.

An additional \$300,000 is being awarded to the project through the U.S. Department of Housing

and Development HOME program. Only 10 of the 24 projects that received RHTC funding also received HOME money.

The Woda Group expects the redevelopment project to have a total cost of \$3,710,463.

"We are going to be purchasing and rehabilitating the Miami Meadow Apartments," said Ian Maute, Woda Group vice-president. "It's a 20- to 30-year-old property. The funding that we are getting from the IHC-

DA is going to be used to basically rehabilitate the property itself; fix up the siding, the roofing, bring it up to America Disabilities Act standards ... We'll bring it up to current code and modernize the property."

The Woda Group has a purchase agreement with the current owner of Miami Meadow Apartments, but details are still being worked through because Woda Group needed to get funding first, Maute said.

"We hope to be closed on the purchase by the second half of this year," Maute said. "Construction would start shortly after, and would probably take about 12 months. We're very excited to move into the community and be a part of it. I think the work that we're proposing will be a great asset for that area. The property now is in need of fixing up and repair."

The apartment complex will have a total of 32

units, with half being one bedroom apartments, and the other half being two-bedroom apartments.

Projects were selected for RHTC funds through a competitive application process, according to Emily Duncan, of IHCDA. IHCDA received a total of 48 applications, and half of them received funds.

The 24 projects received total allocations of about \$16 million from the IHCDA.

Four face marijuana-related charges

Arrests stem from two separate cases

BY JONATHAN KLEYER

The Peru Police Department and the Miami County Sheriff's Office each arrested two people in recent days on marijuana-related charges in separate cases.

At approximately 6:15 p.m. Thursday, MCSO deputies conducted an illegal drug trafficking investigation as the result of a traffic stop on West Riverside Drive near Cole Lane that led to the arrest of Zachary Diskey, 18, Swazye, and a juvenile, according to MCSO Sheriff Tim Miller.

Diskey has been charged with maintaining a common nuisance, contributing to minor delinquency, possession of more than 30 grams of marijuana within 1,000 feet of a park, and dealing marijuana within 1,000 feet of a park.

Dealing and possession of over 30 grams of marijuana is typically considered a Class D felony, but since the offense is alleged to have occurred within 1,000 feet of a park, it has been raised to a Class C felony.

Diskey was taken into custody at the Miami County Jail at 9:20 p.m. Thursday, with a \$34,000 bond.

Further investigation by the MCSO, assisted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, the Indiana State Police and the PPD led to the arrest of the juvenile, who is facing charges of dealing and possession of over 30 grams of marijuana.

The investigation is ongoing and additional charges may be filed at a later date, according to Miller.

At approximately 10:12 p.m. Thursday, Peru

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Warrior fans leave regional with pride

North Miami faithful never lose spirit

BY ERIC MARKHAM

Peru Tribune sports editor

TIPTON — North Miami's regional game against Carroll on Saturday was the kind of end-of-season game that a usual crowd starts to cheer for the seniors, rather than the competition, with five minutes to play.

Carroll played a game of unselfish, clean basketball which earned it a 19-point lead heading into the fourth quarter. However, the North Miami student section remained standing for the remainder of the game, and the rest of the Warrior faithful, with enthusiasm, cheered for each basket as if it was a go-ahead alley-oop.

When asked how they felt about the fan support, both senior guard Zac Roth and North Miami head coach Matt Storm started off their answers with, "It's awesome."

"That's what makes this time of year really special, is how much community support you get," Storm said. "As an athlete, as a competitor, you can really maximize your potential when you feel that support, and it makes it a lot of fun."

Despite the almost insurmountable 19-point deficit in the final period,



ELAINE MOORE / Peru Tribune

CHEERING ON THE WARRIORS — North Miami students and fans cheer as one of their players draws a foul while going to the basket against Carroll during fourth quarter regional action Saturday afternoon at Tipton High School.

North Miami won the fourth quarter, 26-19, almost doubling its total for the entire game. Carroll won the game, 69-57, but it could have been worse if not for North Miami's quick start in the fourth quarter.

Roth, who played his last game as a Warrior on Saturday, scored seven of the Warriors' first 11 points in the period to get North Miami within 14 of the Cougars. Even though

it's not the farthest he's been in the state tournament, he said that this season's regional run was better than two years ago when the Warriors went to the regional final.

He fouled out at the 2:43 mark with 14 points on the day, but was in good spirits after the game, even cracking a smile during a postgame interview.

"I just knew that we had to keep fighting to see if we could do anything and

bring it back to being a close game," Roth said. "Obviously we couldn't, and then I went out with my fifth foul, and it just went down here from there."

Roth's cousin, North Miami sophomore Brady Briggs, was among the North Miami student section, which didn't sit for a single second of the game. Neither Roth nor Briggs could explain it, but to show his support

for the Warriors, he wore a black, pin-striped suit with a shiny white tie and red shirt. The best explanation was that the outfit featured North Miami colors.

"I just found it, and I wanted to do something special, so I just wore it," Briggs said.

First-year head coach Storm, who was at center court embracing his two

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Car problems can't keep Head from legislative meet

Vote center, other bills focus of update

BY JOSEPH SLACIAN

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WABASH — State Sen. Randy Head nearly didn't make it to a legislative update here Saturday morning.

Head, who represents Miami County and a portion of Wabash County in the Indiana Senate's 18th District, had a flat tire while en route from his home in Logansport.

However, a call to fellow State Sen. Jim Banks brought Head a ride, and the pair made it to the briefing, albeit a few minutes late, sponsored by the Wabash County Chamber of Commerce's Government Affairs Committee. Banks represents most of Wabash County in the Senate's 17th District. The pair was joined by State Rep. Rebecca Kubacki, who represents

Wabash County in the Indiana House's 22nd District.

Head, during his brief remarks, talked about the vote center bill and a bill dealing with the state's unemployment insurance, the only two measures so far this session to be signed into law by Gov. Mitch Daniels.

He also touched on the walkout in the Indiana House of Representatives during a question-and-answer session.

Head noted that vote centers have been used in his home county, Cass County, since the 2008 election. It was one of three counties in Indiana to experiment with the concept.

The measure, he explained, will allow Indiana's remaining 89 counties to explore the possibility of vote centers.

"It does not mandate that anybody do it," he said, adding that any county can keep the cur-

rent system, should they choose.

"There are fewer polling places, and they are opened longer," he said.

The centers, he said, helped produce the highest voter turnout in 2008 in the history of Cass County.

"There was much less waiting time," he continued. "There were much fewer complaints. The time to get the votes counted ranged from an hour to an hour and a half.

"Voters liked it. They are much more convenient. We saved tens of thousands of dollars."

Rules that now apply to voting sites, such as being handicapped accessible, still apply to vote centers, Head said. The savings come from the fact that not as many poll workers or machines are needed.

"The other miracle about these things is it doesn't matter where you live in the county, you can vote at any polling place," he said. "If you live at



JOSEPH SLACIAN / Peru Tribune

LISTENING — State Sen. Randy Head (left) listens as State Sen. Jim Banks makes a point Saturday morning during a legislative update sponsored by the Wabash County Chamber of Commerce.

one end of the county and work in another, you can go to a polling place near where you work and you will get your correct ballot for county councilman, county commissioner."

Turning to unemployment funds, Head said

the state's unemployment trust fund was \$2 billion in the hole.

"We were sending out a lot more money than we were ever getting in," he said. "There's no great way to deal with it."

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