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SULLIVAN Daily TIMES

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▶▶ Inside
2018 Agri-Business Special Section



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SULLIVAN JAG COMPETES, WINS AT REGIONAL



Contributed photo

Sullivan JAG had three first-place finishers at regional competition on Friday who will move on to the state level in March.

Times staff report

The Sullivan Jobs for America's Graduates program competed at the regional competition at Ivy Tech Community College Terre Haute campus on Friday, bringing home seven awards.

"This was the seventh year for the com-

petition in our region," according to Region 7 WorkOne business consultant Brad Trusler. "The students came together to showcase the skills they have been learning during the past year. Competitions were held in categories such as employability skills, critical thinking (and) creative solutions."

Additionally, nearly 150 students heard from guest speaker and former JAG student Tierra Allen, who now works at WTHI-TV, and toured the Ivy Tech campus and network with local employers and community leaders.

Sullivan JAG first-place finishers, who move on to state include: Kyler Brown, cre-

ative solutions; Natalie Catt, critical thinking; and Cadie Honaker, writing skills.

Zach Storms and Hunter Tomey finished in second place, and Madyson Vandevender and Jessica Walls took third in entrepreneurship plan. Kaylee Honaker and Jaden Scott were second in writing skills and as outstanding senior respectively.

Commissioners impose 10-ton weight limit on hard-surface county roads

By DENNIS CLARK
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The Sullivan County Commissioners met in a scheduled executive session — not open to the public — on Monday night, dealing with unspecified personnel issues.

However, despite that limitation and not being an agenda item, the commissioners quickly agreed to impose a 10-ton weight limit on hard surface county roads.

"The freeze is coming out and the roads are basically getting soft," commissioners' president Bob Davis said. "And we don't want people running heavy loads tearing up the blacktop roads."

Davis said he and the other two commissioners, Ray McCammon and John Waterman Sr., "talked about it last night, decided we better get it done because the roads are getting soft."

Thus far this year, the 10-ton limit has not been needed due to the early, extended severe drop in temperatures which ushered in 2018.

But when the temperatures finally relented,



they warmed up in the past week really fast to balmy, spring-like levels. And time to react was of the essence.

"Just all of a sudden and we don't have a (commissioners) meeting for two weeks," Davis noted. "If we'd wait until then it would be too late."

Davis said he had been texting farmers he knows on Tuesday, including a grain operator at Carlisle.

"So truck drivers coming in can be talked too," he added.

How long the 10-ton limit is to remain in place will be determined by, you guessed it, the weather, "so until further notice," Davis said.

When, and why, this limit has been put in place has varied over the past few years.

Last year, the limit was put in place on Jan. 18 due to extremely wet conditions early in the winter. It was lifted on Feb. 7.

From 2014 to 2016, the limits were imposed in early February, then lifted in March. In 2013, the limit was not lifted until the first week in April.



IT'S THAT POTHOLE TIME OF YEAR

The Indiana Department of Transportation says extreme fluctuation of temperatures dipping above and below freezing the past few weeks has created prime conditions for potholes — not just on city, town or county roads — on Indiana interstates, U.S. routes and state highways.

To deal with potholes in the most aggressive and efficient manner, INDOT will be allowing crews through the state to close travel lanes where necessary during daytime hours, including during peak travel times for priority repairs.

Where possible, crews will limit their daytime work hours and try to avoid working in travel lanes during peak times. However, motorists might encounter maintenance crews making priority repairs any time, day or night.

How a pothole forms

Cracks develop in pavement from aging, traffic wear and winter freeze-thaw cycles. Potholes begin when water seeps

into these cracks and freezes, expanding the layers of pavement, stone and soil. As the ice melts and contracts, heavy highway traffic further loosens the pavement, forming potholes. To learn more, view this video at www.youtube.com/watch?v=UkGF4JCT3Fg

Preventing potholes

When the Indiana Department of Transportation is not clearing snow, ice or storm debris, its crews are focused on maintaining and protecting the state's roads and bridges. Sealing and repaving projects prevent water from seeping into the pavement and forming potholes.

In 2017, INDOT crews crack sealed more than 1,400 lane miles and chip sealed more than 500 lane miles of pavement to prevent the forming of potholes.

Pothole patches

With temperatures too low for paving, most of Indiana's hot-mix asphalt plants are now closed. During the winter

INDOT uses cold mix, a mixture of small stone and liquid asphalt, as a temporary patch.

Even after being filled with cold patch, the same pothole requires ongoing maintenance and can reopen several times throughout the winter. When the asphalt plants reopen in the spring, INDOT maintenance crews clean out and then repair potholes with hot mix, providing a smoother, more permanent fix.

INDOT urges motorists to slow down and stay alert when encountering pothole-patching crews.

Report potholes

To report a pothole on a numbered state route, interstate or U.S. highway, contact your regional INDOT district or follow the "Report a Concern" link at potholes.indot.in.gov or on the INDOT mobile app.

For potholes on city streets or county roads, contact the proper city or county maintenance department.

House committee approves bill merging township trustees

By ANDREW KRULL
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A state legislative committee approved passage of a bill that would force smaller township trustee offices to merge by a 10-0 vote on Tuesday, with the bill still yet to go before the full House or Senate for passage into law.

The government and regulatory reform committee passed House Bill 1005 with minor amendments not affecting the proposed merger, with the bill now referred to the ways and means committee, according to the Indiana General Assembly web page.

The bill would require townships with a 2010 census

population of less than 1,200 to merge with a contiguous township. If the bill becomes law, 309 of Indiana's 1,005 townships would be required to merge by Jan. 1, 2023. Four township trustee offices in Sullivan County would be directly affected: Jefferson (population 417), Fairbanks (733), Gill (871) and Turman (1,061).

Turman Township trustee Travis McKinney said on Tuesday that his sentiments on the bill were similar to comments by other county trustees affected, who spoke to the Times for a story in Tuesday's paper.

See TRUSTEES on Page 7



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Senior Comprehensive blood tests for Pets 7+years old.

These blood tests include a complete blood count (evaluates anemia, dehydration, infection and platelets), Serum Chemistry Analysis (assesses organ health, glucose level, and electrolytes, and thyroid hormone levels. Pets are living longer than ever and blood tests are an important part of diagnosing potentially sick BEFORE they show symptoms.

Schedule your Senior Pet's blood tests today and start the New Year off right!

February is National Pet Dental Health Month!

During the entire month, we are celebrating with a **FREE** OraVet Sealant Application, a \$40.00 value, and a **FREE** ECG (Electrocardiogram), a \$50.00 value, when you schedule your pet's dental cleaning!

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▶▶ PG2/ Weather

Tonight	Thursday
Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny
25°	48°

▶▶ Correction

A Monday story involving the filing of a lawsuit by the city of Sullivan against various opioid manufacturers and distributors only listed Cohen & Malad LLC as counsel for the city from information provided. The city is also represented by local counsel John P. Nichols.

▶▶ PG8/ Deaths

- Catherine May, 96, Terre Haute.
- Gary Glynn Roe, 65, Farmersburg.
- Michael Bice, 48, Sullivan.



▶▶ Meetings

- Thursday**
- Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce, 11:30 a.m., Word of Life Church, 502 N. Court St., Sullivan.
 - Dugger Town Council, 1 p.m., special meeting, town hall.
 - Sullivan City Council, 4:15 p.m., special session to re-adopt 2018 budget, Sullivan City Hall.