



# The RECORDER

JANUARY 15, 2015

**Death Notices:** (see page 3)  
LENA DENACHUCK ARVIDSON, 97  
ROBERT E. HUVENDICK "HUVIE"  
KAREN ELAINE LUTZKA of Albion, age 66  
JOANNE M. STENSON, age 57 of Albion  
DONALD CHARLES ZANDER, 85, of Albion  
ARTHUR ZIMMERMAN, 87 of Homer

**AREA SPORTS IN THIS WEEK'S RECORDER**  
**Concord High School**  
Boys Basketball, page 8  
Girls Basketball, page 7  
Cheer, page 7  
Wrestling, page 8  
**Marshall High School**  
Boys and Girls Basketball, page 8  
Wrestling, page 7  
**Springport High School**  
Boys Basketball, page 8  
Girls Basketball, page 7, 8  
Cheer, page 7  
Wrestling, page 8



**Yellowjackets vs. Spartans**  
Concord girls basketball picks up fifth straight win in game against Springport.

See page 7



**Dominant victory**  
Marshall girls basketball team takes win over Western.

See page 8



**Haiti remembered**  
Haiti earthquake disaster recalled five years later in ceremony in Albion.

See page 2



**E.L.T. Club celebrates**  
Club holds a Victorian Tea to celebrate 125 anniversary.

See page 2

## A look back through time at the murder of Senator Warren G. Hooper on January 11, 1945

By KARA DECHALK  
Staff Writer

Seventy years ago this week the City of Albion was swarming with reporters seeking information about the still unsolved murder of state Sen. Warren G. Hooper. The area was abuzz as various police agencies converged on the city to search for clues, and to follow up on leads, including rumors of the reported sighting around town of Sam Fleisher, a member of Detroit's notorious Purple Gang, just a few days before the crime.

We thought it would be interesting to look back at the archives and retell the happenings of the days and months following the murder and share what was known about it at the time.

It was January 1945 and WWII was still in full swing. Amid the usual local news, and society happenings, the major news stories of the time were of the war. In fact, on Jan. 10, 1945, the day before Hooper's slaying, the banner headline of the Albion Evening Recorder states "100,000 Men Ashore on Luzon Gulf; First Objectives Seized." At the time, state legisla-

tures were pondering veterans' aid bills to help the returning soldiers and it was reported that British Field Marshal Bernard Montgomery had been appointed to command two American Armies. FDR was to be sworn in to an unprecedented fourth term as President of the United States, a term which he would not complete due to his death in April of the same year. The film "National Velvet" starring Elizabeth Taylor and Mickey Rooney would be released to box offices after its premier in December and the song "Rum & Coca Cola" by the Andrews Sisters would soon top the charts.

In the coming months, the world would see the liberation of Auschwitz, the fall of Berlin and receive news of Hitler's death.

War correspondent Ernie Pyle, whose articles appeared regularly in the newspaper, would be killed and subsequently buried next to the doughboys he wrote about on the Pacific Island of Ie Shima.

On May 2, 1945 next to the headline "Four Facing Warrants in Hooper Murder Case" another article notes that President Truman has requested budget cuts to top war agencies as part

of the preparation for transition from two wars down to one.

To this day the murder of Sen. Hooper remains unsolved. It is the subject of two books and remains one of Michigan's most intriguing unsolved cases. It is believed the murder had to do with the grand jury investigation against three defendants named in a recent warrant charging bribe conspiracy to corrupt legislative action on a 1943 horse racing bill. Because of the implication of the crime, Hooper's murder touched off one of the state's greatest manhunts for the slayers.

The following information has been compiled from excerpts taken from newspaper articles published in the Albion Evening Recorder in the days following Sen. Hooper's Murder.

On Friday, Jan. 12, 1945 the banner headline in the Albion Evening Recorder reads "Bullet-Riddled Body of Senator Hooper, Star Witness, Found"

Word that state Sen. Warren G. Hooper of Albion had been shot and instantly killed on

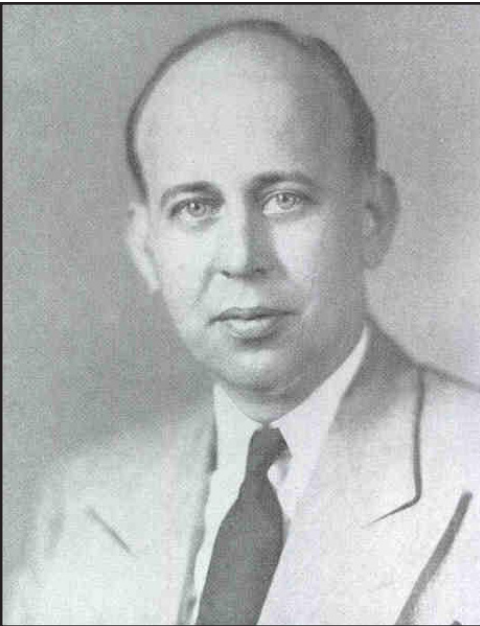


Photo courtesy of Frank Passic  
Senator Warren G. Hooper.

See HOOPER on page 3

## Calhoun County veteran's leader resigns

By CATHERINE KERLEY  
Contributing Writer

The Calhoun County Sheriff's Office has opened a criminal investigation into the former Calhoun County Veteran's Affairs director Scott Losey.

Losey is accused of asking for money and gifts from some clients after filing paperwork so they could receive benefits. A search warrant was served at the suspect's residence in Portage, Michigan and the investigation is ongoing.

Losey had been a county employee for about 15 years.

The county received a complaint on Dec. 28 from the widow of a veteran who said Losey had asked for a \$200 check when she tried to file for survivor's benefits. The Veteran's Affairs Office does not charge for its services.

The Sheriff's Office is asking anyone that conducted business with the former director, to call, if they were asked to provided gifts or money for the services he provided. The numbers to call are: 269-781-0940 or 269-781-0880.

## ADPS officers take man into custody following car chase

By CATHERINE KERLEY  
Contributing Writer

On Sunday, Jan. 11 at 2:30 a.m. an Albion Department of Public Safety officer attempted to stop a vehicle on State Street near Austin Avenue, in Albion.

Sgt. Kurt Etter had observed the vehicle driving in the parking lane on Austin Avenue. Upon activating his lights and siren the car refused to stop and instead fled from the officer.

Etter continued to pursue the vehicle down Broadwell Street to Eaton Street, then onto Wild Street where PSO Eric Chard and PSO Nicole Wygant joined in the pursuit.

"The driver of the vehicle made a U-turn at Carson Street and rammed into the front of Officer Chard's patrol car," said ADPS Chief Scott Kipp.

Then the driver fled once again, heading north on Second Street, then east again on Broadwell Street. "He lost control near Terpenning Street where he stopped after going over the curb and into a yard," said Kipp.

Officers were able to take the suspect into custody without incident. After the chase it was determined the driver had stolen the car from a family member. Charges were requested from the Calhoun County Prosecutor's office for the driver for Automobile Theft, Fleeing and Eluding, Assault with an Automobile, Leaving the Scene of an Accident, Providing a False Name and Driving with a Suspended License.

DeMarcus DeWalt, 23, was arraigned Monday and is a habitual second offender. No one was hurt during the chase and the incident remains under investigation.

## Albion Board of Education swears in new members, hears presentation on Girls Discover Science



Newly elected school board member Shane Williamson raises his right hand to swear his oath.



Six of the girls who took part in the Girls Discover Science program received certificates at the school board meeting Tuesday night.

Photos by Catherine Kerley



Mike Culliver tells the board about the Girls Discover Science program.



Re-elected board members Kevin Metz and Vivian Davis swear their oath of office.

By CATHERINE KERLEY  
Contributing Writer

The Albion Board of Education swore in three members during Tuesday night's regular meeting.

Kevin Metz and Vivian Davis were re-elected in last fall's November general election. Shane Williamson was newly elected. All three took their oath of office. They are joined by newly elected board member Ronnie Sims who was sworn in at the last meeting of the

board.

Also during the meeting the board formally vacated all board offices and then elected new officers. Board president is Michael Bearman. Vice president is Vivian Davis. Secretary of the Board is Sonya Brown. Board treasurer is Kevin Metz.

The board also heard a presentation on the Girls Discover Science program which ran last fall. Mike Culliver, the district's At-Risk Coordinator, thanked the board for its support of the program which was done in collaboration

with Albion College.

Dr. Nonye Alozie, an Albion College professor, helped run the program, and has since gone on to work at Stanford University in California.

Under the program Culliver was charged to select 10 girls to take part. The girls traveled to three different museums: the Kalamazoo Valley Museum, the University of Michigan Natural History Museum, and the Ann Arbor Hands On Museum and created reports on where they went and what they did using a sci-

entific perspective.

Superintendent Jerri-Lynn Williams-Harper said "I want to compliment the girls because they were really astute. They wanted to get out and see and feel and that's what we're trying to do. I'm proud of the girls for understanding there are many ways to learn and do various things. They all came away with wonderful perspectives and wonderful pictures of the museums. It was quite an experience!"

The girls each received a certificate at the meeting.