

## Meth lab leads to two arrests

BY STEVE GARBACZ  
For The Republic

Edinburgh police arrested two people after discovering a meth lab at a mobile home.

Gary D. Sneed, 40, 618 Duncan St., Edinburgh, was arrested on charges of possession of a syringe, two counts of dealing in cocaine or narcotics, possession of



GARY D. SNEED



AMBER N. ENGLAND

marijuana and possession of drug precursors.

Amber N. England, 30, 124 Lind Drive, Edinburgh, was arrested on charges of possession of a syringe, dealing cocaine or narcotics and possession of marijuana.

Police received a tip that a man was making methamphetamine in his home and garage, according to a police report. Officers got a search warrant and searched the

home this week and found more than 25 syringes, two bags of marijuana and items used to make methamphetamine, according to a police report.

Both people were arrested and taken to the Johnson County jail. Sneed was being held on \$112,000 bond, and England was being held on \$7,000 bond.

## MARRIAGE

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Cummins has long supported gay rights, and executives have said that the company can survive in Indiana only if it can attract the best and brightest employees and that a gay-marriage ban would send the message that Indiana does not welcome people of all backgrounds.



REV. CLEM DAVIS

A Cummins executive in 2011 told a state Senate committee a ban would jeopardize the company's ability to compete in global markets.

In early 2000, the company had set off a local storm of criticism when it announced that it would make health insurance available to domestic partners of employees who are not legal spouses.

Tom Ganus, co-owner of Midwest Computer Solutions in Columbus, said the court's decision elicited mixed feelings for him.

"As a Christian, it really saddens me, and I know ... this is going to harm our country," Ganus said.

He called relations between anyone other than a man and a woman "repulsive."

However, Ganus also said, "As an American, I don't want there to be any discrimination."

He added, "There's a tension there between God's word and our unique values as Americans," which leaves him torn.

### Clergy comment

The Rev. Clem Davis, pastor at St. Bartholomew Catholic Church, said that, while he believes the Supreme Court's decision will support stable relationships among gay couples, he does not expect the Catholic Church to change its position on what constitutes a marriage.

"As a Catholic priest who's charged to dispense the sacraments ... I know we see ... marriage as a sacramental union of a man and a woman," Davis said.

He said that while he personally would be more comfortable with a term such as same-sex union, he realizes such a term would not satisfy people who see their union as a true marriage.

In general, Davis said, "a stable relationship is better for a community than an unstable one."

Davis was among a small minority of clergy who in 2000 publicly supported Cummins when it extended insurance benefits to same-sex partners. He said he supported that policy because extending health care benefits to same-sex part-

**"I want to communicate as disciples of Christ we love all for whom Christ has died, but love is not permissiveness. As Christians, we are not quietist ... we are called to lovingly speak the truth."**

**John Armstrong, pastor of Grace Lutheran Church in Columbus**

On his feelings about the Supreme Court's recent decisions regarding gay marriage



JOHN ARMSTRONG

**"This will have significant impact upon not only gay marriage issues across the country but possibly civil rights protections."**

**Lorraine Smith, director of the Columbus Human Rights Commission**

On the Supreme Court's recent decisions regarding gay marriage



LORRAINE SMITH

in supporting the best interests of children.

Armstrong said his concerns come, in part, from the American College of Pediatricians, which, on its website says that "children develop optimally when reared by their two biological parents in a low-conflict marriage."

The ACP was formed in 2002 by 100 conservative former members of the American Academy of Pediatrics, which has a membership of about 60,000. Institutions including the American Academy of Pediatrics, the National Adoption Center, the American Medical Association and the American Psychological Association say that being raised by gay couples does not negatively affect children.

However, Armstrong said that Scripture and nature show that a man and a woman together provide the best environment for a child.

"I am in no way attempting to criticize any existing families," he said. "I am grateful for any parent, gay or straight, who is doing his or her best to raise a child in a loving, supportive environment."

"Children need the very best family structure we can provide, and, when it comes to the metrics by which we measure that, our own personal desires and agenda have little or no place in that part of the debate."

"I want to communicate as disciples of Christ we love all for whom Christ has died," Armstrong said, "but love is not permissiveness. As Christians, we are not quietist ... we are called to lovingly speak the truth."

### Equal footing

Julia Stumpff, spokeswoman for the Inclusive Community Coalition, said that she was "ecstatic" when she heard about the court ruling.

The coalition is a nonpartisan nonprofit organization that was founded in 2007 to raise awareness and increase dialogue on issues around same-sex couples, sexual orientation and gender identity.

Stumpff said the ruling extends to same-sex couples hundreds of rights that they previously did not have, including being able to visit a spouse in a hospital and receiving benefits upon a spouse's death. She also said that previously, if one of the partners died, the surviving spouse had no rights to arrange the funeral, as those rights fell to the siblings or parents.

Stumpff said she likes the trajectory on which the country seems to be, in that same-sex couples increasingly are moving toward being on equal footing with other couples.

Columbus Human Rights Commission Director Lorraine Smith said via email, "This will have significant impact upon not only gay marriage issues across the country but possibly civil rights protections."

### State decisions

The U.S. Supreme Court sidestepped the larger question of whether banning gay marriage is unconstitutional, and states other than California and 12 others where gay couples already have the right to wed were left to hash out the issue within their borders.

State Rep. Milo Smith, R-Columbus, said the ruling clears the way for the Indiana Legislature to continue to amend the state constitution to ban gay marriage.

He said he believes Indiana legislators will approve the amendment in the next session. To become enshrined in the Indiana Constitution, the amendment must be approved in a voter referendum, which Smith expects to happen in midterm elections in November 2014.

According to a survey by the Bowen Center for Public Affairs at Ball State University from late 2012, Indiana residents are divided on whether same-sex couples should be allowed to marry. A slight majority, 54 percent, opposed enshrining a gay-marriage ban in the constitution.

The Associated Press contributed to this story.

## ENERGY

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pronouncement "a major concern" and "startling," Turner said as head of a rural electric co-op he thinks Obama's push overlooks gains made recently in using renewable energy sources — wind, solar and others — to generate electricity. More than 13 percent of the power that electric co-ops generate nationally comes from renewable sources already, he said.

He said the federal crackdown will stifle new power-plant construction that already is at a virtual standstill because of uncertainty over what federal rules on pollution and control of carbon emissions will look like.

"Most utilities are standing back and waiting," Turner said. "Depending on the rules and how restrictive they turn out to be, we may never see another coal-fired plant built. We (electric co-ops) are all about clean air; but we also want reliable and affordable power. We need base-load coal to be part of the mix."

Elsewhere, Gov. Matt Mead of Wyoming said in response to Obama's remarks that he would oppose federal regulations that don't allow for construction and operation of coal-fired plants that use the latest and best pollution-control technology.

"When you think, for example, about what coal means for this country — roughly 40 percent of the electricity produced in this country is by coal," Mead said. "To shut off coal or to say you can't have further coal development, I think is the wrong way to go."

Meanwhile, a new study on renewable energy by the International Energy Agency said renewable energy is growing fast around the world and will edge out natural gas as the second-biggest source of electricity, after coal, by 2016. But many of those gains are being made outside the U.S., especially in China, the report said.

In the U.S., renewable sources were used to generate 12 percent of the electricity consumed nationally, according to the U.S. Energy Department. Hydroelectric plants supplied 7 percent of the nation's power, and other renewable sources such as wind and solar kicked in 5 percent.

### Emissions controls

#### Obama's goals

Reduce power-plant emissions of carbon dioxide, increase America's reliance on natural gas and renewable energy and make trucks, homes and businesses more efficient.

Some parts of the plan will take months to work out and years to go into full effect.

One element opposed by coal interests seeks to rein in one of the biggest sources of carbon dioxide emissions: coal-fired power plants.

The president will direct the Environmental Protection Agency to create the first-ever federal limits on such emissions.

#### Impact on utilities and coal producers

To reduce emissions, power companies will have to run coal plants less often, install equipment to capture carbon dioxide or shut down plants.

Instead of paying such costs, some companies could shift instead to generating more power with natural gas, nuclear, wind or solar power.

#### Impact on electric customers

Homeowners and businesses will likely pay more for electricity as the nation relies less on coal.

Some argue that more efficient homes and appliances will help reduce energy consumption, which could offset electricity costs.

Hugh Wynne, an analyst at Bernstein Research, estimates that a 20 percent nationwide reduction in carbon dioxide emissions would add \$9 or so to an average American's monthly bill.

Utility interests argue that the price increase will be much steeper than that for many.

SOURCE: Associated Press

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