

GREENWOOD SWIMMING TOWARD SUCCESS

PAGE B1

PREP SWIMMING



AMERICAN HOSTAGE THREATENED

PAGE A8

LOBBYING SCANDAL

HOUSE LEADERS ANNOUNCE RESPONSE

PAGE A2

DAILY JOURNAL

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2006

Johnson County, Indiana

50 cents

WEATHER



Today
Skies: Partly sunny
Temps: High 39; low 30

MAP, PAGE A10

NEWS

Driver killed in crash when car crosses center line

A man was killed Tuesday evening when his car went into the opposite lane of traffic on State Road 135.

The driver was traveling northbound in a blue Ford Taurus when he apparently lost control of his car near County Road 100N and went into the southbound lane, police said.

A white Oldsmobile Bravada traveling south was unable to stop, t-boning the passenger side of the Taurus, according to the two passengers in the Bravada.

The man died at the scene, according to police.

Identities of those involved in the accident were not available Tuesday evening.

Other than the passengers in the Bravada, there were no witnesses to the accident, Johnson County Sheriff's Chief Deputy Doug Cox said.

Police suspect slick roads were a factor, Johnson County Sheriff's Chief Deputy Doug Cox said.

The couple in the Bravada were taken to Johnson Memorial Hospital without serious injuries, Cox said.

ELECTION '06

Filing period for candidates begins today, ends Feb. 2

People wanting to run for public office can start lining up in the county courthouse at 8 a.m. today.

The filing period for candidacy in this year's elections lasts until Feb. 2. Prominent positions on the ballot include a county commissioner, state legislators and the county prosecutor.

Primary elections are set for May 2, and the general election will be conducted Nov. 7.

DEATHS

Franklin
Irene Canter, 85
Helen M. Davis, 66
Myla Dee Smith, 70

Greenwood
Samuel J. Scheivley, 86

Indianapolis
William S. Eubanks, 81

Elsewhere
Richard J. Stockrahm Sr., 82

INDEX

Accent.....A6-A7
Classified.....B7-B10
Comics.....B6
Editorials.....A4
Johnson County.....A3
Obituaries.....A5
Police, fire.....A3
Sports.....B1-B5
TV listings.....A7
Weather.....A10

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LENDING A HELPING HAND

Expanding ministry

Trafalgar charity seeks larger space for volunteers



Lord's Locker volunteer Tom Harris looks through donated items that will be given to the homeless at the group's Trafalgar facility.

AT A GLANCE



The Lord's Locker, a nonprofit Christian group in Trafalgar, is hoping to build a new center to support their multiple services for needy families.

The group is currently running out of room for volunteers and donations at their building at 101 S. Pleasant St.

Information: 878-7708

BY THE NUMBERS

Here's a look at some facts and figures from the center in 2005:

600

Average number of people per month who got help there shopping for clothing, shoes, toys and housewares

11,016

Number of people provided with groceries

2,973

Number of gifts given to children and adults at annual Christmas giveaway

By PAIGE E. WASSEL

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On any given Monday, a building at the corner of Pearl and Pleasant streets in Trafalgar is bursting with volunteers.

Women are stitching quilts for the homeless. Volunteers are organizing donations for the clothes pantry. Workers are sorting toys to be used in Christmas giveaways.

The 4,700-square-foot building in Trafalgar is home to The Lord's Locker Inc., a nonprofit Christian organization that provides a multitude of services to benefit needy families.

But with little room for volunteers and food and clothing donations, the group is starting a search for a new building to allow them to help more people.

"We're just busting at the seams," volunteer director Madeline Harris said.

Through donations, the Lord's Locker already has saved almost \$10,000 for a new building.

Group leaders are meeting later this week to discuss how they might expand. The ideal building would be about 8,000 square feet and located in Trafalgar, which is central to the six-county area served by the group, Harris said.

In addition to a space crunch, the current center has problems with a leaky roof.

It also would be nice to find some donated land for the project, cutting down on rent expenses for the group, Harris said.

Clients from Marion, Morgan, Bartholomew, Brown, Shelby and Johnson counties shop at the clothes and food pantries and participate in holiday giveaways.

In 2005, the center provided groceries to 11,016 men, women and children from six area counties.

On Monday morning, cheery volunteers art-



Volunteers Dorothy Cooper, left, and Betty Show, both of Greenwood, work on a quilt at the Lord's Locker in Trafalgar. The quilt will be given to the homeless.

fully dodge one another as they sort clothes on three crowded tables.

There's little room to move carts from the clothing pantry back to the sorting area, as some workers try to find a free space to organize a box of toys.

The center hosts a multitude of donated items, with areas for clothing, a food pantry and items for the homeless.

Upstairs, there's a room for meetings and a space for quilting supplies.

Christmas toy donations and pots, pans and other necessities to be used for victims of fire or other incidents are also stored on the second floor.

A small break room on the first floor doubles as a place for people to meet for Bible devotions on Wednesdays when the center also opens its food pantry.

Donations of bread and sweets come to the

(SEE MINISTRY, BACK PAGE)

Program to help at-risk students

Summer classes aim to improve retention

By PAIGE E. WASSEL
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All children forget some school lessons during the summer.

But for some, it isn't that they may remember A and B but forget C. They can't sit still long enough to relearn C or have forgotten B, too.

A group of Center Grove educators and parents is hoping to change that.

They are planning a pilot program to provide summer learning for special-needs children who require the most help.

The program, called Summer Special Needs Academic Camp for Kids, or SNACK, would offer six weeks of summer help for special-needs students, starting with those in the Center Grove area.

Center Grove mother Lisa Knott knows firsthand the benefits of the summer training.

Her son Ethan has severe developmental problems. Doctors diagnosed Ethan with autism, multiple brain anomalies and Vater syndrome, a kind of birth defect.

At age 3, when the family was living in New Jersey, Ethan started going to a full-day program and continued school in the summer.

Since moving to Center Grove in 2004, Knott said Ethan, now 7, has participated in a couple of special-education summer learning programs in the area.

Though there was nothing negative about the programs he

(SEE STUDENTS, BACK PAGE)

School money not boon

By JO ELLEN WERKING WEEDMAN

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School districts won't be hiring new teachers or starting new programs with money the governor announced he will send to districts.

As state legislators and some superintendents talk about schools getting money back from the state, residents may be led to believe the money is a windfall, said Dennis L. Costerison, executive director of the Indiana Association of School Business Officials.

"The misnomer from several legislators has been, 'Oh boy, look at all this money we're giving schools,'" he said. "These are not new dollars you can just go out and buy stuff with. That \$156 million is money schools already had budgeted. It's just when they will receive money that changed."

Since 2001, the state has delayed sending a monthly payment to school districts in order to balance the state's budget.

The delay in payment means school districts typically have to borrow money to pay teacher salaries and utility bills.

Gov. Mitch Daniels last week

(SEE MONEY, PAGE A5)

INTO THE REAL WORLD

Part of an occasional series

Indian Creek grad plagued by indecision

"I just keep thinking that if I had done this last year, I'd be a year ahead by the time I start (at Ivy Tech)."

Tara Riggle
Indian Creek graduate on her plans to continue her education

By ANNIE GOELLER

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No more discussions about her future with her family, her friends or random people she meets at work would make Tara Riggle happy.

The Indian Creek High School graduate wants to go back to the days of no responsibility and no life-changing decisions.

Riggle, 18, is tired of working and trying to figure out what to do

with her life. One semester out of high school, Riggle has changed her mind again.

In August, with a few doubts, she decided to attend the University of Indianapolis.

Since then, she's been to the college and Indiana University to visit friends. But none of the schools seemed right to her.

Before deciding on the Indianapolis college, she thought about attending Vincennes University or the University of Southern Indiana,

but changed her mind.

She wants to study to become a dental assistant and thinks the two-year Ivy Tech program is a good fit for her.

The four-year program at the University of Indianapolis seemed much too long for a girl who doesn't see herself as a "school person," she said.

Attending Ivy Tech was a decision she almost made in high school, but

(SEE GRAD, PAGE A5)

Homeless advocates look to hire director, build shelter

By PAIGE E. WASSEL
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An agency that helps the homeless in Johnson County is looking forward to what they would like to accomplish in the next couple of years.

Christian Help Inc. would like to start setting aside money and find a location for a homeless shelter.

The group also talked Monday about raising money to hire a paid executive director.

Organizers said increased awareness about homelessness in the area and nationally, and the group's

growing services, make now the right time to pursue these goals.

Pam Leffler, who is volunteering as director, said she thinks Hurricane Katrina showed people nationwide what homelessness looks like.

(SEE SHELTER, BACK PAGE)

HOW TO HELP

To find out more about Christian Help Inc. or how to get involved, call 767-7658 or contact Christian Help Inc., P.O. Box 7112, Greenwood, IN 46142.