

JOHNSON COUNTY

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Answering call for the wild

Hopefuls for popular reality show strut stuff at Greenwood auditions

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Hundreds of would-be Ruperts descended on a Greenwood business Wednesday. More than 300 people came from the south side and across Indiana to audition for the reality TV series "Survivor."

Wearing karate robes or even a box and telling stories of personal adventures to win over producers, they all wanted to be a part of the show's next season and compete for \$1 million and a chance at garnering the fame of Hoosier Rupert Boneham, a two-time series competitor.

The auditions were an open casting call conducted at the Ashley Furniture store across from Greenwood Park Mall.

People were allowed up to two minutes to tell about themselves and why they should be cast for the show, which will be the 13th season of the show.

Producers watching the tapes will look for the following traits: strong-willed, outgoing, adventurous, physically and mentally adept, adaptable to new environments and able to demonstrate interesting lifestyles, backgrounds and personalities.

About 800 contestants from across the country will be invited to the second round of interviews, likely in March. Final interviews will be in May, according to the show's Web site.

"We're in our own back yard, so you have to try," said 27-year-old Center Grove area resident



STAFF PHOTO BY MICHAEL W. HOSKINS/mhoskins@thejournalnet.com
Robin Rushton of Indianapolis auditions for the popular CBS reality show "Survivor" on Wednesday at Ashley Furniture in Greenwood.

Crystal Sewell, who auditioned. "This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity."

Survivor wannabes shared personal adventures, such as crawling through muddy caves in Bloomington, earning a black belt in karate and becoming a kickboxing champion, coaching high school sports and, perhaps riskiest of all, mothering teenage sons.

A man from Greenwood spoke for about 10 seconds, introducing himself quickly and proclaiming he was the "next winner" and telling video crews they could go home since they'd found him.

An Indianapolis high school coach said he would be a hypocrite if he didn't try out and try to make his dream a reality.

Some applicants were not ashamed to show off their spon-

taneity or personalities during the videotaped auditions.

Earlier in the afternoon, WISH-Channel 8 crew members said one man pulled down his pants to show his Speedo swimsuit.

Others tried a wide range of attention-getting routines, including performing magic acts, juggling flaming objects and dancing.

"You have to put some energy into it," said Carmel resident Jennifer Gerber, who referred to herself as the Gerbinator and put on her karate robe and black belt for her audition.

This was Gerber's first time auditioning, but her friend and co-worker Lynda Gerhart, who tried out with her, had done so twice before.

Gerhart told a story of how she spent five hours crawling through

a muddy cave in Bloomington, then woke up the next morning and hiked for six hours.

"I've caved everywhere and gone on every outdoor adventure there is," the 39-year-old fraud investigator said. "'Survivor' is where I should do my thing now."

Others spoke about their lack of loyalty as a strength.

"I'm willing to backstab, lie, cheat and steal," 25-year-old Steven Grimes of Greenwood said. "Whatever it takes."

He added, "The question isn't why am I right for 'Survivor,' it's if 'Survivor' is ready for me."

Grimes graduated in May from IUPUI with a degree in communications and manages sponsorship for a southside haunted house and runs an eBay business selling T-shirts.

He hasn't missed an episode since the show started, which has shown him what to expect in the game, Grimes said.

His father called him about 7 a.m. Wednesday to tell him about the casting call, and Grimes picked up his number a few hours later before returning for his audition shortly after 4 p.m.

Robin Rushton of Indianapolis put a red box over her that was decorated with "Survivor" logos.

"You have to suffer through so many things, but it's worth it," the mother of three boys.

"Producers should take a chance on me. Make anyone out there see and think they have a chance, too."

Local magazine launches Web site

Daily Journal staff report

The south side's newest magazine is now on the Internet.

The Web site, www.indysouthmag.com, went on line Tuesday and features the latest issue of South magazine, which was launched in June 2005 by Home News Enterprises, parent company of the Daily Journal.

"This is another exciting venture for our readers and our company," said Jeffrey W. Owen, publisher of the Daily Journal and South Magazine.

"Indysouthmag.com enables our Web users to enjoy the magazine's excellent stories and photographs, and enhances the market reach for our advertisers."

Indysouthmag.com features the current issue of South, which has a cover story on the Milto family of Greenwood and their fight against Batten Disease, which has gripped two of their sons.

The Web site also has breakouts of individual stories and photographs from the magazine, a local calendar of events, feature photographs and "Best of South" contests.

Visitors to the site also can see a PDF version of the magazine.

The design project team included Emilee Miller, South art director; Carol Miller, South editorial director; Leslie Myrick, online marketing director; Kathy McDermott, systems manager; and Christina Cosner, advertising director.

Owen said Home News Enterprises has begun expanding beyond newspapers, launching target market publications such as Southside Homes, Southside Parent, Southside Business Exchange and thejournalnet.com Web site.

"We have assembled an outstanding staff of writers and photographers for this magazine. And the reader and advertising response has been outstanding. This venture has far exceeded our expectations," Owen said.

Home News Enterprises is a family-owned media company that produces newspapers, special publications and Internet sites in Indiana. South Magazine's staff is housed at the Daily Journal in Franklin.

Home News Enterprises, which employs about 500 people, also has newspaper, commercial printing and special publication operations in Columbus, Greenfield, Monticello and Nashville.

Man wrecks vehicle into bar

Daily Journal staff report

An Indianapolis man led a Marion County deputy on a high-speed chase early Tuesday morning before crashing into a building on the city's east side.

Richard A. Dougherty, 23, was driving a car matching the description of a vehicle that was involved in a robbery at Village Pantry, 5960 E. Thompson Road, at 3:19 a.m. Wednesday.

The car was registered to his mother, who lives in Greenwood.

Soon after the robbery, Marion County Sheriff's Deputy Brad Beaton attempted to stop the car near the store.

Dougherty led Beaton on a high-speed chase before striking a utility pole and crashing into The Wreck Bar at 2402 English Ave. The building sustained substantial damage according to a Marion County sheriff's report.

Beaton pulled the man from the car, which had caught fire upon impact, department spokesman Capt. Phil Burton.

Dougherty was taken to Wishard Memorial Hospital in Indianapolis without life threatening injuries, Burton said.

Dougherty was charged with robbery, resisting law enforcement, theft and reckless driving, the report said.

BRIEFS LOCAL

JOHNSON COUNTY

United Way closing gap on goal for this year

The United Way of Johnson County is slightly ahead in fund-raising efforts compared with last year.

As of Dec. 31, the group had reached 75 percent of its \$1.17 million goal for 2005-06.

Though a Dec. 31 report wasn't calculated for the 2004-05 year, the 75 percent mark wasn't reached until Jan. 10.

The organization's campaign ends in late March.

The most recent campaign totals may be higher going into the end of January, as new pledges and donations are added, United Way Executive Director Nancy Lohr Plake said.

The group hasn't been able to check the latest numbers as they're in the process of making changes to some campaign software, she said.

The group is in the process of fund raising at area businesses, trying to add to pledge counts in the final stretch of the campaign, Plake said.

The money raised will be used to meet needs the United Way identifies in the community and serves through 26 youth organizations, senior centers, human service providers and others.

The nonprofit agencies served about 38,000 Johnson County residents last year.

GREENWOOD

Sign comes down safely with help of company

A portion of Sheek Road near Main Street and Interstate 65 reopened at noon Wednesday after being closed for nearly a day.

Workers took down the broken sign that prompted the road's closure and hoped to have it fixed later this week, Greenwood Fire Chief Steve Dhondt said.

Greenwood firefighters and police officers closed the section of Sheek Road south of Main

Street at 2 p.m. Tuesday because of fears a 74-foot-tall sign at a nearby business could come crashing down.

High winds, with gusts reaching 45 mph, broke the welding of the sign at the Red Roof Inn, 110 Sheek Road, causing it to lean and sway.

One sign company refused to fix the sign at Red Roof Inn in the high winds, and another was unable to repair the damage because of the conditions. That company ultimately did repair-work on the sign Wednesday.

Firefighters and police left the road closed Tuesday night and waited for the company to fix the sign in the morning, Dhondt said Tuesday.

The name of the company was not available.

By noon, the company took down the sign with a crane and had started to pull the pole out of the ground.

Workers could then repair the sign before putting it back, Dhondt said.

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ON THE RECORD

Police/fire

Franklin

Criminal mischief

• First block of South Water Street: A man reported at 11:55 a.m. Tuesday that someone painted graffiti on a sidewalk and building.

Property-damage accident

• 3:34 p.m. Monday — U.S. 31 and Greenwood Drive

Greenwood

Theft

• Bally's Total Fitness, 517 U.S. 31 North: A woman reported at 3:30 p.m. Monday that someone took her wallet from her locked locker while she was at the gym.

Criminal mischief

• Honeycutt Auto Sales, 640 S. State Road 135: The owner reported at 8:59 p.m. Monday that someone shot a paintball at the front door of the business.

Johnson County

Criminal mischief

• 1000 block of West Stones Crossing Road, White River Township: A man reported at 10:44 a.m. Monday that someone threw a brick through a window of a home under construction.

• 2000 block of North State Road 135, Bargersville: A woman reported at 9:46 a.m. Wednesday that someone had set a pile of clothes on fire in the garage. There was no damage to the garage.

Jail bookings

The following people recently were arrested and booked into the Johnson County jail:

Lori Ann Lomelino, 21, 860 N. Lincoln St., Apt. 3, Martinsville; arrested on a charge of criminal conversion; released on \$1,000 bond.

Guadalupe L. Hernandez, 41, 119 Antoinette Plaza, Apt. 229, Indianapolis; arrested on a charge of driving without ever receiving a license; released on \$1,000 bond.

Angela K. Spencer Reed, 36, 898 Tulip Lane, Greenwood; arrested on a charge of failure to appear in court; released on \$100 bond.

Gordon Matthew Hancock, 33, 5612 W. County Road 700N, Columbus; arrested on a charge of invasion of privacy; released on \$2,000 bond.

Amanda J. Owens, 24, 3314 Bunker-hill Road, Mooresville; arrested on a charge of failure to appear in court; held without bond.

Stacy A. Benedict, 30, 8135 Old State Road 37 North, Martinsville; arrested on a warrant for violation of probation; held without bond.

Jewell Anne Baker, 22, 603 E. Thompson Road, Edinburg; arrested on a charge of failure to appear in court; held without bond.

Malissa Renee Davidson, 35, 509 S. Taft Ave., Indianapolis; arrested on a warrant for violation of probation; held without bond.

William Jay Riester, 48, 128 Ursal Lane, Greenwood; arrested on a charge of probation revocation; held without bond.

Tara Dawn Richardson, 42, 198 Robinson St., Franklin; arrested on a charge of theft; held on \$3,000 bond.

Joseph Blay Cedars, 29, 1404 Weber Drive, Indianapolis; arrested on charges of contempt, possession of marijuana/hashish, and possession of paraphernalia; released on \$6,320 bond.

Thomas J. Harmon, 28, 2098 Averitt Road, Greenwood; arrested on a charge of driving while suspended with a prior conviction; held on \$2,000 bond.

Julia Cisneros, 35, 232 S. Bradley Ave., Indianapolis; arrested on a charge of driving without ever receiving a license; held on \$1,000 bond.

Billy Ray Denson, 33, 606 E. Thompson St., Edinburg; arrested on a Bartholomew County warrant; held without bond.

George Edward Myers, 36, 64 E. Southport Road, Indianapolis; arrested on a charge of violation of probation; held on \$1,500 bond.

Misty D. White, 30, 626 Park Drive, Greenwood; arrested on a charge of invasion of privacy; held on \$1,000 bond.

Births

Johnson Memorial Hospital

Kara Coryell and Scott Smith, girl born Jan. 24.

Rodolfo and Karla Ruacho, Greenwood, boy born Jan. 24.

Community Hospital South, Indianpolis

Melissa and Justin Cade, New Whiteland, boy born Jan. 17.

Marriages

Larry D. Starbuck and E. Faye M. Quilling, both of Greenwood

Michael P. Zinser and Myla A. Wright, both of Greenwood

Glenn Grafe and Carolyn E. Povonder, both of Greenwood

Terry Alexander Caviness and Danielle Lynn Brenneman, both of Greenwood

Stephen R. Duckworth and Roxann L. Cantrell, both of Greenwood

Jeffrey William Murto of Greenwood and Samantha Beth Pennington of Mooresville

John M. Layton Sr. of Greenwood and Maureen Ball of Deputy

Joseph Roy Smith and Rebecca J. Vaught, both of Greenwood

Jason Eugene Jones and Lesley A. Hopwood, both of Franklin

Gregory Oliva Basco and Connie Frances Miller, both of Greenwood

Charles W. Crawford and Olive P. Chew, both of Greenwood

William Harry Darnell III of Oklahoma City, Okla., and Stacey Kristine Zartman of Greenwood

Brent Holman and Rita M. Shirrell, both of New Whiteland

William A. Geiger II of Greenwood and Courtney A. Schmaltz of Indianapolis

Philip Dale Jensen of Greenwood and Ruth Anne Huldeen of Indianapolis

Jean-Pierre Rene Michel Fano and Laura Ellen Strachman, both of Deland, Fla.

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