

• Work

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

highway it would delay the project for years by prompting a search for another route.



State Sen. Brent Waltz, who represents portions of Johnson County, has said building Interstate 69 through Perry Township would cost \$100 million in local taxes and 900 jobs.

"The restrictions that were put in the final bill will turn out to be additional obstacles for I-69," Maloney said. "They further complicate an already very complicated and controversial highway."

If the I-69 portion in Marion County is not built in Perry Township, Maloney said it's unclear what township would welcome it. Residents of Decatur Township just west of Perry Township, "made it clear they don't want it there" years ago during public hearings, he said.

If the extension doesn't go through Perry Township, it wouldn't follow State Road 37 through the Center Grove area, which could cost Johnson County thousands in road repair funds.

Tom Sharp, the state's transportation commissioner, said recently that changing the new highway's Marion County route could delay the project for at least three years.

State Sen. Brent Waltz, R-Indianapolis, praised the highway plan's Perry Township provision during a news conference Friday. He said not building I-69 in the township would prevent the loss of about 900 jobs, more than \$100 million in local taxes and protect economic development.

"We must look for a more economical, less disruptive route for I-69," Waltz said.

Gary Abell, a spokesman for the Indiana Department of Transportation, said the state plans to begin construction in the summer of 2008 on the I-69 extension's southern portion, just north of Evansville at Interstate 64, and then proceed northward over the following decade.

Because construction on I-69's Marion County section is still many years away, he said the state expects to have plenty of time to address the concerns of the township and the legislature so that construction can proceed through Perry Township.

The heart of the highway plan approved by the General Assembly is leasing the Indiana Toll Road to a Spanish-Australian consortium for \$3.8 billion, \$700 million of which would go toward the I-69 extension's projected \$1.8 billion cost.

Daniels wants to make the highway a tollway and lease it to cover the road's remaining cost.

However, the highway plan lawmakers approved would allow him to make only I-69 from Evansville to Martinsville a tollway. The governor would need future legislative authority to collect tolls on the remaining 25-mile leg to Indianapolis.

Because I-69 had previously been proposed as a traditional, non-toll interstate, Abell said the state will launch a study this spring examining the economic impact of making it a tollway.

Daniels said Friday the possibility that fewer motorists would use I-69 if it becomes a tollway was an issue. But he said tolling would put the highway closer to becoming a reality after years of discussions and studies.

"On a net basis this is a step forward for I-69 because in the past, we might have had all the paperwork done but we had no money. Now we have some but it's not enough to pay for the whole thing. And that is why tolling remains one of the options we are looking at," he said.

Maloney said opposition to I-69 continues to grow, particularly in communities along State Road 37.

"By and large they don't want it coming that way, whether it's a toll road or not," he said.

# N.Y. holiday parade festive despite controversy

The Associated Press

NEW YORK

Protesters joined bagpipers, marching bands and thousands of flag-waving spectators at the St. Patrick's Day parade Friday after the parade's chairman compared gay Irish-American activists to neo-Nazis, the Ku Klux Klan and prostitutes.

As huge, happy crowds lined the streets, the chairman, John Dunleavy, sidestepped questions about his remarks to The Irish Times.

"Today is St. Patrick's Day. We celebrate our faith and heritage, everything else is secondary," he said before the start of the Fifth Avenue parade.

Dunleavy set off a firestorm this week when he told the newspaper: "If an Israeli group wants to march in New York, do you allow Neo-Nazis into their parade? If African Americans are marching in Harlem, do they have to let the Ku Klux Klan into their parade?"

Referring to the Irish Lesbian and Gay Organization, Dunleavy

said, "People have rights. If we let the ILGO in, is it the Irish Prostitute Association next?" On Thursday, Christine Quinn, the City Council's first openly gay leader, blasted Dunleavy for the comments. Quinn, who is Irish, declined to participate in the parade after organizers barred an Irish gay and lesbian group from marching under its

own banner for a 16th straight year.

The city's parade, with 150,000 marchers, is the nation's oldest and largest.

Scores of bagpipers, high school bands and Irish societies streamed past crowds waving Irish flags or wearing green hats, green carnations or green shamrocks painted on their faces.

• Road

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

walking around the neighborhood, lifting weights and doing pushups and squats.

"That was a way to challenge myself and keep in shape, prove that I could do it," she said.

Her training started in January with walks around the

neighborhood. She heard about the mini-marathon through church and decided to challenge herself.

She used to run in shorter 5K or 10K races and has not run the entire 13.1 miles uninterrupted.

If she meets her goal, Koschnick would be able to finish in less than two hours. That means she'll run one mile every eight minutes.

She runs in the darkness of morning, wearing a reflective

running jacket, pants and shoes. Koschnick also trains every Tuesday night and Saturday mornings with a group at Mount Pleasant Christian Church.

Usually, she runs about four or five miles in the morning and on Tuesday nights, then runs about eight miles each Saturday. Morning runs take about 45 minutes.

Koschnick's journal entries highlight her daily adventures, from running through an unknown part of a subdivision,

experiencing Indiana's shifting temperatures and how the daily workouts make her feel.

She has been pelted in the eyes by rain and wind. Frost built up on her hat one day, and the next day she has pulled off layers of clothing because she was overdressed.

In February, she did her 7-mile routine slower than usual. She bought new shoes and decided to walk instead of run to help break them in.

Some days are tougher than

others, she writes in her journal. One day, she felt like she was carrying 10 extra pounds of weight during her run because of how tired she was.

But she has learned not to give up, even if she wants to. Her religion and church friends have helped her keep the running faith, she said.

"I've learned that you can do it, even if you don't think you can," she said. "God will help you get through."

• Life

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

"I am ready, and I would say the students and staff (are) ready to move forward, still keeping in mind how we can continue to keep this a safe environment," Shockley said.

Atmosphere

Life at the high school doesn't feel much different than it did before news of the plot came out, Shockley said.

He said he is proud that 95 percent of the student body showed up for school the day after the plot was discovered.

"That speaks to the confidence parents and students have in our school," he said.

Johnson County sheriff's officers roamed the halls of the school that day.

"I think our staff and students were much more at ease with them here," he said.

Shockley addressed the school that day.

He said that with 2,300 students, Center Grove High School is larger than most small towns.

"We have to take care of each other," he said.

He told students that he believes most of them would have reacted the same way if they had heard discussions about such a plan: They would have alerted school officials.

That's what happens when people care about their school and each other, he said.

Dealing with bullies

Efforts at Center Grove to talk to students about bullying and respond quickly to reports of harassment were in place long before the students came up with a hostage plot, Shockley said.

"As a high school we recognize that, whether this incident

occurred or not, there is an issue with respectful behavior toward others" he said. "Every high school in the country is dealing with that."

Bullies are nothing new to schools, but an increase in school violence in the past decade has prompted schools to take it more seriously, he said.

Administrators at Center Grove check out every bullying or harassment complaint. They investigate, talk to parents and teachers, and document everything, he said.

Student groups have also tried to educate their peers about the issue.

The student council sponsored a kindness week. Part of the week included gluing a purple ribbon on every fourth locker to symbolize how many students are bullied nationwide. Some students also painted black eyes and scratches on themselves to represent kids who get beaten up.

While the news media have given a lot of attention to the bullying angle of the hostage plot, Shockley said his investigation shows bullying was a small piece of the students' motivation.

"If the students were bullied, we were never notified by them beforehand that that was happening," he said.

One of the students interviewed during the investigation said teasing from athletes played a role in his desire to take over the school. But Shockley said the school's investigation showed that teasing and harassing had little to do with the situation.

He said he can't comment on what the other possible motivating factors in the hostage plot were.

Reaching out

Most students at Center Grove feel connected to the school and are involved in various activities, he said.

But a minority of students are not connected and don't have the same resources other students

have. This group is never far from his mind, Shockley said.

"We have a terrific student body who work hard and are responsible and well behaved," he said. "But we can't ever forget there are students who have needs and aren't as connected."

School officials are planning new programs for when the high school is expanded in a few years.

One of the main focuses of the committee working to redesign the high school is creating smaller schools within the large high school.

Research shows that, when high school students have a meaningful connection with at least one adult, they do better in school and are less likely to drop out.

But those relationships are also important in making sure students feel secure enough to report the kind of threat posed by the students with the hostage plot, Shockley said.

"Students have to feel safe and comfortable coming to someone to give them information and believe it's going to be dealt with and they will remain anonymous," he said.

Efforts have been stepped up this year at the high school to try to include students who normally don't participate in school activities.

Coffee houses with student bands have replaced some traditional school dances.

Instead of a pep rally one day during homecoming week, the

school brought a demonstration of extreme sports to campus. The program included a presentation on smoking.

"Overall we have a great school, but we can't rest on that," Shockley said.

Getting personal

Part of the students' plan of attack was to kill Shockley.

While it was unnerving to know he was specifically mentioned in their plan, he is not taking it personally.

"I do not know these individuals. I think that was more toward the position rather than the person," he said.

"I feel just as safe at Center Grove as I did two weeks ago."



## Quality Dentures

**Tooth Extractions On Site**  
Premium dentures are designed to fit you:

- Personality, Sex, and age
- Color of eyes, hair and complexion

**New Hours:** Mon. 8-5, Fri 8-5  
**Wednesday-Appointments from 1pm - 9pm**  
(No need to take time off work)

**Oral Sedation**  
A small pill provides sedation during dental procedures.

• SOFT SUCTION CUPS  
• LAB ON PREMISES • FLEXIBLE PARTIALS

**Denture by Design**

1176 N. Main St., Franklin, IN  
Across from post office  
**736-0900**



More than you think.

Custom-made furniture to fit your style

Grand Re-Opening!



Design your own furniture collection.





Design your own furniture collection with help from our consultants, then have the legendary craftsmen build your masterpiece, using only the finest materials. Contemporary or Classic, Amish Furniture is more than you think.

Amish

FURNITURE MART

Commercial Accounts Welcome.



EXIT 10 N INTERSTATE 69  
 DEER CREEK SHOPS • NOBLESVILLE • 888.770.6278  
 4.5 MILES SOUTH OF GREENWOOD PARK MALL ON US 31  
 WHITELAND • 800.540.6278  
 WWW.AMISHFURN.COM

Regency Place  
of Greenwood

CONGRATULATIONS

1 of 2 in Johnson County  
to receive a "Flawless" annual  
Survey from the Indiana State  
Department of Health

Now Accepting new Patients