

TAKE FIVE

A guide to people, issues and activities in your community.

DID YOU KNOW?

TOWNSHIP TIDBITS: Johnson County is divided into nine townships; and, at about 48 square miles, White River is the largest. But the township used to be even bigger. When the county was organized in 1822, the township stretched across the entire northern part of the county. Pleasant Township was split off in 1829. Then in 1838, Clark Township was split off from Pleasant. The county's other townships are Needham, Franklin and Union in the central part of the county and Blue River, Nineveh and Hensley across the southern part.

NOTEBOOK

FEW SECONDS OF FAME: When Brandon McKittrick, 8, crashed his great-grandparent's three-wheeled bicycle in Florida last year, he didn't expect to end up on TV. But the Franklin boy will get his 15 minutes of fame, well a moment anyway, on "America's Funniest Home Videos" on Sunday. Brandon and his magnificent crash will air on the show at 7 p.m. Sunday on WRTV-Channel 6.

RUNNING MEN (AND WOMEN): You know who they are. The ones who weren't fast enough for track in high school but run around the neighborhood for fun or to keep in shape. Now, they're prepping for a mini-marathon in Indianapolis. We talked to some of the 1,300-plus people from Johnson County who are competing in this year's OneAmerica 500 Festival Mini-Marathon on May 6. Nearly 1,000 Greenwood and Center Grove area residents are competing, making the city one of the top five represented in the state. More than 35,000 people are registered for the race. Read the story at www.thejournalnet.com.

PICTURE PERFECT



BIG RED FRIENDS: Wyatt Barnett, 18 months, meets Clifford the Big Red Dog during Story Fest 2006 at Center Grove Middle School Central on Thursday. The event also included storytelling and reading. Staff photo by Matt Ooley

WHAT YOU MISSED

If you didn't read the Daily Journal last week, you missed a lot.

SEX CHARGES: Valentine's Day was not all hearts and happiness for two women who work at a Center Grove area business. They were arrested on one charge each of prostitution.

BOOM BABY: Homebuilding is not slowing in the Center Grove area. Officials gave the green light to a major subdivision on State Road 135.

SCHOOL SUED: Two students and their parents filed a lawsuit against a Johnson County school district. The students were accused of stealing wine and drinking it on a school trip.

WILL HE STAY OR GO?: About three weeks ago, a bus driver for Nineveh-Hensley-Jackson schools slapped an autistic student riding the bus. On Tuesday, the school board took action against him, but will he face criminal charges?

FIVE THINGS TO DO THIS WEEK

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Today
Wild man!

Meet Jeff Corwin of Animal Planet's "Corwin's Quest." Corwin will sign autographs, and The Indianapolis Zoo will show off some critters. Bring a kids book to benefit Riley Hospital for Children.
Time: 1 to 3 p.m.
Where: Half Price Books, 884 U.S. 31 North, Greenwood

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Tuesday
Time for bed

Get your child ready for bed and run some evening errands on Tuesday with The Bedtime Stories program. It includes stories, songs, puppets and crafts.
Time: 6:30 to 7:15 p.m.
Where: Greenwood Public Library, 310 S. Meridian St.
What you need to know: For unaccompanied children.

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Wednesday
Climb that wall

Time: 6 to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to noon Saturday
Where: Franklin Cultural Arts and Recreation Center, 396 Branigan Blvd.
Cost: \$5 to \$10
What you need to know: If your child is younger than 8, a parent or guardian must be in attendance. For those age 8 to 17, a parent must sign a waiver.

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Friday
Check out a classic

Buy a used book at the annual library sale in Franklin.
Time: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 24, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25 and 1 to 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26.
Where: Franklin public library, 401 S. State St.
What you need to know: Proceeds go to library programs and projects.

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Saturday
Safety first

Your children can learn how to stay safe, answer the phone when home alone and how to have a buddy system with a presentation from a Marion County sheriff's deputy.
Time: 10 to 11 a.m.
Where: Southport Heights Christian Church, 7154 S. McFarland Road, Indianapolis

KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOR: BRENDA HIMSEL



Brenda Himsel, 58, sat behind the checkout desk, taking care of a few things before the end of the day. We walked to a corner of the North Grove Elementary School library, where a 55-gallon fish tank bubbled, filled with bright and strange-looking fish. Her four children are grown and have moved out of her Center Grove home in Willow Lakes, where she and her husband of almost 36 years live, but she cherishes the time when the family comes together. She points out photographs of one of the joys of her life, her grandson. Hidden from the world by books, we begin the interview. She has the voice of a librarian, the kind that makes you want to lean in closer.

What time is your alarm set, and what time do you actually get up?
6:45 a.m. and I get up at 7 a.m. But after my Diet Dr Pepper kicks in, I'm OK.

Greatest moment in your life?
Oh, well, that would be a toss-up between getting married, having our children and having our first grandchild. They are all equal.

Whom do you admire?
I admire a lot of people. I admire all of the teachers in this building because I know what they have to go through each day. Been there.

Perfect meal?
Well it would have to be eating out. Steak, baked potato, green beans, salad with Roquefort dressing and lemon meringue pie for dessert.

Favorite song from your high school days?
"Blue Velvet." It was the song we used to dance to in high school.

Biggest fashion mistake?
Crinolines. It was the netting that you used to wear under your skirts to make them stick out farther. When I would put it on, the dresses would go out, and your legs would look like toothpicks, like Big Bird legs. I always thought I must have had polio and (my parents) never told me.

Scariest movie you've ever seen?
"The Birds." Freaked me out. I didn't want to go outside after that.

Midnight snack?
Lemon meringue pie, either that or chips and dip.

Anything else people wouldn't know about you?
I'm such an open book. But I wanted to be a nun.

Interview by Lauren Conlon
Photograph by Matt Ooley



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Know someone we should profile? Send the suggestion to newstips@thejournalnet.com.

Rich Gotshall and Michael W. Hoskins contributed to this page. Call 736-2770 or send your event to freetime@thejournalnet.com.

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