

12 KILLED IN CHOPPER CRASH

PAGE A2



ANOTHER WAY TO WIN

PAGE B1

SCHOOL NEWS

- Move over Eminem, Mozart's on his way to Center Grove High School.
- She's too young to drive, but this middle school student is involved in school politics.
- Plus: What in the world is a woobie?

PAGE A6

DAILY JOURNAL

www.thejournalnet.com

MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2006

Johnson County, Indiana

50 cents

WEATHER



Today

Skies: Partly sunny
Temps: High 48; low 27

MAP, PAGE A8

ROAD TO DETROIT

Colts to face Steelers

The Pittsburgh Steelers defeated the Bengals 31-17 Sunday after injuring Cincinnati's star quarterback Carson Palmer, earning a trip to the RCA Dome to face the Colts on Jan. 15.

In the regular season, the Colts defeated the Steelers 27-7 in Indianapolis. The winner of the Indianapolis-Pittsburgh matchup will play the victor of Saturday's game between the defending Super Bowl champion New England Patriots and the Denver Broncos for the AFC title.

In NFC action, the Washington Redskins and Seattle Seahawks will face off Saturday, and the Carolina Panthers will take on the Chicago Bears at Soldier Field on Sunday.

For an in-depth look at the weekend's NFL action and upcoming matches, see pages B1 and B3.

COMING UP

Through the roof

The number of building permits for new homes in Johnson County is on the rise, as is the average value of each permit issued.

Home economics

An explanation of mortgages, down payments and more for first-time homebuyers (and old pros who need a refresher).

THIS WEEK

DEATHS

Franklin

Anthony W. Breeden II, 26
Joseph Elsworth Fyffe, 89
Byrl Powers, 92

Greenwood

Paul David Adamson, 68
Vera Jean Crisler, 82
Hugh E. Wheatley, 75

Trafalgar

Elizabeth B. Roller, 95

Indianapolis

Paul L. Brewington, 84
John Guthrie Minor, 84
Alice Morris, 93

Evelyn N. Perkins, 86

Elsewhere

Lillian Mary McIntosh, 87

INDEX

Accent.....A6-A7
Classified.....B7-B8
Comics.....B6
Editorials.....A4
Johnson County.....A3
Obituaries.....A5
Police, fire.....A3
Sports.....B1-B5
TV listings.....A7
Weather.....A8

CALL US

Main switchboard
736-7101

Delivery: 736-2777,
(888) 736-7101

Advertising: 736-2700
News tips: 736-2712



6 01442 20050 0

Area man leads hurricane relief effort

'We're supposed to be a blessing'

By SHERRI CONER
DAILY JOURNAL STAFF WRITER
sconer@thejournalnet.com

Charles McCoy knows about giving shelter.

He's done it in Campbellsville, Ky., Piedras Negras, Mexico, Atlanta, Cincinnati, Brownsburg and Noblesville.

McCoy, a member of New Whiteland Christian Church, has helped put up walls for 15 families in less than two years.

"We were left here on Earth with a list of instructions," said McCoy, who resides in Morgan County with his wife Maretha. "We're supposed to be a blessing to other people."

His commitment to hammering with a plan began after a mission trip with his church to Campbellsville, Ky., during the summer of 2004.

Members of the church helped build a home for a grandmother struggling

(SEE EFFORT, BACK PAGE)



Charles McCoy has organized several area churches to help build homes for Hurricane Katrina victims.

Project allows volunteers to help out close to home

By SHERRI CONER
DAILY JOURNAL STAFF WRITER
sconer@thejournalnet.com

Pre-fab panels to build homes for six families, all victims of Hurricane Katrina, will leave Johnson County next month marked with scriptures and prayers, said Charles McCoy of Morgan County.

Before the panels are loaded on trucks, workers will take a moment with a marker to write encouraging words on the wood.

"No matter who gets the house, whether they are believers or not, they'll be surrounded by God's word and prayers when they move in to the house," McCoy said. "I don't know that we can do any better than that."

For nearly two years, McCoy has volunteered his time with CrossRoads Missions, a Louisville, Ky.-based home-building project.

In that amount of time, McCoy has helped raise the walls of 15 homes.

(SEE HELP, BACK PAGE)

FRANKLIN SCHOOLS: INTENSIVES WEEK

'That's the class I want'

Students take unusual courses first week after break



Franklin high school senior Andrey Chabez, 18, threads a sewing machine needle Wednesday afternoon. Chabez is making a teddy bear in class during the school's intensives week. Other students are studying basketball in Indiana or jewelry throughout history.

SURVEY SAYS

Franklin schools surveyed some parents and teachers to get their views on the high school's annual intensive program. Here's a sampling of the responses:

1. The intensive helped me/my child feel like there is an adult in the school who cares about me/my child and knows me/my child well.

Students
324 strongly agree
277 somewhat agree
243 agree
157 somewhat disagree
108 strongly disagree

Parents
10 strongly agree
7 somewhat agree
8 agree
10 somewhat disagree
15 strongly disagree
2 don't know

2. I/my child was unable to participate in my first choice of intensives due to cost.

Students
219 strongly agree
59 somewhat agree
121 agree
190 somewhat disagree
520 strongly disagree

Parents
21 strongly agree
3 somewhat agree
7 agree
7 somewhat disagree
13 strongly disagree

3. The intensive challenged me/my child to think more deeply and critically.

Students
259 strongly agreed
184 somewhat agree
327 agree
209 somewhat disagree
130 strongly disagree

Parents
10 strongly agree
6 somewhat agree
5 agree
10 somewhat disagree
18 strongly disagree
3 don't know

STORIES BY JO ELLEN WERKING WEEDMAN ■ PHOTOS BY SCOTT ROBERSON

Students pick class to take at school or on the road

Sewing machines are humming in the sewing room at Franklin Community High School. More than 40 amateur sewers are cutting out material, learning to read patterns and occasionally ripping out seams that didn't turn out.

This week, the high school students will have made two teddy bears, one to keep and one to give to a sick child.

The make-a-bear-mend-a-heart class is one of the most popular of the more than 50 classes offered this year during Franklin's annual intensives week.

As most high school students around the county return to studying algebra or English, Franklin students will spend five days in a class of their choice doing hands-on activities.

The annual program, which allows students to sign up for a weeklong class on a wide variety of topics, including Hoosier basketball and Star Wars fan filmmaking, started Wednesday.

Most students stay at the school for a course, but some take trips out of state and even out of the country.

(SEE CLASS, BACK PAGE)



Each of the 42 students in the make-a-bear-mend-a-heart class will donate a teddy bear to the Ronald McDonald House.

Most classes are free or cost less than \$100, while a few are as much as \$1,500, such as a trip to see plays in New York City.

All the classes provide hands-on learning and must meet at least two state standards involving writing, reading or math.

New leader continues program with some modifications

Franklin Community High School students have more choices this year about how they are spending their first week back to school after winter holiday break.

The annual intensive program is under way, and 20 new classes are being offered. Class sizes are smaller. Teachers are doing less team teaching. More classes are free.

The changes come after school leaders asked parents, students and teachers what they think of the program.

Each year high school administrators defend the unique weeklong program that offers students a chance to take courses designed by teachers to give students new experiences.

This year's 53 classes include topics such as crime scene investigation, scrapbooking and hiking.

Many parents and teachers support the program and cite chances for students to connect with a teacher and learn something new.

The classes, they say, provide opportunities



"It's sometimes so hard in a regular classroom setting for a student and a teacher to connect."

William Patterson
Franklin superintendent on the advantages of intensives week

for kids that they wouldn't otherwise get.

Others say the week is a waste of time and that the wealthiest kids in the school get to go on cool trips while others stay behind in boring classes.

When Superintendent William Patterson became the school district's top administrator last year, some parents asked him to make sure the program was evaluated.

(SEE PROGRAM, BACK PAGE)

Shoppers getting punchy

Holidays bring out worst in some

By ANNIE GOELLER
DAILY JOURNAL STAFF WRITER
agoeller@thejournalnet.com

A customer became so irritated when she couldn't try on a pair of earrings at a store in the mall that she slapped the employee in the head.

Another customer, angry that an employee asked her to leave the store, followed the woman out to her car and punched her in the head.

Both of these incidents are from police reports gathered at two of six local businesses in the past month where employees were hit, threatened or harassed.

But managers and police felt holiday stress was most likely to blame for the naughty behavior.

Managers at four Greenwood stores not involved in the reports said they have few, if any, problems with customers becoming violent or abusive to their employees.

But all four stores have policies for handling difficult customers. Protocol includes calling the manager and, if someone becomes violent, calling security or police. But managers said they don't often use the second part of their policy because most customers don't get out of hand.

Training employees in how to handle the situation in a calm manner usually stops the situation from getting out of hand, Jack O'Brien, store manager at J.C. Penney, said.

Managers at Meijer and Best Buy said they have seen a few

(SEE PUNCHY, BACK PAGE)

AT A GLANCE

Incidents of battery and harassment of workers at local stores reported to police in the past month:

Greenwood

Dec. 12: An employee at Wet Seal, 1251 U.S. 31 North, reported she was struck by a customer she had asked to leave the store. The employee went to her car in the parking lot to retrieve an item and was struck in the back of the head while she was bent over.

Dec. 17: An employee at McDonald's, 121 Marlin Drive, reported a customer in the drive-thru spit in his face and threw a cup of liquid at him, causing his eyes to burn and blurring his vision.

Dec. 27: An employee at Silverado, 1251 U.S. 31 North, reported she was slapped in the side of the head by a customer who she didn't allow to try on a pair of earrings.

Dec. 28: An employee at Bed, Bath and Beyond, 723 U.S. 31 North, called police to report a dispute between a customer and an employee over merchandise the customer wanted to return.

Edinburgh

Dec. 28: Employees of Big Dog Sportswear, 11741 N. Executive Drive, called for a police escort when closing the store because of a customer who had threatened employees earlier in the day.

Franklin

Dec. 28: An employee at Burger King, 200 Paris Drive, called police to report a customer cursing about a sandwich he believed the workers made improperly.