

SOUTHSIDE

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ON THE RECORD

Police/fire

Greenwood Thefts

• Speedway, 170 S. State Road 135: A man reported at 10:04 p.m. Wednesday that someone stole his car while he was inside the store for a few minutes.

• 700 block of Riverside Drive: A man reported Wednesday night that someone stole his vehicle between 1 and 3 a.m. Wednesday. Police discovered that the vehicle had been stopped in Crothersville and that the driver and a passenger had been arrested.

• Best Buy, 562 Fry Road: A loss-prevention agent reported Wednesday that an employee had admitted to stealing 14 cell phones and three iPods in the past year. The employee was arrested on a charge of theft and transported to the jail.

Property-damage accident

• 2:23 p.m. Monday — Circle K lot, east of State Road 135 and Smith Valley Road.

Jail bookings

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

Amy LeAnn McRee, 26, 8028 Madison Ave., Apt. 5, Indianapolis; arrested on a charge of public intoxication; released on \$1,000 bond.

Tammy Becker, 41, 300 N. Meridian St., Greenwood; arrested on two charges of contempt; released on \$500 bond.

Brandon Duane Nestler, 22, 6632 Rosebush Lane, Indianapolis; arrested on a charge of theft; released on \$3,000 bond.

Danny Joe Whitis, 48, 207 Russell St., Edinburgh; arrested on charges of possession of a restricted drug injection device, battery, possession of cocaine, narcotics or methamphetamine and possession of paraphernalia; released on \$12,000 bond.

Charles W. Abney, 51, 511 U.S. 31 South, Room 1, Whiteland; arrested on charges of forgery and driving on a forfeited license; held on \$32,000 bond.

Neil Brandon Truelove, 30, 4074 Willow Glenn Drive, Beech Grove; arrested on a warrant for violation of probation; held without bond.

Carrie Jo Hutchinson, 32, 1515 S. Dawson St., Indianapolis; arrested on a charge of driving while suspended with a prior conviction; released on \$1,000 bond.

Norman Ryan Wade, 19, 5110 Gringo Drive, Indianapolis; arrested on a charge of possession, consumption or transportation of alcohol by a minor; held on \$1,000 bond.

Terry Eugene Tucker, 28, 643 Day Break Drive, Greenwood; arrested on a charge of bond forfeiture; held without bond.

Shawn William Linville, 19, 4935 E. State Road 144, Mooresville; arrested on a warrant for failure to appear in court; held without bond.

Kevin Harold Jennings, 41, 807 Worrington Court, Indianapolis; arrested on an out-of-state warrant; held without bond.

George Ellis Whitis, 41, 207 Russell St., Edinburgh; arrested on charges of possession of a restricted drug injection device, reckless possession of paraphernalia and parole violation; held without bond.

Patrick Dane Commiskey, 44, 395 Leah Way, Greenwood; arrested on a charge of probation revocation; held without bond.

Joan Ann Kane, 45, 5143 Annette St., Indianapolis; arrested on a charge of probation revocation; held without bond.

Jamie Marie Skirvin, 43, 1099 Coventry Court, Apt. 1106, Greenwood; arrested on a charge of contempt; released on \$150 bond.

Melody A. Henry, 42, 1099 Coventry Court, Apt. 1106, Greenwood; arrested on a charge of contempt; released on \$150 bond.

Susan Dianne Crockett, 38, 649 N. Oxford St., Indianapolis; arrested on a charge of probation revocation; held without bond.

Angela Marie Burton, 38, 12870 U.S. 31, Edinburgh; arrested on a warrant for failure to appear in court; held on \$5,000 bond.

The following people recently were arrested on charges of driving while intoxicated and booked into jail:

Nathan Scott Roush, 22, 1189 S. Morgantown Road, Greenwood; also arrested on a charge of possession of marijuana/hashish; held on \$3,000 bond.

Jon Denton Forsyth, 40, 200 Banta St., Franklin; held on \$1,000 bond.

Benjamin K. Smith, 22, 7193 Airport Road, Bloomington; held on \$1,000 bond.

Richard W. Cromley, 50, 247 Kentucky St., Apt. D, Franklin; released on \$1,000 bond.

Birth

Johnson Memorial Hospital
Danny and Jessica Zellars, Franklin, boy born Feb. 21.

Dissolutions of marriage

Jennifer Ochoa v. Servando Ochoa Jr.
Natalia Rachford v. Jeffrey Rachford
James O'Neill v. Cheryl O'Neill
Jerrilynn Britt v. Eric Britt
Pamela Bauer v. John Bauer
Sasha Loo v. Jonathan Loo
Lisa Walker v. Keith Walker
Sue Vansickle v. Gary Vansickle
Angelina Smith v. Matthew Smith
Jenny Hefley v. Mark Hefley
Thomas McMurray v. Frances McMurray
Amanda Cassin v. Scott Cassin
Lynnette Neace v. Brendrew Neace
Paulette Brown v. Richard Brown
Darrin Watson v. Misty Watson
Christine Nasalle v. Steven Nasalle
Heather Doney v. Anthony Doney
Jennifer Hanson v. Eric Hanson
Katina Eastwood v. Michael Eastwood
Douglas Purvis v. Janie Purvis
Craig Clark v. Cheryl Clark
Daniel Rhoades v. Emmeria Rhoades
Cynthia Bryant v. Nicholas Bryant

COLORFUL CHARACTER



STAFF PHOTO BY MATT COOLEY/mooloy@thejournalnet.com

Franklin College students Christi Clark, left, and Katey Roberts stroll past a statue of Benjamin Franklin on the college's campus Thursday. Enthusiastic fans gave the statue a makeover as both the men's and women's basketball teams prepare for tonight's semifinal round of the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference Tournament. The women will host Anderson University at 8 tonight and could play rival Hanover in the final round at 3 p.m. Saturday. The Franklin men's team plays at 6 tonight against Bluffton University at Transylvania University in Lexington, Ky.

Median changes recommended

By JASON MICHAEL WHITE
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A Greenwood resident wants to drive home along Fry Road past trees and street lamps instead of reflector poles. Other residents want the downtown to have a landscaped face-lift.

Those ideas could become reality as the city works to make improvements suggested by Ball State University architecture and development students.

The suggestion to use landscaped medians was included in the students' proposal for revising the city's master plan for housing, businesses, parks and roads.

Now Indianapolis-based consulting firm HNTB Co. has to figure out the cost of landscaped medians and where to build them.

Greenwood resident Betty House said landscaped medians would be easier to see.

She has driven her car over the 8-inch median that runs down Fry Road. The result was a flat tire.

Greenwood resident Kathy Steuer said the median is dangerous to people who don't see it.

More than 90 people complained to State Rep. Woody Burton about the median. He told the city council and mayor about the complaints last year.

Consultants will get more public input and present a revised master plan for approval by city planners and council members.

BRIEFS

LOCAL

JOHNSON COUNTY

Judge chosen for trial of Greenwood city employee

A Morgan County judge will decide the case of a Greenwood city employee who pleaded guilty to his second drunken-driving offense.

Superior Court 3 Judge Jane Spencer Craney was named as special judge in the case of Norman Lee Gabehart, 4207 Magnolia Drive, Franklin, who pleaded guilty to a felony charge of driving while intoxicated with a prior conviction.

A sentencing hearing is scheduled for March 10. Gabehart, Greenwood's director of operations, was arrested for driving while intoxicated in May 2004 and in August 1999 while he was driving a city vehicle and on paid time for Greenwood.

FRANKLIN

Shriners to host weekly Friday-night buffet

The Johnson County Shrine Club hosts a buffet each Friday that is open to the public. Proceeds support the club, which donates money to Shriners hospitals.

The buffet will be open from

5 to 8 p.m. today at the Shrine club building, 751 W. King St. in Franklin. Buffet options change weekly. Tonight's specials are fried chicken, baked chicken and salmon patties.

Information: 736-5850

INDIANAPOLIS

Icy plunge will benefit county Special Olympics

The annual Polar Plunge will take place Saturday at Eagle Creek Park, on the northwest side of Indianapolis.

Proceeds will benefit the Johnson County Special Olympics program.

People who donate at least \$60 may jump into the icy water, said Rita Abell, county coordinator for the Special Olympics. People who donate less than \$60 are invited to watch the fun.

This year's event will be called Joe's Plunge in honor of Joe Kupstas-Schneider, a 13-year-old with Down syndrome who died last year. Plungers will wear T-shirts with his picture.

Registration at the park begins at 9:30 a.m. Ceremonies begin at 11 a.m. The plunge will be about 11:15 a.m.

Information: 738-7038.

Spotters keep eye on the sky

Classes teach to watch for severe weather

By LAUREN CONLON
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For all its equipment, radar, computers and other technology, the National Weather Service often relies on one simple thing in assessing severe weather: People looking out their windows.

Meteorologists came to Franklin on Wednesday to train people how to watch weather critically. From now on, those people will be known as storm spotters.

"We are in the prediction business," meteorologist John Ogren said. "We want to get the word out ahead of time."

With help from storm spotters, meteorologists are able to make more accurate predictions and warn the public in plenty of time, he said.

Severe weather, even tornadoes, can occur at any time of the year. Because severe weather can happen below the view of radar, Ogren stressed the importance of storm spotters reporting from the field.

"They are a vital link in warning the public," he said.

Meteorologists rely on three things when reporting severe weather: atmospheric conditions, radar and storm spotters. Two of the three are enough information to issue watches and warnings.

During the class, staff members from the weather service, Johnson County Emergency Management and the Department of Homeland Security taught local residents how to be storm spotters.

Participants included White-Land Fire and Rescue personnel, Mid-State Amateur Radio Club

STORM SPOTTING 101

What to watch for:

- Dime-sized hail or larger
- Winds exceeding 60 mph
- Funnel clouds and tornadoes
- Flooding
- Persistent, rolling wall clouds

Whom to contact:

National Weather Service, 856-0360; www.weather.gov/indy

members and interested members of the public.

Greg Orberc of the southside said this was his first time at the storm spotting class. He is involved in amateur radio and the American Red Cross Disaster Communication Group.

He said his primary reason for learning how to spot storms is public awareness.

"But there is also the adrenaline rush (in observing storms)," Orberc said.

Trainees young and old watched tapes of destructive and awesome storms in Indiana.

The videos taught participants the differences among storms and what to watch for, so spotters can "see it safely, report it and not get killed," said Ogren, a Johnson County resident.

Spotters will report funnel clouds and tornadoes, hail, heavy rain or flooding, and high wind.

Ogren said spotters face several challenges, including poor location, timing and visibility. Spotters need to be as specific as possible and report what they are seeing, and when and where they are seeing it.

With central Indiana's severe weather season approaching, Ogren offered advice to the general public: Be prepared.

Storm sirens can help, but they are meant to be heard outside, he said. So people should not rely on hearing the sirens when indoors. He urged people to make sure they have multiple ways of receiving weather information.

HIPS AND KNEES.

In 2004, named one of Indiana's Top 10 hospitals for orthopedic services.

HIGHEST STANDARDS.

The first hospital in Southeastern Indiana to receive Chest Pain Center Accreditation.

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