



# DAILY JOURNAL

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2007

Johnson County, Indiana

50 cents

**WEATHER**



**Today**  
**Skies:** Partly sunny  
**Temps:** High 25; low 19

MAP, PAGE A10

**WINTER WEATHER**

**Closings and delays**

Here are the school closings and delays for today as of Thursday night:

**Two-hour delay:** Center Grove schools, Clark-Pleasant schools and Greenwood schools

**Closed:** Edinburg schools and Nineveh-Hensley-Jackson schools

**CANCELLATION**

The Greenwood Republican Women's Club meeting scheduled for Feb. 28 has been canceled.

**COMING UP**

**Thinking about an HDTV?**

Get a clear picture of what to do after the big purchase. Plus, simple steps to keep your heart healthy.

USA WEEKEND

**WEB EXTRAS**

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**DEATHS**

- Franklin  
Stanley R. Orezak, 80
- Greenwood  
Richard O. McIntire, 63
- Nineveh  
Eugene E. Mears II, 50

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## Plans for new park look familiar

### Greenwood considers building aquatic center with slide, ball fields, trails

By JOSEPH S. PETE  
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**INSIDE**

A closer look at the park proposal.  
 Back Page

A sketch of Greenwood's 72-acre park features an aquatic center with a full-sized swimming pool, a lazy river, a leisure pool, a bathhouse, deck space and at least one curving water slide.

Sound familiar? The proposal is similar to a 2003 Greenwood water park plan, which called for

a lazy river, a competition pool, a play area and 10 water slides. The price tag this time around: an estimated \$6.5 million, based on a similar park in Kokomo, the city's park consultant said.

The Greenwood Park Board is

getting closer to developing the park on the southwest side of the city. Trails, a landscaped boulevard and parking lots have been sketched into the plan, which has evolved over the past four months.

Next, the board has to figure out how much the city can borrow and, if the park is built in phases, what should come first. A preliminary estimate based only on similar parks in other cities puts the overall cost at \$15 mil-

lion to \$18 million, consultant Kyle Miller said.

The water park is just one feature of the outdoor recreation area.

City officials envision an elevated sunbathing area around the pool that can double as a sledding hill in the winter in what will be Greenwood's largest park. A trail links three plazas that would allow visitors to enjoy the formal gardens. A dog park would be fenced

into two sections, which would be used alternately, allowing grass to grow back.

More than 650 parking spots would allow residents to use 11 athletic fields, including four softball diamonds.

The park board is reviewing a master plan with all those features before requesting cost estimates.

The city must figure how to

(SEE PARK, BACK PAGE)

PLEASANT CROSSING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

# A PRINCIPAL WITHOUT A SCHOOL

## Leader staying busy even without building



Terry Magnuson, principal of Pleasant Crossing Elementary, stands outside the school, which is scheduled to open in August. Winter weather has threatened the already tight building schedule for Clark-Pleasant's newest elementary.

STORIES BY SARAH LIPPS ■ PHOTO BY SCOTT ROBERSON

Parents have been warned. Further delays in the construction of Clark-Pleasant's newest elementary school could put most if not all of the students in portable classrooms when the school opens in August.

Recent snow threatens the building's already tight construction schedule. School board members will make a final decision this spring about when the building will open.

But Pleasant Crossing Elementary School's principal is charging ahead.

There are 27 weeks until the school is to open, and Terry Magnuson has a job to do. He left his position as principal of Break-O-Day Elementary School in December to plan the opening of the new school.

Now he has cafeteria tables, classroom desks and furniture for administrative offices to order. He has parents and children to get to know and a faculty and staff to hire and develop.

On the second floor of the Clark-Pleasant administration building, Magnuson has set up his temporary headquarters. Files are stored in dozens of boxes lined up outside the room.

The office is eerily quiet, he said.

"I hope we find teachers who want a new vision and a new start."

Terry Magnuson

Pleasant Crossing Elementary School principal on hiring staff members to work in the new building

As an elementary school principal, Magnuson is used to the buzz of children's voices, parents' phone calls and teachers' chatter over the copy machine.

But he has spent less than a third of his time since he started the new position at the temporary office.

Magnuson has worked in three school districts and led elementary schools through numerous renovation projects, including the reopening of Break-O-Day in 2000. But he has never opened a new school.

He felt like he needed the insight of administrators who have faced the same challenge, he said.

So he spent the past month visiting with principals in other districts who have gone through the same task.

Magnuson visited with principals in

Carmel, Fishers, Westfield and Noblesville who have opened new elementary schools in the past few years.

"I wanted to learn from others' good fortune and concerns," he said.

One principal told him to make sure to pin down construction company officials on deadlines. If he is told that an aspect of work will be done in two weeks, make them stick to that, the principal said.

Another stressed the importance of hiring people who share the vision for how the elementary will be run and what the mission will be.

By March, Magnuson will have completed the process for transferring in all of the teachers from other schools who want to come to the new elementary. He

(SEE BUILDING, BACK PAGE)

## Cold, snowy weather slows work at construction site

As plows continue to clear Johnson County neighborhoods, workers are digging out the cinder blocks and steel beams that will become Clark-Pleasant's newest elementary school.

Tents are being brought in to block icy winds. Heaters are melting ice from steel and concrete. Ground blankets are warming up the soil in preparation to pour concrete.

In the next week, the public will learn whether the recent frigid temperatures, the two days of lost work during this week's storm and hours spent by workers

removing snow will mean more delays for Pleasant Crossing.

At stake is the opening of the building in the fall and the number of students who would be put into portable classrooms at the start of school.

A priority has been placed on finishing the main parts of the school first: the gym, offices and cafeteria. If a classroom wing isn't finished, some or even all of the students could be in temporary classrooms, school officials have said.

The frame of the building is complete, and crews are now fitting together the

interior metal work. But those pieces must be put assembled by hand, a process that requires warmer temperatures.

On Tuesday, Jay Wise, Clark-Pleasant director of facilities, will tell the school board whether the snow and ice on Tuesday and Wednesday put the project behind schedule.

If so, the district might consider bringing in more workers to make up for lost time, he said.

"I'm not sure we are ready to put it

(SEE WEATHER, BACK PAGE)

## Prison sentence in fatal crash

### Bargersville man killed in accident

By CANDACE BEATY  
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A 21-year-old man was sentenced to maximum of three years in prison for causing a fatal traffic accident in June.

Matthew P. King, of Bloomington, pleaded guilty to criminal recklessness with a vehicle, which is a class D felony.

With good behavior, King could be out of prison in 18 months. The felony could also be reduced to a misdemeanor after the time is served.

Timothy Stubbeman, of Bargersville, was killed after the truck King was driving crossed the center line and struck his sport utility vehicle June 19.

King was a 21-year-old college student at the time who was studying psychology at Indiana University, court records said.

Stubbeman, 47, was a husband, father of two, and a church leader who volunteered with the youth group.

King pleaded guilty and was sentenced Feb 9.

Accident witnesses told police King was driving east on County Road 144 when he crossed the center line, hitting Stubbeman, who was traveling west.

King was charged not just because he swerved or drove recklessly at the time of the accident but because a witness said King's

(SEE CRASH, BACK PAGE)

## Legislators reworking lease plan for lottery

By DEANNA MARTIN  
 THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Top senators have introduced their version of the governor's plan to lease the state's lottery, a new proposal that would give at least one student in most high schools a college scholarship while providing millions for life sciences research.

Money from the lottery lease could also be funneled into a fund to help local cities and towns pay for police and fire pensions, according to the proposal announced Thursday by Senate President Pro Tem David Long, R-Fort Wayne, and Sens. Luke Kenney, R-Noblesville, and James Merritt, R-Indianapolis.

"I'm very excited about this," Merritt said. "This gives us economic development, offers more scholarships to kids and possibly

(SEE LEASE, PAGE A9)