

# Greenwood windfall • Board in governor's hands

By JOSEPH S. PETE

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The U.S. Census Bureau missed a deadline that would have guaranteed the city of Greenwood an estimated \$670,000 more in revenue this year.

Officials say Greenwood still should receive the money, which the city council wants to spend on street repairs.

The city paid for a special census in 2006, hoping that an updated count would show a big jump in the city's population. The more populous a city, the more state tax revenue city government gets.

The census found that the city's population increased 30 percent, which meant about \$670,000 in additional tax money this year if the findings were certified by the end of 2006.

The U.S. Census Bureau did not OK the findings by Dec. 31. Now it's up to the state.

In May, Gov. Mitch Daniels will be asked to issue an executive order that will accept the findings and call for the state tax money to be redistributed based



DANIELS



HENDERSON

on Greenwood's population change. The state auditor has to review and approve the special census findings as well.

Officials in the governor's office told Greenwood Mayor Charles Henderson to expect no complication in collecting the revenue.

What's unknown is whether the city will get an estimated \$670,000 for the year or a lesser amount prorated over seven months.

State taxes, such as sales, cigarette and alcohol taxes, are distributed to cities and towns based on population estimates.

State law would allocate portions of the money to the city and parks department, with large portions earmarked for roads and highways. The city council approved its 2007 budget last year.

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whether the renovated high school would have enough natural light and if the district could afford a new faculty member to staff an alternative school that is called for in the architects' plan.

The proposal calls for the west gym to be torn down and replaced with a four-court basketball fitness facility, which would be used for practice space, not spectator sports.

The plan also calls for more than 13,260 square feet to be added to the pool area. Bulkheads would divide the pool for long-course swimming. This space is in addition to other expansions.

The current high school is 543,427 square feet.

Board member Scott Gudeman asked if there could be an overestimation of needed facilities based on overzealous requests from faculty members rather than an influx of students.

Recommendations about the needs were taken from the head teacher from each department. But enrollment projections were also figured in. The designs are not a wish list, said Dan Rawlins, a project manager with Inter-Design architects.

Bringing the plans to the school board in stages will allow members to ask questions, Gabriel said.

The school board will have to decide whether the specific expansions are appropriate.

The board is waiting to decide on the size and shape of the school and how much tax money will be spent. Costs, budget estimates and options for the building are expected to be presented by the architects in February.

Architects also are expected to come up with more plans for adding classrooms and other building space in the coming month. Yet to be presented are two more options: one if small learning communities are used, and a second if the building is broken into a core high school with additional smaller groups.

While a decision about how big the overall project will be is weeks or months away, major steps toward breaking ground on the expansion are coming fast:

- Work is planned this summer to level the old Maple Grove Elementary building, south of the high school, and redesign the layout of the parking lots and traffic flow of the building. The old bus and maintenance buildings also would be demolished.

- Administrators and architects are preparing to move the heart of the district's computer network, which is housed at the high school, before renovation begins. They also must figure out how much it will cost and how to pay for it.

- High school teachers have started planning how to determine the right kind of teaching model at the school that would provide small-learning-group experiences for students.

- Forums are being planned for the coming months to allow the public to ask questions and learn about the projects.

Decisions about the overall scope of the project have not been made.

But some actions leading up to a major renovation project have taken place.

A construction manager has been hired, a survey of the land around the building is taking place, and architects have been working for years with the

## MAKING SPACE

The architects' proposal to expand classroom, office and other building space at the high school by 58 percent is designed to accommodate 3,431 students by 2025.

Here is how the building would change under the plan:

**Core academics**  
Classroom and office space for subjects such as English and math: Grows from 109,907 square feet to 152,177

**Other academics**  
Room for other programs such as alternative education and the arts: From 149,757 square feet to 226,645

**Program support**  
Areas such as the cafeteria, media center and auditorium: From 98,289 square feet to 161,733

**District used spaces**  
Offices such as food services, security and information technology for all of Center Grove schools: From 4,676 square feet to 9,081

**Building support**  
Areas such as restrooms and storage for housekeeping: From 36,860 square feet to 69,743

**Total**  
Now: 543,427 square feet  
Proposed: 860,249 square feet  
\* No space was added in the plans for athletics.

\*Additions to the pool were not calculated into the total.  
SOURCE: Center Grove Community School Corp.

school on the project.

The district may need to take out loans to cover the costs already incurred for the expansion, Gabriel said.

Those loans would be paid back with money borrowed for the larger expansion project, he said.

A survey of the land around the building is being conducted. It costs about \$30,000.

But most of the debt for the project accrued so far has come from architect fees.

Architects from InterDesign have been working with the school on the expansion project since a committee was formed to explore a high school expansion in September 2005. Since then, the firm has billed the school for close to \$170,000.

Gabriel said he doesn't know yet how much money would be taken out in preliminary loans or how many bonds will be sold for the summer work.

## Flag

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

Pictures of beer cases and bottles of liquor were glued to the bottom of the note as the hint. The message made in true ransom style was pieced together with words cut from newspapers and magazines.

"It's hilarious!" Barnard said. The banner flag hung from a pole outside the Barnards' home since before preseason.

No one seemed to notice it until the Colts and the Bears were matched up for the Super Bowl, he said.

As for who left the note, Barnard has a couple suspects in mind. Two neighbors could have done it, and he's leaning toward one more than the other, he said.

Barnard is not getting any support from his wife, who roots for the Colts.

"I was less than sympathetic," Sharon Barnard said of when her husband told her his flag was missing Monday night.

He asked her to call some of her friends who are police offi-

cers to see if they could track down the flag, she said.

She declined. If a Colts flag were held for ransom, the police might be more interested in tracking it down, she said.

For now, Kevin Barnard said he's just mulling over what happened and what he should do.

"The note said, 'More to follow,'" he said.

So he may wait and see what happens.

But then again, he might paint "Go Bears!" in orange and blue in his neighbor's yard, he said.

The longtime Bears fan didn't think he would see his team in another Super Bowl since they won in 1986, he said. His family is from Chicago, and he's been a fan for as long as he can remember.

Now he hopes his team can pull off a win against the Colts. If the Colts win, though, Barnard won't be too upset.

The Super Bowl couldn't go to a better team, other than the Bears, he said.

Now Barnard will have to wait and hope his team can pull off a win; or at least hope the hostage takers are kind to his Bears flag.

# CG renovation timeline untied from conference

By SARAH LIPPS

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The renovation and expansion of Center Grove High School no longer has to be completed in time for the school to host a national conference.

In the fall, architects presented a plan to have the project completed by the time the National Association of Student Councils conference is conducted at the school in June 2010.

Faculty members and several school board members questioned if the district was rushing the process.

"When we heard about (the school hosting the event), it was hot news. But since then, we have discussed it, and there are lots of activities that happen at the school where there are that many stu-

dents here, such as band contests," said Dan Rawlins, a project manager with InterDesign architects.

More than 2,000 students are expected to attend the week-long event.

If the work is completed in time for the conference, fine; if work is still going on, there should be no problem with hosting the event, he said.

The decision not to make the conference a priority for completing the expansion was made by a consensus of administrators and others involved in planning the project, he said.

During a faculty meeting about the changes at the school, teachers questioned using the conference as a goal for finishing the project. Board members also raised concerns about rushing to finish construction in time for the event.

# Center Grove burglary case leads to another arrest

By CANDACE BEATY

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Another person has been arrested in connection with burglaries of Center Grove homes this month.

Barbara Mooney, 26, of Shady Brook Heights Lot 424, Greenwood, was arrested on two charges of burglary and a charge of theft or receiving stolen property.

Mooney cooperated with investigators and helped recover more than \$200,000 worth of stolen items, Johnson County Sheriff's Maj. Steve Byerly said.

She was not arrested right away because she was helping police with the investigation, he said.

Earlier in the month, police arrested Brian K. Wynne, 42, 40 S. Alabama St., Indianapolis, on charges of burglary, theft and residential entry.

Mooney is accused of being involved in burglaries on Eagle Trace Drive and Berkshire South Drive, Byerly said. Items stolen from the homes included a \$150,000 car, two big-screen televisions, a computer, NASCAR jackets, jewelry, a children's bicycle and a gun, sheriff's office reports said.

The gun was recovered and returned to the owner Monday, Byerly said.

The investigation is not complete, more people may be arrested, and past burglaries may be solved, he said.

Detectives are investigating other area burglaries dating back to October.

Mooney is being held at the Johnson County jail on \$43,000 bond.



MOONEY

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