

TAPER: SHAVING FOR SUCCESS

PREP SWIMMING

PAGE B1



A SOUPER FUND-RAISER

Decorative bowls, soup supper to raise money for charity.

PAGE C1



DAILY JOURNAL

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2007

Johnson County, Indiana

50 cents

WEATHER



Today
Skies: Partly sunny
Temps: High 20; low 3

MAP, PAGE A6

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Pages C5-C8



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DEATHS

Franklin

Keith Lynn Wright, 55
Greenwood

Joey Wayne McMillin, 40

Elsewhere

Sarah Elizabeth McMillan, 91

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Guardsman makes it home for holiday



STAFF PHOTO BY SARAH LIPPS/slippers@thejournalnet.com

1st Sgt. Jeff Jackson, second from right, sits with his wife, Soni, right, and their children in their hotel room in Indianapolis. Jackson returned home Wednesday after spending a year in Afghanistan.

Soldier's return from Afghanistan special gift for family

By SARAH LIPPS
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The hotel room was filled with scented candles and gift bags filled with lacey pink and black paper, a sure sign of a Valentine's Day rendezvous.

But among the coffee mugs covered in hearts, doilies and other romantic trappings were crayon-colored signs covered in rockets and tanks and three sleepy children.

Morgantown resident 1st Sgt. Jeff Jackson returned Wednesday after a year in Afghanistan with the Army National Guard.

The sight of his family piled into the room was sweet, he said.

He and more than 100 other soldiers from the 219th Area Support Unit arrived in Indianapolis that morning.

His wife, Soni, rented a room at a hotel near the airport when she found out a week ago that Jeff would be coming home Wednesday.

Four or five other families from her husband's unit who live all over Indiana did the same thing, she said.

In the parking lot outside the hotel, vehicles were decorated with paint. Expressions such as "Welcome home, Daddy" were visible under ice on the windows.

Soni Jackson packed up the family about 2 a.m. Wednesday and drove to Indianapolis. They stopped at the hotel

(SEE HOME, BACK PAGE)

WINTER WEATHER



Valentines make way through sleet, snow



Above: Betsy Ross, who belongs to Frank Downton of Whiteland, walks through the snow Wednesday. Top left: Downton scrapes ice and snow off his car Wednesday. Top center: Brent Lykins and

his nephew, Skyler, spent the night in an igloo Tuesday. Top right: Buster Prine of Trafalgar cleans his parents' driveway in Whiteland. Find more photos of winter weather at thejournalnet.com.

Classes called off for a second straight day

By JOSEPH S. PETE
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The Taking It Easy quartet, a barber-shop quartet that serenades people every Valentine's Day, showed up promptly for its first appointment at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday in Greenwood.

The waitress they were supposed to sing to didn't.

After that, the singing group marched through its Wednesday rounds despite five postponements because of the weather.

A storm Tuesday night dumped 3 more inches of snow on Johnson County. Several areas also were hit by freezing rain. Total snowfall exceeded 7 inches in parts of the county.

The National Weather Service predicts no further snowfall until Friday. The area of low pressure that caused the storm

DELAYS AND CLOSINGS

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

Two-hour delay: Center Grove schools, Central Nine Career Center, Clark-Pleasant schools, Franklin schools, Greenwood Christian Academy, Greenwood Christian School, Greenwood public schools, Our Lady of the Greenwood and Roncalli

Closed: Edinburg schools and Nineveh-Hensley-Jackson schools

moved to the Northeast, Indianapolis-based meteorologist Logan Johnson said.

Schools remained closed for a second day Wednesday. Nineveh-Hensley-Jackson and Edinburg schools will remain closed today. Center Grove, Clark-Pleasant, Franklin and Greenwood schools will be on a two-hour delay.

Many children enjoyed the free time. Skyler and Gabby Lykins of Franklin built an igloo Tuesday in their front lawn, where Skyler and his uncle, Brent, camped out overnight. The kids, 10 and 9, ran an extension cord to a TV/DVD combo in the igloo and watched "Star Wars."

In the early morning, drivers struggled with roads made slick by ice, slush and compacted snow. Wind whipped up drifts in open areas, including rural roads, subdivision streets and parking lots.

Most roads should be cleared by this afternoon, city and county street managers said. With subzero wind chill expected overnight, the roads could still be slick and hazardous today, county highway manager Gary Vandegriff said.

Plow fleets throughout the county laid down salt, which mostly improves traction

(SEE SNOW, BACK PAGE)

Animal warden gets raise, but not as much as he sought



County commissioners R.J. McConnell, left, and Mitch Ripley both supported a raise for the county's animal control director.

Director says he is considered law enforcement and should be paid accordingly

By JOSEPH S. PETE
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The county's animal control director said he deserves a 32 percent raise, which would push his salary up to \$48,000.

County council members agreed that he needed a pay increase, but not as much as he asked for.

Shawn Donovan received a 10 percent raise Monday, bringing his salary to \$40,125 plus benefits.

Donovan, who was appointed to the post in 2005, said he's underpaid, both as a county department head and compared to his counterparts across the state.

According to Indiana statute, animal control officers are consid-

ered law enforcement officers. Donovan included a copy of the statute in a letter he sent to the council. As a law enforcement officer, Donovan said he's entitled to more pay and suggested he might have to leave his appointed post for the sake of his family.

The council felt Donovan needed more money but balked at the

increase that he proposed. Council member Ron West called the increase a fair compromise.

During the summer, county commissioners heard Donovan make a request for a 16 percent raise while drafting the budget. They asked him to return later

(SEE WARDEN, PAGE A5)

House arrest in court theft

Worker won't face jail time after stealing \$10,000

By ANNIE GOELLER
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A former Greenwood court worker will not serve jail time for stealing more than \$10,000 in traffic fines.

Paula S. Borges, 42, was sentenced to serve six months on house arrest and a year on probation after pleading guilty to one count of theft.

Borges, 51 Ridge St., Franklin, also was required to pay more than \$17,000 in restitution, including \$15,111 to the state board of accounts for an audit of the court's finances, \$500 for the court's insurance deductible for claiming the theft and \$1,875 to the city for overpaid wages.

She also is being sued by the city's insurance provider, Cincinnati Insurance Co., for another \$15,500.

In November 2005, Borges, also known as Susie Borges, was arrested on a charge of theft.

Greenwood City Court Judge Lewis Gregory reported to police that Borges had been pocketing money paid to the court in traffic fines.

Sheriff's detectives found 85 instances where Borges removed personal or cashier's checks from mailed-in tickets and cashed them in the court's cash-register drawer. The thefts totaled more than \$10,900.

All drivers who mailed in their tickets were credited if they paid their tickets, regardless of whether the money was taken.

George "Jay" Hoffman, Borges' attorney, and special prosecutor Kent Apsley of Shelby County agreed not to give Borges jail time. Johnson Circuit Judge Mark Loyd approved the agreement Monday.

"She is not going to prison, which is key because she's a family woman with three kids," Hoffman said.

Loyd said he approved the agreement because it was appropriate for the crime and in line with state law. Apsley was not available Wednesday.

Since the theft was discovered, Borges is working to regain the trust that was once placed in her,

(SEE THEFT, PAGE A5)