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OBSERVER

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VOLUME 63, Number 24 Kewanna, IN 46939 Thursday, April 23rd, 2009 USPS 401-840 PRICE :-: 40c Per Copy

The News In Brief

The next meeting of V.I.P. (Visually Impaired People) will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday, May 12, at the Von Tobel Center, 120 W. Pearl St., Winamac. Anyone with vision problems and other visitors are welcome. For more information, contact Johanna Gudas at 574-946-6126.

The Fulton County Board of Health will meet in regular session at 12:15 p.m. Tuesday, April 28, in the small conference room of the Fulton County Office Building, 125 E. 9th St., Rochester.

The Pulaski Memorial Hospital Auxiliary will hold a bake sale Friday, May 8, at Sanders Food Store in Winamac. The event will start at 9 a.m. and run until sold out.

According to data released recently, the number of Americans threatened with losing their homes grew 24 percent the first quarter of 2009. It is believed this number will rise as major lenders restart foreclosures after a temporary break.

President Obama paid a total of \$855,323 in taxes for 2008 on earnings of \$2,656,902. Most of his income was from his books, which have been on the best seller list.

General Motors Corp., Detroit, is set to layoff 1,600 workers "to ensure the company's long-term viability." The automaker is accelerating cost cuts in order to qualify for more aid from the federal government.

The Compassionate Healthcare Center hopes to open in August in Rochester. The center will be operated by the Fulton County Free Medical Clinic, Inc. board of directors and will offer free healthcare to local residents without health insurance. Clinic services will include health care exams, screenings, medication assistance and basic lab services.

First Federal Savings Bank of Fulton County reports earnings were down slightly in 2008, but remains profitable. The bank also notes that it did not accept any bailout money from the federal government.

The murder trial of James Carr is scheduled to start next week in Fulton Superior Court. The Pulaski County resident and former Kewanna resident is accused of shooting Roy A. Shaffer on November 4, 2006.

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Kewanna Town Council Meetings

First Thursday of Each Month
7 p.m. - Town Hall

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KHS alumni banquet, May 16

The 57th Kewanna High School alumni banquet will be held Saturday, May 16, at 6 p.m. at the Kewanna-Union Township Fire Station, 404 N. Toner St., Kewanna. The cost of the evening's festivities is \$15 per person. Reservations, along with your check or money order, should be sent to Robert Clyde, P.O. Box 92, Kewanna, IN 46939, by May 2. Those submitting reservations should include their graduation year. The class of 1959 will be honored guests. Donations are also being accepted for the Union Township Scholarship Fund.

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Sign up for CDP, ACRE extended

Farmers now have until August 14 to sign up for the federal farm bill's Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) and new Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program.

The original deadline was June 1, but the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has extended the sign up period to allow farmers time to make informed decisions on choosing whether to stay with DCP for 2009 or participate in ACRE for crop year 2009 and beyond through 2012.

Area farmers should contact their local Farm Service Agency office in order to schedule an appointment and to obtain more information.

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Soup supper at Pleasant Hill

The Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church will serve a vegetable soup supper from 5 to 7 p.m. Saturday, April 25, at the church. The cost of the meal is a free will donation and proceeds will help send youth to summer church camps.

The church is handicap accessible on the east side of the building.

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Girl Scout collecting food

The local Girl Scout Troop No. 43828, Kewanna, is collecting canned food, meat and peanut butter to replenish area food pantries as part of a CanQuest 2009 competition.

The competition is based on total pounds of food collected and total pounds of bonus food. The bonus food includes meat and peanut butter. Items can be left at the Kewanna-Union Township Public Library. The final pickup date and time is noon Saturday, April 25. If you have a large quantity of food to donate, call 574-653-9915 to schedule a pick up.

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ACRE program enrollment opens April 27

Don Hunton, Acting State Executive Director for USDA's Farm Service Agency in Indiana, announced recently that producers can elect and enroll in the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program beginning April 27. ACRE is a provision of the 2008 Farm Bill.

"The Average Crop Revenue Election program is an innovative alternative to the traditional farm safety," Hunton said. "This new option presents an opportunity for producers to review both programs and decide which one will work best for their operation."

Producers have until August 14, 2009, to make their decision for the 2009 crop. USDA will not accept any late-filled applications.

Producers who elect the ACRE program for a farm agree to:

- forgo counter-cyclical payments;
- accept a 20 percent reduction of the direct payments; and
- accept a 30 percent reduction in loan rates for all commodities produced on the farm.

Commodities eligible for ACRE payments are wheat, corn, grain sorghum, barley, oats, upland cotton, long grain rice, medium and short grain rice, peanuts, soybeans, sunflower seed, canola, flaxseed, safflower, mustard seed, rapeseed, sesame seed, crambe, dry peas, lentils, small chickpeas and large chickpeas.

The ACRE program was created in the 2008 Farm Bill to give producers an option in lieu of traditional counter-cyclical payments. Producers may elect and enroll in ACRE for the 2009 crop year even if they have already accepted advance direct payments under the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program.

To elect ACRE for a farm, producers must complete Form CCC-509 ACRE, which irrevocably elects ACRE for the farm through crop year 2012. Form CCC-509, the contract to participate in ACRE, must then be completed each year the producer intends to participate and receive benefits.

For more information about the ACRE program, please visit your Farm Service Agency county office or visit their website, <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

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AREA FIVE MENU Kewanna Fire Station

Monday, April 27 - Pork loin, zucchini blend, peas, fruit cocktail, rill and milk

Wednesday, April 29 - Ham, beans and cornbread, pickled beets, sweet potatoes, apple crisp and milk

Friday, May 1 - Baked ham, cheesy potatoes, stewed tomatoes, pears, roll and milk

Cemetery clean-up/annual meeting

Local volunteers gathered last Wednesday evening to clean-up the Kewanna Citizens-IOOF Cemetery and get it ready for the mowing season.

The cemetery association held its annual meeting following the clean-up.

The secretary-treasurer's report was given by Evelyn Peters. Bev Ton was elected to the board of directors to replace the late Carole Hamman. The price of grave plots was raised from \$250 to \$300 effective June 1, 2009. Persons who wish to purchase lots should contact Kyle Rans at Harrison-Metzger & Rans Funeral Home.

Those who would like to contribute towards maintenance at the cemetery can send their donation to Evelyn Peters, Box 402, Kewanna, IN 46939.

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RECYCLING DATES
Thursday, April 9th and
Thursday, April 23rd

Free trees available from conservation club

The Fulton County Conservation Club has purchased 320 trees which it will give away free to the first 320 Fulton County citizens who claim them. The free trees, along with planting instructions, will be distributed Saturday, April 25, beginning at 9 a.m. at the Prairie Edge County Park. The park is located on 3rd Street, Rochester, just off the bypass and west of the 4-H fairgrounds. The Friends of the Fulton County Park Board will help with the distribution.

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KEWANNA TOWN HALL (Water & Sewage Payments)

308 S. Logan St.

Hours:

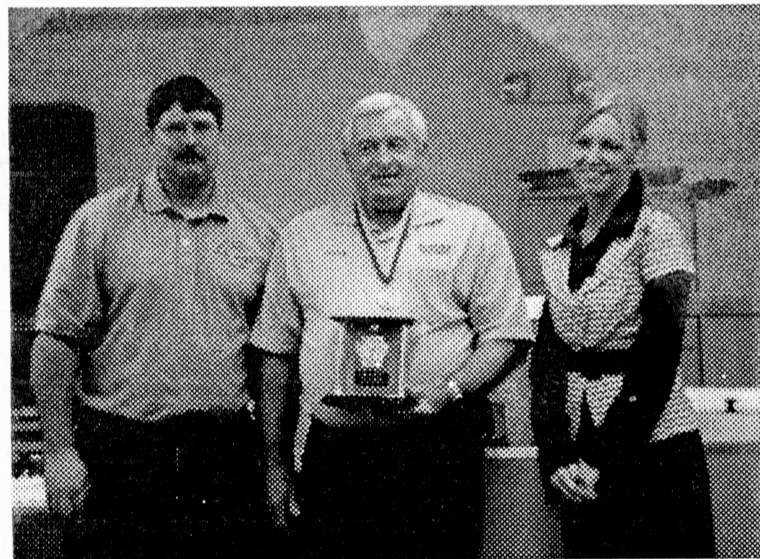
9 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays

or by

Appointment

574-653-2112

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Jay Cunningham (left), a member of the Union Township advisory board, and Jenny Kay (right), representing the Kewanna town council, presented a clock to Larry Kimble in recognition of

his 43 years of service to the Kewanna-Union Township Volunteer Fire Department. An open house was held Sunday at the fire station honoring Larry upon his retirement from the department.



The Kewanna-Union Township Fire Department presented retiring volunteer, Larry Kimble, with a plaque at Sunday's open house. Pictured here are Fire Chief Jay Cunningham, Kimble, Assistant Fire Chief Larry Baldwin, and Assistant Fire Chief Tony Pesaresi. Larry served as fire chief from 1998 to 2005.

State Fire Marshal Fred Sumpter also presented Larry with the Governor's Award for Meritorious Service. He also received a medallion and certificates of appreciation in recognition of his 43 years of service to the community, along with cards and gifts.

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High school friends visit

Norma Heidorn Alexander reports that she and her husband, Mark, of Punta Gorda, Florida (right) enjoyed a wonderful visit recently with her high school friend, Susan Overmyer Stewart (KHS class of 1973) and Susan's husband, Derrick (left).

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ArtRageous arts in Logansport

Cass County Arts Alliance's upcoming fundraiser, ArtRageous, is designed to awaken the inner artist that sleeps in each of us, according to event organizer, Lita Rouser. All 16 of the celebrities who agreed to create a piece of art on an 8 x 10 canvas are creative spirits, but not artists by trade. Their artwork will be auctioned Friday, May 1, at Schwerbo's with proceeds benefiting the Cass County Arts Alliance, the Performing Arts Council of Logansport, the Logansport Civic Players and the Logansport Jr. Civic Theater. ArtRageous, which runs from 6 to 8 p.m., will also feature entertainment and refreshments.

The evening's emphasis will be

on fun – raising fun and raising funds, starting with the artwork itself – the “splashes of color” in a room decorated in black and white. Attendees are encouraged to wear black and white as well. Many of the celebrities will be on hand to discuss their work and celebrate the arts.

The 16 celebrities whose art is on the auction block are all associated with Logansport, either through work, birth or residency: cardiologist and jazzman Stan Hillis, race car driver Boston Reid, Logansport mayor Mike Fincher and deputy mayor Linda Klinck, state senator Randy Head, Logansport city councilman Scott Kraud, Pharos Tribune columnist Deb Saine, Cole Clothing Museum owner Jean Cole, Lafayette TV 18 anchor Alyssa Rossomme, WIBC's Joe Ulery, WSAL's program director Betsy Jarvis and dj Matthew Paul, former Cass County Foundation director and children's author Lisa Terry, screenwriter Garry Williams, Walton public library director Gordon Southern, and lead singer for the Twisted Riddlers Don

Steinberger.

WSAL dj Matthew Paul, who chose to do a collage of local landmarks, said of his experience, “It was really interesting to get out and see all these places from a new perspective. Plus, it turned out so good that I had to make two so we'd have one at home.” Of his experience, Walton library director Gordon Southern wryly commented, “A fellow once told me there are two kinds of men, those who are farmers and wanna-bees. I must be a wanna-bee.”

Logansport deputy mayor Linda Klinck noted that without Logansport artist Teri Partridge “it would not have been possible”. Teri, who opened her Pear Tree Gallery studio in downtown Logansport to the budding artists, remarked on the positive experience of working with them, saying “I have been asked to help with community art projects over the years, but this event had a twist – I was to mentor non-artist celebrities in the creating of a one-of-a-kind piece for the CCAA fundraiser. What fun! As different celebs worked in my studio, I was able to see them relax and blossom as their ideas took shape. I believe the people attending the event May 1 will be pleased with the quality of these first-timers who have created art for the good of the cause.” Teri added that some of the artwork can be previewed at her gallery until it moves to Schwerbo's.

ArtRageous tickets can be purchased at the CCAA website

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www.casscountyarts.com as well as at Minglin's Jewelry and Century 21 in Logansport. The cost per ticket is \$15. Upcoming arts events include the Med Flory Jazz Fest, the Civic Players production of *Finian's Rainbow* and the Jr. Civic Theater's production of *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*.

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Tourism group reorganizes

The Rural and Rustic tourism group which includes Starke, Pulaski, Fulton, Cass and Miami counties held a reorganization meeting April 20. Deb Bowsher of Miami County was elected as chairperson. The goal of the group is to increase tourism and bring tourist money into this area.

In 2008, the group published a brochure about farmers markets in the area. This year, the brochure features festivals and is available at the Rochester Chamber of Commerce, Fulton County Museum, and Comfort Inn and Super 8 motels. It was designed and printed by the Knox High School graphic arts department.

Local residents are encouraged to pick up the brochures and mail

them to out-of-county friends and family members inviting them to come to this area. “Tourists coming into our county helps fund and save our local heritage,” stated Shirley Willard, president of the Fulton County Tourism Commission.

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**Fulton County
Courthouse Hours:**
Mon. - Thurs. 8 to 4
Friday - 8 to 5
CLOSED Sat. & Sun.

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CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates

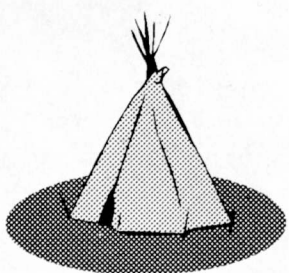
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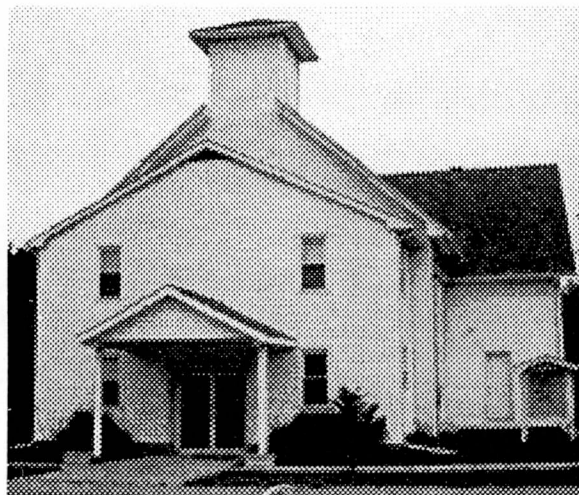
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HOSPITAL NOTES....

WOODLAWN HOSPITAL
 April 10
 Births - Thadd and Lora Mellott, Bourbon, a son
 April 13
 Admissions - Nelda Heckathorn, Macy
 Dismissals - Stella Curtis, Tippecanoe; Rickey Wilard, Rochester; Diana Soucy and daughter, Rochester; Lora Mellott and son, Bourbon
 Births - Adam and Bettina Zabel, Rochester, a daughter
 April 14
 Admissions - James Funk, Rochester
 Dismissals - Mariedd McCune, Argos; Kathleen Horn, Rochester
 April 15
 Admissions - Shirley Wilcox, Argos; Margery Overmyer, Rochester
 Dismissals - Nelda Heckathorn, Macy; James Funk, Rochester
 Births - Misty Johnson, Rochester, a daughter
 April 16
 Admissions - Wensday Crist, Denver; Ronald Scott, Rochester; Olga Cook, Rochester
 Dismissals - none published
 Births - Mary Thomas, Rochester, a son
 April 17
 Admissions - Helen Hill, Rochester

Dismissals - Bettina Zabel and daughter and Misty Johnson and daughter, Rochester
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DEATHS

BRUCE COLLEY
 Bruce Colley, 65, passed away peacefully at 1 p.m. Thursday, April 16, 2009 at his residence on Lake Bruce.
 He was born in Chicago on September 8, 1943 and was the son of the late Boyd and Mary Alice (Ferry) Colley. On October 18, 1980 he married Renee C. Verboon, who survives.
 Other survivors include two sons, David Colley of West Dundee, Illinois, and Eric Colley and his wife, Julie, of Bartlett, Illinois; two grandchildren, Nathan and Meghan Colley of Bartlett, Illinois; two sisters, Glenetta Cosby of Chicago, Illinois, Debbie Zupancic and her husband, John, of Crown Point; one brother, Wade Colley and his wife, Betty, of Grant Park, Illinois; and many nieces and nephews.
 Bruce retired from Arrow Plastic Manufacturing in Elk Grove Village, Illinois, after 25 years of service. He was a champion marksman during his years in the U.S. Army and enjoyed cooking.
 Cremation is being handled by Harrison-Metzger & Rans Funeral Home, Kewanna.

A celebration of life will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, May 2, at the Retro Bistro Restaurant in Mt. Prospect, Illinois. Also, a celebration of life will be held locally at a later date for his lake family and friends.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in Bruce's memory may be given to Hope Hospice, 420 Main St., P.O. Box 621, Rochester, IN 46975.

Online condolences may be made to the Colley family at www.harrisonmetzger.com.

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Small Business Counseling

Fulton County small business owners and entrepreneurs can learn more about operating their own business by attending confidential counseling sessions provided by the regional Small Business Development Center. Through an arrangement with the Fulton Economic Development Corporation (FEDCO), this service is free to Fulton County residents. A business counselor can help current and prospective business owners with business plans, marketing, arranging financing and growing a business. A counselor is available the second Wednesday of each month at the FEDCO office, 822 Main Street, Rochester. To schedule an appointment for May 13 call 574-223-3326.

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Pulaski Memorial Hospital Calendar

The next sibling class at PMH will be Saturday, April 25, from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Students will receive education on adjusting to a new baby in the family. Parents are encouraged to enroll their children so they can participate in the class about six weeks before

the birth of the new baby. To register for the class, call 574-946-2193 Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. This is a free service of PMH.

Prenatal classes will be held on consecutive Thursdays, April 30 through May 28, from 7 to 9 p.m. in the PMH conference center. There will be a breastfeeding class held on June 4 from 7 to 9 p.m. For registration, call 574-946-2193 Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you deliver at PMH, there is no charge for the classes.

Abused? Home shouldn't hurt. Call the crisis center at 1-800-933-0374, 24 hours a day. The crisis center offers emergency shelter, complete confidentiality, support groups, and crisis intervention. The staff acts on behalf of the client with service agencies, serving Jasper, Newton and Pulaski counties.

There is a walk-in immunization clinic from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Healthy Family Office on the third floor of the Pulaski County Building in Winamac. Vaccines available include DTaP, EIPV, Hib, Hep B, MMR and Td. Please bring any previous immunization records. Call 574-946-6071 for more information.

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Send In Your News

Memorial service/ butterfly release

Pulaski Memorial Hospice holds a service every year to honor the patients who have been in their program the past year. This year, the services will be held during the annual Kiwanis Spring Fest on Saturday, May 9, at 10:30 a.m. on the west side of the Pulaski County Courthouse lawn in Winamac.

The service will consist of a prayer, poem or reading, and a vocal or instrumental song. During the song, Monarch butterflies will be released in memory of the hospice patients. The family members of the hospice patients are invited to attend as well as members of the community.

Anyone wishing to help contribute to the cost of the butterflies for the service may contact Karen Utes at the Pulaski Memorial Hospice office, 574-946-2140. You may also mail a donation directly to Pulaski Memorial Hospice, ATTN: Butterfly Release, P.O. Box 279, Winamac, IN 46996.

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Notice To Subscribers

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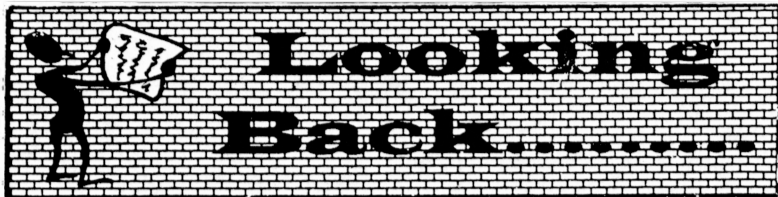
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Looking Back.....

FIFTY YEARS AGO April 16, 1959

Joe Dague, Wayne Township trustee, Jim McKinney, Union Township trustee and Fred Gottschalk, Liberty Township trustee, met at the Grass Creek School with their advisory boards Tuesday, April 14, to discuss plans for the consolidation of the three township schools. Also at the meeting were the school principals, Russell Walters of Kewanna, Lewis Cameron of Fulton and Thomas Brumett of Grass Creek.

The 7th annual Kewanna High School alumni banquet was held Saturday evening, April 11, at the school with approximately 240 in attendance. The entertainment included a piano solo by Nancy Walters; saxophone solo by Cheryl Worl; a brass quintet composed of Steve Ley, Sandra Miller, Bob Newgent, Barry Worl and Dick Kumler; clarinet quartette, Marsha Hizer, Jackie Vigus, Mary Nell Masteller and Nancy Walters; and a baritone solo by Sandra Miller.

The National Grange sewing contest was held at the Pinhook Grange Hall, Kewanna, Saturday, April 11. Winners included Mrs. James Wilson, first, and Dorothy Hizer, second.

in Class A (adults over 18); Barbara Masteller, first, Class C (juniors 12 to 14); Helen Bonnell, first, and Mrs. James Wilson, second, Class D (adults sewing for others). All first place winners went on to the Pomona dress contest.

The L-Four Club met Thursday, April 9, in the home of Mrs. Eldon Smith with Mrs. Robert Troutman as the assistant hostess. Mrs. Charles Donathen and Mrs. John Hott presented a lesson on "When Teenagers and Parents Disagree".

Born to Pvt. And Mrs. Thomas Parker, Kewanna, a son in Memorial Hospital on April 12. The baby has been named Thomas Lee Parker, Jr. The mother is the former Sharon Hizer.

FORTY-FIVE YEARS AGO April 16, 1964

Victories in both relays enabled Kewanna to win a triangular track meet over Star City and Monterey Thursday. Jim Talbott captured the pole vault for Kewanna and Rick Weller won the 880. Talbott teamed with Kenny Robbins, Bob Bitterling and John Hot to give the mile relay to Kewanna. Jerry Kimble, Jim Ley, Al McPherson and Don

Cochran won the 880 relay.

The fifth grade C.C. (Care and Courtesy) Club met Wednesday, April 8, with Barbara Byfield presiding. The program chairman, Donnie Weller, presented the topic of "Birds" for discussion. Reports on the wren, woodpecker, robin, meadow lark, passenger pigeon, owl and humming bird were given by Verl Kreamer, Joe Hott, Gary Heiden, Rinda Rude, James Clevenger, Penny Johnson and Donnie Weller.

Picnic hams were selling for 25 cents a pound at Deckard's Supermarket in Kewanna. Miracle Whip was 34 cents a quart.

Sunday dinner guests of Mrs. Edna Applegate were Mr. and Mrs. Mark Brumbaugh and daughter, Kay, of South Bend, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Thomas, Mrs. Velma Lease and Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Crippen and family.

The Women's Bible class of the Church of Christ met recently at the home of Mrs. Florence Kruger with Mrs. Grace Hengle as her assistant hostess. Mrs. Ethel Carr, president, presided over the meeting. The April hostesses will be Mrs. Retha Warfield and Mrs. Lela Hudkins.

Barbara Ann Garrison, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Garrison, Plymouth, and Larry Edward James, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Ward James, also of Plymouth, were married March 28 at the Pretty Lake EUB Church. The bride graduated from Plymouth High School and is employed at McCord Corp. The groom graduated from Grass Creek High School and is employed with United Telephone.

FORTY YEARS AGO April 17, 1969

The Aubbeenaubbee and Union Township Farm Bureau hosted a party Friday, April 11, honoring Mr. and Mrs. Grover Metzger, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Mutchler and Mr. and Mrs. Omer Reichard for their 50 years of service to Farm Bureau. The entertainment included a dance routine by Barbara DeWitt, Martha Masteller and Kelly Newman.

Herbert Zellers, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Zellers, Kewanna, is

undergoing his basic training at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

Damage to the auto of Dr. K. K. Kraning, Kewanna physician, has been estimated at \$4,000 following an accident Saturday morning on Indiana 17, north of Kewanna. The accident occurred when Kraning started to pass an auto driven by John Harris, Kewanna. Harris pulled into the right lane at the same time to turn on to Bruce Lake Station Road. Kraning swerved to miss the Harris auto and went off the road hitting a cement corner post.

In another accident which occurred Sunday evening, a fall owned by William White, Kewanna, was struck and killed by a 1966 Ford driven by Larry Bucks, Kewanna. Lights from an oncoming car prevented Bucks from seeing the calf which Danny Kilgore was trying to drive off the road when it was hit. The calf narrowly missed Kilgore when it was struck.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Conrad announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Markeeta, to Nick Klinefelter, son of Mr. and Mrs. Verlin Klinefelter. Miss Conrad is a graduate of Kewanna High School, attended Ball State University, and graduated from Business Service Association School of Computer Technology in South Bend. She is employed at the National Bank in Logansport. Klinefelter, a graduate of Kewanna High School, served three years in the U.S. Army and is employed with the Kroger Company, Logansport.

THIRTY-FIVE YEARS AGO April 11, 1974

A tornado ripped through Fulton County last Wednesday, entering in Wayne Township, striking south of Kewanna and then traveling on northeast leveling the northern edge of Rochester and Talma. Fulton County recorded six deaths due to the early April storm.

Dorothy Pittinger entertained nine members of the Susannah Wesley group of the United Methodist Church Wednesday evening. Margaret Werner opened the meeting by reading The Purpose and leading the group in singing several hymns. Lulu Spear gave devotions and the lesson.

Mr. and Mrs. James Fisher,

Kewanna, are the parents of a son born at Pulaski Memorial Hospital. The baby weighed 8 pounds and 11½ ounces and has been named Matthew. Mrs. Harriet Stoudt, Rt. 3, Kewanna, and the late Foster Stoudt are the maternal grandparents and Mr. and Mrs. Woodward Fisher, Kewanna, are the paternal grandparents.

The new voting apparatus which will be used in Fulton County beginning with the May primary is on display at the local Farmers and Merchants Bank. Voting will be done by punching a card. After the polls are closed, votes will be tabulated by computer at the court house in Rochester.

Julie Markley visited over the weekend in the home of her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hall at Winamac. Larry and Joe Markley of Warren and Jeff Markley of Kewanna were weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. Don Markley.

THIRTY YEARS AGO April 19, 1979

The Fulton County Board of County Commissioners voted unanimously Monday night to build a new county jail and to pay for it with a 30 cent cumulative building fund levy over the next five years.

Police Chief Bill Walters has resigned his position and the Kewanna Town Board is taking applications for his replacement. The town board is also taking applications for the town's CETA position. The CETA worker aids Elmer Hickie with street and water works maintenance.

Robert D. Thomas, 75, Grass Creek, died at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday in Woodlawn Hospital. Services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday at the Grass Creek United Methodist Church with Rev. Chris Madison officiating and burial will be in the Grass Creek Cemetery.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Harrison-Metzger Garden Chapel, Kewanna, for Jonas Shidaker, 93, Rt. 1, Kewanna. Survivors include two sons, Harry R., Bremen, and Lester H., Kewanna; and one daughter, Gladys Leap, Rt. 4, Rochester.

The April meeting of the New

"LOOKING BACK" Con't. To Page 5

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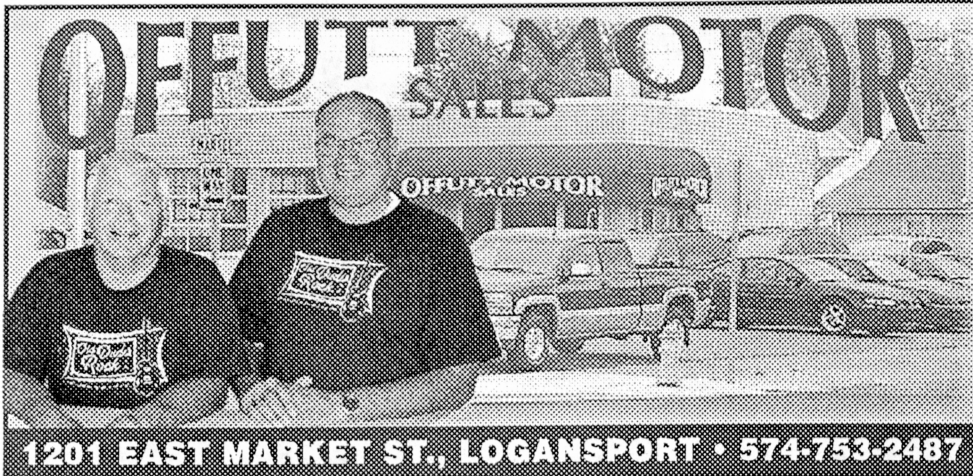
<p>COUPON FUEL INJECTION SERVICE Includes: Fuel injectors cleaned and fuel filter replaced Improves high speed performance Reduces exhaust emissions Improves starting Improves fuel economy Smooths idle \$79.95</p>	<p>COUPON LUBE, OIL & FILTER CHANGE SPECIAL INCLUDES: Lube Chassis, Change Oil Filter to Oil (up to 5qts), Multi-point inspection \$21.95</p>	<p>COUPON BALANCE & ROTATE TIRES Includes: Computer balance free, rotate and inspect tires, inspect brake friction material, calipers, drums, hoses & connections, inspect steering knock, inspect ball joints & steering linkage, Roadside Call and Light Truck (DMV Extra) \$35.95</p>	<p>FREE LIFETIME OIL CHANGES WITH ANY NEW OR USED VEHICLE PURCHASE. (EXCLUDES DIESEL TRUCKS) FREE TANK OF GAS WITH EVERY PURCHASE!!</p>	<p>COUPON WIPER BLADES Motorcraft wiper blades, per pair, installed \$21.95 Offer valid with coupon</p>	<p>FREE BATTERY/CHARGE SYSTEM TEST Visually inspect and test battery and charge system using Rotunda Micro-490 tester. Visually inspect serp. belt FREE</p>
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"LOOKING BACK" Con't. From Page 4

Idea Club was held in the home of Jean Urbin. Officers for next year are president, Barb Hickie; vice president, Jean Urbin; secretary, Becky Herrold; and treasurer, Kathy Kegarse.

The annual Fulton High School alumni banquet was held Saturday evening, April 14, at the Caston School with approximately 255 persons in attendance. The welcome was given by Laurence Norris. Phil Eskew of Indianapolis was the master of ceremonies.

Mr. and Mrs. Cloyde Zuck and Mr. and Mrs. Chester Geisler visited overnight last Monday with former Kewanna residents, the Howard and Terry Livengood families, in Bastrop, Texas. The Zucks and Geislers were enroute home from Weslaco, Texas, where they spent the winter months.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO April 19, 1984

Paul Ley, rural carrier for Route 1, Kewanna, was honored by the Postal Service for 45 years of service to the community and postal service. He also received a million mile safe driving award.

A Rock-A-Thon was held at the local library last Thursday to raise funds to purchase large print

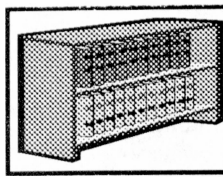
books. A total of 25 people rocked for the full eight hours the library was open. The Kewanna Lions Club sponsored the event. Krystal Smith, president of the newly organized Friends of the Library, was responsible for advertising. Ann Bauman and Bev Baldwin, Girl Scout leaders, coordinated the efforts of the Girl Scouts in collecting pledges for each half hour of rocking.

David and Kathy Wilson, children of Dennis and Susan Wilson of Greensburg and grandchildren of Art and Lois Wilson, Kewanna, were awarded top honors at the 1984 Rosenmund Elementary School science fair recently.

Jennifer Hoover, Rt. 1, Rochester, is currently spending three months abroad studying with the Ball State University London Center in England. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Hoover, Rochester, and the granddaughter of Lois Kumler and Meda Hoover of Kewanna.

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RECYCLING DATES
Thursday, April 9th and
Thursday, April 23rd



Kewanna/Union Township Public Library News...

The next board meeting will be Monday, April 27, at 6 p.m. in the library.

New books at the library:

ADULTS:

General Fiction— *True Colors* by Kristin Hannah.

Large Print General Fiction

The Lost Quilter (from the Elm Quilts novel series) by Jennifer Chiaverini; *Love Mercy* by Earlene Fowler; and *Handle with Care* by Jodi Picoult.

Large Print Mystery Fiction

Just Take My Mystery Fiction Higgins Clark and *Long Lost* by Harlan Coben.

JUVENILES:

Picture Books General Fiction— *Easter has Eggs, Where are We Going?* and *The Yellow Boat* by Harriet Ziefert.

Ages 12 and Under General Fiction—

Steam Engine Stories and *Thomas and The Treasure* (from the Thomas the Tank Engine series) by Rev. W. Awdry; *Dora Celebrates Earth Day* (from the Dora the Explorer series) by Emily Sollinger; and *Mostly Ink and Wink* by Harriet Ziefert; and (from the John Deere series) *Johnny Tractor Saves the Parade* by Dena Neusner and *Corey Combine and The Great Big Mess* by Elana Roth.

Youth Nonfiction—

Michigan by Kate Riggs; *High School Musical: The Essential Guide* by Catherine Saunders; *Indiana* and *Illinois* by Shawndra Shofner; and (from the Fact Finders series) *The Bill of Rights in Translation* and *The Declaration of Independence in Translation* by Amie Jane Leavitt, *The Gettysburg Address in Translation* by Melchisedech Olson and *The Pledge of Allegiance in Translation* and *The Star-Spangled Banner in Translation* by Elizabeth Raum.

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Redbud Trail Rendezvous honors Abraham Lincoln

The Redbud Trail Rendezvous will honor Abraham Lincoln by dancing to his favorite tune "Skip to My Lou" in the Frontier Frolic. Lincoln was born in 1809 so this is his 200th birthday. He lived in southern Indiana for 14 years from 1816-1830.

Re-enactors from five states are gearing up for the Redbud Trail Rendezvous April 25-26. Every spring it is one of the first outdoor events of the season. This event is brimming with frontier history and often brings surprises for the participants and public.

The Redbud Trail Rendezvous is held on the grounds of the

Fulton County Historical Society from 10 to 5 on Saturday and from 10 to 4 on Sunday. FCHS grounds are four miles north of Rochester on U.S. 31 The Festival will be held in the Living History Village just south of the Round Barn Museum this year due to flooding in the festival area next to the river. Rain or Shine the festival will go on.

Two additional events will go on concurrently on Saturday. A Farmers Market will be held in the museum meeting room Saturday from 9 to noon. An auction will be held in the Richland Township meeting room beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday.

Music and dance will be performed in the upper level of the round barn a different program every half hour. Programs include Mark Gropp with bagpipe music, Frontier Frolic - pioneer dancing by the teenage re-enactors, Liza and Mark Woolever - music and songs, and Indian dances. Shirley Kern Needham will show a red-tailed hawk named Phoenix and a red-shouldered hawk named Keeah and tell about habitat, hunting traits, and spiritual importance to the native tribes.

People dressed in authentic pre-1840 outfits demonstrate many traditional crafts. Crafts included are flintknapping, beadwork, spinning and weaving, leather, wood carving, blacksmith, blade smith, fingerweaving, and much more. Members of the Metocynah Longrifles will be here along with a wigwam village by Norm Rhoads and Grave's brothers. Booths will also be set up in the buildings in the Living History Village.

Members of the Seven Years War Time Period will be set up in the Living History Village and will be doing training demonstrations such as marching, canon firing and horse training and weaving in the Log Cabin.

Many trade goods and hand-made items used for frontier living will be offered for sale or barter in merchant's historic marquee tents and by blanket traders. Many of the traders have Indian ancestry. Traders come from Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky and other states.

Muzzle loading shooting contests will be not be held due to location change.

Foods cooked over wood fires will include ham and beans, vegetable stew, buffalo burgers, sassafras tea, breakfast of biscuits and sausage gravy - Fulton County Historical Society booth; Carmel Corn - made in big iron kettles by Dennis

Thompson, Converse. Also homemade fudge and cookies - Mark Gropp, Wolcottville, will be in Old Time General Store in Living History Village.

Admission is \$3 for adults ages 12 and older, \$1 for kids age 6 to 11, free for those age 5 and under. Proceeds enable the historical society to operate the museum and preserve history.

There is no admission charge to see the Fulton County Museum at the north end of the grounds. Volunteers can earn free admission to the Redbud Trail Rendezvous by working half a day. To volunteer, call the museum at 574-223-4436. Free parking is provided on FCHS grounds. The grounds are handicapped accessible. Plenty of free benches are available to sit and rest. For more information, see the web page at www.icss.net/~fchs.

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Redbud Trail Rendezvous Schedule Apr. 25-26, 2009

Upper Level Round Barn Museum - Sat. & Sun.

10:00 (Sunday only) - Frontier Worship non-denominational service -

Schedule for both days:

12:30-1:00 Mark Gropp, Wolcottville, Ind. - Bagpipe music

Subject to change.

1:00-2:00 Shirley Needham, Rochester, Ind. - Red-tailed Hawk & Red-shouldered Hawk - Habitat and spiritual importance to the native tribes.

2:00-2:30 Mark & Liza Woolever, Plymouth, Ind. - music

2:30-3:00 Liza Woolever, Plymouth, Ind. - music sing-along for children of all ages

3:00-3:30 Frontier Frolic, dance called by Shirley Willard, Rochester, music by Woolevers. 3:30-4:00 Indian dances & stories - participants will tell about their heritage and outfits.

Brent Blough - Andy's Gospel Puppets - shows held every hour

Marsha Glassburn, Rochester, Ind. - Storytelling various times

Traditional Crafts demonstrated and sold by:

Michael Allen, Sedalia, Ind. - weaving sashes

Richard & Miriam Blodgett, Peru, Ind. - Toy display, hand quilting, educational display

John Cox, Huntington, Ind. - Wood carvings

Bruce A. Eltzroth, Lagro, Ind. - Old games and toys

Karen Hainlen, Greentown, Ind. - Walking Wheel Spinning, knitting & tatting

Rag rug making, Butler, Ind. - Rag rug making

Joe McClanahan, Wabash, Ind. - Flintknapping

Dale & Patty Pace, Rochester, Ind. - Flintknapping, needle felting, & drop spindle spinning

Tim Padfield, Logansport, Ind. -

hand carving
David Short, South Bend, Ind. - Flintknapping & traditional tool working.

Bill Willard, Rochester, Ind. & others, - Blacksmithing
John Timmons, Logansport, Ind. - Weaving on loom

- Weaving on loom
Wayne Troup, Bloomington, Ind. - Leatherwork

Jeff White, Galveston, Ind. - blacksmith - bladesmith

Bill Willard, Rochester, Ind. - finger weaving of Indian sashes in upper level of Round Barn.

Marquita Young & Michael Glendenning, Logansport, Ind. - beadwork

Foods cooked over wood fires - in the Living History Village

Buffalo Burgers, ham & beans, cornbread, vegetable stew, lemonade, coffee, sassafras tea. Breakfast: Biscuits and Sausage Gravy.

Mark Gropp, Wolcottville, Ind. - Fudge and cookies.

Dennis Thompson, Converse, Ind. - Carmel corn made in big iron kettle, carmel apple slices & root beer.

Seven Years War Training - held in Living History Village by museum

Demonstrations by Haverhill Militia and Haverhill Militia Troop of Horse. Cannon demonstration.

Weavers in the Log Cabin Museum - East side of Living History Village.

Funding from this event helps to keep the museum open and preserve history. Have a great day at the Redbud!

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Caston Sports Schedule

Sat., April 25 - Boys' varsity baseball vs. West Central at Caston, 11 a.m.; girls' varsity softball vs. Taylor at Caston, 11 a.m.

Mon., April 27 - Boys' JV baseball vs. CMA at Caston, 5 p.m.; girls' varsity softball at West Central, 5 p.m.

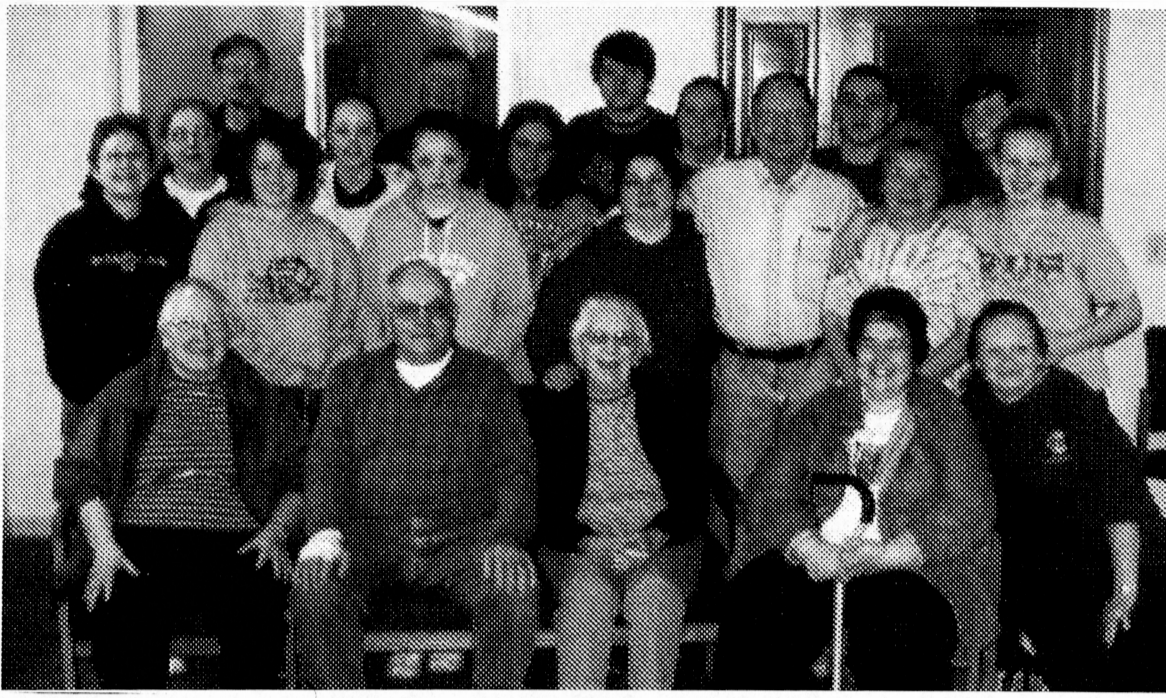
Tue., April 28 - Boys' varsity baseball at Southwood, 5 p.m.; girls' varsity softball at Rochester, 5 p.m.; varsity co-ed track and field vs. Culver Military at Caston, 5 p.m.

Thur., April 30 - co-ed JH golf at Cass, 4:30 p.m.; boys' varsity baseball vs. Northfield at Caston, 5 p.m.; girls' varsity softball at John Glenn, 5 p.m.; co-ed JH track and field vs. Culver at Caston, 5 p.m.; co-ed varsity track and field at Tippy Valley, 5 p.m.

Fri., May 1 - boys' J baseball at Winamac, 5 p.m.; boys' varsity baseball vs. Peru at Caston, 5 p.m.; boys' JV and varsity golf vs. North Miami at Caston, 5 p.m.; girls' varsity softball at North Miami, 5 p.m.

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The OBSERVER**



Mission trip

Twenty-one persons representing six area churches recently took part in a mission trip to Henderson Settlement in Kentucky. Many of the group spent the week adding a room and porch to a local home while others sewed, worked in the greenhouse or library.

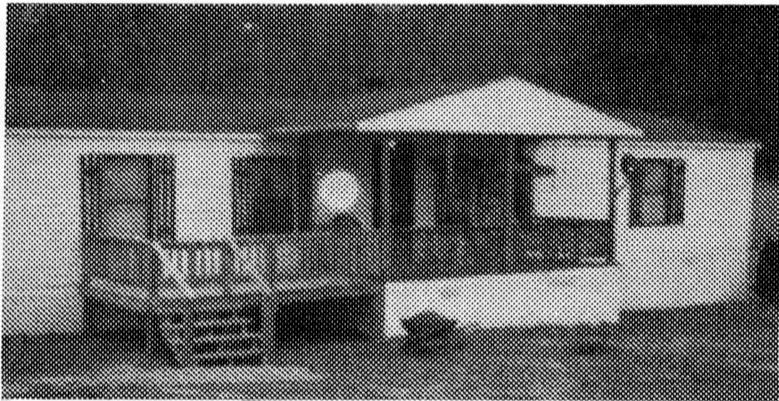
Taking part in the mission trip

were, front row, left to right, Ann Becker, Willard Peters, Helen Peters, Bev Barnett and Karen Lizenby; second row, Linda Ruhl, Meagan Powell, Jesse Hardy, Chris Powell, Dave Sommers, Sandy Minick and Taylor Smith; third row, Elaine Bye, Whitney Thomas, Jeanann Hewitt, Traci Powell, David McMenamin and Ashley Boelhoff; and fourth row, Charlie Bye, Paul Bauman

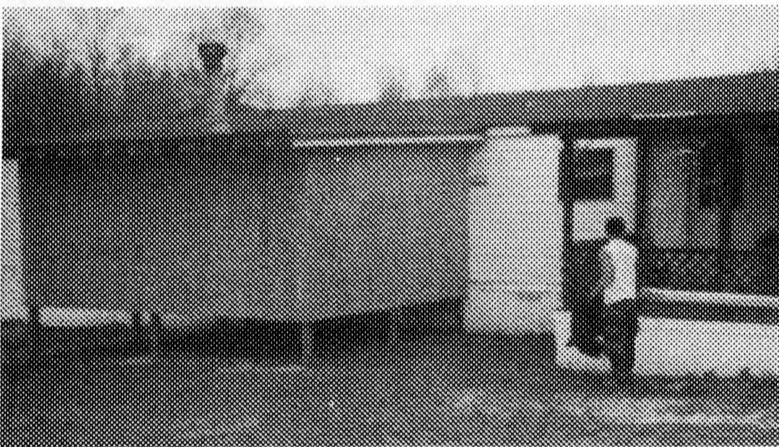
and Mitchell Townsend.

Henderson Settlement is a project of the United Methodist Church. Proceeds from the Hap's Chicken Bash held at the Kewanna United Methodist Church last February helped pay for the group's trip to Henderson and the materials for the work completed.

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Porch Addition - Henderson Settlement



Room Addition - Henderson Settlement

EASTERN PULASKI MENU

April 27 - May 1

Elementary Breakfast

Monday - Cereal, graham cracker, juice and milk

Tuesday - Breakfast pizza, juice and milk

Wednesday - Biscuit with egg pattie, juice and milk

Thursday - Omelet, juice and milk

Friday - info not available

Elementary Lunch

Monday - Pizza burger, green beans, mixed fruit, cookie and milk

Tuesday - Grilled chicken sandwich, baked potato, apple juice, cake and milk

Wednesday - Cheeseburger, seasoned wedges, pears, cookie and milk

Thursday - Chicken and noodles, mashed potatoes, applesauce, biscuit and milk

Friday - info not available

Middle/High School Lunch

Monday - Grilled chicken

sandwich, broccoli, apricots, cookie and milk. Choice - salad bar

Tuesday - Hard or soft shell tacos with salsa, lettuce & cheese, mixed fruit, and milk. Choice - salad bar

Wednesday - Stuffed crust pepperoni pizza, peas, pears, cookie and milk. Choice - salad bar

Thursday - Hot dog, seasoned fries, peaches, cookie and milk. Choice - salad bar

Friday - info not available

+++

To really make scrambled eggs or omelets rich add a couple of spoonfuls of sour cream, cream cheese, or heavy cream in and then beat them up.

For a cool brownie treat, make brownies as directed. Melt Andes pouts in double broiler and pour over warm brownies. Let set for a wonderful minty frosting.

Medicare Part D: Going the Extra Mile for America's Seniors

By Robert Goldberg

Medicare Part D, the prescription drug benefit for seniors, now offers an online service for beneficiaries. Called "Plan Finder," it allows seniors to find and compare prescription g plans. This user-friendly online tool is just one of the ways Medicare Part D is helping seniors make informed decisions about their health care -- and save money.

More than 25 million Part D participants fill more than 100 million prescriptions each month, and more than 85 percent of beneficiaries consistently report being satisfied with their coverage.

Notably, costs to taxpayers and enrollees are substantially lower than first predicted, thanks in part to the healthy competition the program is built upon.

Today dozens of private companies across the country offer more than 1,800 approved Medicare Part D plans. And on average, premiums are about \$28 per month -- 37 percent lower than anticipated when Part D was created six years ago. Plus, the cost of the program to taxpayers this year will be about \$30 billion less than first projected.

With so many competing plans, though, many beneficiaries find it difficult to pick the one that's right for them. The plans vary in lists of approved drugs and treatments, premiums, deductibles, and out-of-pocket maximums. Additionally, the plans differ in how they deal with the infamous "donut hole." That is the gap in drug coverage where beneficiaries have used up their basic drug benefit, but have not yet reached the point where Medicare's "catastrophic coverage" kicks in.

This is why Medicare's online resources so valuable. The website allows users to find and compare plans, assessing how they will change next year and potentially helping them to identify a plan that may better suit their medical or budgetary needs.

Seniors need only make a list of

all their current prescriptions and dosages, then head to www.Medicare.gov. After entering this information on the website, "Plan Finder" kicks out a list of all the appropriate insurance plans and their costs in the area.

Users can even compare the cost of filling prescriptions by mail versus buying directly from a local retail pharmacy. This is especially useful for seniors who take several prescription drugs.

There are other innovations coming to Medicare Part D next year as well that will further build upon the program's success and help seniors make smart, informed decisions about their health care.

In 2010, the use of medication therapy management programs (MTMPs) will be greatly expanded and improved. MTMPs save both money and lives by improving drug adherence amongst patients, better educating patients about their medications, improving prescribing, and watching for potentially dangerous drug interactions.

Unfortunately, there's a campaign underway in Congress to restructure Part D to allow the government to "negotiate" drug prices with pharmaceutical firms. This would turn Part D into a more traditional government program with just a single, price-

controlled plan. Under the drug benefit administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), for example, the government "negotiates" prices by telling drug manufacturers that they have to sell to their drugs to the VA at a price that is at least 24 percent less than the non-Federal Average Manufacturer Price. If companies refuse to comply, the drug they refuse to "negotiate" on is banned from Medicaid and Medicare, as well as the VA benefit.

Consequently, most companies comply. The VA purchases just small percentage of the drugs the nation consumes, so drug companies can afford the loss. Plus, no drug company wants to find itself barred from Medicare and Medicaid. That said, many companies simply can't afford to sell their drugs at such discounted rates. So the VA offers far fewer drugs than Medicare Part D.

If such price controls were extended to Medicare, though, seniors would undoubtedly be left with fewer drug options -- and compromised health.

By taking the opposite approach, Medicare Part D leverages market forces to create competition, leading to lower prices, better service, and more choices.

Because Medicare itself has been around for decades, it is sometimes easy to forget that the prescription drug benefit is still in its infancy. But it's growing up nicely, thanks to the active participation of millions of seniors and the healthy competition that was smartly designed into the program. Beneficiaries should utilize the many tools Medicare makes available to them to make educated decisions about their coverage and their health.

Robert Goldberg is vice president of the Center for Medicine in the Public Interest.

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Kewanna Community FOOD PANTRY
United Methodist Church
Open Thursdays by Appointment
Call (574) 653-2201 or (574) 653-9052

Indiana State Fairgrounds Upcoming Events

Cheer & Dance Competition: April 25 in the Champions Pavilion. Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission: \$5; children 5 and younger free. Contact: (877) 852-4337 or www.ccecheer.com.

Deaf Nation Expo: April 25 in the Toyota Exposition Hall. Hours: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission: free. Contact: www.deafnation.com.

Indy Baby & Toddler Show: April 25 - 26 in the Toyota Blue Ribbon Pavilion. Hours: Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sun. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission: \$7; \$3.50 for grandparents; children 5 and younger free. Contact: Jenn Kampmeier (317) 517-9920 or www.indybabyexpo.com.

Apple/ITU Electronic Waste Recycling Days: April 30 - May 2 in the South Lot across from Fairgrounds' Main Gate. Hours: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day. Admission: free. Contact: Claudette S. Canzian (317) 274-7405.

Indiana State Wrestling: May 2 - 3 in the West Pavilion. Matches begin at 8 a.m. Admission: \$10. Contact: Louis Rosbottom (317) 780-1885.

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CASTON MENU

April 27 - May 1

Breakfast

Choice each day with juice and milk: cereal and toast; sausage/cheese bun; ham/cheese bun; or toaster pastry

Lunch

Monday - Pizza, peas & carrots, applesauce, snicker doodle cookie and milk. Comet Café - bacon cheeseburger, seasoned mini cubes

Tuesday - Corn dog, potatoes, green beans, yellow cake with chocolate frosting and milk. Comet Café - turkey and bacon sub, chips

Wednesday - Chicken and noodles, whipped potatoes, peaches, dinner roll and milk.

Comet Café - breadsticks with meat & cheese

Thursday - Breaded pork patty, macaroni and cheese, spinach, pears and milk. Comet Café - chicken strips and French fries

Friday - Cheeseburger, potato wedges, mixed fruit and milk. Comet Café - cook's choice

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Grass Creek/North Caston alumni banquet, April 25

The annual Grass Creek High School and North Caston alumni and friends banquet will be held Saturday, April 25, at the Caston Educational Center. The doors will open at 5 p.m. and dinner seating will start at 5:45 p.m. The cost of the festivities is \$15 per person. Group pictures of the special classes will be taken at 5:30 p.m.

Reservations should be sent by April 18 to Ann Becker, 5732 West 950 South, Kewanna, IN 46939. If unable to make reservations by that date, please call 574-889-2200 by April 23.

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To Reserve the Fire Department Community Room - Call Bev Baldwin at (574) 653-2622

Evenings
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Public Notice

NOTICE OF REAL PROPERTY
TAX CERTIFICATE SALE

Fulton County Indiana

Located in the Fulton County

Commissioners Meeting Room

Beginning 10:00 AM, June 2, 2009 Court-
house Time

STATE OF INDIANA
FULTON COUNTY

Pursuant to the laws of the Indiana General Assembly and by resolution of the Fulton County Commissioners, notice is hereby given

that the following described property is listed for sale for delinquent taxes and / or special assessments.

The minimum sale price listed below is less than the minimum sale price when offered under I.C. 6-1.1-24 and includes all fees and expenses of the county directly attributable to the certificate sale. The Fulton County Commissioners will accept bids by public auction

on June 2, 2009 at 10:00 AM Courthouse Time. Located in the Commissioners Room

The person redeeming the property must pay the amount of the minimum bid under section IC 6-1.1-24-5(e) for which the tract or item of real property was last offered for sale, plus ten percent (10%) of the amount for which the certificate is sold at the certificate sale, plus attorney fees and costs of giving notice under IC 6-1.1-25-4.5 and the costs of a title search or abstract examination for the real property. If the property sells for more than the amount shown on the Commissioners' Tax Sale Certificate and the property is not redeemed, the owner of record who was divested of ownership may have a right to the tax sale surplus.

This notice of real property tax certificate sale, and the tax certificate sale itself are undertaken and will be conducted pursuant to the requirements of the laws of the State of Indiana which regulates the sale of liens for delinquent taxes, pursuant to I.C. 6-1.1-24-1 et seq.

The Auditor's Office does not warrant the accuracy of the key numbers or street addresses published herein and any misstatement in the key number or street address does not invalidate an otherwise valid sale.

Dated: April 16, 2009

Township / Tax Unit: Fulton

Owner of Record: Smith Robert M Sr
Sale ID#: 2528251
Property ID#: 25006-114002-50
Brief Legal Description: 31 1/4' S Side 0 P Lot 3
Property Address: Sw Of 704 N St Rd 25
Fulton In
The individual/entity that purchases the lien

on this parcel must sign a condition of sale. The condition of the sale is as follows: The purchaser of this tax lien must demolish the building and clean the property within ninety (90) days after the expiration of the redemption period.
Minimum Bid: \$1.00
Total Number of Properties: 1

I hereby certify that the above real properties have been offered in one tax sale, have not received a bid for at least the amount required under I.C. 6-1.1-24-5 and have been identified in a resolution of the Board of Commissioners for Fulton County, Indiana, to be offered for sale.
Given under my hand and seal on April 16, 2009.
Judith Reed, Auditor, Fulton County Indiana.
Pub. 4-16-23-30, 2009

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR A ZONE MAP AMENDMENT BY THE FULTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Notice is hereby given that the Fulton County Commissioners of Fulton County, Indiana will hold a Public Hearing at the Fulton County Office Building in the Commissioner's Room, 125 East 9th Street, Rochester, Indiana on May 4th, 2009 at 10:30 a.m. on the petition of Indiana Trails Fund, Inc., on property commonly known as the Nickel Plate Railroad, Rochester, for a zone map amendment to allow the below stated plot to be amended from Agricultural, Suburban Residential and Industrial Districts to an Institutional/Recreation District for the purpose of a non-motorized walking/biking trail.

The property involved is most commonly known as the Nickel Plate Railroad situated between Mitchell Dr. and the Miami County line, Rochester, Indiana.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:
Rochester Twp.
Sections 22, 27, 26 & 35
Range 2E
Nickel Plate Railroad

A copy of this Petition, and all pertaining thereto are on file and available for examination prior to the Public Hearing at the Fulton County Plan Commission Office at 125 East 9th Street, Rochester, Indiana by appointment only by calling 574-223-7667. No appointments on Holidays. Written comments in support of or in opposition of the Petition may be filed with or mailed to the Fulton County Commissioners (125 East 9th Street, Rochester, Indiana 46975) prior to the Public Hearing, or filed with the Commissioners' Secretary at the Public Hearing.

Said Public Hearing will be open to the public and any comments for or against the Petition will be heard at this meeting.

For special accommodations needed for disabled individuals planning to attend, phone (574) 223-2910 at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting.

FULTON COUNTY AUDITOR
Judith Reed
Pub. 4/23/09

EARTH TALK

Questions & Answers
About Our Environment

Dear EarthTalk: Are elephant populations stable these days? -- Reuben Perrin, Hartford, CT

Far from it. The double whammy of poaching (illegal hunting) and habitat loss has led to a dramatic decline in populations of both African and Asian elephants in recent decades. In 1930, there were between five and 10 million wild African elephants, plying the entire African continent in large bands. Just 60 years later, when they were added to the international list of critically endangered species, only about 600,000 were scattered across a few African countries. Today that number is likely less than 500,000.

While Asian elephants were never as numerous as their African counterparts, their population numbers have also dropped precipitously, from an estimated 200,000 a century ago to less than 40,000 today. Conservationists fear that unless demand dries up for ivory, and people stop moving into prime elephant habitat, the world's largest land mammal could become just a memory within another hundred years.

Putting an end to habitat loss may be next to impossible as more and more people vie for fewer and fewer resources and move out further into the countryside, so conservationists working to save elephants tend to concentrate on reducing or eliminating poaching. While trophy hunting of elephants may have been big decades ago, today most elephant hunters are after the ivory in the tusks, which have been a hot commodity across Asia for years as raw material for highly prized and often ornate carvings. Despite elephants' inclusion in Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) in 1990—meaning the sale of tusks and other elephant parts is a violation of international law—poaching is bigger business than ever, with prices for ivory rising more than 16-fold in recent years.

Some countries, such as Tanzania and Kenya, are working hard to hold up their end of the CITES agreement, hiring patrols of young men—some of them former poachers themselves—to monitor local elephant populations and enforce national and international laws against killing these and other endangered species. Conservation groups like the African Wildlife Foundation (AWF) and the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) are working hand-in-hand with local officials to improve elephant habitat and keep poachers at bay. These organizations hope that the people in these regions can learn how to bring in revenues from tourism instead of hunting.

But elsewhere governments are not as committed to the ivory ban, let alone to following laws imposed by outsiders. Government officials in Zimbabwe, South Africa and Botswana, for example, argue that trade in ivory should be regulated, not prohibited. They maintain that countries that are managing their elephants well should be allowed to sell ivory in order to pay for conservation measures.

In part to test such waters, the first legal sale of ivory in a decade took place in October 2008, despite protests from conservationists. Buyers, mostly from China and Japan, eagerly snatched up some 100 tons of stockpiled elephant tusks—no elephants were killed recently or illegally for the sale—with the proceeds going to groups working to save the elephant and its habitat. But with the legal ivory sale has come an uptick in elephant poaching, leaving conservationists with that “one step forward, two steps back” feeling.

CONTACTS: CITES, www.cites.org; AWF, www.awf.org; WCS, www.wcs.org.
SEND YOUR ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTIONS TO: EarthTalk, P.O. Box 5098, Westport, CT 06881; earthtalk@emagazine.com. Read past columns at: www.emagazine.com/earthtalk/archives.php. EarthTalk is now a book! Details and order information at: www.emagazine.com/earthtalkbook.

Thank You

I would like to thank the Kewanna-Union Township Fire Department for hosting Sunday's open house in honor of my retirement from the department. I would like to thank not only the firemen and their families, but the firemen from other departments, family members, friends and guests that made this a very special day for me. A very special thanks to State Fire Marshal Fred Sumpter for presenting me with the Governor's Meritorious Service Award; Jenny Kay, representing the Kewanna town council, and Jay Cunningham of the township advisory board, for their award of appreciation; Fire Chief Jay Cunningham and Assistant Fire Chief Larry Baldwin for the presentation of a medal; and Tony Pesaresi for an award of appreciation. Thanks also to many others for cards and gifts and a very special thanks to the community for its support.

Larry Kimble

Kewanna Town Council Meetings
First Thursday of Each Month
7 p.m. – Town Hall

Notice..
OBSERVER OFFICE HOURS...

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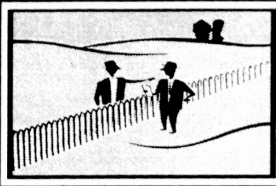
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Town & Country CHATTER...

By: Julie Brown (574) 653-2451

Betty Leazenby was a Tuesday evening, April 14, dinner guest of her sister and her family, Barb and Jon Gast and Angela.

Jon and Barb Gast and Angela were in Logansport Wednesday, April 15. They met Barb's friend, Laverne, for lunch at the Long John Silver's restaurant.

Don and Pauline Scales had a visitor Thursday, April 16. Coming over for a chat was their son, Bruce Scales of Fulton.

Barb and Jon Gast and Angela were busy Thursday. They began their day with a business trip to South Bend. On their way home, they stopped in Rochester for lunch at the Streamliner restaurant. In the afternoon, they were visitors of Jon's father and stepmother, Stuart and Rachel Gast, in Winamac.

Pauline Brown and Julie were in Kokomo Friday, April 17. They did some birthday, graduation, belated Easter and early Christmas shopping. Afterward, they enjoyed lunch at the Fazoli's restaurant.

Pauline and Don Scales had company Friday. Joining them for lunch was their daughter, Barbara Grandstaff of Kendallville. After the meal, Pauline and Barb took care of some errands. In the evening, the Scales' granddaughter, Cindy Wiese, came over for a visit.

Linda Bangel of Schoolcraft, Michigan, was a weekend houseguest of her parents, Mary and Earl Bangel.

Jon and Barb Gast and Angela had company Friday. Coming down for a visit were Angela's sister, Randi Neidig of Bourbon, and her "charges," Allison and Sadie Barber. In the evening, Barb's sister, Bea Ann Clark of Logansport, stopped by for a chat.

Lizzie Pugh was the guest of honor at a birthday party Friday evening hosted by Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Pugh. Helping Lizzie celebrate her fifth birthday were her little sister, Ashley; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Richardson of Oxford, Ohio; Mrs. Karen Schwab and Ryan of Batesville; Mr. and Mrs. Steven Pugh and Kyle, Kewanee; Mr. and Mrs. Mike Snyder, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Baker, Clar and Allie, and Mr. and Mrs. Josh Pugh and Steven, all of Culver; Mr., and Mrs. Wade Shedrow, Levi and Madison, and Mr. and Mrs. Steve Reinhold of Monterey; and Jackye Pugh of Lake Bruce.

Jackye Pugh of Lake Bruce, Mr. and Mrs. Wade Shedrow, Levi and Madison, of Monterey; and Mr. Bill Snyder of Culver were Easter dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Snyder at Culver.

Tom and Linda Garner had several callers Saturday, April 18. Coming for an exciting overnight visit were their daughter and grandchildren of Valparaiso, Amanda Wassermann, Zach and Mackenzie. Also stopping by throughout the day for family chats were the Garners' daughter and grandson, Missy Young and Trey of Twelve Mile, and their son and daughter-in-law, T.J. and Ashley Garner.

Kay Brown was in Rochester

Saturday. She attended the JV softball tourney. Her granddaughter, Leighnee Smith, is a pitcher for Rochester.

Leonard and Nancy Evers were in Rochester Saturday. They had a wonderful time attending a party in honor of their great-grandson's, Lincoln Ritter, 3rd birthday. Many family members were in attendance.

Don and Pauline Scales had some very energetic visitors Saturday. Coming over for an entertaining time were their great-granddaughters, Ally Wiese and Brianna and Stevanna Young.

Helen Miller had houseguests over the weekend. Staying with her for a couple of days were her granddaughter and her family, Suzanne and Mike Crump, Katie and Tyler, of Muncie.

Angela Gast returned to Wake Forest, North Carolina, Saturday after a pleasantly, long holiday visit with her parents, Jon and Barb Gast.

Ruth Ann Anderson and her daughter, Joyce Luhnnow, accompanied Joyce's son, Doug Luhnnow, and his family to services at the Faith Outreach Church in Rochester Sunday morning, April 19.

Helen Whiteman had a very busy day Sunday. In the morning, she accompanied her daughter, Sherri Lett, to the Winamac United Methodist Church. Sherri's granddaughter, Whitney Hook, was confirmed during the morning service. In the afternoon, fifty members of Helen's family gathered in her home in celebration of her 95th birthday. Her family came from as far as

Michigan to the north, Chicago to the west, Indianapolis to the south and Virginia to the east for the very special occasion.

Bruce and Theresa Bangel of Indianapolis were the guests of honor at a family gathering Sunday. The occasion was in celebration of their wedding anniversary and held at The Golden Corral restaurant in Lafayette. Helping them mark the occasion with a wonderful visit during the meal were their parents, Earl and Mary Bangel and Bob and Marge Sheets; their sons, Rob and Kevin Bangel; Bruce's brothers and their families, Darel and Nancy Bangel of Ft. Wayne, Sara, Josh and Andrew and Louis and Jean Bangel and Joyce of Winamac; Bruce's sister, Linda Bangel; Bruce's uncle, Glenn Bangel of Indianapolis; and Rob's girlfriend, Jenna.

Helen Miller and Suzanne and Mike Crump, Katie and Tyler, had company Sunday. Joining them for a visit were Helen's granddaughter and great-grandson, Nancy Mann of Kokomo and Cpl. Trevor Mann of Camp Lejeune.

Tom and Barb LaFollette had dinner guests Sunday. Joining them in the afternoon for the meal and a visit were their granddaughter and her family, Shelby, Duva and Eli of Rochester.

Chloe Brown was the guest of honor at a large family gathering Sunday. The occasion was in celebration of her birthday and hosted by her parents, Ted and Faith Brown. Helping them mark the special day with all the birthday trimmings were Chloe's grandparents, Mark and Mick Brown; her great-grandparents, Jerry and Kay Brown; her great-great-grandmother, Mary K. Williamson of Winamac; her

uncle and his family, Steve and Brenda Fox, Griffin and Megan; her great-aunts and their families, Sue McKinney and Molly and Angie Smith, Leighnee, William and Aidan, all of Rochester; her great-great-aunts, Evelyn Peters and Rita Williamson; Terry Brown and Becky Leitke; and Mr. and Mrs. Wes Hickle and family.

Julie Brown had fun Sunday evening. She was among those who attended the party held in honor of her "munchkin," Addison Zimpleman. The event was in celebration of Addison's 3rd birthday and hosted by her parents, Camile and Greg Zimpleman. The group also celebrated Addison's Aunt Laura's birthday.

Wilma Wilson had company Sunday. Coming for a visit were her daughter and family, Judy and Jack Graham of Lucerne and their children, Emily and Kurt. They enjoyed dining out together and having ice cream. (Jack, work on your penmanship!)

Jerry and Kay Brown had a couple of visitors Sunday. Stopping by late in the day for a chat were Jerry's sister and brother-in-law, Vivian and Bob Hathaway of Warsaw.

Helen Whiteman had houseguests early in the week. Staying with her for a couple of days were her daughters, Dr. Cindy Parker of Marion, Virginia and Karen Rice of Indianapolis.

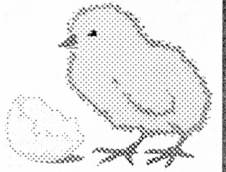
Those persons who will be having birthdays next week (so please remember to give them your best regards) are: Nancy Bangel and Sarah Smith, April 26; Regan Watson, April 27; Danny Chew and Jim Cogdill, April 28; Jim Fisher, Pat Smith and Roger Vogel, April 29; Jim Hines, L.O. Robinson, Jayson Swafford, Sandi Westphal and Addison Zimpleman, April 30; Chuck Baldwin, May 1; and Abigail Powell, May 2.

There are six couples who will be celebrating their wedding anniversaries next week: Mr. and Mrs. Steve Sutton, April 26; Mr. and Mrs. Bob Clyde, April 27; Mr. and Mrs. Scott Baldwin, April 28; Mr. and Mrs. Chris LaFollette, April 29; Mr. and Mrs. Tony Leininger, May 1; and Mr. and Mrs. Mark Smith, May 2.

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