

"Merry Christmas"



THE
*"America,
Land of the
Free, Because
of the Brave!"*

OBSERVER

Kewanna Library
Box 365

Comp.

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THE LAKE BRUCE CONSERVANCY DISTRICT NEWS

The Lake Bruce Conservancy District held its regular monthly meeting Thursday, December 11, in the community room of the Kewanna-Union Township Fire Station. All five directors were present as well as 10 freeholders of the district and one guest.

The minutes of the previous meetings was unanimously approved, as was the treasurer's report. Vice chairman, Gerald Porter, covered the correspondence received during the past month.

Chairman Norm Steigely reported that since the bid for dredging was not complete, the low bidder, DTI, would calculate the cost of reclaiming the holding site. It is hoped that this will be done by the first of the year. The next lowest bidder, All Things Water, will also be submitting another bid. These bids will be looked at once again to determine who will be awarded the work.

It was revealed that the landscaping proposed for around the treatment plant and the east vac station will be put off until spring.

Richard Denny, the new treatment plant operator, reported that he is working with the contractor on replacing a seal needed to fix a leak at the plant. He also went on to say that everything is moving along very well at the plant. Fourteen homes are now hooked up to the system and flow has finally started.

Gerald Porter reported that the LARE application for 2009 has been sent in, but success in receiving a grant is very doubtful. The weed permit for 2009 has also been sent in. Mr. Porter also went over some of the options for treatment in the coming year, but the course followed will depend on access to funding. This will not be determined until grants are announced in March.

It was brought to the board's attention that damage to the grounds has occurred at the west vac station. Although adjacent landowners were notified to keep vehicles off the property, a semi truck has been parked on the property and has torn up recently seeded areas. The sheriff has been called and the situation is currently under investigation. The board will look into the cost of fencing the area and putting up signs.

A question was brought up about how many times the inspector should be required to visit a connection site. The

Candlelight Christmas Eve service

The Kewanna United Methodist Church will host its annual candlelight Christmas Eve service for the community Wednesday, December 24, at 11 p.m. Everyone in the community is invited to share in this special celebration of the birth of Jesus.

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application fee is in place and will allow a maximum of two inspections. In reality, the inspector should be called out only once, when all the pipe has been laid and prior to connection. The board determined that if a contractor requires more than two inspections, the contractor would be charged a \$50 fee for each additional inspection.

The subject of contractors meeting the requirements of the sewer connection ordinance was also discussed. The board was informed that some contractors are not meeting the ordinance requirements and resisted efforts by the inspector to make them comply. The board devised a form letter that will go out to any contractor that does not comply with the ordinance. It states that the district will not accept applications for permits from any landowner that is using a contractor whose work does not meet the requirements stated in the ordinance.

Once again, the board wishes to make it clear that a new payment book will come out after December 15 that reflects the full sewer rate of \$73.50. This new December coupon will be due by January 15. The last coupon in the current book for December is \$46.88 and due by January 15 should be discarded.

A resolution was passed to allow the treasurer to move monies from one classification to another, where money is needed, as long as it does not increase the budget. The subject of late charges was discussed and it was determined that the board would hold off on any decision until the billing company has completed its investigation on proper procedures required by state regulation.

This is the last meeting at which Norm Steigely will act as secretary. He is the only secretary the district has ever had. Kathy Fisher will assume these duties the first of the year. The board also approved the purchase of office equipment that was formerly supplied by Norm.

The next regular meeting of the board will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, January 8. All freeholders of the district and interested parties are welcome.

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Christmas light display

Jerry and Shirley Werner once again invite everyone to view their annual Christmas light display. The display will be lighted every evening from 6 to 10 p.m. through January 1.

From Kewanna, travel south on State Road 17 to the first stop sign, continue south to County Road 950 South, turn right and follow the lights to the corner of 950 South and 1100 West. Feel free to make a circle through the barn lot off of County Road 1100 to see the displays in the back.

The Werners wish everyone a Merry Christmas.

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Fulton County residents face higher taxes

The Fulton County Council voted 5-1 Tuesday, December 9, to institute two local option income taxes that is expected to raise \$1.62 million in 2009.

Half of the money raised will go into the county's general fund. The other half will go toward public safety expenses, including \$500,000 to help fund the Fulton County Emergency Medical Service. The City of Rochester and the towns of Akron, Fulton and Kewanna will share the rest of the public safety money.

The new income taxes, combined with the county adjusted gross income tax and economic development tax, will amount to a total county tax of 1.93 percent.

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Caston baseball coach to be honored

Caston baseball coach, Blake Mollenkopf, will be recognized during the Indiana Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame awards banquet to be held January 23 at the Sheraton at Keystone Crossing in Indianapolis. Mollenkopf was selected as the District 1 Baseball Coach of the Year.

This selection was made by a vote of his peers for his outstanding success during the 2008 high school baseball season. He will also be honored by the Caston Athletic Department during half-time festivities of the varsity basketball game on February 6.

"This is a great award for an outstanding individual as well as baseball coach," Caston athletic director Debb Stevens said. "He continually strives to keep building the CHS baseball program and through his efforts many improvements have been made to our baseball facilities and our program continues to grow stronger and stronger. He's such an outstanding role model for the kids at Caston and we're very blessed to have Blake as part of our community, school, and baseball program."

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MEETING CHANGE

Due to the New Year's holiday, the Kewanna town council has rescheduled its first meeting for 2009 from Thursday, January 1, to Thursday, January 8. The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in the town hall and it is open to the public.

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The News In Brief

All Fulton County government offices will be closed Wednesday, December 24, and Thursday, December 25, in observance of Christmas.

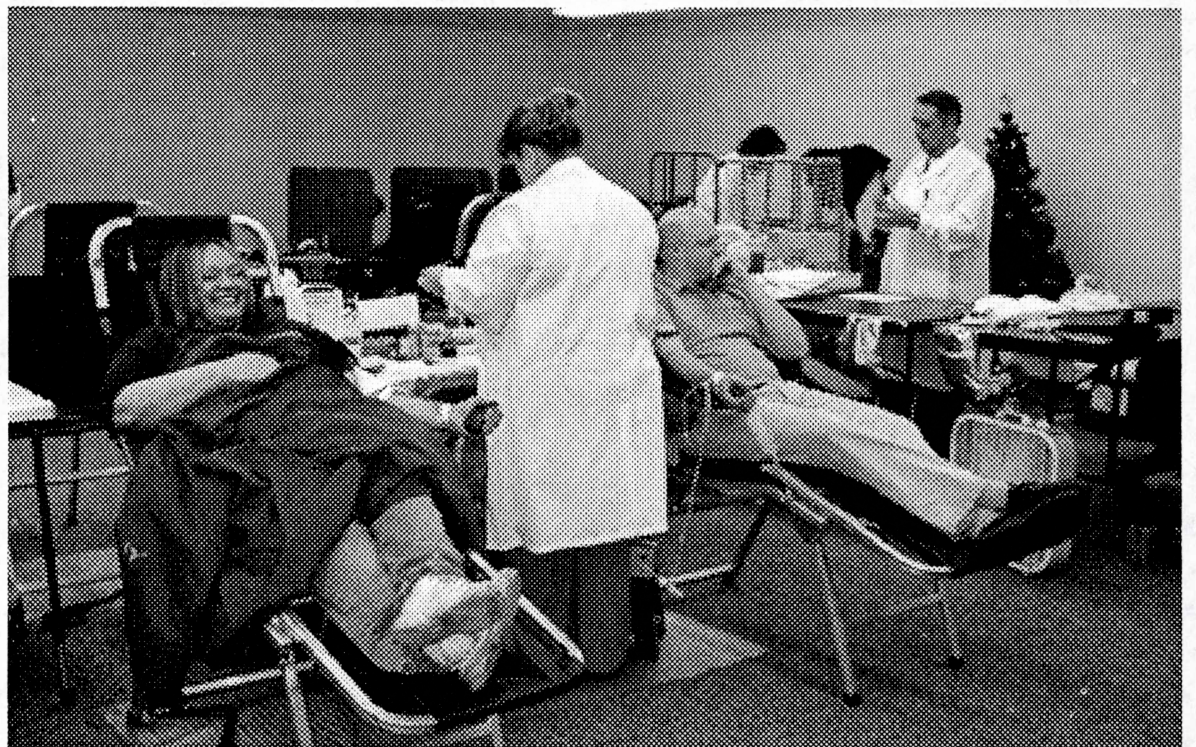
All Fulton County government offices will be closed Thursday, January 1, in observance of New Year's Day.

The Fulton County Public Library board of trustees will meet at 3 p.m. Monday, December 22, at the library. The agenda will include opening of bids for the new Aubbee branch library. The board will meet at 4 p.m. Monday, December 29, to choose a contractor for the project.

The Fulton County Hazardous Substance Commission will meet in special session at 10 a.m. Friday, December 19, in the meeting room of the Fulton County Office Building, 125 E. 9th St., Rochester. The agenda will include special well concerns.

The Fulton County courthouse, office building and Extension Office will be closed Friday, December 19, from noon to 5 p.m. for the employee Christmas party.

Recycling Dates
Thurs., Dec. 4th,
and Dec. 18th



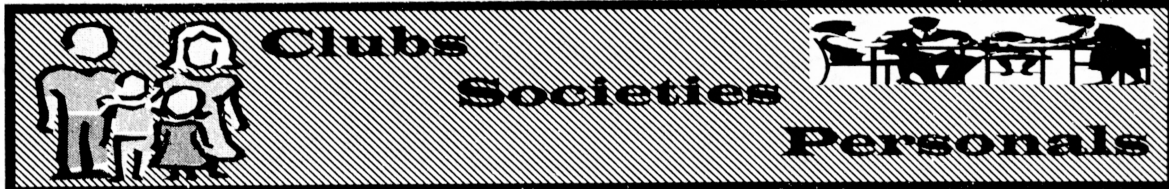
Blood collection day a success

Over 50 people responded to the call to give blood during a drive

held Tuesday at Winamac Coil Spring in Kewanna. Pictured here giving blood are Annie Mendiola and Chris Swoope. The blood

drive will help insure that Indiana hospitals have an adequate supply of life-saving blood through the 2008 holiday season.

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Memorial Christmas tree

Hope Hospice in Rochester has chosen this season to memorialize the lives of friends and loved ones by placing a Memorial Christmas tree on display at First Federal Savings Bank in Rochester.

Christmas ornaments hand-inscribed with the names of loved ones will be hung upon the tree. A book of remembrance listing the names is also on display in the foyer.

The public is invited to join others in celebrating the life of a loved one by making an honorary or memorial gift to Hope Hospice. For a contribution of \$10 or more, a personalized Christmas ornament will be created. Honorary or memorial gifts for the Memorial Christmas tree will be accepted through December 29.

Forms listing the donor and the person being acknowledged by the contribution are available at First Federal Savings Bank in Rochester and the Hope Hospice office, 420 Main St., Rochester. The completed form and a contribution for each ornament should be mailed to Hope

Hospice, Memorial Christmas Tree, P.O. Box 621, Rochester, IN 46975.

Scout uniforms needed

Fulton County scouting units are collecting scout uniforms to help outfit scouts who can not afford to purchase them. They are in need of any scouting apparel – shirts, pants, socks, neckerchiefs, slides, etc. The items can be dropped off at the Fulton County Public Library in Rochester or the library branch in Fulton.

The uniform drive will continue until December 22. If you have questions, contact Chuck Smith at 574-817-0518.

Power wheelchairs available

The Senior Wheels USA Program makes power wheelchairs available to senior citizens and the permanently disabled at no cost to the recipient, if they qualify.

The power wheelchairs are provided to those who can no longer walk safely, nor self-propel a manual wheelchair, and who meet the additional guidelines of the program.

If the patient's need is for use in the home, call 1-800-246-6010 for more information to see if they qualify.

EYE RESEARCH DEVELOPMENTS V.I.P. TOPIC

The December Christmas party meeting of the Visually Impaired Persons (V.I.P.) featured Dr. Dennis Cowley, local optometrist. He presented data regarding the ongoing studies of vision problems, which offer hope to people with vision issues.

Most importantly, the progress in gene therapy has been dramatic, Dr. Cowley reported. Three different research teams experimenting with mice reported successful treatment of good genes replacing diseased retinal genes. While human therapy is several years away, the studies are offering hope.

Dr. Cowley described a contact lens being developed that can monitor eye pressure for glaucoma patients. It is hoped that eventually the lens could even release needed medication.

He brought with him a variety of hand-held magnifiers including a tiny credit card size, which can be carried in a pocket or purse. That item would be particularly handy to use for menus, telephone books, etc. Of great interest was a new type of cell phone that can scan printed material, and then read it aloud to the visually impaired person.

At monthly V.I.P. gatherings, knowledgeable individuals provide support and services to the visually impaired by sharing valuable information and data with those in attendance. Not only does the group discuss serious subjects, they also provide encouragement, fun and laughter.

To further those goals, member Anna Mae Carnett, (Winamac), donated many novels on cassette tapes, which will provide a lending library service for members.

V.I.P. meetings are held on the

second Tuesday of each month, with the exception of January and February because of possible inclement weather. The next meeting will be held on March 10, 2009, at the Von Tobel Center located at 120 W. Pearl, Winamac, Indiana. Visually impaired persons, their family, and drivers are welcome to attend. For additional information, contact: Johanna Gudas 574-946-6126 or Maurine Wilder 574-946-3836.

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James F. Talbott VFW Post No. 1121 December Activities

Dec. 4 – Men's meeting, 7 p.m.
Dec. 12 – Ladies Auxiliary will decorate for party
Dec. 14 – Children's Christmas party, 2 to 4 p.m.
Dec. 17 – Ladies Auxiliary meeting, 7 p.m.
Dec. 28 – open Sunday at noon
Dec. 30 – Men's Auxiliary meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Dec. 31 – Annual dues are due

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Electronics scam targeting American consumers

The Better Business Bureau of Northern Indiana is warning consumers of a number of websites purportedly selling personal electronics, but failing to deliver the product after receiving payment by wire transfer.

The outfit, most recently operating as Qbelam.com and Circuitown.com, advertises a variety of personal electronics including PS3s and laptop computers at discounted rates, and the website gives a number of options available for payment. However, when interested parties try to check out, they are sent a

message stating that the only available method of payment is wire transfer.

"Anytime you're being asked to pay for something by a wire transfer service, that should be a huge red flag," said Michael Coil, President/CEO of Northern Indiana. "Once money has been sent, there's no way to get it back – using a credit card to pay for items online provides a great deal more security."

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

Downtown Kewanee

HOURS :-: W-T-F, 8am-5pm
Sat. 8am-12 noon
Open Dec. 24th
CLOSING DEC. 25th thru
MARCH 3rd.
OPEN Mar. 4th thru Mar. 21st
CLOSED MAR. 22 thru
MAR 31st
RE-OPEN APRIL 1st
2009.

"Merry Christmas
and Happy
New Year"



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Hope Hospice

* Website: <http://www.rtcol.com/~hospice/>
420 Main Street, P.O. Box 621 Rochester, IN 46975



Bereavement Support Group
A Community Support Program
for People Dealing with the Loss of a Loved One.

October 16th—Hope
November 6th—Beyond Death's Door
November 20th—Grief and Holidays
December 18th—Ray of Hope

Class Dates: 1st and 3rd Thursday
Class Times: 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Cost: FREE

Location: Fulton County Public Library, Meeting Room A
Refreshments provided.

Hope Hospice
WOODLAWN HOSPITAL
ROCHESTER - INDIANA

For more information or to register call Jason See, Woodlawn Hospital Chaplain, at 574-224-1267 or Anne Beattie, Hope Hospice, at 574-224-HOPE (4673).



Sunday
Night
Before
Christmas


**First Annual Must See
CHRISTMAS**

Candle Light Service

Sunday, Dec. 21st 7:00 p.m.

**Bring the whole family
to a service**

you will remember!


HOSPITAL NOTES....
WOODLAWN HOSPITAL

December 5
Births - Ashley Weber, Tippecanoe, a son

December 6
Births - David and Theresa James, Rochester, a daughter;

December 7
Births - Tasha Coldiron, Kewanna, a son

December 8
Admissions - Carl Burman, Macy; Virgie Gregory and Belinda Hill, Argos

Dismissals - Mary Borer, Edwin Jefferies, Joseph Stesiak, Lacy Barnes and daughter, John Lakey, all of Rochester; Richard Fry, Macy; Amy Craig and son, Akron; Ashley Weber and son, Tippecanoe and Shirley Wilcox, Argos

December 9
Admissions - John Savage, Akron; Shirley Wolf, Tippecanoe; Hope Herring, Grovertown

Dismissals - Theresa James and daughter, Rochester; Hope Herring, Grovertown

December 10
Admissions - Joyce Hoagland, Rochester

Dismissals - Belinda Hall, Argos; Tasha Coldiron, Kewanna

December 11
Admissions - none published

Dismissals - Virgie Gregory, Argos; John Savage, Akron; Kain Williams, Kewanna

December 12
Admissions - James Funk, Rochester

Dismissals - Shirley Wolf, Tippecanoe; Joyce Hoagland, Rochester

PULAKSI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

December 5
Admissions - Angela Swartzell, Monterey; Carl Rebeck, Hobart

Dismissals - Brittini Bonnell, Charity Grandstaff, K. Stuart Gast and Ann Minix, Winamac; Robert G.

Fisher, Knox
December 6
Admissions - none
Dismissals - none

December 7
Admissions - Ethan Andrew Murphy, Joyce Lindsey, Don White and Kristina George, Winamac; Janet Cappelto, Knox

Dismissals - Angela Swartzell, Monterey

December 8
Admissions - Erin Schrader, San Pierre

Dismissals - Ethan Andrew Murphy and Don R. White, Winamac; Richard Brantingham, Culver

December 9
Admissions - Marie Larkin, William Hoover, Winamac; Louis Schammert and Matilda Lamb, Kewanna; Olive White, Medaryville; Ellen Howat, Star City

Dismissals - Nancy Lowry and Lindsey Joyce, Winamac; Janet Cappelto, Knox

December 10
Admissions - Ronald V. Tanner, Francesville; Rachael Kennedy and Shirley Johnson, Winamac; Arlene Johnson, Kewanna

Dismissals - Ellen Howat, Star City

December 11
Admissions - Arlayna Brandt, Winamac

Dismissals - Louise Schammert, Kewanna; Marie Larkin, Winamac; Erin Schrader, San Pierre

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DEATHS**RICHARD "DICK" MILLS**

Former Kewanna resident, Richard "Dick" Mills, 71, Carmel, died Thursday, December 11, 2008. Services were held at noon Monday, December 15, at Orchard Park Presbyterian Church. Cremation followed.

Born August 11, 1937, in Peru, he was the son of the late Richard H. and Mary Mills. He was a graduate of Broad Ripple High School, attended Butler University and served with the U.S. Army.

Dick was a retired union official for Chrysler. He was a member of

the Orchard Park Presbyterian Church where he was currently serving as a trustee. He enjoyed golfing, fishing and playing the piano, performing on a volunteer basis at Maple Park Village in Westfield.

He is survived by his wife, Susan S. Mills; two daughters, Suzanne Crump and her husband, Mike, and Nancy Mann; two sons, Scott Mills and his wife, Karen, and Eric Mills and his wife, Sundai; two stepsons, Robert Peck and Thomas Peck and his wife, Karen; and 12 grandchildren. His brother, Bruce Mills, preceded him in death.

The Flanner and Buchanan Funeral Home, Carmel, was in charge of arrangements. Memorial contributions may be made to Orchard Park Presbyterian Church. Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.flannerbuchanan.com.

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DELORIS L. HUDKINS

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Friday, December 12, 2008, in the Good Family Funeral Home, Rochester, for Deloris L. Hudkins, 87, Provenna Sacred Heart Home, Avilla, with Rev. Buck Padilla officiating. Burial was in the Rochester IOOF Cemetery. The former Rochester resident died at 8:25 a.m. December 8 at Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

Born October 18, 1921, in Rochester, she was the daughter

of the late Elmer and Mae Rix Arven.

A 1939 graduate of Rochester High School, she lived most of her life in Fulton County. She was married February 18, 1941, in Rochester to Loyal Judson Hudkins, who preceded her in death.

A homemaker, she enjoyed spending time with her family and friends, especially her grandchildren. She enjoyed playing cards as well as cross-stitching, ceramics and flower gardening.

She was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church and Order of Eastern Star.

Survivors include three sons, Stephen Hudkins, Kent, Ohio, Joe Hudkins and his wife, Janine, Lexington, Kentucky, and Tom Hudkins and his wife, Patti, Avilla; eight grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; one sister, Arlena Baer and her husband, Emery, Logansport; and one brother-in-law, Francis Hudkins and his wife, Mary, Kewanna.

Electronic expressions of sympathy may be sent to the family at goodfamily@rtcol.com.

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**AREA FIVE MENU
Kewanna Fire Station**

Monday, Dec. 22 - Baked ham, sweet potatoes, broccoli and cauliflower blend, poke cake, roll and milk

Wednesday, Dec. 24 - pork loin, peas, squash, fruit cocktail, oatmeal bread and milk

Friday, Dec. 26 - site closed

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**Indiana State
Fairgrounds
Upcoming Events**

LiveNation concert featuring Hinder with special guests Trapt and Rev Theory: Dec. 22 in the Toyota Blue Ribbon Pavilion. Doors open at 6 p.m.; show starts at 7 p.m. Admission: \$16. Tickets are available through the State Fairgrounds ticket office at (317)

927-1482. For more information, visit www.livenation.com.

Midwest Region Fundraiser Cat Show: Dec. 27 - 28 in the Pioneer Our Land Pavilion. Hours: Sat. noon to 6 p.m.; Sun. 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission: \$5; \$3 seniors; \$3 children 5 - 12; family of six \$12. Contact: Beth Cassely (636) 532-1873

Super Sunday Indy Automotive Swap Meet & Car Sale: Jan. 4 in the West Pavilion and South Pavilion. Hours: 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission: \$6; children 12 and younger free when accompanied by an adult. Contact: Mid America Promotions at (708) 563-4300 or visit www.midamericapromotions.com.

PEACE

Merry
Christmas

May the happiness of this season remain within every heart and home of all our friends.

**The
Kibitzer**

Randy & Gloria Banks
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Merry
Christmas

Wishing you a Holiday filled with family and friends.

R-Mar, Inc.

Rich & Marilyn Hoff
Kewanna, Indiana

Orthopedic Surgeon, Jeffrey Sheedy, joins the team at Rochester Orthopedics

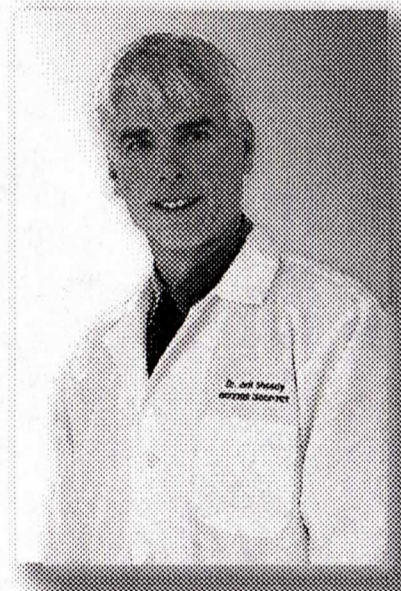
Jeffrey Sheedy, D.O. joined Rochester Orthopedics on December 1st. Dr. Sheedy left his private practice in Plymouth to join orthopedic surgeon Dr. Lisa Ronback and Nurse Practitioner Teresa Perkins. As a team, both doctors and their patients gain the benefits of a combined practice especially with Dr. Ronback's fellowship in upper extremity and Dr. Sheedy's sports medicine fellowship.

Dr. Sheedy grew up in Chicago and played basketball for the University of Alaska. He earned his Doctorate of Osteopathic Medicine in June of 1997 from Midwestern University, Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine in Downers Grove, Illinois. Also while there, he completed his internship as well as his orthopedic surgery residency. In 2003, he served a sports medicine fellowship at Lake Tahoe Orthopedic Institute.

Dr. Sheedy, his wife and children were drawn back to the Midwest to be near family and are happy to be part of the Rochester Community. He is especially looking forward to joining forces with Dr. Ronback.



Teresa Perkins, NP; Lisa Ronback, MD; and Jeffrey Sheedy, DO



Trusted orthopedic specialists
committed to your well being!

**ROCHESTER
ORTHOPEDICS**

816 Main Street
Rochester, IN 46975

Orthopedic Surgeons
Lisa Ronback, M.D.
Jeffrey Sheedy, D.O.

574/223-9525

Letter To The Editor

The Kewanna United Methodist Church prayer ministry team would like to thank the following businesses for their willing support of our community prayer efforts: The General Store, Kewanna Kafe, James F. Talbott VFW Post, Kewanna Town Hall, The Observer, Luke's Auction Barn, Kewanna Laundromat, Kewanna-Union Township Public Library, Community State Bank, Kewanna Screen Printing, Kewanna Pro Hardware, Village Market and Kibitzer.

We sought to pray for the needs and concerns of you, our community and the world. These businesses allowed us to have access to our community by placing prayer boxes, brochures, cards and pencils that were accessible to you in their establishments. Thanks again and may you have a Blessed Christmas.

The Prayer Ministry Team
Kewanna United Methodist Church

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To the Editor,

As the disgraced Detroit three automakers are asking Congress for tens of billions of taxpayer

dollars, we should remember the last several billion that we gave the industry, and the outcome of it. In the 1990s, the Partnership for a New Generation of Vehicles worked to make 80+ miles per gallon cars and allowed for communications amongst scientists between the big three auto makers to help speed the process along.

The Partnership was a huge success, with three 70+ miles per gallon prototypes. General Motors had the Precept, a 5-seat sedan with ample trunk space, with one version getting 108 miles per gallon equivalent running on hydrogen. Ford had the Prodigy getting 72-miles-per gallon, and Daimler-Chrysler also had a 72-miles-per gallon vehicle. Taxpayers were proud that their billions were not wasted and expected these vehicles on the market.

But none of the automakers put any of these vehicles into production, or anything similar. Instead, they chose gas-guzzling SUVs, the epitome of stupidity from a climate change and energy conservation perspective. Using slick ads to push their behemoth vehicles, the automakers are among the biggest culprits in the fast rise in greenhouse gas emissions in the United States.

What happened to the efficient vehicles? The failure to

incorporate that technology was also a major cause of our economic collapse. With the rise in gas prices this past summer, the values of SUVs plummeted, and for many, their gas-guzzlers are now worth less than the loan they have on them.

Why should we give a bailout now, when the automakers are the ones who put themselves into the crisis they are in through their own idiocy? Why don't they dust off these efficient vehicles and put them into production, something both our wallets and our planet could have used a decade ago?

They say those who forget history are bound to repeat it. After the foolish follies of the auto industries, in pushing guzzlers on the American public (along with tax breaks that they manipulated through Congress), why should we bail them out?

What we need is the massive investment in mass transit and high-speed passenger rail: a much better way to travel with exponential fuel savings compared to the most efficient vehicles.

Chad Kister
Nelsonville, Ohio

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Attend Church This Sunday

amending it into our state Constitution?"

Villwock also talked about how important it is for farmers to remember that all of agriculture needs to stand up for each other.

"We are supplying the world with the cheapest, most nutritious and safest food, feed, fiber and fuel," he said.

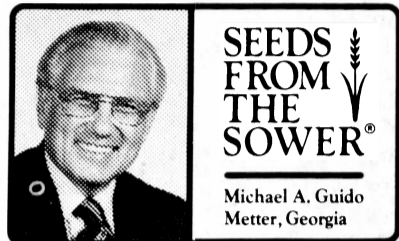
"We can do it all if we stick together," he added.

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Kewanna Town Council Meetings

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

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As the Sunset Limited was speeding to its destination, a baby was born. "What will you call him?" asked a reporter.

"Choo Choo," answered the mother.

Another baby was born in unusual circumstances, not in a stylish home, but a stable.

He chose His own mother, and He didn't have a father. He was born without sin, and He lived a life without sin. We were born to live, but He was born to die for our sins.

When He was born, an angel said, "Thou shalt call His name Jesus, for He shall save His people from their sins."

Why not let Him save you now?

Farm Bureau says proposed tax caps unfair

Farmers need to explain to legislators why a proposed cap on property taxes is bad public policy, according to Indiana Farm Bureau president, Don Villwock.

"I don't know what more I can say or do to get you motivated enough - no, make that angry enough - to call your state legislators," Villwock said, speaking at the IFB convention during his annual address to members. "We need to let them know we think it is extremely unfair to treat classes or property taxpayers differently."

Villwock was referring to a proposed constitutional amendment that would eventually cap taxes on homesteads at 1 percent of assessed value, farmland and rental property at 2 percent of assessed value, and business property and personal property at 3 percent.

"I ask you, why is a \$200,000 house any different than a \$200,000 piece of farmland?" Villwock said. "Why should homeowners, who demand all of the local services that are paid for by our property taxes, get all of the relief? They are the ones using all these services." "Meanwhile," Villwock said, "our bare farmland, which requires few if any services, gets no relief?"

"Remind your representative or senator that the property tax reforms passed last year are untried and the results are still unknown," he added. "With today's unstable market, is it wise to lock in an unproven concept by

Merry Christmas

It's time to gather with family and friends to sing songs of holiday cheer and celebrate this glorious season. Hearty wishes for every happiness.

CLOSING at Noon Dec. 24th CLOSED All Day Dec. 25th Regular Hours Fri., Dec. 26th	CLOSING at Noon Dec. 31st CLOSED All Day Jan. 1st Regular Hours Fri., Jan. 2nd
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Community STATE BANK
Established 1930

KEWANNA ROYAL CENTER TWELVE MILE

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Make sure your vehicle is reaching its maximum fuel potential.
Ford, Lincoln, Mercury only. (Offer does not apply to diesel or hybrid vehicles)

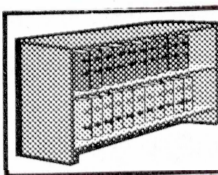
AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION SERVICE
\$149.95 +Remove pan & install new gasket* +Drain &refill with new fluid +Replace filter* +Check for leaks + Road test for proper operation
*If applicable Ford & Lincoln/Mercury cars & light duty trucks only
Excludes new-style sealed transmissions built without dipsticks

WINTER MAINTENANCE PACKAGE
\$79.95 *Oil and filter change *Balance & Rotate Tires *Inspect brake system *Test battery *Check air and cabin filters * Check belts and hoses
*Top all fluids / Up to five quarts of oil. Taxes, disposal fees and additional parts extra. Diesel vehicles extra.

COOLING SYSTEM SERVICE INCLUDES:
*Inspect & test radiator for leaks *Drain radiator *Install 1 gallon of anti-freeze *Check hoses, clamps and belts *Pressure test system for leaks
only \$59.95

BALANCE & ROTATE TIRES \$35.95
* Passenger Car and Light Truck

FREE Battery Test and Inspection with any other service.....



Kewanna/Union Township Public Library News...

New books at the library:

ADULTS:

Christian Unabridged Audio-books— *Until We Reach Home* written by Lynn Austin, read by Ruth Ann Phimister, 16.5 hours in length on 14 cassettes; *Looking for A Miracle* written by Wanda E. Brunstetter, read by Christina Moore, 6.75 hours in length on 6 cassettes; *The Edge of Recall* written by Kristen Heitzmann, read by Katherine Kellgren, 11.5 hours in length on 10 cassettes; *The Longing* written by Beverly Lewis, read by Rachel Botchan, 11.25 hours in length on 10 cassettes; *A Lady of Secret Devotion* written by Tracie Peterson, read by Barbara Caruso, 10.25 hours in length on 9 cassettes; and *By Reason of Insanity* written by Randy Singer, read by Tom Stechsulte, 13.5 hours in length on 11 cassettes.

Large Print Mystery Fiction— *Salvation in Death* (An Eve Dallas mystery) by J.D. Robb and

Murder inside The Beltway (A Capital Crimes Novel) by Margaret Truman.

JUVENILES:

Ages 10 and Under Christian Fiction— *An Ali Cat Christmas* and *Ali Cat Finds A Home* by Dandi Daley Mackall.

Ages 10 and Under General Fiction— *There was An Old Lady who Swallowed A Shell* by Lucille Colandro; *Benny and Penny* by Geoffrey Hayes; *The Haunted Road Trip* (from the Scooby-Doo series) by Gail Herman; and *Tacky and The Winter Games* by Helen Lester.

Teenage General Fiction— *Runner* by Carl Deuker; *Mrs. Dole is Out of Control*, *Mr. Sunny is Funny* and *Mr. Granite is from Another Planet* (#1-#3 of the My Weird School Daze series) by Dan Gutman; *The Astonishing Adventures of Fanboy & Goth Girl* by Barry Lyga; *Kotuku* by Deborah Savage; *Sophia Pitt-Turnbull Discovers America* by Dyan Sheldon; and *Revenge of*

The Living Dummy, *Creep from The Deep*, *Monster Blood for Breakfast* and *The Scream of The Haunted Mask* (#1-#4 of the Goosebumps: HorrorLand series) by R. L. Stine.

Youth Nonfiction— *Cyber Ethics* by Diane Bailey; *The Moon Shines Down* by Margaret Wise Brown; *A Panda is Born* by Kristin Ostby; and *Relationships* by Matthew Robinson.

+++

Local Items

Sunday guests of Helen Miller for a family Christmas dinner included Judy and John Scott of Frankfort; Suzanne Crump, Katie and Tyler, and Travis Mann of Muncie; Nancy Mann and Ed Gibson of Kokomo; Scott, Karen, Amber and Alex Mills of Bluffton; Eric, Sundai, Jaymee, Hayley and Patrick Mills of Russiaville; Rod, Judy, and Kenzie Miller of Plymouth; Cari Miller, Cruz Rosas and Jose Rosas. The family enjoyed a couple of hours of home movies dating back as far as 1940.

Pauline Brown and Julie had company Sunday. Stopping by in the evening to deliver some

holiday goodies were Wendy Sutton, Jake, Luke and Tanner.

Kay and Jerry Brown and their daughter and son-in-law, Sue and Mike McKinney of Rochester, traveled to Mishawaka Sunday. They enjoyed doing a lot

of holiday shopping and dining at the Applebee's restaurant.

Lori Leach was a guest of Kandi Evers, Lauren and Amanda Sunday.

Julie Brown was a Monday afternoon visitor of Camile Zimpleman and Addison at Fulton.

Those persons who will be having birthdays next week (so please remember to give them your best regards) are: Bev Baldwin, Robert Basham, Austin Heiden, Jonathan Masteller, Tim Mikesell and Christopher Thomas, Dec. 21; Jennifer Bland, Danny Corbett, Mildred Engle and Karen Troutman, Dec. 22; Bruce Bangel and Kenan Kimble, Dec. 23; Edward Carr, Emily French and Karon McColley, Dec. 24; Dorothy Lease and Trent Powell, Dec. 25; Robert Bangel, Craig Bitterling, Mike Clyde, Kathy Dees, Gwen Hott and Julie Nies, Dec. 26; and Andrew Bitterling, Rachel Evers, Amanda Heckeman, Taylor Warner, Beth

Weller and Anna Windegardner, Dec. 27

Mr. and Mrs. Justin Goelz will be celebrating their wedding anniversary Dec. 22.

+++

SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE

The Kewanna town council will meet at 5 p.m. Monday, December 29, at the town hall to conduct year-end business, including the transfer of appropriations.

Notice...

OBSERVER OFFICE HOURS...

8 am - 11:30 am
12:30 pm - 4 pm
Monday, Tuesday and
Wednesday.

8 am - 11 am
Thursday.

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- *+07 CHEVY IMPALA LS 3.5 E85 V6, 6 pass, pwr seat, wind, locks, CD, ABS, 6,000 mi \$14995
- *+06 CHEVY HHR LT 4 cyl, auto, pwr wind, remote locks and starter, alum wheel, XM, 26k \$12995
- *+06 BUICK LUCERNE CXS 4.6 Northstar V8, heated & cooled leather, chrome wheels, 30k \$21995
- *+06 CHEVY IMPALA LT 6 pass, pwr seat, pwr wind/remote locks & starter, sunroof, 28k \$13995
- *+06 CHEVY COBALT LT 4dr auto, pwr wind/remote locks, CD, tilt wheel, Cruise, 24,000mi \$11995
- 06 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX 4dr pwr seat , w/l, remote start, alum wheels, CD, XM, 35k \$12995
- *+05 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX GT 4dr 3800 V6, heated leather, sunroof, chromed whls, 20k \$12995
- *05 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX pwr seat, windows, locks w/ remote, CD, alum whls, 35k \$11995
- *+05 PONTIAC G6 GT 4dr pwr wind, locks, sunroof, remote start, 6 disc CD, chrm whls, 17k \$13995
- 05 LINCOLN LS Sport Sedan V8, pwr heated leather, moon roof, chrome wheels, CD, 56ki \$14995
- 04 OLDSMOBILE ALERO GL 4dr 4cyl, auto, pwr wind/locks, CD player, AC, 76,000 mi \$6996
- 01 BUICK LeSABRE Custom 3800 V6 pwr seat, wind, remote locks, CD player, 67,000 mi \$5995

TRUCKS...

- +08 BUICK ENCLAVE CXL 8 pass, heated leather, sunroofs, chrome whls, bose 6disc CD, 20k \$29995
- *06 CHEVY SILVERADO 4X4 Crew Cab LT3 pwr heated buckets, sunroof, DVD, 43k mi \$21995
- *+06 CHEVY SILVERADO 4X4 Crew Cab LT pwr cloth seat, pwr w/l, remote, CD, trl pkg, 26k \$20995
- *05 CHEVY SILVERADO 4X4 Ext Cab Z71 V8, pwr seat, driver info, alum whl, trl pk, 43k \$17995
- *05 G M C CANYON 4X4 Crew Cab Z71 3.5L 5cyl, pwr leather seat, alum whls, CD, 41k \$16995
- 04 CHEVY AVALANCHE Z71 pwr heated leather buckets, 6 disc CD, alum whls, trl pkg, 69k \$14995
- +03 FORD F150 2WD Super Crew XLT 4.6 V8, pwr wind/locks, remote, trailer pkg, 135k mi \$6995
- 03 CHEVY SILVERADO 3/4 ton 4X4 Ext Cab 6.0 V8, pwr w/l, CD, trailer pkg, 88,000 mi \$13995
- 02 CHEVY SILVERADO 3/4 ton 4X4 Ext Cab 6.0 V8, pwr seat, w/l, cass, trailer pkg, 82k mi \$12995
- *+06 PONTIAC TORRENT FWD 3.4 V6, pwr sunroof, pwr wind, remote locks, CD, 27k mi \$14995
- *06 CHEVY EQUINOX AWD LT 3.4 V6, pwr w/l, keyless entry, alum wheels, CD, 50 k mi \$14995
- *+07 G M C YUKON XL 2500 4X4 SLT 6.0 V8, leather, rear heat/AC, XM, OnStar, trlr pkg, 7k \$32995
- +06 CHEVY SUBURBAN 4X4 LT 7 pass, heated leather, sunroof, DVD, rear AC, trl pk, 34k \$22995
- *+05 CHEVY TAHOE 4X4 LT 8 pass, leather, auto temp, rear AC, 6 disc CD, sunroof, 42k \$19995
- +05 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER EXT LT 7 pass leather, 6disc bose CD, DVD, adj pedals, 77k \$11995
- +04 SATURN VUE AWD V6, pwr heated leather seats, pwr sunroof, pwr w/l, CD chgr, 37k mi \$13995
- *+06 CHEVY UPLANDER LT 7pass van, dual pwr doors, pwr seat, rear AC, DVD, 31k mi \$13995
- 01 FORD WINDSTAR SE Sport 3.8 V6, pwr w/l, remote entry, CD & cass, rear AC, 85k mi \$5995

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* GM Certified + One Owner

Looking Back.....

SIXTY YEARS AGO December 16, 1948

Clyde Elston, well known Kewanna druggist, expired at 8 p.m. Monday evening. Clyde was born in Medaryville but came to Kewanna when he was a small boy and had owned the Elston Drug Store for 42 years.

To the surprise and disgust of Wayne Township officials, it was found that a fuse had been blown in the fire siren and not a sound could be gotten out of it when Mr. Hosanka of the Indiana rating bureau called to inspect the fire department. Henceforth, the siren will be tested each day at 12 noon sounding two short blasts to insure that it is working properly.

Kewanna's new Christmas lights, purchased by the merchants, have been turned on and present a beautiful sight along with the Christmas tree in

the center of the Main and Toner intersection to further the beauty of the lighting system. Kewanna merchants will remain open every evening next week to accommodate Christmas shoppers.

The Curve Inn restaurant has installed a new soda fountain and will now be able to serve sodas and all fountain drinks to the public.

The body of Theodore W. Myers, first class machinist mate, who was killed during the invasion of Normandy in World War II, is enroute to the U.S. from France. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Irvin L. Myers, Rt. 4, Rochester, who reside west of Kewanna in the Bruce Lake community.

FIFTY-FIVE YEARS AGO December 18, 1953

Axel R. Hektor, 85, died in the flames of his farm home at Bruce Lake Station Thursday night, December 10, unaware that he had fulfilled his wish to care for his invalid wife until her death. His wife, Hilda, 72, survived him by only an hour and a half, dying in Woodlawn Hospital of smoke inhalation as a result of the fire. A neighbor, Mrs. William Engle, notified the Kewanna fire department of the fire. Fire chief, Henry Montz, speculated that the fire was caused by an overheated oil stove.

Orin Crane, long-time resident of Pulaski County, died Wednesday morning at 10:30 a.m. in front of the Kewanna Hardware. Apparently he had collapsed just after leaving the store, for when John Urbin, who was inside, tried to get out, the door was blocked. Urbin and store owner, Grant Felder, took Crane into the store and called Dr. K. K. Kraning, who pronounced him dead.

When starting his tractor Tuesday morning, Ulysses Crabill had the second finger on his left hand cut off above the first joint. The first finger of his left hand was also badly cut and crushed. He was treated at a local physician's office.

The Guy Urbin Auto Co. will show the 1954 Chevrolet for the first time Friday, Dec. 18. To help introduce the new car, Urbin will serve free coffee Friday afternoon and Saturday afternoon and evening. There will also be favors for everyone.

Steven Rude hosted a Christmas party at his home Friday afternoon following school hours for his 7th grade class.

FIFTY YEARS AGO December 14, 1958

The Manitou Chapter of the DAR has announced that LuAnne Adams is the county winner of the good citizenship award. A senior at Kewanna High School, she is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Adams.

Lester Shidaker, one of Kewanna's star bowlers, has turned in an average score of 599 and three-fifth pins for the past five league nights.

James O. Wilson will act as the substitute carrier on Kewanna Route 2 starting January 2, 1959, according to postmaster, Kenneth Cook.

Fire Chief Henry Montz announced this week the purchase of a 3,500 watt portable gasoline powered generator. The machine will operate three large flood lights for night work.

Sandra Turner, Kewanna High School senior and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Turner, has been selected as the winner of the DAR Good Citizen Award for Kewanna and will compete with other winners for the county title.

Airman Tommy L. Mitchell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Doug Ginn, Rt. 1, Kewanna, is being reassigned to Kessler AFB, Mississippi, for technical training as a United States Air Force radio and radar maintenance specialist. The airman is a 1963 graduate of Kewanna High School.

Linda Reason asked Santa for a Barbie Dream House, a Barbie car and surprise for Christmas. Jon Donathen had a long list for Santa including a talking Bugs Bunny, Combat Gun, a big truck, Casper the Friendly Ghost, a Bop the Bear game, a blackboard to write on, Gaylord the Pup, Flintstone Building Boulders, Beany and Cecil, Pound a Peg, Little Red Hen, Dick Tracy Game and other games.

Mrs. Dorese Kimble hosted a birthday party Wednesday

Con't. To Page Seven

FORTY-FIVE YEARS AGO December 19, 1963

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LEESBURG - 4287 N. 9 R. 16 (874) 463-2084 or 1-888-453-4020
KNOX - North on 35 (874) 772-3633 or 1-800-331-KNOX
PLYMOUTH - 10209 Iris Rd (874) 835-9500 or 1-800-487-3337



Merry Christmas

May your Christmas celebration be trimmed with all things bright and beautiful. Let our thanks decorate your holidays.

Kewanna Metal Specialties, Inc. and Employees
KEWANNA, INDIANA

**"LOOKING BACK"
Con't. From Page Six**

evening after school for her daughter, JoAnn. The guests included members of her class. Mr. and Mrs. Larry Kimble were supper guests.

**FORTY YEARS AGO
December 19, 1968**

Rob Holloway, a senior at Kewanna, was pictured with a lawn roller which he designed and built in his industrial arts class with the aid of his teacher, Mr. Clark Defler.

The Cub Scouts of Pack 3541 met Tuesday evening, Dec. 17, in the annex of the Kewanna United Methodist Church. Four boys, Scott Hamman, Rick Newcomer, Andy Cochran and David Evers, were taken into the Webloes.

Raymond Hinderlider, Rt. 3, Kewanna, Union Township trustee, was elected vice-president of the Indiana State Trustees Association.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Beehler are the parents of a daughter born December 18 at Logansport Memorial Hospital. The baby weighed 8 pounds and 3 ounces and has been named Kimberly Kay. Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Beehler, Rt. 3, Kewanna.

**THIRTY YEARS AGO
December 21, 1978**

Gene V. Personett, Kewanna, has been appointed probation officer for Fulton County by Judge-elect Douglas B. Morton of the Fulton Circuit Court.

The Kewanna High School varsity girls' basketball team advanced Tuesday evening in the Midland Athlete Conference Tourney by downing Marion Bennett, 50-49. Deana Baldwin was high scorer with 20 points and Cheryl Pearl and Cheryl James added 11 and 10, respectively.

The Kewanna Saddle Club met recently for its annual Christmas supper, party and meeting. Wilber Rude asked the blessing before the meal. Mrs. Dave Smith was appointed to fill the office of

reporter. Elston Sayers volunteered to host the January meeting.

Ida Mullins was a Sunday dinner guest of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Mullins. Other guests were Mr. and Mrs. Tom Harding and children of Indianapolis, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Smith and son of Macy, and Mr. and Mrs. Dan Coffing of Twelve Mile.

**TWENTY YEARS AGO
December 15, 1988**

Kathy Schramm of Winamac graduated recently from the Indiana State Police Academy. Her brother, Chris, is also an Indiana State Trooper. They are the second brother and sister working as troopers. They are the children of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Bucks, Kewanna, and Mr. and Mrs. Ray Schramm, Winamac.

Girls Scout Troops 350, 351 and 352 of Kewanna and their leaders joined the Winamac troops Friday evening for some Christmas caroling. They were treated to cookies and hot chocolate at the Winamac Methodist Church.

Holly and Nicole Locke of Winamac and Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Sommers of Kokomo visited Mr. and Mrs. Theo Carlson the last of the week.

Larry Plummer, Rt. 1, Lucerne, was admitted to Pulaski Memorial Hospital December 8.

**TEN YEARS AGO
December 17, 1998**

Kathryn and Rebecca DeShaney and James Bauman of Caston High School were among the 500 high school juniors who attended Sen. Richard G. Lugar's 22nd annual Symposium for Tomorrow's Leaders Dec. 5 on the campus of the University of

Indianapolis.

Joe and Dorothy Dague, Kewanna, recently accompanied a group of Lions and their spouses from north central Indiana on a mission trip to Mexico. During the five-day mission trip, 5,822 pairs of glasses were fitted on people from age five to over 100.

Irene Troutman, Violet Troutman and Ruth Urbin were among those who attended the Christmas recital performed by students of Vera Singer Wickline Saturday evening.


Leslie and Dennis Halterman of West Lafayette had several luncheon guests Saturday. Their



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**Diabetic Education Classes**

A series of group classes will be offered to anyone interested in learning more about managing Diabetes.

Class 1 — What is diabetes, monitoring, regulating blood glucose, medications, and exercise.

Class 2 — How what you eat affects diabetes, label reading, dining out, meal planning.

Class 3 — Learning to live with diabetes, personal health habits, sick-day guidelines, long-term complications, changing behavior, putting the pieces together.

Class Dates: January 13, 20, 27

Class Time: 1-3 pm

Location: Woodlawn Hospital
Ambulance Garage

Cost: \$10 (for series)

Instructors: Jean Herd, FNP-CS,
Maureen Neeley, FNP-C,
& Betsy Wolfe, Dietitian

WOODLAWN HOSPITAL
ROCHESTER → INDIANA

RSVP by January 6th to Karla Meyer, RN, Coordinator of Diabetic Education at 574-224-1268.

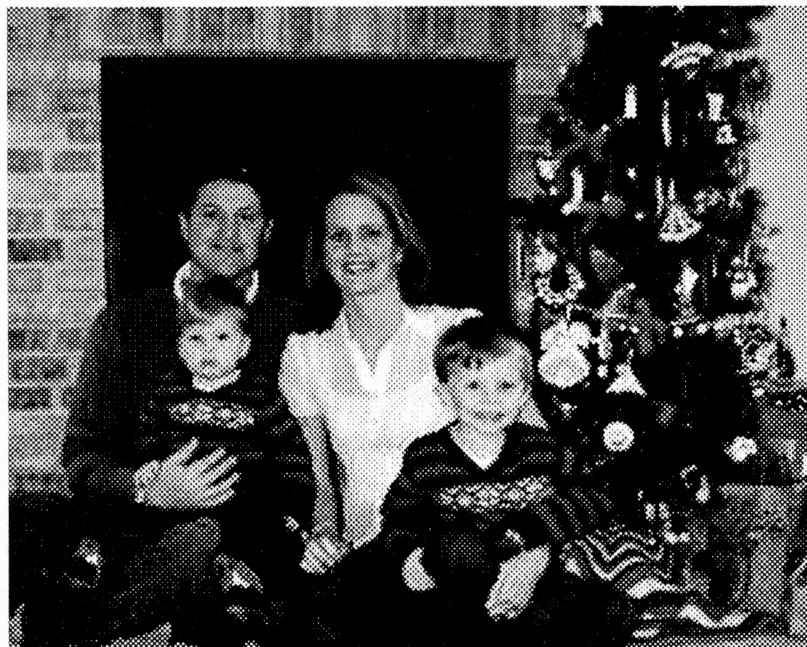
Our diabetic support group meets every second Thursday from 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. in the Woodlawn Hospital Boardroom.

**Christmas
Greetings**

May the Season
shine with peace for
you and your fam-
ily.

**JD's Service
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**The News
In Brief**

The Fulton County Commissioners will hold a special year-end meeting at 9 a.m. Monday, December 23, in the meeting room of the County Office Building, 125 E. 9th St., Rochester. The agenda will include a stop sign ordinance, EMS discussion, transfers, claims and other year-end business.

Miami County farmer John Wildermuth competed against 23 other young farmers at the Indiana Farm Bureau convention last week to win the state Young Farmer Discussion Meet. He will now travel to the American Farm Bureau annual meeting in San Antonio, Texas, in January to compete against participants from across the country.

The Better Business Bureau is warning consumers to keep their guard up and their wits about them in order to fend off a new string of phishing e-mails making the rounds this holiday season. Hackers and scammers are pretending to be customer service personnel from some of the biggest names in the business – including FedEx, UPS, and Wal-Mart. Hackers are impersonating well-known companies that do a lot of business this time of year in order to quickly earn recipients' trust and gain access to computer drives, files and accounts to steal personal information such as Social Security, bank or credit card numbers.

The Indiana Court of Appeals has reduced the 93-year sentence given former Kewanna resident Bianca Newgent for her role in the slaying of a Rochester motel owner, saying two of her convictions violated rules against double jeopardy. However, the court left intact her 65-year sentence for murder and said it was appropriate.

The governor in neighboring Illinois, Rod Blagojevich, was arrested last week for allegedly trying to sell the U.S. Senate seat held by president-elect Barack Obama. A movement is now underway to impeach the governor.

Ivy Tech Community College's Office of Continuing Education will be offering several SAT preparation courses during the coming months for college-bound high school students. For more information, call Jan Hulet at 1-800-459-0561, ext. 528 or e-mail her at jhulet@ivytech.edu.

A collection of Abraham Lincoln memorabilia valued at more than \$20 million has been donated to the State of Indiana. Part of the collection, the world's largest private collection of memorabilia from Lincoln's

personal and presidential life, will be housed in the Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne and the rest will go to the Indiana State Museum in Indianapolis.

Sen. Tom Wyss, a Republican from Fort Wayne, is working on two bills that would address the use of cell phones while driving. He is drafting legislation that would ban young motorists from sending text messages on their cell phones while driving.

The U.S. House of Representatives passed a \$14 billion bailout bill to aid the automobile industry last week, but the bill failed in the Senate. President Bush is now considering his options for preventing the collapse of the troubled U.S. auto industry.

Emily See each had 11 points for Caston.

The Comets hosted Rossville Saturday, suffering another narrow loss, 39-36. Emily See scored 11 points and Shelby Loeffler had nine to lead the Comets.

The 1-8 Comets will host Northfield Tuesday.

Varsity wrestling

The Caston varsity wrestlers participated in a Super 6 meet at Triton Saturday going 0-5 on the day, losing to Tippy Valley, 12-53; North White, 18-52; Manchester, 24-56; Triton, 18-59; and LaVille, 6-66. Graham Redweik led the Comets with a 4-1 record, including two pins. Wil Holloway went 3-2, also with two pins. Cole Nilson, Kyle Harvey and Austin Ault were all 2-3 on the day.

+++

Caston Sports Schedule

Sat., Dec. 20 – boys' junior high tourney at Clinton Prairie, 9 a.m.; varsity wrestling 10-team duals at Caston, 9:15 a.m.; boys JV & varsity basketball vs. Frontier at Caston, 6:30 p.m.

Fri., Dec. 26 – girls JV and varsity basketball Winning Edge tourney at Triton, 6 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 27 – girls JV & varsity basketball Winning Edge tourney at Triton, 6 p.m.; JV girls basketball tourney at Laville, 9:30 a.m.

Wed., Dec. 31 – varsity wrestling Super Dual at Twin Lakes, 8 a.m.

Fri., Jan. 2 – boys JV & varsity Community State Bank tourney at Caston, 6 p.m. and 7:45 p.m.

+++

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The OBSERVER**

Winter driving tips

*Pat Smith
Director of Media Marketing
pmhnet.com*

While making sure your vehicle is ready for winter driving might not sound like a healthcare issue, anything with the potential of affecting your life and health is a concern.

Pulaski Memorial Hospital encourages drivers to follow this information for the safety and well being of you and the family.

- Check the ignition, brakes, wiring, hoses and fan belts
- Change and adjust the spark plugs
- Check the air fuel and emission filters, and the PCV valve
- Check the battery

Necessary Equipment

- A properly inflated spare tire, wheel wrench and tripod-type jack
- Shovel
- Jumper cables
- Tow and tire chains
- A bag of salt or cat litter
- Tool kit

Essential Supplies

- Working flashlight and extra batteries
- Reflective triangles and brightly-color cloth
- Compass
- First aid kit
- Exterior windshield cleaner
- Ice scraper and snow brush
- Wooden stick matches in a waterproof container
- Scissors and string / cord
- Non-perishable, high energy foods like unsalted canned nuts, dried fruits and hard candy

CONTINUED TO PAGE 9

**Sports
Shorts**

Varsity Boys Basketball

The Carroll Cougars downed the Caston Comets, 74-41, Friday night, Dec. 12, on the Comets home floor. The Cougars half-court pressure doomed the Comets early in the contest. Wes Rigney was the leading scorer for Caston with 21. The Comets, now 0-5, will host Frontier Saturday.

Varsity Girls Basketball

The Caston Lady Comets lost to visiting Clinton Central Tuesday, Dec. 9, 34-32. The Comets had a chance to tie the game in the final seconds, but the shot fell short. The game was tied at 32-all when Caston missed a pair of free throws. The Bulldogs then scored with only 14 seconds left in the contest. Shelby Loeffler and



PEACE

Bless you all on this Christmas day.

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Ronnie Hamman
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Kewanna, Indiana



O Come All Ye Faithful

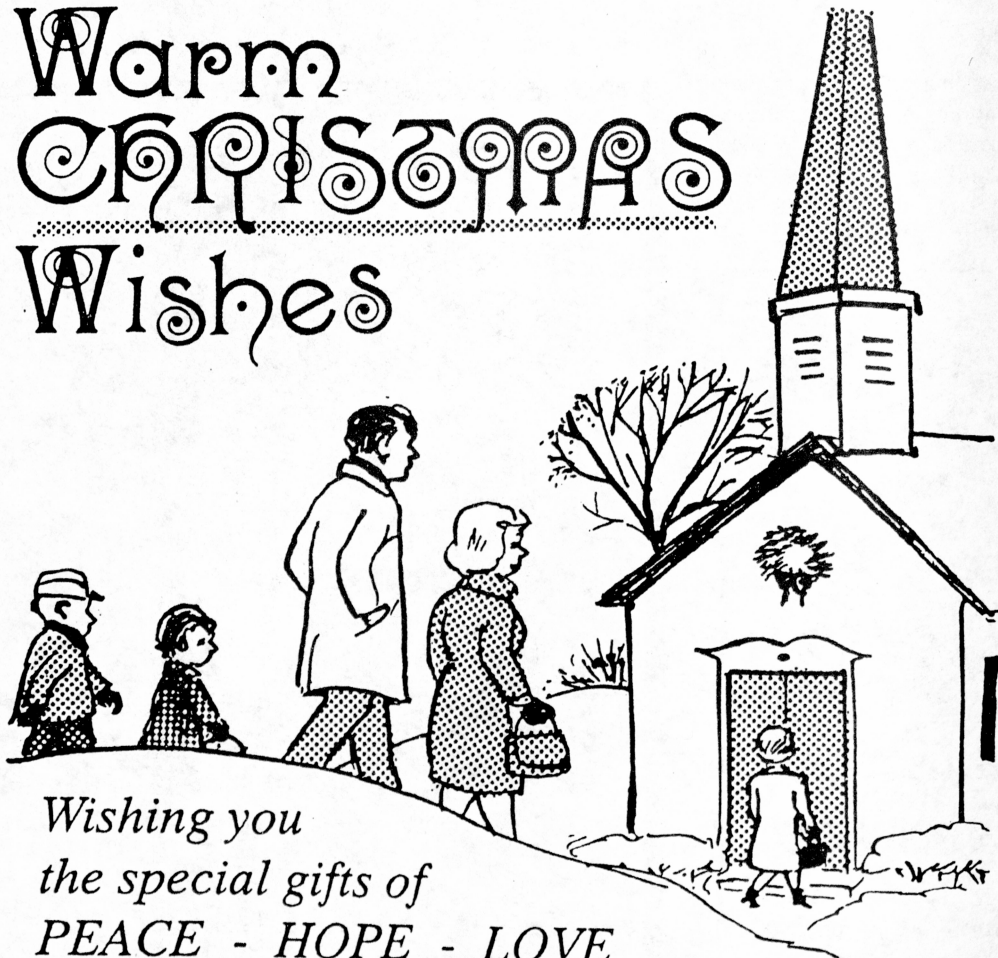
In the spirit of this Christmastime we say thanks to one and all.

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Wishes



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Kewanna, Indiana**

DRIVING TIPS
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

If you become stranded

- Do not leave your car unless you know exactly where your are, how far it is to possible help, and are certain you will improve your situation.
- To attract attention, light two flares and place one at each end of the car a safe distance away. Hang a brightly colored cloth from your antenna.
- If you are sure the car's exhaust pipe is not blocked, run the engine and heater for about 10 minutes every hour or so depending upon the amount of gas in the tank.
- Keep at least one window open slightly. Heavy snow and ice can seal a car shut.
- Eat a hard candy to keep your mouth moist.
#####

Severe Weather Preparation

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security is issuing the following information in preparation for expected severe weather.
Hazardous driving conditions due to snow and ice on highways

and bridges lead to many traffic accidents, which is a leading cause of death during winter storms. Another primary cause of death is exposure.

Winter-Related Health Risks

§ People, pets, and livestock are susceptible to frostbite and hypothermia during winter storms.

§ Those at risk are primarily either engaged in outdoor activity (shoveling snow, digging out vehicles, or assisting stranded motorists), or are the elderly or very young.

§ Citizens' use of generators, kerosene heaters and alternative forms of heating may create other hazards such as fires and carbon monoxide poisoning.

Prepare a winter emergency kit for your vehicle. Supplies should include:

- At least two blankets or a sleeping bag
- Flashlight or battery-powered lantern and extra batteries
- Booster (jumper) cables
- Emergency flares
- Extra clothing, particularly boots, hats and mittens
- A steel shovel and rope to use as a lifeline
- Bottled water or juice and nonperishable high-energy foods (granola bars, raisins, nuts, peanut butter or cheese crackers)
- First-aid kit and

necessary medications
■ Sand or non-clumping cat litter for tire traction, if your vehicle gets stuck in snow or ice

■ A cell phone and charger which can be adapted to vehicle use.

■ Ice scraper and snow brush

■ Tire repair kit and pump

Winter Driving Tips:

§ If you can avoid driving or take public transportation, please do so.

§ Pay attention to weather reports on the radio. Allow time in your schedule for bad weather and/or traffic delays.

§ Keep spare window washer fluid in the trunk and make sure the wiper blades are in good working condition

§ Become familiar with your vehicle's winter weather operating characteristics. Front-wheel-drive vehicles generally handle better than rear-wheel vehicles on slippery roads because the weight of the engine is on the drive wheels, improving traction.

§ Keep your windows clear of snow and ice. Remember to clean head, tail and brake lights.
§ If you need to turn on your wipers, you need to turn on your headlights.

§ Bridges become slick and icy before roads. Bridge temperatures can be five to six degrees colder than roadways,

so drive with extreme caution during freezing temperatures.
§ Keep your gas tank at least half full. Fill the tank before you park for lengthy periods. This will help prevent fuel line freeze-up. For more information, go to www.in.gov/dhs.
#####

Meal site at local fire station

The Area Five Agency on Aging operates a meal site in the community room of the Kewanna-Union Township Fire Station serving lunch every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Area residents who are 60 years of age or older are welcome to take part in the program.

For more information on the meal site, call Alvena Mollencupp at 653-2318.
+++

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

Value Hardware Inc., 36.4; Fox James C Jr, ETAL, 28.12; Fine Things, 11.65; Fish Pam, 50.00; Four County Counseling Center, 150.00; Fulton County EMS, 50,246.00; Fulton Sherry, 225.04; Green William C & Ruth M, 399.25; Groninger Gregory L & Annette, 18.33; Gardner Debra, 38.72; Good Oil Co Inc., 826.27; Harbor Isles LLC, 345.40; HP Products Inc., 252.05; Harter Beverly, 1,833.00; Helt Justin, 50.00; IN Council of Juv & Fam Ct Jdg., 60.00; Johnson Ronald K & Madonna L, 53.22; Jones Diana, 216.92; Lee John A & Bonita A, 175.48; Lagrou Jeffrey & Donna, 725.00; Miller Brandon H & Debra L, 357.46; Milliser John Surplus Rev., 487.36; Marris Michael T, 456.54; Morse Sandi, 331.54; NIPSCO, 4,932.65; New Holland Rochester Inc., 97.05; Ousley Timothy, 84.93; Observer, 74.40; Pridemore Robert E & Georgia E, 65.39; Quill Corp., 138.52; Richter Harry, 50.00; Robles Abel C & Silveria J, 21.34; Reporters & Paper MFG Co., 8.26; Rochester Sentinel Corp., 178.25; Rose Roger, 225.04; Severns Terry L & Lorraine K, 90.66; Showley Hope L, Seader Faith, 52.82; Snowberger David D & Diana K, 95.14; Sawyer Cynthia Rae, 229.65; Shepherd Shannon, 139.92; Shureman Penny, 41.36; Smith Office Plus Inc., 10,202.86; Smith Sawyer Smith Inc., 1,259.00; St Joseph Hospital, 519.17; Staples Business Advantage, 846.31; The Tower Clock Co., 350.00; United States Post Office, 976.00; Universal Lighting Co Inc., 137.90; Villalon Rafael, 70.00; Wideman randall G & Lisa A, 86.17; Will Janet, 5.88; Webbs Family Pharmacy Inc., 41.37; White Michael, 90.00; Wilson Grant T, 150.00; Word Systems Inc., 5,657.00; Bailey Carlous, 17.20; Bartlett Victoria A, 84.40; Bennett Ronald, 20.72; Blackman Kenneth, 18.52; Bozzo Anna M, 17.20; Carter Carol, 17.20; Chesser Mary, 20.72; Croushore Robert, 17.20; DaWalt William, 17.20; Frushour Mary, 17.20; Furnival Steven, 84.40; Green Michael, 97.60; Hackett Chester, 21.16; Harger Sheila, 19.40; Howard Todd, 17.20; Jarrety's Place, 66/67; Kamp Andrea, 19.40; Kimmel Nathan, 84.40; McClory Ronnie, 18.52; McMillen Lisa, 17.20; Main Street Grill LLC, 95.12; Morton Linda Douglas, 3.99; Prater A, 17.20; Royer Judge, 92.32; Rudd Shan, 87.04; Sadler Jack, 18.52; Sellers Jessi, 17.20; Shriver Jenna, 19.40; Solano Richard, 88.88; Spice Lorene, 17.20; Streamliner Central, 79.63; Terrell Alan, 17.20; Vaughn Carol, 17.20; Whitbeck Russell, 18.52; Willis Virginia, 17.20.

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, FULTON CO., INDIANA ON DECEMBER 16, 2008.
Denise J. Chandler
Fulton County Commissioner
Pub. 12/18/08

Public Notice

ADVERTISING CLAIMS FOR DECEMBER 23, 2008
AIT Laboratories Inc., 390.00; Allied Waste Industries Inc., 80.00; AT&T, 251.35; Amco Elevators Inc., 405.57; Arrow Pest Control Inc., 45.65; Baldwin Steven J & Pamela S, 136.16; BI Incorporated, 2,747.65; Baileys Hardware Inc., 22.30; Brown Richard, 348.16; Burke & Heller, 220.00; CDW Government Inc., 379.49; Conley Joseph & Cindy M, 199.24; Cardinal Office Products, 1,852.00; Carpenter Pramod K, M.D., 1,500.00; Centennial Wireless, 212.41; Chandler Denise J, 84.66; Dain Terrance M & Martha M, 27.28; Davis James E, 59.76; Delp Robert E & Georgia Ann, 358.74; Duke Energy, 1,992.24; EFSCO, 571.08; Early Mike, 303.16; Enid Tate Shepherd, 997.67; Enyarts True

NOTICE TO FREEHOLDERS OF MILL CREEK CONSERVANCY DISTRICT
Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of the freeholders of Mill Creek Conservancy District of Fulton and Pulaski Counties, Indiana, will be held on the 6th day of January, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. at the office of the District, 1282 E. 100 S. USDA Building, Rochester, Indiana. The purpose of the Annual Meeting on January 6th, 2009 is to elect officers and transact any business that may come before the Board.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Mill Creek Conservancy District
Jerry Brown, Chairman
Larry Friednch, Vice-Chairman
William Fred, Board Secretary
Pub. 12/18/08
#####



A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS

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+++++

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Town & Country Chatter...

by: Julie Brown (574) 653-2451

Carol Broda, Nub and Bunny Brogdon and Tom and Barb LaFollette were in Kokomo Monday, Dec. 8. They had a very nice time attending a party held in honor of Tom Miller. The occasion was in celebration of his birthday and held at Martino's Italian Villa. Among others helping Tom mark the day with snacks, a cake and gag gifts were his wife, Shirley, and friends, Bob and Lorraine Moore, Ron and Betsy Freeman and Jim Green.

Leonard and Nancy Evers traveled to Indianapolis Tuesday, Dec. 9. They were able to visit with their daughter, Diane Evers, while in the city.

Julie Brown had a fun time attending the Caston 5th grade boys' basketball game Tuesday evening. Her munchkin, Luke Sutton, is a player for Caston. Caston won the first game, but lost the second.

Pauline Brown was in

Rochester Wednesday, Dec. 10. She met Sharlene Haimbaugh and Barbara Brown for lunch at the Paradise Family Plaza truck stop restaurant.

Jill Meneeley chauffeured Lori Leach to Indianapolis Wednesday for a doctor's appointment.

Julie Brown had an enjoyable time Thursday evening. She accompanied Steve and Wendy Sutton, Luke and Tanner, and Mary Personett to the Caston Elementary Christmas Program. The theme of this year's program was "The Polar Express."

Pauline Scales was in Rochester Friday, Dec. 12. She met her daughter, Phyllis Koontz, for lunch and a little shopping. Afterward, they visited with Phyllis's friend, Peggy Kelly.

Lori Leach had houseguests Friday. Joining her for a pajama party were her granddaughters, Lauren and Amanda Evers.

Earl and Mary Bangel had company over the weekend. Staying with them for a couple of days was their daughter, Linda Bangel of Schoolcraft, Michigan.

Helen Whiteman had several houseguests over the weekend. Staying with her for a few days while in the area deer hunting were her nephew, David Whiteman of Elkhart, and his grandson, Casey of Atlanta. Also coming for the weekend was her granddaughter, Robin Fivecoat of

Indianapolis.

Barb and Tom LaFollette were busy Saturday, Dec. 13. They began their day by helping John and Beth Larson with breakfast at the VFW post in Rochester. (It is held the second Saturday of each month.) In the afternoon, the LaFollettes attended the Eikenberry family Christmas gathering in Kokomo. There were 45 family and friends in attendance.

Angela Gast of Wake Forest, North Carolina arrived Saturday for a two-week visit with her parents, Jon and Barb Gast.

Lori Leach and her daughter, Kandi Evers, were busy Saturday. They took Kandi's daughters, Lauren and Amanda, and Lori's grandsons, Zain and Ethan Williams, to see Santa Clause. Afterward, everyone enjoyed lunch together at Kandi's home.

Riley Ricks was the guest of honor at a family gathering Saturday. The occasion was in celebration of his 7th birthday and held in the community room of the local fire station.

Florence Baldwin hosted her family's Christmas celebration Saturday. There were 46 members of the family in attendance.

Nancy and Leonard Evers had company Saturday. Coming over in the afternoon for a family visit were their daughter and son-in-law, Janet and C.J. Yocum of Rochester.

Don and Doris Woolington traveled to Ft. Wayne Saturday. They had a wonderful time delivering Christmas presents to their granddaughter and her

family, Laurie and Matt DePoy, Jerrod, Carson and Hayden.

Barb and Jon Gast and Angela had visitors Saturday. Stopping by late in the day for a chat were Barb and Jon's daughters and son-in-law, Randi and Steve Neidig of Bourbon and Cora Lynn Clemans.

Jerry Brown was in Rochester Saturday evening. He attended the Rochester vs. Wabash high school girls' basketball game. His granddaughters, Leighnee Smith and Molly McKinney, play for Rochester.

Lori Leach enjoyed supper Saturday evening with Zain and Ethan Williams.

The Scales family held its Christmas get-together Sunday, Dec. 14. This year's gathering was held in the community room of the local fire station with over 45 members of the family in attendance.

Jon Gast and Angela were in Winamac Sunday. They enjoyed a visit with Jon's parents, Stuart and Rachel Gast.

Kevin and Monica Whiteman of Pulaski hosted the Whiteman family Christmas get-together Sunday afternoon. Over 40 members of the family were able to attend.

Tom and Linda Garner had company Sunday. Joining them for dinner and a triple celebration were their children and their families Missy and Steve Young, Trey, Brianna, Kaylyn and Stevanna of Twelve Mile, Amanda and Don Wasserman, Zach and Mackenzie of Valparaiso and T.J. and Ashley Garner. Everyone had a fun time celebrating Missy, Zach and

Tom's birthdays.

Wendy Kelly of Lafayette was in the area Sunday. She spent the early part of the day with her mother, Florence Hogan. They enjoyed a delightful visit while setting up the Christmas tree and village and dining on the lunch Wendy had brought. In the afternoon, Wendy visited with her sister, Janice Graham.

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