

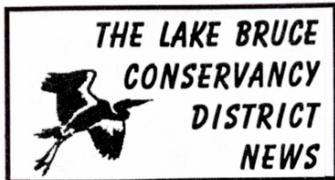


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OBSERVER

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**THE LAKE BRUCE
 CONSERVANCY
 DISTRICT
 NEWS**

Norman Steigely

The Lake Bruce Conservancy District held its monthly meeting Thursday, December 14, in the Kewanna-Union Township Fire Department's community room. All five directors were present as well as nine freeholders of the District.

The minutes of the October meeting were approved as well as the treasurer's report.

Chairman Norm Steigely covered correspondence received by the District during the month. He also reported that the dredging project is falling behind schedule because rain has once again caused a delay in building the 10-acre holding area. The problem is that the holding walls cannot be built out of mud, as it will not be strong enough to hold the spoils put into it. Actual dredging may not take place till first of year.

Steigely also stated that the directors had met in open meeting on Dec. 11 to start putting together ordinances for the sewer district. The directors looked at ordinances from the Elkhart Sewer District, Twin Lakes Regional Sewer District and the Town of Monterey. Their work is about 30 % done at this time and they will meet again after mid-January at which time the engineering firm will give more information to them.

Treasurer Dave Foust reported he has received checks from First Source and future tax draws will be deposited into the new account. It may take a couple of months to completely convert from First Federal to First Source.

Gerald Porter reported that he and Norm Steigely met on Nov. 30 to discuss the LARE weed control program for 2007 with Gwen White (DNR) and Tony Cunningham (Weed Patrol). He was very happy with the meeting and noted it looks promising for an easier and more timely application process for 2007. Application will be made with the State for funding of 90% of the cost of spraying and meeting the required surveys.

Norm Steigely reported that a special open house was held at Hoosier Hide-a-way Saturday Nov. 11, from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. to view engineers' drawings and placement of vacuum pits. There was a very good response. Approximately 60 residents attended and gave valuable information to the engineers. A thank you was expressed to Hoosier Hide-a-way for letting the District use their facilities.

It was announced that the sewer project was moving along at the normal speed of government, slower that it needs to be. A question of ownership of railroad property on the west side of Main St. has slowed things down on a

Christmas Eve Services

Christmas Eve services will be held at the Pleasant Hill and Kewanna United Methodist churches Sunday. The service begins at 7 p.m. EST at Pleasant Hill, located at 11941 W 75 N in between 1100 W and the Pulaski County line near Lake Bruce.

The Kewanna United Methodist Church will host its Christmas Eve service at 11 p.m. The church is located at the corner of Pearl and Toner Streets in Kewanna.

Everyone is welcome to attend either or both services.

Both churches will meet for their regular Sunday morning services. The worship service begins at 9 a.m. at Pleasant Hill and 10:30 a.m. at Kewanna. You may call 574-653-2201 or 574-817-0567 for more information.

+++

Models Wanted

A local sculptor is in need of middle school/high school students to serve as models for a veterans' memorial sculpture he is undertaking. One female student and four or five male students will be used for a photo shoot for the project. The students must be 5' to 5'5" tall. The female needs to be of slender build.

Interested students should report to the Kewanna town hall at 11 a.m. on Thursday, December 28.

+++

temporary basis. The railroad says it owns it and so does an adjoining landowner. An answer on this is expected within the month and construction should still be on track to start by the end of summer 2007.

Norm reported since the District could not get a letter of obligation from Rural Development in time for the second round of grant applications in 2006, it would once again start the grant application process for the first round of 2007. This must be filed through the Fulton County Commissioners requires three public hearings. Norm represented the District at the first hearing Monday, Dec. 18. The amount of the CFF Grant is approximately \$500,000. A second public hearing will take place at the District's annual meeting on February 15, 2007.

Steven Fralish of Wightman-Petrie gave his monthly update on the sewer project and said that the District will probably be the third project ready in the state to apply for monies from next year's revenue pool. Things are looking good for obtaining the highest grant possible.

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday January 11, 2007, 7 p.m. in the KVFD community room. It is open to all freeholders and interested parties.

+++++

Harrison-Metzger Funeral Home Brings Joy to Troops

Through outstanding production of life insurance during Pekin Insurance's "Help the Troops Call Home for the Holidays" sales contest, Harrison-Metzger Funeral Home, a Pekin Insurance pre-need agency, was able to rediscover the true spirit and wonder of the holiday season by helping to send USO phone cards to active deployed units in the Southwest Asia region including Kuwait, Dubai, Oatar, Afghanistan and Iraq.

For every life insurance application that Harrison-Metzger submitted during the contest period, a USO phone card was donated to USO Operation Phone Home.

Pekin Insurance and their pre-need agents are proud of the men and women who have made the sacrifice and commitment to serve our country. Pekin Insurance will be sending over 1,100 USO phone cards to the troops overseas.

In business since 1921, Pekin Insurance today offers multiple lines of insurance in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Ohio and Wisconsin and is represented by over 1,000 independent agents and over 350 pre-need agents, including Harrison-Metzger Funeral Homes, Kewanna and Royal Center.

+++

AREA FIVE MENU Kewanna Fire Station

Monday, December 25 - Closed for Christmas

Wednesday, December 27 - Baked chicken, sweet potatoes, broccoli, fruit cocktail, wheat bread and milk

Friday, December 29 - Carry-in



The Fulton County Courthouse, Court Office Building and Fulton County Extension Office will be closed Thursday, December 21, from noon to 4 p.m. for the employee Christmas party.

All Fulton County government buildings will be closed Monday, December 25, and Tuesday, December 26, for the Christmas holiday.

Beginning January 1, 2007, businesses that are delinquent in paying their Indiana sales taxes could find themselves out of business. Senate Enrolled Act 362, passed by the 2006 General Assembly, goes into effect with the start of the New Year and requires all businesses to renew their retail merchant certificates biannually.

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Werner Lights on Display

Jerry and Shirley Werner, 950 South and 1100 West, Kewanna, invite area residents to view their annual Christmas light display. The lights will be on from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. December 16 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 happy holiday.

+++

Financial Aid Night at Winamac

Parents and their college-bound sons/daughters are invited to attend a financial aid night in the Winamac Community High School socialtorium Wednesday, January 3, at 7 p.m. A representative from the Ivy Tech - Logansport financial aid office will be on hand to go over the web version of the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) as well as answer any individual questions you might have.

The FAFSA is the application for state grants and federal assistance. It must be received by the federal processor by March 10, 2007 for state grant consideration.

+++

Open House at Woodlawn Hospital

Woodlawn Hospital, Rochester, will hold an open house Wednesday, January 17, to introduce its new state-of-the-art Philips Brilliance CT scanner. The public is invited to attend and learn how this important diagnostic imaging technology can help physicians detect and treat serious disease in an early stage, which may lead to a more successful outcome. Open house hours will be from 5 to 7 p.m. at the hospital. Those attending the open house should park in the front visitor parking lot and enter through the main entrance.

+++

Comets Win Again

The Caston varsity basketball team recorded its second victory in a row with a 33-27 victory over visiting Frontier Saturday night.

The Comets never trailed, leading 11-3, 17-10 and 21-13 at the breaks. Mitch Tam, Kam Scott, Silas Zartman and Ethan Zartman each had seven points for the Comets.

The Comets will take their 2-3 record (1-0 in the conference) into the Community State Bank tourney at Culver this weekend.

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Year-end Meeting Set

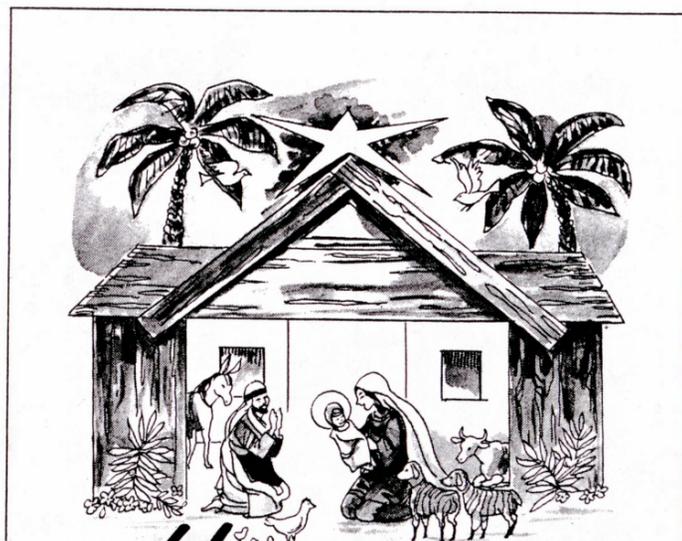
The Kewanna town council will meet in special session at 5 p.m. Thursday, December 28, at the town hall to conduct year-end business, including appropriation transfers and to set meeting dates for 2007.

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Rochester License Branch Hours

Tues., 8:30-7:00
 Wed., Thurs. & Fri., 8:30-5:00
 Sat., 8:30-12:30
 Closed Sun. & Mon.

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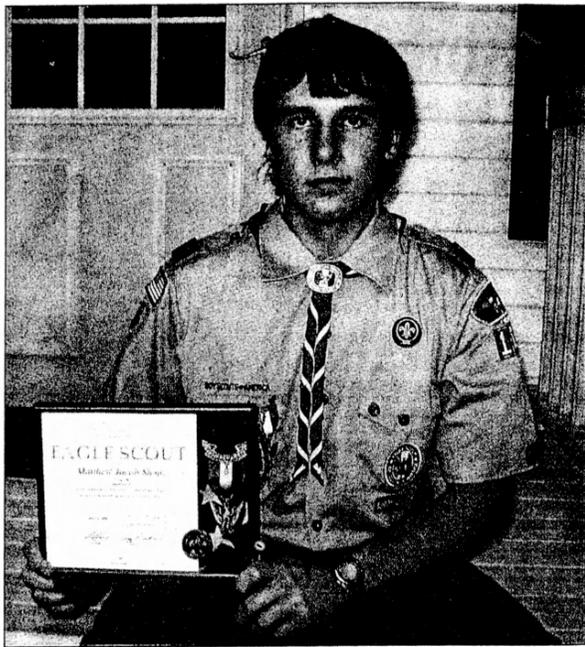
Holiday Greetings

May the star that lit the night on which the Saviour was born shine upon you and yours this Christmastime.

The OBSERVER Joe & Karen

**Recycling Dates
 December 1st, 15th
 & December 30th**

Clubs Societies Personals



Matthew Slentz Earns Eagle Rank

Matthew Slentz, son of Mike and Rebecca Slentz of Butler, recently received his Eagle Scout award. The Eagle rank is the highest rank a Scout can earn and is achieved by only about four percent of Scouts. The award was presented during a ceremony held November 26 at the Butler United Methodist Church. Matthew is

the grandson of Romaine Wentzel of Kewanna and the late Covert Wentzel.

In order to earn the Eagle ranking, a scout must coordinate a major community project. Matthew's project was the building and hanging of approximately 30 bat houses. He has studied bats and how bat boxes can provide them with housing in a time of ongoing natural habitat destruction. Ten or

11 of the boxes were hung throughout Pokagan State Park and about eight are at Wing Haven Nature Preserve. Another dozen were donated to the Gene Stratton Porter nature site in Noble County.

Matthew, a member of Hamilton Troop No. 180, is a senior in high school. He hopes to become a veterinarian and is considering Purdue and Valparaiso universities for next fall. He is a member of the Hamilton High School student council, the National Honor Society, several academic clubs and the track team. He is also a 10-year 4-H member.

+++

Circle of Love Celebrates Christmas

The Circle of Love of the Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church met Wednesday, December 6, in the home of Connie Perkins for its Christmas meeting. Fourteen members and four guests were in attendance. A gift exchange was enjoyed. Agnes Kline gave the lesson.

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The Observer

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Hope Hospice Memorial Christmas Tree

For many years, the Hope Hospice Memorial Christmas tree has been on display at the First Federal Savings Bank in Rochester during the month of December. The tree is not adorned with sparkling lights but with special Christmas bulbs. The bulbs are not special because of their monetary value or their elegant design. They are special because the people of the community have chosen these Christmas bulbs to commemorate their loved ones whom they have lost. Some even have chosen them to honor some special person in their lives who has been a blessing to them.

When people send a \$10 donation to Hope Hospice in memory or in honor of a person, that person's name is hand written upon the bulb and

carefully hung upon the tree to be displayed during December. Their names are also entered into a book of remembrance that will be on display beside the tree in the foyer of the First Federal Savings Bank.

The public is invited to stop by the office of Hope Hospice at 420 Main Street in Rochester to make their donations and to fill out a form with the information of the person to be honored. Forms will also be available at First Federal Savings Bank. Those donating, honorees and the families of memorialized persons are invited to an open house on Wednesday, January 10, from noon to 3 p.m. at the hospice office. At that time the commemorative ornament will be given as keepsakes of this special holiday season.

+++

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Merry Christmas

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FOR NEW YEAR'S
OPEN JAN. 2nd
AS USUAL.

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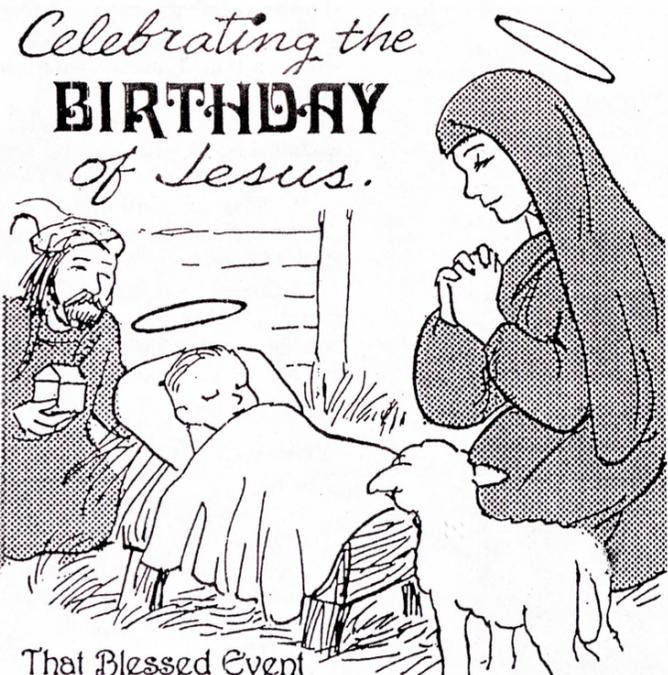
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HOSPITAL NOTES....

WOODLAWN HOSPITAL

December 11
 Admissions – Zoe Dale, Roann, Howard Jones, Rochester
 Dismissals – Julia Timbers, Howard Jones, Christopher Figlio and Ada Fugate, Rochester; Zoe Dale, Roann
 Births – Michelle Bailey, Argos, a son
 December 12
 Admissions – Bernice Brown, Akron
 Dismissals – None published
 December 13
 Admissions – Erica Partin, Argos; James Casteel, Akron
 Dismissals – None published
 December 14
 Admissions – None published
 Dismissals – Bernice Brown, Akron; Erica Partin, Argos
 Births – Christine Bachtel, Plymouth, a son; Leanne Terry, Rochester, a son
 December 15
 Admissions – None published
 Dismissals – Michelle Bailey and son, Argos; James Casteel, Akron
 +++

PULASKI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
 December 8
 Admissions – Kimberly Dubson, Knox
 Dismissals – Billy Whitworth, Delong
 Births – Jerry Taggart and Kimberly Dubson, Knox, a son, Jerry Roy Taggart, Jr.
 December 9
 Admissions – Marjorie Gorby, Winamac
 Dismissals – None
 December 10
 Admissions – Granville Williams and Hershel Messer, Medaryville; Lewis Geyer, Francesville; Cecil Hood, Kewanna; Michelle Pitcher and April Timm, Winamac; Audley Kochel, Royal Center
 Dismissals – Granville Williams, Medaryville

Births – Monty and April Timm Jr., Winamac, a daughter, Vanessa Olivia Timm
 December 11
 Admissions – Phillip Hurlburt, Kewanna
 Dismissals – Marjorie Gorby, Kathy Wylie, April Timm and daughter and Patricia Powers, Winamac; Audley Kochel, Royal Center; Kimberly Dubson and son, Knox;
 December 12
 Admissions – None
 Dismissals – None
 December 13
 Admissions – Amanda Bishop, Francesville; Stephanie Murray, North Judson; Gloria Napier, Monterey
 Dismissals – Phillip Hurlburt, Kewanna; Roy McIlvain Sr., Medaryville
 Births – Michael and Amanda Bishop, Francesville, a daughter, Kailee Marie Bishop
 December 14
 Admissions – Arnold Whybrew and Vanessa Timm, Winamac
 Dismissals – None
 +++

Cookbooks for Sale

The Fulton Improvement Committee will begin selling their one-of-a-kind cookbooks in December. The cookbook contains 634 recipes collected from group members, family and friends including appetizers, main dishes, desserts and many others. The recipes include the contributor's name. The cookbook is available from committee members or at Mary's Stitch and Knit, Fulton. All proceeds will go to the Liberty Township Community Building Project.
 +++

Master Gardener Classes

Purdue Cooperative Extension Service of Fulton County will be conducting Master Gardener classes beginning Tuesday, January 9, from 1 to 4 p.m. Classes will be held every Tuesday afternoon for 12 consecutive weeks at the fairgrounds in Rochester.

Sessions will include several topics including: soils, plant nutrition, plant growth, diseases, insects, weeds, lawns, trees, vegetables, flowers, houseplants, fertilization and pesticide safety. Participants will receive a notebook and have a chance to participate with others interested in gardening. The cost for the course is \$100. To receive a Master Gardener certificate after completing the course,

participants will need to volunteer 35 hours of time to the Cooperative Extension Service in a variety of community service projects related to gardening. Interested persons should contact Mark Kepler, Purdue Cooperative Extension Service, 1009 West Third Street, Rochester, IN 46975 or telephone 574-223-3397. Class size is limited.
 +++

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<p>COUPON LUBE, OIL & FILTER SPECIAL Incl. lube chassis. Change oil filter & replace with genuine factory filter. Change engine oil (up to 5 qts.) ONLY \$18⁹⁵ <small>+ tax & recycling fees w/coupon</small></p>	<p>COUPON FUEL INJECTION SPECIAL Save Hundreds of Dollars in Parts Replacement. Improves high speed performance. Reduces exhaust emissions. Improves gas mileage. Improves starting. Smooths idle. ONLY \$54⁹⁵ <small>+ tax & recycling fees w/coupon</small></p>	<p>FREE LIFETIME OIL CHANGES W/ANY NEW OR USED VEHICLE PURCHASE. (EXCL. DIESEL TRUCKS) FREE TANK OF GAS W/EVERY PURCHASE</p>

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Looking Back

FIFTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

December 21, 1951

A nine-pound daughter, Gayle Marie, was born Saturday, December 8, in the Carneal Hospital, Winamac, to Mr. and Mrs. Eldon Smith of Kewanna.

Mr. and Mrs. Burdette Garner, Kewanna, are the parents of a seven pound, eleven ounce son, Thomas L., born at 9 a.m. Monday in Memorial Hospital, Logansport.

The Kewanna Homemakers Club enjoyed a Christmas party and carry-in supper Monday evening at the home of Mrs. Ruth Bulger. Mrs. Mary Brown was her co-hostess. Mrs. Harvey Turner, past president of the Prairie Grove Home Economics Club installed the following officers for the new year: Mrs. Ruby Woolington, president; Mrs. Marguerite Fisher, vice president; Mrs. Helena Shine,

secretary; Mrs. Florence Brown, treasurer; Mrs. Bessie Agnew, reporter; Mrs. Nita Gillespie, pianist; Mrs. Thelma Johnston, chorister; and Mrs. Tillie Smith, scrap book editor.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Brown, Kewanna, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary in their home Sunday, December 30, with an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. Mr. and Mrs. Brown were married January 1, 1902. They are the parents of one son, Milo R., of Chicago.

James E. Cunningham, son of Mr. and Mrs. Everett Cunningham of Grass Creek, has completed his training at the South Bend College of Commerce. He has accepted a position with the Associates Investment Company of South Bend. He is a 1950 graduate of Grass Creek High School.

Mrs. Ida Hogan was hostess to the Social Club for its annual Christmas party Wednesday, December 12. Mrs. Ruth Sparks and Mrs. Margaret Fisher were guests. Two contests were conducted with prizes going to Mrs. Fisher and Mrs. Emma Foglesong, who also won the door prize.

A dinner in honor of Mrs. Fay Metzger was given Saturday evening, December 15, in the home of

Mrs. Ethel Smith. Mrs. Mary Renkengerger of Logansport and Mrs. Margaret Smith of Rochester assisted the hostess. Others present to help Mrs. Metzger celebrate her birthday were Mrs. Louise Whybrew, Miss Gladus Wharton, Mrs. Maggie Gillespie and Mrs. Emma Foglesong.

FIFTY YEARS AGO

December 20, 1956

Mr. and Mrs. Adam Kline will observe their 50th wedding anniversary with an open house at their home near Lake Bruce Sunday afternoon, December 23, from 2 to 4 p.m. Mrs. Kline is the former Bessie Harris of near Bruce Lake Station. They have three children, Clifton and Dwight of Tippecanoe Township in Pulaski County and Mrs. Carl Fernbaugh of South Bend.

Bill Masteller, Rt. 1, Kewanna, a senior at Purdue University majoring in electrical engineering, is a member of the fall pledge class of Eta Kappa Nu, a national electrical engineering honorary for students in the upper third of their class.

Capatin Howard Johnston, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Johnston of here, was the master of ceremonies recently for graduation ceremonies of the third Basic Aviation Mechanics School at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Mrs. Clyde Elston, Kewanna, suffered a stroke at her home Thursday and is confined to bed.

Mrs. Almeda Moon fell one day last week in the Oren Anderson home and injured her leg. She was taken to Woodlawn Hospital for X-rays, but there was no fracture.

Mrs. Burdette Garner entertained at a birthday party Saturday afternoon for her son, Tommy, who was celebrating his fifth birthday. Guests were Jennifer and Karla Garner, Pamela Nicklaus, John Rans and Marcia Belt.

John Rans, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alvah Rans, celebrated his fifth birthday Thursday afternoon with a party for a few of his friends. Present were Jackie Rans and Frank Martin of Fulton, Tommy Garner, Ricky Harper, Marcia Belt, Susan Clark, Christie Hickle and Bille Dean Kennedy.

FORTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

December 21, 1961

Mr. and Mrs. Alvin C. Beehler will observe their golden wedding anniversary Sunday, December 24, with an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. at their home on Rt. 4, Rochester, near Kewanna.

Winamac Coil Spring has purchased its second automatic coiler since June 1 in their present expansion program. With the increased facilities, Walt Pesaresi estimates that sales will reach \$300,000 this fiscal year.

John Bauman, now stationed

with the Army in Georgia, spent Sunday with his father, Harry Bauman.

Raymond Hinderlider has been appointed to the Kewanna-Union Township Library board by Judge Frederick Rakestraw to fill the unexpired term of Zora Wilson.

Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Hamman entertained several relatives Sunday evening in celebration of their son Mike's sixth birthday.

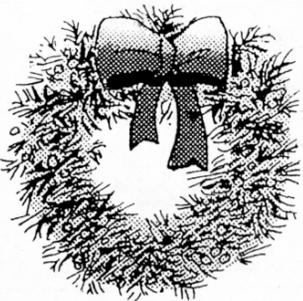
Mrs. Marvin Engle hosted a birthday party Monday afternoon for her daughter, Karen. Fourteen of Karen's friends were present to enjoy games played around the Christmas tree.

FORTY YEARS AGO

December 22, 1966

The furnace at the Kewanna Methodist Church was recently converted from coal to oil. Saturday morning, about 4 a.m. an explosion was heard in the neighborhood, and an investigation revealed that the furnace had blown up. Considerable damage was done to the furnace room and smoke and soot damaged the vestibule and church. With the help of a number of high school students and members of the church, things were soon cleaned up and everything put back in order for church Sunday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Mike Doty, Kewanna, are the parents of a son born at Woodlawn Hospital.



CHRISTMAS

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LOCALS

Ann and Shirley Zartman hosted their family's Christmas gathering Sunday. Joining them for dinner and a wonderful afternoon of visiting were Ann's daughter and son-in-law, Jane and Rich Green; Ann's granddaughter and her family, Dawn and Rick Nikolich, Luke, Samantha and Brittany and Haley Harding of Michigan and Holt and Heath Harding of Rochester; and Ann's grandson and his family, Dale Green, Joshua and Jacob.

Riley Sutton was the guest of honor at a family gathering Sunday. The occasion was in celebration of his 5th birthday. It was hosted by his grandparents, Cora Lynn and Howard Clemans, and held in the community room of the local fire station.

Helen Whiteman was joined by her family Sunday afternoon and evening for a visit and supper. Her guests for an early Christmas

celebration were her sons and daughters-in-law, Kevin and Monica Whiteman of Pulaski and Kenny and Bev Whiteman; her grandchildren and their families, Doug and Robin Whiteman, Dougie and Zack of Winamac, Julie and Jeff Nies, Travis and Jeffy and Andrea Hook, Whitney and Rylee of Winamac and Teresa Conner, Brandon and

Tristan of Fulton; her grandson, David Whiteman; her great-granddaughter and family, Amber McPeak, Elena, Chase and Olivia of Logansport; her great-grandchildren, Tiffany Troutman of Indiana State University in Terre Haute and Tyler Stepp of Purdue University; Kyle Perkins of Tri-State University in Angola; and Karen Whiteman of Chicago, Illinois. Later in the evening, Helen and her guests were serenaded by carolers.

Ellen Walsh hosted her family's Christmas celebration Sunday. Joining her for an afternoon of visiting and dinner were 33 members of her family.

Jackie Heidenreich, Jaime Short, Chelsea and Zack and John Lincoln enjoyed dining at Kosta's restaurant in Winamac Sunday. In the evening, Jackie was joined by her daughter, Vickie Molitor for a game of Scrabble.

Guests of Virginia Agnew for an early Christmas celebration included Ed and Marsha Tomerlin of Hebron; Eric and Connie Tomerlin, Megan and Jacob, Valparaiso; Erin Tomerlin and Ashlyn, Chicago; John and Pam Agnew, Jarrod and Amy Agnew, Zachary and Alexis, Jeff and Kim Hunter, Raeann and Caleb, Greg and Jackie Agnew, and Jeff and Tina Agnew, Shayna and Kayleena, all of Rochester; Jeremy Agnew, Westfield; and Bob and Vanessa Plantz and Serena of Schererville. The group enjoyed a meal, picture taking, a gift exchange and catching up on family news.

Those persons who will be having birthdays next week (so please remember to give them your best regards) are: 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; Andrew Bitterling, Rachel Evers,

Amanda Heckaman, Taylor Warner, Beth Weller and Anna Winegardner, Dec. 27; Brennan Cook and Hanna Plummer, Dec. 28; JoAnn Bowyer, Michael C. Brown, Myranda Glant, Jackie Heidenreich, Sandra Hendrikson, Julie Kline and Brittany Riffle, Dec. 29; and Kahlan Edwards, Joe Federer and Terry Kimble, Dec. 30.

Mr. and Mrs. Doug Smith will be celebrating their wedding anniversary Dec. 28.

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Logansport. The Cass County school collecting the most bags will receive a piece of furniture made from recycled plastic and will be recognized at the annual Earth Day activities involving third graders.

+++

James F. Talbott VFW Post No. 1121 December Activities

- Dec. 16 - Card drawing at 7 p.m.
- Dec. 17 - Children's Christmas party with Santa, 2 to 4 p.m.
- Dec. 19 - Ladies Auxiliary meeting at 7 p.m.
- Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve party. Open at noon.
- Dec. 25 - Merry Christmas. VFW closed.
- Dec. 26 - Men's meeting at 6:30 p.m.
- Dec. 31 - Open Sunday. Band, Hit and Run, starts at 8 p.m.

+++

Caston Elementary Collecting Plastic Bags

Caston Elementary students are collecting plastic shopping bags (no salt bags or shrink wrap) until April 13. The bags can be sent to school with your child or dropped off at the elementary office. They will be delivered monthly to a designated location in



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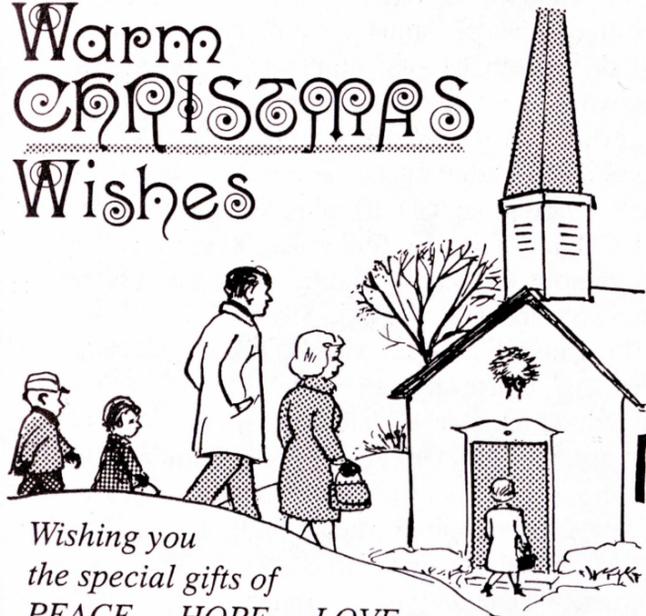
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Kewanna/Union Township PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS....

New books at the library:

ADULTS:

Christian Unabridged Audiobooks— *True Honor* written by Dee Henderson, read by Tom Stechschulte, 10 hours in length on 9 cassettes; *Summer of The Midnight Sun* written by Tracie Peterson, read by Christina Moore, 10 ½ hours in length on 9 cassettes; and *Dearest Dorothy, Merry Everything!* written by Charlene Ann Baumbich, read by Cynthia Darlow, 8 hours in length on 7 cassettes.

Christian Fiction— *Freefall* by Kristen Heitzmann and *Waiting for Morning, A Moment of Weakness* and *Halfway to Forever* (#1-#3 of the Forever Faithful series) by Karen

Kingsbury

Western Fiction— *The Second Son* by D.W. Linden; *The Plains of Laramie* by Lauran Paine; *A Dark Trail Winding* by Pete Peterson; and *Coyote and Quarter-Moon* by Bill Pronzini.

JUVENILES:

Teenage Christian Fiction— *Bad Connection* (#1 of The Secret Life of Samantha McGregor series) by Melody Carlson and *Candy Bombers, Beetle Bunker* and *Smuggler's Treasure* (#1-#3 of The Wall series) by Robert Elmer.

Preschoolers Fiction— *One Witch* by Laura Leuck and *Puppy Takes A Bath* (# 10 from the Dora the Explorer series) by Christine Ricci.

Youth Nonfiction— from the American Symbols series: *Our American Flag*, *The Statue of Liberty* and *The White House* by Mary Firestone and *The Great Seal of The United States*, *Our National Anthem* and *The U.S. Constitution* by Normal Pearl.

+++

Invite Forgiveness to Your Holiday Meal

Paul J. Meyer

Are you dreading seeing your family this holiday season? Perhaps the unresolved conflicts of years past are haunting the visions of sugarplums dancing in your head?

Ignoring issues never makes them go away. This is especially true when it involves family. Unresolved hurts breed bitterness that affects everyone. There is no escaping the silence, the awkwardness, and the loss of intimacy. The only way to fix it is by coming to terms with the pain...and choosing to forgive.

Have you ever wondered how you managed to end up with the family you did? No matter what is said and done, you are still part of the same family. You can't do anything about it, other than become Mr. Scrooge. Choosing to forgive takes guts but will reap you and your family great rewards.

So how do you forgive? Here are five practical steps to get you on your merry way:

1. **Be real, be honest:** You simply need to state the facts. Be very clear with yourself about what happened and who hurt you.

2. **State what you want:** Peace? More intimate relationships? Any answer is a good answer, as long as it drives you to take action and forgive.
3. **Choose to forgive:** Forgiveness is a choice. The fact that you are choosing to forgive automatically puts you in control.
4. **Show love:** By showing love, you are giving the offending person permission to change.
5. **Move on:** Decide what you want and focus your energy on getting there. You are free!

Forgiveness is a must within families, which is why it is incredibly important that we take extra care to resolve issues and keep short accounts. Maybe you are the one that needs to be forgiven? If you said or did something in the past that hurt someone in the family, have you asked for forgiveness?

In addition to fixing what you know you've broken, there is a time and a place within your family to fix the things you don't know you've broken. How can you repair the damage caused by what you said or did if you don't remember what you said or did?

Simple: you ask. You don't remember, but they do! Listen to what they say...and apologize!

It might be a "little" thing, but little things can grow into mountains. By fixing the hurts and pains, you are taking the offensive and making sure that unforgiveness and everything else that comes with it does not grow in your family.

There are many reasons to seek forgiveness, including peace, avoiding bitterness which ruins relationships and breaking the cycle - hurt people always hurt people.

It's time to honestly look at your naughty and nice list, choose to forgive, and move on. Choosing to forgive is the best present you could give yourself and your family this year.

(Paul J. Meyer is a New York Times best selling author. To get a closer look at what forgiveness really is and is not, go to pauljmeyer.com for his newest life-changing book: Forgiveness...the Ultimate Miracle.)

+++

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03 CADILLAC CTS every option you want, plus power sunroof and chrome wheels. 46,000mi	\$19995
03 BUICK LESABRE LIMITED 4dr 3800 V6, dual pwr leather seats, dual temp, 56,000mi	\$14995
01 BUICK LESABRE CUSTOM 4dr 3800 V6, pwr wind, remote locks, alum wheels, CD, 61k	\$9995
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03 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER EXT 4X4 LT pwr heated leather w/memory, DVD, 7 pass, 45k mi	\$18995
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Smooth Transition for Medicaid Managed Care

INDIANAPOLIS (December 15, 2006) – Mitch Roob, Secretary of the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, reported today that the statewide transition to the new Hoosier Healthwise (Medicaid) managed care providers is progressing well. Starting on January 1, 2007, three managed care plans will be available to the 540,000 Hoosier Healthwise (Medicaid) participants. Hoosier Healthwise covers pregnant women, children and low income families

The most recent reports show that there are now over 2,300 Primary Medical Providers (PMP) is the term used for primary care physicians in a managed health care plan) participating in the three new plans, which is already

69 more PMPs than in the five plans offered for the past two years. The State's new managed care plan allows physicians to contract with more than one managed care company.

Currently, 430 doctors have multiple affiliations. Patient enrollment is almost complete. Of the total 540,000 participants, only 12,000 may need to be assigned to a managed care provider before December 31, 2006. All other participants were able to remain with their current PMPs or have successfully moved to a new plan with a new PMP.

Advertising & News Deadline..... Noon on Tuesday!

Public Notice

NOTICE OF THE ACTION OF THE FULTON COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD CHARLES PETERSON TILE CAUSE NO. 3-2006

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN
The Fulton County Drainage Board at its meeting on December 11, 2006, hereby notifies you that the Findings and Order denying the reconstruction and approving the establishment of a maintenance rate on said drain has been filed and is available for inspection in the office of the Fulton County Surveyor.
If a Judicial review of the Findings and Order of this Board is not requested within twenty (20) days from the date of publication of this notice, the order shall become conclusive.
FULTON COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD
Roger D. Rose, Chairman
Richard A. Powell, Vice Chairman
Leslie R. Walters, Member
Don Towne, Fulton County Surveyor
Pub. 12/21/06

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
The Alcoholic Beverage Board of Fulton County, Indiana, will hold a public hearing at 1:00 PM on January 17, 2006, at the Conference Room, County Annex, Fulton County Office Bldg., in the city of Rochester in said county, to investigate the propriety of holding an alcoholic beverage permit by the applicants listed herein to wit:
DL2583254 Dealer - Beer, Wine and Liquor; Transfer Location; J L D Incorporated, 50 E 18th St., Rochester; D/B/A The Liquor Store; Jasper Dulin, P O Box 908, Rochester, Pres.; Jasper Dulin, P O Box 908, Rochester, Sec'y; Alcohol and Tobacco Commission
Pub. 12/21/06

RESOLUTION # 121206
RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF FULTON COUNTY
RE: COUNTY CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER & CHIEF DEPUTY PUBLIC DEFENDER COMPENSATION

WHEREAS, the right to effective assistance of counsel is guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Indiana; and
WHEREAS, all indigent defense expenses are paid by the counties including the salary of chief public defenders and chief deputy defenders; and
WHEREAS, the state pays the salary and other compensation provided to judges; and
WHEREAS, the state pays the salary and other compensation provided to prosecuting attorneys, chief deputy prosecuting attorneys;
BE IT RESOLVED, the County Council of Fulton County, Indiana urge the Indiana General Assembly to enact legislation that authorizes the state to pay the salaries and fringe benefits of chief public defenders and chief deputy public defenders, and appropriate an amount sufficient to pay for these positions.
Dated this 12th day of December, 2006.
FULTON COUNTY COUNCIL
James Widman
Judith DeVries

Michael Gearhart
David Helt
Gary Srivver

Pub. 12/21/06

RESOLUTION # 121206-A
RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF FULTON COUNTY
RE: THE PUBLIC DEFENSE FUND
WHEREAS, the right to effective assistance of counsel is guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Indiana; and
WHEREAS, the right to counsel is essential to the fair administration of justice; and
WHEREAS, Indiana General Assembly created the Public Defense Fund in 1989 for the purpose of assisting counties in providing indigent defense services; and
WHEREAS, all counties in Indiana are eligible for 50% reimbursement in capital cases if the services comply with Criminal Rule 24; and
WHEREAS, any county is eligible for 40% reimbursement in certain non-capital cases if the services meet standards adopted by the Public Defender Commission; and
WHEREAS, 53 of the 92 Indiana counties

have elected to be eligible for 40% state reimbursement in non-capital cases; and
WHEREAS, the current annual appropriation for the Public Defense Fund is \$10 million; and
WHEREAS, the total request for reimbursement from the Public Defense Fund in capital and non-capital cases for FY 2007 is projected to be approximately \$16 million;
WHEREAS, the Indiana Supreme Court has submitted a biennium budget request for the Public Defense Fund of \$16 million for FY 2007-08 and \$17 million for FY 2008-09.
BE IT RESOLVED, the County Council of Fulton County, Indiana urges the Indiana General Assembly to appropriate an amount for the Public Defense Fund that will provide for full reimbursement to all eligible counties for their indigent defense expenditures as provided in I.C. 33-40-6.
Dated this 12th day of December, 2006.

FULTON COUNTY COUNCIL
James Widman
Judith DeVries
Michael Gearhart
David Helt
Gary Srivver

Pub. 12/21/06

CLASSIFIED ADS BUY RENT SELL

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Applications may be picked up at clerk's office, 110 E. Main St., Kewanna. For more information call (574) 653-2112.
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Nutrition Educator:
Family Nutrition Program Assistant position applications are being accepted through Friday, January 5. Qualifications: High School Diploma/GED required. Must have reliable transportation. Good teaching and communication skills desired. Basic computer skills helpful, but not required. Work locally. Purdue benefits, salary \$7.92 per hour, 20 hours per week. Please request an application from the Fulton County Purdue Extension Office, 1009 W Third Street, 574-223-3397. Purdue University is an equal opportunity, equal access, affirmative action employer fully committed to achieving a diverse workforce.

FOR SALE – New shipment of pecans. \$6.50 for a 1-pound bag. Available at The Observer, Kewanna, or by calling Beth Weller, 653-2173, or Karen Good, 653-2777.
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WANTED - PART TIME OFFICE WORKER / Part-Time office worker needed. Requirements: Must know Peachtree bookkeeping system. Contact Brenda at Hope Hospice, 420 Main St., P.O. Box 621, Rochester, IN 46975. Phone: (574) 224-4673.

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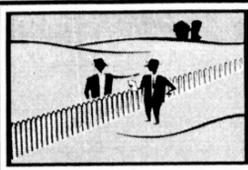
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**Town & Country
CHATTER...**

By: Julie Brown (574) 653-2451

Tom and Barb LaFollette were in Rochester Tuesday, Dec. 5. They were among those who helped serve pizza that evening at the Moose lodge.

Jerry and Kay Brown were in Rochester Thursday, Dec. 7. They had a wonderful time attending a holiday concert held at the high school. Their granddaughter, Kaelee Smith, was one of the participants.

Barbara Brown and Sharlene Haimbaugh of Rochester and Pauline Brown met for lunch at the Paradise Family truck stop restaurant Friday, Dec. 8.

The Eikenberry family held their annual Christmas celebration Saturday, Dec. 9, at the Judson Baptist Church. There were 30 members of the family in attendance.

John Lincoln and Jackie Heidenreich were in Michigan over the weekend. They had a wonderful time helping John's daughter, Sandra Silsby of Vicksburg, celebrate her birthday.

The Don and Pauline Scales family gathered for their annual Christmas celebration Sunday, Dec. 10. There were 42 members of their family who were able to attend the event held in the community room of the Kewanna

fire station.

Barb and Tom LaFollette traveled to LaPorte Sunday. They were overnight guests of their son and his family, Chris and Nita LaFollette, Michele, Michael, Rebecca, Elizabeth and Thomas. Everyone had a fun time helping Nita celebrate her birthday.

Tom and Linda Garner had company Sunday. Joining them for supper and a triple birthday celebration were their daughter and her family of Twelve Mile, Missy and Steve Young, Trey, Brianna, Kaylyn and Stevanna; their daughter and her family of

Valparaiso, Amanda and Don Wassermann and Zach; their son, T.J. Garner; and T.J.'s friend, Ashley Allen. Everyone had a fun time helping Zach celebrate his 2nd birthday, Missy her ?? birthday and Tom's 55th birthday.

Tom and Barb LaFollette enjoyed attending the Christmas program hosted by the students of Queen of All Saints School in Michigan City Monday, Dec. 11.

Barb and Jon Gast had

company Tuesday, Dec. 12. Coming down for a visit were their daughter, Randy Neidig of Bourbon, and Randy's step-granddaughter, Ariel. The ladies had a lot of fun making holiday cookies during their visit.

Barb and Tom LaFollette were in Kokomo Tuesday. They joined several of their friends from Delco and the Kokomo area at Martino's Italian Villa for their annual Christmas get-together. Also joining the group were Nub and Bunny Brogdon. Before leaving, the LaFollettes had a chance to visit with Angie, Mike and Mary Martino.

Ronald Miller of Ft. Lauderdale, Florida arrived during the week for an extended visit with his mother, Helen Miller.

Doris Woolington and her daughter, Karen Shanks of Winamac, traveled to Kokomo Thursday, Dec. 14. They had a wonderful time going on a holiday shopping spree.

Jon and Barb Gast were in Winamac Thursday. They enjoyed dining at Kosta's restaurant as guests of Jon's parents, Stuart and Rachel Gast.

Linda Garner was among those who enjoyed attending the Caston Elementary School's holiday program Thursday evening.

Helen Whiteman had company Thursday. Stopping by late in the day for a visit and to join her for supper were her granddaughter and great-granddaughter, Andrea Hook and Whitney.

Kenny Adams was the guest of honor at a retirement party in Kokomo Friday, Dec. 15. Among

those in attendance to wish him well were Tom and Barb LaFollette.

Barb and Jon Gast had a couple of callers Friday. Stopping by for a chat and to join them for lunch were their niece, Debbi LaVelle of Canton, Ohio, and Barb's sister, Betty Leazenby.

Beth and Ray Weller had houseguests over the weekend. Staying with them for a couple of days were their daughters, Beth Ann Deckard and Linda Tufts of Lebanon, Ohio.

Rich and Jane Green had company over the weekend. Staying with them for a few days were their daughter and her family, Dawn and Rick Nikolich and Luke.

Jackie Heidenreich had houseguests over the weekend. Staying with her for a couple of days were her daughter and grandchildren, Jaime Short, Chelsea and Zack of Indianapolis. During their stay, they enjoyed some holiday shopping.

Barb and Tom LaFollette were in LaPorte over the weekend visiting with Chris LaFollette and his family. Joining the group on Saturday for some holiday baking were Chris' sister and her children, Karina Bohac, Shelby

and Nick of Rochester. Barb and Tom remained overnight so Chris and Nita could attend the Envoy Christmas party in Indianapolis.

The Tomlinson Family gathered Sunday, Dec. 17, for their annual Christmas celebration. Serving as hostess for the event was Joyce Luhnnow. Thirty-four members of the family were able to attend.

Kim and Ed Schroder, Ethan, Garrett and Keatin of Royal Center hosted the Wilson family Christmas gathering Sunday.

Their guests for dinner and a day spent visiting were Kim's parents, Bill and Mary Lou Foerg; her brother, Eric Foerg of Michigan; her sister-in-law and niece, Darla Foerg and Allison of Logansport; her grandmother, Wilma Wilson; her aunt and her family, Judy and Jack Graham, Emily and Kurt of Lucerne; her uncle and his family, Tim and Deb Wilson, Taylor and Kaylee; her aunt, Nicki Wilson of Rochester; and her cousins and their families, Seth and Stacy Wilson and Caleb of Rochester and Nathan and Emily Graham and Lucas of Royal Center.

Attend Church Sunday

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Friday Dec.
29th

RE-OPEN
Wed., Jan. 31st
2007

"Happy Holidays"

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!

...AND TO ALL OUR HEARTFELT GREETINGS AND BEST WISHES FOR A MOST HAPPY NEW YEAR!

R-MAR, Inc.
Rich and Marilyn Hoff
Kewanna, Indiana

All Seasons Home Center
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Winamac, IN
(574) 946-6968
HRS (E.T.) Mon-Fri
8:30am-7pm / Sat 8:30am-5pm / Sun 12-5

Holiday Hours CLOSING on Dec. 24th & 25th
Also on Dec. 31st & Jan. 1st, 2007

Miller's MEN'S STORE
Downtown Winamac

MON-FRI 8:30 TO 8:00
SAT 8:30 TO 4:00
SUNDAY 12-5 TIL CHRISTMAS!

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FREE GIFT WRAPPING

50% OFF

Boys' Tops & Bottoms
Men's Sweaters
Men's Dress Shirts & Sport Shirts

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