



DICK MEYERS, ANCHOR MAN



LISA DEWITT, RINKER'S



MARK EVANS, DEBBIE HAAB EVANS

## Variety available for shoppers who stay home

By GARY LEWIS

It's that time of year again. Time for the annual migration north as Christmas-conscious shoppers head for the big malls to do their Christmas giving.

Every year, thousands of shoppers crowd malls all over Indiana looking for that special, or not so special, gift for their loved ones and friends.

And just about every year, the local merchants are left out in the cold. Except maybe for some last-minute scrounging for the gift that was forgotten, this cycle of out-of-town concentration during the peak retail season is repeated most every year.

According to Syracuse retail merchants' president Jeannie Gardiner, Lakeland residents miss out on some good buys during their typical migrant period.

Although the area merchants aren't under one roof, they offer the same variety available in most malls. "Syracuse has more things to offer than people realize," says Gardiner. "I have compared prices and the merchants have competitive pricing," she added.

Figure in the merchants in North Webster and Milford, area shoppers could

very well be missing out on some savings when they drive by area stores on their way to the bigger cities.

"It's going to be a little tighter... people are getting more practical with their things," Gardiner said. Practical shopping could mean increased sales for some merchants.

The Thanksgiving week end is traditionally the largest shopping period of the year, but Dick Meyers of the Anchor Man in the Wawasee Village has little hope for any increased activity this season.

"It's just going to be poorer," he said. Gardiner explained some of the problem all local merchants have is the consumer's fascination with making trips. "Far away places appeal to people," she explained.

The Syracuse retail merchants have put together a list of the stores in Syracuse with the merchandise they offer. Antiques, small and large appliances, clothing, do-it-yourself crafts, furniture, gift items, hardware, plants, jewelry, lawn and garden supplies, shoes, sporting goods, books — are just some of the categories listed in Syracuse alone. Combined with the merchants in Milford and North Webster, area shoppers can count on variety if they choose to stay at home this shopping season.

"We have something for everyone," said Gardiner.

**WARRIOR OF THE MONTH** — Vocational education secretary Marylee Clingamen, Wawasee principal Dr. Howard Hull and vocational education director Dick Wysong award Chris Koher with the honorary Warrior award. Koher is standing to Dr. Hull's right. (Photo by Gary Lewis)

## Chris Koher December's 'Warrior of the Month'

This month's Wawasee High School "Warrior of the Month" award has been presented to Chris Koher of Syracuse.

Koher, owner of the Koher Insurance Agency, has been active in school affairs from the beginning of Wawasee. He was an active member and chairman of the first vocational advisory committee and has continuously served on the building trades advisory committee since then.

A former chairman of the committee, he is an enthusiastic supporter of vocational education. He has influenced students and adults throughout the community in the value of a vocational education. He has given time in the classroom to discuss the business world with students and has been instrumental in the increase in

vocational education in the Lakeland Community School System.

An avid fan of the Wawasee Warriors, he has also served as a judge for the homecoming float contest.

The honorary Warrior award is

presented each month to a citizen of the Lakeland community not employed by the school corporation. The award is based upon that person's contributions to Wawasee High School and the special service the school realized because of their contribution.

## Divorce makes men richer, women poorer, studies show

A study of divorce by Stanford University researchers has concluded that community property laws, whereby a divorcing couple's assets are split 50-50, benefit the man much more than the woman.

In fact, says sociologist Lenore Weitzman, divorce is a "financial disaster" for women and their children. Out of the 3,000 cases she studied, Weitzman says men improved their standard of living an average 42 per cent in the first year, while for women and children, it declined 73 per cent.

Lump sum settlements, rather than alimony, Weitzman says, allow the husband to reap the lion's share of benefits from the marriage partnership, and to leave it with increased earning power and fewer demands on his paycheck.

Weitzman says it's time the courts recognized what she calls "career assets" as part of the community property to be divided at the time of a divorce. "A career that has developed in of community efforts as the spouses' income or the property accumulated."

## Shaky experience for Milford family caught in KKK riot

(Continued from page 1)

go to this other cafeteria since the one was full, and in the cafeteria we could watch everything that was going on," reported Grimm.

Grimm continued to say the cafeteria was located on a corner so two sides of the restaurant were all windows. After the Grimms left the restaurant, by way of the front door and the riot, "we didn't look back to see if anyone was still in the cafeteria."

### Easy peel

Let grapefruit stand in boiling water for a few minutes and see how much more easily they'll peel.

The Grimms returned home to Milford on Sunday, Nov. 28, and Mr. Grimm classified the first-hand historical event as "quite a shaky experience."

### Slick spot causes car to hit pole

A slick spot on the road caused an auto driven by Sherri L. Hartman, 17, 304 East Van Buren St., Leesburg, to spin around and strike a utility pole. She told police the accident happened as she pulled away from the light at North Detroit and Fort Wayne Streets, Warsaw.

Damage to the auto was estimated at less than \$200.

## Christmas: the spirit of giving

(Continued from page 1)



JOHN FREE

John Free, a fourth grade student at Milford is thinking about his little brother, Doug. "I want to help my Mom buy him a BB gun and a fishing rod. He's my favorite."

### TIM ANGUISH

Tim Anguish, a first grader at North Webster said, "I am going to get mom some pearls for Christmas. I saved up a lot of money. I have over a hundred dollars in my piggy bank."

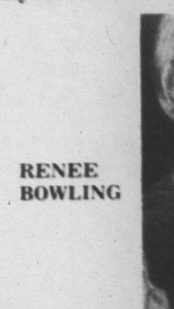


RAY MESSER

"I'm going to get some screwdrivers for my dad. He likes to work on the car," said Ray Messer, a third grader at the Syracuse Elementary School.

### JEREMY THOMAS

Jeremy Thomas, a first grade student at North Webster, said, "I am getting my mom and dad a set of glasses for Christmas. I saved the money to buy their Christmas gift from money I earned mowing."



RENEE BOWLING

"Mommy bought a gift for me to give to my cousin who is out of school," said Renee Bowling, a first grader at North Webster. "I didn't have any money to buy her a gift and I wanted to buy her a hair dryer. I will get my little sister a doll, too, if I can."



SARA KLINE

Sara Kline, a third grader at Syracuse says, "I'm going to get my mom some earrings because she likes earrings. I might get my dad some tools that he needs for work."



TIM BRADLEY

When Tim Bradley, third grader at Milford, was asked what he was going to get someone like his Mom or Dad, for Christmas, he said, "I haven't thought about what to get my Mom and Dad. I think more of presents close to Christmas. Now I think of snow and Christmas trees — especially when I get to get on a step ladder and put the angel on the tree. This year we get a real one from Goshen."

## EMS needs support

The Milford Emergency Medical Service is in desperate need of people for the Emergency Medical Technician class beginning in February. Past requests for help have had few results.

If help is not volunteered, the EMS will not be able to provide 24 hours of service much longer since too few people have been working long hours to provide the service for the community.

Without guaranteed 24-hour emergency service, the state will revoke the current certification for the back of the ambulances which means the community would have to call Multi Township for emergency care.

Warsaw is 12 miles from Milford and does not receive tax support from the city or Van Buren Township meaning an ambulance call would cost in excess of \$150 per person. To lower the cost, the Multi Township Service would need tax support from Milford and the surrounding township which would likely cause a tax rate increase.

Milford EMTs are volunteers not paid for their time. The service does pay for the cost of schooling in exchange for a student's services rendered during the length of certification. The Milford EMS has been supported by monetary donations in the past, but now they need the physical support of additional EMTs.

Anyone interested in serving as an EMT to help save the service should attend the Thursday, Dec. 9, meeting at 7 p.m. at the community building. Pat Gaume, Goshen Hospital instructor, will present a slide program and answer any questions about the classes and certification.



## December weather

Goshen College weather observer Lores Steury this weeks looks ahead to December and gives us an idea of what the weather may be like from past records.

The average December temperature is 28.6 degrees. The warmest reading was 36.4 degrees in 1931, while the lowest was in December of 1917 with a 19.9 degree average.

The warmest temperature recorded in December was 66 degrees and the coldest was 25 degrees below zero.

The precipitation average for December is 2.10 inches. December of 1918 had 5.3 inches; only .32 inches was recorded in 1943.

The average monthly snowfall is six inches. Last year's 26.9 inches was a record amount with the lowest monthly average being .1 inches in 1927.

December has an average of 1,118 heating degree days. The year 1963 had 1,368 heating degree days in the final month, while December of 1971 was warm with 915 heating degree days.

### CORRECTION

The Hook's Christmas tabloid in today's newspaper advertises a Mr. Coffee coffee maker on page 6. The Model No. CMX-500 does not have a digital clock, as shown. Instead, an analog clock is featured. We apologize for any inconvenience to our customers.



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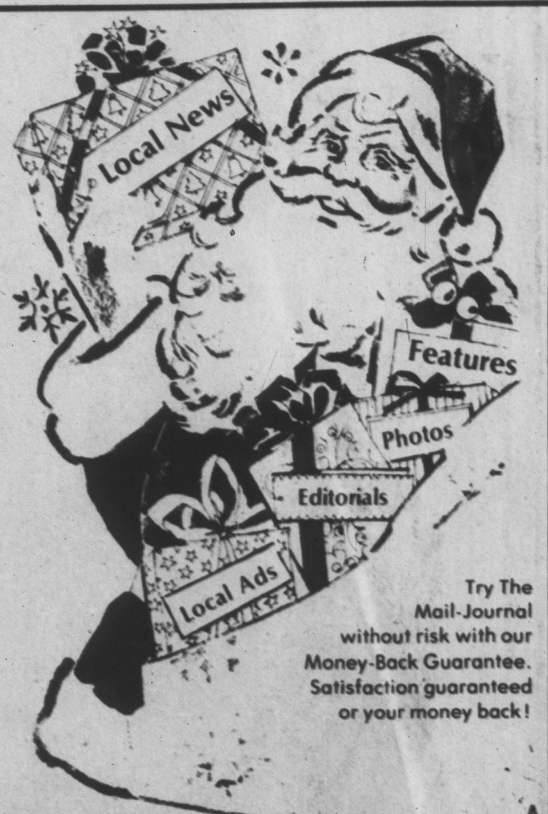
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