

# Editorials

## It's a start

A few months ago we asked the question, "Where is our fair going?" At that time many were asking that question. The Kosciusko County Fair had been one of the best in the state, but, as noted before, the 1985 fair was lacking in good attractions, the barns and buildings need improvements and the midway has become unattractive.

It now appears that the fair board agrees and has taken major steps to improve the 1986 Kosciusko County Fair . . . steps that should put the fair back on the right track. A front page article notes that the fair board will charge a fee to fairgoers next year. This fee will help pay expenses and will help to provide funds to renovate buildings.

The article, by staff writer Dee Jaynes, also notes that a different company has been hired to provide rides in 1986. Many complaints were heard on the 1985 fair and the conditions of the rides that were there. The new company, Pugh Show, is expected to bring approximately 23 rides to the county fair next August. This alone will be a marked improvement.

Only time will tell how much these improvements will help put the Kosciusko County Fair back on the right track. They are not enough to make a complete turn around, but, they are certainly a step in the right direction.

## Fire Prevention Week

Fire Prevention Week, which reminds us cooler weather means accidental fire and resulting death and financial loss for many, is the week of October 6 through 12.

Ever since the famous Chicago fire, more than a century ago on October 8, 1871, the danger of fires has been stressed by fire departments and others at this time of year.

In recent years the National Fire Protection Association has sponsored Fire Prevention Week, the anniversary week of the Chicago fire.

This year, it's predicted over 12,000 Americans will lose their lives in fires and 1,000,000 buildings will burn in the U.S. About 30 percent of the deaths from fires will be children, often unable to help themselves.

This is, then, the time of year to check gas lines and pipes, furnaces, chimneys, electric wiring and appliances, etc.

## Spaghetti?

Most Americans enjoy spaghetti.

A test of commercial spaghetti sauces was made recently by a leading consumer organization, and some where found quite good.

If you want a sauce without meat, Prego No Salt Added, Progresso and A. & P. Premium are recommended for quality and price.

For meat sauces, which are more spicy, Prego, Aunt Millie's and Newman's Own (Paul Newman that is) get the nod.

But now comes the surprise. Experts say a serving of meatless spaghetti sauce over pasta sprinkled with Parmesan cheese, eaten with a salad, provides good nutrition, a third of one's daily caloric requirement, and less fat than a meal of steak, potatoes and salad!

It's cheap, and if home-made can be limited in salt content (most commercial sauces are high in sodium — Ronzoni was lowest of those tested). With hot Italian bread and one's favorite beverage, it's nisa, you like! Eat it as if il tempo buono vience una volta sola!

## October, 1985

The fields are harvested and bare  
And winter whistles through the Square.  
October dresses in flame and gold  
Like a woman afraid of growing old.

— Anne Lawler.

October ushers in the final quarter of 1985; is one of nature's more beautiful months. It gets its name from the Roman eight; it was the eighth month in the Roman calendar.

For Americans, it's a month filled with historical dates and birthday anniversaries. The 1st is the birthday of the 39th president of the United States, Jimmy Carter. The 4th is the birthday anniversary of Rutherford Hayes, 19th president of the United States, who was born at Delaware, Ohio, in 1822.

Hayes followed U.S. Grant to the White House in 1876. It took the electoral votes (Republican) of three occupied Dixie states to give Hayes a one-vote margin, votes highly dubious because federal troops there propped up infamous Reconstruction administrations (the origin of solid Democratic voting when federal troops were withdrawn).

But Hayes was an honorable man and as president he withdrew federal troops from the Southern states (deal for the electoral votes involved such a pledge, it's said); he served only one term, by choice, and his record was a good one. He died in 1893 and the state of Ohio now owns his Fremont estate.

## What others say —

### Job benefits

Consider these job benefits:

They being with a salary of \$75,100 a year. However, you are permitted to add \$22,530 to that annual salary through earnings from speeches, articles and the like.

In addition, you can spend up to \$394,680 a year for a staff (up to 18 persons). A staff member can receive up to \$67,800 annually.

You also would have an official expense account of between \$105,000 and \$306,500 a year, depending on how far you live from the office. The expense account covers travel, telephone, stationery, postage, rent for additional offices, a mobile office and the like. Also available is another \$35,000 for office furnishings each year.

With five years' experience, you can receive retirement benefits at age 62. Those with 10 years' experience can retire with full benefits at age 60. The maximum pension is 80 percent of the average salary, but it takes 32 years of service to be eligible for the maximum.

And, since you pay into social security, you may be eligible for retirement benefits through that agency.

Additionally, because you have been a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, you probably can land a very lucrative job in Washington as a consultant, lobbyist, law partner, or some other position where you can "lean on" some of your acquaintances to pass legislation your clients are interested in.

If you are fortunate enough to be one of the 100 U.S. Senators, the benefits are even greater — all thanks to the generosity of the American taxpayer.

There's still another great benefit to this job of being a congressman: You get to approve your own pay scale and benefits.

It's nice work if you can get it.

—LAGRANGE NEWS

# FAIR

## Burglary, arson at Barbee Lake



Kosciusko County Crime Stoppers organization:

The burglary and arson at Barbee Lake is the "Crime of the Week."

On Thursday, September 19, the Barbee Bait Shop was burglarized and then was set on fire. The intruders had entered the building and removed several guns, an RCA VCR, some rings, gold chains and other jewelry, along with a quantity of cash and collector's coins.

Persons with information concerning this crime are asked to contact Crime Stoppers, toll-free, at 1-800-342-STOP. Crime Stoppers will pay up to \$1,000 if the information leads to an arrest or indictment.

They only want your information, not your name.

# "CRUZIN AROUND 'CUSE"



C. Check with local, county or state police regarding weather and road conditions.

D. During the above procedures radio stations are being monitored as well as the NOWA, a continuous weather station.

E. Checking with individual bus drivers.

At approximately 6 to 6:15 a.m. the director of transportation will again confer with the superintendent and collectively make a decision regarding the appropriate action warranted by the weather conditions. Depending upon the decision that is made, if appropriate, radio stations are notified for an announcement. At the same time an emergency telephone chain system is placed in effect to notify staff.

The above procedure certainly is just that, it does not address varying conditions that exist especially during periods of fog. Here we have to deal with it being foggy in one area and not another. An even greater problem is when the fog intensifies after a decision has been made. When this occurs, several things are considered.

If we were to turn the buses around and take the children back home, there would be just as many unsafe conditions in delivering the children back home as there would be if we were to continue on the route. Additionally, if we turned the buses around, some children would arrive home where parents have already left for work, plus there would still be some children standing along the roadside waiting for a bus that was not coming.

Who's Watching The Weather  
QUITE OFTEN a question arises regarding the decisions made for having school, delaying, closing or the running of school buses during inclement weather. Perhaps a review of the procedure used for decision making would be appropriate now even though inclement weather is hopefully several months away.

Before elaborating on our procedure, I would like to stress that the most dangerous situation that our drivers face are those motorists who fail to stop while we are loading and unloading children. For those who find themselves behind a school bus, we would suggest that you either leave just a few minutes earlier or later, as we try to run very consistently (within 3 minutes) every day. Another suggestion might be to alter your route slightly to avoid any congestion or hold up. Our drivers try to be very sensitive to traffic and will usually allow traffic the courtesy of passing just as soon as a safe spot is identified. However, please remember that school bus drivers have a lot on their minds and the safety of children is uppermost. You can help us to be safe by driving defensively.

In regard to the procedure used for or during periods of inclement weather (inclement weather includes ice, fog, snow, high water or any other act of God which may jeopardize the safe running of school buses), the following is shared:

Depending upon the weather conditions and forecasts, the transportation director and the director of buildings and grounds will leave home at approximately 5:15 a.m. and will drive a portion of the roads within the school corporation to determine whether or not it is safe for school buses to be on the road for the purpose of loading and/or unloading children. Normally, there is a prescribed route that will be driven consisting of both north/south roads as well as east/west roads, this is important when we have snow and wind.

During the time of checking roads, the director of transportation and the director of buildings and grounds are in radio communication with one another as well as with the superintendent of schools. Upon arrival at the office, prior to 6 a.m. (if we are not stuck in a snowbank, and that happens) the transportation director may choose to exercise any or all of the following options:

A. Check with county highway department regarding snow plowing.

B. Check with neighboring school corporations and confer regarding appropriate actions that they are considering.

For example, in addition to concerns about early morning conditions, we also deal with inclement weather that deteriorates as the day goes on, sometimes requiring early dismissal from school. Here we have to consider such things as:

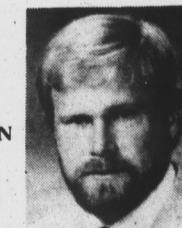
A. Time to get buses into school (lead time is approximately 45 minutes)

B. Should lunch be served, usually if near noon we will always feed youngsters to insure that they are not returned home, perhaps with no one there, without having eaten.

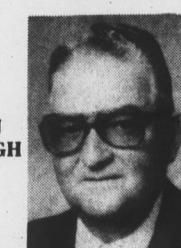
At the same time that we are considering the above, we are also monitoring weather. Sometimes it may clear and be better at 3:15 than dismissing in a driving snow storm at 2 p.m.

We certainly cannot be right 100 percent of the time (not even Earl Fink can do this); however, we are concerned about the safety of children 100 percent of the time. We try to plan appropriately for the inclement weather season by having the procedure in place and by exercising judgement based upon the best information that we have at the time.

## Re-elected to PCA board



Joe Walter, manager of the Elkhart County office, announced that the Federal Land Bank Association of Goshen and the Albion Production Credit Association, combined management and staff effective September 1 and then went on to introduce the new staff selected to serve the PCA and FLBA members in the Goshen Office.



J. MERLIN HINDBAUGH

eight counties of Allen, DeKalb, Elkhart, Kosciusko, LaGrange, Noble, Steuben, and Whitley. It has been totally farmer owned since 1953 and operates as a cooperative through the direction of its elected board of directors.

### Investigate theft from home

Syracuse Police are investigating the theft of \$400, taken on Aug. 8, from a resident of Greenhaus Apartments.

Carroll Barnard reported that the screen going into her son's room had been cut, and that the thieves took the money sometime during the evening of Thursday, Aug. 8. Police determined that a knife and screwdriver were used to gain entry. Nothing else in the apartment was disturbed, Barnard said.

### Over charges

PHILADELPHIA — General Electric Co., the nation's fourth largest defense contractor, was indicted by a federal grand jury recently on charges it defrauded the government of about \$800,000 on a nuclear warhead system.

### THE MAIL-JOURNAL

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POSTMASTERS: Send change of address forms to The Mail-Journal, P.O. Box 188, Milford, Indiana 46542.



During the course of the eight sectional meetings over 1,400 members and guests heard association treasurer, Charles Zimmerman, present financial reports for the current year. Scranton, chairman of the board, reported on the board's activities during the past year and its joint efforts with the local Land Bank Association boards to streamline operations and bring down the costs of operations.

Don Monesmith, association president, presented information about the condition of the Farm Credit System nationally and explained the serious nature of the loan losses expected in 1985 and 1986 in the Fourth Farm Credit District which includes Indiana. Mr. Monesmith also explained the details of the upcoming membership vote on the proposal to merge the Albion PCA along with the PCA's in the four state district into one large district PCA. Following Monesmith's presentation a question and answer session was held for the benefit of those members present.

The Albion Association currently serves 1,475 farmers in the