

JOURNAL COURIER

75¢ DAILY

JACKSONVILLE / MYJOURNALCOURIER.COM

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22, 2011



Jordan Davis (from left), Audra Glenn, Tina Arnold and Nichole Spiess of The Apron Beauties design a dessert reminiscent of Glenn's recent backpacking trip through Central America for the MacMurray College "Iron Chef"-type cooking competition Friday.

May the best dessert win

MacMurray students get creative for 'Iron Chef'-inspired competition

BY MARIA NAGLE

The competition going on Friday night at MacMurray's Gamble Campus Center was the perfect tonic for the snowy, frigid weather outside.

The imaginations of the students on eight teams were on fire, making for a spirited contest to come up with the most awesome

dessert and win the college's first-ever "Iron Chef"-type cooking competition.

Each team had to prepare two desserts within the 60 minutes allotted. They could choose from among the more than 50 ingredients provided, but each dessert had to include the "mystery" ingredient — cookies.

Team O-Psi, comprised of four students who are members of the social and service fraternity for men, Omega Theta Psi, walked away with the first place award. O-Psi's Willy Wonka Sushi

Swiss Roll helped capture the votes of the three judges, MacMurray Director of Annual Giving Jenni Gee and Spanish professor Joe Hoff, and Journal-Courier reporter Jake Russell.

"We created that because I have a little bit of Oriental in me and I was just thinking we need to go back to culture," O-Psi member Adam Mejorado said. "We had to make it sweet, but we also had to make into a type of egg roll."

Team member Derek Finney, a

DESSERT, see Page 8

GREENE COUNTY

Four-day work week reversed

BY MAGGIE BORMAN

CARROLLTON — A four-day work week for some Greene County governmental offices appears short-lived.

After discussing the idea for months, the county board approved the four-day week at the start of the new year.

This week, the board rescinded the decision.

"We were advised by our union attorney, Bruce Beal, that the union contract clause says any time an action affects salary or work hours, that we have to bargain," board member Mike Kiger said Friday. "It is called impact bargaining, and is required under federal law."

GREENE, see Page 8



Routt high school junior Nick Braner, 17, looks for an empty seat Friday after boarding one of the four buses chartered by the Springfield Diocese destined for Washington, D.C., for the March of Life rally. Routt is sending 31 students and will be meeting with more from Calhoun, Jacksonville and Springfield's Sacred Heart-Griffin High School.

Roodhouse asks about future of post office

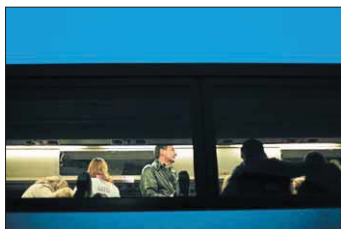
BY MAGGIE BORMAN

ROODHOUSE — City officials concerned about the future of their post office are getting a stamp of reassurance from post-office officials.

City Attorney Anne Clough told the City Council that she had written letters to state and federal legislators in the effort to retain the Roodhouse Post Office. The White Hall Post Office was assigned the sorting and delivery of Roodhouse mail about six months ago.

While Roodhouse residents still can buy stamps at the Roodhouse Post Office, Clough said

ROODHOUSE, see Page 8



Father Tom Meyer watches over Routt's 31 students as they prepare to depart from the high school Friday evening.

Right to Life chapter going to Springfield rally

JOURNAL-COURIER

Members of the Morgan County Right to Life chapter will attend The Recommitment to Life Rally on Sunday at the state Capitol in Springfield.

The rally will begin at 2 p.m. in the Capitol rotunda, where Jane Brennan will speak.

A reception will follow in the Howlett Building, south of the Capitol.

Members of the Morgan County Right to Life chapter

RIGHT TO LIFE, see Page 8

Marching for life

Routt students head to D.C. to experience huge anti-abortion rally

BY JAKE RUSSELL

Students from Routt Catholic High School — 31 in all — loaded up the buses Friday bound for the nation's capital, where they will join a large protest on the anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision that legalized abortion.

The march is from noon to 1:30 p.m. Monday at the National Mall at Fourth Street NW in Washington, D.C., and will make its way to the Supreme Court building.

"I don't like abortion and this is my way to stand up for what I believe in," said senior Mitch Leefer, son of John Leefer and Alicia Martin. He will be making his second trip this year.

Routt has offered the program for at least five years, said sophomore Brett Elliott, son of Jeff and Lisa Elliott.

The trip is presented through the Springfield Diocese and Routt is invited each year to take part, said Maria Kerwin, campus minister and theology teacher.

"It's an educational opportunity that most people don't get

MARCHING, see Page 8

"It's an educational opportunity that most people don't get to experience."

— Ashley Ketcham

INDEX ▶ Obituaries/P2 Region/P3 Dear Abby/P4 World&Nation/P5 Church Directory/P6 Business/P7 Sports/P9 Comics/P12 Crossword/P14

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IN ILL. DECLINED IN DECEMBER. SEE PAGE 3.



VOLUME 181 / NO. 22 16 PAGES



PARTLY SUNNY

Highs in the lower 20s. West winds 5 to 10 mph. Mostly cloudy. Lows around 11. Northeast winds 5 to 10 mph. SEE BACK PAGE.

JACKSONVILLE CHRYSLER DODGE JACKSONVILLE CHRYSLER DODGE JACKSONVILLE CHRYSLER DODGE JACKSONVILLE CHRYSLER DODGE

2010 Dodge Avenger SXT

4 cyl., auto., full power.

JACKSONVILLE CHRYSLER DODGE, Inc.

Call 243-3371 or 1-800-851-6039 Your Price **\$16,995**

1600 W. Morton, Jacksonville
www.jacksonvillechryslerdodge.com

JACKSONVILLE CHRYSLER DODGE JACKSONVILLE CHRYSLER DODGE JACKSONVILLE CHRYSLER DODGE JACKSONVILLE CHRYSLER DODGE



DESSERT: Competition

► Continued from Page 1 senior, turned Mejorado's inspiration into reality using Fruit Roll-Ups.

"I was thinking about how Fruit Roll-Ups have the same consistency as seaweed used for sushi," Finney said.

So he chopped up ingredients, including vanilla wafers and marshmallows, and wrapped them up in the Fruit Roll-Ups. Finney also used red pepper to make a spicy frosting "that went with everything inside the roll and gave it a nice color contrast," he said.

The all-male team representing the Black Student Union took second place with their "To Die for New Banana Pudding" and the "Healthy Mystery Parfait."

"We just came over here, put our minds together and winged it," BSU member Tobias Alaribe Jr. said.

Senior Audra Glenn's backpacking trip to Central America over the Christmas break was the inspiration behind one of her team's creations, "The Layers of the Ocean." Her team, the Apron Beauties, placed third in the competition.

The Delta Epsilon team received the People's Choice award.

"It was really fun. It was a blast," Finney, a business major from Chicago, said. "It gave everybody the opportunity to come together, do something fun and eat."

magie@myjournalcourier.com



The Apron Beauties' ocean dessert — which includes a banana sailboat, fish and an oil spill — took third place Friday during the MacMurray College "Iron Chef"-type cooking competition.

JOURNAL-COURIER/JASON JOHNSON

ASSOCIATED PRESS

ROODHOUSE: Post office speculation

► Continued from Page 1 the speculation has been that the government intends to shutter it.

"We wanted to be proactive. Having a local post office is important for the residents of Roodhouse," Clough said. "I spoke to Rep. Jim Watson (R-Jacksonville) and he said he would help us."

She said she also spoke to Tom Meehan, who owns the Roodhouse IGA store.

"He said he has space in his store and would be happy to rent space to the postal service that would probably be much less than what they pay for their current facility," Clough said.

Valerie Hughes, spokeswoman for the U.S. Postal Service's Gateway District in St. Louis, which oversees the Roodhouse Post Office, said there is no plan to close the post office as a retail unit.

"Roodhouse Post Office was part of a Delivery Unit Relocation, which means the reason the delivery was moved to the White Hall Post Office was because it was more efficient for carriers to work from [there] and there was a greater need for employee resources at the White Hall Post Office," Hughes said.

Roodhouse serves as a retail unit, where people can buy money orders and stamps or conduct any other retail purchases offered at the facility.

Mayor Rick Snyder said residents are concerned that because the current Roodhouse postmaster is facing retirement soon, the facility would be closed, especially given the state of the economy. He feared another postmaster would not be assigned to Roodhouse.

"I do not know if that is in the plans," Hughes said. "The postal service does evaluate our post offices and always when a postmaster ... is due to retire, that post office would be analyzed. However, I do know that as far as Roodhouse Post Office going back to delivery, that won't happen."

"We wanted to be proactive."

— Roodhouse City Attorney Anne Clough

LET US TURN YOUR OLD FIREPLACE INTO AN EFFICIENT HOME HEATER

Call for a free in-home consultation. Turn your old inefficient masonry or metal fireplace into a wonderful source of heat for your family. Adding a Fireplace Xtordinaire gas furnace insert can turn your old fireplace into a warm, comfortable heat source for your home. Fireplace Xtordinaire gas inserts are over 70% efficient, clean and green. Fireplace Xtordinaire gas inserts feature a wide variety of designer faces for virtually any decor.

We offer models for all sizes of fireplaces and for a wide range of heating needs. In less than a day you can have a beautiful new gas insert installed in your home. Call or visit us now, prices have never been lower.

Gas Inserts Starting at \$2,799

GREAT RIVERS Fireplace Store & MORE

618.498.3902
www.fireplacestoreandmore.com

Yellowstone bison wandering off grazing grounds

BY MATTHEW BROWN

BILLINGS, Mont. — Wild bison allowed to migrate north of Yellowstone National Park for the first time in decades have strayed off their new grazing grounds three times since they arrived this week, park officials said Friday.

The 25 animals will be hazed back onto the Gallatin National Forest if they leave again, officials said, but it was uncertain what would happen if they continued to enter areas where they could encounter cattle.

Wildlife officials fear cows could be infected with a disease carried by the Yellowstone bison. Brucellosis can cause animals to prematurely abort their young.

For years, bison trying to leave Yellowstone to graze at lower elevations in Montana were captured and slaughtered to prevent the spread of brucellosis. The 25 bison on the Gallatin — part of a pilot program that was years in the making — tested negative for the disease.

Those animals are part of an initiative to expand areas outside the park where bison can roam.

Hundreds of bison attempt to leave the park during harsh winters. With snow piling deep this year, 63 of them that tried to leave the park in recent days have been captured at the park's northern boundary.

The animals are being held in a Park Service facility near

Deadly California hit-and-run ends with man beaten by mob

HAWTHORNE, Calif. (AP) — A man crossing a busy Los Angeles-area boulevard was twice struck by hit-and-run drivers, a woman who tried to help him was hit by yet another car, and the driver who tried to help her was beaten and robbed by a mob, police said Friday.

The bizarre chain of events left one man dead, another arrested and had detectives stunned.

"This one had us scratching our heads," Capt. Mike Ishi told the Los Angeles Times. "It's in a league of its own."

It began when a minivan hit a man Wednesday night as he crossed Crenshaw Boulevard in a spot without a crosswalk, Hawthorne Police Lt. Gary Tomatoni said in a statement. The driver fled the scene.

The man was then run over by a second vehicle, Tomatoni said. That driver also failed to stop.

One of several people who ran to help the man and tried to stop oncoming traffic was hit by a car herself.

That driver stopped to help the woman, but he was attacked by others who had run into the street, who beat him and stole his cell phone, Tomatoni said.

The man escaped from the crowd and fled in his car, but returned after police arrived and pointed out one of his assailants.

Police arrested Tran Moore Lewis, 32, of Long Beach, on suspicion of robbery.

Detectives were amazed at the strange set of accidents and even stranger behavior.

"I've never seen anything like this in all my years in Hawthorne," Ishi said.

Teacher accused of taping 1st grader's mouth

SAN ANTONIO, Texas (AP) — Officials say a San Antonio elementary school teacher is on leave after being accused of putting transparent tape over a first-grader's mouth.

Danny Kelly says his daughter was afraid to tell him about what happened the day before winter break.

But he says her classmates at Schertz Elementary told their parents, who called the principal.

District spokeswoman Rebecca Villarreal says officials put the teacher on administrative leave as soon as the taping was reported. An investigation is ongoing.

GREENE: County board rescinds 4-day work week decision

► Continued from Page 1

The board's action had moved the offices of county clerk and recorder, supervisor of assessments and treasurer to a four-day work week. By state statute, those are the only offices for which the county board can set hours.

Other officers were to be given memos urging department heads to stay within the county's budget requirements, which called for a 20 percent reduction, asking other department heads to rotate staff to ensure that everyone was not working a five-day week.

Finance Committee Chairman Doug Wagner said in

December that the county is looking at a projected shortfall of \$150,000 to \$200,000 with the 20 percent reduction and four-day work week. Without those actions, the county is projecting a \$300,000 to \$400,000 shortfall.

"We have a negotiating meeting set for Feb. 1 and I anticipate that negotiations will go well," Kiger said. "We have to do something to reduce the projected shortfall and no one wants to see the county shut down, so I know we will all work hard to reach a resolution."

In addition to rescinding the four-day work week, the board has approved paying employees for the three days of work missed since the change was put into place.

MARCHING: Rott students taking buses to D.C.

► Continued from Page 1

to experience," said senior Ashley Ketcham, daughter of Scott and Debbie Ketcham, who participated last year. "We're taught when we take theater classes here the fact that it's wrong."

The most shocking part of the trip for Ketcham was the sheer number of people at the march — about 250,000.

The first March for Life rally was held Jan. 22, 1974, on the west steps of the Capitol with about 20,000 anti-abortion supporters in attendance.

The trip costs \$350 per student. Students had a Christmas dinner at Illinois College and sold discount cards, said sophomore Brett Elliott, son of Jeff and Lisa Elliott.

Ketcham looks forward to the monument tours. Because the march is on a Monday, the group will have Saturday and Sunday to do more sightseeing. The group didn't have as much time to explore last year, she said.

This will be Elliott's first experience in Washington, D.C.

RIGHT TO LIFE: Rally

► Continued from Page 1

will meet in the parking lot of Aldi's on East Morton Avenue at 1 p.m. Sunday and drive to the Capitol from there.

The chapter was formed in 1973 in response to Roe v. Wade, the Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion in the United States.

"I'm really looking forward to the march itself," Leefers said. "It's cool to see how many people come together to stand up [against] it."

The group will return about noon Tuesday.

jrusell@myjournalcourier.com