

Your Community Newspaper Since 1906

TOPICS



Section B

Cheer Marching Rangers to State



Home tour this Sunday



Photo from late March, 2012. Francis Lindauer flashes his trademark smile while taking a break in one of the buildings on the farm. At his feet is his favorite dog, Lap, who used to run the treadmill that churned butter during school visits. Lap received a hotdog as his reward for a job well done.
— File photo by Eric Tretter

Election results bring surprises

BY KATHY TRETTER
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The first Tuesday in November means one thing three out of every four years — election day. While the big races (president, governor, etc.) are held in even years, municipal elections are considered “off year” events held in odd numbered years.

Although voting for a mayor, council member or clerk-treasurer may not seem as critical as electing the leader of the free world, these local leaders are a citizen’s first line of defense.

In Dubois County, a total of 36.14% registered voters turned out, which is, by many standards, not bad for a municipal election year.

Dubois County’s two cities and largest town all had contested races on Tuesday and when the polls closed at 6 p.m. there were a few surprises and some changes in the ranks.

Not, however, in Ferdinand, where Democrat Councilman and current Council President Ken Sicard defeated a challenge from Independent Don Farina in a race that heated up considerably in the final weeks before election day.

Sicard carried the lone race in Ferdinand with 458 votes (75.45%) to Don Farina’s 149 votes or 24.55%.

Ferdinand’s District 2 and At-Large council positions were uncontested, so incumbents Debbie Johnson and

And the Community Service Award goes to ...

BY KATHY TRETTER
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“You guys are always writing about the Ferdinand Cardinals,” notes Juliana Lindauer, her comment referring to the Ferdinand News.

“So the first thing I want to tell you is this. There was also the Ferdinand Pirates and Francis was the catcher. We got married in ’49 and he played before and after. They were coached by Jim Pund and their biggest rival was Mariah Hill. The Mariah Hill team was made up, I think, almost entirely of Boslers.” After their third child was born, Juliana seldom attended the games because she had to chase them through a pasture laced with cow patties.

While playing for the Pirates was one detail of his storied life that Juliana wished to convey about her beloved late husband, Francis, she notes it is far more important for readers to know of his love for her and her for him. “I miss him.”

Francis passed away on Thursday, October 8, less than a month before he was to be honored with the Ferdinand Community Service Award, which will be presented to his family this Thursday night.

Juliana’s baseball tale started a two and a half hour conversation that never lagged. Joining Juliana were oldest son, Mike, and daughters, Joan Guillaume, Sue Brames and Janice Hochgesang. Missing were daughter Sharon Mehling, who was on her way home from a doctor’s appointment in Ohio, and son Phil, who was napping as he had to rise around 12:30 a.m. to start milking on the family dairy farm.

The Ferdinand Chamber of Commerce and town officials will host the town’s biggest gala

of the year Thursday night (November 5), with honors going to Dave Fischer winning the Forest Park Alumni Award, speeches by no less a personage than Indiana’s 50th Governor, Mike Pence and finally, the presentation of Ferdinand highest honor by Town Council President Ken Sicard. Sadly, Francis must be feted posthumously; however, 27 of his nearest and dearest, including wife, Juliana, all six children and their spouses and various grandchildren and their loved ones will be present to accept the award on his behalf.

One of the most important things to know about Francis — besides the fact he was a Ferdinand Pirate — was this: Francis Lindauer never said an unkind word about anyone.

He tried never to gossip about others. He could always be counted on to wear a broad smile, whether restoring a Kitten Steam Engine, working on the family farm, volunteering at the Dubois County Museum or educating fourth graders about farming in earlier centuries.

“Dad’s smile was contagious,” explains daughter Joan Guillaume, “and his eyes always twinkled.”

He even wore his trademark smile when hunting for rattlesnakes in Sweetwater, Texas.

What?

It’s true, all his children agree.

Francis and his cohorts, Jackson Meyer and Clete Lubbehusen, piled into a non-air-conditioned pickup one sweltering August day, and drove to Texas, where they joined what has been billed as the world’s largest rattlesnake roundup.

An avid hunter, he didn’t stop with rattlesnakes. In 1962, Francis and his friend Leroy Haug gathered supplies for a trip to the Upper Peninsula in Michigan. They packed two hams, some bread, kitchen and eggs, as well as an Army surplus

tent into an International Scout. Each left home with a \$100 bill.

When they arrived at their destination, the two were distressed to learn they would each have to pay \$32 for an out-of-state hunting license, taking a big chunk of their vacation funds.

Still, they managed to shoot a bear. After gutting it out, they strapped it atop the truck roof, its massive head hanging over the windshield, and headed for home. The bear was frozen solid, but as they approached Indianapolis it began to rain and the bear started to thaw.

They made it back to Ferdinand around 4 a.m. Francis happened to be Ferdinand’s American Legion commander at the time and as such, was in possession of a key. Because the bear was thawing, they got the idea to stow it in a cooler at the Legion.

They propped the 400 lb. bear on beer cases, its mouth possibly (although no one can confirm) held open with sticks or pencils in what appeared to be a ferocious growl, so that the next morning when Jerry Durlauf arrived for work and opened the cooler, he was confronted with what looked to be a huge black snarling bear!

Both men still had money in their pockets, one returning with \$14 and the other with \$16.

Francis must have had a good time because that was not his last bear hunting trip. Over time, he shot six bears, six moose, and even harpooned a seal. He also hunted for more typical game such as deer. He describes his last big game hunt in a letter to his grandchildren, written on his 75th birthday in 2003, the contents of which can be found at the end of this article.

SEE LINDAUER
on page 7

Ferdinand Legion to host Veterans Day observance this weekend

The Dubois County Veterans Council will hold their observance of Veterans Day this Saturday, November 7.

All veterans’ organizations from Dubois County will be represented and recognized.

The day will begin with an 8 a.m. mass at St. Joseph Church in Jasper. All veterans’ groups are asked to join in the procession and post their colors in front of the church.

Ferdinand American Legion Post 124, 425 Main Street, will host this year’s DCVC Veterans Day Observance. Past Post Commander and Master of Ceremonies Allen Berger says the program will begin at 2 p.m. with the posting of Colors and the National Anthem sung by Bethany Boeglin. An opening prayer will be given by Deacon James King from St. Ferdinand Church followed by remembering POWs by Steve Bartels. DCVC President Bernie Thewes will present the Living Veteran Award to this year’s recipient, Jim Seidl.

Guest speaker will be Ron Byrley, past District 8 Commander and present District 8 Judge Advocate of the 8th District of the American Legion Department of Indiana.

Lunch and refreshments will be served for all those in attendance by the host American Legion Post 124 and VFW Post 11365, Ferdinand.

For more information, contact Allen Berger at 812-367-1114 or 812-630-8877, or Ken Schuetter at 812-631-0767.

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WEATHER

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Rain	Partly Cloudy	Clear	Clear
Hi: 74° Low: 62°	Hi: 69° Low: 43°	Hi: 60° Low: 38°	Hi: 59° Low: 38°

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