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YOUR NEWS

FIX IT!



Jevontay Cross, 12 of Freeport rides his bicycle past a vacant billboard owned by BOCO on Stephenson Street Wednesday.

STEFANIE WEISS / THE JOURNAL-STANDARD

Beautification of the BOCO billboard

BY JASON CARSON WILSON
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FREEPORT — Enhancing a building and keeping history alive. That's what an area organization aims to do with a BOCO of Freeport billboard along East Stephenson Street.

The Situation

The BOCO of Freeport billboard is bare. Freeport Beautification Association

members wants to spruce it up and promote the Lincoln-Douglas Debate Sesquicentennial celebration. Kathy Helm, beautification association co-chair, said the East Side business donated the billboard's use. BOCO Manager Maria Avery confirmed that. Helm stressed its intended use.

"We would like to do something historically-related to Lincoln-Douglas," she said.

While displaying the new Lincoln-Douglas Sesquicentennial Celebration logo is a possibility, fellow Association Co-Chair Loretta Barney said her organization contacted BOCO last spring. Barney explained what inspired its desire to use the billboard.

"We know a lot of people will be going to see the Lincoln statue," she said.

That Leonard Crunelle-designed and W.T. Rawleigh-donated statue — which was unveiled in 1929 — is located in Taylor Park, according to the "History of Stephenson County 1970." Crunelle was a student of renowned sculptor Lorado Taft. Incidentally, Taft designed a sculpture commemorating Quincy's Lincoln-Douglas debate, according to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's library.

Though logo creator Ron

Wolfe is in the running, Barney wants to provide an opportunity for a new artist.

"I thought it would be more fun if it was hand-painted and home-grown," she said.

Her efforts to get the word out elicited 10 responses. Many of them shared suggestions. Barney said she'd contacted some area schools' art departments. However, the timing was bad. Barney said students were working and unavailable. With that said, she's optimistic.

"I'm hopeful, as [the message] gets around, to everyone's talented friends," Barney said.

Who Can Fix It

The Freeport Beautification Association and interested artists. Those interested in the project can contact Barney at (815) 233-2002 or freeportbeautification@comcast.net.

WORD OF THE DAY

caterwaul

KAT-uhr-wawl
intransitive verb

To make a harsh cry.
To have a noisy argument.

Source: Dictionary.com

BE SMART

"Wrong Way" Corrigan flight

Douglas Corrigan claims his place in the annals of aviation history when he "mistakenly" flies from New York to Ireland on July 17, 1938. With a single flight, Corrigan breaks the law, charms the Irish, becomes an American hero and earns an unforgettable nickname.

According to the flight plan he filed beforehand, his destination was California. Maybe it was, and maybe it wasn't: Corrigan had wanted to fly to Ireland all along, hoping to emulate Charles Lindbergh's solo trans-Atlantic flight of a decade earlier. But the Bureau of Air Commerce denied the request, on the grounds that Corrigan's plane — a rather well-used Curtiss Robin OX-5 monoplane — was too unstable for a long flight over water.

Corrigan steadfastly maintained that he got turned around by a balky compass on board. He said he didn't discover his navigational error until he was 26 hours into the flight.

CORRECTIONS

The Journal-Standard strives for accuracy. All corrections will be printed on Page A2. Readers may call (815) 232-0166 to report an error.

— In a story on the groundbreaking of Highland Community College's new nursing wing that appeared in the paper Wednesday the college president's name was incorrectly spelled. His name is Dr. Joe Kanosky.

TODAY'S SMILE

Would you like to contribute to Today's Smile? E-mail your name, contact telephone number, town, and reason for smiling, with a JPEG image to front-door@journalstandard.com. All Smiles will be verified before being published.

Long-time local laundry businesses announce merger



ERIC PETERMANN / THE JOURNAL-STANDARD

Pilan Byrnes (right) and Chris Hauck (left) will be working together at Sanitary Cleaners location, at 130 East Exchange Street, in downtown Freeport. Bryan Pozzi (center), is the manager.

BY ERIC PETERMANN
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FREEPORT — Sanitary Cleaners and Johnny-on-the-Spot announced a merger July 14 that will maintain services and all existing jobs in Freeport.

Pilan Byrnes, who has 28 1/2 years of experience at the Johnny-on-the-Spot location, and Chris Hauck, who has worked for 32 years at Sanitary Cleaners, will be working side-by-side at the new merged company location, at 130 East Exchange Street. The former Johnny-on-the-Spot location will be closed.

Bryan Pozzi, a principal at Sanitary Cleaners, said the new business will offer more services, longer hours and a continued pick up and delivery service for some of its accounts.

Sanitary Cleaners has a history in Freeport that dates to 1887, when Maurice Hart and a partner started a laundry business. In 1895, the company was named Hart's Sanitary Laundry, and offered horse-drawn delivery.

The business moved to its present location on Exchange Street in Freeport in 1927, and was purchased by the Kirchberg family in 1942. The family added a coin-operated laundry and kept the business in the family until 1992.

Tom and Joanne Lammers then bought the business.

Sanitary Cleaners is open 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, and Saturday 8 a.m. to noon.

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