



## Sunday, August 8

6:00 p.m. Community Worship Service, "His Design"

## Monday, August 9

5:15-5:50 p.m. Children's Pedal Pull Registration  
 6:00 p.m. Midway Opens with Poor Jack Amusements  
 6:00 p.m. Art, Photography, & Tole Decorating  
 Exhibits in the White Building  
 6:00 p.m. Children's Pedal Pull  
 7:00 p.m. Antique Tractor Pull  
 7:30 p.m. Talent Contest

## Tuesday, August 10

8:00-11:30 a.m. Enter Home & Family Exhibits - White Bldg.  
 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Enter Agricultural Exhibits - Antique Pav.  
 6:00 p.m. Midway Opens with Poor Jack Amusements  
 6:00 p.m. Art, Photography, Tole Decorating  
 Home & Family Exhibits in White Bldg.  
 6:00 p.m. Agricultural Exhibits in the Antique Pav.  
 6:00 p.m. Antique Tractor Show behind the Antique Pav.  
 7:00 p.m. Out-of-Field Tractor Pull  
 7:00 p.m. Entertainment - K&C's Country Kickers  
 (behind Fair Board Food Building)  
 7:30 p.m. Variety Show

## Wednesday, August 11

8:30 a.m. Baby Contest Registration  
 9:00 a.m. Baby Contest Judging  
 Noon Midway Opens with Poor Jack Amusements  
 Noon Children's Day Parade Registration  
 1:00 p.m. Children's Day Parade  
 1:00 p.m. Art, Photography, Tole Decorating,  
 Home & Family Exhibits in White Building  
 1:00 p.m. Agricultural Exhibits in the Antique Pav.  
 1:30 p.m. Small Wonders Gymnastics  
 6:00 p.m. Antique Tractor Show behind the Antique Pav.  
 7:00 p.m. Horse Pull  
 7:00 p.m. Cornfield Cloggers  
 7:00 p.m. Ice Cream Crank-off in the Entertainment Pav.

# 65th Annual

STANDARD A  
 NONPROFIT ORG  
 CAR-RT SORT  
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
 MOORELAND, IN 47360  
 PERMIT #3



FREE FAIR, INC.

Aug. 9-14, 2004

# Bobetta Jester

*Along with her farm family  
 has many years serving fair*

When asked how she was doing, Bobetta Jester said: "When you've lived through two years with both of your children being in accidents like ours were, you can get through almost anything."

Their two children, Michelle and Rod, were in near-fatal crashes two years apart. "They were both 24," Bobetta remembers. In Michelle's wreck her husband of five years, Don Eddington, was killed. Michelle had a broken neck and wore a "halo" for three months. She





## Thursday, August 12

5:00 p.m.	Pork Chop Dinner in the Fair Board Food Bldg.
6:00 p.m.	Midway Opens with Poor Jack Amusements
6:00 p.m.	Art, Photography, Tole Decorating, Home & Family Exhibits in White Bldg.
6:00 p.m.	Agricultural Exhibits in the Antique Pav.
6:00 p.m.	Antique Tractor Show behind the Antique Pav.
6:15 p.m.	Magician Marcus Lehmann on Fairgrounds
7:00 p.m.	Cornfield Cloggers
7:00 p.m.	Magician Marcus Lehmann – Entertainmt. Pav.
7:00 p.m.	Truck Pull
8:00 p.m.	Small Wonders Gymnastics

## Friday, August 13

5:00-8:00 p.m.	Blood Drive in front of Merchants Building
6:00 p.m.	Midway Opens with Poor Jack Amusements
6:00 p.m.	Art, Photography, Tole Decorating, Home & Family Exhibits in White Bldg.
6:00 p.m.	Agricultural Exhibits in the Antique Pav.
7:00 p.m.	Indiana Super Farm Tractor Pull
7:00 p.m.	Cornfield Cloggers
7:15 p.m.	Gospel Concert

## Saturday, August 14

7:30-8:30 a.m.	Run Registration
8:30 a.m.	Mile Fun Run
9:00 a.m.	5K Run
10:00 a.m.	Run Awards
10:00-11:00 a.m.	Car Show Registration at Town Park
Noon	Midway Opens with Poor Jack Amusements
1:00 p.m.	Parade Line-up Begins
2:00 p.m.	Car Show Awards at Town Park
3:00 p.m.	Parade
4:00-5:30 p.m.	Pickup Home & Family Exhibits
4:00-6:00 p.m.	Pickup Art, Photography & Tole Decorating Exhibits
5:00-6:00 p.m.	Pickup Agricultural Exhibits
7:00 p.m.	Hoosier State Tractor Pull
7:30 p.m.	Queen & Princess Coronation
8:30 p.m.	Merchandise Drawings & Parade Results

[www.moorelandfair.com](http://www.moorelandfair.com)

gets along fine now and dances with the Cornfield Cloggers every year at the fair.

Rod's crash happened close to home. Bobetta was out picking green beans when she heard the ambulance stop. "The siren didn't pass.... Something just told me to go home," she recalls. Like Michelle, Rod was life-lined to Methodist Hospital with severe injuries. "Fortunately, he was by himself. Their second child was only three days old; she is 13 now."

Besides Megan, that 13-year-old, Rod and his wife Karla have Brittany, 16, and Kara, 8. Michelle married again and she and her husband, Mark Sheard, have two children; Amanda is 10 and Jake is 13, tall and a straight-A student. All of the children and grandchildren have been involved in the Mooreland Fair, especially in the Pet Parade. The Jester family floats are a tradition, most memorably with a farm theme, such as "Down on the Farm," featuring a red barn a few years ago, usually with Larry driving the tractor, or sometimes Rod or Mark. When they could, they repeated their entries in the Saturday parade.

Bobetta often works on floats for Young Moderns Home Economics Club too. She recalls "Years ago, we stuffed napkins in chicken wire while our kids beat up on each other." "I don't see how we did it!" At times there have been two floats housed on the Jester farm. There have been queen and princess cars to decorate, too. Daughter Michelle was Mooreland Fair Queen; her daughter, Amanda, is Princess now. Rod's daughters Megan and Kara have also been Princesses, and his older daughter, Brittany, is now the reigning Fair Queen.

As a member of Young Moderns, since Rod was a baby 38 years ago, Bobetta takes ride tickets one night at the fair. Although her main job, one she has maintained consistently for many years, is to assist Joyce Kirby in the Home and Family Exhibits. Bobetta's main area is crocheting and knitting. Exhibits are received from 8 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday. "It



*Bobetta Jester*

takes all day," Bobetta says, with judging in the early afternoon, the setting up the display with names and ribbons, usually finishing about 4 p.m. to be ready to open up for the public at 6 p.m.

Since the exhibits require supervision anytime they are open, Bobetta usually takes her turn one or two nights there. But Joyce Kirby gives her credit for quite a bit more than that. "We usually get ready on Saturday before the fair. Whenever you do it, you can always count on Bobetta to be there. And when we clean up on Saturday, she's always there, too, and stays until it's done. She is somebody you can always depend on."

Bobetta does handwork herself, mostly crocheting small items and wall hangings, but occasionally an afghan. She has sewn for years. "I used to make most of my kids' clothes, but people don't do that much anymore." She supposes that people today have less time for handwork, but that some men have taken up some of the crafts and "they're good at it."

Bobetta is remembered by many women around Mooreland for her skills as a beautician. Larry retired from General Motors in 1993 after 28 years with the company. Now they are farmers. Bobetta thinks about farm issues and can express informed opinions about them. She is very much involved with movements to educate the public about farming. For example, she has served Farm Bureau as district women's leader for six years.

*See Page 2, Bobetta Jester*



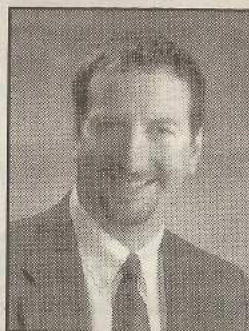
## Homeowner's Insurance Gone Up Again?



CHRIS LEWIS



TINA MOORE



SCOTT KOONTZ

Bring In Your Policy and Let Us Help You

**Koontz & Lewis**  
INSURANCE AGENCY



See you at the Fair!

## Bobetta Jester

*Continued from Page 1*

Some of the education takes place at the State Fair. There is a "hands on" area which shows the operation of a farm. Kids go in free, get an apron and a basket, collect farm items at each station, then trade them in for \$1 to spend at Marsh's grocery store. "Taste of Indiana Day" features food from Indiana. Bobetta's district is to prepare lamb this year. One year, she said, "we popped popcorn all day- if you just gave it out you wouldn't be able to smell it!"

Bobetta is very vocal about the need to teach children about farming. She says they don't even know where milk comes from. People have become far removed from farming, even in a rural area like this. She explains about the program, started 6 years ago to give all first-graders in Henry County a farm visit each year. They go to the Trennephol farm in shifts all day, with farm families like Larry and Bobetta and FFA students from the high schools helping. "We try to let them touch some animals."

The Jesters raise Holstein dairy beef steers. They buy feeder calves and feed them out. They raise corn, some of which is fed to the cattle supplemented by other feed. They also raise soybeans and still put out a garden, although, Bobetta says "not as much as when the kids were home. Larry's mother used to help pick sweet corn. You had to get up between four and five to pick for the stores. It was so wet in the field that you had wear rain gear."

Bobetta may have inherited some of the Fair tradition she is now passing along. Her mother, Margaret Marritt, who died three years ago, was an active part of the fair for many years, working on "Gingham Gal" projects and playing in the kitchen band.

The grandchildren are in 4-H in Henry County; Brittany won dairy beef grand champion twice, and four of the grandchildren are in dairy beef this year. Besides 4-H, and combined trips to destinations like Kings Island, Bobetta and Larry maintain their strong family emphasis by attending school activities of their grandchildren at Northeastern and Hagerstown, grandparents days, and band contests. Bobetta regrets missing the Pet Parade now that State Fair Band Day is in the middle of the Mooreland Fair. She still remembers making elephant ears when Rod was in band. And she still likes to get one from the band every year at the fair.

### Give Blood Save Lives



Mooreland Free Fair  
Blood Drive

Fri., Aug. 13, 5-8 p.m.  
Bloodmobile on Fairgrounds

For more information,  
contact Jodie Brown at 766-5304

Central Indiana  
Regional Blood Center



# Fair founder, Doc Brinson, dies

Once in a while, a rare while, there is a person whose accomplishments seem a little larger than life. Sometimes those accomplishments seem even more impressive after he is gone. In reviewing a life, one thinks, "I can't believe that person lived here, did all of those things, and that he touched so many lives, all the while living and working in such a small area and in such obscure places, by most standards, as Mooreland and Mt. Summit, but it happened."

Gaylord Alton "Doc" Brinson came to Mooreland from Purdue University, where he had achieved a good education in vocational agriculture and biochemistry. Mooreland was his first teaching job, Mt. Summit his second, Mooreland again his third, and Blue River Valley his last.

Brinson wasn't from around here at all; he was born near Madison, Indiana, and grew up there. It was there that he lost his mother at the age of six and his leg in a farm accident at the age of 10. He watched his mother die and he watched his dreams of being a great athlete disappear. But he won a judging contest and a scholarship to Purdue and readjusted his life goals to those which he could achieve. He met his future wife, Ruby Blanche Perkinson, and began a 70-year marriage in August, 1934.

Doc and Blanche set up housekeeping in Mooreland in 1935 for his first year of teaching. His competitive nature soon came to the forefront (where it remained for 37

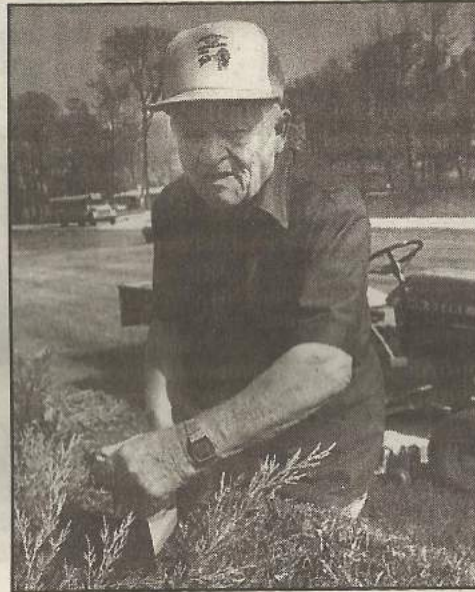
the work was done on a typewriter which was always on the table, except when there was a holiday dinner. The book is 200 pages, single-spaced in small type and quite an accomplishment for a person of any age, and certainly remarkable for a man in his nineties.

What else? Building and remodeling his own houses, building furniture and lab facilities for the schools, coaching and supporting athletic teams, establishing subdivisions and buying and selling land, at a profit, or sometimes donating it, raising tomatoes for roadside sale at his home on U.S. 36, and, probably best known, growing and selling lots of strawberries.

He was an inventor and held several U.S. Patents. He was one of the founders of the Rose Bowl and a key figure in the Blue River Valley Consolidation. His main point in that latter endeavor was to try to preserve the identity of the small towns. This was also his reason for doing something that still means a lot to us by starting the Mooreland Free Fair.

Mr. Brinson decided that Mooreland needed to revive a community event similar to the old Potato Day. In early spring of 1939 he sent out 30 cards asking people to a meeting about it; 21 of them came. They decided to bring in students. He started writing a book when he was 90 and finished it at 94; the names and credentials of every champion he ever coached are included in that book.

His two sons, two daughters,



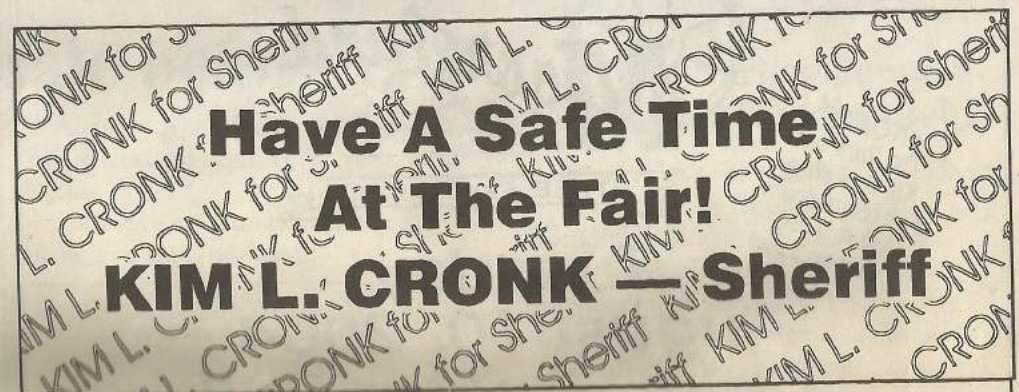
Gaylord 'Doc' Brinson

at least three rides, to make it at least a three-day fair, to use the school grounds, to make it free (since there was no fence around the school grounds to keep people out), and to call it "The Mooreland Free Fair."

At the second meeting, Brinson

was elected president of the Mooreland Free Fair Board. The first fair was held in August, 1939. "They came from miles and miles away. There were thousands." He was also president for the second and third Free Fairs, before the temporary halt during World War II.

Through the years, many newspaper articles chronicling the life and times of Gaylord Alton Brinson have been written, by such well-known local feature writers as Miles Marshall and Betty Giboney. One of his students, Tony Miller, wrote one, too. After Brinson's death at age 96 in April of this year, the Courier-Times published a tribute by Darrel Radford, also a former student. Although many of Doc Brinson's accomplishments are well documented, it is impossible to know just how far his influence has extended. We honor him now as "The Father of the Mooreland Free Fair."





agriculture students taking state and national prizes in crop and livestock judging. Doc never forgot those

grandchildren were also included in the book. One of the Brinson grandsons, Jay Bumbalough, says that

## *His Design to open fair Sunday evening*

His Design, a male quartet from Indianapolis, will sing at the community church service at 6 p.m. Sunday in the Entertainment Building. His Design features old-fashioned harmonies complemented by live music.

Moderating the event will be

Harry Holloway, minister of South Christian Church; ministers of other local churches will participate. A freewill offering will be received for the expenses of the singing group. Everyone is invited to enjoy an evening of gospel music and Christian fellowship.

# TRACTOR PULLS

## **AUGUST 13, 2004**

### **Friday, 7:00 p.m.**

**Indiana State Farm Pullers Assn. – ISFPA Rules**

**NOTICE: Tip Bars and Fuel Shut Down or Kill Switch A Must!**

**Weigh-in after 4:00 p.m. Pull at 7:00 p.m.**

**Pro Stock Diesel Trucks — Hot Farm — Super Farm**

Contact: Kenny Johnson (765) 766-5604, Kevin Smith (574) 223-3927

## **AUGUST 14, 2004**

### **Saturday, 7:00 p.m.**

**Hoosier State Tractor Pullers Assn. – HSTPA Rules**

**Weigh-in after 4:00 p.m. Pull at 7:00 p.m.**

**6000 lbs. Super Stock — 8000 lbs. Pro Stock**

Chairman Kenny Johnson (765) 766-5604

## **JEFFERSON TWP. COMMUNITY DAYS**

### **SULPHUR SPRINGS INDIANA**

**August 20th & 21st**

**Parade at 10 a.m. on August 21st**

**Call for info — 533-4195 & 755-3511**

## **BRENT GRIDER**

FOR

Henry Co. Coroner

Pd Pol Ad

## **Sprayed-On Truck Bed Liners**



**Protect your truck with the  
#1 SPRAYED-ON BED LINING  
system in the world.**

**PERMANENTLY PROTECTS  
AGAINST RUST  
AND CORROSION**

- Won't Peel, Crack or Warp
- Out Performs All Drop-In Liners
- Great for Boats, Trailers RV's, Jeeps, etc.
- Helps Keep Your Gear from Sliding
- Resists Abrasion, Even Under Heavy Use
- Not a Paint-Like Coating... Sprays on up to 1/4" Thick
- All Colors Available

**LIFETIME  
WARRANTY!**



**Rhino Linings®**

OF MUNCIE

## **284-8833**

**1/4 Mile East of State Road 3 on 400 South**