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La Grange weather enthusiast keeps site updated

By Andrea Uhde
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A picture of winter's first snow in Oldham County was on Allen Brown's Web site by 6:33 a.m. Nov. 7, complete with a summary of hazards it brought and high-wind alerts.

Brown, of La Grange, updates his site every day to let Oldham residents know about their local weather, which is often a tad different than Louisville's.

In September, he redesigned his site, <http://www.oldhamcountyweather.com> so he could add more observations ranging from weather and gardening to apple butter recipes and "just about anything else that strikes my fancy," he said.

"I stay away from politics and keep it a friendly place to visit," he added.

Over the last several months, other Oldham residents have submitted writings and photos for the site, and he said the site's traffic rose after The Courier-Journal's article in January.

"I don't even track hits, or visitors, any longer," he said. "If no one visited, I'd still do the site."

Brown is not a trained meteorologist, but he does have a weather station in the backyard of his home off U.S. 42. He measures everything from ultraviolet rays to wind speed and direction. The information is sent directly to a computer, which sends updates every five seconds.

The site also has a live view of his backyard, a five-day outlook and a map of weather advisories. He posts regular observations, including a photo of the first icicle in his pond on Dec. 1.

Oldham and Louisville's weather aren't always alike, Brown said.

"You can be in Louisville and the streets are dry, and they're icy out here," Brown said in his January interview. "Sometimes what we get out here is Southern Indiana's weather."

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