

# CENTER GROVE ICON

## BAKING BEYOND IMAGINATION

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April 15 - May 19, 2017



Clean record  
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Mother/daughter team LiYen and Elizabeth Johnson grow together  
as owners of Imagine Cupcakes and More PAGE 4

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Logan Bontrager.

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Bob Rohrman's **INDY**  
**HONDA**

## Athlete of the Month

### Logan Bontrager

By Rick Morwick

Logan Bontrager knows a little something about beating the odds.

So when the Center Grove High School senior predicts what might seem an unlikely state championship later this spring, it isn't empty talk.

It's the voice of experience.

"We feel pretty good," said Bontrager, a central performer on Center Grove's defending IHSAA state champion 1,600-meter relay team. "We expect to get back there and compete for the state championship."

A four-year standout on the boys track and field team, Bontrager runs the first leg of the Trojans' 1,600 relay -- which entered last year's IHSAA State Meet seeded seventh in that event.

By the end of the relay finals, the underdog Trojans were state champions. They won the race in a time of 3:18.66, nearly a full second ahead of runner-up Avon.

Talk about exceeding expectations. "We just knew that we had a chance to win it going in," Bontrager said. "We knew if we gave it our all, we could get it."

Bontrager has the same expectation for the relay this spring, despite a dramatic lineup change from last year's team.

Two of last year's relay members, Zak Smith and Jackson Hohlt, were lost to graduation. Besides Bontrager, the only returner is senior Tyler Boyer.

But no matter.

Bontrager's and Boyer's new relay

teammates, senior Trevor Hohlt (Jackson's younger brother) and junior Matt Fleener, are fleet-footed veterans who have made a seamless transition filling the void.

"The two individuals who have come on, they're relay hard workers, so it's been pretty easy," Bontrager said. "Everybody knows that they have a job to get done, and we just work hard at what we do."

Besides track, Bontrager is a standout on the Trojans' Class 6A state runner-up football team. An All-State Honorable Mention defensive back, he tallied 94 tackles his senior season for the Trojans, who lost a 16-13 overtime thriller against Carmel in the state championship game.

Bontrager, who also runs the 400-meter dash on the track team, credits being part of a winning football culture for a good measure of his track success. The head coach for both teams is Eric Moore, who has the distinction of having won team state championships at Center Grove in football and track and field.

"Coach Moore trains us really hard," said Bontrager, who plans to study business at Indiana University. "We know we're expected to train throughout the year and just work. We try to get ourselves in the best possible situation."

For Bontrager, preparation for track is almost as satisfying as competing in meets.

"Honestly, I just really like the camaraderie and the competitive nature of the sport," he said. "It's almost like all on you. You have to grind out and do it, pretty much."

### Contact the Editor

Have any news tips? Want to submit a calendar event? Have a photograph to share? Call Nicole Davis at 300-8782 or email her at news@myICON.info. Remember, our news deadlines are several days prior to print.



### Contact the Product Champion

Center Grove ICON reaches a vast segment of our community. For information about reaching our readers, call Haleigh Inscore at 300-8782 or email her at info@myICON.info.



### ATHLETE OF THE MONTH STATS

<b>NAME:</b> Logan Bontrager	<b>champion in the</b> 1,600 relay
<b>HIGH SCHOOL:</b> Center Grove	<b>OTHER VARSITY SPORTS:</b> Football
<b>YEAR:</b> Senior	<b>COLLEGE PLANS:</b> Major in business at Indiana University
<b>SPORTS:</b> Track & field	<b>FAVORITE MOVIE:</b> Stars Wars franchise
<b>EVENTS:</b> 1,600 relay, 400 run	<b>PARENTS:</b> John and Shanda Bontrager
<b>2016 HIGHLIGHTS:</b> Defending state, regional and sectional	

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Sgt. Justin Griggs.

Photo by Nicole Davis

## Justin Griggs

**Sgt. says public support, good coworkers and town growth make Bargersville PD the perfect job**

### BEHIND the BADGE

Compiled by Nicole Davis

When Sgt. Justin Griggs came to the Bargersville Police Department in 2009, he saw the town as an up and coming area.

"I wanted to get in on the ground level," he said.

Bargersville had seven full-time police officers when Griggs came onto the department. It has grown to 13.

"I work with a great group of guys," Griggs said, "and the public in Bargersville loves us. It's the perfect job."

Griggs grew up in Brown County. While attending Trine University, he applied for a job in law enforcement and was hired to the Nashville Police Department.

Griggs now resides in Bargersville with his wife, Hannah and two children. He is a defense tactics instructor, a general instructor, on the bike patrol unit and does forensic analysis for mobile devices on the Bargersville department. Promoted to sergeant in 2016, he is currently training with the department on the use of drones in search and rescue cases.

### What was your inspiration to become a police officer?

I have always wanted to help people. A lot of people think you have to be in fire or public service to help people, but there's a lot of different positions where you can have a direct effect on someone's life. I decided to analyze my skill-set and decided that law enforcement would be a good fit for me.

### What has been one of your most gratifying moments on the job?

I was able to assist in children that needed to be removed from a home and able to do so quickly. Usually it's a long process.

There was one situation where we were able to get them out and into a safe place quickly, and that was really gratifying.

### What aspect of the job do you find most challenging?

Everything is constantly changing. The laws are constantly changing. No two people are alike. So the most challenging thing is dealing with interpretation of the law and dealing with people with all different personality types.

### What do you enjoy doing in your off-time?

You can't make your job your life. You have to have healthy hobbies outside of your profession.

I enjoy Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, training and competition. I enjoy prospecting, gold panning. There is gold everywhere in Johnson County. Anywhere you have creek stone or granite, there is always gold. It's never a significant amount, but it's fun to do. I make maple syrup. Metal detecting is a really fun hobby. I enjoy going to yard sales, finding old yearbooks and I like to return those old yearbooks to the people that went to that high school. I really like flying drones, boxing, boating, scuba diving, riding ATVs, fishing, hiking (and) I collect coins. To the best of my knowledge, I operate the only mobile ice cream bike in Central Indiana. You might see me pedaling through the neighborhoods.

### What are your future goals, professionally or personally?

Personally, I'd like to have one more child. Professionally, I'd like to be chief of police. Before I retire, I'd like run for sheriff as well.

### What would you have done if you hadn't become a police officer?

Fireman.

## TWEET of the MONTH



"I am so proud to be a center grove debtone"



Madi  
@madirae13  
posted on Mar 24

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Elizabeth and Li-Yen Johnson.

Photos by Nicole Davis



## Baking *beyond imagination*

### Mother/daughter team LiYen and Elizabeth Johnson grow together as owners of Imagine Cupcakes and More

#### COVER STORY

By Nicole Davis

Elizabeth Johnson always dreamt of working in movies.

She made it.

But after 10 years of living in Los Angeles, working in post production for a large movie/television producer, she realized it had never made her happy. She returned to her Center Grove home and began to contemplate what to do from there.

"I was trying to find therapeutic ways to heal myself," she said. "I struggled a long time. I started baking and found it was really calming."

Fortunately, her mother, LiYen Johnson, had recently retired as Associate Superintendent of Indianapolis Public Schools. LiYen laughs that she was ready to go to the Caribbean, Florida or somewhere warm. Instead, she and her daughter decided to take a business adventure.

The mother/daughter team opened Imagine Cupcakes and More at 8914 S. Meridian St., Indianapolis, in February.

"I want to support her vision," LiYen said. "When we talked about how we want this store to be, because of my background as an educator, we want the store to be the center of family. When children come in, they can feel the wonder of imagination. She was insistent that the name of the store has to be something about imagination, how we inspire imagination."

LiYen moved to Indiana from Taiwan to go to college at Indiana University.

She said because of her background in special education, she quickly got a job teaching, in 1976. She worked as a teacher, became principal in 1990 and rounded out her 40-year career with IPS as assistant superintendent.

Growing up in Center Grove, Elizabeth graduated from Center Grove High School in 2000. She attended IU and moved to LA after.

The two now reside only half a mile from where Elizabeth grew up, not far from their store on S. Meridian Street.

"The most rewarding thing about this business, even though we are dead tired and exhausted at the end of the day, it has helped our relationship," LiYen said. "When she left, she was gone for 14 years. We almost had to re-establish our relationship. It's hard for me to see her as an adult, and I had to remind myself. We learn ways to support each other."

Elizabeth started her baking journey with a strawberries and cream cupcake, handing them out to friends who she said "were going gaga over them." She started creating more recipes, trial and error with the help of a lot of Youtube videos.

They keep the selection of cupcakes

and other baked goods small so that they can focus on quality while they grow the store. There's usually around four varieties of cupcakes plus cinnamon rolls. The store also sells Abbott's candies. The Strawberries and Cream cupcake is the best seller.

"This is our first time owning a business and it's a learning curve, for sure," Elizabeth said. "I think we're learning quickly, streamlining, trying to get ahead of the demand. Valentine's Day, we were not prepared. We had no idea. They cleaned us out of everything. We didn't have any milk

left, butter, eggs. We used every single bit. It was nonstop, amazing. We're hoping Easter and Mother's Day will be like that, too."

Currently, Elizabeth is the only baker and LiYen is the one running the front end of the store, but they are looking to

add another baker in the near future.

"We compliment each other," LiYen said. "She's the artistic person. I'm the business person. That's a good combination. I'm the one (saying) 'get it done.' She won't compromise on quality. I've learned to trust her artistic talent."

The Johnsons say the support from the community in the short time they've been open has been wonderful.

"People come in and tell us this community can use a store like this," LiYen said. "That is really encouraging. They want us to be successful. They give us ideas. Our success is their success."

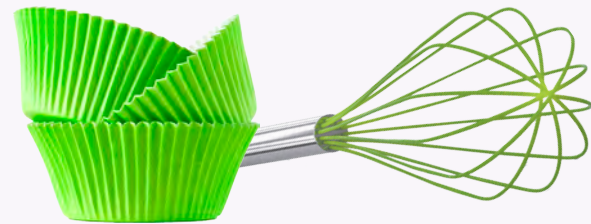
Among their biggest supporter is Southside Cigar & Tobacco, located in the same plaza.

"We come in every day and buy coffee and cupcakes," said Tom Gibson, employee of the cigar shop. "We want to have an excellent relationship with our partners in this complex. When she moved in, we wanted to not only support her in a friendship way, but by sending all the guys down to buy cupcakes. Our growth helps her growth and her growth will help ours. She's received us really well, too and has been a great support for us."

Southside Cigar & Tobacco is hosting Southside Scramble, a golf outing on May 21, 8 a.m. at Valle Vista Golf Club in Greenwood. Proceeds will benefit local nonprofits such as the Mount Pleasant Food Pantry, Healing Waters and Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Imagine Cupcakes will be there, passing out samples of cupcakes.

Elizabeth and LiYen now look to making the business a success.

"I'm so happy it has come to fruition," Elizabeth said. "I love the idea that the amount of hard work that we put in is directly correlated to what we get out of it... And I love making people happy. They seem really happy after they come in here."



## HISTORY & ARCHITECTURE

### New elementary school will create a new generation of memories

By Jeff Beck

I would like to share some history on the land that will become home for the new Center Grove Elementary School on Morgantown Road, west of Bargersville. As the population continues to grow in White River Township, many new residents are calling the southern third of our township, home.

On Sept. 27, 1919 my grandfather, Amzie Beck, purchased 160 acres of farm ground from Cordelia S. Harris. Landowners often divided their land holdings to children for their home or continued to be farmed, sometimes both. Cordelia, who was an unmarried lady who lived in Marion County at time, sold the farm instead. Amzie, purchased the entire 160 acres for \$28,000, which is \$175 per acre.

Amzie and his wife, Cova Jane, brought three children into the world: Agnes, John Earl and Grace. Agnes never married. John Earl married Ruth Grose Beck having one child, Jeff. Grace married Warren Whitmore, the couple had two children, Steve and Jan. Many generations of Beck family attended Center Grove schools. The Beck family farm was divided between Amzie and Cova's children upon their death.

The section of land where the new elementary will be built is land my father inherited. My mom was happy that part of Beck family farm was sold to cousin Mike Duke years earlier. This part eventually will be Center Grove's newest elementary school.

I spent many hours as a young man on the farm, hunting, trap-

ping and going on adventures that a young school boy enjoys. I learned quickly not to eat a green persimmon or come close to a skunk. I learned to drive on the long, narrow driveway going to my grandparents' home. A 1946 Jeep with three-speed, manual transmission was the vehicle I learned how to drive on. Steve also drove the Jeep, providing hours of learning and fun.

The farm also provided good teaching tools for learning work habits. I spent many hours sitting on a John Deere Tractor without air conditioning or power steering. A small tractor pulling a two-bottom plow and eight-foot disk was ready for the spring planting of corn and soybeans. Baling hay was also a task on the farm that was not enjoyed but had to be done. My father, John Earl, gave workers a choice of one penny per bale placed in hayloft of the barn or \$1 per hour. A normal day starting about noon and ending near supper time would generate 400 to 500 bales of hay if there were no equipment breakdowns. I always chose \$1 per hour, just in case of equipment failure.

Center Grove Schools provide many happy memories for the Beck Family. I know my parents would be especially happy that the land will become the home to new elementary school, and hopefully Cordelia would be happy also. I am looking forward to the start of construction and completion of the new school. My grandchildren will attend the new school - another generation of memories.



Jeff Beck is a lifelong Bargersville resident who has a passion for the history of the Center Grove area. He has authored the books, Bargersville and Center Grove: Unveiling the Past.



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## Getting to know Joel ...

### What's some advice you wish someone had given you when you were younger?

Lead yourself first and work on being self-aware. Leadership is nothing more than influence. If we don't take care of ourselves and make sure that our houses are in order, we will have trouble positively leading others.

### In your school-age years, is there a person who had a significant impact on you? Who and why?

Certainly my parents, and I had an older brother and sister who all set good examples for me. My father set an excellent example of working hard, being professional and respectful.

I do look back and have to give a lot of credit to Tom Dirks, who was the band director at Center Grove, who instilled a lot of discipline. Being successful takes hard work and you have to be committed to that. Marching band was 3:15 to 5:30 after school everyday. There were times we would practice one step multiple times until we got it perfect. Looking back, that hard work and discipline he instilled in us has helped me be successful today. You can't cheat success.

Mike Dutton, the first fire chief of the White River Township Fire Department. He gave me my first performance evaluation. I remember how hard he was on me. I thought it was pretty bad, but it was all true. It really helped me be self-aware.

### What do you do in your free time?

I enjoy reading, usually non-fiction, biographies, about Civil War and leadership in general. I like to travel and vacation with my family. We enjoy the parks and recreation here at Plainfield and the trails.

### What are some goals you'd like to accomplish in the coming years?

Finish up my masters degree. I'm currently taking classes at IUPUI in criminal justice and public safety. Goals here for the fire territory are to stay focused and build up our Emergency Medical Services programming. We're looking at some new ways of delivering emergency medical care to our community.



Joel Thacker settles into his new role as Plainfield Fire Chief.

Photo by Nicole Davis

## Prepared for Plainfield

### Center Grove graduate Joel Thacker casts a vision for the future as new chief of the Plainfield Fire Territory

#### WHERE ARE THEY NOW

By Nicole Davis

Joel Thacker has his hands full as new fire chief of the Plainfield Fire Territory. They are building two new fire stations and in the midst of planning the 2018 budget cycle. He's looking to start community-based CPR and AED programming, while getting to know the people in the town better.

Thanks to the guidance of current administration and his extensive background in fire and emergency services, the Center Grove alumni said he feels well-prepared to handle everything.

Thacker grew up in the Center Grove suburb of Greenwood. Throughout high school, he was involved in the marching band. The band was state champion in '89 and '91 and runner-up in '88 and '90.

In the spring of 1989, Thacker was in a serious car accident.

"I remember being cared for by the fire department," he said. "I saw one of the individuals at the library. We talked about the fire department and he suggested I join the cadet program... That was the start of my career in fire service."

Thacker served as an Explorer for the Johnson County Sheriff's Department and cadet for the White River Township Fire Department (WRTFD). After graduating from Center Grove High School

in 1992, he started working for Myers Ambulance Service, serving Greenwood and Southern Marion County, for two years. He started taking fire classes in the evenings. In 1995, he started working for Wishard Ambulance Service as an EMT and taking paramedics classes, all the while working part-time for WRTFD.

The first five full-time firefighters were hired to WRTFD in 1999, and Thacker was among them. He remained with White River Township until 2012, serving as a lieutenant, battalion chief, training chief and chief of administration.

He briefly served as fire chief in Columbus, Ind., before going to Brownsburg in September 2012 to serve as assistant fire chief. In October, 2015, Thacker transferred to Plainfield as division chief of division and administration. On Jan. 9, he was sworn in as the fire chief.

"The role of the fire chief is leading the organization, casting a vision and I love that," he said. "I have really enjoyed working here."

He and his wife, Julie, have two children: Elaina, 23 and Aidan, 12. The family moved to Plainfield, and Julie took a job with its school corporation.

Thacker said one of his goals is to be a community fire chief, so that the people in the community know they can stop in and talk to him.

The Plainfield Fire Territory has three fire stations. Two of those stations will be replaced with new buildings.

"There is so much growth in Plainfield," he said. "I really appreciate how the council, the former town manager, laid out the vision for the Town of Plainfield. There is potential for growth in the future. It's a diverse community, from an emergency response standpoint. We have our residential core area of town. We have a large commercial/industrial base. We have a prison system over here. We have the transportation corridor, the I-70 interstate and being close to the airport. There's a variety of things we have to be prepared for."

Prepared, they will be. Thacker said the overarching goal is simply, continue to build on the foundation the fire territory has already laid down.

"I set some expectations for the men and women here: to stay focused on our mission," he said. "Protect the lives and property of citizens, visitors and neighbors of the town of Plainfield and Guilford Township. It's really to ensure our men and women are taken care of, that they have the best equipment and training possible so when they bell goes off and we're called to duty, they are fully prepared to handle anything that comes out way."

# ICONography



## Finishing with STEAM

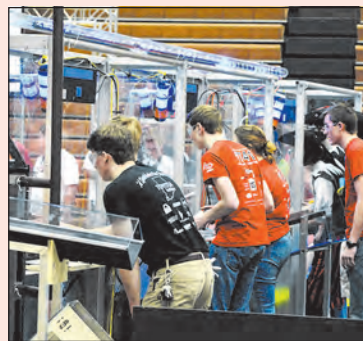
### Center Grove's Red Alert Robotics takes a trip to the state championship

By Nicole Davis

Center Grove's Red Alert Robotics had a chance to compete close to home on March 23 and 25 during the First Robotics match at Perry Meridian High School. In order to win, teams were required to face nearly 40 other teams from across Indiana in a series of qualification matches. The game this year, FIRST STEAM-WORKS, creates three-team alliances who compete to score points in various ways. Red Alert qualified for the State Championship on April 7 and 8 in Huntington, Ind. The team successfully made it to the finals, but did not qualify for the world championship.

*Center Grove's Red Alert advanced to the state competition during a qualification match on March 23 to 25.*

*Photos by Nicole Davis*



## POWER OF INNOVATION



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### PLENARY SESSIONS



#### The Power of Innovation in Action - Tatiana Kovalou & Brenda Baily-Hughes

Innovation: a mighty tool that fosters new ideas, increases employee satisfaction, and keeps you one-step ahead in a competitive market. No one questions the value of innovation. But HOW do we stir our creative juices in order to innovate? How do we convince others that our innovations are great ideas worth an investment of time and resources? Join us in this fun, highly interactive session to experiment with two specific design thinking tools proven to flex your creative muscles. Practice and get immediate feedback on your influence skills.



#### How to Build an Innovative Culture - Jeb Banner

Jeb Banner is CEO and co-founder of SmallBox, an Indianapolis-based creative consultancy founded in 2006 as well as CEO and co-founder of Bearable, a board management software company founded in 2016. Jeb is the founder of Musical Family Tree, a nonprofit dedicated to spreading Indiana music, as well as a co-founder and past chair of the Speak Easy, an entrepreneurial co-working nonprofit located in Indianapolis. Jeb will share how he has embraced innovation across multiple business arenas.



#### Embrace Your Inner Weirdo - INDYPROV

INDYPROV is Indianapolis only Emmy-nominated improv comedy troupe. This group will engage the audience with a training on how to apply improv techniques to help your team be more creative and solve problems differently. A fun and interactive way to finish a day of pushing outside your comfort zone.

Power of Innovation Leadership Symposium will also include an opportunity to choose between four break-out sessions throughout the day. Lunch is provided. For more information, please contact Kelsey Kasting at [kkasting@franklincollege.edu](mailto:kkasting@franklincollege.edu) or visit our website at [www.leadershipjohnsoncounty.org](http://www.leadershipjohnsoncounty.org)



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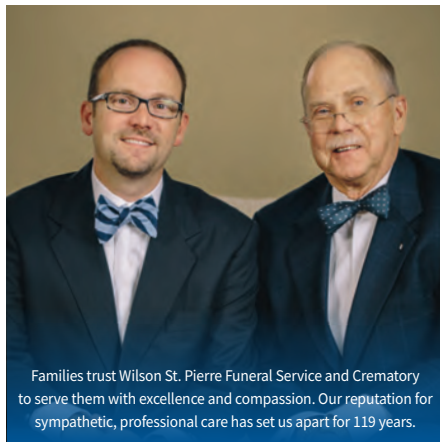
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## Alzheimer's disease brain diabetes

### FEATURE

By Wendell Fowler

Early in childhood, you begin designing the blueprint for your future mental health. The quality of the food you eat today determines what your brain may or may not be able to do in the future. Your temple's brain needs fertilizing just like colorful spring flowers. Alzheimer's Association says more than 5 million Americans are living with the disease.

It takes a lifetime of poor eating habits and lack of exercise for inflammatory disease to take root. Alzheimer's disease is not a normal part of aging. Alzheimer's is a disease of lifestyle, a processed diet lacking plant food and lack of physical activity.

The same pathological process that leads to insulin resistance and type 2 diabetes may also hold true for your brain. Alzheimer's is a brain form of diabetes. Insulin plays a big role in helping the brain take up sugar from the blood. Over-indulge in sugar and processed grains, your brain becomes overwhelmed by consistently high levels of insulin and eventually shuts down its insulin signaling, leading to impairments in your thinking and memory abilities, and eventually causing permanent brain damage.

Researchers believe vitamin deficiency plays a big role, specifically magnesium, B-12, folate, A, omega-3 and D-3. A plant

foods diet has an inflammatory component in fruits and leafy green vegetables that provide folic acid and other B vitamins to help your temple to reduce homocysteine levels. The National Institute on Aging report warns high homocysteine levels may double risk of dementia and Alzheimer's disease. Statin Drugs are shown to increase dementia risk too. *Oh my!*

Rates of Alzheimer's are four times higher in America than India. Elderly villagers in India have one of the world's lowest rates of Alzheimer's; the reason may be the turmeric in their daily curries. Turmeric is strongly anti-inflammatory. The Journal of Neuroscience had also previously published turmeric reduce plaques in the brain.

Shoot for at least three servings of whole grains a day, six servings of leafy greens a week plus one other veggie serving a day, two servings of berries a week, one serving of fish a week, three servings of legumes a week, and five servings of nuts a week

Nibble fast or fried foods and cheese less than once a week, red meat less than four times a week. Eat desserts, pastries or sweets less than five times a week. Thirty minutes of daily physical exercise lowers the risk of developing Alzheimer's by up to 50 percent.

Life is sacred and fleeting. It's clear: *you* control your destiny.



### Senior Helpers - Greenwood awarded Best of Home Care

**Excellence** - Senior Helpers-Greenwood has received the distinguished Best of Home Care Leader in Excellence Award from Home Care Pulse, the leading firm in quality assurance for home care. The Leader in Excellence Award is the highest recognition awarded by Home Care Pulse. This award is given to select home

care businesses that consistently rank among the very highest in 15 or more quality metrics. As a Leader in Excellence, Senior Helpers-Greenwood is now ranked among the top 4-5 percent of home care providers participating in the Home Care Pulse Satisfaction Management Program. Senior Helpers received high client and caregiver satisfaction ratings in areas such as caregiver training, compassion of caregivers, communication, scheduling, and client/caregiver compatibility.





## Team USA Power Soccer Exhibition Game

**WHEN:**  
April 29, 1 - 5 p.m.

**WHERE:**  
Mount Pleasant  
Christian Church  
Community Life Center  
407 N. Bluff Rd.  
Greenwood.

**INFO:**  
mpcc.info  
powersoccerusa.org



Left, top, Team USA won its second World Cup in 2011. Photo courtesy of Chris Williams Left, bottom, Surrounded by his team, Archer holds the World Cup in 2011. Submitted photo Right, Greenwood's Michael Archer has played power soccer since 2004. Photo by Nicole Davis

# Journey to the final goal

## Greenwood's two-time champion Michael Archer joins Team USA at the third Powerchair Football World Cup

**FEATURE** By Nicole Davis

Greenwood resident Michael Archer is the only member of Team USA preparing to play for the third time in the World Cup Power Soccer championship games. He is also planning for it to be his last.

"One of the things we were taught, it is about the final goal, but savor all the memories on the journey to the final goal," he said. "I'm looking forward to the final journey."

A graduate of Greenwood Community High School and Purdue University, Archer always enjoyed sports. He was born with arthrogyrosis, a stiffness on his joints which restricts his movement. He used to play Challenger Baseball, designed for youth with special needs.

While attending his sister's T-ball practice, a parent asked Archer if he'd ever heard of power soccer, the first and only competitive team sport developed for power wheelchair users. He said no, and agreed to go watch a practice.

"From there, I just fell in love," he said.

Power soccer is usually in a gymnasium on a basketball court. Two teams of four players attack, defend, pass and spin-kick a

13-inch soccer ball.

Archer joined the local team, Circle City Rollers, in 2004. Four Championship Cup competitions are held annually in the U.S., sponsored by MK Battery. Since Archer's time playing, Circle City Rollers has won six championships.

In 2006, he was selected to become a member of Team USA. Players for Team USA are selected from the more than 60 club teams in the nation. He trained for a year and a half before traveling to Tokyo, Japan for the first Powerchair Football World Cup.

"We were the underdog," Archer said. "France was our biggest rival. We beat France in the finals, in sudden death penalty kicks, to win the World Cup."

Archer said being selected to represent his country in a sport he could play was a great honor.

"One of my favorite moments is the very first goal I scored," he said. "It was in about 20 seconds. There was a foul. It was close to their goal. My teammate kicked the ball to me. I did a big, 180 degree kick and it went in the goal. Seeing the fans stand up, cheer 'USA, USA,' it gives me chills now."

He was selected again for Team USA, this time as team captain, for the World Cup in Paris, France in 2011. Again, Team USA came out victorious.

Three years ago, he was selected for his third time on Team USA to be held this July 5 to 9 in Kissimmee, Fla. Those interested can watch World Cup games live at [livestream.com/powersoccershop/2017FIPFAWorldCup](http://livestream.com/powersoccershop/2017FIPFAWorldCup).

Team USA consists of 12 players from across the country; five are from Indiana. Eight players will travel to the World Cup. The team holds its training camps in different states throughout the years, and the next one is in Greenwood from April 27 to 29. The team will play exhibition games open to the public at Mount Pleasant Christian Church's Community Life Center, 407 N. Bluff Rd., Greenwood on April 29, 1-5pm.

"I would encourage people to come out to raise awareness in what this sport is about," Archer said. "We take a lot of pride. You don't just get in your chair and kick a ball around. This takes a lot of time, dedication and a lot of skill for the athlete to control the chair, make quick decisions on their own to maneuver the ball around and score."

## Center Grove News Quiz

How well do you know your Center Grove community? Test your current event knowledge each month with a little Q&A!

**1** Imagine Cupcakes was started by Center Grove graduate Elizabeth Johnson and her mother Li Yen Johnson. Where did Li Yen retire from?



- A. Roselyn Bakery  
 B. Franklin College  
 C. Indianapolis Public Schools  
 D. Warner Brothers

**2** Center Grove alumnus Joel Thacker is now the fire chief for the Plainfield Fire Territory. What extracurricular did he participate in during his high school years?

- A. Basketball  
 B. Marching Band  
 C. FIRST Robotics  
 D. CPR Training

**3** The Center Grove area has many run/walk events coming in the near future. What is not the title of an established Greenwood event?



- A. Rock the Block  
 B. Race for an Orphan  
 C. 5K and Fun Run  
 D. Center Grove Step-Off 10K

**4** April 29, Mount Pleasant Christian Church will be home to the next exhibition games for Team USA in which sport, designed for people with disabilities who use power wheelchairs.

- A. Basketball  
 B. Soccer  
 C. T-ball  
 D. Golf

**5** Chuck Horsman, of Center Grove, will have two local art exhibits in April featuring. What type of art does Horsman create?

- A. Oil Paintings  
 B. Sculpture  
 C. 3-D Art  
 D. Sketches



ANSWERS ON PAGE 23

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## BREAKING OUT OF THE BLOCK



Greenwood artist Chuck Horsman exhibits his oil paintings at two open houses in April

**FEATURE**

By Nicole Davis

Starting over after a 20-year hiatus wasn't easy, but it's begun to pay off.

A year since Chuck Horsman began marketing his oil paintings, he's found opportunities to participate in art galleries, won the 2016 Mallow Run Winery Label contest, Best of Show Patron Show with the Brown County Art Guild in January and sold many paintings and prints. He'll stay busy this April as the featured artist at Southside Art League (SALI) and with the Stutz Artists Open House on April 28 and 29.

Horsman grew up on the Southside of Indianapolis, attending St. Roch grade school and Roncalli High School.

"I always felt like I was creative," Horsman said. "I could always draw really well. I drew comic books at an early age... I always felt I would be in the art field somehow."

He earned a fine arts degree from University of Indianapolis. After college, he started working in graphic design for agencies and then a magazine publisher. He married his wife, Heidi, in 1991. They moved to the Center Grove area in 1999 where they raised their children, Ben and Darby.

He started his graphic design company, Chuck Horsman Design, in 2002, creating promotional products.

Over time, he got away from painting but the desire to pick it back up was ever-lingering.

"At least five times a year, I would tell my wife I should start painting again," Horsman said. "She'd always say, 'well, start painting.' The longer you don't do it, you don't know where to start. You are out of practice. It took awhile to go and get some supplies and start painting, and realize those first several paintings are going to be horrible."

He began painting again three years ago, beginning with a piece that he started in 1988 and never finished. He

said he loves portraits and painting people with interesting faces. His favorites have changed throughout time. A portrait of Abraham Lincoln was one of his firsts, with tiny details such as pennies and soldiers incorporated into it. Then came a four-foot by four-foot portrait of Steve Jobs. His favorite right now is an image of Lady Liberty.

"When I was young, I tried to paint more realistic and tried to paint to other people's styles that I like," Horsman said. "Starting over, I'm more interested now in capturing the feel of something without painting it exactly. I want you to look at it and know who/what it is. But I like there to be interesting brush strokes and things in there without it being a photographic depiction of it."

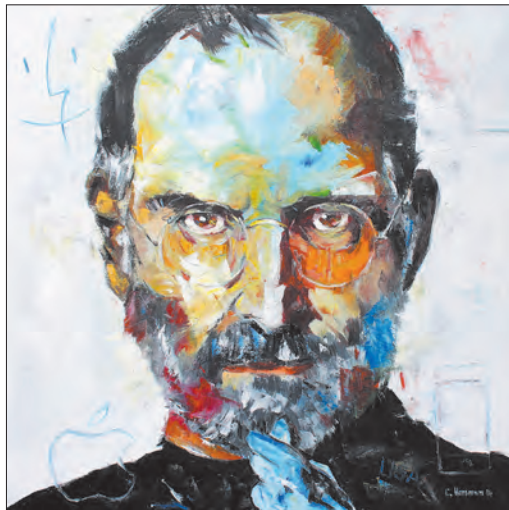
There's a process to each painting. He starts by sketching out the image, adds blocks of colors then goes in and paints.

"When I'm done with the brush strokes, it looks too tight to me," he said. "It doesn't interest me. When I'm able to then mess things up with the palette knife, that's where it gets fun. That's where I add my style into it."

When he started feeling comfortable with his work and accumulated enough of it, he started to market it. He has an office at the Stutz building for his graphic design business and through that, was able to participate in his first Artists Open House in April 2016.

When he learned of the Mallow Run Winery Label "2016 Art Uncorked" contest, he decided to paint a landscape. He drove around Bargersville, until he settled on an image of a water tower.

"A water tower is not real interesting," Horsman said. "I thought it was a good subject but it had to have something different in it. If you look closely, there's some graffiti on it. I added some orange to the top to make it look like the sun was beating down on it. I painted it pretty quick and was happy with it, but I



From left, Abraham Lincoln, Lady Liberty and Steve Jobs are among Horsman's favorite paintings. **Submitted photos**

didn't think it would win. I didn't know if they would like the style or subject matter. It worked out well."

In September, Horsman was selected as the winner of this fifth annual wine label contest. Through that, he was introduced to the Greater Greenwood Arts Council where he is now a member and will serve with the group helping to bring in artwork for the next wine label contest and Art for the Ages Show.

In December, he participated in a holiday art show at the Stutz building. In January, he earned Best of Show with the Brown County Art Guild for his portrait of Kurt Cobain.

Horsman has his work for sale online,

chuckhorsmanart.com, and locally at ProArt Gallery in Greenwood. He recently became a member of SALI, where he will have 20 to 25 paintings displayed and for sale, 299 E. Broadway St., Greenwood, now through April 27. The gallery is open Wednesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. His open house is April 14, 6 to 8 p.m.

The Stutz Artists Open House on April 28 and 29 will mark a year since his first showing.

"It will be a good gage in what I've learned in a year," Horsman said. "I got to a level where I think I could put it out there and sell it quicker than I thought I would when I first started. This year has already started out well."

## MEET THE ARTIST: CHUCK HORSMAN



Heidi and Chuck Horsman. **Submitted photo**

### Stutz Artists Open House

**WHEN:** April 28, 5:30 - 10:30 p.m.  
and April 29, 2 - 7 p.m.

**WHERE:** Stutz Business and Arts Center,  
212 W. 10th St., Indianapolis.

**COST:** \$12 advance; \$16 at the gate;  
children 12 and under free.

**INFO:** [stutzartists.com/openhouse.html](http://stutzartists.com/openhouse.html)

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# Making a splash

## Adults now have a place to swim as a team with Masters USA swim club at Center Grove High School

**FEATURE**

By Nicole Davis

Isaiah Tworek, Miranda Tworek and Chris Cuadros all swam in their school-age years. Picking the sport back up as an adult was not so easy, as pool accessibility was limited and there was no personal accountability.

The three friends officially started the Center Grove Aquatics Club USA Masters swim club, for adults 18 and older, in January. Now with more than 25 members, they are looking to continue to grow the club and offer adults a place to swim for recreation or to compete.

"You throw that team aspect in any sport and you will get motivation and inspiration," Isaiah said. "Swimming is an individual sport, but the team makes the sport."

Practices take place at the Center Grove High School pool, Tuesdays, 4:45 - 5:45 a.m.; Wednesdays, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m.; Thursdays, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m.; and Saturdays, 6 - 7 a.m.

Isaiah and Miranda, Perry Township residents, are both full-time social workers. Isaiah is Center Grove middle school head coach for boys swimming and coach for the Center Grove Aquatic Club. He received permission to swim in the mornings and was soon joined by his wife, Miranda.

"We swam for a about year before Chris started, but with no constancy," Isaiah said. "There was no accountability."

Cuadros' children swim in the aquatics club. He joined the Tworeks during their morning swims nearly a year ago. As word spread of the morning workouts, people

began asking to join, but they couldn't for insurance and liability purposes. That's when the three friends decided to start the Masters USA club.

"We realized there were some Masters programs in Carmel or near IUPUI, but nothing in Johnson County," Isaiah said. "When the parents started asking and word started getting around, that's when it bloomed."

The practices are set up so that two lanes are open swim, the next three lanes are "level one," and the final three lanes are for the more advanced swimmers.

"It's exciting because their kids might swim together, but they can come together as adults and have that support, accountability and community," Miranda said. "There's nothing like it, unless you go 45 minutes north. There are a lot of people, myself included, where a low impact sport is helpful. It's a great sport for the community, longevity wise. It caters to anyone from 18 to 80 years old."

Cuadros said the benefit to being a Masters club, is having the coaches there to write out workout routines, observe and give tips.

"We all have backgrounds in swimming and coaching," Cuadros said. "Workouts are challenging. Each workout has a specific goal. For example, we did a breathing set the other day, trying to extend your breathing past every other stroke. Part of our success so far, we're not just throwing this together. We're putting together a quality program for the swim community."

For more information, visit [f/groups/CGACMasters](https://www.facebook.com/groups/CGACMasters).



Top, From left, Chris Cuadros, Isaiah Tworek and Miranda Tworek. Bottom, Casey Hedeem, a Center Grove alumna, starts off her practice swimming laps with a paddle board.

Photos by Nicole Davis

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## Activities promote early literacy at JCPL

**Reading** - The new Play and Learn Kits at the Johnson County Public Library are filled with early literacy toys and activities to help children prepare to read. All the games and activities are designed by trained librarians to stimulate and enhance the skills each child will use when they are ready to learn to read. These kits promote early literacy by incorporating the five Every Child Ready to Read practices: talking, singing, reading, writing and playing. Each kit has four to five educational and interactive items for parents to play with their children while at the library. The themes are always changing - learn about construction, weather, music, colors, shapes and the alphabet.

## Youth Connection seeks host homes

**Youth** - Youth Connections is seeking volunteer families or single individuals in Johnson or Morgan County who are willing to open their homes to a youth in need. Youth, ages 7-18, may stay in a host home up to 21 days until they can be reunited with family or moved to a more permanent location. The Host Home program is not the same as Foster Care due to the short duration of time involved. To become a host home, passing a background check which includes fingerprints, sexual registry and driving record is required. A home inspection is also required and while a youth does not have to have a private room, they do require a bed. For more information or to apply to be a Host Home Contact Dawn LaPlante, Host Home Program Coordinator (317) 738-3273 ext.104 or dawn@youthconnections.org.



## Well Run

### Second annual Rock the Block Run/Walk to benefit 26 local Johnson County nonprofits

#### FEATURE

By Nicole Davis

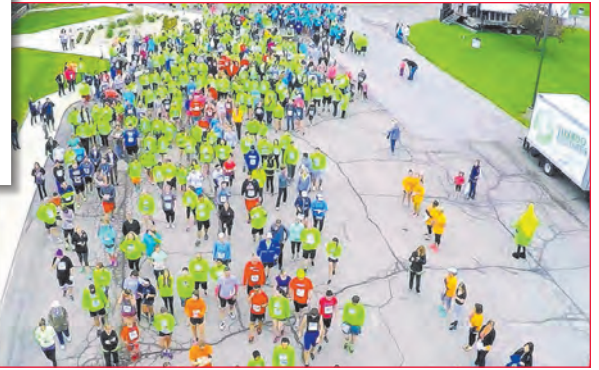
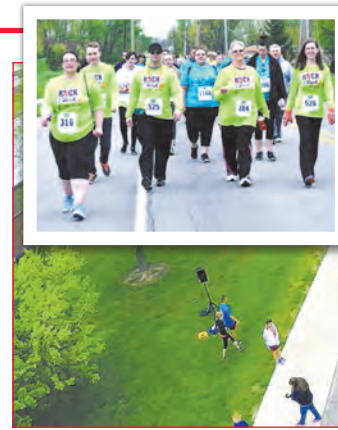
The race is on. As runners, and walkers, lace up their shoes and prepare for the 5 or 10K run, 26 local charities are competing for a percentage of the proceeds from the second annual Rock the Block Run.

Rock the Block offers a 5K, 10K, Kids Run plus vendors, live music (including local Center Grove youth) and other entertainment afterwards. This year's event is April 22, starting at 8:30 a.m. Cost to register until the day before is \$30, or \$35 the day of, on-site.

The first Rock the Block in 2016 benefited 15 charities and had approximately 1,200 people in attendance.

"The event was a culmination of wanting to find a way to give back to the Center Grove community and give back in the broadest way possible," said Erin Smith, one of the event's founders.

A committee got together over the summer to figure out how to expand the race, and decided to add to the number of chari-



A view from above of the 2016 Rock the Block. **Photo courtesy of Soar Above Media** Inset, scene from the 2016 Rock the Block. **Photo courtesy Simon Morse**

ties which will benefit from the event. The nonprofits compete against one another by seeing who can get the most people registered. Every participating charity will receive a check back after the event.

"I love the competition all the way around, but my favorite part is giving away the money," Smith said. "It is so energizing to know that there are so many good things that people want to do. Our talent and our time is really important in all of that, but many times it does take money, to buy certain things, to make programs continue to grow, to invest in technology and things like that. To be able to write those checks and see the positive outcomes that come from that is the most

exciting part for me."

Currently, 126 volunteers are signed up to help with the event.

"The biggest compliment we got last year," Smith said, "from Tuxedo Brothers who runs hundreds of races, they couldn't believe our volunteer network and how much they listened to the instructions, how accommodating they were, to make sure your run is really, no pun intended, well run. If you don't have those kinds of people willing to do that for you, the experience for everyone else is not the same."

The event has already been such a success, the date is already set for next year: April 21, 2018. For more information, visit [rocktheblockrun.org](http://rocktheblockrun.org).

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OUR VIEW



## Celebrating Autism Awareness Month

Autism, a mental condition that is identified by difficulty in communicating, forming relationships with others and with language, is said to be present in nearly two percent of the U.S. population.

While the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention state that one in 68 children are on the autism spectrum, a government survey released in 2015 suggested the number is actually one in 45 children from ages 3 to 17 who have been diagnosed.

April is Autism Awareness Month, focusing on the people, programs and services that make a difference to those affected by autism.

There are some great organizations locally offering services to families in Johnson County, and beyond - from the Cornerstone Autism Center to the Johnson County Autism Support Group (JCASG). JCASG is gearing up for its annual summer camp, Camp Can Do, to take place in the month of June. The camp, for youth ages 12 to 18 on the autism spectrum, will offer traditional camp activities by trained staff and incorporate life skills in a fun learning environment. For more info, visit [jcasg.com/camp-can-do](http://jcasg.com/camp-can-do).

Did you know - the symbol for autism is a ribbon with puzzle pieces on it? It supposed to reflect the complexity of Autism Spectrum Disorder, showing that every piece is different and represents each diagnosed individual. So this month, take a moment to get to know this disorder which has grown to be so common in our society, and get to know the individuals it affects.

BELIEVE IT!

**Our nation has all sorts of arcane, nonsensical laws on the books. Each issue, we'll share one with you ...**

In Oregon, babies may not be carried on the running boards of a car.

SOURCE: [dumblaws.com](http://dumblaws.com)

# Easter Promise



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## Daily deals offer bargains for stupid stuff

HUMOR

By Gus Pearcy

So many Internet sites offer deep discounts on items that obviously did not sell well at regular retail. I often wonder what was the process of coming up with these "sure-fire" products that are now worth pennies on the dollar.

These sites offer fantastic deals on stuff you never knew you needed. But Oh! The prices! It's just too good to pass up. Everyone should try some peppered maple bourbon. A six pack is just \$50. Wow!! Need your ducts cleaned? There are at least 44 offers for duct and vent cleanings where you can find that bazooka-shooting green army guy you lost in 1977. I never heard of duct cleaning before 2001. Why are all of our ducts so dirty? Nevermind, the deal of the day is duct cleaning; regularly \$290 for an average sized home, but on the Deal of the Day site you can get it for \$49. That's a savings of... I don't know, but it's a lot of money you just saved for duct peace of mind.

How about a pet hammock? Yup, just \$24.99 for a blanket with elastic straps that you can attach to your car seat so Fido has a comfortable ride to the pound.

Have you ever mixed up your clothes with someone else at your home? It can happen easily in a shared closet space. Well, fear no more, personalized wooden hangars, with your name emblazoned on them are only \$5. That's a significant savings from the regular \$25 price. (Note: Any name over three letters will incur an extra charge, except if your name is Jessica as pictured in the photograph.)

Whoa, I just saw 86 percent off online ukulele lessons.

There is also a 50 percent off deal for an online concealed gun carry course. This seems extravagant at even a mere \$25. I can sum up the course in one sentence: Hide the gun!

Want to be the hit of the summer party scene? Then you must get a pair of these Wayfarer-style sunglasses with a built-in beer bottle opener in the right temple. Only \$5.99! Hopefully, you won't uncork your ear in the process. It might get old opening everybody's beers.

"Hey, Uncle Ken! Do that trick again with your Wayfarer rip-off sunglasses!"

Remember, if your order is more than \$35 you can get a remote-control zombie free of charge. Only \$6.99 for shipping and handling.

I'll admit, I have ordered from some of these sights and haven't been seriously disappointed. For fun, I throw in the "Mystery" box for .99 cents once in a while. This box contains the real dregs of product hell. Almost all of it is useless, except the Duck Dynasty air freshener I got one time. It was shaped like one of the people on the show.

Daily deals aren't really deals. It's just where bad products go to die.



Gus Pearcy is a contributing columnist to the Center Grove ICON. He may be reached at (317) 403-6485 or [pearcy.gus@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pearcy.gus@sbcglobal.net). Gus blogs frequently at [guspearcycommunications.wordpress.com](http://guspearcycommunications.wordpress.com).

OUR VIEW

## The greenest month of the year

April may be the most environmentally-conscious time of the year. We celebrate Earth Day April 22 and Arbor Day April 28 (the last Friday of the month). In addition, many residents will be out reviving their gardens with rich soil and bee-loving flowers.

But tilling the soil barely scratches the surface when it comes to protecting our environment.

There are many ways to "go green," and Johnson County offers ample opportunity to do so.

Instead of throwing away harmful waste that might contaminate our air, water and soil, Go Green with Geek in Pink. The computer repair shop, 4800 W. Smith Valley Rd., Greenwood, will hold its semi-annual recycling event this April. Geek in Pink is accepting both working and non-working computers, tablets, cell phones, and small electronics for recycling. Geek in Pink will destroy the data on your recycled devices by request at no charge. For full details about Geek in Pink's recycling event, visit [geekinpink.com/recycle](http://geekinpink.com/recycle).

If you do prefer digging in the soil, don't miss Recycle Johnson County's Earth Day Festival on April 22 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Province Park and the Urban Forest in Franklin. There will be water testing demonstrations, animal talks, upcycling projects, pollinator presentations, and tree seedling giveaways. There will also be a native plant sale (\$5/plant) with plants from Eco Logic. There will be the rain barrels decorated by "local artists" on display throughout the Story Walk in the Urban Forest. Learn more at [recyclejohnsoncounty.org](http://recyclejohnsoncounty.org).

Our local agencies protect the environment every single day. For that we are grateful. But despite their invaluable knowledge and expertise, they also rely on us to be environmentally responsible - just like our neighbors, our children, and generations to come.

We encourage residents to "go green" today so Johnson County looks just as beautiful tomorrow.

QUOTE

*"Do more than is required. What is the distance between someone who achieves their goals consistently and those who spend their lives and careers merely following? The extra mile."*

- Gary Ryan Blair

# NIGHT & day LOCAL Entertainment ENTERTAINING

## EVENTS CALENDAR

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##### TYPE OF FOOD:

Pizza, salads, pasta, warm buttery breads.

##### RECOMMENDATION:

All you can eat pizza buffet with various types of pizza, salad, garlic bread, pasta and a drink.

##### HOURS:

11 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily

##### LOCATION:

Emerson Point,  
997 E. County Line Rd., Greenwood

##### PHONE:

(317) 888-3535

#### Where We Dine:

**Garry Ward**, owner of  
McCammon's Irish Market,  
620 Treybourne Dr.,  
Greenwood, IN 46142



#### Where do you like to dine?

Stone Creek Dining  
Company

#### What do you like to eat there?

They have good steaks. I like their steaks.

#### What do you like about this place?

It has a really nice atmosphere. The food is good and they have really good service.

*Stone Creek Dining Company is located at  
911 N. State Rd. 135, Greenwood, IN 46142.  
The phone number is (317) 889-1200.*

#### Behind Bars:

#### Blueberry Lemon Drop

##### Bartender:

Stacy Olthoff



##### Location:

Stone Creek Dining -  
Greenwood

##### Ingredients and directions:

• 1 ½ oz. Pinnacle Blueberry Vodka, ½ oz. Limoncello, ½ oz. Cointreau, and ¾ oz. sour mix. Muddle fresh blueberries with a lemon wedge, combine liquids in a shaker filled with ice.

• Shake with berries. Pour into a martini glass rimmed with sugar. Garnish with a lemon wedge.



#### The Greater Greenwood Community Band:

**Spring Concert** • The band will play a selection of modern American, patriotic and traditional pieces. A concert ticket is not required, but a donation of canned goods for the local Salvation Army is appreciated. | When: April 15, 7 p.m. | Where: Greenwood High School Auditorium, 615 W Smith Valley Rd., Greenwood. | Info: greenwoodband.com.

#### Keep Your Mind Sharp with Brain Games

Patric Welch will demonstrate several games for adults to play on the internet to improve their brain's cognitive ability. | When: April 18, 6 - 7:30 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.com.

#### Rock the Block Run

This 10K (timed), 5K walk/run (family-friendly) and a free Kids Run includes scenic courses, food, music, vendors, awards and giveaways. Proceeds benefit area trail projects and organizations serving youth and families of the Center Grove School Corporation area and Johnson County. | When: April 22, 8:30 a.m. | Where: Center Grove High School, 2717 S. Morgantown Rd., Greenwood. | Info: rocktheblockrun.org.

#### Playdough Party!

Squish, slice and squash different types of playdough. For attendees ages one month to 12 years. | When: April 22, 10 - 11 a.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.com.

#### Craft Night: Map Necklaces

Attendees grades eight through adults can keep a favorite place or memory close by making a pendant from a map. All materials provided but feel free to bring map piece. | When: April 26, 6:30 - 8 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.com.

#### Faith in Action

Saints Francis & Clare Catholic School will hold the Fourth Annual Hair Donation Event sponsored by Pantene Beautiful Lengths. Sign up children to donate. | When: April 28, 2:15 p.m. | Where: 5901 Olive Branch Rd., Greenwood. | Info: ss-fc.org.

#### 10th Annual Race for an Orphan 5K

The Boaz Project will hold this race which includes family-friendly activities and professional chip timing, all to benefit orphans. Strollers and pets are welcome. | When: April 29, 10 - 11:30 a.m. Registration begins at 9 a.m. | Where: Craig Park, 20 E. Smith Valley Rd., Greenwood. | Cost: \$35 individuals, \$75 family up to 5 members, \$30 teams per person. | Info: boazproject.org/race.

#### Exhibition Games

The World Cup Power Soccer exhibition games open to the public. Power Soccer is the first and only competitive team sport developed specifically for power wheelchair users. | When: April 29, 1 - 5 p.m. | Where: Mount Pleasant Christian Church's Community Life Center, 407 N. Bluff Road, Greenwood. | Info: mpcc.info.

#### 19th Annual Senior Expo

Join for more than 100 vendors, mini health fair and more. | When: May 4, 9 a.m. - noon. | Where: The Gathering Place, 1495 W. Main St., Greenwood. | Info: thesocialofgreenwood.org.

#### Annual 5K and Fun Run

Saints Francis & Clare Catholic School hosts this event filled with food, fellowship, bouncehouses, vendors, music, games and, of course, running. | When: May 6, 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. | Where: 5901 Olive Branch Rd., Greenwood. | Info: ss-fc.org/race.

#### Creating a Pollinator's Paradise: Garden Celebration XIII

The 13th annual Johnson County Garden Club and Purdue Master Gardeners event will include more than 40 flower, plant, and garden-art vendors. Educational seminars include "What's the Buzz about Honeybees?" at 9:30 a.m. by Roger Graham. At 11 a.m. Christena Taylor of Eco Logic, LLC of Bloomington will present "Native Plants for a Pollinator Paradise." | When: May 6, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. | Where: Johnson County Fairgrounds, Franklin. | Cost: \$2 entrance. | Info: JohnsonCountyGardenClubandGardenCelebration.

#### Free Comic Book Day

Celebrate the annual Free Comic Book Day and show off cosplay skills by dressing in costume for activities, crafts and a free comic book. | When: May 6, 2 - 4 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.com.

#### Block Party

Create and construct with the library's collection of LEGO bricks each month. | When: May 9, 4:30 - 5:15 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.com.

#### Historical Markers of Johnson County: A Virtual Tour

Learn about JoCo's past. | When: May 10, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.com.

#### Birds and Birds of Prey with Utopia Wildlife Rehabilitators

Join educators from Utopia Wildlife Rehabilitators on a fun, fast-paced visit to the world of birds and Birds of Prey. | When: May 13, 1 - 2 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.com.

## Getting to know Angie ...

### Best advice:

Work in your business every day. When you don't mind your business, you won't have a business to mind.

### WORST ADVICE:

I'm fortunate that I come from a family of entrepreneurs. My family has made a lot of mistakes along the journey so they can guide my brother and I in the right direction. They have our best interests in mind.

### BEST BUSINESS DECISION:

Expanding and buying a new dry cleaning machine. You always have to invest in your business.

### SECRET TO SUCCESS:

We have great customer service here. We take a lot of pride in what we do. My brother and I are here every day and working part of the business. We don't leave it to other people. We surround ourselves with good people.

### IN 5 YEARS...

Five years ago I had a five-year plan and we accomplished everything. I would like to expand the home delivery and in the next five years, triple that. My big goal this year is to market the home delivery. I'd also like to see the sewing department build more and more.

## Mascari Cleaners

8845 Southeastern Ave.  
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mascaricleaners.com



**BUSINESS LEADER**  
SOUTHSIDE

April 2017 | Issue 127  
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Mascari Cleaners Owner Angie Mascari Rowekamp enjoys serving customers at the Wanamaker store.

Photo by Nicole Davis

## Clean record

Mascari Cleaners reaches 70 years in business with its third-generation family ownership

### COVER STORY

By Nicole Davis

For third-generation owner Angie Mascari Rowekamp, Mascari Cleaners is the only business she's ever known.

Growing up, she would work alongside her father, Mike Mascari, who had a knack for making the work fun for his children.

"Our good times as a family were always around working," Angie said. "We had a lot of good memories.

We'd have cleaning parties. We'd have to do it until we got it right. After we were done, (my dad) would reward us with a little food, ice cream or candy. If we were

working at night and the customers weren't here, we'd have a pizza party."

Angie and her brother Mark Mascari co-own the business now. Mike is semi-retired. He remains active in the community and doing landscaping for the business.

As the cleaners enters into its 70th year, Angie said it's business as usual, getting work done and remaining an embedded part of the Franklin Township community.

Gus and Ruth Mascari first opened Mascari Cleaners in Indianapolis in April of 1947. Gus and Ruth raised their eight children while growing the family business. Their son, Mike, served during the Vietnam War. A year after returning home, he decided to venture into the dry cleaning business in Wanamaker in 1971. In 1986, Mark joined the family business to help his father, followed by Angie in 1990.

"I watched my father have a good work ethic," Angie said. "It's a good, humble living to make. I look at my grandparents and what they sacrificed to be self employed. I look at their eight kids and my father who sacrificed a lot to be self employed. There is a reward in doing something good and honest."

Much has changed in the business over time - from the way they clean the ever-changing materials and clothing designs to the way the business operates. At one point in time, Mascari Cleaners had eight stores. Its sole location is currently at 8845 Southeastern Ave. in Wanamaker.

"In the last four years, we've made a ton of changes," Angie said. "We purchased a new cleaning machine. The cleaning products went from good to great. Now we're all eco-friendly. We added in the sewing department a year ago. We have a great alterations lady, Amy. She alters everything. There is a market and need for it. We do fittings right here. We just adapt to what the customer wants."

The business currently has eight employees. Angie works in the business with daily operations and helping customers. Mark runs the production and maintenance aspect. Angie said they enjoy being members of the Franklin Township Chamber of Commerce and being involved with the Franklin Township Lions Club.

"If we weren't a team, this wouldn't work," Angie said. "This is home for us. We do really enjoy working and being here amongst our community."





## PEER TO PEER

## Key West: Good food in paradise

## EDITORIAL

By Howard Hubler

In looking over my old articles, the number-one thing I write about is the impact of the federal government on stifling businesses. The next thing I write about is food and restaurants. I guess I'm just frustrated restaurant critic. From the customers' standpoint, in two hours you can ascertain everything you need to know about this place, whether it is worth a return visit or not.

Here's why I find Key West unique. Many of the restaurants are small. As an island, they are limited in a lot of the foods they can purchase by way of fresh vegetables and so forth, and a lot of the foods they get are expensive because they only come in on one road, US 1. Yet a gourmet dinner is affordable there.

Many of these restaurants are in old houses and old buildings. However, designers go down there and make a living designing each restaurant to be uniquely different. Some look at the water, some look at a courtyard, some look at world-famous Duval Street. Some catch the sunset, some overlook the city with a second floor balcony. You get my gist; no two are alike and they each have their own charm. My wife, Janet, and I travel a lot. However, no one

seems to master the craft better of fantastic restaurants all in a small community where you walk from location to location. Key West has figured out the secret of the sauce.

So what is a teachable moment? Many people have an old facility. Whether it's a restaurant or a hardware store, it makes no difference. With some imagination you can fix it up to be appealing to people. You can create an environment that people go tell their neighbor about, "Hey you must go to this place or that." It only works if you have a great service. The people that work in Key West are committed waiters and waitresses that have claimed this as their occupation for the foreseeable future. There is pride in their city, there is pride in their craft, and there is pride in their restaurant.

Key West is hard to beat. Real romance is authentic, you can't fake an old house and one of God's beautiful sunsets and a great glass of wine. So, what can you do to make your business this authentic?



Howard Hubler can be reached at  
howard@hubler.com.



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# Quick fix for more customers

**EDITORIAL**

By Andrew Angle

You already know that Google delivers a tsunami of customers to the businesses at the top of the search results. You also know that Google scours tons of details to pick which pages belong in those most coveted positions. It's easier to wish for the spot than to win it, but the revenue potential is worth the effort.

Target a factor that's within your control: Page Speed.

Go to GTmetrix.com and enter your web address.

Google uses page loading time as a big factor in determining search engine positions because it knows that users hate to wait. You have seen plenty of pages that make you just sit there as the cursor spins... and spins... and spins. What do you do? You give up and search for another site. The way Google sees it, if the people who land on your site are leaving to find what they need from a com-

petitor's site, your site wasted their time. Google shuffles its results to provide users greater value. The engine very carefully watches and learns how visitors use each of the sites in its index to figure out which sites visitors like best.

If your site is using WordPress, there are plugins that you can install that can make a positive difference immediately. A free one that I like to use is called "Autoptimize". Among other things, it removes unnecessary garbage from source code and combines separate back-end files into one, ultimately trimming seconds off of the time it takes for pages to be readable.

Images are bandwidth hogs. Compressing images is easy if you use the right plugin. In choosing which image compression tool to use for ss-times.com, I evaluated several and finally picked TinyPNG. (See tinypng.com) The WordPress plugin actually compresses the images as you upload them. No, it's not free, but it's cheap enough to be well worth a few bucks.

With page speed being one of many ranking factors, take the time to test more details with a complimentary site audit at [businessleader.bz/webaudit](http://businessleader.bz/webaudit).



Andrew Angle, of Greenwood, is the owner of NetGain Associates, Inc. He can be reached at 317.534.2382.



**EDITORIAL**

By Mike Heffner

Leadership is difficult—and leadership should be difficult. Why? Because at its heart, being a leader is about bringing people together with a shared vision in order to achieve a goal or solve a problem. It's about how leaders influence the daily lives of the people who work for them and how their decisions affect careers and outcomes.

A leader not only brings different personalities and employees together but also instills confidence in those differing personalities in order to bring about success. This is not an easy task. The most difficult part of leading is knowing what is really going on with the company, with individual employees and what the best solution is. If you are in a leadership role, here are four things to think about:

**Telling the Difficult Truth:** Human nature dictates that employees look up to leaders because they believe these leaders know the truth and have solutions. On the flip side, human nature also dictates that even leaders are sometimes clueless as to what is the actual truth and what is a personal interpretation.

**Being the Mediator:** Ideally, employees can work out problems between each other, but if they cannot, leaders must step in to resolve the conflict. Conflicts in the office can easily spiral out of control, leading to a toxic and unproductive work environment.

**Constantly Learning:** In addition to managing expectations, results and people, leaders are expected to be on top of the latest training and information. While others go home at the end of the day and relax or watch their favorite show, good leaders also spend time weekly investing in their development by reading, watching and studying.

**Putting Others First:** Today's leadership model has shifted towards servant leadership where leaders must focus on the development of their employees. True leaders create more leaders. This role is a tough one to balance. On one hand, a leader must deliver results and make an impact on the success of the company; on the other hand, managers are expected to cater to different personality types and generations in the workforce in order to boost employee development.

Modern leadership is more difficult now than in the past. Being a leader isn't a simple task, but instead it is a journey of work, self-discipline and continuing education. If done right, however, the results can be rewarding, for you, your employees and your company.



This article is written by Mike Heffner, the owner of the local Greenwood Express Employment Professionals franchise. Contact Mike at [Mike.Heffner@expresspros.com](mailto:Mike.Heffner@expresspros.com), [@IndySouthMike](https://twitter.com/IndySouthMike) on Twitter or visit [ExpressIndySouth.com](http://ExpressIndySouth.com).

## PLANNER OF NOTE

**Newly Incorporated Businesses**

**Brad's Custom Carpentry**

Bradley Taylor  
6424 Madison Ave.  
Indianapolis, IN 46227

**BRB Trailer Repair**

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1432 Tamara Court  
Franklin, IN 46131

**BSP**

Toni L. Breechen  
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Franklin, IN 46131

**CAMamics**

Courtney Murphy  
1225 Old Vines Trail  
Greenwood, IN 46143

**The Cherry on Top**

Tracy R. Bohler  
6211 N. 500 East  
Franklin, IN 46131

**Dowdy Construction**

T. Patrick Dowdy  
2707 S. 225 West  
Franklin, IN 46131

**Elevated Marketing Solutions**

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825 W. Lakeview Dr.  
Nineveh, IN 46164

**Hillbilly Hot Dogs**

Joshua James Black  
1275 Graham Rd.  
Franklin, IN 46131

**J.R. Marketing**

Joshua P. Rose  
1119 Ebony Lane  
Franklin, IN 46131

**Indiana Lightning**

William Kuhe  
1177 Alder Rd.  
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**The Indigo Iris**

Cheyenne Carver  
1132 Canterbury Dr.  
Greenwood, IN 46143

**The Local Plumber**

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Greenwood, IN 46142

**Midwest Astros**

Lesley Jeffries  
5 Greenbriar Court  
Whiteland, IN 46184

**N&B Accounting**

Nathan Davis  
808 E. Main Cross St.  
Greenwood, IN 46142

**Piercefield Mowing**

Marshall Ryan  
Piercefield  
808 E. State Rd. 252  
Edinburgh, IN 46124

**RSTK Property Management**

Robert M. Willey  
6868 E. State Rd. 252  
Morgantown, IN 46168

**Upcoming chamber meetings and events**

**26** - Greater Southside Business Alliance (April Member Meeting): April 26, 7 p.m., Perry Township Education Center. John Schwenker of Baxter YMCA will speak. For more information, visit [gsbaweb.org](http://gsbaweb.org).

**27** - Greater Greenwood Chamber of Commerce (Annual Chamber Celebration): April 27, 11:30 - 1:30 p.m., Valle Vista Golf & Conference Center, 755 E. Main St., Greenwood. Cost: \$40 per person at the door.

For more information, visit [greenwoodchamber.com](http://greenwoodchamber.com).

**2** - Franklin Township Chamber of Commerce (Membership Luncheon): May 2, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., Wheatleys, Wanamaker. For more information, visit [franklintwpchamber.org](http://franklintwpchamber.org).

**9** - Greater Greenwood Chamber of Commerce (Business Matters Luncheon): May 9, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., Hilton Garden Inn, 5255 Noggle Way, Greenwood. For more information, visit [greenwoodchamber.com](http://greenwoodchamber.com).

**18** - Greater Greenwood Chamber of Commerce (Business After Hours): May 18, 4 - 6 p.m., Bar Louie, 1251 US 31 N., Greenwood. For more information, visit [greenwoodchamber.com](http://greenwoodchamber.com).



## FEATURE

## A puzzling escape

Six families come together to open Twisted Room Escapes in Perry Township

Compiled by Nicole Davis

When Perry Township resident Heidi Randall used to host *Haunt Out Hunger*, a haunted attraction which collected canned goods for Hunger, Inc., she and her family would spend three months building the set. After a month, they would have to tear it all down.

Six families from around Central Indiana found a way to offer a similar, entertaining experience year round - without the scare. Combining their talents in the haunt and entertainment industry, they opened Twisted Room Escapes at 3145 E. Thompson Rd. in February. Admission is \$28 per person. A private room booking, up to 8 players, can be purchased for \$200.

An escape room is a game in which participants are locked in a room that has hidden clues to help them solve a puzzle. Currently Twisted Room Escapes has two rooms, giving guests an hour to escape. In the *Missing Maestro*, concerned concert patrons search for an arrogant symphony conductor before the show. In the *Cabin*, lost hikers stumble upon a cabin and must find a way to rescue themselves. Additional rooms are currently being planned.

"You go to escape rooms and either have really good scenery or really good puzzles," Heidi said. At Twisted Room Escapes, they're aiming to achieve both. "You have to make it realistic, think about what would really be available or what you can use. We either try to build it from scratch or so it matches. That's the hard part."

#### Why did you open this business?

Escape rooms are derivative from the haunt industry. Four of the six owners are in haunted attractions. We go to all of the haunted attraction shows and you see all this escape room, new stuff, it piqued our interest. We went to a show last year at the end of March, *TransWorld*, and started learning more about escape rooms. Four of us have always liked building things, rather than purchasing things. We like making things do something it wouldn't normally, the element of surprise when something does what you think it wouldn't. The creativity that comes with it, imagineering, is what we thrive on.



Heidi Randall and Hope Randall stand in The Cabin room. Photo by Nicole Davis

#### What did you do to prepare for opening your business?

We came up with a couple good, solid ideas that we knew we wanted to run with. We could find a location, but you have to have good rooms. We had some really good ideas of some rooms that could be really innovative and immersive. In the cabin, it smells a little woodsy and like an old cabin. We want the person to walk into that escape room and feel like they're in the maestros private quarters, in the cabin, or whatever room we build. The idea is to take it to the extreme where it hits all five of your senses.

#### Who is your ideal customer/client?

It's good for a family event. We've had great response from smaller children. We've had groups of teenagers that come. We've had grandma and grandpa bring the grandkids. It's really a game for everybody. It's a mind game. It's thinking. It's communicating. It's working together. You really should be reaching out to everyone.

#### How do you plan to be successful?

We're focusing on a couple marketing campaigns. We're reaching out to the community. We're doing a lot of Facebook, Google ads. We're also reaching out on a corporate level for team building efforts.

#### What would we be surprised to learn about you or your company?

There's all sorts of surprises in here. It's a theatrical approach from a Halloween thing. You're not trying to scare them. You're trying to immerse them in the atmosphere.

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## Teach your children to use technology responsibly

### TECH SAVVY

By Regina Miller

I hear many parents say I'd rather not give my kid a cell phone now, but I need to for safety reasons. If this is the case, be sure that your child is responsible enough to keep the phone charged and accessible on a regular basis. If they are constantly complaining about their phone being dead or not having a charger, stress the importance of having the phone charged and handy before it's needed. No tool is helpful if you can't get to it or it's dead when you need it. Review their activity and behavior to make sure they are using it within the guidelines you've set for your family.

Use parental controls. There are many options for parental controls these days that vary from features built into smartphones, to services offered by your service provider, and even third party apps that allow you to monitor and even record all activity on the phone. Be aware of the options that are available and chose the one that fits your family's needs and circumstances.

Know every email address your child uses and the password to those accounts. It's also a good idea to know the PIN to your child's phone so you can inspect which apps are actually installed and how they are being used. Other important information includes their iTunes or Google Play password and

the email they use for those services. This can be critical in recovering information from your child's smartphone.

Remember these tools are only good as you practice them: audit passwords regularly. The passwords don't do you any good if they're wrong when you need to access the account. Some parents report they also find this helps the child stay within the boundaries set when they know the accounts are checked to be sure they are accessible -- even when the parents don't necessarily review the communication. Just knowing it's a possibility can help. Kids often seem more receptive to using these types of tools when they understand you are on the same team with them -- that it's not a matter of you not trusting what they are doing but rather an attempt to help protect them in the event something unfortunate or unexpected happens to them. We have wonderful tools at our disposal, let's be sure that we not only know how to use them, but we actually use them to our benefit.



Regina Miller owns Geek in Pink. Contact her with tech questions at [regina@geekinpink.com](mailto:regina@geekinpink.com) or (317) 882-1606.

## Center Grove's McKenzie wins Herron art invitational

**Self-portrait** - Five students from Center Grove, Carmel, Avon and Western Boone high schools produced the top works in Herron School of Art and Design's fourth annual Indiana High School Junior Art Invitational. Kim McKenzie of Center Grove High School, won first place for her work "Self-Portrait." Rick Jones, art teacher.



McKenzie

Paige Briada of Center Grove High School, won third place for her work "Battle of the Sexes." Nathan Fry, art teacher.

Each year, high school art teachers are invited to submit the best examples of their junior students' works for inclusion in this juried exhibition. Fifty-two art teachers and 36 high schools across Indiana submitted nearly 200 works to the 2017 exhibition. Herron scholarships of \$2,000, \$1,000 and \$500 are awarded for the first, second and third prize, respectively. All placing students



McKenzie's self portrait

will receive scholarships to attend Herron's Honors Art and Design, a two-week summer program for teens. The exhibition will be on view from April 8 to 22 in the Marsh Gallery at Eskenazi Hall on the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis campus, located at 735 W. New York St.

# The power of love

**DEVOTIONAL**

By Pastor  
 Chris Philbeck

In his book, *The Trouble with Jesus*, Joseph Stowell tells the story of how his friend, Paul Eschelman was meeting with a group of advertising executives from major Hollywood film companies, discussing marketing strategies for the newly released, *The Jesus Film*. Afterward, one of the executives, a Jewish man with an immense profile in the film industry, asked for a private meeting. In the meeting, he told Eschelman the story of how some time ago his daughter had a serious health problem. One day he noticed their maid, kneeling in her room for prayer. He later asked the maid what she was praying for and she said, "That God might be gracious and heal your daughter." She said she had been praying for her for days and added that she prayed for their entire family every day. He asked if she might come to the door each morning and pray a blessing over he and his wife as they left for work. A few months later his wife was diagnosed with breast cancer. With his wife at death's door, he walked down the street to a synagogue looking for comfort. Discovering it was bingo night, he continued walking and found a church with its doors open. He went in, met with the pastor and poured out his grief. The pastor prayed

for him and assured him of his concern. The next morning when he went to visit his wife in the hospital, the Dr. said, "I thought you were Jewish?" "I am," he replied. The Dr. said, "Then why was a pastor sitting and praying at your wife's bedside most of the night?" As Paul Eschelman sat listening, the man's eyes filled with tears and he said, "Our maid passed away this week, and now I have no one to get me to God. Can you help me?" Paul said, "Can I tell you about Jesus?" To which he replied, "Of course." And that day, the man gave his life to Christ. Sometimes we need to be reminded that the greatest witness for Christ comes in simple acts of kindness and love. One of the last things Jesus told his disciples was: *A new command I give you; Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another (John 13:34-35)*. People won't always listen to our words, but they will watch your life. Live a life of love.



Chris Philbeck is senior pastor of Mount Pleasant Christian Church. You may email him at inquiry@mpccministry.com or call (317) 881-6727.

## General & Mrs. Umbarger to be honored with USO of Indiana Five Star Medal

**National Guard** - The USO of Indiana announced that the recipients of its 2017 Five Star Medal are former Indiana Adjutant General R. Martin and Mrs. Rowana Umbarger, of Center Grove. The Five Star Medal is symbolic of the five branches of the military: Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard. The Umbargers were selected to be honored for their involvement serving on numerous local committees and non-profit boards, with a consistent focus on improving the quality of life for military service members and their families. The Five Star Medal will be presented to the Umbargers on Sept. 16, 2017 during the USO of Indiana's fourth annual black tie Five Star Gala in Indianapolis. Proceeds from the event will be used to fund USO of Indiana's programs. For additional information, contact the USO of Indiana Corporate Office at (317) 771-2788 or [usoindiana.org](http://usoindiana.org).



## Center Grove Names 2016-17 Teachers of the Year

**Educators** - Center Grove Community School Corporation (CGCSC) announced the Teachers of the Year for the 2016-2017 school year. Each teacher is recognized for making an extraordinary impact among students and colleagues in his/her building: Karen Fruits, Mathematics, C.G.H.S.; Andrea McCoy, Grade 8 Science, C.G.M.S. Central; Amy Harmon, Grade 6, C.G.M.S. North; Shannon Nunnally, Grade 1, Center Grove E.S.; Connie Deiwert, Grade 2, Maple Grove E.S.; Amanda Gainey, Music, North Grove E.S.; Sarah Page, Special Ed., Pleasant Grove E.S.; Susan Dotson, Grade 3, Sugar Grove E.S. The teachers in each building select their Teacher of the Year. The overall district Teacher of the Year will be chosen by an outside university committee. The CGCSC Teacher of the Year will be announced at the Teacher Celebration Night in the Center Grove H.S. Auditorium on May 1, 7 p.m.



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## ICON of the Month

# Matt Goodpaster

Center Grove Education Foundation president and MPCC administrator gives back to his hometown community

**Compiled by Nicole Davis**

It's important that people understand the value of community and how the different aspects of community work together, said Matt Goodpaster.

Working as a church administrator and Community Life Center director for Mount Pleasant Christian Church (MPCC), a parent with children in the school corporation, president of the Center Grove Education Foundation, and having served as an athletic coach in the past has provided him with a "neat perspective of how all those elements come together to shape the bigger picture."

"It's a privilege to me to be able to serve in multiple leadership capacities in multiple areas of that community," he said. "The school corporation has done a lot for me. To give back to the community, in a small way, is gratifying."

Goodpaster grew up in the Center Grove area, graduating from Center Grove High School in 2001. He graduated from Franklin College in 2005 and Stetson University College of Law in 2009. He will have been married 11 years in June to his wife, Ashley. The couple, Center Grove residents, have three sons, Braden, Dane and Caleb.

Goodpaster came to work at MPCC in 2011.

"I was studying for the bar, looking for some part-time work," he said. "I didn't pass, and in between the time I took it and wanted to try again, the church offered me a full-time job here. I took that while working part-time for the NCAA, where I ultimately wanted to go. The church approached me about (becoming) the Community Life Center director... I spent a lot of time, energy and money pursuing what I thought I wanted to

do. It became painfully obvious that God was opening all these other doors for a reason. I really enjoy what I'm doing now."

Goodpaster was first introduced to the Center Grove Education Foundation when he was invited to its Gala for the Grove fundraiser. He was invited to serve on the board three years ago, and has served as president for two years. He said it's been an exciting time as the foundation continues to grow, increases revenue each year, and hired a new executive director last year. The foundation gave more than \$60,000 in teacher development grants last school year, the most it's ever given.

"Now that people are getting to know what we do, our next big goal is to increase our fundraising efforts so we can have a bigger impact in the classroom for our

students," he said. "Primarily we want to tell the stories and celebrate the stories of the grants we've given. Here at the church we go by the phrase, 'what's celebrated gets repeated.' As the foundation, that's what we're trying to do, too. We want to celebrate the money that's given and the impact it's having."

This year's gala is April 21, 6 p.m. at The Crane Bay Event Center, Indianapolis.

"Working through the foundation, we are directly involved in trying to raise the bar from an educational opportunity standpoint for our students and our teachers," Goodpaster said. "To know you're directly impacting the future of students and the ability of teachers to positively impact that future is the most gratifying part of that."

Here, learn more about our May Center Grove ICON of the Month, Matt Goodpaster.

**What do you consider your greatest virtue?**

My honesty.

**What do you most deplore in others?**

Greed.

**What do you like most about living in Center Grove?**

The community feel and people.

**If you had to live anywhere else in the Metro Indianapolis area, where would it be?**

Franklin, if that counts as the Metro area.

**If you could begin life over, what would you change?**

To be more appreciative of the people who have helped me along the way.

**If money were no issue, how would you spend it?**

Paying off debt and then giving it away to help improve the lives of others.

**What makes you happiest?**

My family.

**What is your favorite vacation spot?**

St. Pete Beach, but really anywhere there is a beach.

**What do you do with idle time?**

Usually spend it with my family or reading a good book.

**What is it that makes you angry?**

Narrow-mindedness and a lack of awareness

of what's going on around you.

**What do you do to escape from reality?**

Read or listen to music.

**What or who is the greatest love of your life?**

My wife and kids.

**Which living person in Center Grove do you most admire?**

It would probably be everyone involved in our school corporation, from Dr. Arkanoff all the way down. They devote so much time and effort to



giving our kids the best possible educational opportunities.

It is our schools that help attract families, business, and development. Without our teachers and administrators, none of that would be possible, and as a Center Grove alumni, I cannot count the number of them that positively impacted my life.

**What is the quality you like most in a man?**

Integrity. Simply doing what you say you are going to do.

**What is the quality you like most in a woman?**

The same as above.

**What is your greatest extravagance?**

Honestly, I'm not sure I have one. I'm a pretty simple guy, but I do love shoes!

**What are your fears/phobias?**

My greatest fear is failure, but I could go my whole life without seeing a snake and be ok with it!

**What has been the happiest time of your life?**

Probably right now. We just had our third boy at the end of January and watching how good our two oldest are with him is an incredible experience.

**Which talent would you most like to possess?**

To play an instrument.

**What do you most value in your friends?**

Honesty and dependability.

**Which historical figure do you most admire?**

Martin Luther King, Jr.

**What is your greatest regret?**

Not enjoying the little things along the way enough.

**What tenet do you live by?**

Philippians 4:13, "I can do all through things, through Christ who strengthens me. And, you miss 100 percent of the shots you don't take."

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**Quiz**

on Page 9

1. C
2. B
3. D
4. B
5. A



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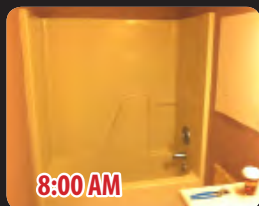


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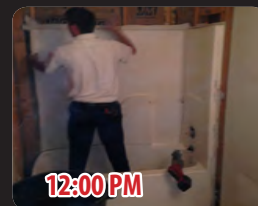
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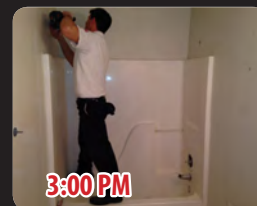
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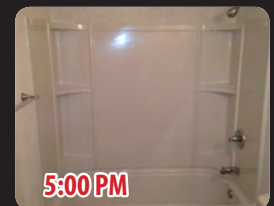
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