

CENTER GROVE

ICON

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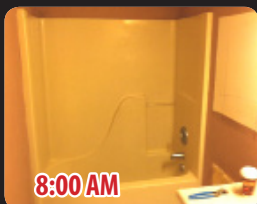


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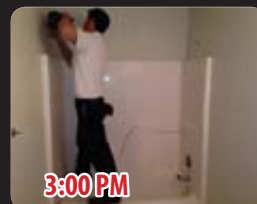
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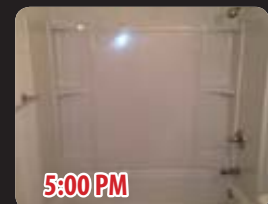
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Have any news tips? Want to submit a calendar event? Have a photograph to share? Call Nicole Davis at 300-8782 or email her at news@myICON.info. Remember, our news deadlines are several days prior to print.

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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.



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The anchor of development

Town of Bargersville hosts groundbreaking for the Founders Fountain

GROUND BREAKING

By Nicole Davis
Just South of Bargersville

Town Hall will soon sit the Founders Fountain, a project aimed at honoring past and present residents, businesses and members of the military. Once it's done, a walk path with customized brick pavers will lead past three bubbling fountains and sitting areas.

Celebrating the groundbreaking on a rainy morning on April 11, community leaders say the event meant more than just turning some topsoil.

"The groundbreaking was more of a symbol," says Jeff Beck, who has led the fundraising initiative for the project. "Bargersville is getting ready to pop, to explode. It's been

a struggle to get going but the momentum is here now. The Founders Fountain, to me, is the anchor of a rejuvenation of Bargersville. I'm proud of it; I'm excited about it."

Beck explained that in the 50s and 60s, Bargersville was a "happening" place that eventually died down. It became more of a drive-through town known for the flea market on the corner of State Roads 135 and 144.

However, in recent years, the town has begun to turn around again. Bargersville is home to numerous events throughout the year, including Waggin' on Main Street which takes place April 30, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. There is excitement, and grassroots projects such as the Founders Fountain will make it all the better.

"It's the beginning of what we're planning here around Main Street," says Lynne Hess, Bargersville parks/events coordinator and Center Grove-area resident. "Everyone I've talked to about it in the community, they can't wait for it to get started. And once it does get started and they see the progress, it's going to blossom Main Street."

While Beck says the project is almost paid for, it's not quite there yet. A customized brick paver is \$50. Financial donations can be made to the Johnson

County Community Foundation, P.O. Box 217, Franklin IN 46131 with "Town of Bargersville Founders Fountain" in the memo line. Hess says they hope to have the project complete by the end of summer. More information on the project can be found at townofbargersville.org.



Lynne Hess and Jeff Beck "turned soil" at the April 11 groundbreaking for the Founders Fountain. The event was held indoors due to the rain. Photo by Nicole Davis

CENTER GROVE'S JONES RECOGNIZED AS TOP WHEATON COLLEGE ATHLETE

AROUND TOWN - Wheaton College (Ill.) student-athletes were recently recognized for their achievements during the fall 2015 semester. Emily Jones, a member of the women's tennis team, was recognized by the College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin (CCIW) as First Team All-Conference. Jones, of Greenwood, is a graduate of Center Grove High School. For more information, visit wheaton.edu.

face to face

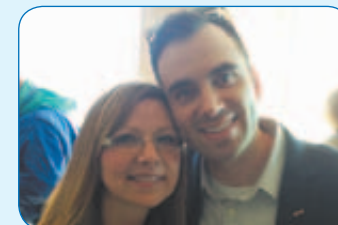


Q: What do you think your mother does/ did better than anyone else?



"Just supporting our family. Supporting us kids growing up and making sure we knew that we could do anything that we wanted to, providing those opportunities for us and always being super supportive and knowing that we were truly loved by her."

Lisa Bauermeister of Center Grove
(with her daughter, Nora)



"My mother gave me true encouragement and she believed that there were no barriers big or small that we couldn't overcome. Any endeavor that we tried to pursue personally or professionally she was just there providing her heart and trust that we could get whatever we wanted done. She didn't go to college until after I was born and just seeing her drive and her will to not give up just drove me that I could always do better because she was always trying to do better."

Matt Limeberry of Center Grove
(with his mother, Karla Redman)



"She was an incredibly encouraging and optimistic woman. I never heard her complain hardly ever about anything and she just encouraged us no matter what we were doing. She is just extremely positive."

Christy Brink of Center Grove
(with daughters, Marlow and Scarlett)

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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. Center Grove Fine Arts Academy is preparing to perform what on April 29 to May 1?

- A. Annie
- B. Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat
- C. The Wizard of Oz
- D. Music Man



3. Brooke Van Paris of Greenwood will compete on the new TV show, American Grit, airing Thursdays, 9 p.m. on what channel?

- A. Fox
- B. Disney
- C. VH1
- D. AMC



2. The Town of Bargersville will host Waggin' on Main Street on April 30, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., to benefit which organization?

- A. Leadership Johnson County
- B. Johnson County Animal Shelter
- C. Humane Society of Johnson County
- D. The Boaz Project



4. April is _____ Awareness Month.

- A. Eating Disorder
- B. Heart Health
- C. Allergy
- D. Autism



5. It's finally starting! Bargersville Main Street celebrated the groundbreaking for what on April 11?

- A. Founders Fountain
- B. A Karaoke Bar
- C. Johnson's BBQ Shack
- D. It's headquarters



Answers on Page 22

HISTORY & ARCHITECTURE



Prom Court, 1958. Submitted Photo

A night to be swept off your feet at CGHS

By Jeff Beck

Prom court from the class of 1957 included Lynda Sells, Sue Doty, Phyllis Clearwater, Joyce Core and Kip Kiphart. The junior class is traditionally the planners and organizers for the Center Grove High School Junior-Senior Prom. Teacher advisors and parents help guide the process for an enjoyable evening most will remember all their lives.

Prom in the 1950s and 60s was held in the gymnasium, what we now know as the West Gym. Students attending prom were treated to an evening of fun and fellowship. The theme was chosen by the junior class and decorations were made to make the evening memorable. Can you imagine a blank gymnasium floor and surroundings converted into a magical themed dancing and social venue? Suits and the students' best dresses with corsage or buttoner were worn for the very special evening.

Prom got bigger each passing year. Girls sometimes wore formal gowns, had their hair and makeup done, making the event more special. Men wore their best suit or rented a tuxedo for the evening. Photos were taken at home of each couple to share with parents, grandparents and close friends. Dinner with friends was always enjoyed; maybe a limousine was hired to take groups to venue prom was being held. Downtown Indianapolis became a popular location for prom along with an enjoyable meal with your best friends.

Paying \$80 is pretty expensive for a high school student attending prom. Students were asked and encouraged to sign the Prom Promise pledging not to drink alcohol or use drugs during prom night. Guests were most thankful for the after-prom activities sponsored by Families in Action, which provided miniature golf and other fun activities at CGHS after an evening of dancing and socializing. Tired but happy, many of prom attendees headed to Kings Island after a little rest or maybe no rest until a two-hour bus ride. The 1997 prom was attended by nearly 900 students and over 100 hours were spent planning the very special evening.



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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PUZZLED?

Center Grove parents Sheila Benham and Amanda Cooper share a story that led to the formation of the Johnson County Autism Support Group

COVER STORY

By **Haleigh Inscore**

In late 2004, Sheila Benham and Amanda Cooper, founders of

the Johnson County Autism Support Group, were two moms in a similar predicament. Both had a young son who had been diagnosed with autism, and both found themselves with limited resources and information about the condition.

It all started with Jack's Walk; an idea that Sheila's neighbor had come up with. It just so happened that Amanda's son was named Jack, too, and was the same age. "I saw the flyer somewhere and I read the back and thought 'this lady's story is my story,' Amanda recalls. "That's how we hooked up."

With the proceeds of Jack's Walk, Sheila and Amanda were able to form a support group for families in the community who are affected by autism. "We had our first meeting in February 2005 and it's just kind of blossomed since then," Sheila says. The group now holds meetings each month at Mount Auburn United Methodist Church.

In addition to meetings, the Johnson County Autism Support group hosts regular fundraisers in order to provide local families with resources such as counseling, therapies, and social events for their children. The goal is to create an environment where kids and their parents feel accepted and comfortable. This can be difficult under normal circumstances where there may be unexpected noises or distractions. One way to keep kids comfortable is by letting them know what is scheduled to happen and offering what the parents know as a "sensory friendly" environment, where kids can enjoy the experience without being disrupted by unexpected occurrences.

Amanda and Sheila were able to see the value of their fundraising efforts during their first Breakfast with Santa for the kids. "We debated on whether to spend money on a carriage ride, because that was going to be half of our budget," Amanda says. "We decided to go ahead and do it. And there was a lady...after it was over she came up to us and was crying and said 'we could have never done this downtown...this was perfect.' So we've done the carriage ride ever since. Because if the child has a meltdown we've all seen it before and it's a sensory friendly environment, the traffic's not down there, the noises aren't there."



Sheila Benham and Amanda Cooper, founders of the Johnson County Autism Support Group.
Photo by Haleigh Inscore

At monthly meetings, pertinent topics regarding younger kids include therapies, education, and behavior. Compared to when her son was younger, Amanda sees that there are more resources available for younger kids. "ABA, which is applied behavior analysis, has become an accepted treatment and there are centers and private therapists around town and many internet resources geared toward younger kids," she says.

However, it's been a long road for both Amanda and Sheila to receive diagnoses and treatment for their sons. They both noticed differences in behavior around the age of two, when their sons were non-verbal and did not make eye contact. "When they're developmentally delayed, your pediatrician will recommend [the First Steps program]... and actually the developmental therapist said 'I think something else might be going on,'" Sheila says. Amanda had a similar experience; it was her speech therapist who suspected something more than simply delayed development.

According to both women, whose sons are now 16 years old, more challenging questions seem to arise when kids reach their teenage and adult years. "Lately we've been gearing towards kids that are more



"I think they're sold short, the expectations are too low. Just because they have (autism) doesn't mean they aren't intelligent and they aren't capable of learning." ~ Amanda Cooper

Kids playing four square at Camp Can Do.
Photo courtesy of Facebook

middle teenagers, like 15, 16, 18 and we've seen an audience that wants that subject," Sheila says. Some of these inquiries include: "Can they take care of themselves? Do you need a guardianship? Where are they going to live? Are they going to have a job?" Sheila notes that, as parents, they have to think ahead.

Right now, Amanda is focusing on raising money for Camp Can Do, the support group's two week summer day camp in which she says the kids "rotate through activities that include cooking, arts and crafts, social skills and life skills, sports and games, and special guests." Campers also earn camp dollars, which go toward Friday fieldtrips and visits to the camp store, for

participating and completing jobs. Amanda explains that this camp is helpful in keeping kids with autism on a schedule. "When you have six to eight weeks of downtime over the summer, this kind of helps keep them in the routine and prevent some of the regression when they go back to school in the fall."

This year, one of the ways that the group will fund camp is through Dancing with the Johnson County Stars. "We have a dancer, Mike Wood from Bailey and Wood financial in Whiteland. His nephew has autism and his sister has been involved in the support group," Amanda says. "To keep the camp affordable for the families we cover about 75 percent of the cost, so that's a lot of fundraising."

Puzzling for Autism

A jigsaw contest held by the JCASG in an effort to send at least 10 kids to Camp Can Do! Emceed by former UFC fighter Chris "Lights Out" Lytle.

When: April 30, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Where: Center Grove Middle School Central

Cost: \$20 donation per person

Search "Puzzling for Autism" at Eventbrite.com to register a team of 2 to 6 players.

What is a Sensory Friendly Film?

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The Autism Awareness Ribbon "The puzzle pattern reflects the complexity of the autism spectrum. The different colors and shapes represent the diversity of the people and families living with the condition."

- autism-society.org

DISPATCH



*Photos by
Nicole Davis*

Helping the hungry in Haiti

**2,100 Mount Pleasant Christian Church
volunteers Change the World, one meal at a time**

By Nicole Davis

Feed the hungry. Build a home. Serve a neighbor.

Mount Pleasant Christian Church encouraged a week of service to others, locally and globally, from April 9 to 16. Change the World began with more than 2,100 volunteers coming together on April 9 to package more than 425,000 meals (exceeding the goal of 400,000) for people in Haiti and Central America.

"Change the World is a great opportunity for the people of Mount Pleasant, their neighbors and friends to come and serve together right here but to make a difference somewhere else," says Tracy Watson, an event organizer. "We had people keep telling us last year we loved, that we could do this as a family. They love the Lord, they want to show His love to others and this is a tangible way they can do that together."

Volunteers joined in three sessions at the Community of Life Center to package the meals consisting of dehydrated vegetables, vitamin powder, soy and rice.

"We just had a really good day," says Chad Ranson, serve pastor at Mount Pleasant. "I feel excited about the way our people responded to the challenge that we put in front of them, their desire to change the world and do something as meaningful as packing these meals. It was overwhelming to see their excitement and desire to help. The meals were put on shipping containers that day, sent to a port in New Orleans to be shipped to Haiti and parts of Central America. They are already on their way."

Volunteers will join at the church again on April 16 to build five homes which will go to families in need in the greater Indianapolis area.

Change the world began last year, with volunteers packing 360,000 meals (exceeding the goal of 300,000) and four houses. For more information, visit mpcc.info.

Left, top: Lilliana Wampler of Center Grove helps place finished bags of food on the table.

Left, bottom: Members of a Center Grove basketball team volunteer together. From left, Brevin Holubar, Gabe McWilliams, Brody Holubar and Tyler Williams.

Middle, top: From left, Larry Watkins, Linda Stevens, Jessie Bolin and Barbara Olson, all of the Greenwood, Center Grove area.

Middle, bottom: John Weller of Greenwood and Drew Powell of Indianapolis package up boxes for the finished food packages.

Right, top: Jack Meyer of Center Grove expresses his excitement while measuring out the dehydrated vegetables.

Right, bottom: Walt Lacy of Perry Township in Indianapolis, fills a cup with soy.

50-year bond

Lanny Duke says he's grown closer to his Center Grove High School class since graduating in 1966

By **Haleigh Inscore**

Nearly 50 years after receiving his diploma from Center Grove High School, Lanny Duke remains in close touch with his classmates from 1966. In fact, he believes his class has become closer in the years since. He attributes this partially to the increased self-confidence that comes with age, but also to the pride that the school has always inspired in its community.

During his school-aged years, Duke was involved in the National Honor Society, played football, and participated in drama club. As a young boy, he played baseball during the school district's first year of Little League in 1957.

"We were proud to be the Trojans," he recalls of his team. "I don't know how we lucked out and got that name."

After graduating, Lanny attended IU where he studied speech and business. During his freshman year of college, he returned to Center Grove for homecoming and says that's when he began dating his now-wife, Karen (née Alexander), who graduated from Center Grove the year after him in 1967. The couple's two children, Lance and Jennifer, also graduated from Center Grove High School in '88 and '91, respectively.

Duke has been in the optical industry for more than 30 years and he says he's been fortunate to have positions that allow him to stay in the area. "Sure, I've had opportunities to go elsewhere but it always felt like this was where we wanted to be."

One thing he does to keep busy is help out his brother, Norman (class of '61), and his nephew, Steve, on the farm, which has been in the Duke family for more than 100 years. "They raise cattle and [grow] mostly corn and soybeans... my job is typically to drive the tractor. I don't give them much manual labor anymore," he says, chuckling.

Lanny and his classmates keep in touch through email and Facebook and have "mini reunions" when out-of-towners come back to the area. He describes how the importance of the schools growing up had a lot to do with the involvement of students and their relationships today: "The school was the focal point of our community because we had no real town... it was White Rive Township, it was the Center Grove schools.... I think there's a pride in our school system that I hope never goes away." Duke also explains how his class has supported each other and grown together in their faith, "There's an awful lot of prayers going around when people need them."

As for their landmark 50 year celebration, he says, "It's going to be a big weekend. We've planned it around homecoming football game. So Friday night we'll go to the football game, Saturday night we're having a big dinner... We're going to make a whole weekend of it."

Lanny's graduating class is one of three that will be honored at this year's Gala for the Grove fundraiser taking place on April 22.



Lanny Duke. Photo by Nicole Davis



1957, The first year of Center Grove Little League. Lanny (front row, third from left) and his team, coached by Bill Sutton. Submitted Photo



Lanny Duke's senior photo, 1966.
Submitted Photo

Getting to know Lanny Duke...

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

I think [to] plan more for the future rather than live for the moment. As young people, I don't know whether we would heed that advice but that's one thing I kind of wish I had done a better job of.

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

My parents and my family, of course, my older brother. We had some great teachers. I would specifically mention Mr. Vandermeer as our principal, Mr. Sloop, who was a math teacher, Mr. and Mrs. (John and Dorothy) Clements who were teachers and he was one of our coaches. Those folks took an interest in us as people and as individuals and became our friends later on in life. I think from that standpoint, those people had a big impact on me. I think my church (Bluff Creek Christian) has had a huge impact on me... people there who have been mentors to me and that helped me grow up. My parents went there before I was born and that's really the only church I've ever gone to. I currently serve as a teacher and elder at the church.

What do you do in your free time?

I like to help on the farm. My brother and nephew farm full-time and one of my biggest passions is to be able to help in the spring and the fall... I love playing golf. I play it badly, but I love playing golf.

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

I'd like to stay alive for a little while longer (laughs). I think Karen and I would like to travel some... we'd like to go out West, some places that I've been that she hasn't gotten to go to. We've been to many of the states and I think we'd love to see them all. And just maintain good health so that we can see our grandchildren and great-grandchildren grow up. We want to stay active in the church... when we do retire I could see us being even more active there. Then just farm and live life.



The school was the focal point of our community because we had no real town... it was White Rive Township, it was the Center Grove schools.... I think there's a pride in our school system that I hope never goes away. ~ Lanny Duke



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Brooke Van Paris
@B_VanParis
posted on March 24



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Leslie Cuma-Fontaine

WRTFD paramedic helps introduce program to decrease emergency response times for at-risk population

BEHIND the BADGE

Response time is crucial in an emergency situation, and often when a person lives alone, they can't answer the door. White River Township Fire Department paramedic Leslie Cuma-Fontaine found a solution that would allow the department quicker access to homes belonging to at-risk independent seniors and disabled residents.

WRTFD recently began the Residential KNOX-BOX Program. Residents in the service area can purchase or apply for a loan for a secure box which holds a house key that only the fire department can access. The department already uses KNOX-BOX for commercial properties, and Cuma-Fontaine discovered the company offers a residential product.

"There is a better option than us breaking your door down, which happens more than we'd like it to because in that emergency situation, we just care about getting to the person," she says. "I was looking for ways to make my dad's house safer. If I would be willing to put it on my own dad's house, I'd be willing let people in the community know about it. It's a tried and tested system so we know it's safe."

Those interested in the program can call WRTFD at (317) 888-8337 or email lcuma@wrtfd.org.

Growing up in Northwest Indiana, Cuma-Fontaine attended University of Southern Indiana before joining the National Guard in 2004. She spent 11 ½ years in the Guard, just recently discharged. She moved to Indianapolis in 2009. She was hired part time to WRTFD in 2011, full time in January 2014. She resides in Perry Township with her husband, Zack who is a firefighter/paramedic. They both work part time at Community East Hospital as paramedics in the Emergency Room.

What was your inspiration to become a paramedic?

From a really young age, I felt inclined toward the medical field. I was in high school during 9/11. I saw some of my friends joining the military. I went to college but after the first year, I decided to join the army as a medic. I was excited to get medical training and use that to help service members. It was an easy transition for me when I came home to go into EMS.



Leslie Cuma Fontaine, Photo by Nicole Davis

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

It's all of the little things. I really like being a part of the community and doing little things to make people feel better, whether it's making sure their door gets locked or calling someone for them.

What aspect of the job do you find most challenging?

Leaving work at work. I'm a pretty compassionate person so it's hard to leave runs after I'm done with them.

What do you enjoy doing in your off-time?

Spending time with my husband; we have two fur kids. I enjoy working with animals. I spend time at shelter, Southside Animal Shelter, walking dogs or grooming them, whatever they need that day. I'm a member of the Morgantown Technical Large Animal Rescue Team.

What are your future goals, professionally or personally?

I love education and training. I like the idea of being better at what I do, whatever that is. I want to be a better paramedic. I'm also in nursing school and will be happy to graduate. I want to have my own animal shelter/rescue someday.

What would you have done if you hadn't become a paramedic?

I love science. I have a bachelor's in biology, so I probably would have followed that into research.

Compiled by Nicole Davis

Teacher of the Month

Kids, send your name, address and telephone number along with a 100-word summary of why your teacher should be honored as the Center Grove Icon Teacher of the Month to teacher@myicon.info. The deadline for nominations for the May-June 2016 Teacher of the Month is May 1st. Your teacher will receive special recognition; plus, your class will win a pizza party compliments of Chicago's Pizza. Please take time to nominate a deserving teacher from Center Grove.

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#WhyINEDAWalk

Center Grove teacher Shannon Nunnelly organizes walk
for National Eating Disorder Awareness

AWARENESS

By Nicole Davis

Learning that your loved one has an eating disorder can be scary, but there are resources available.

After experiencing the effects of an eating disorder in her own family, Center Grove resident Shannon Nunnelly decided it was her turn to give back. She is organizing a walk on April 23, 9 a.m. check-in time at Freedom Park in Greenwood to raise awareness of the disorder.

About four years ago, Nunnelly she was informed her daughter has an eating disorder. She wasn't familiar with disorder, and had no idea where to turn.

"We've been fortunate to have a lot of great therapists and treatment centers, but finding them was a challenge," Nunnelly says. "That's what brought us into this world. For me, having done this for four years now, I want to give back.

My biggest role in this is to raise awareness. There is a lot of stigma. People don't want to talk about it. A lot of good things have come from talking about it. There is hope in awareness, information and courage."

The best resource Nunnelly found was NEDA, a nonprofit advocating for prevention, research and access to quality care for people with eating disorders. According to nedawalk.org, more than 30 million individuals in the U.S., male and female, are affected by eating disorders.

As a kindergarten teacher at Center Grove Elementary, Nunnelly said she's received

large support from the Center Grove Community School Corporation, particularly Superintendent Dr. Rich Arkanoff. He's invited her to speak to clergy groups, a wellness committee, booster club committee and offered other avenues of reaching out.

"I'm raising awareness that eating disorders can be deadly," she says. "One of the myths is that eating disorders are a choice. It's not a choice. As a parent, you should know you didn't cause the eating disorder and approach it with empathy and understanding. It is real. Raising awareness and showing there is hope, that is the biggest thing."

Nunnelly and her daughter participated in the NEDA Walk in St. Louis two years ago, while staying at a treatment center there.

"It was cool to be with a group of people that get it, to see that there are so many other parents like us," Nunnelly said. "It really doesn't discriminate. There are so many parents look-

ing for answers."

The walk had taken place in Indianapolis, just not in recent years. Nunnelly decided to try her hand at organizing one, serving as chairperson for the Greater Indianapolis NEDA Walk.

"I thought let's keep it here, local, smaller to get our feet wet," she said. "The walk is only a mile, so the main purpose is raising awareness and raising funds. I'm overwhelmed at the level of support people have shown for the event. If they can't come, they'll donate. It's been neat to see."

Registration is \$25, which comes with a t-shirt and tote bag. Additional activities are planned for the day, including pre-walk yoga, inspirational quotes along the walk path, a professional eating disorder therapist speaking on the issue as well as someone in recovery and a parent. There is a NEDA Garden Of Hope where people can write why they're walking and who they're walking for. For more information, visit nedawalk.org/Indianapolis2016.

Greater Indianapolis NEDA Walk

When: April 23, 9 a.m. check-in

Where: Freedom Park, Greenwood

Info: Visit nedawalk.org/indianapolis2016



Shannon Nunnelly is the organizer of the NEDA Walk to take place on April 23.

Photo by Nicole Davis



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FROM THE PUBLISHER

Research will help guide us in creating better ICON

You may notice that this issue of the ICON looks a little different than the ICON you received last month. You'd be correct. We have done a slight redesign inside to accommodate a different approach to content. We recently hired SMARI, a nationally respected research firm based out of Carmel, to gain a better understanding of our readers, and non-readers alike, and what they are most interested in reading in a community news publication. For those of you who took the survey, we appreciate your time. It was very helpful.

In short we know you want more about community - anything community - and oh, yes, entertainment. In the coming issues you will see more of that type of content. Interestingly enough, what came in at 57 percent for readers and 49 percent for non-readers was local sports - high school and intramural. That was very puzzling to use since we know Center Grove loves its high school and youth sports. We would have thought that number would be much higher. What scored high was community events and updates on community projects. Again, we're committed moving forward to bringing you that information in a way that is enjoyable to read. If you have any questions, comments or ideas, please send them to me at rick@icontimes.com.

As always, thank you for reading the ICON.



Rick Myers is co-owner of Times-Leader Publications, LLC., publisher of Center Grove ICON, Southside Business Leader and The Southside Times. Write him at rick@icontimes.com.

BELIEVE IT!

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

The Ohio driver's education manual states that you must honk the horn whenever you pass another car.

- dumblaws.com

How potholes are filled...



Time to quit flipp'in

VIEW

By Howard Hubler

I recently read an article in a liberal rag that had a lengthy plea from an individual who made a life career out of minimum wage work at a local hamburger stand. If you did not know any better, and you read his tedious remarks (how was difficult for he and his family to feed themselves, how it was hard to pay rent), you would come away really brokenhearted. It was in one of those western cities that mandates how much minimum wage that we pay. Whatever it was, this guy needed more.

Well, I gear my article to the small business person. Let's say that you or I were selling a good or a service that we stumbled upon by chance and thought it was the next miracle widget. Let's say we set up our tent and we were selling away this product and after several months it became abundantly clear the marketplace did not like this product as well as we did. Let's say after repeated small loans from friends and family you were getting further in debt.

Perhaps one day you would find yourself at a local pub with a friend of yours enjoying a beer. You were telling him how this career of selling widgets is entering its per-

haps second or third year and year and you are hocked up to your eyeballs, you ask your friend desperately, what you should do.

So here's the point that you and I as business people can take to heart. Why is it when this person makes this error, we all have to backfill his problems and pay for his lifestyle? If you and I made his mistake, the best we could hope for is to file bankruptcy and make others participate in our misery for a one time deal. When the deal was over, game over.

This is my rant, you and I get one shot at a correction, and individuals can make a lifestyle out of the correction. One unaffordable, illegitimate baby, then the next. One minimum-wage job not paying for your lifestyle, then the next.

"Why is it when this person makes this error, we all have to backfill his problems and pay for his lifestyle?"



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

Extraordinary teachers in an excellent district

OUR VIEW

A high performing school district such as Center Grove wouldn't be so strong without the excellent leadership that it has in its teachers.

Center Grove Community School Corporation (CGCSC) recently announced Teachers of the Year for the 2015-2016 school year. Each teacher is recognized for making an extraordinary impact among students and colleagues in his/her building: Center Grove High School: Mary (Cathy) Campolattara, Special Education; Maple Grove Elementary: Heather Gant, Instructional Coach; Center Grove Middle School Central: Samuel Fritz, Band Director; North Grove Elementary: Julie Young, Instructional Coach; Center Grove Middle School North: Daniel Stier, Grade 8 Math; Pleasant Grove Elementary: Victoria House, Grade 2; Center Grove Elementary: Stephen Blackburn, Grade 4; and Sugar Grove Elementary: Jenifer Prenatt, Special Education.

We've had the opportunity to meet, and hear stories about some of these teachers. Others, we haven't yet had that pleasure.

The CGCSC Teacher of the Year will be announced at the Teacher Celebration Night in the Center Grove High School Auditorium on May 2, 7 p.m. Each building nominee will receive special recognition from their building principal.

Through the Teacher of the Month partnership with Chicago's Pizza, we've been able to meet some of the students' favorite teachers, and we must say, they've all been pretty incredible: from cheery personalities to the intelligent conversations we've seen them have with the children. It's one reason we keep doing this. Kids, keep sending your nominations to teacher@myicon.info!

QUOTE

"Behold, my friends, the spring is come; the earth has gladly received the embraces of the sun, and we shall soon see the results of their love!"

~ Sitting Bull



IT'S GOLDEN
SPECIAL SECTION
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**CENTER GROVE
ICON**

Pages 12-13

What to look for when touring a senior community

Submitted by CarDon, Family-first Senior Living

SENIOR LIVING



We know that moving to a new home, whether by choice or necessity, is not an easy thing to do. It can be hard to let go of familiar scenes and greet new ones. That's why it's essential to make the right choices and ask the right questions.

When you visit a senior living community – whether a CarDon community or not – here are some of the things you should keep in mind before, during and after the tour.

- **Pay attention to the staff.** The quality of the caregiving team is one of the most critical factors in whether residents maintain their health, happiness and sense of independence. Is the staff friendly? Do they interact with the current residents frequently in a positive manner? Does the staff listen and make eye contact?

- **Look at the current residents.** Observe the people already living there to get a sense of how residents are treated. Do they seem active and engaged? Are they treated courteously and respectfully by the staff? Smiling faces are a good sign!

- **Is the community clean?** Observe the level of cleanliness – both what you can see and what you can touch and smell. Ask about the housekeeping performed in the personal living spaces and common areas. Also inquire about laundry routines.

Run your fingers over some furniture and shelves!

- **Talk to current residents and their families.** Make sure to take some time to talk with current residents and their families to get their feedback. Ask them for their honest opinions of the community. The community may even have a resident advisory council to help connect you.

- **Eat a meal at the community.** Diet is very important to seniors and rehabilitation patients, in terms of both their health and quality of life. Ask to share a meal with current residents during your visit. Make sure it's the regular meal everyone eats, not something special whipped up for the occasion. Ask about dining hours, menu choices and specialized needs. Solicit feedback on the food from residents.

- **Check out the activities.** Try to visit when activities are going on so you can observe or even participate. Make sure the social calendar is full of events, hobbies, religious services, crafts and other things you or your loved one enjoy. Musical performances, book groups, plays, quilting clubs, etc. form the lifeblood of a community.

- **Examine the safety and security of the community.** Do the bathrooms have grab bars and accessible showers and commodes? How do residents contact staff if they have an emergency? Is the community secure with all entrances monitored?

- **Ask about move-in and move-out procedures.** Moving multiple times from place to place can be disruptive, especially to seniors or those with medical challenges. Ask about timing, requirements and procedures for moving in. Also inquire about criteria for when a resident moves from one level of care to another (e.g., from assisted living to skilled nursing). What length of notice is required?

The staff at each of the 18 CarDon communities throughout Indiana are dedicated to a family-centered approach to senior living that focuses on making a positive difference in the lives of the people served -- from creating inviting, beautiful communities to providing compassionate, innovative and professional healthcare services. For more information, visit cardon.us.

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, May 20th:
6-9 pm: Meet & Greet - Ticketed Event - \$25
Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds
Conference Complex

Saturday, May 21st:
11 am: Mayberry Themed Parade
12 pm: Tribute Artist show
1-2 pm: Mayberry themed contests/games
2-3:30 pm: Music Acts
4 pm: VW Boys Show
6:30 pm: Basketball Game at Bosstic Gym,
Tribute Artists vs. Local celebrities
7:30 pm: Mayberry After Dark
- Ticketed Event
9:30 pm: Phil Fox Comedy Show
- Ticketed Event

Sunday, May 22nd:
11-12 pm: Lawn Mower Races in front of stage
12 pm: Tribute Artist Show
1-2 pm: Mayberry themed contests/games
2-3:30 pm: Musics acts
2-3 pm: Squad Car Nationals at
Government Center
4 pm: VW Boys Show

SPECIAL GUESTS

MAGGIE MANCUSO
DAVID BROWNING
THE VW BOYS
*Along with other
Tribute Artists*

David Browning as
"The Mayberry Deputy"
Allan Newson as Floyd
Eric Lowry as Mayor Pike
Jeff Branch as Howard Sprague
Phil Fox as Ernest-T
Jeanette Kleiber as Aunt Bee
Bob Mundy as Briscoe Darling
Kenneth Junkin as Otis
Tim Pettigrew as Goober
Michael Oliver as Gomer

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IMPROVISE, ADAPT & OVERCOME

By Nicole Davis

REALITY TV

Brooke Van Paris has overcome a lot of obstacles in her life. As a professional obstacle course racer, the Greenwood resident puts her

physical and mental strength to the test on the new Fox TV show, *American Grit*.

American Grit, starring WWE's John Cena as its host, features 16 elite athletes, eight males and eight females, chosen for their "never give up" attitude.

They are paired into teams of four and led by military mentors, who train the athletes to work as a team to overcome military-grade challenges. Van Paris' mentor, Tee Hanible, is a retired gunnery sergeant with the U.S. Marines.

"I never in a million years thought I would be a part of such an amazing experience with such amazing people," she says. "I'm the second youngest on the show. (Age 25) I'm looking at these people as athlete inspirations to me, and didn't realize until I was on the show that they were looking at me the same way. That was a neat turning point for me, to realize that although I was doing in my life what I thought was right for me, in turn I was inspiring others by the journey and the story that I have."

Van Paris is a Center Grove High School graduate. Through her high school years, she competed in varsity track, varsity cheerleading, played softball and basketball for eight years and was a gymnast for 10 years. She was in the National Honor Society, and earned a full-ride scholarship to Indiana University in Bloomington.

On Oct. 29, 2009, her sophomore year at IU, Van Paris was leaving class and was involved in a head-on car accident. Her car spun around twice, with the engine coming through the car, trapping her inside.

"I managed to get out of my car," she says. "I called my mom and dad. After I called, I started to figure out what just happened. All at once, everyone around me realized my hands were mangled, from the air bag. I didn't know when I first got in an accident that it would be this long of a journey."

Van Paris wore a cast going from her fingertips to her elbow, on both arms, for two years. She says she was essentially handicapped, and couldn't do things like eat, shower or get dressed by herself. Her parents took turns driving to Bloomington to help her with her daily activities. She says her father told her to focus on her education, because it's the one thing that can't be taken away. Through those two years, she maintained full-time status as a student, graduating in four and a half years.

"I asked a lot of, 'Why me?'" She says, "I didn't get the answer of why me until now. During that time, I had gained a

lot of weight; I was sedentary. I was trapped in a body that wasn't mine. I was living a life that I didn't plan for myself. I tried to embrace the fact that I was out of shape, that this would be my life. I was miserable. I wasn't happy not being active."

She ran her first obstacle course race in October of 2014, an easy three-mile course with homemade obstacles.

"It wasn't that hard looking back at it, but at that point, it was the hardest thing I'd ever done," Van Paris says. "Until that point, I had never run a mile non-stop. My first race went terrible, but I crossed the finish line."

Through the next 12 months, Van Paris ran 48 obstacle course races.

"I ended up losing 40 pounds over the course of that year and essentially earned my life back," she says. "I found my happiness again and found inspiration. I found a great support system in a team that I'm involved in, people that are just as happy to be moving as I am. They call the team Crazy Mudder Muckers. Our motto is 'one team, many goals.' I've never been involved in a sport where everyone is so happy to be moving, active and see each other succeeding."

In October 2015, she represented the U.S. in the Obstacle Course Racing World Championships.

Van Paris was chosen out of 6,500 applicants for *American Grit*. She lived in Seattle from November to December, filming the show. The 10-week season begins on April 14, 9 p.m. There is up to \$1 million in prize money at stake for the competitive show.

"It's going to be something that's very inspirational to the country as a whole," Van Paris says. "It's going to show people that no matter where you come from in your life, you can do the things you want to do if you have courage and determination. This show physically and mentally tests our limits to see who can really, truly hold on to that characteristic. There are hard, rigorous competitions to get us out of our comfort zones. It's the great equalizer."

The whole experience is very humbling."

Van Paris resides in Greenwood with her two dogs and works for Zink Distributing as a sales representative. She keeps healthy by packing her meals, five to six of them a day, and going to the gym five days a week, lifting weights and doing cardio. On weekends, she says she likes to do different types of activities, such as rock climbing, bicycling and running outside.

For the past few months, Van Paris says it's been hard to keep her participation and the results of the show a secret, and is excited to finally get to share something that was so influential to her with her family and friends.

"If nothing came from the experience, being there and inspiring people was enough for me," Van Paris says. "A person



Brooke Van Paris is one of 16 contestants on *American Grit*, the new Fox show. Photo courtesy of Olugbenro Ogunsemore/FOX.

Getting to know Brooke...

- I'm really terrified of heights. In the advertisements (of *American Grit*) they show me repelling down a bridge. I'm the one in the pink that they flash to. I was doing that like a champ, because I didn't want anyone to know I was scared, but I was terrified.
- Babe Ruth has one of my favorite quotes – it's hard to beat a person that never gives up. The show taught me that, more than ever. I've never given up so far and I wasn't about to give up at any point.

Brooke Van Paris of Greenwood puts her 'never give up attitude' to the test on Fox's new show, *American Grit*



Above (top to bottom): Car wreck on Oct. 29, 2009; Van Paris in rehabilitation after her car accident; and Brooke Van Paris competes in the Obstacle Course Racing World Championships in October 2015. Submitted Photos

telling me I inspire them is what motivates me and lights the fire in me to keep going, because I know people are watching. At my young age, I've been through a lot. It is so worth it to make sacrifices to find your happiness."

NIGHT & day LOCAL ENTERTAINING ENTERTAINING

EVENTS

Writers Association • The Central Indiana Writers' Association celebrates National Poetry Month with Penny Dunning, published poet and publisher of Chatter House Press. Visitors are welcome. | When: April 18, 7 p.m. | Where: Barnes & Noble, Greenwood in the café area. | Info: Visit centralindianawritersassoc.org.

Guts and Bugs - The Microbiome's Role in Health and Disease • This free dinner seminar will give a basic understanding of the complex interactions between humans and the bacterial flora living in the intestine. Jason R. Roberts, M.D., Gastroenterologist, will discuss the role this flora plays. | When: April 20, 5 - 6 p.m. | Where: Community Hospital South's main lobby, 1402 E. County Line Rd., conference center, Indianapolis. | Info: Call (317) 887-7434.

Contract Bridge Tournament • Contract Bridge Tournament is sponsored by The Social of Greenwood. Registration begins at noon on Friday and play will begin at 1 p.m. Saturday play begins at 9 a.m. Friday dinner and snacks Saturday continental breakfast and lunch. | When: April 20 and 30. | Where: The Social of Greenwood, 550 Polk St. | Cost: \$120 per two-person team for Social members or \$140 per team for non-members. | Info: Call (317) 882-4810.

Inside the Indianapolis Zoo: A New Hope • Join Julie McDearmon, Director of Institutional Advancement at the Indianapolis Zoo, as she discusses the Zoo's animal conservation mission and provides WILD facts about the Zoo's animals and future projects. | When: April 20, 6:30 - 8 p.m. | Where: White River Library branch, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: Visit pageafterpage.org.

Spies Like Us • Experience a spy's life by decoding messages, navigating a laser field and trying on disguises in this school-age program. | When: April 21, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. | Where: White River Library branch, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: Visit pageafterpage.org.

Gala for the Grove: Unforgettable Friday • The gala presented by the Center Grove Education Foundation will include a VIP reception, dinner, and silent and live auctions, followed by live music and dancing. WRTV-6 News Anchor Rafael Sanchez will serve as the Emcee, with live music provided by The Company Band. Professional portraits will also be available from About Face Photography. | When: April 22, 6 p.m. - midnight. | Where: JW Marriott, Indianapolis. | Cost: \$100 per person or \$850 per table. | Info: Visit centergrovefoundation.org.

Mother's Day Make and Take • Children can stop by to create a special craft for Mom, Grandma or anyone special. | When: April 23, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. | Where: White River Library branch, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: Visit pageafterpage.org.

Rock the Block • The event includes a 5K walk/run, 10K run, free kids run, music, food trucks, vendors and giveaways. Proceeds benefit charities serving the Center Grove area. Jon Klaasen, American Idol contestant, will perform on the Block Main Stage. Main Street Expo will showcase local food vendors, charities, sponsors with activities and games. | When: April 23, 10K run 8:35 p.m.; 5K 9 a.m. | Where: Center Grove High School. | Cost: \$30 registration. | Info: Visit rocktheblockrun.org/register-to-runwalk.

Greenwood Lions • Join the Greater Greenwood Lions Club meeting. | When: April 26, 7 p.m. Meet and eat

begins 6:30 p.m. | Where: Golden Coral, 160 S. Marlin Dr., Greenwood. | Info: Call Vickie Gilmore, (812) 603-4440.

The Wizard of Oz • Center Grove Fine Arts Academy will perform The Wizard of Oz. | When: April 29, 7:30 p.m., April 30, 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. and May 1, 3 p.m. | Where: Center Grove Church, 2340 S. State Rd. 135, Greenwood. | Cost: \$5 adults, \$3 students. At the door prices are \$1 more. | Info: Visit centergrovechurch.org.

Waggin' on Main Street • The Town of Bargersville will host this fundraiser for the Humane Society of Johnson County. All pets are welcome and must be on a leash. | When: April 30, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. | Where: 24 N. Main St., Bargersville. | Cost: 5k Dog Walk \$20.00 @ 10am, 1 Mile Dog Walk \$10.00 at 10 a.m. | Info: Pre-register at the Town Hall, 24 N. Main St. Monday - Friday, 7 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Race for an Orphan 5K • The Boaz Project will hold its 9th Annual Race for an Orphan 5K. It includes family-friendly activities and professional chip timing, all to benefit orphans. Strollers and pets are welcome. | When: April 30, 9:30 - 11 a.m. Registration begins 8:30 a.m. | Where: Craig Park, 20 E. Smith Valley Rd., Greenwood. | Cost: \$15 students, \$35 individuals, \$70 family. | Info: Visit boazproject.org/race.

Puzzling for Autism Fundraiser • Create a team to compete and assemble identical jigsaw puzzles in the least amount of time. Join for food/drinks and vendor booths while cheering for a favorite team. Proceeds benefit Johnson County Autism Support Group. Event sponsored by Liberty Mutual Insurance. | When: April 30, 10 - 2 p.m. | Where: Center Grove Middle School Central, 4900 Stones Crossing Rd., Greenwood. | Cost: \$20 per person. | Info: Visit jcasg.org.

18th Annual Senior Expo • Approximately 100 vendors will participate in the 18th Annual Senior Expo sponsored by Franciscan St. Francis Health Rehabilitation Services and in part by Newcomer Funeral Home, Einterz Law Offices and Modern Woodmen of America. This event, including a senior fraud panel, is free to the public. | When: May 5, 9 a.m. - noon. | Where: The Gathering Place, 1495 W. Main St., Greenwood. | Info: Visit TheSocialofGreenwood.org.

Free Comic Book Day! • Celebrate the 15th Annual Free Comic Book Day at the library. Show off cosplay skills by coming in costume for the activities and crafts. Receive a free comic book! | When: May 7, 2 - 4 p.m. | Where: White River Library branch, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: Visit pageafterpage.org.

Choral Concerts • The Franklin College Music Department will feature all three college choirs: FC Singers, the Women's Chorus and the Men's Chorus. | When: May 7, 7 p.m. and May 8, 2 p.m. | Where: Clarence E. and Inez R. Custer Theater, Old Main St., Franklin. | Info: Call (317) 738-8185.

Craft Night: String Art • Everything old is new again and that includes string art from the 1970s! No hammer needed and all supplies will be provided. Attendee must be between the grades of 8 and adult. | When: May 18, 6:30 - 8 p.m. | Where: White River Library branch, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: Visit pageafterpage.org.

5K & Fun Run • Saints Francis & Clare Catholic School will host this 5K & Fun Run. There will be music, food and more, so hang out afterwards for fellowship. | When: May 30, race starts 10:15 a.m. following 9 a.m. mass. | Where: 5901 Olive Branch Rd., Greenwood. | Info: Visit ss-fc.org/raceroster.com.

Culinaria An Option:

Johnson's BBQ Shack

The scoop: Although Keith and Nathaniel Johnson of Johnson's BBQ Shack will continue to be seen at events in their familiar food truck, they have anchored their business in downtown Bargersville where people can enjoy their sandwiches and other menu items every Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Their specialty is their half pound sandwiches. With meats available by the pound, you can choose from their pulled pork, pulled chicken, beef brisket, boneless pork chop or all beef hotdog. Order their baked potato with butter & sour cream or a deluxe with your choice of meat included. Their sides include baked mac and cheese, BBQ baked beans, sweet corn casserole, chips, homemade vinegar slaw, and mustard potato salad. Kid's menus are available.

Specialties: Pulled pork, pulled chicken, beef brisket barbecue

Recommendation: Pit Master Special (pulled pork with slaw on top)

Hours: Friday 11a.m. - 9 p.m.; Saturday 11a.m. - 9 p.m.; Sunday 11a.m. - 8 p.m.

Location: 82 S. Baldwin St. in Bargersville

Website: johnsonsbqqshack.com



Where We Dine:

Jessica Limeberry, owner of Sophia's Bridal, Tux & Prom

Where do you like to dine?

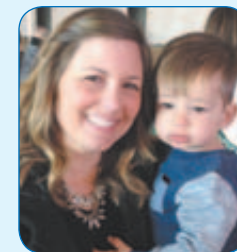
We love to dine at Thai Spice.

What do you like to eat there?

We usually order several things for our big family but my favorite is Pad See Ew.

What do you like about this place? I love the small family atmosphere. Everybody knows you and they treat you very well. It is nice and quaint.

Thai Spice is located at 2220 E. County Line Rd. in Indianapolis. The phone number is (317) 881-2243.



Jessica Limeberry is pictured with her son Adler.

Behind Bars:



Lacy's Jameson Root Beer Float

Bartender: Lacy Shirrell

Location: Stacked Pickle, 172 Melody Ave., Greenwood, IN 46142

Ingredients and directions: Over ice add 1.25 oz. Jameson Irish Whiskey, .75 oz. Baileys Irish Cream, .50 oz. Chila 'Orchata, and 6 oz. Root beer. Add whipped cream on top and serve.



Getting to know Tom and Lynn...

- We used to enjoy going to Las Vegas more than we go now.
- I work full time with State Farm and part time on the restaurant. He's full time at the restaurant and part time doing crowd management at Banker's Life Fieldhouse with the Pacers.

How Tom and Lynn did it?

Best advice: You need to put time into your business – don't leave it to other people to run. We run our business like you'd want to be treated in a restaurant.

Worst advice: We have excellent staff. They've been around; they're local, trustworthy, wonderful people. I cannot imagine having a business where you have multiple people that make decisions and run a business based on a whim.

Best business decision: Tom missed owning a restaurant. I said never again. He had to talk me into this one. It has been wonderful. We've met great people along the way. There haven't been major setbacks. It's been a joy.

Secret to success: Hard work and good planning. Tom has a talent toward math. He runs the numbers. He's a good controller, knowing what you need to charge. I'm a better people person. You put the two together and it makes for a good couple. Neither of our specialties is cooking, but we have great people that do that.

In 5 years... I'd like to see it a seven-day a week business, have live music outside Friday and Saturday nights and still keep the hours early. People know they're getting good, fresh food.

Above questions answered by Lynn Coates

Wheatley's

8902 Southeastern Ave.
Wanamaker, IN 46239
wheatleysfishfry.com
(317) 862-6622

In the fish fry tradition

Tom and Lynn Coates continue to grow Wheatley's in Wanamaker, keeping the same loved recipes with added hours and an expanded menu

By Nicole Davis

When Tom and Lynn Coates purchased Wheatley's in Wanamaker in 2010, they told the former owner that they wouldn't make too many changes – and they've stayed true to their word.

It's run by the same name. The food quality is still high, using the same fish recipe. By keeping those principles that made the Wheatley's so well-liked in the Franklin Township area and beyond, the business has grown in the past six years and introduced an expanded menu and added hours of operation.

"We're just trying to keep a tradition going in a little small town," Tom said. "I like to take something that was started by someone else and keep it going in the family tradition and I believe that we've done this."

Tom and Lynn Coates, of Greenwood, owned two restaurants in the past: Grumpy Ed's at Southport and Bluff Roads and Lord Ashleys on Washington Street. Having sold those businesses, Tom said he had a desire to get back into the restaurant industry when he learned Wheatley's was for sale.

Wheatley's was started as a food market, transformed into a fish restaurant by George Wheatley in 1999. The restaurant was open six months out of the year when the Coates purchased it. It is now open year-round, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Fridays and 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sundays. Breakfast is now offered. Fried chicken was added to the menu, served on Sundays. There is live entertainment outside from May to October on Fridays.

Friday is by far the busiest day of the week, often with a line from the cash register to outside of the door in the evenings for its Fish Fry Fridays.

"We like taking care of customers," Tom said. "If we didn't get to do that, we wouldn't be doing this at all. We like talking to people. We actually care if the food is



Lynn and Tom Coates. Photo by Nicole Davis

good. We'll solve a problem, right here right now. We give it that personal touch that you don't get in a big restaurant."

While Tom said their customer service is top-notch, it's the fish that keeps people coming back.

"I don't think people realize what goes into getting them fresh food," Lynn said. "We put a lot into making sure our food is fresh. I buy the lettuce fresh. We make our chicken tenders fresh. We bread it, cut it, do everything here – the same with our tenderloins and chicken sandwiches. It's fresh food all day."

As members of the Franklin Township Chamber of Commerce, many meetings are held at Wheatley's, approximately eight a year. The next meeting is May 3, 11:30 a.m. with lunch and guest Jackie Nytes, CEO of the Indianapolis Public Library. The building can be rented out for community and other events. The restaurant also hosts events approximately four times a year with proceeds

benefiting the food pantry at the church down the street. Tom said they enjoy supporting the people and causes that represent good things taking place in the small community that houses their business.

"More people need to know about the nice, little town that Wanamaker is," Lynn said. "We need more small businesses. We want the town of Wanamaker to be the best that it can be."

As for the future, Tom said they plan to continue growing. Tom and Lynn said they would like to build Saturdays up to resemble a Friday environment, with live entertainment outside. Tom said they would like to offer more items for lunch, like a soup and salad bar.

"Our business is going quite well right now," Tom said. "I love the crowd. We've met a lot of good people through the restaurant through the years. We have to love it. We're here every weekend."

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BIZ BRIEFS

LJC to host social media workshop

Leadership Johnson County will host a half-day seminar designed to help small businesses and nonprofit organizations navigate social media. Participants will gain knowledge about how social media can be leveraged to gain awareness of their business or organization, work on developing their social media voice, and have an opportunity to practice hands-on application. The event will be held at Tilson Conference Center, 1530 American Way, #200, Greenwood on April 22, 9 a.m. to noon. Tickets are \$59 per person. A \$10 discount is given to all LJC Alumni, Franklin and Greater Greenwood Chamber of Commerce members, Franklin College Alumni, Faculty and Staff. For more information, contact Tandy Shuck at tshuck@franklincollege.edu or call (317) 738-8264.

Harwood receives CoStar Power Broker Award

Lee & Associates announced that Associate Broker Teresa Harwood has been named a 2015 CoStar Power Broker TM by CoStar Group, Inc. (NASDAQ: CSGP). This annual industry award recognizes distinguished professionals in commercial real estate brokerage by highlighting the achievements of the firms and individual brokers who closed the highest transaction volumes in commercial property sales or leases in 2015 within their respective markets. Harwood qualified as one of the top commercial brokers in Indianapolis-based on the total office leasing and retail leasing transactions she closed during the year. In order to be selected, Harwood's overall transaction volumes were evaluated by CoStar against other commercial real estate brokers active in the region, and subsequently ranked among the top brokers in the market. Many of the properties were located in the greater Johnson County area. The complete list of 2015 CoStar Power Broker Awards winners can be found at CoStarPowerBrokers.com.

Weichert Real Estate awards Greenwood REALTORS

WEICHERT, REALTORS® - Tralee Properties announced its 2015 Office Award Winners, of Greenwood. The agents were honored by the national franchise organization, Weichert Real Estate Affiliates, Inc., based on reaching minimum requirements in gross commission income earned or real estate transactions closed in 2015. These Weichert® affiliated agents earned their recognition from among associates in 39 states at the year's end: Jacquie Murray (Ambassador Club); Dave Davis (Executive Club); Larry Cruse (Sales Achievement); Ryan Moriarty (Sales Achievement). For more information, contact Dan Moriarty at (317) 883-3333 or dan@indyrealestate.com.

OPEN 4 BIZ

Calling all crafters

Vanessa Kenworthy and Kathryn Woodward open Craft + Cork in Greenwood for crafters with all interests

Whether you like to paint, crochet, knit, make cards or jewelry, there is something for you at Craft + Cork. Just want local or domestic beer or a selection of wine? They have that, too.

Whiteland resident Vanessa Kenworthy and Franklin Township resident Kathryn Woodward opened the Greenwood-based business March 1. The friends used to host sip and paint events, and noticed a concentration of interested clients in the Center Grove area.

"People would say they didn't have space to have a party at home, there was nowhere to go, or they were worried about their furnishings at home and their kids getting paint on the floor," Woodward said. "So people can come here, do their projects and don't have to spend a lot of money for tools they will only use once for a project."

They offer crafting kits in the store that change out regularly. Those interested can go to the online calendar at craftandcork.com and register for an instructor-led project. The business also offers a selection of Taxman, Mashcraft or domestic beers and a variety of wines.

A Pre-Death and Taxes Festival with Taxman Brewing will take place April 13, to precede Taxman's main event on April 16. The April 13 festival starts at 6 p.m. with beer education, free beer tasting, crafting of skull bracelets, skull planters and skull wine glasses. Attendees must be 21 or older. Kenworthy and Woodward plan to host their grand opening in the late spring.

Why did you open this business?

"We started doing paint and sip events about a year and a half ago. We were doing things mobily and bringing things to people's businesses and venues. We were meeting a ton of people that wanted to do more. That's how this idea was formed, for a place

for people who don't just want to paint or don't just want to do pottery, who want to do more than one medium." - Kenworthy

What did you do to prepare for opening your business?

"We attended tons of classes and networked with a lot of artists so we could offer a diverse range of crafting projects. Since we had been doing this for so long with paint and sip events, it was a natural progression." - Woodward

Who is your ideal customer/client?

"Anybody. We've had a three or four year old in here painting with older siblings. We had a guy in here that came in here for beer and knew that we carried Taxman. He was probably 80. We're getting all age groups, no experience required. I think that's attractive to people." - Kenworthy

How do you plan to be successful?

"We've done our research. We've networked with people to provide a variety of crafts. There is something here for everyone. If you're not a crafter, you can come in here for your book club, game night or trivia night." - Kenworthy

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

"Vanessa has an IT background. Even though IT people are creative, I think it's a special kind of person to transform into a social butterfly who can be creative in crafting and things like that." - Woodward

"We both have an odd background. She was a director in her job. Both of us are creative and crafty but you wouldn't know it in from our backgrounds." - Kenworthy



Vanessa Kenworthy and Kathryn Woodward. *Photo by Nicole Davis*

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Compiled by Nicole Davis



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BIZ HISTORY

Five minutes in 18 days

By Dan Miller

Stay with me on this.

A new phase begins in your leadership. It's announced to the group at large that you've been chosen to lead a particular project or initiative. It's a big deal that, by itself, is a new chapter in your leadership. Your followers recognize it as such.

You realize that somewhere ahead in time — perhaps a day, a week — you will formally take up the duties involved in this new chapter. So, you expect and understand that the beginning (the announcement) and the start (of the actual work) are two different points in time.

Say hello to George Washington in 1775.

On June 15, the Second Continental Congress at Philadelphia announces that Washington is unanimous choice as general and commander-in-chief of all military forces surrounding British-held Boston. Eighteen days later, on July 3, Washington and others arrive outside Boston and conducts his first review of the roughly 15,000 armed colonists there.

But during these eighteen days is a cataclysmic event. These American forces kill or wound nearly 1000 British soldiers at the Battle of Bunker Hill. Washington found out

while traveling through New York City.

Everything changed. In a single day, the struggle exploded from violent tension into a full-fledged war. Bloodshed wasn't accidental, it was purposeful. The chances of a settlement and negotiation were all but obliterated by Bunker Hill.

As a leader, Washington had nothing to do with the event but everything to do with the event's repercussions. There was greater urgency to train the raw units outside Boston. Strategy had to be developed with the knowledge that severe combat had upped the stakes to a dangerous level. The nature of the challenge ahead took a sharp turn toward an unknown direction.

That's how it often is. A gap exists between beginning and starting. An event intervenes that you as the leader didn't expect, hadn't signed on for. And yet, everyone will look to you for how to go forward.

Remember George Washington.



Dan Miller is founder and president of Historical Solutions LLC - Ideas and Inspiration Through History. Dan uses history to help people strengthen their leadership. His website is historicalsolutions.com.



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PERSONNEL MATTERS

Engaging five generations

By Mike Heffner

Today's workforce now has employees from five different generations. This brings welcomed diversity and added challenges to the workplace. The biggest question that comes to mind with this topic is - how in the world do you keep everyone happy, engaged and on board?

Express Employment Professionals recently published an article to help us consider the general mindset of each group toward office meetings:

- Traditionalists (born prior to 1946) will arrive early and expect a paper agenda.
- Baby Boomers (born between 1946-1964) will expect a PowerPoint presentation and are willing to put in any extra hours required if the meeting runs long.
- Gen X (born between 1965-1976) will prefer to watch a video and expect the meeting to end by 5 p.m. to honor work-life balance boundaries.
- Millennials (born between 1977-1997) will want the meeting to have a strong purpose, and will use collaborative digital tools to share meeting information.
- Generation Z (born after 1997) will want to call in from a remote location, no matter what the time, because they view the work-

place as an anytime-anywhere proposition.

It's all about motivation. It's about leveraging each group's strengths and understanding what motivates them. It's about the leader meeting with them individually and determining their professional goals.

A report by the University of North Carolina Kenan-Flagler Business School Executive Development Program suggests they all have some things in common when it comes to how they see an ideal business leader: leads by example, is accessible, challenges and holds others accountable, acts as a coach and mentor and helps others see how their roles contribute to the organization.

There are attributes that cross generations and can lead to team bonding. Whether it's the way your employees care about their families or their vision for the team's success, those common threads can be the beginning of a more cohesive and engaged team.



Mike Heffner is the owner of the Greenwood Express Employment Professionals franchise. Contact Mike at mike.heffner@expresspros.com or visit www.expressindysouth.com.

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Stopping those pesky group messages

TECH SAVVY

By Regina Miller
I love my friends
but not so much

at 1 a.m. when my phone is chiming with every response in a group message. How do I stop group messages...?

Well, I'm assuming you already found the mute button, but then you get a vibration instead so that's really not an acceptable solution. I've seen people ask, "Can you remove me from this group message? I am in bed!" Not only does that not work but then you also risk looking like a jerk and being a buzz-kill for the rest of the group's fun. So the effective and polite answer is to mute the conversation on an iPhone by going to the group message and tapping "Details" then go scroll to the bottom and tap "Do Not Disturb" to mute the conversation. You will still get the messages, but not receive notifications.

If everyone in the group is using iMessage, then you will also have the option to "Leave Group Message," but if there's even one non-iPhone user in the group this option is not available. The other bonus of just muting the conversation is you can catch back up later if you want to or just delete the thread when you are ready.

Android users have different options including settings when the originator first sends the message allowing responders to only respond to the sender and not the whole group, but that original person determines the behavior from the start. There are also apps that allow Android users to stop the multiple responses and of course you can also delete the thread or silence the conversation.

Important texting etiquette: Non-smartphone users don't actually receive group messages. They just get an annoying blank message. It's hard to imagine, but true, not everyone has unlimited texts so you could be running up your friends cell phone bill unintentionally. No one likes to be sold to in a mass group. Sending group messages for friends to buy something is a good way to go from friend to spammer in with simple push of "Send."



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

The 'vitis' touch

WINE & DINE

By Charles R. Thomas, M.D.

Foxy - The strong smell of the

native American grape species (*Vitis Labrusca*), which has the musky smell of a caged animal.

Vitis Labrusca grapes (New World or Eastern grapes) and their wines have a characteristic aftertaste that can be traced to two chemicals, Methyl Anthranilate and O-amino-acetophenone. They produce this odd, somewhat characteristic smell of a caged animal, perfume, and petroleum. This taste or smell seems most intense in the aftertaste and is much more profound in the wine than in the grape or its juice.

When early colonial settlers of North America began to explore, they discovered the *Labrusca* grapes. The most common then and the most common even now is the Concord grape, a red variety that is fairly dark, flavorful, acidic, perfumed, candy-like, and very "foxy"!

Over the centuries as the grape flourished in the wild in Eastern North America, it has adapted to the cold climate, harsh weather, and indigenous natural enemies of the grape. The settlers were able to pro-

duce wine from the wild supply of grapes that were present. However, they were not happy with the taste or smell of their wines. They tried growing the *vinifera* grapes, but the cold climate and disease did not allow any significant production.

The early winemakers discovered quickly the best way to deal with the "foxy" taste was to produce the wine with some residual sugar to cover up the aftertaste. So, within a short time, most all of the *Labrusca* wines were made in a sweet style. Half of the population prefers dry wines and the other half prefers sweet. Soon, grapes were crossed with *Vinifera* grapes from the Old World with these improvements in mind. The *Vinifera* will make the new grape taste better, have little or no "foxy" taste, and would be better able to withstand the harsh Northeastern winters. The good news is that all three results were accomplished with hybrids such as Seyval, Vidal, Traminette, Baco Noir, Chambourcin, and Chancellor.



Charles R. Thomas, M.D. owns Chateau Thomas Winery with locations in Plainfield, Fishers, Bloomington and Nashville. Contact him at charlest@chateauthomas.com.

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Connecting with other Christians

The entire Matei family gets involved in the ministries of Mount Pleasant Christian Church

WHERE WE WORSHIP

Chris and Amy Matei joined Mount Pleasant Christian Church in 2003. In search of a church home, Amy says Mount Pleasant is where they felt most welcomed.

"MPCC is a church community that is very focused on serving others and helping those in need," Amy says. "We have a food and clothing ministry, and once a week we collect a special offering for those who need a helping hand. MPCC is a place for the whole family, engaging and reaching all ages. It is a friendly church, with many opportunities to connect with others!"

Chris works as an airport operations manager, and Amy works for Community North Cancer Center as a nurse. They have three children, Emma, 15, Ethan, 13 and Eric, 10.

"Initially (what brought us to MPCC) was the children's ministries, and after that it was the solid Bible teaching we received there and the friendships our whole family made," Amy says. "We are devoted to our church. It is not a perfect church, (no church is) but it is a church where we feel we can serve God and raise our family."

Here, Amy discusses how MPCC has been influential in her family.

What is it about your place of worship that helps you feel connected to your spouse, children, parents or family?

Our whole family is very connected to MPCC. My husband has taught classes in the past, and I sing on the worship team and in choir. Our daughter, Emma, is very involved in the high school ministry and has volunteered for years in Bibleopolis, the children's ministry. Our sons, Ethan and Eric are also involved in the Middle School ministry, and Ethan serves on the tech team for the Middle School. I think because the whole family is so involved, it keeps us connected and on the same page.

What is one meaningful event that has taken place at your place of worship?

To us, the most memorable event that has happened in our church is the baptism of our three children!

Why would you recommend your place of worship to someone?

I would recommend our church because it is a place you can grow spiritually and connect with other Christians.



Chris and Amy Matei with their children, Emma, Ethan, and Eric. **Submitted Photo**

Mount Pleasant Christian Church

381 N. Bluff Rd.
 Greenwood, IN 46142
 (317) 881-6727
 mpcc.info

Compiled by Nicole Davis

What is it about your place of worship that helps you grow spiritually?

I feel it is a combination of strong, Bible-based teaching and the spiritual support we get from Bible studies and small groups. Support of Christian friends is very important to spiritual growth!

A time to laugh

DEVOTIONAL

By Pastor
Chris Philbeck

I've been a pastor for a long

time. My first full-time ministry began in May of 1980. I've gained a lot over the past 36 years, but as I write this devotional today, I'm also aware of some things I've lost.

One of those lost things, at least for a time, was the ability to laugh. Anyone who's been in full-time vocational ministry for any length of time will tell you that it can be heart-breaking. In the local church we have a front-row seat to every kind of heartache, every kind of loss, and every kind of brokenness imaginable. If you're not careful, you can become so serious and sober that you forget how to laugh.

Several years ago, we took a family vacation to Houston. It was late and I was in the garage with my two best friends, playing ping pong. The next day my wife told me that our son said to her, "I've never heard dad laugh like that before." That was a wake-up call. I hated the thought that his image of me would be one that was, not just serious, but joyless.

Life can sometimes take joy away. I've

always tried to work hard and, honestly, it's sometimes hard to separate myself from my work because I don't have a job, I have a calling.

When it came to laughter, I fell short because I had become too serious about my life, my responsibilities and myself. A lack of laughter had led to a lot of sadness. I'm much better today, not perfect, but much better. And my message to you is to avoid my struggle.

In Ecclesiastes 3, under the heading of "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven." Solomon writes in verse 4 that there is "a time to laugh." Life is hard and our hearts are fragile, that's why we need to embrace joy. So my prayer for you today is that you find the time to laugh.



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

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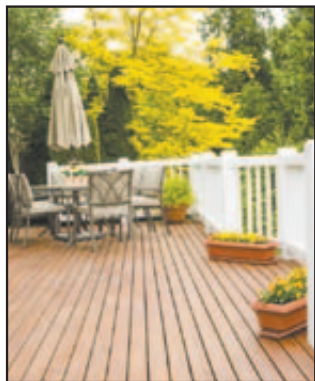
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TsT Home Improvement Services Tip of the Month By Tom S. Truesdale

Decks, Patios and Pavers

Spring is almost here and as the weather improves spending relaxing time outside with friends and family is an American tradition. An addition to or construction of a new deck, patio or paver area can add value to your home while providing outdoor recreational space. There are many options and several things that should be considered before beginning construction of a new patio, paver area or deck.



Concrete Patios:

- Concrete is a great option to consider if your project is being built at ground level.
- Concrete is extremely durable and low maintenance.
- Up front placement cost is generally higher than wood but less than composite decking.
- Stamped concrete can provide a decorative look and the options are endless.
- Stamped concrete can equal or exceed the cost of a composite deck,

depending on the complexity of the pattern.

Paver Areas:

- Pavers can provide a great blend with landscaping and planting.
- Proper installation is labor intensive and critical with paver or else freeze thaw cycles can disrupt and damage the product.
- Pavers systems can be built to incorporate a fire pit or custom outdoor fireplace. Something decks and concrete can not do.

Whether your project is a deck, concrete patio or an outdoor paver system, the options vary greatly from system to system, site to site. Planning and research of products should be carefully reviewed before starting your project. Depending on your location and type of project, permitting may be required. Review your local building codes and always consult with a local qualified contractor for advise and guidance. Hope you enjoy the upcoming spring season with family and friends and I hope you have found this months dialog helpful, TsT.

Consider Size & Layout:

- How many people would you like to accommodate?
- What type of outdoor furniture do you plan to purchase?
- Will the space be used for outdoor cooking?
- Think about shading from the sun.

Decks:

- Treated lumber is the most cost effective but comes with ongoing maintenance and upkeep.
- Composite products are available and can be affordable but upfront material costs are higher than treated wood products.
- Lifetime guarantees are available on some products.
- Composite products as virtually maintenance free.
- Fully composite handrail systems with decorative caps, in a variety of colors and railing spindles, can add ascetic uniqueness; the possibilities are virtually endless.

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Q&A

Answers from Page 4

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Mike Combs

Local business leader finds the Center Grove community always warm and welcoming

Board chairman with the Greater Greenwood Chamber of Commerce, Mike Combs has lived in the Center Grove area since the 1980s.

"Many of my personal memories of this community come from the history and the tremendous changes that have occurred during this time," Combs says. "From going to the drive –in on State Road 135 to watching all the construction occur in our area. My first job was at Orchard Golf Center working for Francie Faires and Joe Singleton. Being at that facility gave me an opportunity to meet a lot of the Center Grove community. They have always treated me with kindness and been extremely welcoming."

Combs is Vice President and Banking Center Manager for the National Bank of Indianapolis, as well as program director for Leadership Johnson County. He is president of the Center Grove Athletic Booster Club, member of Sertoma Club of Greenwood, 20-year member of the Professional Golfers Association and chair-elect for Franciscan Foundation. He and his family have lived in Windsong Estates 2 neighborhood for 15 years.

"This community has been a perfect place to raise our family and provide wonderful opportunities for our children. The school system has done an excellent job of preparing our children for college and for what they will face moving forward in their lives. Now that both of our children are off to college my wife and I spend a lot of our time taking care of the house and yard and tending to our dogs."

Here, learn more about our May ICON of the Month, Mike Combs:

What do you consider your greatest virtue?

Empathy for others.

What do you most deplore in others? Someone who becomes angry very quickly, before taking into account how their actions will affect others.

What do you like most about living in Center Grove? The people, I have made a lot of great friends in the Center Grove area.

If you had to live elsewhere than Center Grove, where would it be? My preference would be to live in a warm climate. I am not a fan of cold weather and enjoy doing a lot of things outside.

If you could begin life over, what would you change? My life has been very good to this point. But if I had to pick one thing it would be to slow down and appreciate what has happened along the journey. I have a tendency to not appreciate how lucky I have been in my life.

If money were no issue, how would you spend it? A couple of different ways. I would like to travel and see the country. I always thought it would be cool to go to every Major League Stadium to watch a ball game. I would also like to help the community. Through my involvement in Sertoma and the Franciscan Foundation, I have found that there is a lot of need in our community and I would like to help.

What makes you happiest? I enjoy being outside with family and friends. Of course if that spot happens to be on the golf course that makes it even better.

What is your favorite vacation spot? Pebble Beach would be the spot. The beauty, history, and the feel of the area. I was able to spend a week there awhile back and I would go back there anytime. Plus the golf is the best in the world.

What do you do with idle time? I am not very helpful when it comes to things around the house so idle time for me would be exercising, playing golf, or hanging out with my family.



What is it that makes you angry? Under no circumstance should a person be cruel to anyone or anything. I see too many instances where people react quickly without thought to others.

What do you do to escape from reality? I may sound like a one trick pony, but I either go hit golf balls or I watch a ball game either in person or on the TV.

What or who is the greatest love of your life? My wife Lynn.

Which living person in Johnson County do you most admire? I actually have three people that I admire on different levels. From a banking level Jeff Goblen. The admiration that the people of Johnson County have for him is amazing. When I am with him I like to watch how he deals with people and try to follow his many great qualities. From a business owner's perspective it would be Felson Bowman. He has a particular skill set that is very hard to find. His ability to have a large understanding and make you think on many levels is difficult for me to grasp, but I am working hard to challenge myself to be better. Finally from a personal level it would be Scott Hines, we have been friends for over 25 years, but what I admire the most about him is the things he does behind the scenes. Never one to be in the spotlight. From Friday nights over at the high school games to writing a letter to a 6 grader who did not make the cheerleading squad. He is truly a kind person.

What is the quality you most like in a man? Straight forwardness and honesty. I don't have time for selfish people. If we all work hard the community benefits.

What is the quality you most like in a woman? Straightforwardness and honesty.

What is your greatest extravagance? I had never had a truck before so last summer I went out and got one.

What are your fears, phobias? Not very good with heights and deep water. I am not a very good swimmer.

What has been the happiest time of your life? I have been very lucky to have a lot of happy times in my life. A couple that stick out are meeting my wife Lynn almost 27 years ago and seeing my two children born. Alexandria in 1994 and Matt in 1996.

Which talent would you most like to possess? I would like to remember all the wonderful things that have happened in my life and appreciate each of them. Every day comes quickly as you get older and I want to make sure I remember every wonderful thing from my childhood, my parents, and all the kind people that have come into my life.

What do you most value in friends? Honesty and a sense of humor.

Which historical figure do you most identify with? I keep going back to sports but, Arnold Palmer. I have had the pleasure to meet him a couple of times and he is a true gentleman. When you can live for 85 years and accomplish all that he has and no one say a bad word about you. That is something to strive for.

What is your greatest regret? I honestly don't think about regrets. If I missed something then I just chose another path and I am sure that something good came out of that choice.

What tenet do you live by? I try to be happy and show kindness to others.

Alice has three cubes
every morning.



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