

CENTER GROVE

ICON

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Nguncer Bualteng opens her second business, Mang Tha Insurance, on Nov. 1 Page 16

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ERIN SMITH

THE 2016 CENTER GROVE ICON

ICON OF THE YEAR

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Left, Caleb plays one of his favorite card games with his mom, Tarah. Middle, from left, Luke, Ben, Caleb, Tarah and Grace Tucker. Right, Caleb enjoys playing video games, especially Little Big Planet 3. Photos by Nicole Davis

Something to be thankful for

Greenwood Christian Academy first grader Caleb Tucker has been an inspiration to those around him as he undergoes chemotherapy

By Nicole Davis

Just three days into the school year at his new school, Greenwood Christian Academy first grader Caleb Tucker had to have surgery. Diagnosed with cancer and

undergoing chemotherapy treatments hasn't stopped the 6 year old from doing his homework or the things he enjoys.

"I think it is incredible how his parents are so strong," said Caleb's teacher, Shelley Maze. "When you talk to them, you can visibly see in their eyes that they're scared and concerned. But when they talk to you they just point you to Jesus in everything they say. They're so encouraging. They're thanking us for what we're doing for Caleb but they don't realize how Caleb is helping us grow and learn because of who he is and how his family is dealing with the situation."

The Tucker family consists of Ben and Tarah Tucker and their children, Caleb, Grace and Luke. Ben works as a pest eliminator and Tarah chose to become a stay at home mom a year ago.

This past summer, Caleb began getting sick, complaining that his side was hurting. The family was on vacation when they took Caleb for his first x-ray, which showed nothing. The family took him to the doctor again six weeks later. The second x-ray showed a tumor the size of a cantaloup growing around his kidney. The family was sent to Riley Hospital for Children to take out the tumor and his kidney. The fast-growing tumor, Wilms' Tumor, was cancerous.

"He was in the hospital quite a few days," Tara said. "We came home and started radiation that same week. His treatment plan is 25 weeks. He did 10 solid weeks of chemo. He's a trooper. He hasn't complained about anything."

Now Caleb undergoes chemo treatments every three weeks. He misses school on days he receives his chemo, but otherwise tries to attend his classes as much as he can.

It was after much debate that the Tuckers decided to send Caleb to GCA this year, and say they are thankful they did.

"They have been amazing," Tarah said. "I didn't know we needed GCA like we did. Even coming down to not having to put in a note every day that he's not there, they understand. His teacher has been phenomenal. She's come to the hospital. She's come to our house. They did a fundraiser for Caleb. They could wear a hat if they brought in a dollar. There were kids that were bringing in their piggy banks to the school, that they were saving for Chucky Cheese and they were giving it to Caleb. It was so precious."

Tarah's sister set up a gofundme page to help the family with medical bills: tinyurl.com/calebtucker. People have had fundraising parties to help. The family has not gone a week without meals being brought to them.

"I never have gone a day throughout this whole process without feeling loved," Tarah said. "We have a thing in our family. For every single day we have to find something to be thankful for. If you focus on the big thing of Caleb has cancer, then you miss out on the little things like the meals people bring, the fact that my mom loves on my kids every week while I take Caleb to chemo. You have to find things to be thankful for. Even Caleb is recognizing it."

Caleb will have a CT scan at 25 weeks, in February, to see if there is any visible sign of the cancer. As 12 weeks, nothing was detected.

Tarah said they've learned a lot from Caleb. He could have gotten angry or bitter, but instead remains a rambunctious child who laughs a lot and is compassionate toward others.

"Did it bother you that you have cancer?" Tarah asks Caleb.

"No, not one bit," he responds. "It's just like a regular sickness but a bigger sickness."

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.



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Josh Allison.

Photo by Nicole Davis

Josh Allison

White River Township Department firefighter says WRTFD is second to none

BEHIND the BADGE

Compiled by
Nicole Davis

Having been around the fire services since he was a child, Josh Allison says he believes the White River Township Fire Department is second to none.

"Every encounter over the last 11 years with White River has been a positive one," he says. "Everything from the administration, all of the chiefs, they have such a strong desire to make the department as a whole better, do everything they can for the community and the members. It's just a big family. They all have such respect for each other and are very professional."

Allison is a graduate of Mooresville High School. At the age of 16, he joined the cadet program at Harrison Township Fire Department and at 18 took classes to become a fireman. He graduated from Franklin College, majoring in chemistry with minors in physics, biology and biochemistry. While working after college, he says his wife convinced him to sign up for a paramedic class to increase his odds of becoming a full-time fireman. He enrolled in a class at Franciscan Health in 2014 and graduated in 2015. While taking those classes, he was hired part-time to the White River Township Fire Department. He became full time in September 2015.

What was your inspiration to become a firefighter?

I've always been drawn to public service. I'm a 4th generation fireman. Riding around in my dad's buggy, the chief's buggy, on fire runs since I was 5 or 6 years old, molded me a true love for the job. I went to Franklin College. I was a volunteer firefighter and a reserve deputy sheriff for four years. I've always wanted to help people. I knew when I got older that it wasn't something I would grow out of. After college, I started considering it as more of a serious career choice.

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

Gratifying for me was completing paramedics class. It was 14 stressful months where I learned a lot. Above anything else, the single most gratifying thing about this job is getting to be there on people's worst day ever, being the person they look to and help them in any way you can.

What aspect of the job do you find most challenging?

There is a lot of stress that comes with the job. You have to have the strength to progress through it. Also, being from this area and running into people you know or know from a friend is challenging. Or being in a situation where you know there's nothing you can do for someone.

What do you enjoy doing in your off-time?

I hang out with my wife, Jenna. I still work at my volunteer department where I got my start, in Harrison Fire Department. I'll play with the animals; we have a border collie and two cats, my wife's cats. I go to my parent's house a lot, help them with whatever they need.

What are your future goals, professionally or personally?

Professionally, I would like to remain a fireman until the end of my career. Ever since I started my career path in fire service, I knew I wanted to be with the White River Township Fire Department. I've lived south of here my whole life. White River does a lot of mutual aid with Harrison Township since it's a small department. Professionally, I want to remain a full-time fireman/paramedic here until I retire and progress up the chain.

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

I was pre-med. If I hadn't become a fireman, I would have either studied diligently and made my best attempt to get into medical school or continued along the same path as my father who specialized environmental cleanup.

HISTORY & ARCHITECTURE

Traveling through State Road 135 and visit businesses from the past

By Jeff Beck

Travel on State Road 135 or Meridian Street is greatly changing as we all know. But what did it used to look like?

County Line Road on the north end of White River Township was home to Easton's Market. Fry Road and SR135, the Southeast corner, had a large home owned by the Skirvin family, which had large 1960's-style landscape. Skirvin children graduated and were very active in Center Grove High School activities. The family residence was razed and is now home of a local bank at the busy intersection.

Travel continues south where Meridian Drive-In Theatre and Browning's Orchard once stood. Owned by the Browning family, both businesses were important to White River Township's economy and social scene. Center Grove students ventured to the theatre on date night and families watched newly-released movies on the big screen. The theatre was on the Westside of SR135, Orchard on the Eastside. The businesses located just south of Orchard Golf Center are currently operated by Francie Faires, daughter of Browning family and Center Grove graduate.

Remember Bargin Bob's shoes? This free-standing building just north of Smith Valley Road on the Eastside sold shoes only. Older residents will fondly remember Ruel West's gas station on Southwest corner of Smith Valley and SR135. Ruel was fondly nicknamed No. 12. Adams corner was also a

popular spot just east of Ruel's station, a long white building facing north, where a variety of items could be purchased. That business is gone, now home of Walgreens and FC Tucker Realtor. The Adams and West children are Center Grove graduates.

Closer to Stones Crossing, remember Benshiemers, Garage, Harbert Plants, Seeds and Veggies, Stan's Glass and Screen Repair. K and P Lodge was on corner of Stones Crossing and SR135 intersection, Northwest corner.

That intersection also was home of Jiffy Whip ice cream store and Rund's market. The business owned by the Rund family for many years.

Whiteland Road and SR135 was home of Harter's auto repair, grocery, hardware, early day big box store without apparel. Charles Harter still operates an auto repair business nearby. A little farther south was Porter Place Barber Shop. Barber, Elmer Porter was so fast cutting hair that in a couple minutes you were done and out of his chair. Elmer's wife and son, Donald also worked at family business. Hart and Porter children graduated from Center Grove.

Bargersville is our last stop today: two gas/auto repair stations, Bakers and Wilbur's. Farm machinery business called Campbell and Morris, an international dealership if memory correct. Fletcher Musgrave's Standard station was also at intersection Sr144/135. One must not forget Pate Furniture on Southwest corner.



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.

Center Grove 'Connector'

2016 Icon of the Year, Erin Smith, brings together her White River Township community through her ability to network and go-getter attitude

By Nicole Davis

She's the type of person you want in your community: someone who's willing to give of her time and participate in everything. As co-owner of Spotlight Strategies in Franklin and the nonprofit Pay It Forward Johnson County, Erin Smith is known for finding a need in her community and taking action.

"Erin is making a tremendous impact on the Johnson County and Indianapolis community as a whole through her connections and ways of connecting other people - whether it's seeing a need such as a need to uplift women or a need to create a fundraising event for whatever the cause is. She goes after it," says Becky Tilson-Squires. "She wants a better future for her kids, for the business landscape of Johnson County. A lot of things wouldn't happen if it wasn't for her go-getter attitude, strength, passion and commitment. She's involved with so much."

For all of this and more, Erin Smith is the 2016 Center Grove ICON of the Year.

Erin and her husband, Trey, moved to the Center Grove area in 2001 for Trey's job. The couple has two children in the Center Grove Community School Corporation, Benjamin and Bailey. Both boys are involved in athletics, so football and other sports are a large part of their family life. They set aside one night a week as a family to go out to eat or stay home and play darts or watch a movie. Trey says Erin also enjoys running, fitness and teaches a Zumba class at the Anytime Fitness in Center Grove.

Erin opened her own business, Stitch Smith in 2002. She and Susan McCarty, owner of Franklin Printing, met at a business networking luncheon. The two would use each other's businesses throughout the years. Erin and McCarty joined forces after the recession to form Spotlight Strategies, providing printing, apparel and promotional items.

"She likes to be out there, in the networking and sales side of things," McCarty says. "It's not easy for her to be tied behind a desk and do that operational side. That's where my strengths are. I'm weak in the areas that she's strong and vice versa. That's how we've made this business work. We have similar personalities, Type

A, but our strengths are different. She's able to go out there, bring in the sales, the opportunities and I can reign them in and make it work internally. It really was the ideal combination."

Erin and McCarty, along with Deb Walton of Indy City Gift Baskets and Jill Bode of Designed Write Public Relations, formed Savvy Dames, a nonprofit to raise funds for women leadership initiatives. Ted Bishop, owner of The Legends Golf Club, spoke to them about the possibility of a larger philanthropic endeavor. Erin and McCarty with Bishop formed Pay It Forward Johnson County, payitforwardjic.com, to give back to 501c3s in the community with one large fundraising effort. A golf outing is held each September, benefitting nonprofits in Johnson County. PIFJC has distributed more than \$220,000 to more than 30 Johnson County charities since 2012.

"Erin likes to figure out new things," McCarty said. "She has a real strong sense of community. She wanted to do something in the community she lives - White River Township."

Thus, Rock the Block Run was formed, an fundraising event for PIFJC. The first Rock the Block, a 5k, 10k and kid's run event, was held in April 2016. It is aimed at bringing the community together to create a smaller town feel, while benefitting local charities. A combined \$15,750 was raised in the inaugural year. More information can be found at rocktheblockrun.org.

"She's a social butterfly and she is in the middle of everything and trying to help any way she can," Trey says. "Rock the Block is a perfect example. She saw a need to help a

charity in the Center Grove community and put exercise and charity together in the Rock the Block run/walk. That turned out to be a fabulous event last year and will probably be bigger this year."

As a member of the Greater Greenwood Chamber of Commerce and advocate of Leadership Johnson County, Erin is often looked to as a mentor. Tilson-Squires met Erin after moving home from Chicago. Erin learned of Tilson-Squires' passion for events and planning and helped her get engaged in the

community. Tilson-Squires started Tilson Travel three years ago after meeting Erin.

"She encouraged me to follow my passions and my heart," Tilson-Squires says. "We would sit down and talk. She would ask me those really hard questions - where do you see yourself five years from

now? She encouraged me to take leaps of faith to follow a dream that I had, believe in myself and encouraged me in ways that no other adult or mentor figure had ever helped me to see. She was a cheerleader for me. If there was something she could help with, whether that was putting me in contact with someone she had a connection with, she wouldn't hesitate to give that person a call. I wouldn't have pursued my travel agency and other avenues that led to my travel agency if it weren't for Erin's encouragement."



From top, Erin Smith. The Smith family pictured from left, Benjamin, Erin, Trey and Bailey. Pictured from left back row, Lori Pfeiffer, Becky Tilson, Carol Chappel; front row, Deb Walton, Susan McCarty, Erin Smith and Jill Bode. Erin Smith and Becky Tilson take a selfie at the Greater Greenwood Chamber of Commerce Holiday Party on Dec. 1.

Submitted photos



Erin Smith prepares for the Pay It Forward golf outing. **Center Grove ICON file photo, August 2014**

Erin has also spent time in the political sector in Johnson County, serving as a precinct captain, a delegate for the 2015 election. She campaigned for John Price when he ran for Indiana State Representative. Price recently concluded his term and chose not to run for re-election.

"A lot of people have come to me over the years and say what do you think I should do about this?" says Price, "I'll say I can give you my opinion and you do what you think was best. Erin was always responsive but wasn't afraid to question something you'd give advice on. I think that shows she has character: to be challenged or asked why should I do this, what is the end result. It's always good when you can work with someone and see that they do take some of your advice. I'm really excited to see more ladies get involved with things like she's involved with and step up into the community. I'm proud to call her a friend and a person I've had the pleasure of someone I've worked with for many years."

Whether it's with her employees, a committee member or friend, McCarty says Erin has made and continues to have a significant impact on the lives of others through her ability to network, make connections and maintain those relationships.

"She's a connector," Tilson-Squires says. "She wants to see people get connected, whether it's a business opportunity or a friendship develop between two people. We were at the Greenwood Chamber holiday party (Dec. 1) and I told her I was looking to do a business, and she said well let me introduce you to this person here. She runs around the room, knows everybody and wants you to know everybody, too."

THE 2016
CENTER GROVE
ICON
ICON OF THE YEAR



face to face

Q: What is your favorite holiday tradition?

"Our family has to get dressed and eat breakfast on Christmas morning before anyone can open presents. We always have the same breakfast items so everyone looks forward to their favorite foods like "monkey bread."



Jim Handy

"My family tradition during the Christmas Holiday is to immediately open our gifts right at midnight. My mom and I are so anxious to see what we got each other, that we can hardly wait. My sister on the other hand refuses to participate and wants to wait and open hers "after the sun rises."



Stephanie Jones

"My family tradition of the Yule log allows us to go out to pick the perfect log and tie ribbons on it for the past yule. On yule, we burn the log, saying goodbye to the past year so we are ready to start the new year."



Ed Bloom

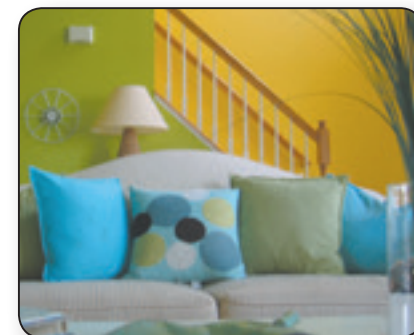


TsT Home Improvement Services Tip of the Month By Tom S. Truesdale

The Finished Basement

The winter season is a great time to complete a finished basement, this month I will provide some tips and idea specifically directed to this type of project.

1. Begin by considering layout for the space:
 - Will the finished space be an open floor plan?
 - Or separate areas such as a bedroom, living space and a bath.
2. If you are considering separate areas including a bath under slab plumbing routing should be planned.
3. If a lower level bedroom is being considered - fire escape egress also needs to be planned and meet local code requirements
4. If a basement wet bar is desired, planning for plumbing and electrical is critical.
5. Electrical circuits should be considered prior to construction, bringing an extra circuit into the space is generally a good idea.
6. Plan for entertainment space:
 - Audio, visual, monitor, lighting, seating and surround sound layout is critical and can become very complex.
7. Any wood framing in contact with concrete should be treated lumber.
8. Consider a drop in ceiling vs drywall, there are advantages to both.
9. Lighting controls and layout should be considered no matter which type of space you are planning.
10. Make sure that any Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing valves, dampers and shut offs are accessible via an access door or chase that can be opened in the future.
11. Selection of finishes:
 - Durability and moisture resistance should be considered.
12. Flood planning should not be overlooked:
 - At a minimum a battery back up sump pump system on a dedicated circuit should be installed.



A finished basement provides immediate usable square footage and value to your home. Basement space is easily kept cool in the summer and warm in the winter. Options for use are endless, from bedrooms, bathrooms, open recreational space to entertainment space. Planning and considering all the options is key before beginning your project. As always consult with a local qualified Construction Professional before starting your project. Have a great holiday season and I hope this month's tips are helpful. Please do not hesitate to call if you have any questions.

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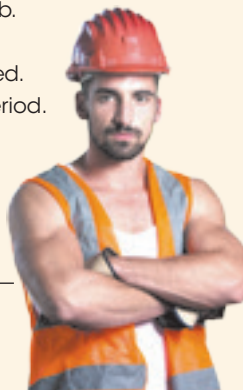
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Center Grove News Quiz

How well do you know your Center Grove community?

Test your current event knowledge each month with a little Q&A!

1 2006 CGHS graduate Nick Pearson is back at his hometown school corporation, doing what for Center Grove Middle School North?

- A. Math Teacher
- B. Football Coach
- C. Choral Director
- D. Language Arts Teacher

2 This month we say farewell to wine columnist, Charles Thomas of Chateau Thomas. In his final column, he writes about potential changes that could take place in the wine industry because of what?

- A. A looming recession
- B. Increase in demand across the U.S.
- C. Trade reform passed this year
- D. President-Elect Trump's new administration



3 White River Township firefighter Josh Allison is a Franklin College graduate majoring in what?

- A. Chemistry
- B. Biology
- C. Economics
- D. Fire Safety



4 Erin Smith, Icon of the Year, is co-owner of Spotlight Strategies in Franklin. What business did she run prior?

- A. Stitch Smith
- B. Smith-field Farms
- C. Erin's Ergonomics
- D. Smithery

5 CGHS 2016 Alumni Emily Larmore will perform with what instrument in the 2017 Tournament of Roses (Rose Bowl) Parade?

- A. Ukulele
- B. Clarinet
- C. Piano
- D. Tuba

Answers on Page 23

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THEN



Left, Nick Pearson's 2006 Senior photo. Middle, Nick Pearson is pictured at a Center Grove show choir performance. Right, Nick and Kathleen Pearson with their son, Gabriel. Photo by Nicole Davis

NOW



Giving Back to the Arts

Center Grove grad and current teacher, Nick Pearson, invests in program that shaped him

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

By Erin Handy

Nick Pearson has always had a passion for music performance. He is currently one of the choral directors at Center Grove Middle School North, but in May 2006, he was just graduating from Center Grove High School.

He was an active member of the Center Grove Choir and Theater Departments, even continuing to direct the music for the theater productions now. He came to the Center Grove School Corporation as a freshman in high school and immediately joined the choir department, and then auditioned for the plays. He was an avid member of Surround Sound and then Sound System, while he also starred in many of the musical productions.

Recently Nick played Nicely-Nicely Johnson in the high school production of Guys and Dolls, which had been done before when he was a freshman in high school, where he participated in the chorus. As he said, "It has been interesting to be a part of both productions."

He is has been married to Kathleen Pearson, also a teacher at Center Grove Middle School North in 7th grade language arts, since 2013. They have a one-year-old son named Gabriel. They are active members of the community and Nick says he enjoys giving back to the departments he enjoyed so much as a student, helping to continue their tradition of excellence.

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

The first thing that comes to mind is to be humble. In my experience, the most talented people are also the most humble. Oftentimes those whom we view as the utmost professionals still behave as learners, continually striving to better themselves. I know when I was young(er), I thought I had it all figured out. In my mind, I knew everything: the intricacies of music theory and vocal pedagogy, the best ways of teaching, how to manage finances, etc. Now I understand that I knew

virtually nothing in the grand scheme of things, and still don't. It seems like every day there is some new knowledge to be attained, a new endeavor to pursue, or a new teacher to learn from. I look back at some of the ways I viewed things when I was in high school and want to slap some sense into myself.

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

Several people have had an impact on me in some way or another. My parents had the biggest impact on me as I was growing up. They instilled in me my basic beliefs and principles. I know I have a lot of my parents in me to this day; for example, I have my mother's compassion and my father's sense of humor. I still can't get my wife to laugh at my jokes, but I won't stop trying.

Of course there are many teachers who had an impact on me as well. I have Chris Pratt to thank for convincing me to go to Center Grove. Had he not provided me the opportunity to join Sound System, I may not have gone to Center Grove at all and, as a result, may not have ended up teaching here. I must also thank Kathleen Kersey for teaching me to get out of my comfort zone. It really wasn't until I was involved in theatre (I spelled it the English way for you, Kers) that I came out of my shell. I was extremely shy, and I struggled talking to people until I participated in the shows at CG. So for her teachings both on and off the stage, I thank her.

What do you do in your free time?

My favorite thing to do in my free time is to spend it with my beautiful wife and 10-month-old son. The love and joy they bring to my life is incomparable. I also enjoy spending time with my nephews whenever I can. My guilty pleasure is researching cars. I know I drive my family nuts with the latest car news and info, but they take it graciously. I am by no means an expert, but if you want to find a good deal or need advice about which car to

purchase, feel free to give me a call. I am an avid movie watcher, although I admit I don't see them as often as I used to because my priorities have changed. I am also a cantor and choir director at my church, and it's a thrill getting to help out with the music ministry. I really enjoy comedy as well. Currently, my favorite comedian is Jim Gaffigan, but there are so many talented comedians out there.

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

The first goal I can think of is to be a good dad. That may sound like a cliché answer, but my wife and I both have fantastic parents. In hindsight, it's hard to believe all of the sacrifices they made for their kids, and I want to work hard each day to match the example they set for us.

I want to increase my knowledge in music education as well. I have the pleasure of working with some really talented people in my field whom I continue to learn from on a regular basis. I think the best teachers are also some of the best learners, and I will strive to be just that.

Hopefully I can also get into song writing. I have done some of it in the past, but it would be nice to do it on a more regular basis. I need to continue to brush up my piano skills, and I keep telling myself that "one of these days I'm going to learn the guitar," but still haven't gotten around to it.

Lastly I want to improve who I am as a person. I can always work to be better, as we all can. It seems our country is divided right now, and people don't agree on much. I don't use social media nearly as much as I used to because there is so much hate and negativity out there. I want there to be a change in the way we treat one another as human beings. I am nowhere near perfect, nor will I ever be, but I choose to believe that being kind in little ways can make a big difference. I am grateful for all the opportunities I have received, and I am thankful to the Lord for all of His blessings.



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Center Grove choir students performed the annual Christmas Concert on Dec. 1 to 3.
 Submitted Photos



Text me Merry Christmas

Center Grove choir students bring on the holiday cheer with traditional and news music

By Erin Handy

In the first weekend of December, the Choir Department at Center Grove High School began the holiday season with its annual Christmas Show, with this year's title Noel.

There were three performances of the show from Dec. 1 to 3 including Thursday night, Friday night, and Saturday afternoon. Each group in the choral department, including the noncompetitive choirs, participated. Some of the musical numbers featured multiple choirs, while others were singular choirs or small groups of students. There was even a tap dance number with featured dancers from different groups. Another duo of students, Morganne Keller and Griffin Smith, sang "Let It Snow" while Alex Milligan accompanied them on the guitar. These small groups gave students a chance to showcase their individual talents. Taylor Ward, a senior in Sound System and CG Singers, was the host for the show, providing comedic relief between numbers and even garnering audience participation under

the guise of "auditions" to sing a duet with him later in the program.

One of the choral directors, Jared Norman, commented that "My favorite part about Christmas Show this year was all of the different varieties of music. We had everything from country and Broadway to jazz and pop."

There was a wide range of musical selections from the traditional carols, such as Silent Night and Jingle Bells, but also a few selections from more recent releases, like the set of three songs from the Disney movie, Frozen. One of the Frozen songs also featured students from the elementary schools and a few high school students dressed as characters from the movie. Another modern day choice was the duet that the host, Taylor Ward, shared with another student, Laney DeLuna, which was called "Text Me Merry Christmas" and ended up being a play on how we share the Christmas cheer today. As Norman added, "Anyone who attends the concert would be able to find something that they enjoyed and put them in the Christmas spirit."



TWEET of the MONTH



"Looks like @Target now has my CDs!! #Smile&Believe"

Abigail Johnson
@AbigailProject
posted on Dec 1.



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Scenes from the 2016 Night to Shine at Mount Pleasant Christian Church.
Photo by Nicole Davis

Worldwide promenade

Mount Pleasant Christian Church to again host Night to Shine prom event for all community members with special needs

By Nicole Davis

Red carpet and paparazzi will greet guests on Feb. 10, 6 to 9 p.m., as Mount Pleasant Christian Church holds its second annual Night to Shine, a prom experience for people age 16 and older with special needs. With dancing, food, photos and games, each guest is promised to leave feeling like a king or queen.

Night to Shine is sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation, with hundreds of churches all participating on the same night at the same time.

"The foundation really focuses on the fact that this is a worldwide movement," says Heidi Wright, event coordinator. "They have been intentional about the timing. It's changing the Valentine's celebration from a simple celebration of love to celebrating God's love of people with special needs. It's one night with people from around the world."

Wright says after she watched the video recap of the inaugural Night to Shine, she was upset for not having gotten involved from the beginning.

"Watching the way that everyone, the guests and the caregivers and the volunteers, responded to the evening and the way that it went was really stirring," she says. "Everyone was really impacted."

The festivities start before the night of Feb. 10. Participants will have the opportunity to attend a shopping event on Jan. 7,

to pick out their attire with seamstresses on hand to make alterations. Participants can register for a salon experience where ladies can get their hair and nails done and gentlemen can get their shoes shined in the hours just before the event.

"The most exciting part of the event, we welcome them into the facility where they come into the red carpet," Wright says. "They get to ride in a limousine around our campus and it drops them off at the door. We have volunteers called paparazzi to take pictures and cheer them on."

Participants will receive a catered meal, photo opportunities with a photo booth, girls receive tiaras and guys receive crowns. Each guest is paired with a volunteer to spend the evening with them. This allows caregivers the time to enjoy a catered meal together.

Tickets to the 2017 Night to Shine are available now at mpcc.info/night-to-shine-2017. The free event is capped at 300 prom participants. It takes nearly 500 volunteers to make the night possible.

"We're super grateful that we have a facility that can host an event like this," Wright says. "In being involved in this, I'm seeing folks that are saying this is a real need. This is meeting a need that the faith-based community and the community at large, it hasn't really been on the radar. It's celebrating and communicating God's love for people with special needs."

Musical experience

2016 CGHS graduate Emily Larmore selected to perform in the Tournament of Roses Parade in California

By Nicole Davis

Center Grove High School graduate Emily Larmore has been selected by Music for All to march with the Bands of America (BOA) Honor Band in the 2017 Tournament of Roses Parade, Jan. 2, 8 a.m. The 5.5-mile "Rose Bowl" parade will be broadcast on ABC, Hallmark Channel, HGTV, KTLA (Tribune), NBC, RFD-TV and Univision.

She will get to spend a week in California while rehearsing, participating in special events and perform in the parade, in its 128th year. The BOA Honor Band is a 300-piece national ensemble with winds, percussion and a flag and dance team.

Emily was adopted from Romania, growing up in Greenwood with her parents Jeff and Sue Larmore. A 2016 Center Grove High School graduate, she currently is a freshman at University of Indianapolis majoring in music education.

Emily began learning to play the clarinet in sixth grade and has been playing ever since.

"I enjoy the warmth of the sound that came out of it," she says. "That reflected my personality."

In high school, Emily was involved with the pep band, jazz band, wind ensemble and spent three years with the marching band.

"Center Grove held me to a very high standard," she says. "They always demanded excellence, doing

the best you possibly can do while also showing who I am through my performance. I really look up to my band directors: Joseph Lapka and Kevin Schuessler. I don't think I would be the person I am without them."

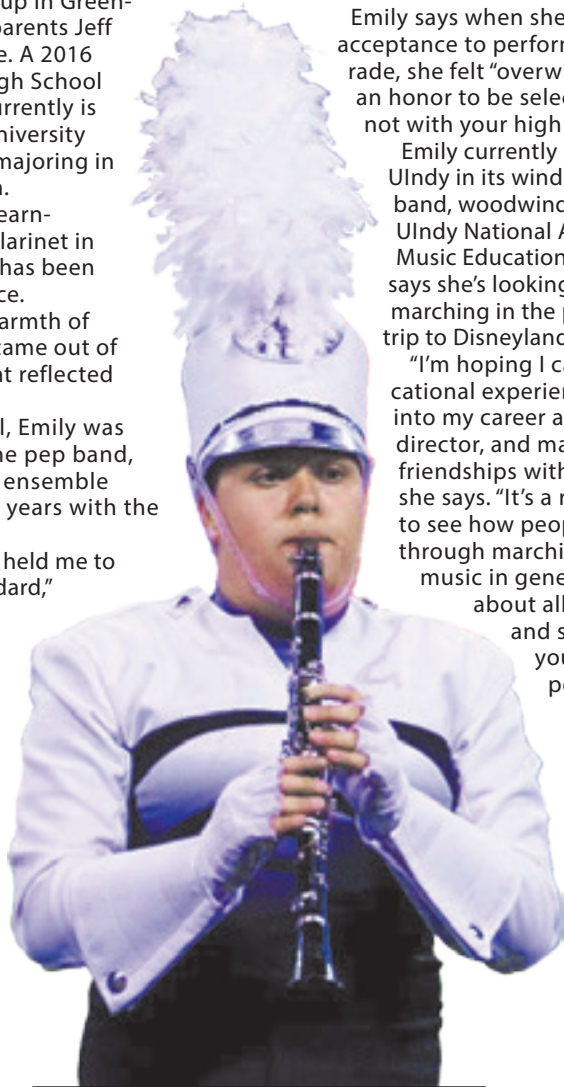
With the CGHS marching band, she attended the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade in 2014. She participated in the Indiana Music Education Association (IMEA) Honor Band all four years of high school.

"I really enjoyed going to New York," she said about the Macy's Day parade. "It was something outside of Indiana and on a more worldwide scale. I wanted to go to California to have another experience like that, meet people outside of Indiana and make music with them."

Emily says when she learned of her acceptance to perform in the Rose Parade, she felt "overwhelming joy. It's an honor to be selected by yourself, not with your high school."

Emily currently participates with UIndy in its wind ensemble, pep band, woodwind quintets and UIndy National Association for Music Education (NAfME). She says she's looking forward to marching in the parade and their trip to Disneyland beforehand.

"I'm hoping I can get an educational experience I can take into my career as a future band director, and make lifelong friendships with performers," she says. "It's a really cool thing to see how people can connect through marching band and music in general. You forget about all your worries and stresses around you when you're performing."



Emily Larmore.

Submitted photo

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CONGRATULATIONS ON A GREAT

Center Grove High School came up on the short end in its quest for a second consecutive 6A state championship when it lost to rival Carmel High School in overtime, 13-16, at Lucas Oil Stadium Nov. 25. The Trojans, coached by Eric Moore, led through most of the game. Nevertheless, the Trojans finished the season 12-2 and are no doubt already thinking about the 2017 season.

From top left, clockwise: Seniors Jack Kellams and Clay Hadley. The crowd cheers on the Center Grove Trojans as they fight to defend their state title from 2015. Players end the game, defeated 13-16. Titus McCoy, senior, goes for a touchdown. Trevor Hohlt, senior, runs a play. Russ Yeast, senior, came in second for the for the Indiana Mr. Football award. He is committed to continue playing at Louisville in the fall.

Photos by Rick Myers



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AT SEASON!



Center Grove Phil N. Eskew Mental Attitude winner Logan Bontrager with his mother, Shanda, and his father, John. *Photos by Rick Myers*

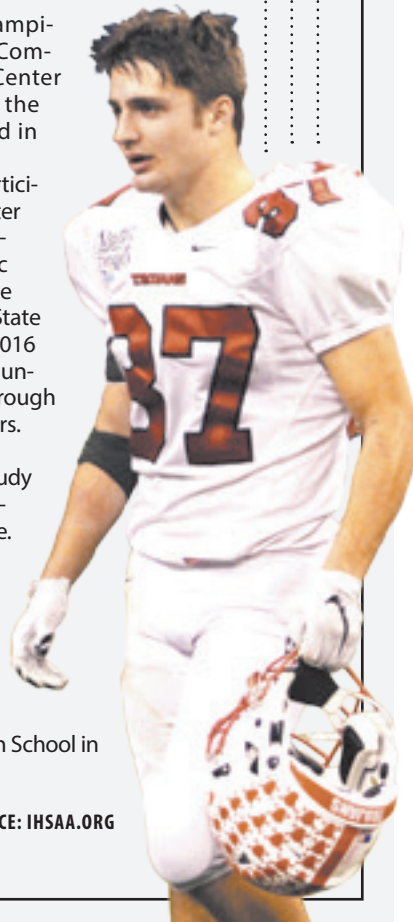
Center Grove's Logan Bontrager named Mental Attitude Award winner

At the conclusion of the state championship game, the IHSAA Executive Committee named Logan Bontrager of Center Grove High School as the winner of the Phil N. Eskew Mental Attitude Award in Class 6A Football.

Logan is a two-sport athlete also participating in track. He is a member of Center Grove's 2015 6A Football State Championship team and named MIC Academic All-Conference all four years. In track, he is a member of the 2016 4x400 meter State Championship team and was named 2016 Track and Field All State Athlete. He volunteered for Easter Seals' Camp Ability through Center Grove football for three summers.

Logan is the son of Shanda and John Bontrager of Bargersville. He plans to study finance, math, or business law and is undecided in his college choice at this time. Each year the IHSAA Executive Committee selects a senior player who was nominated by his principal and coach and was determined to have best demonstrated mental attitude, scholarship, leadership, and athletic ability. The Indianapolis Colts presented a \$1,000 scholarship to Center Grove High School in the name of Logan Bontrager.

SOURCE: IHSAA.ORG



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FROM THE PUBLISHER

Become a giver
like Steve Powell

I can't remember on what occasion I first met Steve Powell, but I know it was 11 years ago at a one of two functions at Prestwick Country Club in Avon.

This was during the time (2005) I launched the *Hendricks County Business Leader*.

What I quickly learned was that Steve, who has worked for AT&T for over 40 years and is currently its external affairs manager, seemed to be everywhere I would be – chamber meetings, etc. You name it, he was there.

So naturally when I decided a few years ago to become a member of the Greenwood Rotary, who was one of the first people I saw: Steve Powell.

On Dec. 12, during the Rotary Club of Greenwood's annual Christmas luncheon, Steve was awarded the Ernie Mishler Distinguished Service Award for 2016. The award is named after the late Dr. Mishler, a dentist, whom, I understand, was a great giver to the Greenwood community.

Before Steve received the award, fellow Rotarian Lee Money, who coordinates the annual celebration, cited Steve's commitment to the Greenwood community despite the statewide presence his job creates for him. Indeed this honor bestowed upon Steve was well deserved.

I couldn't be happier for Steve. I know firsthand his commitment to the Greenwood community. As we are days away from Christmas – let's remember that giving is an essential component to making our lives complete.

Please stop by and get to know us – there are many Steves – in fact you can become a Steve, too. Make that New Year's resolution that in 2017 you are going to join a service club. We meet each Monday, noon at Crestwood Village South, 8809 Madison Ave.

Merry Christmas!



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 issue, we'll share one with you ... In Baltimore, Maryland, it's illegal to throw bales of hay from a second-story window within the city limits.

SOURCE: dumblaws.com



5 million were silent

HUMOR

By Gus Pearcy

As a result of the election, half of the electorate is terrified like deer on opening day of rifle season. Trump is a wild-card about to take over the leadership of the free world and no one is sure what will happen. I get that.

What I don't get is the constant barrage shaming Trump voters. At least they made a choice which, according to media (and that is an important caveat) many traditional Democrat eligible voters did not.

In the days following the election, the analysis of voting made one important conclusion: Democrats, about 5 million, did not vote compared to the 2012 results of President Barack Obama. Where's the shaming of not voting?

According to several news organizations, the African-American vote stayed home. The damage was most keenly felt in Detroit and Philadelphia, where a higher voter turnout could've swayed the outcome of the election.

Even though I am a member of the press, I was completely giddy about the comeuppance of the media. They were so sure that Sec. Clinton would win the White House handily. Surprise!

This is not to say I am a Trump supporter. My beef is with the implied media message that likely did damage to Clinton: Clinton will win, your vote isn't necessary. Of course, they didn't say that explicitly, but it likely had that effect.

Finally, voter analysis, polls and tea leaves were proven to be an unreliable source. This did such a number on the

media that, long after it was obvious that Trump would win, no organization was willing to pronounce it. Sec. Clinton phoned Trump and conceded before any news organization was willing to broadcast that Trump won.

What went wrong? The media developed a narrative that there is no way a candidate like Trump could win. After all, look at all the embarrassing stories reported on his rhetoric and bigotry. Still, Trump won because the economy has not recovered for all Americans and the government has refused to recognize that except in half-hearted sympathy.

Mainstream media is out of touch. They seem to believe in the power and have stopped doing the work. The polls were useless. The analysis was wrong. The result was billed as an upset, but is that really possible? Just because the media didn't see it coming? The anchors that we once trusted have frittered away any authority they may have possessed.

It's time to get back to an unbiased press. It's time to report on what is happening, not what the media thinks is happening. It's time to report both sides of an argument, and stop pushing agendas.

It can't happen soon enough, for me.



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

Happy Holidays
from Center Grove ICON

OUR VIEW

The solstice is behind us and we've been officially

christened by wintertime. As trees go up and gifts fill in underneath, we're filled with a humbling joy and gratitude this time of year more than any other. The entire Center Grove community shines a little brighter during the holidays, inside and out. (Speaking of shining bright - have you seen the house on Smith Valley Road in between Sugar Grove Elementary and Morgantown Rd.?)

We work hard at the Center Grove ICON to bring our readers quality material every month and we know our readers are working just as hard out in the community that we spotlight. Of course we're biased on the subject but we feel there is no greater sense of community in Central Indiana than what we've got right here; our sense of volunteerism, charity and community efforts are second to none.

It is our hope that each and every one of you gets the chance to put your feet up and relax this holiday season. Sit by a warm fire and enjoy a glass of eggnog or hot chocolate. It's a great time of year for the family to gather together to watch some holiday classics and keep that tradition going into the next generation.

And for those of us who work hard even through the holidays, we offer you our sincerest thanks. Folks from all walks of life find themselves on the clock during holidays every now and again – people like that are the backbone of our community.

The holidays are a special time for everyone from the kids to the kids at heart, so don't be a scrooge. Enjoy it!

QUOTE

"If you want to make an easy job seem mighty hard, just keep putting off doing it."

~ Olin Miller

Happy blocking!

Learn to identify
unknown messages and block callers

TECH SAVVY

By Regina Miller

Q. I upgraded my iPhone to iOS 10 and I cannot find where to block callers any more. Can you still do this on iOS 10?

A. Blocking callers is similar to what it was: if you go to the call in your call list from the Phone app and tap on the "i" to the right of the call it will give additional information about this call. At the bottom of that list there is the option "Block this Caller." Blocking from the messaging app is not as straight forward. From the Messages app, tap on the message from the list of messages then tap the "i" on the upper right corner. Next, tap on the name of the contact and this will open another tab and reveal the option to "Block this caller." Note that you only have to do this one time to block both calls and text messages from that number. You can also block a number in the iPhone from contacts. To do this go to Settings then Messages and scroll down to Blocked and tap to select. This will open a tab showing all the numbers currently blocked and beneath that is "Add New." Select this option and choose the contact you wish to block. You cannot just enter a phone number from here, but you can create a contact with that phone number and then select the created contact to block as a work around. Happy blocking!

Q. I am getting text messages on my cell phone from people I don't know well that contains a link that claims to share their photos with me. Is this legit? Should I follow the link to download the app?

A. Spam text messages are on the rise and it can be difficult to discern what's truly from your contacts and what is junk or, worse yet, malicious. While it's difficult to say without seeing the message in many cases it's a person who has your cell phone number, but their contact info may not be stored in your phone so they are not listed by name on the text message. This makes it more challenging to tell since it's often a local or familiar area code and the message may even list a name in the body of the message that seems familiar. Resist the urge to immediately follow the link. Many times the link is to a malicious phishing app that once installed will mine your contacts and send similar messages to them. Of course occasionally our friends do send us links for apps they recommend, but if in doubt, confirm with the friend that they did indeed mean to send the invitation. Better safe than sorry.



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

CGHS' Maddie Keeley joins the Jaguars

Softball - Maddie Keeley has signed her national letter of intent to continue her softball career with the Jaguars - one of the first acquisitions for Head Coach Heather Tarter and the IUPUI softball program. Keeley is a senior from Center Grove High School, where she competed as a student-athlete while also taking part in the Indiana Prospects Club Organization. A varsity outfielder, Keeley has 82 starts over three seasons with the Trojans and was an IH-SAA State 4A Champion in 2015. That season, she started in left field and batted second in the order. In 2016, Keeley hit .459 and had a .500 on-base percentage, earning First-Team All-Conference recognition. She was named the Varsity Views National Player of the Week in April earlier this year and is a highly decorated multi-sport athlete. In cross country, she is a four-year All-County, All-Sectional, IH-SAA Regional and Semi-State qualifier. She was



How will the election affect small wineries?

WINE & DINE

By Regina Miller

From the results of the Presidential election on Nov. 8, most of the people in the service area of Chateau Thomas Winery were pleased to see Donald Trump elected President and our Governor Mike Pence the new Vice President. We will await the changes they promised to deliver.

ECONOMY: The most profound change I expect from President Trump is in the area of economy. The median income in the U.S. is now less than it was 18 years ago. Improving the economy will enrich the disposable income of our customers. This will benefit the local economy as well as that of the winery.

TAXES: Trump's promise to reduce corporate taxes should directly improve a small winery's bottom line. It will allow it to hire more people to provide expanded services benefiting everyone.

REGULATION: One of the promises of the new President is to reduce the Federal bureaucracy. There have been many regulations levied by the Federal Government and the Environmental Protection Agency that have adversely affected grape growing and production, especially on the West Coast where the majority of grapes is produced. Hopefully, a more practical approach to the problems will result in harmony and more wine.

WINE SHIPPING: The difficulty wineries experience shipping their product across state lines lies not with Indiana or whatever home state is involved, but with the recipient state where laws have been enacted to protect the wine industry of that state. Remedies proposed and enacted in recent years have sounded good, but, in fact, paying a fee of \$300 to \$2500 every year for the privilege of selling wine in that state is too costly for most small wineries.

Hopefully, with this election, the future for wineries and other small businesses has just improved.

TO THE KIND READER:

For the past 9-10 years, it has been my pleasure writing wine articles for the ICON. There are now an abundance of articles to educate and entertain you in every issue, so I am taking my leave now and will be a reader instead of a writer. I wish my successor and all you faithful readers good Holiday Cheer (if you know what I mean) and best wishes for the New Year. It has been fun!



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

also a two-year letter winner and 2015 IH-SAA Individual Diving State Qualifier. Keeley will finish her high school career with 10 varsity letters at Center Grove.

Franklin College to host Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day activities

Remembrance - Franklin College invites the community to participate in a day of service and other activities honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Jan. 16, 2017. Kroger is sponsoring the day of activities. The MLK Day of Service is a nationally recognized event. Organizers and participants use the day as a way to transform King's life and teachings into community service that helps empower and strengthen local

communities. Registration is required to participate in Franklin College's MLK Day of Service, which will engage volunteers in activities at various locations in Franklin at various times. In addition to the MLK Day of Service activities, the public is invited to participate in these celebratory campus events: 1 p.m. - Chapel Service, Richardson Chapel: "A Service of Thanksgiving for the Ministry of MLK." Remember the life and ministry of King with songs and spoken reflections.; 3:15 p.m. - MLK Day Commemorative March and Rally: The march will begin west of the B.F. Hamilton Library at the Indiana Alpha Gazebo and end at the Richardson Chapel; 4 p.m. - MLK Day Convocation Lecture, Richardson Chapel: The Rev. Hannah Adair Bonner will present a lecture titled "Listen, Amplify, Act: The Path of Solidarity"; 7 p.m. - Movie Showing of "Boycott," Richardson Chapel.

Getting to know Ngun...

- I like reading: self-motivation and business books.
- I belong to Indiana Chin Baptist Church. We just built a new church building on Madison Avenue. We just had an opening ceremony last week. I was involved in that as the real estate agent.
- I would want to spend more time with my family. We like to attend events as a family and not as individuals: church events, community events, weddings - anything that invites a family we will be there.

How did Ngun do it?

BEST ADVICE: Always think about the end. For example, if you are buying insurance, think about situations you would be in placing a claim for your loss. Then go backwards and purchase the right coverage before it's too late.

WORST ADVICE: Maybe this is not your field. If somebody does not believe that you can do well in the industry that you pick, sharpen your skills and prove that you can do well.

BEST BUSINESS DECISION: Moving to the Southside of Indianapolis. We lived in Ft. Wayne and Carmel before we moved to the Southside in 2007. When I was in Carmel I was a new real estate agent. I had a couple of clients here on the Southside and had to drive back and forth. This is a great community for our kids to grow up. Perry Township has great school system and an environment for our kids to thrive.

SECRET TO SUCCESS: Having the right partner. My husband and my family have been very supportive of me being a working mom.

IN 5 YEARS... I would love to have one more business so that it will be like a very stable stool.

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December 2016 | Issue 123
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Insuring sweet dreams

Nguncer Bualteng opens her second business, Mang Tha Insurance, in Perry Township on Nov. 1

By Nicole Davis

Having opened Mang Tha Insurance on Nov. 1, Nguncer "Ngun" (pronounced like noon) Bualteng wants to ensure that her clients can go to sleep safe and sound, knowing that they're being well taken care of. That's part of the name, after all. Mang Tha means sweet dreams in the Chin language.

"You come with us and you will sleep happily," she said.

Bualteng was born and raised in Burma, one of eight siblings. She immigrated to the United States with her family nearly 18 years ago. She was 20 years old, three days shy of her 21st birthday.

"When I came to the states with my parents, we only had \$300 in hand," she said. "We struggled; we worked really hard."

Bualteng worked at a factory while attending college part time. She earned a bachelor's degree in general studies from Siena Heights University in Michigan. After college, she married her husband, Chancung Lian and moved to Fort Wayne, Ind.

While exploring different career options with Lian, Bualteng discovered her passion for real estate. She became a real estate broker in 2005, working in Carmel. Having moved to the Southside of Indianapolis in 2007, she started Mang Tha Real Estate, LLC in Perry Township three years ago.

"I am more excited than my buyers," Bualteng said. "I love helping people. I believe putting other people's needs before myself is the most important. I love helping out, especially first time buyers. They are excited to move into this new home. Fulfilling their dreams makes me happy."

Realizing buying a home and the need for insurance go hand-in-hand, Bualteng decided to open Mang Tha Insurance.

"Insurance is a new world for me,"

she said. "I am looking forward to it. Everybody needs insurance. We want out clients, our customers to have the best service that we can provide."

The agency is licensed to sell auto, home, rental, business and life insurance in Indiana through Allstate Insurance Company.

Although she serves anyone with insurance needs, Bualteng said there are a large group of Burmese, Chin community members who may have a language barrier which makes it difficult to purchase and comprehend insurance policies. Being bilingual, she said she hopes to help clients with those language barriers.

Persistence, consistency and following up with clients is what Bualteng credits to the success of her first business, and she intends to utilize those same principles to grow the insurance agency.

"Just like any other business, the first month is like walking up a hill," Bualteng said. "It takes more energy, more effort. But as soon as we opened the door, a lot of community members came to celebrate with me and wish me luck. As time goes by, I want to increase, have more productivity of course."

The business currently employs three producers and a customer service representative. As an owner of two businesses, Bualteng said it is important that she not only hires the right peo-

ple for the job, but that she also know the industry well and lead by example.

She is doing that while raising three sons ages 9, 6 and almost 2. She is also a board member for Windrose Health Network. She has served on the board for the Burmese American Community Institute for four years and Chin Community of Indiana for two years.

"I care about the local community," she said. "I believe in volunteering and giving your time, sharing your knowledge with other leaders to bring up your local community."

Time management can be a challenge and Bualteng said her family has supported her through those busy times.

"I have to give credit to my husband who is also a broker," she said. "Anything I cannot handle, he handles."

Bualteng has no plans on stopping. She has her eyes set on entering the financial industry as well, earning certifications through Allstate to possibly open another business in the future.

"I hope my story inspires other people," she said. "I came to the U.S. as an immigrant. A lot of the Burmese and Chin population here on Indy's Southside are refugees. I take strength from them and I believe I also give some strength to the refugee community as well. I am a normal girl coming to the U.S. and trying to learn a new language. I struggled throughout my college years. I have a family, run two businesses and volunteer for the community. If I can do it, anybody can do it."

... as soon as we opened the door, a lot of community members came to celebrate with me and wish me luck."

- Nguncer Bualteng



Photo by Nicole Davis

PERSONNEL MATTERS

Moving forward, embracing change

By Mike Heffner

I sat down with my team after the election. My message to them was like many of the posts you have seen on social media: The sky isn't falling and the sun will come up tomorrow. I was speaking to the political unrest that we are seeing in the nation as many struggle with change. One of the keys to long term success is to be able to adjust and adapt.

I have seen more change with laws, the economy, consumer desires, technology and politics in the last six months than I have in the last six years. I reminded them that in 2009, when we had the worst recession in history, we navigated change successfully. We quickly adapted, came together with a strong purpose and we moved forward. We changed how we recruited, how we approached customers and our product mix. I doubt anything that comes our way will be more difficult than that time.

The three years following the recession were the best years of growth in our business. We found ways to help local employers hire and get the extra help they needed

during a time of flux. We helped many find work that really needed it. I remember this time as a time of panic and unrest as well. People lost their jobs, had hours and incomes reduced, companies cut back or, in some instances, had to close their doors. The businesses that survived that time took a stance of survival and perseverance. They decided to come together and fight through the forces that were against them.

The success of our country will not be much different than it was during the recession for my business. We will need to come together and fight through the forces that are against bringing people and ideas together. I will be praying for our country, our leaders and for positive change.



This article is written by Mike Heffner, the owner of the local Greenwood Express Employment Professionals franchise. Contact Mike at Mike.Heffner@expresspros.com, @IndySouthMike on Twitter or visit ExpressIndySouth.com.

BUSINESS



Aaron Henson (left) and Todd Cook.

Century 21 Scheetz Greenwood, Todd Cook Team joins Keller Williams Realty

Real estate - The Todd Cook Team, a real estate sales professional in Greenwood, has joined Keller Williams Realty Indy Metro South Market Center, home to over 150 agents and is the largest Real Estate Company on the Southside of Indianapolis. Todd is known in the industry for his aggressive approach to selling homes. With a background in Engineering, he provides an approach that is both statistical, and aesthetic, both of which are needed to remain effective in today's market. His team member Aaron Henson is originally from Kokomo, Ind. Aaron recently graduated from Kelley School of Business at IUPUI.

American Senior Communities recognized by U.S. News and World Report

Distinction - Sixteen American Senior Communities (ASC) locations, including eight in Indianapolis, were named among the best in the nation by U.S. News and World Report, a leading expert in the evaluation and rating of health care providers across the country. The Indianapolis-area ASC communities recognized for quality care are: American Village, Beech Grove Meadows, Bethany Village, Forest Creek Village, Maple Park Village, North Capitol Nursing and Rehabilitation, Rosegate and Washington Healthcare Center. U.S. News evaluated more than 15,000 homes nationwide. This year, over 2,000 nursing homes earned the designation of a U.S. News Best Nursing Home. Nationally, fewer than 13 percent of all nursing homes are chosen for this distinction. ASC significantly exceeded the national selection rate with having 21 percent of ASC communities chosen for this recognition. For more information, visit ASCSeniorCare.com.



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(317) 865-1810

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Greenwood, IN 46142
(317) 620-1512

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1530 American Way, Suite 222
Greenwood, IN 46143
(317) 402-6982

Waffle House

1069 E. Main St.
Greenwood, IN 46143
(317) 882-7992

Welcomemat Services of South Central Indiana

2400 E. Cedarwood Circle
Bloomington, IN 47401
(812) 269-8811

Whites Electrical

310 Indianapolis Rd., Suite A
 Mooresville, IN 46158
(317) 834-1922

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8921 Southpointe Dr. Suite A-1
Indianapolis, IN 46227
(317) 884-7820

greenwoodchamber.com

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BIZ WEB

Web advancements for simplicity and sales

By Andrew Angle

When I got started in the web business 20 years ago, building a website was a much more geeky endeavor than it is now. You had to learn HTML coding, which isn't all that complicated on its own, but the tools for writing HTML that worked well were primitive. The graphics tools available were not very evolved, either. Overall, the process of creating a website had the designer so consumed with just getting the code to work properly that they didn't have time to think about the bigger things like generating sales. They need to polish their on-screen presentation and promote the page they labored to create. Putting code before design drains your creative energy and budget.

The web was ugly back then. Practically every page that loaded through your squealing 28.8 modem looked like it was designed by the computer guy who otherwise gets paid to run LAN cables when he wasn't playing video games. Every page was built by computer geeks, not designers or marketers.

Early in '96 I called several ad agencies around Indy. It was amazing to see how many designers with blazing talent for visual storytelling had never seen a web page, let alone made one. I could

tell from their tone that they did care.

Meanwhile, software makers raced to make web design tools that would enable designers to express their vision on screen. The WYSIWYG ("What You See Is What You Get") software tools had one thing in common: They were awful! The underlying code is clumsy, slow, and inflexible. Squarespace, Weebly, and Wix fall into that category.

Wordpress software was born about 10 years ago. Except for its learning curve, it's free. I can write HTML code, but would rather eliminate code from my scope of attention and focus exclusively on the message, not the syntax madness.

I just discovered new tools for doing more with less in Wordpress. It's so simple that I can fearlessly give technophobic entrepreneurs a login. Just as it should be, let's focus on sales, shall we?



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

PEER TO PEER

Trump This, Bayh Bayh Barack!

By Howard Hubler

I was talking to a corporate business friend of mine recently who is all up in the air because they had to reclassify some personnel. You see there's a new law that demands that we pay people more money based on a certain crazy matrix. Who is it that dares get in my business without an act of Congress and tells me how to pay the people that I have hired? I'll tell you who: a president who uses a ballpoint pen or a cell phone to make an executive demand. He has no respect for who I am, no respect to the risk I'm taking and no respect to the perpetuation of the American dream of which I'm contributing.

I don't know what goes on in surgery in a hospital room every day; I've never been there. Barack Obama does not know what goes on inside of our Friday morning corporate meetings; he's never been there. He's not been in yours either. Small business survivorship is not on his continuing education radar screen. Nor has his board, with a couple of exceptions. None of them have ever worked for a corporation.

Yet, he's going to tell me what I've got to pay somebody that I could've otherwise not ever hired in the first place. He's telling me to assume a lot of additional expense and giving me no offsetting gross profit. I could've simply doubled

up my staff and made their workload harder. Instead I reached out and grew our staff in an honest attempt to give our organization a higher quality of life and improved customer handling. I'm sure you have made the same decision for the same reasons. If you hire the same personnel classifications as I do, you're dealing with this right now.

According to an article I read in NPR, since Obama has taken office, his party has lost more legislative positions, as well as state governors than any other president in history. Because of the wisdom of our governor, we are the only state contiguous to our border that has not experienced double digit increases for 2017 in Obamacare premiums.

Donald Trump reminds me of the broken down cushion in my easy chair. Initially it annoyed me, but now that I've grown accustomed to it, the cushion is rather comfortable. If we get the best of Donald Trump not the worst, I'm anticipating a good four years.



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

BUSINESS



Craig DeBoor (left) and Kyle DeBoor

DeBoor Group join Keller Williams Realty Indy Metro South

Real estate - Craig DeBoor, a real estate sales professional in Greenwood, has joined Keller Williams Realty Indy Metro South Market Center, home to over 150 agents and is the largest Real Estate Company on the Southside of

Indianapolis. Craig, an Indiana native and father of four has spent several years in the real estate industry. He is passionate about being the advocate and advisor during the real estate transaction for his clients. For more information, visit kw.com.

ATI Physical Therapy opens Beech Grove branch

Health - The Beech Grove Chamber of Commerce celebrated on Friday, Dec. 2 the opening of a new ATI Physical Therapy branch located just south of Beech Grove and the I-465 interchange at 4625 S. Emerson Avenue in Indianapolis.

PLANNER OF NOTE

NEWLY INCORPORATED BUSINESSES

C&E Landscaping

Edward Pickett
721 Red Leaf Lane
Greenwood, IN 46143

D.A.B. Contracting

James Barger II
Franklin, IN 46131

Diaz Media

Olga Diaz
1151 Glenbat Way
Greenwood, IN 46143

Fuzzy Grape

Shawn Long
1251 US 31 N.
Greenwood, IN 46142

J&L Cabinet Design Group

Joseph Lee
3714 W. 700 S.
Trafalgar, IN

Mike's Auto Service

Michael G. Hunt
6405 S. Madison Ave., Ste. D
Greenwood, IN 46142

Orlanski Fine Finishes

Dove Michelle Orlanski
429 E. Broadway
Greenwood, IN 46143

ProArt Framing & Gallery

Pauline Beuke
3100 Meridian Parke Dr.,
Suite X
Greenwood, IN 46142

Shade Garden Designs

Linda C. Gordon
6086 Deerwood Dr.
Greenwood, IN 46143

SITN Hard

Alfonso Jay Williams
1258 Apryl Dr.
Greenwood, IN 46143

Victory Strength & Fitness

Bruce Salazar
2503 Fairview Pl., Ste. 3
Greenwood, IN 46142



Thirsty Turtle owner, Evelyn Mulherin and cook, Scott Miller.

Photo by Nicole Davis

FEATURE

Shell we drink?

Evelyn Mulherin celebrates a year since purchasing the Thirsty Turtle on the Southside of Indianapolis

By Nicole Davis

Having been a part-time bartender for many years, Evelyn Mulherin said she had always wanted to own a bar. That dream became a reality a year ago Dec. 1 when she purchased the Thirsty Turtle at 2949 S. Meridian St., Indianapolis.

"I love the atmosphere," she said. "I love the camaraderie that it can have."

Since purchasing the bar, Mulherin has been working on updating the building to make it more comfortable and inviting. So far, the women's restroom has been remodeled and the front part of the bar gets new flooring on Dec. 1.

The menu has also seen a change. Before purchasing the Thirsty Turtle, Mulherin, a Center Grove area resident, was a bartender for Gaslight Inn. That business closed this year. While there, she met Scott Miller, a cook who came to work at Thirsty Turtle last month.

"People rave about his food - the catfish dinner, the filets, soups and desserts," Mulherin said. "He's a phenomenal cook. It's still your pub food. We're trying to introduce more healthy foods - like cajun chicken salad. He's bringing so many

new things to the table."

Thirsty Turtle is open from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. weekdays, Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. with no set closing time and Sunday 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. They now offer breakfast on Sundays.

Mulherin not only wants to enhance the physical image of the bar, but use the business to give back as well. They have held fundraising events for places such as the animal shelter, donated food to feed the homeless and others in need, and are currently taking donations for a family they have adopted for Christmas.

"I just want people to know this is a good bar, a good place to come and have dinner," she said. "I want people to know I try to give back to the community, try to help people."

Thirsty Turtle has a following of people who join regularly to play darts

either in a league or blind draws, a bowling league and other events, Mulherin said. By putting in the work to ensure the building is clean and updated, she said she hopes it can be the neighborhood bar where people feel welcome to relax, have a drink and some food.



Thirsty Turtle

WHERE: 2949 S. Meridian St.
Indianapolis, IN

INFO: (317) 786-7826

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NIGHT & day LOCAL Entertainment ENTERTAINING

EVENTS CALENDAR

Live Nativity Scene • See this live Nativity Scene with live animals and people, too. Enjoy the story of the first Christmas on the parking lot. | When: Dec. 16 and 17, 7 p.m. | Where: Honey Creek United Methodist Church, 2722 S. Honey Creek Rd., Greenwood. | Info: HoneyCreekChurch.com.

Christmas 5K • Join the Rotary Club of Greenwood and Greenwood Christian Academy for a day of food, fun, and activities. Bring running shoes, dogs in reindeer costumes, and a favorite ugly sweater for the first annual Christmas 5K in Greenwood. The first 300 adults (and teens) get a free 5 piece Santa Suit for the race. | When: Dec. 17. Race registration starts at 8:30 a.m. 9 a.m. ugly sweater contest. 9:30 a.m. best dressed pet contest. 10 a.m. race start. | Where: Register in the Greenwood Christian Academy auditorium. | Info: gca12.org/rotary-5k-event.

Longest Night Service • This services serves as encouragement for anyone dealing with loss or hurt during this season of the year. A Worship Service for the Longest Night of the Year will be a service of Scripture and Reflection with opportunities for prayer and Holy Communion. | When: Dec. 21, 7:15 - 8 p.m. | Where: Mt. Auburn UMC, 3100 Stones Crossing Rd., Greenwood. | Info: mtauburnumc.org.

David Phelps • The unmistakable sound of multi-Dove and Grammy Award-winning recording artist, David Phelps will be featured during this Classic Christmas concert event. | When: Dec. 22, 7 p.m. | Where: Mt. Pleasant Christian Church, 381 N. Bluff Rd., Greenwood. | Info: (317) 881-9324 or itickets.com.

Pete the Cat Party • Children

between one month and 12 years old and an adult are invited to hang out with Pete the Cat. Enjoy stories, a craft and a snack. | When: Dec. 28, 2:30-3:30 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd. | Info: (317) 885-1330, pageafterpage.org.

Gingerbread Dreams • Build a winter wonderland while enjoying stories, activities and hot cocoa galore. Please register. | When: Dec. 29, 2-3 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd. | Info: (317) 885-1330, pageafterpage.org.

Happy Noon Year • Celebrate the new year a little early with music, dancing, games and crafts! | When: Dec. 30, 11:30-12:30 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd. | Info: (317) 885-1330, pageafterpage.org.

Origami • Children grades K to 5 and an adult are invited to learn all about origami, the art of paper folding. We'll have origami challenges ranging from simple to more complex. Registration recommended. | When: Jan 4, 2-3 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd. | Info: (317) 885-1330, pageafterpage.org.

Block Party • Create and construct with the library's collection of LEGO bricks each month. | When: Jan 10, 4:30-5:15 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd. | Info: (317) 885-1330, pageafterpage.org.

Elf the Musical Jr. • Center Grove Fine Arts Academy will present this musical production. Order tickets now. | When: Jan. 27, 7:30 p.m.; Jan. 28, 3 and 7:30 p.m.; and Jan. 29, 3 p.m. | Where: Center Grove Church, 2340 S. State Rd. 135, Greenwood. | Info: centergrovechurch.org.



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Culinaria

An Option:

O'Reilly's Irish Bar & Restaurant

The scoop:

O'Reilly's Irish Bar & Restaurant lives up to its Irish roots with a wide beer menu (featuring Guinness) as well as many choices of whiskey. They even have the names of all the Irish whiskey distillers lining the walls. As for their food, they have an expansive menu that includes many traditional favorites from Ireland, such as corned beef, Guinness stew, fish and chips, bangers and mash, and shepherd's pie. The rest of the menu is filled out with American staples and other twists on Irish foods, especially the Cajun style fish entrees. They had two sections, one is a bar area and the other side is filled with booths and tables and has no age limit. For the summer months, there is an extensive patio that includes comfortable seating and lights strung across the top for late evenings. It is a great place to meet up with friends or eat with your family because there is bound to be something to appeal to everyone here.



Type of food: Irish favorites along with some American staples.

Recommendation: Guinness Beef Stew.

Hours: Open Daily 11 a.m. - 3 a.m.

Location: 8923 S. Meridian St., Ste A1, Indianapolis, IN 46217.

Phone: (317) 884-9335

Where We Dine:



Tracy Buck, Business Education Dept. Chair/Teacher, Academy of Finance Director, Internship Coordinator, Center Grove High School

Where do you like to dine? Bonefish is my favorite restaurant on the Southside.

What do you like to eat there? I love seafood and this is the best place to find decent seafood. Being from Maine, I am really picky about my seafood but Bonefish has a good variety and it is always good to perfection.

What do you like about this place? Most of all, I like the food. But I also like the atmosphere. It is nice but also laid back. My husband and I usually sit in the bar area. We have meet a lot of nice people sharing one of the large tables in the bar.

*Bonefish Grill is located at
1001 N. State Rd. 135,
Greenwood, IN 46142.
Their phone number is (317) 884-3992.*

Behind Bars:



Smooth Bourbon Blackberry Lemonade

Bartender: Jessica Coyne

Location: Smokey Bones, 780 US-31, Greenwood, IN 46142

Ingredients and directions:
1.5 oz..... Maker's Mark Bourbon
1 oz..... Simple Syrup
0.75 oz... Fresh Squeezed Lemon Juice
0.5 oz..... Blackberry Puree
1 shake .. Cardamom
2 oz..... Lunetta Prosecco
GARNISH: ... Lemon Wheel with Blackberry on Skewer

• Combine ingredients and dab with spoon (do not stir) to mix ingredients. Serve in a mason jar with garnish across the rim of the glass.



Landwerlen family finds growth at Stones Crossing Church

WHERE WE WORSHIP

Compiled by
Erin Handy

The Landwerlen family has always been strong in their faith, from being involved in their own church activities to serving for community outreach and Christian activities for students in the area. They have made their home at Stones Crossing Church, which is located on Stones Crossing Road, just east of State Road 37. Here, Terri Landwerlen share more about their experiences:

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

Pastor Scott Luck puts the sermons into a series and each series builds upon the next. This layering of Scripture helps to develop a greater understanding and knowledge of God's intended message and the Bible as a whole. Another way we are developing spiritually is through a wide range of Biblical classes offered during the week and leadership classes which are offered twice a year. Stones Crossing Church also invites national speakers such as J. Warner Wallace, a scientist, writer, former atheist and cold case investigator who through science actually proved the gospels to be true. Wallace spoke and taught a class on Apologetics, which is defending ones faith. As a Christian, I found that when I studied Apologetics, hoping to witness to others, it actually strengthened my own faith.

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

On many occasions we discuss the sermon as a family over lunch. This discussion helps us grow in our faith and in God's Word together. There are also many opportunities for families to serve together. We enjoy giving our time to Humble Hands a local ministry supported by Stones Crossing Church. My husband and I connect as we prepare to lead classes such as the Family Dedication Class or a Discipleship Training class. Preparing and praying together is a great way for us to connect closer as a couple. A significant part of our congregation is families with children.

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

The most meaningful event that has taken place at Stones Crossing Church would have to be Baptism. SCC really celebrates those who take that next step of obedience in their faith to be baptized.



Jim and Terri Landwerlen. Inset, The Landwerlen's daughters, from left, Brittany Simon, Courtney Landwerlen Cerny, Chelsey Landwerlen and Kyle Landwerlen.

Submitted Photos

The church family is in attendance for encouragement, support and to partner in the spiritual development of the person dedicating their life to Christ. To me, that is one of the greatest examples of how the church truly becomes a church family.

Why would you recommend your place of worship to someone?

Stones Crossing is a Bible preaching and teaching church. All of our pastors are dedicated to preaching the gospel as written in God's Word and are very intentional to take the time to invest in their own spiritual development as well as the spiritual development of the congregation. Another awesome reason to worship at Stones Crossing Church is the children's ministry and the middle school and high school ministries. These are areas where I personally serve and I can say without question they are very well equipped and bring great blessings to our students. Lastly, our church hosts an Elder Lead Prayer Service once per month where the pastors and elders lead a time of prayer for our church and the community. This has become a special time that my husband and I really look forward to because it links the church leadership with the congregation. Stones Crossing Church is truly a great blessing.

Stones Crossing Church

7000 Stones Crossing Rd. W.
Greenwood, IN 46143

stonescrossing.com | (317) 893-2483

Gift with love this Christmas season

DEVOTIONAL

By Chris Philbeck

Years ago, my brothers and sisters and cousins would participate in a Christmas gift exchange. We would draw names at Thanksgiving, then set out on a quest to find just the right gift for under \$20. I loved this tradition and the opportunity to showcase my gift-giving skills by finding the perfect present. And I was good at it.

However, after several years of receiving gifts like a bag of tube socks or no-name golf balls, it became clear that not everyone shared my passion. So one year I suggested we stop the tradition and, big surprise, no one put up a fight. Now, just so you won't think badly of me, my primary motivation for ending the tradition wasn't that I'm a gift snob, it was clear the gift exchange had become a burden – just another thing to check off the holiday "to do" list. I never want anyone to feel obligated to buy me a present and I certainly don't want spending money on me to be a burden.

One of the most familiar parts of the Christmas story is the arrival of the Wise Men to worship Jesus and present gifts. What would it look like if we used their actions as a kind of "gift-giving guide" this Christmas?

Let me suggest three things. First, we would give more than we expected to receive. These wise men knew they weren't going to a gift exchange; they were seeking Jesus. So they took gifts with them, knowing the possibility of reciprocation didn't exist. But they didn't care, they came to give, not receive. Second, we would give out of love, not out of obligation. Matthew 2:11 says about the wise men, *They saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him.* You can tell when you're receiving a gift given more out of duty than desire. There's only one right way to give, and that's out of love. Third, we would give gifts that tell people what they're worth. As we know, the wise men brought gold, frankincense and myrrh. Those were valuable gifts. But you can do this even with a limit of \$20. It's not about the price, it's about communicating, "I know you" and "You matter to me."

Giving gifts is one of the best parts of the Christmas season. This is especially true when they're given from the heart. Merry Christmas!



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

AROUND TOWN

Center Grove School officials attend ISBA School Law seminar

Education - On Dec. 9, Indiana School Boards Association conducted a one-day seminar for school attorneys, board members, and school administrators that focused on some of the key legal issues facing public schools in today's society. The seminar was held at The Palms Banquet and Event Center in Plainfield. Rich Arkanoff, Ed.D., superintendent, and Rob Daniels, Esq., board member-elect, attended from Center Grove Schools.

Topics presented were "Education Law Developments at the Federal Level" by Seamus P. Boyce, Esq., Church Church Hittle and Antrim, Noblesville, and Sonja H. Trainor, Esq., director, Council of School Attorneys, National School Boards Association, Alexandria, VA. Also presented was "Background Checks Completed-Using the Information You Have" by W. Erik Weber, Esq., Medford, Weber & Blythe, LLP, Auburn. Jason T. Clagg and Michael E. Wever, Esqs., Barnes & Thornburg LLP, Ft. Wayne, spoke on "Using Technology and Not Violating Copyright Laws". Amy Stekette Fox and Marva Deskins Hamilton, Esqs., Faegre Baker Daniels, Ft. Wayne and Indianapolis, presented on "Understanding the new Fair labor Standards Act Regulations." "Navigating the Maze of Laws Relating to Audio and Video Recordings of and by Students, Patrons, and Employees" was presented by Monica J. Conrad, Esq., Lewis & Kappes, Merrillville. The seminar closed with a reflection of "Recent Legal Developments" by ISBA attorneys Lisa Tanselle and Julie Slavens.

Baxter YMCA registering for youth sports leagues

Athletics - Winter basketball leagues are now forming at the Baxter YMCA. The season runs January 14 – March 11, 2017. Practices take place one evening each week and games take place on Saturdays. Prices vary because the Y offers a sliding fee scale based on household income. In YMCA Youth Sports, there are no tryouts and no one gets cut from the teams. Everyone who registers is assigned to a team and all players have the opportunity for equal playing time in games, teaching participants valuable social and teamwork skills and contributing to a healthier community. For additional information contact Ashley Chitwood, Youth & Adult Sports Director, at achitwood@indymca.org. Register at indymca.org/baxter.

Brady Clements

Center Grove businessman gives to others as others have given to him

Compiled by Nicole Davis

Though the manner in which he gives his time has changed through the years, Brady Clements has always found a way to give back to his Center Grove home.

Brady grew up in Ft. Wayne, Ind., later earning a degree in marketing from the Indiana University Kelley School of Business at IUPUI. He currently owns a number of business, primarily in real estate. He owns nearly 30 commercial buildings with different business partners. On his own, he has a series of service business, along with a company which does commercial door and glass work.

Brady is actively involved at Mt. Pleasant Christian Church. He has coached nearly 20 athletic teams there, and is currently involved bible study.

Brady says one of his greatest accomplishments was co-founding the Arms of Life campaign, fundraising \$1.5 million for four railroad crossing arms in the Center Grove area after a train hit the SUV which brothers Jacob and Travis Finley were riding in, killing them.

Through the years, Brady taught approximately 80 athletic teams in Center Grove. While he no longer coaches, many of those former athletes have come to work for him, and he says he enjoys being a mentor to them.

"I love the Center Grove community," he says. "One of the great reasons I have always felt like I need to get involved, it's said for those much is given, much is expected. I've always felt that on my heart... In my life, there were always people that helped me, directed me and pushed me. As I was growing up, I always told myself that one day if I'm ever successful I will be the guy who tells the kid that you can make it, you can do it. Through coaching and knowing so many people at Center Grove, I've had the great fortune of providing opportunities to young people."

Here, learn more about our January Center Grove ICON of the Month, Brady Clements.

What do you consider your greatest virtue?

I believe my greatest virtue is my integrity. I have always tried my best to be honest and fair in all my interactions in my personal and business life.

What do you most deplore in others?

Deplore is a strong word, but I deplore dishonesty. I can't stand when people are fake. I have great difficulty trusting people whom I know have lied to me or treated me and others poorly.

What do you like most about living in Center Grove?

I love everything about our community. I am so happy I moved here 20 years ago. There are just so many wonderful, caring people. I believe it is a very family-focused community especially with the activities surrounding our outstanding school system.

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

Exactly where I am now: Center Grove.

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

There would be some obvious changes and easy answers to this, but I believe God has a plan, and while that has not always been my plan, I am willing to accept that I am not in charge.

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

I have a giving heart. I believe I would spend my time finding worthy causes where I could donate it. I have dedicated many years to helping others through mission trips, FCA, coaching sports teams, the Center Grove Education Foundation, the United Way and turning the tragedy of the loss of a friend's children into the Arms of Life campaign in our community. I believe richness is measured in your service to others, not your bank account.

What makes you happiest?

Being with my wife, who has also been my best friend for 37 years. I also like helping others. As my hair has gotten more grey, it seems I may have more wisdom to offer (or at least it looks like it; don't tell anyone I am really just the same person who now looks older).

What is your favorite vacation spot?

I loved our last vacation to Grand Cayman Island. French Polynesia is magical as well! My wife and I are considering making Hilton Head Island, one of our first family vacation spots, a permanent part-time home base for ourselves in the future.

What do you do with idle time?

I have very little of it, but when I have

it, I want to be with my family.

What is it that makes you angry?

It is hard to get me angry as I am very slow to anger. But, when someone is disloyal to me, when they try to hurt me or someone close to me-I guess it's a character flaw-but it makes me angry.

What do you do to escape from reality?

I don't know that I really have an outlet like this. I would like to write a book and have been working on it for a long time. It helps me escape the day to day, but I am just not sure it will ever be completed.

What or who is the greatest love of your life?

Without question, my loving wife, Lisa. She is the kindest and warmest person I know. She is brilliant, fun to talk to and she cares FOR me and for our family. She has always been my best friend: from the time we met in middle school, during high school when we were show choir dance partners and always my go to person for advice when times were hard.

Which living person in Center Grove do you most admire?

I have loved watching Jack Russell for the past 20 years. Jack helped me when I ran the FCA program at Middle School Central and was a dedicated volunteer. I now witness that giving spirit in so many ways as he gives all he has to make Center Grove better.

What is the quality you like most in a man?

I admire mental strength. I also admire men who are caring for their families. I also like to see men prioritize God before their work.

What is the quality you like most in a woman?

That she is caring for others, but also strong and independent. I like

when a woman is willing to accept help from others, but doesn't need it. I would say this describes my wife.

What is your greatest extravagance?

With seven children, I don't indulge too much or too often. I will admit my wife spoils me with nice clothes and I feel good when I wear them. Robert Graham shirts, for example, may be a bit wild, but I guess I really love them.

What are your fears/phobias?

I do not like snakes... at all.

What has been the happiest time of your life?

I have a blended family. That wasn't the plan, but it is my life and I have embraced it. Over Thanksgiving we had the entire Brady Bunch (7 kids) under roof and had the most enjoyable time spending the extended holiday with them. Our children span from 13-25 years of age. My family is made up of biological, adopted and step children. I love them all the same and am enjoying watching them grow, learn and become great people.

Which talent would you most like to possess?

I love to sing. I asked my wife to marry me by singing the song "Marry Me" by Train in the middle of the restaurant where we had our first date. I tried to learn to play the guitar while I sang. But, once I learned to play the song, I found I could not sing it while playing guitar at the same time! So, I guess I'd like to master playing the guitar.

What do you most value in your friends?

Honesty and Loyalty. I have been so very blessed with wonderful friends that span my entire life from elementary school to now. Their support in my life has helped make me successful.

Which historical figure do you most admire?

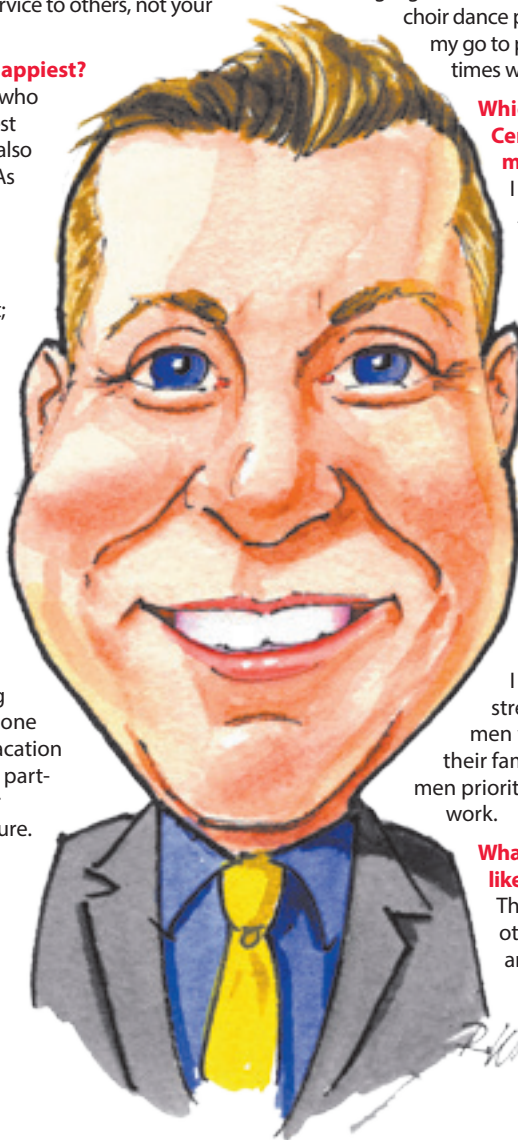
I am currently addicted to the musical Hamilton. Alexander Hamilton's life of triumph over incredible odds makes me admire him greatly. He was not a perfect man, but was a man of great resolve and strength and, eventually, great faith. I think those are all admirable traits.

What is your greatest regret?

I'm not a fan of regret. I believe you learn from mistakes for sure, but successful people evolve and learn and don't get mired in regret.

What tenet do you live by?

I have coached nearly 80 athletic teams. I had two rules on each team: Everyone had to hustle and everyone had to have fun. I believe in my heart that successful people work hard and that you cannot be successful if you are not having fun. I am in my second career and I love it. I own and manage several businesses. I have diversified my business to always have variety and a new challenge, which I love. You can't be great if you don't love doing what you are doing... and I believe that applies to all aspects of our lives.



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Quiz on Page 6

- 1. C 2. D
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- 5. B



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- 2. Stopped up Drain** - Dishes a Mile high and water won't drain down the sink.
- 3. Toilet gurgles** - Noisy toilets are a nuisance and a drain on the water bill.
- 4. Sump Pump fails** - No time for a flood during the holidays.
- 5. Faucet Drips** - annoying & stains the sink, not to mention running up the h20 bill.

Schedule Prevention Online



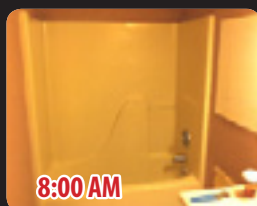
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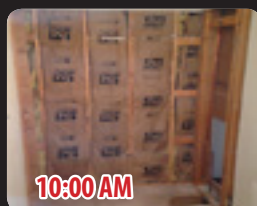
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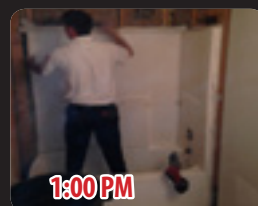
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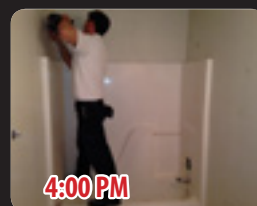
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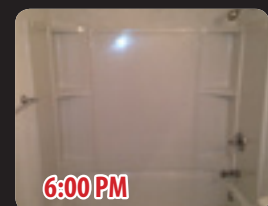
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