

# CENTER GROVE

# ICON

Volume 4 Issue 04

**BUSINESS LEADER**  
SOUTHSIDE

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Sound the Spotless Sirens page 11

# BAXTER'S BOTS



Sharon Baxter continues to mentor Center Grove Red Alert Robotics students 11 years after helping to start the team

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February 13 – March 18, 2016 [myICON.info](http://myICON.info)



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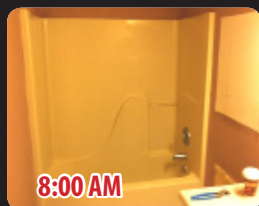
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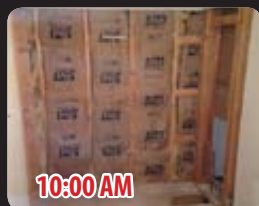
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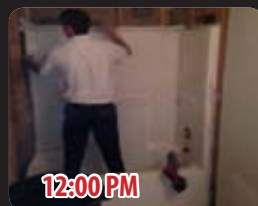
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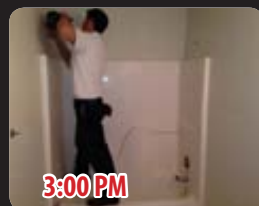
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**5:00 PM**

**Contact the Editor**

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

**Contact the Product Champion**

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



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# Leaving a legacy of hope

**Family and friends carry on Project Hope, a nonprofit started by Center Grove student Kara A. Haynes after she passes away**

## FEATURE

By Haleigh Inscore

Though she only graced this earth for 17 years, Center Grove High School student Kara Haynes had a tremendous impact on her community and the lives of her peers. Her best friend, Ciara Phillips, describes her as genuine and says that even from the beginning of their friendship, the two were able to trust each other and talk about anything. In fact, Ciara says, if any of her friends were going through a difficult time, Kara would drop everything to serve as their support system.

One memory that Ciara says will stay with her is when Kara joined her family on a road trip to Florida and the two of them played the song "Walk of Shame" by Meghan Trainor over and over during the car ride. Kara had an inherent gift for working with children and people with special needs,

and she interacted well with Ciara's older sister Kristin, who is autistic.

"She completely understands me and my family," Ciara says.

Over the past few years, Kara opened up about how personal struggles and a negative self-image had led her down an uncertain path. After receiving treatment for depression and self-harm, she started a non-profit called Project Hope. Her goal in establishing the organization was to erase the stigma that surrounds mental illness and to help fund counseling and rehabilitation for other young people



Kara Haynes

who are affected by it. Kara recognized how many obstacles keep people from seeking treatment, and hoped that through her efforts she could at least remove the financial hurdle.

In her spare time, Kara became involved in her life group at Stones Crossing Church, and she partially attributed her recovery to

a renewed relationship with God. She was a copy editor in her publications class instructed by Casey Tedrow, who says, "She helped improve the writing throughout our stories, on the web, in the news magazine and in the yearbook."

Kara was also an avid reader and dedicated fan of the Divergent series by Veronica Roth. Ciara remembers that during Kara's funeral, or around that time, someone had said, "She didn't want to live one life, but many; that's why she read."

Kara passed away suddenly on Jan. 27, 2016 of complications stemming from a medical condition. Her family and friends will carry on her legacy by continuing to raise money for young adults suffering from mental illness, whose voices seek to be heard. To contribute to Kara's cause, visit [theprojecthopefoundation.com](http://theprojecthopefoundation.com) or [facebook.com/honoringkarakhaynes](https://www.facebook.com/honoringkarakhaynes).



Ciara Phillips

## AROUND TOWN

### Horizon Bank awards grant to Habitat for Humanity of Johnson County

Horizon Bank announced the recent grant to Habitat for Humanity of Johnson County. The grant, in the amount of \$5,000, was presented by Steve Bechman, Market President of Johnson County to the Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity of Johnson County, Lee Ann Wilbur on Jan. 12 at the Franklin, Ind. branch of Horizon Bank.

Funds will be used in part for the first-ever home renovation by Habitat for Humanity of Johnson County, which is better known for their 'from the ground up' home builds. The renovation will take place in Edinburg, Indiana.

"We are pleased to support Habitat for Humanity of Johnson County in their 'Operation Renovation' project. This is the first renovation project they have undertaken and I am confident will result in a quality, affordable home for a deserving family," stated Bechman.

"Habitat for Humanity of Johnson County truly appreciates the continued support of Horizon Bank. This grant will assist in the renovation costs of a house in Edinburg



Check was presented by Market President Steve Bechman to Lee Ann Wilbur, Habitat for Humanity of Johnson County Executive Director. David Bedwell, VP Regional Retail Manager was also present.

and will allow a single mother and her two children to have a safe, affordable home. Horizon Bank's community spirit makes Johnson County a better place to live. They are a

wonderful community partner," stated Wilbur.

## 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!

- You learned about Red Alert Robotics and its humble beginnings in this month's cover story. Now see them in action! The team will celebrate Teen Tech Week by showing off their robot where on March 5, 1 - 4 p.m.?
  - A. Center Grove High School
  - B. White River Township library branch
  - C. Strange Brew Coffeehouse
  - D. Johnson County Fairgrounds
- Jovan Swann was featured in the Jan. - Feb. Center Grove Icon for his accomplishments in football and being chosen for the Semper Fi All-American Bowl team. Swan will continue his football career playing for what college?
  - A. Indiana University
  - B. Harvard
  - C. Stanford
  - D. University of Tennessee
- Bargersville is about to get a new BBQ restaurant! What business has been working hard to expand its food truck into a brick and mortar eatery which will open any day now?
  - A. Johnson's BBQ Shack
  - B. Center Grove Cutlery
  - C. City BBQ
  - D. Happy Jacks
- What is the name of the dance party that CG Elementary Dads Club held for mothers and sons on Feb. 5?
  - A. Hawaiian Hula
  - B. Breakdance Boogie
  - C. Roaring 20s
  - D. Flashback Friday
- It's tax season! Have some fun with it. Taxman Brewing Company is selling tickets now for an event on April 16, 12 - 4 p.m. with 27 breweries, a winery, music, food and more. What is that event called?
  - A. Taxing Taxman
  - B. Death and Taxes
  - C. Topsy Over Taxes
  - D. Taste of Tax Time

Answers on Page 22

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## HISTORY & ARCHITECTURE



*Future Farmers of America: Center Grove Chapter, 1957. Kneeling: Don Bennett and Roy Pottschmidt. First Row: Ron Ennis, secretary; Charles DeMott, treasurer; Jerry Aldrich, reporter; Carol Harrel, president; Joe Parker, vice president; John Shufflebarger, sentinel; Delbert Vaught, advisor. Second Row: Ruel West, Carl Murray, Eddie Reynolds, Bob Thompson, Raymond Evert, Don Borski, Jim Beck, Kim Stropes, Phil Tinkle, Claude Royston, Vernon Snyder, Roger Miller, Bill Meek. Third Row: Chester Williams, David Sutton, Freddie Swartz, David Schroeder, Nelson Teeters, Jim Dresslar, Marvin Baker, Newt Wright, Hal Shrum, Paul Tinkle.*

Submitted Photo

## FFA and Center Grove

By Jeff Beck

White River Township was mainly known as a farming community for many years. Farm crops of wheat, soybeans and corn dominated our community along with cattle, sheep and a few hogs. High school students, often children of some of the farmers, were needed for work on farms during planting and harvest season.

Future Farmers of America was formed to support and educate students who lived on farms or had interest in pursuing farming as a career. The photo shows FFA students, many of whom still live in our community and farm as a career or part-time work to supplement income. Students were led by a farm owner and educator Harold Kephart. His farm is now the site of Maple Grove Elementary and the bus garage in southern White River Township.

Teams of students were very successful in their soil judging roles. Teams won numerous awards for their dedication and expertise. FFA students were taught in a brick building, which was shared with industrial technology students led by Ira Morrison, east of the high school. FFA programs closed near 1963. Center Grove was moving more toward courses of science and math or current-day college prep programs.

Center Grove community farm land was sold to builders and businesses as student growth quickly increased. Families began moving into the community as the school gained a reputation of academic excellence. White River Township is still home to many "homestead" farms, which allows our community to share growth and farming tradition. Eight farms have received the Homestead award of being in the same family for at least 100 years. School has changed and grown and the community has continued to support it. Our community supports agriculture and controlled growth. I am happy to call White River Township my lifelong home.



*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.*

## OUR VIEWS

Forward,  
March!

We've done it, Center Grove; we've survived grueling January, halfway through February and are making our way into the uncharted wilderness of March 2016. March has been a significant month throughout history—for the Romans, Maritus was named after Mars, the god of war and father of the founders of Rome, Romulus and Remus (according to legend). There are also Ides to beware on the 15th if you're a certain dictator of the Roman Republic. However, March is also a month celebrated as a return to farming and sailing and general merrymaking as the bitter cold of winter gives way to the first budding petals of spring – and it's supposed to be an early one. Rain washes the salt and snow from the earth; green once again fills in the brown and gray winter color palate. Kids can trade in their snow suits for rain boots – and be sure to break out the sunscreen for those spring vacations. Oh, and don't forget to "spring" forward (arguably the worst part of spring if you're not prone to allergies) Sunday, March 13 at 2 a.m. We're excited to see all the vibrancy and rejuvenation March brings around springtime. It may not look like it now outside, but you know what they say about Indiana weather. Also, isn't there a big basketball tournament coming up?

## BELIEVE IT!

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

In Mississippi, if one is a parent to two illegitimate children, that person will go to jail for at least one month. **-dumblaws.com**

## MONTHLY QUOTE

"Love is friendship that has caught fire. It is quiet understanding, mutual confidence, sharing and forgiving. It is loyalty through good and bad times. It settles for less than perfection and makes allowances for human weaknesses."

~ Ann Landers



## What's my name, punk?

## Commentary by Gus Pearcy

Of all the impressive skills one can master, remembering names is by far the best at building a great relationship. Networkers, like us, are in a constant barrage of names and faces and being the one person who remembers a name can be the difference in landing a \$20 million contract or being ignored.

Here are some tips I use when I want to remember someone's name.

Associate with rhyming attribute. If you can associate the name with an attribute, you will never forget someone's name. For instance, I'm Gus as big as a bus. Try "Joyce with the annoying voice" or "Jack has a hunchback" or "Scott with no hair on top."

Caution: Do not, I repeat, do not accidentally reveal your name trick. It could lead to permanent relationship damage. Flabby Abby is still not talking to me.

Repeat the new name with every sentence. Everyone knows repetition is the key to helping lodge a piece of info in your brain. Once you learn someone's name, work it into the conversation as often as possible. People love to hear their name, so it will never annoy them or be conspicuous of your intent.

Say something outrageous or offensive. Extreme emotion or a reaction often stimulates the hippocampus region of our brains where memory is stored. "Hey, Andrew, you've got a big nose! Can you tell I didn't take a shower today?" Study the person's reaction: the way the eyebrows arch or how hard they slap you. These will be memorable moments that you can laugh and talk about with your real friends later. When they react, silently repeat their name as fast as you can.

Bring in a third party to do a fake introduction. This one is the most complicated,

but if performed correctly, will help you remember a name without getting you pegged as forgetful. After a lame conversation, when you realize that this guy is as exciting as peat moss, grab someone near. "Hey, I'd like to introduce you to Bob!" you say. "Bob, this is (mumble as low as possible)." This is critical: after you mumble the name, look like you see someone across the room you know. Leave the conversation, but don't physically move. Pay attention. Likely, Bob will say, "I'm sorry, I didn't catch your name?" Boom! You look like a great guy who didn't forget so-and-so's name.

These are extreme tips, but will work, guaranteed.



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](http://guspearcycommunications.wordpress.com).

## Yes, we want your letters

Readers of the Center Grove ICON are encouraged to send letters to the editor as often as they wish. The stipulations are that the letter is timely, focused (not more than 200 words) and verifiable. Please make sure to provide your complete name and daytime and evening telephone contact numbers. All letters are subject to editing for brevity, clarity and grammar. Please direct correspondence to: [news@myICON.info](mailto:news@myICON.info).

## FROM THE PUBLISHER

Two new staffers  
and a survey; 2016  
off to good start

A little more than a month into 2016 and I have some exciting news to share with you in regards to the Center Grove ICON.

I am proud to announce the hiring of Marka Sonoga, our first sales manager. She comes to us from El Dorado, Ark., where she was the advertising director, having previously served in a similar capacity in LaGrange, Ga. Prior to that, she was involved in ad sales for print and television in Youngstown, Ohio.

Needless to say, I am excited to have her aboard. We have tasked Marka with building a newer and improved sales culture here – for all of our Times-Leader Publications titles – a challenge she readily accepts.

You'll find her out in the community as often as in the office, because she wants to become immersed in all the goings-on. It's striking and energizing to sit back and realize how far this company has come with the help of incredibly talented people and valued advertising partners. We anticipate Marka will only add to it.

Moreover, we have hired Haleigh Inscore as the ICON's product champion. What this means is she is all things Center Grove ICON – its cheerleader and conduit to advertising and editorial content.

Haleigh graduated in December 2015 from The Ohio State University, where she earned a Bachelor's of Arts degree in English with a minor in Creative Writing. She is originally from Mansfield, Ohio. She will be visible in the community and I believe you will enjoy working with her as she advances the ICON into the Center Grove community. You may contact Marka or Haleigh via email at [info@myicon.info](mailto:info@myicon.info) or by phone at (317) 300-8786.

Finally, we are asking you to help us with a reader survey. See our ad on page 10. This process will aid us in providing you with meaningful content that you enjoy reading the most. When we created the Center Grove ICON we created it with readers in mind – that's why we say, "News is what our readers say it is." You may be receiving an email asking you to take the survey. If not, please go to <http://survey.smari.com/tcl> and give us your input.

Thank you for reading Center Grove ICON.



Rick Myers is co-owner of Times-Leader Publications, LLC., publisher of Center Grove ICON, Southside Business Leader and The Southside Times. Write him at [news@myicon.info](mailto:news@myicon.info).

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 ART WORKS

## Kevin Skipper

White River Fire Dept. Chief of Support Services  
aims to have a positive effect on his hometown

### BEHIND the BADGE

Kevin Skipper says he looks forward to the challenges of a new position after becoming chief of support services for the White River Township Fire Department on Jan. 10. It's just one of many roles he's held for his hometown department.

Skipper moved to the Center Grove area in the fourth grade. He became a cadet at WRTFD during his junior year of high school. As soon as he graduated from Center Grove High School, he became part time for the department while attending college at Vincennes University and then American Trans Air Aviation Training Academy.

He became full time at WRTFD in 2002. He has served as a lieutenant, captain, battalion chief, deputy fire marshal and now chief of support services.

Around 2007, Skipper worked with a former fire chief to organize the department's history in time for a volunteer firefighter reunion. During that same time period, he also helped to restore the antique fire engine at Station 52, replicating the department's first firetruck to further maintain the department's history.

"They tell me I'm the department historian," he says. "People seem to come to me when they want to know anything about the history. Being a part of that process, I remember a lot of names, times and things that happened. It's neat. It's very rewarding for me when a past member stops by and we can relate with some stories that I've read about or heard about."

Skipper resides in the Center Grove area with his wife, Renee, and their family. They have two daughters, McKenzie and Paige.

**What was your inspiration to become a firefighter?**

My father was a firefighter for Perry Township Fire Department in Indianapolis. He started as a volunteer in 1969, got hired on and served for 32 years full time. Growing up, with my dad as a firefighter, he was an inspiration to me. In high school, I got interested in White River Township specifically because of a friend who was in the cadet

program here.

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

It's always gratifying to be able to help others in their time of need. We go from one extreme to the other, from joy with a baby being born to the worst day of someone's life. Anytime we can help and affect a positive outcome, it's gratifying.

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

Emergency calls, certainly kids are the most challenging to deal with. You try to affect a positive outcome for that child as well as the parents who are distraught in that incident.

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

I enjoy camping, spending a lot of time with family and touring civil war battlefields. I was in the marching band

in Center Grove High School and feel like I never left. When I was able to start driving the band semi, my dad and I both haul the equipment around. I do that most every weekend in the fall and spring. I enjoy being a part of it. I help put the stuff on the field and take it off. I'm really involved with the band program at the school.

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

I want to do better at my job. I'm constantly going to classes, learning new techniques and learning more about the fire services. Hopefully I can apply the knowledge I've acquired to my job to better serve the community.

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

Had I not been here, I would have become an aircraft mechanic. I went to college to be an aircraft mechanic and have a degree in aviation maintenance. I felt the calling to the fire service was stronger.



Kevin Skipper  
Photo by Nicole Davis

Compiled by Nicole Davis



### Getting to know Sharon...

- We like camping. We like Patoka Lake in Southern Indiana.
- I have a strong family relationship and have a lot of nieces and nephews I like to spend time with. I lost my dad two years ago on Jan. 21, so I like to spend a lot of time with my mom.
- I moved to Greenwood in 1979. Dwight used to live in my apartment building. The meddling neighbors told me Dwight said he wanted to go out with me and told him that I wanted to go out with him. Neither of us said that. We have been married 34 years in June.
- I listen to the National Public Radio a lot.
- I like cats. I have two and would have more if I could.

#### By Nicole Davis

While flipping through scrapbooks filled with photographic memories of Center Grove's Red Alert Robotics team throughout the years, Sharon Baxter shares her passion for the team.

She began mentoring students, forming the team with three other parents, as a way to engage her son in school activities. Now going into the 11th year, the program's long-lasting impact inspires her to stay active.

"The benefit to the students is the reason I keep doing this," she says. "It's a niche for the students who would rather build with their hands, learn about robots or be involved in a team activity. It's seeing the kids who are motivated to keep their grades up and be successful. Some kids would rather be involved in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) activities such as this rather than sports. That's what motivates me is this program allows for kids who might get lost or fall through the cracks to be successful."

Sharon and Dwight Baxter wanted their son, Charlie, to be motivated to pursue a higher level in math, science or physics. When he and his best friend showed interest in starting a robotics team, they took the boys to watch a regional event for FIRST Robotics at Purdue University. That summer, a team let them borrow their robot for an off-season event. Red Alert Robotics began that year, in 2005.

"The first time I saw my son take a book out of his backpack was for robotics, not for a class," Sharon says. "The program really saved my son. He was accepted to Purdue in the technology program. He was involved in biomedical engineering. He has his first patent at 24. He has his job because learning CAD, Computer Automated Design, to create the robot helped him. I see that happening with him, but the longer I'm here I see more students becoming successful and accomplish things that they wouldn't be able to without this."

Red Alert Robotics started with 15 students and nine adults in its first year.

"The first year we had no clue what we were doing," she says. "FIRST has excellent resources. We were able to read directions and follow guidelines, but we had lots of questions."

It currently has 45 students and 17 adult mentors.

"It's been a tough road," Sharon said. "Without having that liaison with the school, there was a missing piece. None of us are educators. As we've gotten teacher spon-

sor, it's gotten a lot better. This year, we have a teacher sponsor, Greg Valenta, who is in the high school."

Sharon's husband, Dwight, was active with Red Alert until last year when he left to help Indian Creek High School start its robotics team.

Sharon, who is a physical therapist, started as president of the parent organization and currently oversees the operations side of the robotics team. The students she mentors do outreach, work on a budget and write essays. All of this makes them eligible for the Chairman's Award, the highest award a team can win, which is given to the team that best represents the purpose of the FIRST organization. Red Alert has won this twice, the last time being in 2013.

"The thing that's the best about this program is it's more than robots," Sharon says. "It's public speaking, it's networking, creating good citizens. We have our students presenting speeches to corporations. We have outreach programs teaching students about what we do. We have 100 percent graduations rate. I feel pretty good about that. In our business plan we have statistics. We keep track of how many students we've had, what they're doing now. We also have a high percentage of our students going to college."

Every team in FIRST Robotics receives instructions for that season's robot in the beginning of January. They have until Feb. 24 to finish their robot, after which they can't touch it again until competition. Red Alert's first event is March 12. The theme this year is FIRST STRONGHOLD, a medieval theme that pits teams against each other to try to breach their opponents' defenses and capture their tower. The robots need to maneuver through obstacles and throw boulders into the opponents' goals. Red Alert and its mentors have built a mock set in their practice area to test their robot.

"We have tremendous support of the community through volunteers and sponsors," she says. "We don't get financial support from the school; we get resources. The school has always been supportive in resources and space to work. We have a new space in the Innovation Center that is not completed yet. We're so excited to have our own space."

The team gets together year round. During off-season they will take field trips, participate in summer camp and learn more about science, technology and robots. In competition season, they meet seven days a week to build the robot, write essays and fulfill other tasks.

Sharon says while she would ultimately love to win the Chairman's Award and go to a World Championship again, her goal this year is the same as it's always been: to see the students get to experience as many opportunities as possible, do good outreach and have students be successful in their classwork.

**Sharon Baxter continues to mentor Center Grove Red Alert Robotics students 11 years after helping to start the team**

# BAXTER'S BOTS

*Photos by Nicole Davis  
On the Cover and Above:  
Sharon Baxter*



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## Center Grove Student Activity Center will become a reality after petitions show majority support

### FEATURE

By **Haleigh Inscore**

Plans for a new 10 million dollar, 59,000 square foot addition to Center Grove High School have been approved. The project, named the Student Activity Center, came about as a response to a need for space for sports practices and other school activities. It will add additional space to the existing weight room, a 200-meter indoor track as well as four new basketball courts. Petitions for the issue were led by two members of the community, with supporters coming in with 1,000 more signatures than those opposed.

Billy Bemis, a 16-year resident of White River Township, collected signatures for the supporting side of the issue and says he noticed a need for additional space in the high

school even before any of his four children were school-aged.

Bemis, whose oldest child is a freshman at Center Grove High School, describes how, after school, kids can be seen running through the hallways and cheerleaders practicing in the cafeteria among other groups. He says he believes that the Activity Center was a long time coming and felt it was a good time to get behind the cause.

"It's a good use of funds, there's no question about it," Bemis says. He says the facility will give students the opportunity to become more involved, citing how involvement in extracurricular activity

leads to higher graduation rates.

Bemis says he is generally pleased with the work that the school district has done in the past few years, specifically in updating safety and security measures in the elementary schools. He believes that a strong school system with a progressive mindset will help increase property values in Center Grove.

However, when Center Grove High School graduate Frank Rossa considers plans for the new Activity Center, "over the top" comes to mind. According to Rossa, many volunteers on the opposing side of the issue felt that the 10 million dollar budget was excessive, and were bothered by the fact that it was only a dollar short of what it would have needed to be to go to a referendum. "I think it was a deliberate choice," Rossa says. Despite this disadvantage, volunteers aiming to stop the plan stood out in the cold holding drive-thru petition signings, something Frank claims they wouldn't have done if the addition was only a 5 or 6 million dollar project.

Rossa admits, "there may be a need" but says when he requested (from the administration) a schedule on how facilities are currently being used for after school activities, he did not receive a response to his inquiry.

Though he does not yet have any children, Frank Rossa has already taken a firm stance about the use of school funding in Center Grove. More programs like STEM Lab, he says, are what will prepare students and lead them to bright futures and paying jobs.

"That's the direction the school should be going," Rossa says. "More grand facilities are not making the kids any smarter."

For more information on the issue, visit [centergrove.k12.in.us/activitycenter](http://centergrove.k12.in.us/activitycenter).



A design concept of the Student Activity Center. **Submitted Photo**



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# Strength to succeed

## Jeannie Keating finds mental and physical strength in her weightlifting and CrossFit workouts

### FEATURE

By Daina Grounds Chamness

Jeannie Keating is not your average Center Grove mom. Like many she is a single mom with two children and works full time. But that's where average stops.

On Feb. 25, Jeannie will join athletes around the world and compete in the Open of the Reebok CrossFit Games. She hopes to show her children once again that you can do what you set out to do. It must have soaked in, as Kelsey is 22, a senior at IUPUI majoring in Art History and Kerry is at IUPUI studying Psychology. Neither daughter is into the fitness programs that keep Jeannie sharp but they are brave enough to face their own challenges knowing that if she can do it, so can they.

At 5:30 in the morning, five days a week, Jeannie shows up at RZI Cross Fit on the Southside and lifts weight and does other exercise. More than just weight lifting and body building Jeannie now does CrossFit, a strength and conditioning program that includes constantly varied functional movements, learning moves that are more in keeping with a daily practical lifestyle. She follows a prescribed training routine designed to encourage her to reach her personal goal of a 1 percent improvement after each workout during 2016.

In the early 1980s Jeannie decided to face her bulimia, an eating disorder she had since she was 13 years old that

compelled her to eat and purge. As a college student she knew she needed to begin a healthier lifestyle but breaking the cycle of bulimia caused her to gain 25 pounds. She turned to bodybuilding. She soon lost the extra pounds and found that the challenges that weightlifting gave her helped her to overcome her illness and look forward to life itself.

After graduation in 1985 she met Steve Keating who became her weight lifting training partner. One thing led to another and they married in 1989. Soul mates, best friends and later parents, Steve and Jeannie shared a love of weightlifting and bodybuilding for several years. They gave birth to two little girls, Kelsey and Kerry. Quite unexpectedly in May 2003 Steve passed away.

Because of the strong constitution and belief in her own strength, Jeannie carried on. The community she had built around her of bodybuilders, weightlifters and fitness enthusiasts was a source of support and friendship for her.

"But my real inspirations after Steve died were my girls,"



Jeannie Keating finds motivation for life by lifting weights at 5:30am 5 days a week. **Photo by Daina Chamness**

Jeannie says.

Jeannie says about weightlifting, "I love it. It's healthy, it fits my personality, relieves stress and the sport is filled with good people. I love meeting my own goals and challenges." To prove this to her daughters, she competed in the 2010 OCB Bodybuilding Competition and won in the Figure Novice category placing 4th in her division. Her girls wore shirts that declared, "Team Keating!"

So what does she eat? Nothing strange like raw red meat or green protein drinks as one might think. Keating says she pays close attention to eating clean, focusing on her macros, proteins and fats. She maintains 10 percent body fat and stays in close touch with how her body performs.

As this 5'2" woman who weighs 135 pounds and presses 85 pounds she says, "You have to leave your ego at the door. You might fail, but you can't be afraid of that because you also have to not be afraid to succeed."

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Thank you in advance for your participation, and thank you,  
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we're fond of saying, "News is what our readers say it is."

CENTER GROVE  
**ICON**



Maddox Butler (fourth from left) singing with other Super Bowl Babies.  
Submitted Photo

## 'Football is family'

Center Grove's Maddox Butler sings in Super Bowl 50  
commercial featuring Super Bowl Babies

### FEATURE

By Nicole Davis

As Panthers and Broncos fans across the nation cheered along with the football game on Super Bowl Sunday, Feb. 7, one Center Grove family was ecstatic for another reason. Maddox Butler, a second grader at St. Barnabas Catholic School, was featured in a commercial celebrating the 50th anniversary of the game, titled Super Bowl Babies.

"Maddox is a huge Colts fan," says his mother, Amy Gandolph. "He was born on a Sunday in October during a home Colts game. Everyone that was tailgating came to the hospital. He's a huge football fan and plays football himself on a CYO league at St. Barnabas."

The commercial is based on a study that states nine months after a Super Bowl victory, the team's hometown sees an increase in the number of births.

"It all happened on the night that the Super Bowl was played," the commercial participants sang. "That's why we're here singing this sweet serenade."

Gandolph says friends of the family who have Colts season tickets were sent an email late December asking for children born between October and November 2007, nine months after the Colts won the Super Bowl. After being chosen for the commercial, Butler flew with his mom to New York City on

Jan. 11, bringing along his birth certificate as proof as of his age.

"We didn't know much at all," Gandolph says. "There were representatives from the NFL there letting us know they wanted to keep it a secret. They were excited to promote the idea that football is family."

Gandolph says many of the children were shy at first, not knowing what to expect. They learned the song they were expected to sing for the commercial: a remake of Seal's "Kissed by a Rose".

"I was impressed," Gandolph said. "They're not child actors. They were chosen because they're Colts fans. Those kids sang that song probably 100 times."

Gandolph says Butler did a great job keeping the commercial a secret from all of his friends and even family. They hosted a party at their house on Feb. 7 to watch the 60-second commercial. The full three-minute version had been released on Feb. 1.

"The commercial was cool to see," Gandolph says. "When the NFL released (the three-minute video)

on [Feb. 1], that was the first time we saw everything come together. The little kids were so adorable. We didn't know Seal would actually be in it. Being a mom and seeing your kid do something like that it was more emotional than anything."

The commercial can be viewed at: [youtube.com/watch?v=9KqekigARfE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9KqekigARfE).



Maddox Butler in the attire he wore in the commercial. Submitted Photo

## Getting to know Tim...

■ Hobbies: I like golf. I do a lot of gardening, canning.

■ I have two kids: Katie is 22 and Michael is 18.

■ I was raised in New Palestine. I moved here 10 years ago. I really enjoy living on the Southside. It's not as hectic as the north and people are friendlier.

## How Tim did it?

**Best advice:** Don't listen to people when they tell you to forget it. When they tell you it's not going to work. Then, networking is big. If you're in business you should be networking because you never know who your next customer will be.

**Worst advice:** The worst advice comes from the naysayers. Someone can come up with any reason you can't do something. My attitude has gotten to (see that) the whole world is out there. If you focus on it you can get done what you need to get done, no matter what the project is.

**Best business decision:** Build a business that is based on customer referrals and extremely satisfied customers. Then just keep building.

**Secret to success:** That I'm crazy enough to get out of the truck and offer to clean something. After four years, I know these people all have the same issue. You can predict what will happen, because the product will solve the problem. It's a product they've never seen before.

**In 5 years...** I hope to have at least 500 of the 900 stations in Indiana as loyal customers. I also have this vision now for a truck wash for semis. It can be set up in such a way to franchise. We can have a semi-truck wash that is more environmentally friendly than what is out there now. This would be a business people could get into fairly easily and you could build a reputation out of.

**Station Supply**  
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# Sound the spotless sirens

By Nicole Davis

Tim Raun has seen firefighters struggle, time and time again, to get their engines clean and shiny. The problem is they're using aluminum cleaner with an acidic base. When used improperly it can turn the aluminum white and is dangerous in contact with skin. Five years ago he found a product that works – safely, effectively and efficiently.

"They have been trying to solve the problem for years," Raun said. "They can't do it. This product comes along, does what it's supposed to do and does it in an efficient way. The amount of work involved is minimal. There's no scrubbing to it. You use a soft brush. The problem goes away."

Raun, who moved to Perry Township 10 years ago, was working in real estate with a desire to get back in business for himself. He previously ran a publishing company. While helping his brother sell the aluminum cleaner made by Shield Solutions at a fire convention, he began talking to a man who raved about the product, talking about how well it works. Raun decided to become a distributor, starting Station Supply in 2011.

"You need customers that are using your product every day," he said. "It's harder to get a new customer than retain one. I am not selling something to these guys every day, but they're using the product every time. That's what made this product attractive is it's a consumable, it does the job and it does it better than any other product out there."

Station Supply offers multiple products, including an aluminum/stainless steel cleaner, hand wipes or

turnout gear wash.

"Our other big seller is the wash and wax," he said. "When a fire department wants to wash a truck they'll use soap and a mop bucket. Ours connects to the garden hose and shoots out soap and water. All of the soap goes on the truck. Five gallons can wash 145 fire trucks, about 65 cents a wash."

Raun started the business by making cold calls and dropping by fire stations asking to demonstrate the products.

"The challenge is getting to demonstrate it," he said. "My kids like to give me a hard time if we're

**Tim Raun can make a firetruck shine with minimal effort through products sold with Station Supply**

driving and see a fire station, saying don't stop we have places to be. It takes a lot of cold calling, just dropping in on people."

The business has continued to grow every year. Sales were up 13 percent last year. Raun said the products are now in 200 fire stations in Indiana. He said approximately 30 percent of his current business is out of the state. He's been trying to market to other types of vehicles as well, such as semis, buses, vacuum tucks, municipal fleets, or anyone with an RV or trailer that they can't take through a regular car wash.

"It's always growing," he said. "I get to meet new people all of the time. The more markets we get into, the bigger it will get. We're branching out from fire departments. We have a lot of farmers use it with trucks, trailers. They use us down at Kentucky Speedway to wash the crash vehicles. I've met the people from Charlotte, N.C. and I'm trying to get down there to have them try our stuff. I'm trying to expand more into racing."

Raun said networking has also been a key to his success. He's a Greater Greenwood Chamber of Commerce member and belongs to the Indiana Volunteer Firefighter Organization. Ultimately, though, it's the product that sells.

"The product works," he said. "That's what makes my job easy."

Tim Raun. Photo by Nicole Davis



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## BIZ HISTORY

## The places of leadership

By Dan Miller

I confess. With one of my most popular services in leadership development, I confess that I didn't know until recently what its most important value is to leaders today. Nearly 200 people have participated in my "Walkshop" service. Clients say it's among the most creative things they've done to improve their leadership. As you might guess, I enjoy hearing their positive reactions.

But I must confess to you that only in the past couple of weeks did I finally realize the truly unique takeaway of my Walkshops.

It's the place of leading.

Whatever you do as a leader — visioning, communicating, inspiring, problem-solving, and countless other things good and bad, pleasant and unpleasant — you lead in a place.

The place of leading has a hundred forms: indoors, outdoors, an office, a shopfloor, a hallway, a conference room, an open-space layout, a cubicle, a home, a street, a church, a moving vehicle, a basement, a top floor, no windows, all windows, over a phone, or via a digital screen of varying sizes. These are the places of leading. You lead in a place.

Are you aware of how a place affects your leading? Do you understand how your leading shifts from place to place? Do you have the best sense of how your leadership in places can change from one period of your life to the next?

In the Walkshops, I guide you to places where, in sequence, leading occurred for one person. Five places mark the real story of the day when 28-year-old Benjamin Harrison raised his hand to volunteer to fight in the Civil War. Five places mark the real story of the day when 31-year-old Benjamin Harrison came home for good.

As we move into 2016, I invite you to join me for a special experience of leading in a place. You're doing it every day anyway. Why not add more insight, perception, and thoughtfulness to your effort.

Email Dan with your thoughts at dan@historicalsolutions.com.



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



Leadership Johnson County (LJC) provides personal and professional development to a diverse group of individuals representing small and large organizations, nonprofit and for-profit groups, government officials, volunteers and anyone interested in improving individual leadership skills, learning more about Johnson County and making connections.

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■ Session 2: 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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## OPEN 4 BIZ

## Drink to fun and food

### Frank Sweeney opens Bar Louie in Greenwood to allow residents to Eat, Drink and Be Happy

There's always a new friend to meet or story to hear at Bar Louie. That's why Frank Sweeney said owning and operating the bar/restaurant is the most fun he's ever had in a job. Having opened the Greenwood location in December, Sweeney said many customers have already become regulars, creating a friendly, community feeling.

"Our motto is Eat. Drink. Be Happy," he said. "We play with our guests and have fun. We have a lot of banter back and forth. It's always a good time in here."

Sweeney said they plan to host a re-grand opening in May with the opening of the patio. The patio will sit 90 people. A garage door will open in the summer, allowing for an indoor/outdoor atmosphere.

Sweeney said the biggest challenge to opening Bar Louie in a new area is educating people as to what is inside. All ages are welcome. There is local beer on draft, with unique offerings. The business is open from 11 a.m. to 2 a.m.

"We don't have a microwave in the back," he said. "We're a 95 percent scratch kitchen. People are blown away from our food quality. That's what keeps people coming back here. On the Southside, past 10 o'clock food options are limited. We serve our entire menu until 1:30 a.m. daily. When restaurant or industry people get off (work) they want to have a beer or some dinner. We want to be that local spot. We want to serve that industry. We feed off the synergy around us."

Sweeney said the Greenwood community has been overwhelmingly supportive of Bar Louie so far.

"We're excited to get the word out there and let people know," he said. "Come see this. It's not what you think typically about a bar at the mall."

#### Why did you open this business?

Bar Louie is a Chicago concept. It's something I grew up with. We heard Bar Louie was franchising. It was something that was near and dear to our heart, growing up with in Chicago. When we joined there were 38

Bar Louies. There are over 100 today. We like the growth of the brand. I wanted to stay close to Chicago. We have one store in South Bend. We were looking to expand.

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

I've lived in Indy over a year now. I've been driving around, looking at areas and seeing what's busy. We try to be the local bar to the local community everywhere we go. The more we looked at Greenwood, the more we felt this fit for us. In our Mishawaka location

I can walk in and know 50 percent of the people by first name. We try to get entrenched in the community everywhere we go. Greenwood has a good neighborhood feel and that's what we tailor to.

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

People always ask what Bar Louie means. Louie is just a generic name, a regular place for regular people. What I like most about this concept is if you walk in our store on a Saturday night and look around, you'll see a blend of everybody. It's different age groups, different backgrounds. You'll see a melting pot of people.

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

Sticking with what we're used to. We feel our best marketing is the customer who comes in, has a great experience and walks out the door and tells their friends. We are just trying to get the word out on the unique experience that we offer here.

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

Before this I had zero restaurant experience. I took a year off and I saved money so I didn't have to work for a year. I worked at six locations of Bar Louie in Chicago for free to learn every position in the store so that I felt prepared to open a restaurant. I would just pick up shifts at different stores and do whatever they needed me to that day.



Frank Sweeney  
Photo by Nicole Davis

#### Bar Louie

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Barlouie.com  
(317) 215-5400

Compiled by Nicole Davis

## PERSONNEL MATTERS

## Stay connected

By Mike Heffner

As a business leader, there is constant competition for your attention: customer crises, operation decisions, employee issues, and future planning, just to name a few. I know with all that I have to do, it's not easy to tune everything out and spend time on growing our business.

Here are three ways I try to stay connected to the growth of my business:

#### 1. Listen to Fresh Perspectives

Business leaders must learn to listen to fresh perspectives in order to keep their ideas and businesses from going stale. I would encourage you to attend local networking events and be active in your local chamber of commerce, rotary, trade associations, etc. Most of these associations bring in local speakers and offer chances to rub elbows with other likeminded business leaders. I would also encourage you to have one on ones with these local business leaders to exchange ideas.

#### 2. Embrace the Latest Technology

I am a big believer in embracing technology. Technology is a broad topic. It can mean many things – speed, devices, social media, mobile, etc. I have found that we can't just

assume that we are using the right technology; we need to continue to research to find new ways to communicate to the market and connect our business to customers.

#### 3. Stay Engaged with Employees

Business leaders also have to learn to stay involved and connected to their team. With all the responsibilities associated with leadership, it's so easy to push connecting with employees, and even customers, into the background. However, it's vital that leaders are always talking with and listening to their employees and customers. This communication is how leadership can monitor the pulse of engagement, production and morale.

Leaders who continue to learn, engage, and grow enable their businesses to go far beyond where they are at today and reach the level of success they've long aspired for.



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

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## PEER TO PEER

## Stress in the workplace

By Howard Hubler

I just finished reading an interesting article about stress in the workplace discussing the current workplace model in America and how it's outdated and dying a slow dismal death. My life is involved with kids who are in college, kids in the workplace, and friends nearing retirement. One thing that is common about all of us is that we are passionate about our jobs.

My college son is looking for a job in a new area of the country, preferably Chicago, which is all an adventure for him. Indianapolis seems a little tiny for him right now. He's online studying the various jobs. He will graduate in a few months and is ready to start the race. His only stress is not finding a job he wants.

All of my life I have dealt principally with two types of people: auto sales people and auto technicians. Both are job addicts. If you ever had lunch with them, you would find it an obnoxious experience. They are texting customers at the same time as they are eating a hamburger, and they have operated at this speed their entire life. All the stress they experience is the stress that they put on themselves.

Every week, a tool man comes to the dealership selling tools of first-class quality. Many of the technicians in our shops are constantly buying tools and constantly owe him. This means they must work that much harder to pay the tool bill and keep their take-home pay the same or better. Why? Fixing cars and satisfying the customer is an addiction to them; that's all they've ever known.

Most of you reading this article find your industry and lifestyle very similar. There is a core group of people who are just plain addicted to their industry. These people, as the saying goes, are 80 percent of the productivity in whatever it is that you and I do. And when you talk about changing the model, their only comment is, "If it ain't broke, don't mess with it."



Howard Hubler can be reached at [howard@hubler.com](mailto:howard@hubler.com).



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.



7.

**1:** Boys rush to the front of the dance floor to show off their moves to the song, "Watch Me. (Whip/Nae Nae)."

**2:** Kristin and Edward Johnson slow dance during the dance party.

**3:** From left, Hudson and Amanda Burton and Nichole and Luke Mourar.

**4:** Jessica Keeton and her son dressed in 70s-style clothing.

**5:** Kids and parents on the dance floor.

**6:** Children had the opportunity to be a guest DJ for a song.

**7:** Easton Lowe dances.

**8:** Brady Boyce shows everyone how to dance to Michael Jackson's "Thriller."



8.

## Breakdown and boogying

Center Grove Elementary mothers and sons step back in time for Flashback Friday Dance Party

By Nicole Davis

From tie-dyed vests or sideways ponytails and headbands to "Pink Ladies" jackets complete with the vintage skirt, mothers and sons dressed up with clothing from their favorite decade during the Flashback Friday Dance Party on Feb. 5 at Center Grove Elementary.

"It's really well attended," says Principal Shannon Carroll-Frey, "I'm excited because it's our first decades dance and our first mother/son dance. It's been fun to watch the moms and kids come in all dressed up."

This was the first mother/son dance to be hosted by the Dads Club at CGE.

"When [my son] was in kindergarten and first grade in Pleasant Grove he went to the mother/son dances there," says Jessica Keeton, president of the Parent Teacher Organization, whose son is in fourth grade. "He was hoping there would be one at [CGE]. This was the first one, the inaugural one, so we had to come."

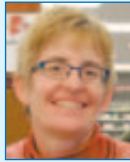
As music blasted through the school's gymnasium, the children danced to every song from modern day hits to throwback tunes. When they weren't dancing with their children, moms stood back and photographed the night's events.

Photos by Nicole Davis

# face to face

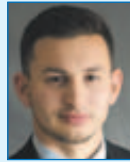
**Q: What type of development would you like to see in the Center Grove area? What Business, park, event, or other type of development would you like to see?**

"Trails, specifically around the library here. I'd love to see people be able to walk to the library a little more safely."



**Linda Kilbert (works at the White River Library)**

"The Center Grove area would benefit from a venue to host concerts, plays, and other events that would bring together the local community. This could be an outside venue that could bring in food trucks and other vendors to participate."



**Blake Ulrey**

"I think a rock climbing facility like Climb Time or something like Rascal's Fun Zone something like that would be fun to have in the area. It would give people something to do because the only thing we have is a movie theater. It would be something different."



**Andrew Edington of Center Grove**

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## TWEET of the MONTH



**Rich Arkanoff**  
@RichArkanoff  
posted on Jan 26



"Congratulations @center\_grove Students Win Remonstrance for New Student Activity Center! 2917/1918 @atCenterGrove"



## BEHIND BARS

### Stonecreek Punch

**Bartender:** Zach Finley

**Location:** Stone Creek Dining Company, 911 N. State Rd. 135 in Greenwood.

**Ingredients and directions:**

1 oz. of clear rum,  
1 oz. Captain Morgan Rum,  
1 oz. DeKuyper Peachtree Schnapps,  
5 oz. orange juice,  
3 ½ oz. pineapple juice and ½ cherry grenadine syrup.

Garnish with a maraschino cherry and an orange slice.



## WHERE WE DINE

**Barbara Leininger**, Greenwood Arthur Murray Dance Center



**Where do you like to dine?** I like Bonefish. It is right across the street from my business. It is a nice place.

**What do you like to eat there?** I like the mussels.

**What do you like about this place?** It has a nice ambiance. The food and the service is good.

*Bonefish Grill is located at 1001 N. State Rd. 135 in Greenwood. The phone number is (317) 884-3992.*

Photos by Brian Ruckle

## AN OPTION

### Hal's Fabulous Vegas Bar & Grille

**The scoop:** A decade ago, Hal Yeagy wanted to find a great place to get a steak. Rather than wait for someone else to provide a great Southside steak, the owner of Indianapolis' Slippery Noodle started Hal's Fabulous Vegas Bar & Grille. This May Yeagy and his crew will celebrate 10 years of great steaks and martinis at his restaurant which brought old Vegas to Greenwood. If you like a good martini, Hal's is the place to go. They have a wide array of flavors and ingredients and there is a drink for everyone. If your hunger is getting the best of you, try their Bone-In Rib-Eye or their monster Blackjack Burger. The Fat Elvis burger is a new item worthy of trying based on the name alone. One item people overlook is the meatloaf, a good comfort food that is a meal away from home. Hal's is also a great place to schedule a private party or business meeting.

**Specialties:** Martinis and steaks

**Recommendation:** Pan Seared Snapper

**Hours:** Monday to Wednesday 4 p.m. to 11 p.m.; Thursday to Saturday 4 p.m. to 12 p.m.



*Pan Seared Snapper at Hal's Fabulous Vegas Bar & Grille*

**Location:** 133 State Rd. 135, Greenwood, IN 46142

**Phone:** (317) 888-3427

Compiled by Brian Ruckle



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# Building business in Bargersville

Center Grove graduate Bill Inabnitt learned at an early age that people who work hard get the luckiest

## FEATURE

By Nicole Davis

As president of Bargersville Main Street, William “Bill” Inabnitt has visions of a brighter Bargersville, with more businesses and a closer-knit community. A lifelong Center Grove area resident, Bill says it’s been a good place to call home, a place where his family has lived for generations.

Bill was born in Greenwood. At age three, he moved into a house on Mullinix Road that his parents, also Center Grove graduates, recently moved out of. He graduated from Center Grove High School in 1983.

“I was a farm boy who liked to be outside,” he says. “I didn’t get involved in much. I didn’t do any sports. I wasn’t in clubs. Unfortunately you get out of it what you put into it and I did not put much into it. I just went through school. At 14 I got a job on a cattle farm for three years. At 16 I started working at Lowe’s Theater, where Ashley’s Furniture is now. I was there two years. Most of my memories through high school are [of] working.”

After graduation, Bill traveled to Switzerland where he stayed for three months, getting a cultural experience that he says helped him gain confidence to be more outgoing. He began working with his father, Carlis



William “Bill” Inabnitt at the Inabnitt Agency. **Photo by Nicole Davis**

“Toddy” Inabnitt, at his insurance and real estate business, Inabnitt Agency.

“My father taught me honesty and integrity,” he says. “As long as you treat people right, they’ll treat you right. This business gives me the satisfaction of providing a personal service and creating more friendships through the people I’m helping with insurance and/or real estate. It’s a way that I’ve been able to meet great people in the area and help them with their real estate and insurance needs.”

Bill took ownership of the business in 1993.

“It’s been enjoyable,” he says. “It’s given me a lot of flexibility. I can create my own hours and be involved in my kids’ functions. It’s provided a good living. I don’t plan on ever retiring. I’m not a guy that sits around.”

Bill met his wife, Jennifer, at the age of 29.

“Then my life started,” he said. “Within three months of getting married, we were ex-

pecting our first child.”

Bill and Jennifer have a son, Will, and a daughter, Carly. The couple attends Stones Crossing Church, where he helps at the check-in during Sunday services.

The Town of Bargersville formed Bargersville Main Street in August 2014 as a requirement to earn a grant to bring in an architect to write a proposal on what could be done to revitalize Bargersville. The group incorporated a year later, when Bill was voted to serve as president, and has since developed bargersvillemainstreet.com and its Facebook page as a means to promote local businesses and events. Its mission is to “create a positive atmosphere by stimulating economic growth, fostering pride, providing community activity and preserving our rich history while building our future.”

The group meets the second Monday of each month at a different local business. The next meeting on March 14, 6 p.m. will take place at Johnsons BBQ Shack. Bill says they will host two ribbon cuttings in the spring, for True Value Hardware and Johnsons BBQ Shack.



From left, Marvin “Pookie” Inabnitt, former office manager Wanda Sexton and William “Bill” Inabnitt. **Submitted Photo**



Bill celebrating his 19th wedding anniversary with his wife Jennifer. **Submitted Photo**

## Getting to know Bill...

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

I was blessed. I had good advice. My father invested in us kids and taught us. He taught us how to get out and work hard. He taught us how to go out, get a job. His statement is how lucky that people who work hard get. I’m blessed in that I did receive that advice. As a family we were around his friends that were successful in life as well. We received everything we needed. It was up to us to apply it.

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

My elementary principal, Mr. Busse. He was at Center Grove Elementary. He knew my parents. It seemed that he spent extra time feeding in to me. It may have been the same time he spent with every other child and he may have been blessed with the gift of making everyone feel special. But, that is one person who really had an impact on me.

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

I’m an outdoors person. I enjoy golf, hunting, hiking. Within the last year, my wife and I have bought a jeep, two kayaks, so we can get together and fish, hike and do anything outdoors. I like to ride four wheelers, ride the ATV. We belong to a conservation club with 130 acres that we can go play on all the time. All of it is for and with family.

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

Right now we have multiple rentals that I manage. My goal is to downsize, to begin selling off investments to prepare for retirement with my wife. I will never retire but I do want to slow down. This year is the first year we have planned four different vacations and I want to keep that going.

“

My father taught me honesty and integrity. As long as you treat people right, they’ll treat you right. This business gives me the satisfaction of providing a personal service and creating more friendships through the people I’m helping with insurance and/or real estate. It’s a way that I’ve been able to meet great people in the area and help them with their real estate and insurance needs. ~ Bill Inabnitt

”

## 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 ideas 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.

## TsT Home Improvement Services

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## A bouquet of aroma

### WINE & DINE

By Charles R. Thomas, M.D.

*Flowery: A sensory characteristic that reminds one of the scents of flowers.*

In the very beginning of grapes, and subsequently wine, it has been established that the grape variety from which all other grapes evolved is the Muscat variety. By a series of mutations, clonings, and natural selection, grapes have acquired color for some varieties and differences in aroma and flavor. Most of the wines we drink have aromas and bouquets we associate with (or smell like) fruits. The description of these aromas allows us to communicate what we experience to others in a conversation or other dialogue. These wines have the fragrance of flowers.

In the group of flowery wines, there is a predominance of the chemical called "linalool," a terpene. There are several other compounds related to it such as linalool oxide and diacetyl. They have the combined perfumes of flowers, newly mown hay, grass, camphor, and rose. Most of the floral wines are white and are produced without oak aging, which would serve to subdue the floral character of the wine.

Rieslings are wines that can age beautifully. Dry Rieslings can easily age to 15

years, 10-20 years for the semi-sweet, and 30 years for the very sweet versions. Some barrel-aged versions have successfully aged to over 100 years. Traditionally, the wines from Riesling have been produced in a sweet profile because the winemaker wishes to disguise the "petrol" character often seen in the aftertaste of Riesling wines. It is actually considered normal, but may be off-putting to the novice drinker. Producing the wine in a sweeter style covers up the aftertaste and reduces adverse comments.

The second parent of flowery wines is the Muscat grape that is generally thought to be the progenitor of all vinifera grapes. Aromas derived from Muscat are peach, apricot, honey, citrus, rose, and "grapey." Muscat is produced in all of the various wine styles, from dry to sweet.

Food pairings for these wines range from the casual sipping of wine enjoyed by itself, to light fare such as seafood, poultry, and other light choices, to sweeter offerings such as dessert or foie gras.



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

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## EVENTS CALENDAR

**Pizza with the Pastor** • The church invites its visitors to join in the Café with Pizza with the Pastor on the second Sunday of each month following the 10:30 a.m. service. | When: Feb. 14, 11:30 a.m. | Where: Mt. Auburn United Methodist Church, Café.

**Kids Cooking!** • Kids grades K through 5 can work together to make one no-bake food item and one drink each month, then taste the results. | When: Feb. 16, 4:30 – 5:15 p.m. | Where: White River branch library, 1664 Library Blvd. Greenwood. | Info: Visit [pageafterpage.org](#).

**Autism Support Group Meeting: Guardianship: The Pros and Cons** • As a child on the spectrum nears their 18th birthday, parents often wonder whether they should seek a guardianship over their child. The short answer to this question is, "It depends." Join as a panel of speakers include parents and professionals that will share their knowledge to help navigate through this decision. | When: Feb. 18, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. | Where: Mt. Auburn United Methodist Church, 3100 W. Stones Crossing Rd., Greenwood. | Info: RSVP to [jcasg@jcasg.org](mailto:jcasg@jcasg.org).

**Saturday Showtime** • Movie will be Minions. Refreshments will be served. Children under 7 must be accompanied by an adult. | When: Feb. 20, 2 – 4 p.m. | Where: White River branch library, 1664 Library Blvd. Greenwood. | Info: Visit [pageafterpage.org](#).

## Being up-to-date with your smartphone

### TECH SAVVY

By Regina Miller

**My smart phone is always nagging me that I have updates. Is it really necessary to update the phone and all the installed apps every time it tells me to?**

While it seems like our smart phones are getting new updates all the time, many times it is the plethora of installed apps that require our attention. Many times, updates are developed to address functionality, but at times, they are released to address security concerns. Any time you are updating the software of the phone itself, I make sure that I am backed up and that I am in an environment where I can address any potential problems. To me, this means having internet access, access to a working phone, a computer, and enough time to deal with being able to drop everything to address the problem.

In my experience, people's lives come to a screeching halt the moment their phones becomes non-functioning. I don't typically install updates on the first day they are re-

**Constellation Champions** • Children grades K through 5 can hear stories of constellations and make a starry craft. | When: Feb. 23, 4:30 – 5:15 p.m. | Where: White River branch library, 1664 Library Blvd. Greenwood. | Info: Visit [pageafterpage.org](#).

**Greater Greenwood Lions Club** • Join for the monthly meeting. | When: Feb. 23, 7 p.m. | Where: Golden Corral, State Road 135, Greenwood. | Info: Contact Vickie Gilmore, (812) 603-4440.

**Pottery Painting Class** • Bring a favorite coloring book design and paint it on a plate! Class includes pottery, paints, instruction and a helping hand. | When: Feb. 24, 6 p.m. | Where: uPaint Pottery Studio, 3113 W. Smith Valley Rd., Greenwood. | Cost: \$15. | Info: Visit [upaintpotterystudio.com](#).

**Climbing the Mountain: Overcoming the Seven Deadly Sins** • Join Fr. Tim Wyciskalla as he walks through each of the seven deadly sins: Lust, Gluttony, Greed, Sloth, Wrath, Envy and Pride. | When: Feb. 24, 7 p.m. | Where: Saint Francis & Clare Catholic Church, 5901 Olive Branch Rd., Greenwood. | Info: Visit [ss-fc.org](#).

**Women in Leadership Workshop** • Join for this two-part workshop hosted by Leadership Johnson County. The first part discusses effective communication skills. The second part discusses negotiating and mentoring. | When: Feb. 26, 9 a.m. – noon and 1 – 4 p.m. Lunch at noon. | Where: Dietz Center – Franklin College. | Cost: \$49 half day, \$79 full day. | Info: Register at [kkasting@franklincollege.edu](mailto:kkasting@franklincollege.edu) or call (317) 738-8794.

leased; rather I wait a week or so until the dust settles. Keep in mind not all updates give more. Sometimes they take a feature away. Reading over the release notes prior to installing will give you an idea of what you are gaining and losing. Creating a backup will also afford you some relief if you need to roll back or if the update fails. Of course, you can also wait for the public outcry if the developers have taken something away and then decide whether or not you want to proceed with the update. The same holds true with app updates. I also use this opportunity to re-evaluate whether or not I use a particular app. In some cases, I end up opting to uninstall the app rather than update. Regardless of how you handle updates, it's always a good idea to back up your phone, including app data, and allow yourself enough time to address potential problems.



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

**Magical Menagerie Small Pet Adoption Event** • EARPS Animal Rescue will have adoptable hamsters, guinea pigs, rabbits, rats and other small pets at the Magical Menagerie. Learn about small animal care, enjoy a snack from the Three Broomsticks and make a craft at Quality Quiddich Supplies. | When: Feb. 27, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. | Where: White River branch library, 1664 Library Blvd. Greenwood. | Info: Visit [pageafterpage.org](#).

**T-Shirt Art** • Bring a white t-shirt to turn into an extraordinary masterpiece. For kids grades K through 5. | When: Feb. 29, 4:30 – 5:15 p.m. | Where: White River branch library, 1664 Library Blvd. Greenwood. | Info: Visit [pageafterpage.org](#).

**Seuss Celebration** • Children in grades K through 5 can celebrate all things Seuss at this party. | When: March 3, 4:15 – 5:15 p.m. | Where: White River branch library, 1664 Library Blvd. Greenwood. | Info: Visit [pageafterpage.org](#).

**Mini Movers!** • Children age 1 month through 5 years old can join for a morning of song, dance and friendship presented by Julia Hittinger, co-founder of the Lead Early Childhood/Elementary teacher at Greenwood Montessori Children's House. | When: March 4, 10:30 – 11:15 a.m. | Where: White River branch library, 1664 Library Blvd. Greenwood. | Info: Visit [pageafterpage.org](#).

**Greenwood Golden Anniversary** • The Greenwood Rotary Club kicks off its 50th anniversary celebration with this Gala. Keynote speaker is Center Grove High School Coach Eric Moore. | When: March 4, 6 – 9 p.m. | Where: Dye's Walk Country Club, 2080 S. State Rd. 135, Greenwood. | Info: Call (317) 626-5379.

**Amazing Robots** • To celebrate "Teen Tech Week", come see the inventions of Red Alert 1741, the award-winning Robotics Team from Center Grove High School. | When: March 5, 1 – 4 p.m. | Where: White River branch library, 1664 Library Blvd. Greenwood. | Info: Visit [pageafterpage.org](#).

**Should You DIY Your Will?** • Family Law Attorney Alaina Sullivan will help in understanding basic estate planning and when it is best to seek professional assistance. Bring questions for a brief Q&A after the presentation. | When: March 7, 6:30 – 8 p.m. | Where: White River branch library, 1664 Library Blvd. Greenwood. | Info: Visit [pageafterpage.org](#).

**Color Science** • School age children can explore all the colors of the rainbow through spectacular (and colorful) science experiments. | When: March 7, 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. | Where: White River branch library, 1664 Library Blvd. Greenwood. | Info: Visit [pageafterpage.org](#).

**DIY: T-shirt Scarves** • Make a beautiful spring accessory from an old T-shirt. All supplies will be provided however, color choice is not guaranteed. Program for grades six through adult. | When: March 9, 6:30 – 8 p.m. | Where: White River branch library, 1664 Library Blvd. Greenwood. | Info: Visit [pageafterpage.org](#).

**Tales for Trails** • Improve reading skills and enjoy time with a registered Pet Partners dog. Sign up for a 15 minute session at the Children's Reference Desk or call (317) 885-1330. | When: March 14, 6 – 8 p.m. | Where: White River branch library, 1664 Library Blvd. Greenwood. | Info: Visit [pageafterpage.org](#).

**Race for an Orphan 5K** • The Boaz Project will hold its 9th Annual Race for an Orphan 5K. It includes family-friendly activities and professional chip timing, all to benefit orphans. Strollers and pets are welcome. | When: April 30, 9:30 – 11 a.m. Registration begins 8:30 a.m. | Where: Craig Park, 20 E. Smith Valley Rd., Greenwood. | Cost: Early bird through March 15, \$15 students through 12th grade, \$30 individual, \$65 family up to five members. After March 15, \$15 students, \$35 individuals, \$70 family. | Info: Visit [boazproject.org/race](#).

What's up Center Grove?  
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# Keepin' it Rolling at Stones

God answers Chad and Sara Torrison's prayers as they find an opening to serve at Stones Crossing Church

## WHERE WE WORSHIP

Chad and Sara Torrison were living in Georgia just two and a half years ago, searching for employment within a church. After several opportunities with churches falling through, they told the Lord they were going to stop searching and would settle into their lives in Georgia. It was at that time that God's always perfect timing prevailed, leading them to an opportunity with Stones Crossing Church. After several phone interviews and flying in for a weekend of interviews, Chad was offered the Young Adult and Middle School Pastor position. He and Sara were packed and moved not even a month after receiving the position and have been at Stones ever since.

"A wise mentor of ours once said 'Find where the Lord is working and get plugged in.' That is exactly what we did. Looking back at all the other places we thought we wanted to be, we are so thankful the Lord had us wait and brought us to Stones," explained Chad and Sara.

They were drawn to the church because of the real people who attend, Stones' devotion to the gospel and the importance of community. Attending Stones Crossing one time exudes how it's truly a family there, with the members sharing meaningful relationships with one another on a personal and spiritual level.

Here, Chad and Sara answer additional questions about how Stones Crossing Church has had an impact on both of their lives:

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

The gospel, which is the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ, is at the core of what Stones Crossing preaches and that's what really helps us grow. It's not the "self-help, do good, try hard" method that is common in today's Christian culture. At Stones Crossing they truly believe and teach the Bible as God's inspired word. Scott, the lead pastor, does a fantastic job of breaking it down for everyone to understand. There is a great level of authenticity and transparency as we are striving to grow deeper in our relationships with Christ.

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

The church truly values community and family. It helps to realize that you aren't alone in life and that there are people all over the community who are going through exactly what you are going through. The support and encouragement from our church has helped us grow as a family and also in our marriage. One way specifically that our church has helped us connect is when we became foster parents this last fall. We received our first placement and for the



Chad and Sara Torrison. Submitted Photo

next month people brought meals, clothes, toys, presents and sat and prayed with us. As we continue to ride the crazy ride of foster care our church family has surrounded us with love and support.

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

We enjoy having special speakers come in from time to time. Since we have been at Stones we have had Sean Alexander and Michael Franzese (former New York Mobster) come and share their stories of faith with our church family. Usually after we will have a large church lunch or an event for our people to spend time together.

### Why would you recommend your place of worship to someone?

I would recommend Stones Crossing if you are looking for a place to connect, not just attend. If you want a place where people know your name, care for you, and want to get you plugged in, then this is definitely your church. We all realize we're broken messed up people that need the saving grace of Jesus Christ so no perfect people are allowed. Stones Crossing also does a fantastic job of reaching young families on the Southside of Indy. If you would like more information please visit our website at [stonescrossing.com](http://stonescrossing.com) or you can also email me at [chad@stonescrossing.com](mailto:chad@stonescrossing.com).

## Stones Crossing Church

7000 Stones Crossing Rd. W.  
Greenwood, IN 46143  
(317) 893-2483  
[stonescrossing.com](http://stonescrossing.com)

Compiled by Katie Bowman

## DEVOTION

By Pastor Chris Philbeck

Several years ago, the Toronto Star newspaper published the story of a Romanian man who tried to sue God for his troubled life. This particular man, identified only as Pavel M., was in prison in Romania as a convicted murderer. The lawsuit requested "legal action against God, resident in Heaven, and represented here by the Romanian Orthodox Church, for committing the following crimes: cheating, concealment, abuse against people's interest, taking bribes and traffic of influence."

Pavel's complaint was sent to the Timiso-

ara Court of Justice and forwarded to the prosecutor's office. However, it was eventually dropped because the defendant – God – was not an individual or a corporation, and therefore not subject to a civil court's jurisdiction.

I read this story and quickly thought of the words of Proverbs 19:3: "A man's own folly ruins his life, yet his heart rages against the Lord." It's just a basic part of our human nature to look for someone to blame for our problems rather than take responsibility.

Are you someone who's always blaming others for your problems, faults, and failures? I know there are times when we get "victimized" by others, but more often than

not, we need to accept responsibility for our lives.

There was a time in King David's life when Satan incited him to take a census of Israel (I Chronicles 21:1). He was advised against this because David's confidence needed to be in God and not the size of his army. But David stubbornly went forward with his plan. Because the plan was evil in the sight of God (I Chronicles 21:7), God punished Israel – not David alone, but all of Israel. When that happened David was faced with a choice – find someone to blame or take responsibility.

Fortunately David did the right thing and 1 Chronicles 21: 8 says, Then David said to

God, "I have sinned greatly by doing this. Now I beg you, take away the guilt of your servant. I have done a very foolish thing." You can change the course of your life today by simply being willing to say, "I have done a very foolish thing."



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

February – March

# Teacher of the Month

**Mrs. Watters**  
By: Katelyn Stone and  
Julianne McIntire,  
3rd Grade, CG Elementary

Mrs. Watters is an amazing kindergarten teacher! She makes us laugh and is always in a good mood. She makes school fun and a better place to learn. We remember how fun and silly she was when she sang and danced during the ABC zoo song.

We are so happy we met each other and Mrs. Watters in Kindergarten. Even though we are in third grade now, Mrs. Watters still makes us feel special by giving us a hug every morning!

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



Chicago's Pizza  
is the official ICON  
Teacher of the Month  
Pizza Party supplier

Pictured is January - February Teacher of the Month, Mrs. Williamson, nominated by Rachel Graham and Maggie Marlin, along with their 3rd grade class at Maple Grove Elementary enjoying their pizza party!



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**Q&A**

Answers from Page 4

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

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# Feeding a growing need in Johnson County

As a former social worker, LaTheda Noonan says she has seen the need for resources such as food assistance in Johnson County. She listened with her Life group one Sunday in August as a fellow social worker, Wendy Sanders, mentioned speaking with a person in Johnson County Senior Services about an elderly man who had been without food for several days. He asked his neighbor for help. The neighbor told him that she would share what she had – and handed him dog food.

“Wendy and I were in tears,” LaTheda said. “We were waiting for the right time (to start a food program) and that just hit us all that this is the right time. They said, ‘What about this Johnson County Community Meal program?’ I wrote the proposal. Wendy and I presented it to the board and it was accepted as a new ministry for Mt. Auburn United Methodist Church.”

The food program began Jan. 7 at Mt. Auburn, which will host the community meals program the first, second, fourth and fifth Thursdays of each month. Center Grove Church will host it the third Thursday. Thirty people attended their first meal. Forty-four people joined on Jan. 14.

“We are going to grow pretty quickly,” LaTheda says. “We have a lot of elderly and that’s wonderful because we can help their fixed income to stretch a little bit. When you start thinking about who we can feed and how we can help them, there are so many benefits to feeding whoever walks through the door.”

LaTheda has lived in Johnson County her entire life, aside from the 10 years her husband, Larry, was in the military and they moved around. The couple has two children, ages 40 and 15, the youngest of which they adopted. LaTheda and Larry joined Mt. Auburn church in 2010. She has been involved with the Interchurch Food Pantry for six years.

“When you see the need in Johnson County, you can’t help but respond,” she said. “I can’t at least. It’s so amazing to watch the volunteers. We had a Life group pitch in one Sunday. One of the volunteers, for the first time, had been told that the gentleman that she had been serving was homeless. It touched her deeply. Reality touches us every time someone walks through that door.”

Here, learn more about our February Center Grove ICON of the Month, Noonan:

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

Kindness.

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

Lying.

**What do you like most about living in Johnson County?**

We live on seven acres. I like the mix of town and country. We have it all. We have the farmers, the huge executives. It’s an amazing mix of personalities.

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

I have never been anywhere else so I don’t know.

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

Nothing, because anything that changed, I would not be the person that I am today and I like who I am today.

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

I would build a homeless shelter in Johnson County.



## LaTheda Noonan works to be sure that no one goes without

**What makes you happiest?** My family.

**What is your favorite vacation spot?** A cabin in the woods near a stream. I like peace and tranquility.

**What do you do with idle time?** I read most of the time. Right now I play video games.

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

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

I come to my home. My home is very peaceful and I need that peace and tranquility. I am almost in constant prayer because that is what can keep you grounded more than anything else.

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

Larry, my husband.

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

Bob Jacobson and Mike Wolmack: to me, their faith is so strong that I am attempting to get to that level. You see it as soon as they walk in the door and open their mouths.

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

Intelligence and honesty.

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

Intelligence and honesty.

**What is your greatest extravagance?**

Our home, we like being comfortable here.

**What are your fears/phobias?** My fears are related to my health, the arthritis. It’s running rampant through my body and I don’t know what will happen next.

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

When we were living in Berlin, Germany. My husband and our older son lived in Berlin from 1984 – ’86. My son was a cub scout. I was a den mother. We were coaches. We just had a wonderful time.

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

I’d love to be able to sing. I make a joyful noise.

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

Honesty.

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

Abraham Lincoln.

**What is your greatest regret?** That I did not appreciate my parents more before they passed away.

**What tenet do you live by?** Jesus said to love one another as I have loved you.

Compiled by Nicole Davis

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