

CENTER GROVE ICON

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February 18 - March 17, 2017

ROADWAYS, SEWERS AND TRAILS

Oh my!

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BUSINESS LEADER

FEATURE
Special-Tea
in the making



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Greenwood Mayor Mark Myers updates
on the State of the City, while discussing how future
projects will impact the Center Grove area PAGE 4

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Gleason Mappes.

Photo by Nicole Davis

ATHLETE OF THE MONTH STATS

NAME: Gleason Mappes	BEST STATE MEET FINISH: Fourth place in 2016
HIGH SCHOOL: Center Grove	COLLEGE PLANS: Still exploring options; plans to wrestle at next level
YEAR: Junior	CAREER GOAL: Nursing
SPORTS: Wrestling and football; plays defensive end on the Trojans' football team	FAVORITE TV SHOW: Walking Dead
WEIGHT CLASS: 160 lbs	FAVORITE MOVIE: Stepbrothers
EXPERIENCE: Three-year starter, three-time IHSAA State Meet qualifier	PARENTS: Donald & Therese Mappes

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.



Bob Rohrman's INDY HONDA Athlete of the Month GLEASON MAPPES

By Rick Morwick

If experience counts for anything, and it almost always does in the IHSAA State Wrestling Tournament, Gleason Mappes has a lot to look forward to.

A three-time State Meet qualifier, the Center Grove High School junior took a 43-1 record into Friday's first round of the Feb. 17-18 state finals at Bankers Life Fieldhouse.

Moreover, he is positioned for a run at the 160-pound state championship. He lost in the first round of the state finals his freshman year but bounced back for a fourth-place podium finish last season.

Not surprisingly, Mappes plans to parlay his postseason experience into a title run. But he takes nothing for granted.

"Nothing is guaranteed, nothing is given. You've got to earn everything," Mappes said. "I'm just focused on working my way back (to the state meet)

and taking it one match at a time, not looking forward and just doing the best I can in dealing with whatever is on the other side of the line."

Rare is the occasion Mappes doesn't vanquish whoever is on the other side of the line.

One of the state's top 160-pounders throughout his career, Mappes has experienced nothing but successes in high school - the product of his skills, work ethic and a sterling wrestling pedigree.

His older brothers Sean, Shelby and Rhett were all standout wrestlers for the Trojans. Sean was an undefeated 170-pound state champion in 2012. The younger Mappes draws inspiration from all three of his older siblings, who have since graduated.

"I'm going down the same path as they did," Mappes said. "They're definitely trail blazers in my mind. I look up to them whenever I have some problems, whether it be in school or wres-

ting. Their experience helps me out."

So does his own desire to win.

"Gleason has been blessed with incredible talent and an innate knack for the sport," veteran Center Grove coach Cale Hoover said. "He combines that with excellent work ethic, which keeps him improving. Having said all that, the biggest thing that drives him is he hates to lose. I think he hates losing more than anyone I have met and certainly coached."

It's one of many reasons why Mappes is likely to be in the state championship mix. Few juniors can match his combination of refined skills, raw determination and rare state meet experience.

"I always feel like there's things I can do to get better and fix, but I'm always better than I was the day before," Mappes said. "So I think that each day I'm peaking a little bit more, and I feel like I'm peaking at the right time."

Bob Rohrman's INDY HONDA

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Justin Laraway

Greenwood fireman returns to the department which gave him a start in the career field

BEHIND the BADGE

Compiled by
Nicole Davis

Although he already had a full-time job as a firefighter in Carmel,

Justin Laraway made the decision to come to the Greenwood Fire Department in 2013. After all, it's where he got his start and not too far from home.

Laraway is a graduate of Whiteland Community High School. At 18, he was hired part time for GFD. He took a leave of absence in 2003 to join the Air Force as a firefighter. Stationed in South Carolina, Laraway became a fire instructor for the South Carolina State Fire Academy, helping in the aircraft fire division for a year before the end of his four-year term.

He returned to working part time for Greenwood. While applying for a full-time position at many fire departments, he also took a job with Central Nine as a fire instructor with the adult education night school. He became full time for the Carmel Fire Department in 2012, staying there a year and a half.

Currently an engineer for Greenwood

Fire Station 92 and Southside Indianapolis resident, Laraway is also a member of Indiana Task Force 1 as a rescue specialist. That group, through FEMA, responds to natural disasters or terrorist event.

What was your inspiration to become a firefighter?

I was looking to find something I was interested in once I got out of high school. Central Nine was putting together their first adult education firefighter one and two course. I thought that was something I'd like to do. I went through it. I fell in love with it all. As soon as I got out of the night class at the school, I got on Greenwood Fire Department in 2000.

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

I have three and six year old daughters. When the oldest introduced me to her class she said 'this is my dad and he's a firefighter.' She was quick to get that out.

It makes you feel pretty special when kids look at you coming off the truck like you're some sort of superhero as a firefighter. As a professional, it's neat to have a fire department

ball cap on and someone seeing that and saying thank you for your service. You know that people still care about what we do. Even if we never got noticed, I'd still love it every day.

What aspect of the job do you find most challenging?

Being in this line of work, you always have a plan a-z aspect - if this doesn't work then you try the next thing. When you have your hands tied and there's nothing you can do about a situation, that's the hardest part. We're here to fix things, to make something better than how we found it.

What do you enjoy doing in your off-time?

My daughters and I love going horse-back riding, as much as we can. We enjoy fishing together. Anything to do with water, jet skiing and stuff, we do a lot of when we can. When I'm not doing that, I'm working. I have part time work on the side.

What are your future goals, professionally or personally?

Professionally, one day I'll hopefully be in a leadership position. Also, not get hurt. Personally to continue working on supporting my family and watch my girls grow up.

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

I would probably have been in some type of construction.



Justin Laraway.

Photo by Nicole Davis

HISTORY & ARCHITECTURE

Wilbur Cornelius will always be remembered as a friend and business owner

By Jeff Beck

Through his life, Wilbur Cornelius served as a firefighter, business owner, friend, volunteer, father and grandfather.

Residents of years past will remember Wilbur's Marathon Station located at Southwest corner of 135/144, offering a friendly service and chance to catch up on the day's events. Wilbur was known in Bargersville as a man who would help anyone in need while providing community service to residents of Johnson County. Wilbur always seemed to be happy and enjoyed tasks given to him in life.

Wilbur broke his back after a fall while painting a barn for a local farmer with his brother, Jim. The story tells of

Jim making the decision that Wilbur would not spend his life lying in a bed. Jim devised a wooden support board that would slide under Wilbur and allow him to be raised up. Wilbur had a slight limp for the remainder of his life but was able to work and support his family while giving back to the community he loved.

Wilbur served our community as town deputy marshal, civil defense officer and for many years as volunteer for Bargersville Community Fire Department. Wilbur was one of the founders of the Bargersville Fire Department.

Wilbur's first gas and repair station was not an independent business during 60's. That first business was located just north of Red's Tavern. The



building was fairly large with a service door opening in the center with large service stalls inside. Gas pumps and a small office was just north of service doors. Car repairs such as brakes, oil changes and tune-ups were completed at Wilbur's.

Charlie Daniely, Bargersville resident worked part-time at Wilbur's station for many years. The building was used for

stone/heavy equipment storage after Wilbur's moved and later razed for use as parking lot. Bargersville, downtown, was gradually losing businesses so Wilbur's was moved to the busy intersection of 135/144, selling Marathon products. Danny (Yogi) Deer and Dennis Houpt worked for Wilbur many years pumping gas and doing non-mechanical jobs. Young men of high school age would hang out at Wilbur's and were always welcomed. Wilbur, Danny and Dennis are deceased.

Wilbur and his wife Ruth raised three daughters, Brenda, Anita and Margaret. Brenda continues to live in Johnson County and is manager of Farmers Bank and Trust in Bargersville. Wilbur served the community well and will always be remembered as an honest, loyal friend and business owner.



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.

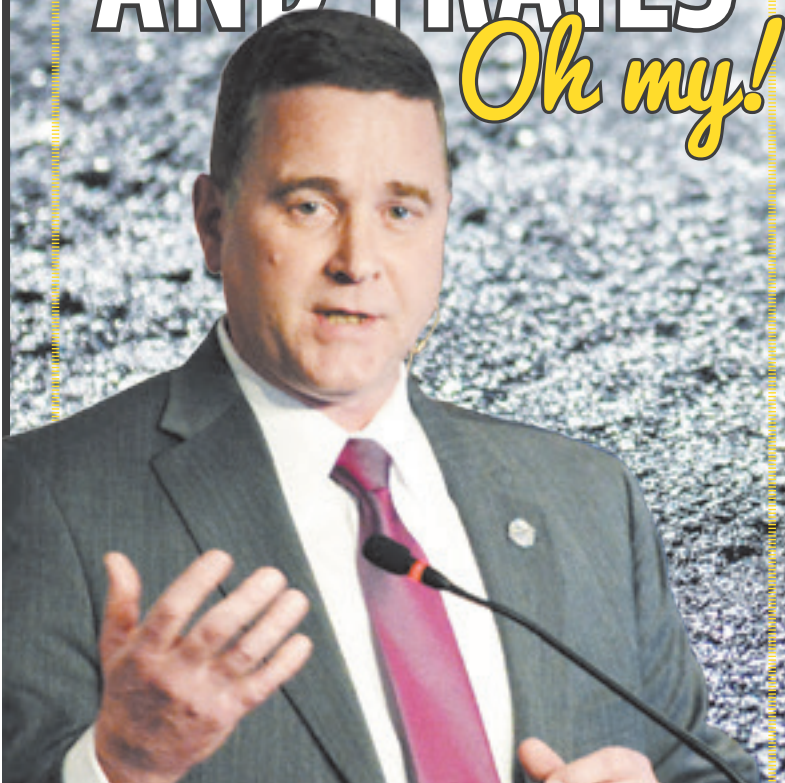


Downtown Greenwood receives a facelift in 2016.

Photos by Nicole Davis

ROADWAYS, SEWERS AND TRAILS

Oh my!



Myers gives the State of the City address on Feb. 9.

Greenwood Mayor Mark Myers shares how future projects will impact the Center Grove area

By Nicole Davis

Speaking with energy and enthusiasm about the future of Greenwood, Mayor Mark Myers has a lot to look forward to in the coming years - from the revitalization of Old Town Greenwood to necessary repairs in White River Township and beyond.

"There's so much for which we should be proud of," Myers said at the State of the City address hosted by the Greater Greenwood Chamber of Commerce at Valle Vista Golf & Conference Center on Feb. 9. "Every day I see hard working people, people of character and people of commitment, people of great faith, people who sacrifice for their families and for this community. They genuinely care about our community, working together not to make Greenwood just succeed, but to excel!"

Myers said he believes Greenwood is leading the way to the revitalization of the Southside. While much of that growth is concentrated in Greenwood proper, the Center Grove area will see its share of capital improvements.

ROADS

"The most immediate thing they'll see is we are continuing our work on Worthsville Road to connect it to Stones Crossing Road to make it the east/west corridor," Myers said. "The purpose of that is to relieve a lot of the congestion that's going north on 135 to get over to Smith Valley to get to 65 and into Greenwood."

Work this year will begin on the Eastside of Greenwood, making its way west. While residents of White River Township won't immediately see construction in their area, it will come over the course of the next four years. The first section completed will be from County Road 250 to 325 East. The next section is US 31 to Averitt Road, putting a roundabout at Averitt and Worthsville Road. After that, the construction will move from Averitt to Honey Creek Road.

"We'll put another roundabout in that will tie Worthsville Road into Stones Crossing Road and do away with a very dangerous intersection at Honey Creek and Stones Crossing," Myers said.

The last section is from Honey Creek Road to State Road 135.

SEWER SYSTEMS

Greenwood is currently working on the largest project it's ever done as a city: a \$60 million sewer interceptor. White River Township's sewer system is serviced by the city of Greenwood, from Stones Crossing, north.

"Every time there is a heavy rain event, there will be some basements and offices flood with sewage," Myers said. "The system is maxed out."

The city has already completed an environmental study, the design work and is currently in the process of purchasing easements and right-of-way. This will take approximately one year. In the next year, they will begin building the sewer from County Line and 37, going South.

"It's about a 10-mile long stretch of sewer that will relieve the pressure on the sewer system in White River Township," Myers said.

DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION

The biggest announcement during Myers' State of the City address was the future renovation to Old City Park. The city, with Restore Old Town Greenwood and local businesses, has worked to complete facade enhancements to the downtown Greenwood area.

"That's given us a huge jump start in getting more people involved in our downtown life," Myers said. "We will reimagine the old park. We'll take out the road, put in a bike trail and walking trail, put in walking trails around the park, new playground equipment."

The city has also purchased the soon-to-be former Greenwood Middle School building for which it will redevelop in future years.

PARKS & RECREATION

Park improvements will begin with Westside Park. The entire layout of the facility will be redone to maximize available space. The city will add a new dog park, shelter house and upgrade the playground.

"White River only has one park, Independence Park," Myers said. "So we encourage them to come over and use our parks."

Greenwood's biggest success from 2016 was Freedom Springs Aquatic Center. The city earned \$300,000 from the park last year. Most successful was the Adult Swim Night introduced in 2016.

The first event only had 250 people in attendance so the city tried again, advertising the event through its social media. The second adult-only event with live music, a movie (*Jaws*), wine from Mallow Run and beer from Oaken Barrel was at max capacity - 1,200 people. The third event, for which they pre-sold tickets, sold out in two days. With its great success, the park will host more Adult Swim Nights in 2017.

SAFETY

Work is expected to begin in March to install traffic signal preemption. This system includes a monitor in police cars and fire trucks that when the lights are turned on, the traffic lights turn green for the emergency service vehicles and red for cross traffic. These devices will be installed at the lights along State Road 135, US 31 and Madison Avenue.

TWEET
of the
MONTH



"Great job @MrsMcCoyCG and Mrs. Porter! Another successful science fair at MSC-40 projects in all! @center_grove #e3cg @centergrovemsc"



Jeanne Schwartz
@tweecher100
posted on Feb. 2

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 According to local historian Jeff Beck, Wilbur Cornelius was owner of what former Center Grove area business?

- A. Wilbur's Marathon Station
- B. Grove Mini-Golf
- C. Hampton's Market
- D. Wilbur's Chicken & Eggs

2 Center Grove resident Amber Van Til recently became the first _____ CEO of Indiana Banker's Association.

- A. Self-employed
- B. Millennial
- C. Southside
- D. Female



3 Center Grove High Schooler Trent Alexander recently earned, what, after working to construct mobile storage cabinets for the Center Grove Trojan Band Booster Organization?

- A. Student of the Month
- B. Community Service Scholarship
- C. Eagle Scout Rank
- D. Best of the Band award

4 Athlete of the Month Gleason Mappes will soon compete at the state championships in what sport?



- A. Basketball
- B. Wrestling
- C. Football
- D. Competitive Jump Rope

5 Habitat for Humanity of Johnson County will host a fundraiser titled what on Feb. 26, 4 - 7 p.m. at the Johnson County Fairgrounds?

- A. Build Bash
- B. Soup Bowl
- C. Humanity Hoopla
- D. Donate Dance

ANSWERS ON PAGE 19

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Breaking basketball barriers

Pioneering basketball standout Pam Grimm enjoys retirement on an Indiana horse ranch

WHERE ARE THEY NOW

By Marianne Coil

It was 1967, and Pat Grimm, a talented basketball player, was in her senior year at Center Grove High School. The team had a 10-0 record. But there were no girls' tournaments. Winners had to coast on pride of accomplishment.

"We got the gym one night a week for about two hours," Grimm said, remembering practice. She credits their principal, Melvin Vandermeer, and their coach, Carol Tumey, with fighting for opportunities for girls' athletic programs.

Being allowed to play when it was "not cool" to be a female athlete was important to Grimm. Her parents, John and Beverly, "thoroughly supported" her athletic endeavors. "It was wonderful."

At Purdue University, she majored in physical education. She wanted to join the basketball team, but first, "You had to find it." Grimm started to play field hockey, a sport she'd never played, to learn more about programs for women.

Eventually, she found out where to go for basketball tryouts. She made the team as a "rover," a position in the archaic six-on-six format, in which only two of the team's six players were allowed to play the full court. Midway through her time at Purdue, the women switched to five on five, in which all players could rove.

The highlight of Grimm's four

years in Purdue basketball was the team's appearance in the first intercollegiate tournament for women in 1969 at West Chester, Penn. Top-seeded West Chester State College won the championship. Purdue had loaned the team a limousine, but the players paid for their own meals and accommodations, she said.

Thirty years later, Grimm was in the bleachers when Purdue won the National Collegiate Athletic Association women's championship against Duke University in 1999. She sat there thinking, "Oh, my Gosh, I helped get this started."

Upon graduation, Grimm taught middle-school physical education in Perry Township and earned a master's degree in education from Indiana University in Bloomington.

After a restless few years, Grimm set herself up for change in 1978 and took a job managing an Athlete's Foot store in Muncie, where she also studied exercise physiology at Ball State Univ. Eventually, the chain of stores became known as The Finish Line, and Grimm advanced to the position of national sales manager.

By the time she retired in 2000, she'd been on the road for many years and eating and sleeping "terribly." As national sales manager, she helped The Finish Line to grow into a multi-state retailer.

While in corporate life, she met her wife, Susan Ogier, who, in recent years, found a way to use her

degree in Equine Science by becoming a farrier, a craftsperson who trims and shoes horses' hooves. With Grimm backing up the business operation, Ogier runs Iron Matron Farrier Service.

Grimm and Ogier share a ranch with a Markleville address in Hancock County near Wilkinson. They tend Appaloosa horses, and Ogier rides in competitive events, such as barrel and pole races. In 2013 Ogier finished second overall in the world championships run by the Appaloosa Horse Club.

"I saw myself retired in Florida. I didn't see myself retired on a horse ranch in Indiana," Grimm said, describing their home as "peaceful, quiet, and beautiful."



Top, on the right, Pat Grimm plays for Center Grove High School in the 1960s. Bottom, Pat Grimm rides on her late horse, Midnight, about 10 years ago.

Submitted photos



Getting to know Pam...

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

How to direct my competitive drive and passions in a more focused way.

What do you do in your free time?

Ride horses, play golf, play fantasy football, read mystery novels and do ranch chores.

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

My parents. They always supported me in anything I wanted to do and always taught me the right way to do it.

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

Continue a long and happy retirement.

NIGHT & day LOCAL Entertainment ENTERTAINING

EVENTS CALENDAR

Culinaria

An Option:

Jet's Pizza

THE SCOOP:

Jet's Pizza on SR 135 and on Thompson Road has started the new year by introducing some new menu items. One of the brand new, innovative menu items is the Jetzee. The Jetzee is like a sub sandwich but instead of typical bread they use their signature deep dish pizza dough, bake it into a flat crust and top it with butter and romano. Between two layers of this crust they offer a wide variety of Jetzees: Italian, ham and cheese, veggie, grilled chicken, chicken parmesan, meatball, pizza, steak and cheese, and tuna. One of the new specialty pizzas on the menu is the Philly Cheese Steak pizza with alfredo sauce, mozzarella, provolone, steak, mushrooms, onions and green peppers. New salads include the Caesar Salad, Buffalo Chicken Salad, and Chicken Caesar Salad. Also you can now personalize their 8-inch Deli Boats and Jet's Boats. If you are in the area of SR 135 and County Line or Thompson and Emerson, stop by and try their new tastes.



TYPE OF FOOD:

Jetzees, salads

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Discovery Lab: Body Science • Build your Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math skills with engaging STEAM lessons and hands-on activities that allow children grades K - 5 to explore new topics. | When: Feb. 21, 4:30 - 5:15 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.org.

Under the Sea - Father Daughter Dance • Registration deadline is Feb. 17. The night includes sweet treats, dancing and making memories. | When: Feb. 24, 7 p.m. | Where: Mount Pleasant Christian Church, 381 N. Bluff Rd., Greenwood. | Info: mpcc.info.

Kids Night Out • This drop-off event is perfect for the kiddos who like to paint. Reserve a seat. | When: Feb. 24, 6 - 8 p.m. | Where: uPaint Perry Studio, Greenwood. | Info: (317) 893-5700.

18th Annual Roncalli Reverse Raffle • \$5,000 GRAND PRIZE, TV's, Colts & ND tickets, autographed NFL jerseys, 50/50, and more! | When: Feb. 25, Doors open 6:30 p.m, Dinner served 7:30 p.m, Raffle Begins 8 p.m. | Where: Roncalli High School. 3300 Prague Rd. | Info: clauk@roncalli.org, (317) 787-8277 ext. 264.

Soup Bowl • Join Habitat for Humanity of Johnson County for a silent auction including pottery. Meal includes soup bowl, soup, dessert and drink. | When: Feb. 26, 4 - 7 p.m. | Where: Scott Hall, Johnson County Fairgrounds, Franklin. | Cost: \$25 admission. | Info: habitatjohnsoncounty.org.

Messy Art: Mosaics of Alma Thomas • Explore the world of art through new creations each month. Dress for a mess. Program for ages 5 to 12. | When: Feb. 27, 4:30 - 5:15 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.org.

Winter Warmup Weekend • Enjoy soups, breads and desserts paired with Mallow Run wines and live, local music. Bands change weekly through March 26. | When: Every Saturday and Sunday, 12 - 6 p.m. | Where: Mallow Run Winery, 6964 W. Whiteland Rd., Bargersville. | Info: mallowrun.com.

Annual Spring Craft Fair • The Johnson County Extension Homemakers Association will sponsor this fair which includes 50+ vendors selling craft and artisan products. | When: March 4, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. | Where: Scott Hall, Johnson County Fairgrounds, Franklin. | Info: (317) 736-3724.

Featured Artist: John Manicke • This month-long exhibit during March will feature about 30 paintings and sketches by local professional artist John Manicke. Most of the art works are for sale. | When: March 1 - 30, Wednesdays - Saturdays 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Open house March

5, 2:30 - 5 p.m. | Where: Southside Art League Gallery, 229 E Broadway Street, Greenwood. | Call SALL, (317) 882-5562.

Makey Makey Music • Build a banana piano or become a human drum. Orchestrate and invent with the library's Makey Makey circuit boards during Teen Tech Week. Attendee must be between the grades of 5 and 12. | When: March 6, 6:30 - 8 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.org.

Fairy Houses • Create a fairy house. Attendee must be between the ages of 1 month and 12 years old. | When: March 7, 4:30 - 5:15 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.org.

Seuss Celebration • Join in on the Seussational fun and help celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday with crafts, activities, and stories! | When: March 9, 4:30 - 5:15 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.org.

Amazing Robots • In honor of Teen Tech Week, observe, explore and marvel at the amazing inventions of Red Alert 1741, the Robotics Team from Center Grove High School. | When: March 11, 12 - 3 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.org.

Center Grove Night with the Indiana Pacers • Students can win neat prizes and help raise money for their schools. | When: March 12, 6 - 9 p.m. | Where: Bankers Life Fieldhouse, 125 S. Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis. | Info: For high school families and community members order tickets at weblink.donorperfect.com/2017CGPacers.

Block Party • Create and construct with the library's collection of LEGO bricks each month. | When: March 14, 4:30 - 5:15 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.org.

Craft Night: Yarn Birds • Adult craft program: Use yarn to create an adorable little bird. All materials provided. | When: March 15, 6:30 - 8 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.org.

ISO Teddy Bear Concert Series: The Garden Symphony • "The Garden Symphony" is based on a story written by ISO violinist Victoria Griswold. This story will introduce children to the string instruments of the Indiana Symphony Orchestra through movement and live music. | When: March 18, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.org.

Where We Dine:

Carol Dardeen, Greenwood resident and volunteer for the One Mission Society



Where do you like to dine?

Bonefish Grill and The Olive Garden

What do you like to eat there?

At Olive Garden I love their fettucine alfredo. It is so good you just want to put your face in it. At Bonefish I like the Catch of the Day and their corn chowder is so good.

What do you like about this place?

The service is great in both places. Sometimes the chef will come out and ask you how you like your meal at Bonefish.

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

Olive Garden is located at 1274 US Highway 31, Greenwood, IN 46142. The phone number (317) 887-3030.

Behind Bars:

Patron XO Rum Affair



Bartender:

Shelley Lohman

Location: Shallo's Antique Restaurant & Brewhaus 8811 Hardegan St., Indianapolis.

Ingredients and directions:

- 3 oz. Patrón XO and 2 oz. RumChata.
- Chill, shake and strain into a rim chilled martini glass with chocolate syrup.



Southside Sweethearts

Three Southside couples share their stories of love and life together

By Nicole Davis

Love takes all shapes and sizes, as every couple has a different story to share of how they met, how they have made their marriage last, what it means to find true love. It's not always love at first sight. Some people know they've met their soulmate from the moment their eyes lock. Others, well, not so much.

What matters is that once the love has manifested, the couples work together to keep the relationship strong. In this issue of *Center Grove Icon* featuring "Southside Sweethearts," learn about how two couples met, grew together and maintain a strong relationship.

♥♥ Andy & Lisa Bauermeister ♥♥



Left, Andy and Lisa. Right, The Bauermeister family.

Submitted photos

Having went on their first date nearly 17 years ago, Andy and Lisa Bauermeister make it a priority to still spend time together, just the two of them. They recently took a four-day trip to Florida, returning to their Center Grove home to enjoy life together and as a family.

"We have three kids," Andy said. "Eventually those kids will move out. We have to still love each other and enjoy being around each other. While they're still young, we need to make sure we enjoy doing things just us."

Lisa, a Center Grove High School graduate, and Andy, a Perry Merid-

ian High School graduate, met while working at a coffee shop at Greenwood Park Mall. Lisa was a sophomore and Andy was a senior. It wasn't until two years later that the two would go on their first date: June 2, 2000.

"The way that he treated his mom, I knew if he treated his mom super well, he would treat someone he dated really well," Lisa said, about why she initially chose to date him. "He's just a really great guy. He loves the Lord. He always puts other people's needs before his own."

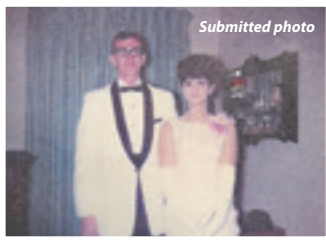
Andy proposed to Lisa on her birthday, in November 2002. Both of them

were in college at the time. Andy took Lisa to a dinner downtown, almost like their first date, and walked along the canal. He had friends meet them there, bringing a ring, a rose and "a very corny poem" he had written in which he asked her to marry him.

"I knew that whoever I was going to ask to marry me, I expected to be with forever, have kids with and really be able to see that longterm commitment," Andy said. "I felt she was the type that would be supportive of me and loving to me all of the time. I could just see it."

The Bauermeisters, who now reside in the Center Grove area, married June 5, 2004. They have three children: Garrett, 10; Katie, 8; and Nora, 5. Lisa works as a nurse in the cardiac cath lab at Riley Hospital. Andy is a physical therapist at Ortholndy. The couple enjoys running together. The family attend Emmanuel Church of Greenwood.

Steve & Sharon Coffman



Submitted photo



Photo by Nicole Davis

With 10 children and 25 grandchildren, life can get busy. Steve and Sharon Coffman wouldn't have it any other way.

Steve and Sharon met at a Christmas Party on Dec. 22, 1962. Sharon was 15, attending Beech Grove High School and Steve was 17, attending Sacred Heart High School.

"I told my buddy I would marry her the first night," Steve said.

Though, Sharon didn't immediately feel the same. "I told everyone to keep him away from me," she said. "He's a good salesman. You couldn't really say no. I'm glad."

Steve and Sharon dated five and a half years before they married.

"It wasn't always easy," Steve said. "When we first started dating, her dad said I don't know if you want to be dating a Catholic."

So they snuck around to see each other at first.

"After, there was a point in time her dad relished the fact that we had this big family and he enjoyed every bit of it," Steve said. "He and I were good buddies."

The couple waited to marry until a year after Steve finished college as he was go-

ing to be a teacher and basketball coach which he knew would be demanding. They married July 20, 1968.

Steve worked as a teacher and basketball coach for 21 years, at Roncalli, then Crispus Attucks, Beech Grove and North Central. Sharon became pregnant with their first child shortly after they were married and became a stay-at-home mom. The couple had 10 kids, the last being born in 1985: Christine, Steve II, Stephanie, Mike, Bob, Diane, Mary, Jim, Joe and Cathy.

"I wanted 12. She wanted 2. So we compromised. Two from 12 is 10," Steve joked.

Steve said he was away from home a lot, working two jobs.

"We're different in a lot of ways," Steve said. "If one of the kids did something wrong, she'd say 'don't you do that any more.' She'd hug them and kiss them. I'd be the disciplinarian. We have a lot of opposite traits but we've blended. It was a blessing, but you don't have 10 kids and it's all a piece of cake. We feel they're all very successful now in each their own way. We're proud of where they are today. I feel that result comes

from her. She was there more than I was."

The family made sure to take a vacation each year and make Christmas celebrations memorable.

"I always said I could buy a sofa and it'll wear out, but I can spend the money on vacations and we'll have memories forever," Steve said.

Steve is a self-employed financial advisor. The couple is able to spend more time together now than in previous decades. Having lived in the Center Grove area for 16 years now, they are building a home near Saints Francis & Clare parish where they attend. They typically spend a total of eight weeks of the year traveling, including an all-family summer vacation to their home in Florida. With spouses and 25 grandchildren, that makes 46 people traveling together.

"We all stay in touch," Sharon said. "We celebrate every birthday separately. That's a lot during the year. We don't go very long without seeing them. There's a birthday every week. There's ballgames every week. We don't go to all the ball games. It's not possible, but that keeps us pretty busy."

Planning the party

Brides and grooms are tossing the tradition to plan weddings that are unique to them

By Nicole Davis and Meghan McCormick

A wedding is about the joining of two people who love each other. A lot of detail goes into making that day special. From the wedding cake to the bridesmaids dress, brides and grooms are choosing to skip the tradition and put their own unique touch on the ceremony and reception.

"A lot of brides are looking at ways to personalize their wedding," said Christina McCurry, wedding planner and owner of Red Poppy Events, redpoppyevents.com, based in Greenwood. "Now is a grand time for that, to not be in a box. I think a lot of brides are having fun, saying how can I make this my day, about us as a couple and pulling in their personalities and activities."

From what to budget to the small details such as the cake server, McCurry said she recommends that happy couples go with a wedding planner to gain a realistic expectation, take care of everything a wedding entails and not have to sweat the small stuff on the day of the event.

"Budget is a key issue a lot of times," McCurry said. "They don't realize what it takes to pull off a wedding. But you can pull off something beautiful without going completely broke. When I work with a couple, I ask them what are their top five things, what's most important to them? Dresses and photography are going to be very important, then flowers, food and the venue which sets the mood and ambiance of it all."

Here, learn about what Southside experts say is trending now:

PLANNING

McCurry encourages her clients to create a Pinterest board, and she will share ideas with them.

"Pinterest has created a whole new playing level to the industry, trying to meet the expectation of what they're looking at and being able to pull it off in their budget," she said. "It's very helpful. A lot of times I can sit with a couple, listen to their ideas and get a feel of who they are. I like to pick special ideas and share with them. It helps them narrow (ideas) down. It keeps it organized."

CAKE/DESSERTS

According to Tracy Whitaker of Kim's Kakerie, almond cake with buttercream frosting has been the most trending in this year's weddings. When it comes time to decorate the cake, flowers have been a popular addition. Although, there is enough cake to go around, it's isn't uncommon for the bride and groom to purchase cupcakes for the guests.

FLOWERS

Roses have been the most popular, according to The Flower Market in Greenwood. Although they see a range of colors in weddings, coral has been the most sought after.

VENUES

"We are still in the phase of the rustic vintage, rustic glam. Usually trends fade out very quickly. That's still very popular and has probably lasted longer than other trends. Barn weddings are still going strong," McCurry said.

PHOTOGRAPHY

"It's my number one area to spend your money. (Photos) are what you're left with. As far as a photography trend goes, the posed photography is out the door. It's such a stiff competition out there. There are so many people that have their own businesses. Find a photographer that can capture what is unique with the couple," McCurry said.



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Crowned with love

315 guests and 600 volunteers
celebrate a Night to Shine at
Mount Pleasant Christian Church

By Nicole Davis

From the grand entrance to dinner and dancing, volunteers at Mount Pleasant Christian Church (MPCC) made all guests feel special during Night to Shine on Feb. 10.

MPCC was host to this prom for people age 14 and older with special needs. The purpose is to demonstrate that regardless of circumstance, these guests are important and loved. The Greenwood-based event had 315 honored guests, 600 volunteers and 350 caregivers and parents. The evening consisted of dinner, karaoke, games, dancing and lots of photos. Each guest was crowned king and queen of prom after dinner.

"They like the involvement with other kids and having the time to dress up, be involved and a night out," said Chris Newett, volunteer with St. Mark Catholic Church's SPRED (Special Religious Development) program, which brought

four guests to Night to Shine. "They feel special. They receive a nice dinner, nice activities. It feels pretty neat to them."

Each guest is paired with a "buddy," with whom to spend the evening.

Dave Pietsch, Center Grove resident who volunteered at the registration table last year, signed up to be a buddy this year. He and volunteer Sandi Kammerer of Center Grove were with a group of four friends.

"They've had a great time," Pietsch said. "We've played all the games. We had a great time with the limo ride and now they're challenging each other to an air hockey game. They're trying to get everything in. We're going to the dance floor and will do some karaoke."

Night to Shine, sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation, is hosted worldwide in 50 states and 200 countries. This is the second time MPCC has hosted the event at its Community Life Center.



1. Three hundred fifteen guests and 600 volunteer dined and danced at Mount Pleasant on Feb. 10. 2. Bargersville Police Chief Judd Green volunteers, serving Peter Sima of Zionsville and Mickey Deputy of Franklin. 3. Larry and Lilly. 4. From left back, Sandi Kammerer of Center Grove, Josh Reinking of Greenwood, Richard Olotade of Eastside Indianapolis and Dave Pietsch of Center Grove; front, Chastity Priddy of Franklin and Brandon Ross of Whiteland. 5. John Thompson and Faith Kubiceck both of Shelby County slow danced through the night. 6. Christine breaks out the big dance moves with MPCC Pastor Chris Philbeck.

Photos by Nicole Davis

***EDITOR'S NOTE:**

In recognition of this special anniversary for the Greenwood Public Library, this special section is a continuation of the articles which ran in the January-

February issue of Center Grove ICON. This month's section features photos from the 100-year celebration, how the library has impacted local teens and community leader Pat Van Valer, history and more. We hope you enjoy the read!



Never underestimate a public library ... or the City of Greenwood

I've heard it said that grit is the raw endurance, perseverance, and passion that keeps you going despite the obstacles. In 1917, Greenwood had Grit.

The first quarter of the 20th century was the golden age of libraries in the United States and it was fueled by one man: Andrew Carnegie. He built over 1600 libraries during that time, and Indiana was fortunate to receive more than any other state, with 165 brand new public libraries.

It took decades and the work of many individuals to establish a public library in the city of Greenwood. Local citizens including a high school senior, the local school superintendent, and the civic league began work in the late 1800s. Finally, in 1916, they compiled a petition with the required number of names, appointed a library board, and the project began to pick up steam. Spirits were high when Greenwood was approved for a Carnegie library, but that project ultimately failed due to a disagreement regarding the building site. Despite constant setbacks, the board persevered, securing a second floor room on Main Street in which to begin their library. Longtime Librarian Hazel Wishard wrote "Only those who remember the dark narrow stairway and the bleak, barnlike, baseburner heated room that was never warm in winter and unbearably hot in the summer can appreciate the determination that kept this project going."

On our opening day we did not have stone steps, or soaring columns, or stained glass windows – but we had an immovable conviction that literacy changes lives, and a determination to invest in the lives or our community. We opened our doors

with 80 registered borrowers and 35 donated books. Those first two years were difficult. While the First World War raged, a smallpox epidemic closed the schools and library for four months at the end of 1917, and the next fall we were closed for five weeks by influenza.

From the time we moved into the brand new Polk Community building in 1920, to our first building here in 1963 and until the present day, the Greenwood Public Library has benefited from the foundation laid by those early Greenwood residents and we have inherited their fortitude. In 2012, the community of Greenwood once again affirmed their desire to have a public library. When financial catastrophe hit, they made it clear that they could not imagine a Greenwood without its library. Today, this library buzzes with activity nearly all the time. We hosted 43,000 people at our programs last year. Nearly 80 people per hour on average come through our doors. Our book and e-book circulation are both increasing. Anyone who believes that libraries are relics from the past generally reconsiders when they come through our doors.

I hope that you will be able to join us on February 6, 2017 for a celebration of our first 100 years and to kick off our next century of service. It's not just a birthday party for a library, but a chance to applaud our city's perseverance, and determination. Because it turns out Greenwood still has plenty of grit. We'll have random celebrations throughout the day and our official party at 6:30 p.m. We hope to see you here!

— Cheryl Dobbs, Director

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Take a look back at the Greenwood Public Library



1874

First attempt to establish library in Greenwood. Six subsequent attempts ended without success.

1914

Carnegie Foundation offer to donate a library building was withdrawn when local leaders could not agree on a site.

1916

Board of Trustees for Library was created, and petition signatures gathered.

1917 February 6

Library officially opened in Cook's Hall, above a store on the Southside of Main Street (just east of the large building at the corner of Madison Avenue.) Originally planned to open with a traveling collection of 100 books from the State Library. When that collection was not available, the Trustees hosted a book shower which yielded an opening day collection of 33 books. There were 80 registered card holders on opening day.

1920 February 5

The Community House was dedicated in memory of James T. Polk and Laura Burdick Polk. Greenwood Public Library occupied 1,162 square feet in the Northeast corner of the building. By 1962 they had a collection of 15,000 books in that tiny space.

1962

The Friends of the Library organization was founded.

1963 December 26

The new library opened at 310 S. Meridian St. to serve a population of 8,000. There were 15,620 books and 7,250 square feet. This building was constructed on park land at a cost of \$103,000.

1975

Building was remodeled, and now included 14,000 square feet.

1990

Greenwood's population was now 25,000. The library began a building project. While the project was underway, the library moved across the street to Walker Plaza.

1991 October 6

The library was rededicated as a 31,000 square foot building.

2001

A remodeling project expanded both floors and resulted in beautiful 51,500 square foot building

2015-2016

Remodeling and capital improvements improved aging systems and replaced faded carpeting and flooring throughout the building.

2017 February 6

Greenwood celebrates GPL's 100th birthday.

A HISTORY OF LIBRARIANS/DIRECTORS THROUGH THE YEARS

1917

Frances Dean

1918

Grace Green

1920

Cordia Clark
(two months' service)

1920

Mayme Hanson

1928

Hazel Wishard

1956

Mildred Stahl

1973

Katherine Odle Spurgeon

1979

Lee Hanson Buckner

1988

Margaret Hamilton

2011

Cheryl Dobbs

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Keeping TABs

Teens lead Greenwood library programs through the Teen Advisory Board

By Nicole Davis

Greenwood Public Library's Teen Advisory Board (TAB) offers teenagers the opportunity to volunteer, get involved in their community and earn service hours. By leading teen programming, these members meet monthly and volunteer during these events. Many of the TAB members are home-schooled, so participation in the club is another way to make friends and socialize, all for a good cause. Here, learn about two TAB members:



Liz Foster

When Liz Foster moved to Greenwood from Ohio, her family was looking for a library community. They found it at Greenwood Public Library.

"I have been going to libraries since I was little," Foster said. "We found this one. It was really cool that they had a teen room and a teen program."

Foster, 17, joined TAB four years ago.

"I really liked the community at first and getting to know the kids here," she said. "The library actually pours into us and talks to us weekly. They care about what is going on."

In addition to volunteering, Foster got a job working in the children's section. She said she enjoys helping with the Try It Tuesdays with the TAB. She's helped with three lock-ins - although she's attended most of the lock-in events since she's been a member of the Greenwood library.

With TAB's goal-oriented projects, Fosters is volunteering with the video promotions group. They plan to have a completed video project by March.

"I thought this would give me an avenue that I haven't traveled down yet," Foster said. "It sounded really cool. (TAB) had shown me some leadership skills, learning to do things involved in the community in a way. I'm looking forward to seeing how this video will turn out."



Evan Wright

Having grown up at the Greenwood Public Library and actively involved in its programs, Evan Wright decided he wanted to give back by joining TAB six years ago.

Now president of the advisory board, Wright said he enjoys helping the TAB members to lead programs such as the library's Try It Tuesday, lock-in events or holiday celebrations.

"This was my first opportunity to be a leader in the community," Wright said. "I have really enjoyed the programs they've had there through the years. I thought it would be worth joining to help out how I can."

TAB members are currently working on goal-oriented projects to increase community outreach. Teens are split into three groups, working on STEM projects, promotional videos for the library and a children's reading program.

"It's a big step for our advisory board," Wright said. "It's very new to us. I'm very excited to see what we can do in the community with this."

He is volunteering with the children's program.

"I like things that involve the younger kids," Wright said. "We're working with kids with some minor issues with their reading ability, giving them time to interact with older people who can read to them and vice versa."



Photos by Nicole Davis



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Opportunities for all

The Greenwood Public Library was a haven for Pat Van Valer through his childhood

By Nicole Davis

Going to the Greenwood Public Library as a child was more than a pastime for Pat Van Valer. Climbing up into the big chairs to sit and read like an adult was quite the experience. Librarian Hazel Wishard was always willing to get up from her desk, sit on the floor and show him different books.

"It was one of the first places I could be by myself without an adult," Van Valer said. "It wouldn't happen today. But I could go to the library when Ms. Wishard was a librarian and be perfectly safe. It's always been a haven. It was a place where I knew how to respect my elders. That was part of what I learned. I learned it not by being reprimanded but by being exposed to other people, understanding the need to respect your elders and your contemporaries. For me, the library was part of that respect."

Into adulthood, the library became the place Van Valer could find anything he needed. He graduated from Greenwood Community High School in 1961. He'd go to the library to study for his Bar Exam in college. He is currently a member of the Friends of Greenwood Public Library and

said the library continues to serve the needs of the community, just as it did for him back then, only on a larger scale.

Van Valer and his family moved to Greenwood in 1946, when he was three years old. They were the first new family not related to someone in Greenwood, with a new home in a new subdivision. They quickly got involved in the community. Van Valer's father was a local newspaper editor and his mother became the chamber of commerce's executive director.

At that time, the Greenwood Public Library was located in the Polk Community Center, or the Polk Memorial building as it is called today.

"The week we came to Greenwood, the high school burned down," he said. "Everything with the school from athletics, what they needed the gym for, they did it at the community house, including the library."

Hazel Wishard was the librarian from 1928 to 1956, during a primitive time of Van Valer's childhood. She was the only employee at that time.

"If you went in, she did it all," he said. "That was when we had the dewey decimal system and the cards to look through. The

children's books were as we do today, lower. It was wonderful. It's wonderful today. A lot of what she did is what we're doing today on a larger scale because we have a lot more people to serve."

As Van Valer got older, he would use the library in his school more often, still visiting Greenwood Public Library for books more geared to his interests.

Through the years, Van Valer continued to be involved in his Greenwood community and at the library. From changing of the librarians, to the construction of the currently library building at 310 S. Meridian Street in 1963.

As a member of the Friends of Greenwood Public Library, Van Valer said he enjoys seeing how far the library has come and its potential to even better serve its patrons.

"The services they provide are incredible," he said. "The library has recognized some community needs that in many communities were never recognized. During the recession,

people needed to file their unemployment claims on Sunday night. The library provides computers for people to do this and help teach them how to use them."

As he plans to attend the 100-year celebration on Feb. 6, Van Valer said it's a good feeling to be part of something so special.

"I believe in Greenwood," he said. "My parents believed in it. My brother believed in it. He practiced law here over 30 years. I believe in making a positive difference in whatever you do. When that happens, it's positive for everyone. The library provides an opportunity for gathering. It's a real opportunity for kids, moms, dads, to understand what is happening in the community. The Greenwood Public Library has really come to the people and blossomed."



Pat Van Valer serves on the friends of Greenwood Public Library.

Photo by Nicole Davis

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1.

Celebration of the century

Community joins at the Greenwood Public Library as it turns 100 years old

By Beth Wade

On Feb. 6, many gathered at Greenwood Public Library to celebrate its 100th anniversary.

"We are so excited that so many people came to help us celebrate our 100th Anniversary," said Jane Weisenbach, Library Director of Development. "It is really a special time for the library and the community of Greenwood." GPL has impacted countless Greenwood residents. Its history reaches into many families within the community, "My great-great-grandparents were very much involved in the library," stated Charlene Brown.

The Greenwood Library aims to bring many more years of service to its community. "No two days are the same here," says Director Cheryl Dobbs. "We are not stuck in the past. We are planning a reading revolution. GPL started as a labor of love, and that is how we will continue it."



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.



Trent Alexander achieves rank of Eagle Scout

Post 252 - Trent Alexander, 18, has received Scouting's highest rank of Eagle Scout. Alexander, a member of Troop 621, chartered by American Legion Post #252, is a senior at Center Grove High School and has been involved in Scouting for 11 years. Alexander achieved the Eagle rank after demonstrating leadership as an assistant patrol leader, senior patrol leader, and historian before completing his Eagle project. Only four percent of Scouting's national membership attains the rank of Eagle. For his Eagle Scout Service Project, Alexander constructed mobile storage cabinets with built-in cash drawers for the Center Grove Trojan Band Booster Organization. With the school's decision to remove outdated countertops and cabinets in the concession stands, Alexander's project met the need for improved concession operations at Center Grove High School. There were about 20 volunteers who dedicated time to assist Alexander in completing his service project from July to September of 2016. To get more information on Scouting call (317) 813-7125 or visit crossroadsbsa.org.

Center Grove to host Best of the Midwest

Choir - Center Grove will host its 29th annual high school show choir invitational Feb. 18 at Center Grove High School, 2717 S. Morgantown Rd. Beautiful vocals, stunning choreography, and showmanship will be on display by competitive choir programs from Indiana and Virginia including Whiteland, Shelbyville, Carmel, Edgewood (Ellettsville, Ind.), Plainfield, Pendleton, Batesville, Mooresville, Twin Lakes (Monticello, Ind.) and Manchester (Midlothian, Va.) schools. This is the biggest fundraiser of the year for the Center Grove High School Choral Department. The high school show choir performances will begin at 9 a.m. Women's, Concert, Small and Large Mixed groups will compete throughout the day. During the competition, 23 choirs will be represented. Center Grove's Award Winning Show Choirs will perform exhibition shows: The Debtone's (Varsity Women's) at Noon, CG Singers (Varsity Concert) at 12:40 p.m. and Sound System (Varsity Large Mixed) will perform as well in an exhibition at 8:30 p.m. Awards will start around 9 p.m. Tickets are \$12 for an all-day pass. For more information, visit centergrovechoirs.org.



7.

1. HomeBank's Trent McWilliams presents a check of \$15,000 to the library in support of the Family Play Center. 2. Quoted from Hazel Wishard, Director of GPL 1928-1956. 3. Storytime kids sing "Happy Birthday." 4. Pastor John Stelljes of Light and Life Lutheran Church leads the Invocation. 5. Residents Joyce Glenn and Alison Slatter find a book read by Glenn from the early years of the library. 6. Mayor Mark Myers presents a Proclamation to the President of the Board of Trustees Lori Feller and Library Director Cheryl Dobbs. 7. Greenwood residents release their balloons into the air. Inset, Balloons released in honor of GPL's 100th Anniversary. Anyone who finds a balloon should visit GPL's Facebook page and post where they found it and what book they are currently reading. Photos by Beth Wade

FROM THE PUBLISHER

We welcome diverse opinions

In the four-years-plus we have been publishing the Center Grove ICON, we have received just a few individuals who wish not to receive it. I think that is pretty remarkable.

Most the time when I'm out and about in the community, people will approach me and tell me how much they enjoy reading the ICON. It happened again after Greenwood Mayor Mark Myers' State of the City address put on by the Greenwood Chamber of Commerce at Valle Vista recently.

There may be those who have asked not to receive the publication because they simply have no interest in anything community. I understand that. A few folks, however, have been very explicit as to why they no longer want to receive the ICON in the mail: Howard Hubler.

Howard has been writing a column for us for several years now. He is a long-time Center Grove resident and an all-around nice guy. He has done so much to enhance the Center Grove community as well as the Southside as a whole.

Yes, Howard is political. He ran unsuccessfully for congressional seat back in the early 90s and his opinion is tart. But we think it is one worth publishing. Especially in an era where his opinion is one that you don't find often in mainstream media.

One individual who contacted me recently stated that reading Howard Hubler's column was "bad for her health."

As I wrote back to her I stated that there are too many other good stories about the community and its people to read about in our publication. With all due respect to Howard, he does not define the Center Grove ICON.

It's an interesting time in our country. It used to be if you disagreed with one's opinion you might rebut it with a piece of your own - a letter to the editor - or you simply would ignore the column.

We welcome diverse opinion. If you have any you'd like to share, please e-mail rick@icontimes.com. Thank you for reading the 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 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 Nevada, it is illegal to drive a camel on the highway.

SOURCE: dumblaws.com



Perks to make millennials stay

HUMOR

By Gus Pearcy

Ancient Romans showed approval for performances or public events in more ways than one. Each method showed a varying degree of approval. Snapping fingers was a lukewarm reception. Clapping of hands was next, followed by waving a flap of their togas.

Waving was, apparently, the most enthusiastic approval even if it didn't sound like it. In the 1970s, this method of approval was adopted by some females at the Indianapolis 500.

Today, we measure everything by one method of approval: the hand clap. In the west, applause is a cacophony of handclaps.

Our top, most prestigious applause is a standing ovation. This can be accented with whistles and various outbursts of shouting.

All of this is much appreciated by performers. They thank the audience by taking a bow.

How does this transfer to the workplace?

How are we rewarded for a job well done? Well, continued employment and a cashable paycheck are the simplest ways. However, Millennials are looking for more creative ways to be congratulated for their work. These perks are often necessary just to hire a top-notch candidate.

Things like paid gym memberships or flexible scheduling are made before a contract is signed.

Something tells me that Hoosier busi-

nesses will never adopt things like snack rooms or kegerators. Still, here are a few ideas for "applauding" the work of your employees that may make a difference in how long they stay loyal to you.

Food always goes over well. Try to pick a day of the week to always have a catered lunch so employees have something to look forward to. Provide healthy fruits and vegetables for breaks. Make popcorn.

Pay for subscriptions to Netflix or Amazon Prime as a bonus for employees.

Pay off student debts. Create a bonus program that will reduce an employee's debt, and you may have an employee for life.

One of the easiest ways to woo your employees is to recognize their contribution to the company. Millennials like this approach. Any way you can instill meaning in the work they do, will give you the edge when hiring.

According to a recent survey, 44 percent of Millennials are ready to bail on their current company because they want more transferable skills that may get them further in a career with you or another company. Give them a life-work connection that will make them see that you understand them.



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.

Founders respected rivals

OUR VIEW

This nation's Founding Fathers fought bitter, rancorous political fights as this nation was born. While Minute-men spilled their blood, learned men spilled ink, and much of it, to make sure the country being formed and the laws that would rule it, would be worthy of that blood sacrifice.

What would they think today of the nation they brought forth? What would they think of the actions of their nation's current political leadership?

"Oppositional politics" has slowly changed the perception of our ruling system. Partisanship becomes more about stopping the opposition than coming together with like-minded individuals to address and resolve issues.

After winning a hard fought Primary Election in 1860 against three political rivals, President Abraham Lincoln appointed each of them to cabinet positions. Lincoln later told a reporter he felt that he had no right to deprive the country of its strongest minds simply because they sometimes disagreed with him - an act later known as, Lincoln's team of Rivals.

After winning a hard fought Presidential Election in 2016, President Trump is continuing to reach across the aisle to those who politically opposed him. That is something his immediate predecessor could not or would not do after his 2012 reelection, saying, "You don't like a particular policy or a particular president? Then argue for your position. Go out there and win an election. Push to change it. But don't break it. Don't break what our predecessors spent over two centuries building. That's not being faithful to what this country's about."

Now is the time for President Trump's opponents to follow Mr. Obama's advice and put opposition politics and individual disagreements aside. Should the powers that be return to the examples of sacrifice and selflessness provided so very long ago, this tide, this present current of good will and altruism will return our values and America herself back to being the model of greatness for the world.

QUOTE

"Everything you need for better future and success has already been written. And guess what? All you have to do is go to the library."

~ Henri Frederic Amiel

Getting to know Tammy...

- I'm strong in my faith and I try to go with my church mission, which is just love God and love others.
- I'm a very driven person. I'm focused on what I want to get done and I try to get there.
- The most important thing to me is my husband, my kids and my family. We eat dinner every week as a family. I enjoy spending time with my five grandchildren.

How did Tammy do it?

BEST ADVICE:

Treat people as you would want to be treated.

WORST ADVICE:

To listen to other people's beliefs is the worst thing you can do. Anything you do, there will be a negative comment. You have to go with what you believe.

BEST BUSINESS DECISION:

Working with my husband. The two of us are very focused on where we're going and where we want to be. If you support one another and plant the seeds of goodness, it just grows from there.

SECRET TO SUCCESS:

Have fun with what you do. If you love what you're doing, people see that and it will reflect on your business.

IN 5 YEARS...

Growth and more people visiting Main Street because of the addition of the tea room and the shop, combined.

Rustic Root

626 Main St.
Beech Grove, IN 46107

(317) 591-9497

[f/rusticrootllc](https://www.facebook.com/rusticrootllc)

Special-tea in the making

Tammy Hanna to add The Tea Room to Rustic Root with a goal to bring more customers to Beech Grove Main Street

By Nicole Davis

When Tammy Hanna and her family opened Rustic Root in 2015, she felt Beech Grove was up and coming. Through opening the antique, repurposed and gift shop, she had hopes that it would help drive new business to Main Street.

That vision hasn't changed. By adding The Tea Room to Rustic Root in the first half of February, she hopes to not only grow the business, but bring more customers and activity to the area.

"Something like this goes along with the street and the feeling you have when you go along Main Street," Hanna said. "It's a cute, small, quaint Main Street. Family-owned and operated businesses are what makes a Main Street. It slows things down. People want to not be rushed, not feel like they have to eat and be out the door."

Tammy and her husband, Tony, own Hanna's Wrecker, Parts & Recycling based in Indianapolis and have retail properties, under Hanna's Rentals. It was Tony's idea to open Rustic Root in one of their properties in the fall of 2015, selling antique and repurposed items. The entire family helps with the businesses, including Tony and Tammy's children, Paige, Megan, Nolan and Corbin.

Rustic Root quickly outgrew its space in the 200 block of Main Street. In August 2016, the business relocated to 626 Main St.

"I felt the nice window display would draw customers in, which it has," Tammy said. "We increased our sales here and done better at this location. We have a bigger space, have done renovations to the building and have made it nicer."

From the beginning, it was Tammy's dream to open a tea room, a place people could relax, have a cup of tea, spend time with a friend and not feel rushed. The space adjacent to Rustic Root become available and already having a commercial kitchen, it was the perfect spot.

"We purchased this space thinking it would be a tea room later," Tammy said. "Here it is, February. It's moved really quickly for us. I feel like I'm placed right where I need to be placed."

The Tea Room will serve 16 flavors of tea, rotating seasonally. Tammy said the menu will be simple, with a small selection of soups, sandwiches, salads and pastries. The Tea Room will be open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., serving lunch or brunch. Customers can come in for a tea and order from the menu, or reserve a party and have a high tea.

"We're really excited to offer The Tea Room," she said. "There are not many of those around these days. I want people to be excited about it. They have been very interested. We have four private parties booked in February and we're not even open. The response has been amazing."

News of the opening date will be announced on Rustic Root's Facebook page. They will celebrate with members of the Greater Beech Grove Chamber of Commerce for a ribbon cutting this month.

In addition to The Tea Room, Rustic Root will soon offer gift baskets. The Hannas also use their businesses to give back to the community, including being members of Next Stop Beech Grove and a Pink Partner with the Pink Ribbon Connection. Through Hanna's Wrecker, Parts & Recycling, they will join the 2017 Community Fair, doing electronic recycling on March 11, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

As far as expansion goes, Tammy said she's happy with where the Rustic Root is at now, and is looking forward to seeing their hard work pay off when customers sit at the tables, sipping on their tea.

"It's fun to interact with the community and get to know people that live here in Beech Grove and that visit Main Street," Tammy said. "I have fun with it. It's not really a job. I feel I'm good at what I do and I'm enjoying what I do."

I'm someone that is very focused on detail. I think you'll see that when you come in. It's all about detail with a small place like this which focuses on the more personal touch."



Left, Tammy Hanna. Above, The Tea Room, an addition to Rustic Root, will open in February.

Photos by Nicole Davis

BUSINESS
SOUTHSIDE
LEADER

February 2017 | Issue 125
www.businessleader.bz

BIZ WEB

Do it well or not at all

By Andrew Angle

Would you start building a custom home without calculating the cost to finish the project? I know a guy with a poured concrete foundation but no house.

Would you buy a new car without having enough money for license plates and insurance? I saw a guy with a new Cadillac left sitting on blocks since he couldn't afford to drive the car.

Just as I have encountered people guilty of making each of the two aforementioned mistakes, I have known small business owners with online marketing campaigns that didn't have a big enough budget to actually do what it was intended to do: get sales.

Getting a site built with content that's convincing enough to win customers takes thought and effort. Getting it found takes either ongoing content, PR, paid ads or a combination of the three. The mantra of "If you build it, they will come" is found to be disappointingly bogus for too many business owners who invested what little resources they had, only to find out that it was not enough to actually realize a positive ROI. You have to build and promote it.

When people ask for an informal price

estimate, my guesstimate often lands high. That is because I automatically think of the "big picture" budget. A website is more than simply installing Wordpress and uploading a template. It takes maintenance and support, plus I have to understand the brand, research the competition and develop a campaign strategy. Until you do the work of being found, you don't have a business.

Lowball bids set unrealistic expectations and disappointment rather than sales.

Fortunately, you can build a basic page for next to nothing. Free website tools are out there. But, if you're going to build it, do it well. Before you start spending money, do some homework to estimate the cost to deliver the workload necessary to get the site to be seen and get sales.

Words to live by: "Once a task is begun, never leave it till it's done. Be the labor great or small, do it well or not at all." This definitely applies to online marketing.

"Getting a site built with content that's convincing enough to win customers takes thought and effort."



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

PEER TO PEER

Let's Talk About Cash

By Howard Hubler

So, we're starting a term in office for President Donald Trump. Let's talk about cash. All we want to do is translate what this means for families and businessmen and women throughout Indiana.

First of all, I understand Barack Obama left us the national debt of \$20 trillion. Simply put, that is a credit card with \$260,000 showing for every family in America.

Now your first thought would be to chuckle and say I could never pay that off in my lifetime. Yes, that is the reality check.

Donald Trump says we all pay too much money in taxes and that we need a break. His new budget chief, Mick Mulvaney, says the taxpayer needs a break. The first thing he did was freeze hiring at the federal level. I believe he will freeze these hiring positions and nobody will notice anything being lost by way of services. If anything is being lost it will be one, subversion from within or two, poor management. You can decide which is which if you suffer some service loss.

I was fortunate to be at the inauguration; I heard Trump in his inaugural speech talk about giving control of the

government back to the people. I personally bought that story and I own it in emblazoned in the back of my mind. I am sure I'm not the only Hoosier that feels the same way. Mulvaney said that the families that are taxpayers earn their money honestly, sometimes with two and three jobs. "We simply need to spend it honestly at the federal level." Sounds simple to me.

Yes, I have my thoughts about Donald Trump, too. However, he seems to be turning into an adult. I would like to think that Indiana's ex governor whispering in his ear is helping to some degree.

In closing, Don, don't even get too far involved with infrastructure until you start collecting revenue. Should you blow too much through that \$20

trillion debt, you're going lose this little fat boy from Indiana's interest. Outside of that, steady as she goes.

"We simply need to spend it honestly at the federal level! Sounds simple to me."



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

PLANNER OF NOTE

Newly Incorporated Businesses

All In One

John Cloud
2418 Woodfield Blvd.
Franklin, IN 46131

Dave the Slave Handyman

David Trefz
4227 Knollwood Court
Franklin, IN 46131

Indiana Sky Pics

Ronald Smith
625 Country Gate Dr.
New Whiteland, IN 46184

Little Red Events

Jocalyn E. Jester DBA
4076 Billingsly Rd.
Greenwood, IN 46143

Nga Tran DBA A Plus Nails

Nga Tran
7928 Apalacee Dr.
Indianapolis, IN 46217

Patrick M. O'Brien Attorney At Law

Patrick M. O'Brien
107 N. State Rd. 135
Greenwood, IN 46143

The Stacked Cookie

Denise Pascual
1060 Arroyo Rd.
Greenwood, IN 46143

VH Cattle Co.

Charles VanHorn
5874 W. 150 S.
Morgantown, IN 46160

Zion Solutions

Jonathan M. Myers
465 E. Hoover Dr.
Nineveh, IN 46164

Upcoming chamber meetings and events

22 - Greater Greenwood Chamber of Commerce (Freshman Forum with Congressman Hollingsworth); Feb. 22, 5 - 6:30 p.m., Vino Villa, 200 N. Madison Ave., Greenwood. For more information, visit greenwoodchamber.org.

22 - Greater Southside Business Alliance (2017 Taste of Perry); Feb. 22, 6 - 8 p.m., German American Club, 8602 S. Meridian St., Indianapolis. Cost: \$15. For more information, visit gsbaweb.org.

23 - Greater Greenwood Chamber of Commerce (Connections!); Feb. 23, 8 a.m. - 10:30 a.m., Crestwood Village South Senior Community, 8809 Madison Ave., Indianapolis. For more information, visit greenwoodchamber.org.

9 - Greater Greenwood Chamber of Commerce (Express Employment Professionals Relocation Ribbon Cutting); March 9, 4 - 5 p.m., 201 S. Emerson Ave., Suite 110, Greenwood. For more information, visit greenwoodchamber.org.

10 - Greater Greenwood Chamber of Commerce (Legislation Matters Luncheon); March 10, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., Valle Vista Golf & Conference Center, 755 E. Main St., Greenwood. For more information, visit greenwoodchamber.org.

14 - Greater Greenwood Chamber of Commerce (Statewide Chamber Day at the Statehouse); March 14, 11:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., Hyatt Hotel Cosmopolitan Ballroom, 3rd floor, 115 W. Washington St., Indianapolis. For more information, visit greenwoodchamber.org.

16 - Greater Greenwood Chamber of Commerce (Business After Hours); March 16, 4 - 6 p.m., Stone Creek Dining Company, 911 N. State Rd. 135, Greenwood. For more information, visit greenwoodchamber.org.



PERSONNEL MATTERS

Will Others Become Leaders Because of You?

By Mike Heffner

Recently, our office made the move into a new larger space. As I walked into each area the night before we officially moved in and prayed for members of my team and their success, it became very apparent to me that something had changed. The company had transpired from a company that "I" started to a team of people that help people succeed and change lives.

I want to share what a former leader of mine shared with me 15 years ago. One night over dinner while traveling together, he shared with me that I was one of the best sales guys he had ever coached. He told me that if I ever wanted to become successful, I needed to make sure that others would want to come with me. He saw that I could help influence others but was very internally focused. That advice turned out to be some of the best advice that has helped me grow into a leader.

Below are a handful of other things he shared with me that have shaped my leadership style:

- **Take the time to know your team.** What do they want? What are their personal and professional goals? What is important to them?
- **Set goals together.** Allow them to be a part of what it could look like.

Then measure the progress. People want to know what the score is.

- **Listen to others.** Ask their opinion. Watch body language. Encourage feedback.
- **Shift gears quickly.** Stay aware of what is going on and make the changes needed to adapt.
- **Be willing to get hit by the bus.** Admit when you are wrong and stand up for your team. Build trust but demand integrity. Be understanding when people make mistakes but expect accountability.
- **Reward effort and results.** Don't just praise results. Sometimes results don't always come immediately but if the effort and desire to learn is there, be patient and it will come.

I am blessed to be surrounded today by a great team and the success we have enjoyed has come because others invested in me and I made the choice to invest in others.



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.

Daniel F. O'Riley Funeral Home purchased by Branson family

Ownership - Shawn and Diane (O'Riley) Gudat sold the Daniel F. O'Riley Funeral Home to Chris and Mary Beth Branson of Mooresville. On Feb. 7, the Bransons finalized the purchase of the funeral home, located at 6107 S. East St. (S. US 31). The Bransons have been owners of Carlisle-Branson Funeral Service & Crematory in Mooresville since 2007.

The funeral home was opened in 1971 by Daniel O'Riley. He was joined in the early 1980s by his son-in-law, Shawn Gudat.

Shawn will continue to be an active part of the funeral home, meeting families and directing services. The staff at O'Riley will remain the same, and few changes will be noted by the general public.

The Bransons plan to enhance the service experience with additional technology such as memorial videos for families and a mobile-friendly website. Chris and Mary Beth have two young sons, Benjamin and Buddy, and are members of St. Thomas More Catholic Church, and their sons attend Saints Francis & Clare of Assisi Catholic School in Greenwood. More information on Daniel F. O'Riley Funeral Home is available at ORileyFuneralHome.com or by calling (317) 787-8224.



GREATER
GREENWOOD
CHAMBER

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Colosseum Construction
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(317) 300-9813

Greenwood and Center Grove Magazines
P.O. Box 36097
Indianapolis, IN 46256
(317) 496-3599

Legendborne
2986 Hearthside Dr.
Greenwood, IN 46143
(812) 322-6786

Mr. Rex Dillinger
15869 Plains Rd.
Noblesville, IN 46062
(317) 796-4615

Center Grove ICON
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Indianapolis, IN 46227
(317) 300-8782

Community Surgery Center South
1550 E. County Line Rd.
Indianapolis, IN 46227
(317) 887-7600

Greenleaf Landscaping Inc.
788 South Runyon Rd.
Greenwood, IN 46143
(317) 881-4566

Amanda DeBusk Photography
85 E. Main St., Suite B
Greenwood, IN 46143
(317) 759-0685

Pasquale's Pizza
997 E. County Line Rd. Suite P
Greenwood, IN 46143
(317) 888-3535

Sterling Transportation
172 Park Forest N. Dr.
Whiteland, IN 46184
(317) 535-3535

The Skylight Group
715 Bramhall Court
Avon, IN 46123
(317) 416-4369

Vito Provolone's
8031 S. Meridian St.
Indianapolis, IN 46217
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Quiz on Page 5

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

*We want to plan ahead.
But where do we start?*



Ask a professional.

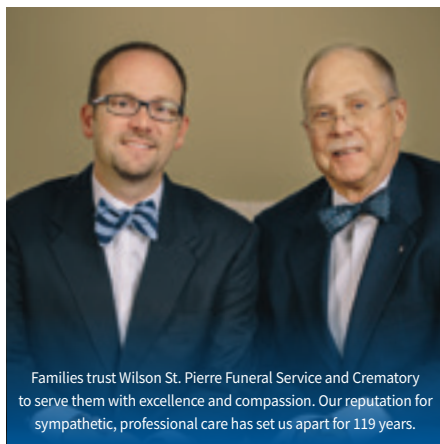
Since 1897, Wilson St. Pierre Funeral Service & Crematory has been the trusted source for funeral services in our area. With our expertise, you know you can depend on us for your preplanning needs. We will help you consider your options, and we guarantee your wishes will be carried out just the way you wanted. You may choose to prepay or simply make a record of your plans – whatever works best for your family. Call us with questions or to begin making your arrangements. Take a step, and we will take a step with you.



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Pictured: Paul and Michael St. Pierre

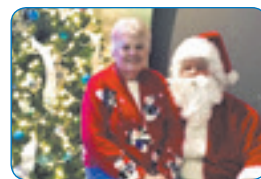
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Carol Dolen celebrates her 80th birthday on Dec. 8 at Expo Bowl.

Submitted photos

Bowlin' with Dolen

Southside native Carol Dolen shares how a lifetime of activity has helped her be part of her community

By Cleveland Dietz II

Five years ago, Greenwood resident Carol Dolen and her family went on a 7-mile canoe trip down the Blue River in southern Indiana. She was in a canoe with two girls; her grandson was in another canoe with his wife; her husband, Mike, was in another with two more people; and two older girls were in a fourth. They were on their family's annual summer vacation.

At 74 years old, Dolen sat in the back of her canoe paddling and steering the boat. It made sense — she had an American Red Cross canoeing certification. For the most part, the river was placid, but there were areas of swift-water. Her granddaughter got the canoe turned sideways on one of them and Dolen couldn't correct it in time. They went under.

"It was alright," Dolen said. "It was hot anyway. It was a good way to cool off."

Her thoughts on the spill may have been different had they gone under ahead of the cattle wading in the river in front of them.

Dolen got her canoeing certification during her time with the Girl Scouts of the United State of America, which totaled almost 60 years despite several moves related to Mike's employment. After joining the Girl Scouts in second grade, she earned badges, went camping at Camp Elwood and sold Girl Scout Cookies. When her daughters were old enough, they joined, too.

Dolen didn't intend to become a troop leader when she offered to help with her first daughter to join. "By time I came home, I had a Girl Scout troop and it wasn't the one my daughter was in," she recalled.

Dolen held most of the volunteer positions she could in the Girl Scouts, including serving on area councils after her daughters grew up. It

was one way she met people after the moves.

Another way was bowling. For the last 30 years, Dolen said, she's been using the same ball. "One of these days, I expect to throw it down the alley and see it split open, but so far it's holding up."

Now she plays in a senior league on Thursday mornings from September through March at Expo Bowling Center. Most league participants are the same each year. Occasionally people leave or join. The league shuffles teams each season, so people meet most of the other participants, which is an aspect of it Dolen appreciates.

She also serves on the reunion committee for Southport High School's class of 1955. Since moving back to town in 2000, she has helped plan three reunions. "I assume if there's enough of us around to do it, we'll probably do it again (in 2020)."

The committee plans the date and time of the event, the location, the food and all the other details that go along with it. It doesn't book entertainment, though, because the get-together itself is the entertainment. A lot of the time, the planning takes place over lunch. "That's the fun part of it — you get to eat. You go to these committee meetings and you get to eat," Dolen said.

Dolen also books a quarterly luncheon with women from her graduating class. She said there's about 25 women altogether who participate, but the luncheons usually have 12 or 13 at a time. The women share stories about their lives and reminisce about old times.

"It's easier to meet people when your children are still in school," Dolen said. "Once your children get out of school, it's a little harder." But a lifetime of activity has helped her build and be part of the communities she enjoys.

LIFESTYLES

Hidden trickery navigating Windows 10, remain secure

TECH SAVVY

By Regina Miller

I recently upgraded to Windows 10 and I can't find some of the common features that I have used since XP. For example, I can't find where to uninstall programs. Are these hidden someplace?

The tip that many people find the most useful after having switched from Windows 7 or older is to right click on the start button on Windows 10. That reveals another set of options that many of us were accustomed to finding by clicking on the start button of previous versions. This list includes commonly used options such as Control Panel where you can uninstall programs and even the short cut to the "Run" command. Another neat trick is just type a few letters of what you are looking for in the search bar and as options populate above, select the one that matches what you are looking for. Apps that are on your local computer show up first, followed by recommended web searches.

I received an email from Yahoo saying that there has been a security breach and I should change my password.

How do I know if this is really from Yahoo or if it's a trick to try to steal my login information?

It's getting harder and harder to discern real communication from forged emails with fraudulent intent. A good rule of thumb is never follow a link in an email that's asking you to log in, change or verify a password. Reputable online companies don't typically include links in their emails that ask you to update your password because they don't want you in the habit of doing that either - it's just too easy for one website being disguised and presented as another. It is better practice to open another browser or tab and type the main web address directly and then navigate to the account settings to make those changes. In answer to your question though, Yahoo did send out an email to their email account holders warning there has been a security breach in which an outsider gained access to personal information of account holders. They are indeed requiring users to change their password as well as encouraging other security measures. This is good advice: if you use a former Yahoo password for other accounts it should be changed. This is true of any password you use with more than one site where one of them has suffered a security breach such as this.



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

FAITH

Do your part to experience change

DEVOTIONAL

By Pastor
 Chris Philbeck

In John 5, we read the story of an invalid healed at The Pool of Bethesda. When Jesus saw the man lying there he asked this question, Do you want to get well (John 5:6b)? Now, honestly, it seems like the answer to that question would be pretty obvious, right? Not so fast. The truth is, not everyone wants to "get well" because it's sometimes easier to suffer. But one of the things I love about this story, beyond the demonstration of supernatural power, is it teaches us to take responsibility for ourselves. I see two things. First, we have to admit that what we're doing today isn't working. The reason so many gathered at this pool is because legend said that when the water was stirred, the first to be immersed would be healed. So this man's strategy was to be the first one in the rippling water. But his plan wasn't working, because even if the legend was true there was no one to help him. So his situation remained the same day-after-day. Second, we have to be willing to let go

of our excuses. When Jesus asked his initial question (Do you want to get well), the man replied, Sir, I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me (John 5:7). That's not what Jesus asked. But he was so focused on his excuses, that he couldn't respond to the question. Ultimately, though, when Jesus tells the man, Get up! Pick up your mat and walk (John 5:8), the man obeyed and was healed. Now make no mistake, the healing power that changed this man's life came from God, but he had to do his part. He could have said, "No, I'm good with what I'm doing now and tomorrow I'm going to try to get closer to the water." Or he could have made another excuse. But he didn't do either. Instead, he got up, picked up his mat and walked. Now here's the lesson: If you want to experience change in your life, you need to change. Quit trying things that don't work and quit making excuses. Is God telling you to "Get up" in some area of your life? I'm convinced that God will do His part in helping you change, but you've got to your part as well.



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

Ulndy's Lalich named preseason All-America

Softball - With the 2017 softball season just around the corner, University of Indianapolis senior Natalie Lalich (Center Grove) was named to the Fastpitch News (FPN) NCAA DII Pre-season All-America Second Team, as released by the news outlet Thursday. The Greyhounds' top power hitter is coming off a junior campaign that saw her rank in the top 30 in DII in both home runs and RBI. A native of Greenwood, Lalich put together one of the best seasons in program history in 2016, with her totals in home runs (14), RBI (61) and slugging percentage (.704) each good for a top-three spot in the Ulndy single-season annals. She capped the year with a two-home run, three-RBI performance in the Great Lakes Valley Conference Tournament



championship game last May, leading the Hounds to their first conference title since 2012. Previously, Lalich was voted the 2012 Indiana Miss Softball runner-up as a senior at Center Grove. Also a two-time member of the Indianapolis Star Super Team, she led the Trojans to three Johnson County titles as well as the 2009 IHSAA 4A state championship.

Matthew Reising makes Ashland Univ. Dean's List

Achievement - Matthew Reising of Greenwood, was named to Ashland University's Dean's List for the fall 2016 semester. Reising is majoring in history, political science, and physics. Reising is a 2016 graduate of Center Grove High School. To be eligible, a student must be enrolled full time at Ashland University and achieve at least a 3.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale.



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ICON of the Month

Amber Van Til

Center Grove resident becomes first female president and CEO of Indiana Bankers Association

Compiled by Nicole Davis

White River Township resident Amber Van Til became the first female president and CEO of the Indiana Bankers Association (IBA) when she officially took the position in January.

"It was something that eventually I saw in my future," Van Til said. "It might have happened more quickly than I anticipated, but it was certainly a welcome change. After 15 years of lobbying, I was interested in doing something different. Coming from a banking family, I am passionate about what we do. I was excited to become a leader in our industry."

Van Til grew up in Martinsville, the daughter of two bankers. Her father is president and CEO of Home Bank in White River Township and her mother, now retired, was vice president of then First National Bank of Kokomo.

Van Til attended University of Indianapolis and IU McKinney School of Law in Indianapolis. She was hired at the Community Bankers Association right after finishing law school. It became IBA in 2006. She has spent the majority of those years in a lobbying position. The mission of IBA is "to advocate for and sustain an environment in which banks can succeed."

"I'd always been interested in politics," Van Til said. "When other kids asked their parents to go to the beach, I wanted to go to D.C. I kind of got the bug. I worked for one of the state political parties when I was in undergrad. All through law school I did volunteering for political campaigns. I had some fundraising experience, which we have to do quite a bit of here, and some political experience. I had a background that was well suited for lobbying."

She said she's stepping back from lobbying now, but not altogether. Van Til became president of IBA two years ago and CEO effective Jan. 1.

"The IBA is pretty secure thanks to my predecessor and his entrepreneurial spirit," Van Til said. "I want to continue to move the association forward, provide the same quality of service to our members."

Van Til moved to the Center Grove area in 2002.

"I like Center Grove because it's a little more down to earth," she said. "There's plenty to do. We love our school. We love our church. We have the best neighbors. I like that there's a feeling of home and pride that comes from living in Greenwood, Center Grove in particular. We certainly bought into that and feel a sense of

pride to tell about the community that we consider home."

She and her husband Russell have two children, Preston and Hudson, who attend Greenwood Christian Academy. The family is actively involved in their church, Harvest Bible Chapel on the Indianapolis Southside, and the boys are involved with Center Grove sports.

Here, learn more about our March Center Grove ICON of the Month, Amber Van Til.

What do you consider your greatest virtue?

Recognition that I am truly blessed. Every blessing in my life is a God-ordained gift. I have earned none of it.

What do you most deplore in others?

Not doing what you say will do.

What do you like most about living in Center Grove?

I value the sense of community. It's small-town living near the big city.

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

I like the feeling of community, to be completely removed from the hustle and bustle of the city, so I would choose Franklin or Bargersville.

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

I would have less fear about trying new things. As I get older, I appreciate the value of new experiences and meeting new people.

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

I would pay off the debts of loved ones, travel and give generously to Christian ministries.

What makes you happiest?

Being at home with my family.

What is your favorite vacation spot?

Anywhere in Hawaii.

What is your greatest extravagance?

My husband would prob-

ably say clothes, shoes and anything from Pottery Barn. He is quite possibly correct.

What do you do with idle time?

Watch HGTV. Play games with my boys.

What is it that makes you angry?

People that I encounter who do not choose kindness.

What do you do to escape from reality?

Play with our puppy, Roxie.

What or who is the greatest love of your life?

My husband, Russ, of course! He is kind, generous and funny. And by necessity, he is a very understanding man.

Which living person in Center Grove do you most admire?

We have many wonderful leaders in our community, both political and civic.

What is the quality you like most in a man?

Strength, humility and humor.

What is the quality you like most in a woman?

Loyalty and consistency.

What are your fears/phobias?

My greatest fear is that something would happen to my boys. A far second would be that I do not like to fly, though I have to travel frequently for my job.

What has been the happiest time of your life?

Right now is a happy time in our lives. Our boys are happy and healthy, we are settled into careers that we enjoy, we love our neighborhood, school and church. We are blessed with a wonderful and supportive extended family.

Which talent would you most like to possess?

I would love to be able to play the piano.

What do you most value in your friends?

I value consistency, loyalty and honesty. Which historical figure do you most admire? Jesus Christ.

What is your greatest regret?

I am not big on regrets. We don't live perfect lives. Each step or misstep that we make sets us up for the road that we are intended to travel. Some of the greatest blessings in my life have been the result of missteps.

What tenet do you live by?

When given the choice between being right and being kind ... choose kindness. This has been a difficult life lesson for me to learn, but the more I practice it, the more I believe it.



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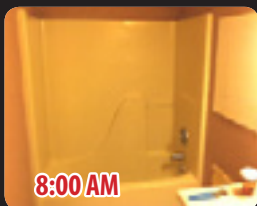


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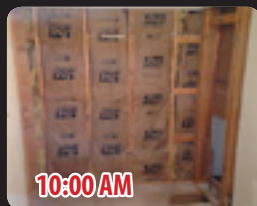
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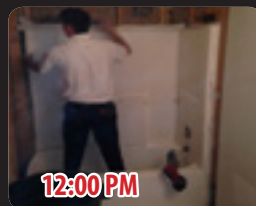
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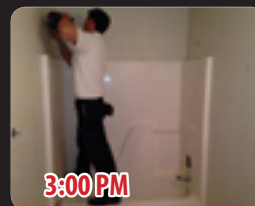
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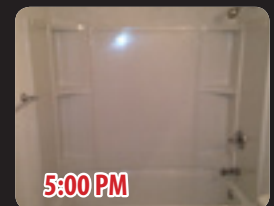
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