

CENTER GROVE ICON

January 7 - 20, 2023 • mycgicon.com

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FIRST Indiana Robotics recently announced the winners of the 2022 FIRST LEGO® League Challenge (FLL) State Championship Awards. The awards earned at the state championship included Breakthrough Award Winner, 7584 CG Tro-Botz WATTz Up - Center Grove Middle School Central - Greenwood. The state championship was held on Saturday, Dec. 10, at the campus of the University of Indianapolis. Forty-nine teams of fourth through eighth graders from across the state converged in Indianapolis to compete in this year's game, SUPERPOWERED. Friendly competition is at the heart of the FLL Challenge, as teams of students ages 9-14 engage in research, problem-solving, coding, and engineering – building and programming a LEGO® robot that navigates the missions of a robot game. As part of the Challenge, teams also participate in a research project to identify and solve a relevant real-world problem. For more information, visit firstindianarobotics.org/first-lego-league/challenge/state-championship. (Photo courtesy of FIRST Indiana Robotics)

Contact the Managing Editor

Have any news tips?

Want to submit a calendar event? Have a photograph to share? Email Nicole Davis at nicole@icontimes.com. And remember, our news deadlines are several days prior to print.

Want to Advertise?

Center Grove ICON reaches a vast segment of our community.

For information about reaching our readers, call Mark Gasper at (317) 300-8782 or email him at mark@icontimes.com.

Or call Grady Michael Gaynor at (317) 674-5373 or email him at grady@icontimes.com.



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ICONic brief

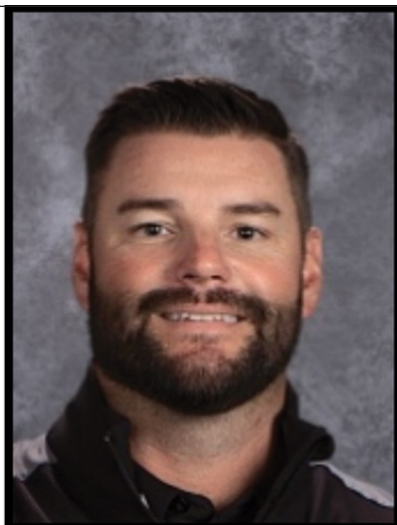


Community Hospital South welcomes its first baby of the new year, Natalie Marie Ray, with her parents. (Submitted photo)

Community Hospital South welcomes its New Year's baby

First of the Year - Meet the New Year's baby at Community Hospital South: Natalie Marie Ray. She arrived at 10:01 a.m., weighing in at 8 lbs., 1 oz. and more than 20 inches long. Her parents, Erin and Aaron Ray said they are ecstatic to have Natalie join the family. Natalie's mom is Dr. Erin Ray, who works for Community Health Network as a gerontologist.

ICONic rewind



Eric Moore, Chad Daniels. (Submitted photo)

Moore, Daniels receive Coach of the Year honors

Athletics - Two Center Grove High School varsity football coaches received Coach of the Year awards from the Indiana Football Coaches Association (IFCA) after the team's 6A State Championship. Varsity football head coach Eric Moore

was named the IFCA 2022 Dave Land Coach of the Year. This is the second consecutive year Coach Moore has received this honor. Varsity assistant coach Chad Daniels was named IFCA Class 6A Assistant Coach of the Year.



December graduates: (Photo courtesy of Center Grove Community School Corporation)

CGHS recognizes 25 December graduates

Winter Graduation - Simon Youth Center Grove Academy (SYCGA) celebrated 25 students who graduated at the end of the semester with a ceremony in the Center Grove High School auditorium on Wednesday, Dec. 14. Students received their diplomas, shared memories with

their fellow graduates, and were treated to a reception with their families in the Hall of Excellence. SYCGA provides CGHS students at risk of not graduating an opportunity to learn in a non-traditional school setting where they can work at their own pace via blended learning.



Our community. Our stories.

Every month, we aim to share the best of the **Center Grove community** sharing the stories of people who make a difference every day.

What **stories** in the community deserve to be told?

What community **Icons** deserve recognition for what they do for Southside residents and organizations?

Forward your suggestions to **Nicole Davis** at nicole@icontimes.com

CENTER GROVE
ICON



(Cover) Aspen with Steven Litz's daughter's partner. | (Top left) Hanging out at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. | (Bottom left) Aspen is a purebred miniature husky. | (Center) Aspen was trained to automatically sit when her owner stops. | (Right) Cuddle time with Litz's wife, Stephanie. (Submitted photos)

More than just a friend

Therapy dog brings comfort and joy to hospitals and nursing homes

COVER STORY

By Todd Travis

Dogs have long been known to be “man’s best friend.” Aspen, a purebred miniature husky owned by Southside resident Steven Litz, takes it a step further and becomes a shining light to nursing home residents in Indianapolis.

Aspen is a certified therapy dog who visits seven different nursing homes across Indianapolis. She helps offer support for residents who need it. According to therapy-dogs.com, therapy dogs offer many benefits to people they come in contact with. Some of the benefits include:

- Helping through mental disorders
- Elevating a person’s mood
- Fighting off anxiety
- Helping to regulate emotions
- Offering social support

There are different kinds of support dogs that have unique requirements and access. These include service dogs, therapy

dogs, emotional support dogs and facility dogs. Pawsandthink.org has an informative graphic that can help explain some of those differences for those who are curious.

Aspen was trained from a young age to be a fully off-leash dog. This means she sits, stays and lays down when she is told.

“When we’re walking, she stays next to me. When I stop, I don’t even have to give a command. It’s called an “auto-sit” – she automatically sits when I stop, and when we get to a street corner to look for traffic passing by,” Litz explained.

The journey began for Aspen when she started visiting children at Peyton Manning Children’s Hospital about six years ago.

While she was at the hospital, a person she was visiting mentioned their mom was in a nursing home and suggested that she go visit her as well. That encounter led her to begin visiting nursing homes as well as a few schools and other organizations.

“Almost no one in the nursing homes really knows who I am, but EVERYONE knows Aspen,” Litz mentioned.

“People’s faces seem to light up the moment they see her,” he continued.

While many lives have been touched by Aspen’s visit to the nursing home, one story in particular stands out. She had been visiting a patient a few times who was non-verbal. The first few times that Aspen visited, she didn’t even

acknowledge that Aspen was there. Over the next couple visits, she began to turn her head toward Aspen and notice that she was there when she came into the room. On the sixth visit, Aspen jumped up onto the patient’s bed and sat at her feet. Unexpectedly, the woman reached out for Aspen, looked up at her aid and said, “she’s so soft.” The aid got tears in her eyes at that moment and said that the woman had not spoken in two years.

“We were able to take a video of this woman speaking and send it to her family in California to see. It was just so special. But that’s the kind of connection that a dog can have with a person who otherwise hasn’t really had any interaction with other people at all,” Litz said.

Aspen is a high-tech pup. She even has her own website where you can learn more information about her at aspentherapydog.com.

“Almost no one in the nursing homes really knows who I am, but EVERYONE knows Aspen. People’s faces seem to light up the moment they see her.”

– STEVEN LITZ

ICONic rewind

Franklin College students receive art awards

Local Recipients - The Franklin College Art Department presented awards at the annual reception of the fall semester student art exhibit on Dec. 5. Students from all levels of studio art classes displayed a selection of their work completed during the spring semester. Students who received awards include: Haven Tunin, of Greenwood, received the Best of Show Award,

the top honor of the evening, for her advanced painting entry. She also received an Award of Merit in advanced painting; Sophie Taylor, of Greenwood, received an Award of Excellence in color & design; Ken Ritter, of Greenwood, received an Honorable Mention in advanced painting; and Caitlyn Moore, of Greenwood, received an Honorable Mention in art history.

ICONic briefs

Leadership Johnson County to host workshop on Inclusive Leadership

Improving Communication - On Thursday, Jan. 26, Leadership Johnson County will host Taking Your Love Language to Work at Greenwood Christian Church from 9 to 11 a.m. Facilitated by Matt Giebler, this workshop will explore

how we can improve communication in our workplaces. Registration is required. General public pricing is \$69 per person. Group discounts are available. For more information or to register, visit leadershipjohnsoncounty.org.

Center Grove Band Department wants your testimonials

Outreach - The Band Department at Center Grove is working to collect videos/testimonials from current and past students to use as resources when building outreach materials for future students and families to join our program. Share, in 30 seconds or less, the impact that Center Grove Bands has had on your life. You could mention things like: ISSMA, BOA, color guard, indoor percussion, marching band, Any trips/travel experience, or career experi-

ence/support in your life after high school. Requirements for recordings: quiet room to limit background noise/distractions, well-lit face/environment, must record in landscape mode (phone sideways), around 30 second response, external mic if possible and file should be mov or mp4. Submit the completed video to this Google Form by Monday, Jan. 15. For more information on how to submit, visit facebook.com/cg-bandsofficial.

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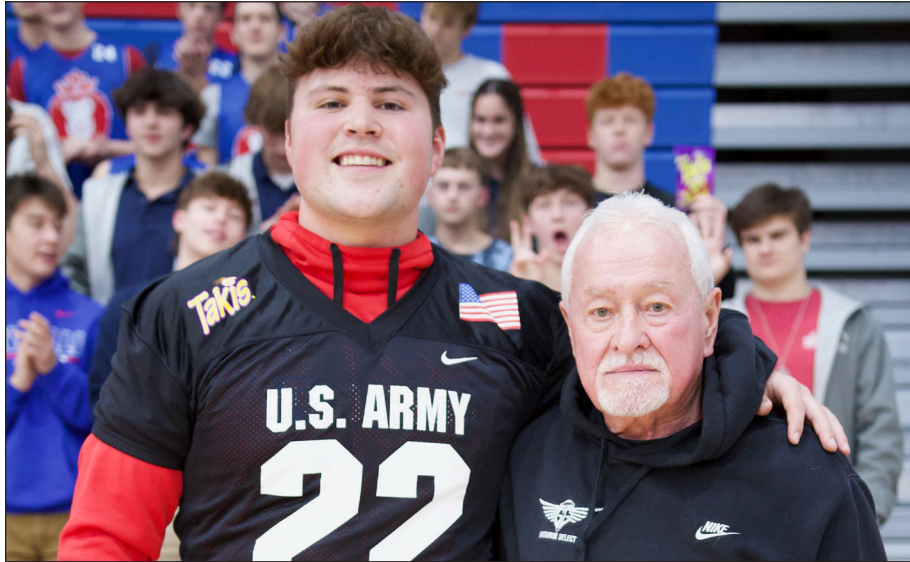
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Trevor Lauck and U.S. Army Bowl offensive line coach Mike Barry. (Photo by A.J. Ablog)

Roncalli's Trevor Lauck plays in U.S. Army Bowl

Roncalli senior offensive lineman Trevor Lauck was named as an All-American and accepted an invitation to play in the U.S. Army Bowl. The game, billed as the country's "Biggest Week in Football," was an East vs. West format and played at the Ford Center at the Star – headquarters of the NFL's Dallas Cowboys in Frisco, Texas.

The event featured 80 of America's top high school players in skills competitions and an all-star game as highlights of the week-long festivities. According to the organizers, "Game day is where the high school and college football world collide as the best athletes preview their ability to the college football world awaiting them."

Speaking about the honor, Lauck said, "I'm very thankful for the opportunity to represent the Southside and Roncalli in the game. I want to thank my coaches for pushing me to be the best version of myself, and my teammates for making me better every single day."

When asked about his thoughts on Lauck being honored in such a way, Royals head coach Eric Quintana remarked, "We are all very proud of Trevor and his accomplish-

ments. He has been a great teammate and ambassador of Roncalli football."

Roncalli principal Kevin Banich added, "We are extremely proud of Trevor's accomplishments as a student-athlete. He has taken his natural abilities and combined them with a strong work ethic and a highly competitive spirit. This recognition is a testament to his own success as well as his foundation that has been established by his family, teachers and coaches throughout his life."

Assistant athletic director Jason Sims said, "Trevor has been around Roncalli athletics his entire life and has always been driven to work to become the best athlete that he could be based off the examples that he saw on a daily basis on campus. This work has paid off with him becoming that example for the youngsters who have watched him compete over the past four years as well as the community at-large who he continues to serve in many different ways."

The U.S. Army Bowl was held Saturday, Dec. 17, and was televised nationally on Bally Sports Network.



William "Bill" Inabnitt at the Inabnitt Agency. (CGICON File Photo by Nicole Davis)

Pictured from left, Marvin "Pookie" Inabnitt, former office manager Wanda Sexton and William "Bill" Inabnitt. (Submitted Photo)



Lives Remembered Honoring those who passed away in 2022

"The song is ended but the melody lingers on." — Irving Berlin

The Center Grove ICON could like to dedicate this page to all of the great people in our community who have passed away in the last year, from lives taken too soon to leaders who paved the way to a better community for everyone else. To all of our readers who are going through a loss, we wish you comfort in this hard time.

Here, we pay tribute to one such community leader person who passed away in the last year, Bill Inabnitt.

Bill Inabnitt

Back in 2017, William "Bill" Inabnitt expressed to the Center Grove ICON that he had visions of a brighter Bargersville. He worked, through his business and through volunteer service, to help his town achieve just that. Bargersville has grown and thrived through the last decade.

Bill passed away on Sept. 17, 2022 at the age of 57. Bill, a 1983 graduate of Center Grove High School, owned Inabnitt Agency in Bargersville for more than 30 years. He first worked with his father, Carlis "Toddy" Inabnitt, at his insurance and real estate business, Inabnitt Agency before he took ownership of the business in 1993. The In-

abnitt business legacy will live on, as the business recently announced to its clients that per Bill's wishes, Joe Barrett of Barret & Associates Insurance Group will now own and operate it.

That business, Bill had said, allowed him the flexibility to spend time with his family and contribute to his community. The town of Bargersville formed Bargersville Main Street in August 2014 as a requirement to earn a grant to bring in an architect to write a proposal on what could be done to revitalize Bargersville. The group incorporated a year later, when Bill was voted to serve as president, a role he served for many years.

He was also a member of Jubilee Masonic Lodge No. 746 F. & A.M. in Whiteland, Murat Shrine, and Johnson County Shrine Club. He was also a member and President of the Green Valley Conservation Club. Bill and Jen are members of Life Change Church in Greenwood.

Bill said his favorite moments were those alongside his family. He is survived by his wife of 28 years, Jennifer Carol Inabnitt; son, William Thomas Inabnitt, daughter-in-law, Alexa Inabnitt, three grandkids, daughter, Carly Lenore Inabnitt, siblings Carla Jean Beeson (Howard Beeson) and Donna Jill Miller (Kent Miller), along with nieces and nephews.



Dexter Albright,
CEO of
ABC.PRO.
(Submitted
photo)

ABC.PRO nominated for Employer of Veterans Award

ABC.PRO, Inc. is a small business owned by a member of American Legion Post 1919 and the 40 et 8 Voiture 145 – Dexter Albright. His company has been nominated for consideration as a recipient of national recognition/award for The Employer of Veterans Award, Small Business.

ABC.PRO, Inc. was founded by two Army National Guard veterans on Jan. 5, 1998, in Greenwood. Since that date ABC.PRO, Inc. has maintained a 50% or higher rate of veteran employees. Over the past five years they have averaged four employees, two of which are veterans. At present ABC.PRO, Inc. has three employees, two of which are veterans giving them a 66% employment ratio of veterans.

Not only does ABC.PRO, Inc. continue to support military veterans through employment, but the company is actively engaged in the local community through the various veterans' organizations. Each calendar year the company donates \$500 each to the American Legion Centennial Post 1919, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5864, as well as the Forty and Eight veterans organization Voiture Locale 145.

In-kind support also plays a vital role in the

company's support of veterans' organizations. Recently ABC.PRO, Inc. donated materiel and labor to install and set up computer support systems for the Marine Corps League and VFW Post 5864. ABC.PRO, Inc. encourages their employees to become involved with the local community's veterans by setting the example: the president of the company is a member of The American Legion Post 1919 currently serving as the 1st Vice Commander; is a member of the Forty and Eight Dexter Albright – ABC.PRO CEO Voiture Locale 145, having served as the Voiture's Conducteur; and is a member of VFW Auxiliary Unit 5864.

The company's office manager currently serves as president of The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 1919, Greenwood, Ind. Company employees often volunteer at the local veterans' organizations with fundraising events; silent auctions; Vietnam recognition dinners; and other events to recognize all military veterans. ABC.PRO, Inc. donates freely to local veterans and their families in times of financial distress. This company clearly demonstrates it is a true honor to be able to help their fellow veterans any way the Company can. ABC.PRO, Inc. is a true veteran's advocate and supporter!

Aspire announces legislative priorities for 2023

By Aspire Johnson County

Aspire Johnson County, the local economic development organization and chamber of commerce for Johnson County, announces its priorities for the 2023 Indiana General Assembly session: funding for quality early childhood education, policies and incentives for attainable housing, and limited government interference in the free market.

"Workforce development is job number one," noted Aspire President and CEO Christian Maslowski, "and Indiana is presented with a number of opportunities to help the state attract and keep more Hoosiers participating in the labor force."

"Moreover, Aspire's priorities for this coming session includes an emphasis on the very tenant upon which chambers of commerce have long been founded: advocating for the free market. Inflationary pressures, supply chain clogs, and labor availability make for a tough national business climate; Indiana can retain its sterling reputation for business by avoiding additional regulatory burdens and free market interference."

These are the priority public policies and the rationale behind them:

Early Childhood Education / Child-care – Aspire supports public-funding for quality early childhood education – from daycare to PreK – for Hoosier children, especially those who are from income-limited families. Studies show children who are ready for kindergarten are more likely to be reading at the third-grade level by the end of third grade, and more likely to graduate high-school. A strong educational foundation is critical, and the state should focus on quality and affordability, collect data, and provide a multitude of types of providers. Importantly, access to affordable quality childcare is an important recruitment tool and assists with the

labor participation rate. A child placed in a stable educational environment provides more certainty and stability for their parents in the workforce.

Attainable Housing – Aspire supports policies and local government incentives that promote attainable housing for all income earners in a growing workforce. We support a comprehensive planning and development strategy, connecting attainable housing to placemaking and quality of life. Robust economies like Johnson County and the Central Indiana area must continue to attract talented workers to sustain new business and GDP growth. Increasing the inventory of housing to support all income earners means more residents can join and stay in our community. Moreover, providing local governments a wide variety of tools in their economic development toolkit to foster support for attainable housing alongside quality of place efforts such as transit, parks, and mixed-use development, will support residents' upward mobility.

Business Autonomy/Free Enterprise – Aspire supports loosening of red tape, limiting unnecessary or duplicative regulation, and reduction of government interference to ensure that businesses across the state can operate freely and efficiently. Over-reaching administrative rulemaking and legislative regulations unduly burden businesses of all sizes, thereby hampering innovation, expansion, and job growth. Streamlining government processes and making them easy to navigate will help our community save taxpayer dollars, and to be a good place to do business. Hoosier businesses value their ability to operate autonomously when it comes to making decisions that are right for their business.

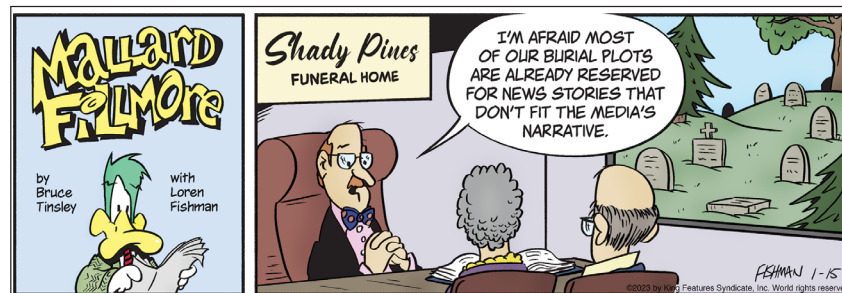
For more information, visit AspireJohnsonCounty.com.

ROMAN
NUMERALS

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Thousand, that is. Center Grove Education Foundation announced that it was able to award over \$93,000 in grants last year benefiting students and teachers in the Center Grove Community School Corporation.

ICONic cartoon



NIGHT & DAY LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT ENTERTAINING

EVENTS calendar

Southside Art League: James Johnson • Southside Art League will exhibit a collection of original pen and ink drawings from Indianapolis artist James Johnson. His renderings often feature vintage homes and churches, including a few Greenwood buildings. They often have elements of fantasy. | When: Now through Jan. 28, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays. Meet the artist at a reception Jan. 13, 6 to 8 p.m. | Where: 299 E. Broadway, Greenwood. | Info: southsideartleague.org

Jackbox Party Games for Teens • Start off 2023 with wacky fun with other teens! Come play these great icebreakers. Bring an Internet-enabled device (smartphone, tablet, etc.) if you have one. | When: Jan. 11, 4 - 5 p.m. | Where: White River Branch Library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.org

Gary Cooper Film Series • Adults, enjoy three classics from a classic American icon, Gary Cooper! Each month there will be a different Gary Cooper film. Snacks, popcorn, and refreshments provided.

ed. | When: Jan. 12, 12 - 2 p.m. | Where: White River Branch Library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.org

League of Women Voters Johnson County • Enjoy a 5-minute slide presentation about The League of Women Voters of Johnson County and time to share your thoughts and concerns about issues that are important to you as a resident of Johnson and adjacent counties. | When: Jan. 12, 10 - 11 a.m. or 6:15 - 7:15 pm. | Where: Greenwood Public Library, 310 S. Meridian St., Greenwood. | Info: lvvjcin.org

Bingo Brawn & Brew • Join for the first-ever Men's Bingo at the Barn, supporting Greenwood Fire Foundation. Tickets: \$30 per ticket or \$250 for reserved table of eight. | When: Jan. 12, 6:30 p.m. | Where: Barn at Bay Horse Inn, 1468 W. Stones Crossing Road, Greenwood. | Info: Tickets available now at GFD Headquarters, 155 E. Main St., Greenwood

Tin Can Pencil Holder DIY • Teens/adults, upcycle

your tin cans into pencil holders on Tin Can Day using paint, scrapbook paper, hot glue, and/or mini dowels. All supplies provided. | When: Jan. 19, 3 - 4:15 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.org

Penguin Pile Painting Party • Class is instructor led, but also allows you to go at your own pace. To-go kits with instructions also available. Class reservation of \$29 includes plate, paints, supplies, and a helping hand. | When: Jan. 19, 6 p.m. | Where: uPaint Pottery Studio, 3113 W. Smith Valley Road, D, Greenwood. | Info: upaintpotterystudio.com

Library After Dark: Game On • Experience the library like a kid again with free reign of the building and no one shushing you ... but with pizza and adult beverages! Play games. Enter challenges. Get your face painted. Go on an escape room scavenger hunt. Create your own masterpiece. Earn tickets to redeem for prizes at the end of the evening. Doors open at 7 p.m. with entry until 8 p.m. \$5 entry fee includes pizza, soft drinks, snacks, and fun!

Ages 21 and over only. | When: Jan. 20, 7 - 10 p.m. | Where: Greenwood Public Library, 310 S. Meridian St., Greenwood. | Info: facebook.com/greenwood-publiclibrary

Full Moon Circle • Join in a full moon circle. We will flow, meditate, and journal as you set new intentions for this upcoming month. Letting go of the past and making space for the new. Please bring journal, mat and object to join in the middle of the alter. Cost: \$30, early-bird by Jan 14/after Jan 14, \$35. | When: Jan. 21, 6 - 8 p.m. | Where: Studio You Yoga, 862 S. State Road 135, Suite 1, Greenwood. | Info: facebook.com/studioyouyoga

2023 Vision Board Party • Teens/adults, let's manifest your visions, hopes, and dreams. Release the past, embrace the future, and intentionally walk into your destiny! Presented by Ta-Kisha Jones, CEO & Founder of MpoweredtoBE. | When: Jan. 21, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.org

SPOTLIGHT

One-Artist-Show: James Johnson

A One-Artist-Show by professional artist James "Jim" Johnson at the Southside Art League Off Broadway Gallery, 299 E. Broadway St., Greenwood, from Jan. 4 through 28. The guest artist will exhibit a collection of pen and ink drawings. Original framed artworks will be available. Johnson has lived on the Southside of Indianapolis since 1958. He graduated from Manual High School, where he studied with art teacher Robert Crawford. He went on to develop his artistic skills at Herron School of Art. Jim was employed as an artist at L.S. Ayres and the Indianapolis Star and News. Upon retirement, he now has time to focus on tightly detailed pen and ink renderings of vintage houses and churches with elements of fantasy. Look for a few Greenwood buildings in the collection. Recently he was invited to have a show at Harrison Art Center last fall. Drawing is his passion, and he says, "I am still learning to draw." Visit the gallery during regular hours Wednesdays through Saturdays, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Come and meet the artist James Johnson during the SALI Open House on Friday, Jan. 13, 2023 from 6 - 8 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, call SALI, (317) 882-5562.



"Hauntings" (Art by James Johnson)

AN OPTION

The Sassy Donut Co.

Southside residents were recently given an early Christmas gift with the opening of The Sassy Donut Co. on Dec. 20. "Our donuts are freshly made every morning and we carry a large variety of one-of-a-kind flavors that are created on our own that you won't find anywhere else," said Jessica Baker, who co-owns the shop with her mother, Jeannie Burks. Popular flavors include the blueberry cake with lemon drizzle, Ghirardelli chocolate drizzle dusted with donut sugar, milk and cookies, red velvet cake with chocolate Ghirardelli drizzle, orange juice cake, and more. "Loving the animal cracker cookie donuts," stated a Facebook review. "The cherry cake is my new favorite," wrote another. The shop, with a "classy and inviting" atmosphere, according to Baker, also carries Danish pastries, crowns, bear classes, strawberry and cream cheese croissant sticks and beverages, including hot drip and cold brew coffee sourced from a small Minnesota nonprofit (beans are ground in-house for both hot



Find your new favorite donut - at least two dozen variations are made daily. (Photo courtesy of The Sassy Donut Co.)

and cold), soda, milk, orange juice, water, energy drinks and tea.

Hours: Tuesday through Saturday, 6 a.m. to 1 p.m.; closed Sunday and Monday. Address: 1279 N. Emerson Ave. Ste. G, Greenwood. For more information, call (317) 743-8951, email info@thesassydonutco.com or go to Facebook: The Sassy Donut Co.

Puzzle Time

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6 Top College Basketball Teams

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- 52 Victory Field dogs
- 54 Online periodicals
- 56 Grazing spot
- 57 IU Health delivery doc
- 59 "Bucky" or "Stan" at the Indianapolis Children's Museum's Dinosphere
- 61 Arctic floater
- 62 Does sum work
- 66 Hawaiian feast
- 67 Comic Carvey
- 68 St. John's ___

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
13					14					15				
16					17					18				
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22	23	24						25				26	27	
28				29		30	31				32			
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52				53					54		55			
				56				57	58					
59	60					61					62	63	64	65
66						67					68			
69						70					71			

- 69 Word with pool or pit
 - 70 Colts QB Matt
 - 71 Simple, and a phonetic hint to five answers
- ## Down
- 1 Col. Lilly
 - 2 Colt foe
 - 3 Indianapolis Fertility Clinic eggs
 - 4 Pacific island nation
 - 5 "Yer lyin'!"
 - 6 BODHI cuisine
 - 7 Daybreak, to James Whitcomb Riley
 - 8 One who bugs people?
 - 9 Loosen, as laces
 - 10 Do an old-style newspaper job
 - 11 Kimu Restaurant soup
 - 12 Tiny taste
 - 20 "Phooey!"

- 21 Funny Tina
- 22 "A Nightmare on ___ Street"
- 23 Orange Muppet
- 24 "I threw away my golf shoes when I got a hole in one," e.g.
- 25 Stuffing herb
- 26 "___ the ramparts..."
- 27 Action film weapon
- 30 Butler frat letter
- 31 Barber's blade
- 34 Cardinals, on scoreboards
- 36 IND wanders
- 38 Greenwood Farmers Market corn units
- 39 Luxurious
- 40 Not on
- 41 Part of RPM
- 42 Flowering shrubs

- 45 Hinkle Fieldhouse door sign
- 46 Beech Grove Middle School spelling contest
- 47 CGHS grads-to-be
- 49 IMPD rap sheet abbr.
- 50 Sea between Turkey and Greece
- 53 Discontinued Google device
- 55 Amazed
- 57 Skin care brand
- 58 ___ fide
- 59 RN's forte
- 60 Regret
- 61 HST predecessor
- 63 ER pronouncement
- 64 ER staffers
- 65 Pig's digs

See **Answers** on page 10.

		4	7	3		6		5
6				2		9	3	
	3			6		8		
	2				1			
		8				7		
			2				5	
		3		1			7	
	9	2		4				3
4		7		9	6	2		

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What's your word for 2023? Don't go with one of these.

**GRAMMAR
GUY**

By Curtis Honeycutt

Many people focus on one word to guide them through the next year. Is this something you do? If so, you might want to make sure it's the correct word. While I don't recommend choosing any of the following words to usher you through 2023, you certainly don't want to get these confused!

When something "topples," it means that an item falls over. Similarly, if a government gets "toppled," that means the people in power get overthrown by another group. On the other hand, if a government gets "topless," that means they had too much to drink at the New Year's party and took their shirts off.

If you take your shirt off, are you likely to see "muscles" or "mussels"? If you've been doing crunches and bicep curls at the gym, you're likely to see some burly muscles. If you happen to be smuggling clams in your shirt, you'll accidentally reveal a bevy of mussels.

Speaking of "smuggling," you don't want to confuse the word with "snuggling." Snuggling involves curling up with a special person and affectionately cuddling with them. Smuggling, on the other hand, involves sneaking an item illegally from one place to another, usually across international borders.

Don't get "border" mixed up with "boarder." A border, as you know, is the edge that separates a country or state from the one adjacent to it. A border can more broadly be known as the edge of any surface or area. A boarder is someone who is paying to stay at a hotel, hostel or

bed and breakfast.

I have an entire category of terms that can be easily confused with vegetables and other produce. A "morel" is a type of mushroom, while a "moral" is a guiding principle. A "currant" is similar to a raisin, while a "current" is either a flow of a body of water or describes something that is happening in the present. Similarly, be careful to parse out the differences between "leak" and "leek," "beet" and "beat," and "pea" and "pee." I don't think I need to go into those in further detail.

Finally – and still along the lines of common grocery store vegetables – you should know the difference between "cabotage" and "sabotage." Cabotage has nothing to do with "cabbage"; in fact, it has to do with navigating or trading along a coastal area. Cabotage also has to do with trade and transport via air transport between two countries' borders. There's that word again. "Sabotage," conversely, means to ruin something on purpose.

Do you have a word for 2023? For me – I need to give myself grace and accept it from others. So, my word is "grace." Grace allows you to start over and turn the page from dark or difficult times in the past.



Curtis Honeycutt is a syndicated humor columnist and treasurer of the National Society of Newspaper Columnists. He is the author of Good Grammar is the Life of the Party: Tips for a Wildly Successful Life. Find more at curtishoneycutt.com.

Puzzle Time Answers – ON PAGE 9

Answers to HOOSIER HODGEPODGE:

Teams: ARIZONA, HOUSTON, KANSAS, PURDUE, UCONN, VIRGINIA

Items: CHEESE, FRUIT, JAM, MEAT, NUTS

Personalities: BUCHMAN, CALABRO, LOFTON, SWAN

Numbers: FIVE, ONE, THREE

Names: KESSLER, MERIDIAN

Color: VIVA MAGENTA

2	8	4	7	3	9	6	1	5
6	7	5	1	2	8	9	3	4
9	3	1	4	6	5	8	2	7
5	2	6	9	7	1	3	4	8
3	1	8	6	5	4	7	9	2
7	4	9	2	8	3	1	5	6
8	6	3	5	1	2	4	7	9
1	9	2	8	4	7	5	6	3
4	5	7	3	9	6	2	8	1

E	R	O	S	A	T	M	S	U	S	P	S
L	A	V	A	I	H	O	P	N	E	H	I
I	M	A	M	N	A	R	Y	T	T	O	P
		O	P	T	I	N		F	I	T	
E	Z	P	A	S	S		S	E	E	Y	O
L	O	U	H	O	O	R	A	Y	P	E	Z
M	E	N	S	A	M	A	G		T	E	R
			T	W	E	E	Z	E	R	S	
O	P	A	L	A	G	O	I	A	M	B	S
F	E	Z	A	R	A	R	A	T	E	E	R
F	R	A	N	K	S		E	Z	I	N	E
		L	E	A		O	B	G	Y	N	
T	R	E	X	F	L	O	E	A	A	D	D
L	U	A	U	D	A	N	A	W	O	R	T
C	E	S	S	R	Y	A	N	E	A	S	Y

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