

CENTER GROVE

# ICON

May 6 - 12, 2023 • mycgicon.com

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community  
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## RISING STAR TAKES ON THE BIG CITY ON HER OWN TERMS

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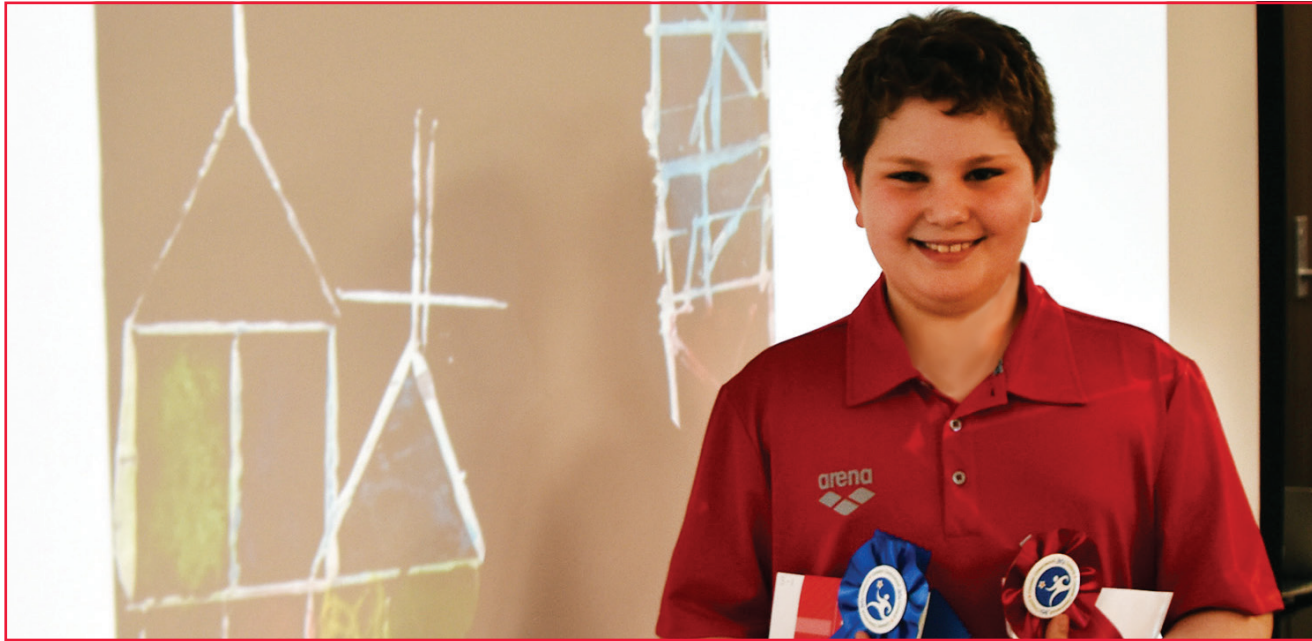


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## ICONic image



The Greater Greenwood Arts Council (GGAC) honored artists with 34 awards for their entries in the Art for the Ages exhibit and competition at a reception in April at the Greenwood Public Library. GGAC President Mark Landis said, "Close to 80 entries provided great variety and competition in this spring's event." First-place art in each of the 12 categories will be part of an exhibit at the White River Public Library during the month of May. Eric D. Brock was juror for the exhibit. Brock is an oil painter who resides in Morgantown and received his art education at University of Saint Francis in Fort Wayne, and John Herron School of Art and Design. Brock chose Robert Smith's oil painting titled "Anne" as Best of Show describing it as "emotive and poetic." Other winners by category included Jonah Popovicu who won first and second places in the third through fifth grades category for work titled 'God Is Good, God Is Strong' and 'A Happy Family'. Popovicu, pictured, is a resident of the Bargersville area. (Submitted photo)

### 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](mailto:nicole@icontimes.com). And remember, our news deadlines are several days prior to print.

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



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Rick Myers, *Editor/Publisher*  
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Catherine Myers, *Publisher*  
Amanda Babinec, *President*  
Lyla Turner, *Assistant to the Publisher*  
Nicole Davis, *Managing Editor*  
Nancy Hammerstrom  
*Content Editor*  
Mark Gasper  
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Grady Michael Gaynor  
*Director of New Business Development*  
Lexi Klein  
*Production Manager | Graphic Designer*

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## ICONic rewind



My Baby Detailing vs. Domino's shuttles. (Submitted photo)

### Smith Valley businesses compete in Shuttle Showdown

**Take Your Vote** – When Domino's Pizza got a colorful new electric delivery vehicle for its store on Smith Valley Road, the shop's next door neighbors at My Baby Detailing saw it as a bit of a challenge. The detailing team has its own Courtesy Shuttle Vehicle with unique graphics and they quickly let it be known that their company vehicle was the coolest. The pizza shop disagreed. But how could the dispute be settled? Both businesses decided to let the people decide. Guests at either shop get to vote on their personal favorite. To make the friendly competition a bit more fun and a way to support the Center Grove community, each shop has agreed to serve the White River Township Fire Department in a unique way if they win the competition. If the My Baby Detailing Shuttle gets the most votes, the shop will provide a free Interior Detail on Chief Pell's Dodge Durango. If Domino's Delivery Vehicle receives the most votes, the restaurant will provide free pizza for the entire fire department. Additionally, when all the votes are finally tallied on June 30, one ballot will be drawn from the winner's ballot box. If My Baby Detailing prevails, one voter will win a free exterior detail. If Domino's comes out on top, one voter will win a free pizza dinner. Stop by either shop before the end of June and cast your vote. Be sure to follow the two businesses on social media to catch the banter during the competition. May the coolest car win!



Center, Ailyn Hendricks. (Submitted photo)



Center, Micah Robertson. (Submitted photo)

### JCREMC announces scholarship recipients

**Supporting Education** - Johnson County REMC recently announced the recipients of this year's JCREMC Academic Scholarships, which were presented at its recent annual meeting. This award is given to two graduating high school seniors, who will be attending an accredited college, university, or trade school in Indiana this fall, and whose parents or guardians are JCREMC members. The 2023 scholarship winners are Ailyn Hendricks and Micah Robertson. Ailyn is a senior at Franklin Community High School, and plans to continue her education at Franklin College to study biology with a pre-dental concentration. Micah is a senior at Center Grove High School, and plans to attend Indiana University to study intelligent systems engineering.

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(Cover) Katie Swaney as Graziella in "West Side Story" at The Argyle Theatre in New York. Also pictured is Ben Milan-Polisar. (Photo by Shannan Lydon) | (Left) The Swaney family, from left to right: Glenn, Suellen, Bob and Katie. (Photo by Lindy Scott LIFE+SOUL) | (Middle) Katie Swaney. (Photo by Corinne Louie Photography) | (Right) Katie performing with Center Grove Sound System show choir in their Spring Spectacular in 2016. Also pictured is Alex Milligan. (Photo by Becky Patterson Lollar)

## Rising star takes on the big city on her own terms

Center Grove graduate Katie Swaney finds success as a performer while helping build the family business

### COVER STORY

By Todd Travis

### Developing a passion

Coming from a musical family, Center Grove's Katie Swaney has always had the influence of the performing arts in her life. At the age of 2, she was already participating in ballet, tap and jazz classes, and she began singing and playing saxophone in middle school. Her mom was a singer, and her dad was an instrumentalist, so she had the benefit of their skills to help guide her along.

"I think it was always in the stars for me a bit, which I'm grateful for. Music was always such a big part of our lives," Swaney recalled.

At the high school level, Swaney began doing musical theatre and joined the show choir. That's about the time she realized that she wanted to continue performing for the long term. She credits the Center Grove team for helping her not only with performing, but also learning self-discipline and motivation – two very important skills when it comes to being a professional performer.

"My theater director Kathleen Kersey was the first to ask me if I thought about musical theater. After thinking, I realized that this was something I could do long-term because I didn't love to do anything else as much as I loved to do this. I also felt that I had good training and support so I felt confident that I could do it," Swaney remembered.

Continuing her journey, Swaney would attend Indiana University to get her BFA (Bachelor of Fine Arts) in musical theater with a minor in arts administration. She continued to hone her skills as a performer as she prac-

ticed auditions nearly every day and learned more and more about singing, dancing and acting.

"I ended up at the perfect place for me, I think. They really prepared me for what life in this business is really like. I feel like I grew leaps and bounds as a performer in those four years there," Swaney mentioned.

### When things don't go as planned

Just as Swaney was about to graduate and make the big move to New York City, the pandemic hit. The remaining classes she was finishing were all done online, and her graduation ceremony was cancelled. In place of the graduation ceremony, she was sent her diploma in the mail a few weeks after she completed her senior year. On top of that, New York City was shut down and so was the entire theater industry.

Swaney's departure from Indiana was delayed from fall of 2020 to March of 2022. That wasn't the end of the challenges that she would face on her journey. Some of the realities of living in such a big city began to hit as well. On top of that, the performance industry is one where you have to deal with rejection as a natural part of the audition process.

"New York City is a very different environment from Indianapolis. It took me a while to find my footing, but also to realize that it's OK to struggle for a bit. Over time, I built a strong

support system through friends there and friends and family back home, and that really helped. New York City is a beast, and every day is different – some days you might love it and some days you don't," Swaney said with a laugh.

### Staying positive

To help deal with some of the more difficult parts of the business, Swaney strives to focus on the positives. Surrounding herself with projects that she loves and remembering that every audition is a chance to improve helps her enjoy the ride. If she does start to feel down at any point, she leans

into her faith to help her keep perspective and see the bigger picture.

"If I'm feeling really discouraged, taking some time to pray and read the Bible always helps remind me why I'm doing what I'm doing and why I'm here. On a less intense day, going out to dinner with a friend is always something that cheers me up too," Swaney said.

### Enjoying the success

The flip side of the coin for Swaney has been the joy of her journey. The challenges are there, but she has managed to not only land some big roles, but she has also found a way to become involved with her family business while traveling and doing what she loves. After working as a host for three

months and preparing to transition into becoming a server, she realized that really wasn't the path she wanted to continue.

Fortunately, her minor in arts administration equipped her perfectly to take on a role as an administrative assistant in the family business: RSC Fundraising. In this role, she is able to assist in the growth of the business, create a second income and continue pursuing theater all at once.

"Just this past month I was doing 'West Side Story' in a theater in Long Island. I was able to do that full time while working remotely full time as well. It was awesome," Swaney explained.

Some of her favorite roles have been Bonnie from "Bonnie and Clyde," doing ensemble work in "Chicago," performing as Dainty June in "Gypsy" and her more recent role as Graziella in "West Side Story."

### Performing in Indy

On May 12-13 Swaney will perform at the Hilbert Circle Theater along with some other big names in the theater industry. The show is called "A Sondheim Celebration" featuring a collection of music from Broadway's master composer, Stephen Sondheim.

"There are four other incredible artists coming that I'm kind of starstruck by: Liz Callaway, Beth Level, Ben Crawford and Jim Hogan, who are absolutely top-tier artists. And of course you'll get to hear the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, who never disappoint. It's going to be a magical show," Swaney promised.

For tickets visit: indianapolisymphony.org/event/a-sondheim-tribute/

*"I think it was always in the stars for me a bit, which I'm grateful for. Music was always such a big part of our lives,"*

– KATIE SWANEY



## This for That

### Center Grove mom offers food in exchange for boys' clothing

By Sherri Coner

To stretch the family budget, Center Grove mom, Amber Cote, has rediscovered bartering.

Instead of trading animal pelts for seeds or maybe pigeons for wheat like prehistoric people did, Amber trades dog training skills, vegetables from her garden, homemade salsa and zucchini bread or fresh farm eggs from her 20 spoiled chickens.

"I actually traded dog training for painting once," she said proudly. "We matched the even amount."

Now Amber is on the hunt for boys' clothing sizes 12 to 14 and 14 to 16.

Her oldest son, 12, loves T-shirts with video or sports graphics on the front and sweatpants.

But the 9-year-old "is into farm stuff and country life," Amber said with a laugh. "If his brother has outgrown a T-shirt with pictures of video games on the front, my younger son will say, 'I would never wear that.'"

Obviously, the older brother's hand-me-downs are out of the question.

"I'm really big about letting my sons express themselves," she said.

Her chicken population can only be blamed on "chicken math," Amber said with a giggle. "We wanted six chickens but then two of them died. So we got more."

Somewhere in the mix, Amber then rescued six more chickens.

After that, she discovered that different types of chickens lay different colors of eggs.

Of course, she had to add those chickens to her growing gathering of feathered ladies.

When the chickens leave the coop to cluck freely in the yard, it's not unusual for at least a few of them to commit breaking



Center Grove mom, Amber Cote, has brought bartering back. (Submitted photo)

and entering through the dog door, "and run through the house until I catch them," Amber said.

One chicken in particular is constantly in need of one-on-one attention from her human.

"I can't even bend over or Addie is on my shoulder," Amber said.

No matter the weather, once she gathers the eggs and feeds them, Amber spends time every day with "her girls."

Along with hoping to find someone to barter with for boys' summer clothing, she is looking for someone interested in trading her dog training skills for house cleaning.

"It would be awesome if we traded whatever we have for things we need," Amber said.

To reach Amber: aseason2019@gmail.com

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The 2023 Rock the Block event supported 20 charities this year. The event celebrated its most successful race to date in April, in both dollars raised/distributed.



(Right) Rob and Nicole Williams of Center Grove, hiking at McCormick's Creek | (Left) Rob Williams and his sons, Xavier, 10, and Zander, 8. (Submitted Photos)

## Under cardiac arrest

### Center Grove EMT steals woman's heart after saving her life 8 years prior

By Sherri Coner

As a 1992 graduate of Southport High School, Rob Williams of Center Grove knew that medicine was his future. He also knew that after enrolling at IUPUI and snagging a paramedic position, he was almost eerily comfortable with working in the back of an ambulance.

Brutal competition for medical school acceptance led Rob to deviate from his pre-med plan long enough to become an EMT, master those skills and again apply for medical school.

But then life happened.

He earned a degree in criminal justice and focused on his demanding career as an EMT.

Fate flirted with this serious guy during a 2003 emergency run to medically assess a pretty young woman named Nicole, whose heart rate was 300.

"Robbie captured it and saved my life," Nicole said of supraventricular tachycardia (SVT), the heart condition she did not know she had until the handsome EMT suggested it as a possible diagnosis.

After the ambulance ride to a nearby emergency room, they parted ways and that was that.

A year later, Rob applied for a supervisory role on the Air Evac Lifeteam (AEL), a medical helicopter.

"I was the first flight paramedic they ever hired," he said.

On an April 2004 flight with a heart transplant patient, the helicopter fell 2,000 feet out of the night sky and crashed in a Southern Indiana cornfield.

Despite suffering multiple injuries, Williams used his cell phone to contact dispatchers.

Three medical helicopters – one from Kentucky and two from Illinois – as well as an Indiana State Police helicopter searched the dark, hilly area for the crash site.

Williams used a pin light to guide them.

All crew members suffered multiple injuries and the patient died.

In 2011, fate again tapped at the hearts of Rob and Nicole.

"Our first date was on 11/11/11," Nicole said with a giggle.

Engaged by February 2012, they married in September.

At the time, Nicole's children from a previous marriage were close to adulthood.

So the honeymooners quickly got pregnant with Xavier, now 10.

"Robbie was over the moon, ecstatic that we were having a boy," Nicole said.

Two years later, they were expecting twin boys.

Their first twin, Yael, did not survive when he was born at 22 weeks.

Two weeks later, Nicole insisted to nurses that their second twin was on his way.

When the nurse stepped out of the room, Rob pulled back the bed sheet to investigate and saw that Zander, all 1 pound-6-and-a-half-ounces of him, was literally rocketing into the world.

"Rob grabbed him by a leg and a butt cheek," Nicole said with a laugh. "Zander still moves at 90 miles an hour."

"I literally did not sleep through the night for the first six years of his life," Rob said of Zander's medical conditions. "He's been attached to my hip ever since."

After working in area fire departments as an EMT and firefighter, providing volunteer emergency care for Johnson County SWAT and countless other services, Rob has been employed for more than two years now in the IU Health Methodist Hospital emergency room.

He and Nicole coach the boys' sports teams. They are also active in church, 4-H and Boy Scouts.

Nearly three decades of professional awards stay hidden in Rob's upstairs office, and he doesn't like to speak of them.

Though Nicole is proud of his professional impact, she also loves time at home, when Rob is simply her favorite guy in the world.

When her grandmother died, he brought home Siamese kittens, just like the ones from Nicole's childhood with her grandmother.

"Rob is very allergic, but he said he would just take extra allergy medication," Nicole smiled at the guy who never wants attention. "I love his heart, his wit and his intelligence. Rob is so self-sacrificing."





Quality equipment makes Alex and Mackenzie Scheidler's business, Trash Can Rescue, a highly sought-after service. (Submitted Photo)

## Trash Can Rescue

### Greenwood firefighter cleans trash cans for Johnson County residents

By Sherri Coner

Picture yourself walking outside on a hot, sunny day and finding a zillion bees swarming around your destination.

While swatting the bees away, you open the lid to add a bag of garbage and immediately gag.

"Trash cans can get pretty stinky, especially in the summer," said Alex Scheidler.

His appreciation for squeaky clean trash cans began in 2021.

While vacationing with his wife, Mackenzie, Alex was enjoying an alcoholic drink, puffing on a cigar and relaxing.

But then a TikTok video about trash can cleaning caught his eye.

At the time, Alex was working as a roofer when he was not working at Greenwood Fire Department as a firefighter.

Logically, the idea seemed brilliant since most people have trash cans and few people, if any, love to clean them.

Plus, it was an opportunity to own a business that could accommodate his firehouse schedule.

"I did some research and found out that nobody in the Center Grove area offered that service," Alex said.

When the budding entrepreneur shared the business idea with his wife, Mackenzie, her response was almost as unpleasant as a germ-filled trash can.

"She thought it was the dumbest thing she had ever heard," Alex said with a laugh.

After a lot more thinking and some serious conversations, Mackenzie changed her mind.

She also agreed to help her spouse with the business.

Purchasing quality equipment to provide quality work for customers was their first step.

Alex hitched a trailer to his truck with a



Greenwood firefighter Alex Scheidler and his wife, Mackenzie with their children, Shay, 2, and Genevieve, 4 months. (Submitted Photo)

custom-made hopper, which made it possible to haul 525 gallons of clean hot water at a temperature of 200 degrees and 400 gallons of dirty water which is then dumped at weigh stations.

"I do all the trash can cleaning and Mackenzie handles all the scheduling, information requests and quotes," Alex said.

Though he grew up in Center Grove, Alex currently resides in Martinsville with his wife and their two young children, Shay, 2, and four-month-old Genevieve.

Inspired by fire rescues, the business is called Trash Can Rescue, with clients all over Johnson County and the Southside, as well as Martinsville, Plainfield and Mooresville.

"It has really taken off a lot faster than I ever thought it would," Alex said of the business.

After working a 24-hour shift at the firehouse, this guy gets busy with nearly 50 trash can cleaning jobs every day.

"It's a new market," Alex said. "I don't think anyone wants to clean their stinky trash can themselves."

To learn more about Trash Can Rescue, visit [trashcanrescue.com](http://trashcanrescue.com) or call 317-961-7969.

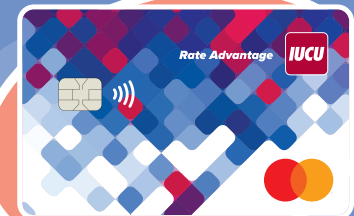


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## EVENTS calendar

**Greenwood Farmers Market** • Organized by the Old Town Greenwood Association, this market kicks off May 6 and is open Saturdays from 8 a.m. to noon and features farm fresh produce and other items. | When: May 6, 8 a.m. | Where: 525 N. Madison Ave., Greenwood. | Info: greenwoodinfarmersmarket@gmail.com

**Garden Celebration XVIII: Happiness Begins in the Garden** • Discover how to start and nurture your garden at the Johnson County Garden Club's annual Garden Club Celebration. Free parking. General admission: \$2, cash only. | When: May 6, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. | Where: Johnson County Fairgrounds, 250 Fairground St., Franklin. | Info: jcgardenclub@gmail.com

**Indianapolis Hiking Club Presentation** • The Indianapolis Hiking Club will visit the White River Branch and discuss ways to get moving outdoors this spring/summer! Only for adults 18+. Registration required. | When: May 8, 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.org

**Student Art Reception and Awards** • Franklin College's Art Department will celebrate the talent and creativity of its spring semester art students with an art exhibit reception and awards presentation. The reception and awards ceremony are free and open to the public. | When: May 8, 7 p.m. | Where: Elba L. & Gene Portteus Branigin Atrium on the first floor of the Johnson Center for Fine Arts. | Info: franklincollege.edu

**Haven Sanctuary Purse Bingo** • Enjoy bingo for the chance to win a designer purse. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and games start at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$35. | When: May 10, 6:30 - 9 p.m. | Where: Greenwood Moose Lodge, 813 W. Smith Valley Road, Greenwood | Info: havenwomensministry.org/shop

**24th Annual Senior Expo** • Admission is free. There will be free health screenings, more than 60 vendors, door prizes and giveaways. | When: May 11, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. | Where: Greenwood Community Center, 100 Surina Way, Greenwood. | Info: thesocialofgreenwood.org

**Spring Instrumental Concert** • The Franklin College Music Department will host several concerts this spring, in April and May. All are free and open to the public. | When: May 11, 7 p.m. | Where: Franklin College, Clarence E. & Inez R. Center Theatre in Old Main, corner of Branigin Boulevard and Monroe Street, Franklin. | Info: FranklinCollege.edu

**Central Nine Annual Plant Sale** • The landscape and horticulture students at Central Nine Career Center have prepared the greenhouse with more than 40,000 plants for sale. | When: May 13, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. | Where: Central Nine Career Center, 1999 S. U.S. 31, Greenwood. | Info: facebook.com/CentralNineCareerCenter

**Touch A Truck** • Come out with your littles and let them get up close to all their favorite vehicles! From fire and safety to construction and street fleets! It's a day of giant fun all located in the Department of Public Works parking lot. \$2 per child upon entry. | When: May 13, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. | Where: 367 S. Washington St. | Info: facebook.com/greenwoodparks

**Self-Defense Fundraiser Class** • Learn self-defense with the Central Indiana Police Foundation. The class is open to any gender or age. The class will teach how to escape holds, develop a self-defense mindset and more. The cost is \$75 and the proceeds benefit the foundation. | When: May 13, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. | Where: Mount Pleasant Christian Church Community Life Center, 407 N. Bluff Road, Greenwood. | Info: cipf.foundation/selfdefense

**Car Show** • The public is invited to a free car show featuring motorcycles, classic cars and trucks, lifted/off road vehicles, modern vehicles and imports. The entry fee for competitors is \$10. | When: May 13, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. | Where: Central Nine Career Center, 1999 S. U.S. 31, Greenwood. | Info: facebook.com/CentralNineCareerCenter

**NASA Jupiter Exploration** • Interested in science, space, or NASA? Join for a presentation on how NASA is studying Jupiter. All ages are welcome for this event. Registration required. | When: May 17, 4 - 4:40 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.org

**FBC Greenwood Bingo Night** • Enjoy 20 games of bingo for the chance to win designer purses, a golf foursome, Indy Zoo passes, Holiday World tickets, Cincinnati Reds tickets, Indy 500 Carb Day tickets, Indianapolis Indians tickets, and more. Purchase tickets at First Baptist Church of Greenwood (\$30 per person or \$250 for a reserved table of eight); cash or check only. Must be 18 or older. | When: May 17, 5:30 - 9 p.m. | Where: Greenwood Moose Lodge, 813 W. Smith Valley Road, Greenwood. | Info: facebook.com/gml2079

**Pickleball & Pints** • Join for some friendly Pickleball and beverages provided by Oaken Barrel Brewing Co. Tickets are limited and \$10 a person. The first beverage is complimentary and additional beverages are \$6! This event is 21 and older. | When: May 18, 5 - 8 p.m. | Where: Craig Park, 10 E. Smith Valley Road, Greenwood. | Info: facebook.com/greenwoodparks

**Summer Concert Series at MashCraft** • Robert Rolfe Fedderson is coming to MashCraft to unveil his new vinyl release "The Distance" at an outdoor concert. MashCraft will also release a beer collaboration that is also called The Distance. Bring a chair and enjoy this live outdoor concert. | When: May 19, 7 - 9 p.m. | Where: MashCraft Greenwood, 1140 N. State Road 135, Greenwood. | Info: facebook.com/MashCraftBrews

**Teddy Bear Concert Series** • Children and parents alike will be delighted with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra's beloved Teddy Bear Concert Series. Children ages 3 to 7 can learn about orchestral instruments through story, movement, and live music. All preschoolers, kindergartners, and stuffed friends are welcome! | When: May 20, 11 a.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: indianapolisymphony.org.

**The War After Documentary Showing** • Adults: Join for a 70-minute documentary featuring U.S. veterans transitioning from active duty to civilian life. Due to the topic of war, some content may be mature in nature. Registration required. | When: May 19, 10:30 - 11:45 a.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.org

**Greenwood Global 6K for Water** • Join thousands of people across the globe in the mission to bring clean water to children across the world. | When: May 20, 8:30 - 10:30 a.m. | Where: Northwest Park,

1300 W. Fry Road, Greenwood. | Info: facebook.com/events/527985232878209

**Family STEAM Night** • Enjoy activities and crafts with us as we introduce different building blocks of STEAM— Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics. Registration required. | When: May 25, 4 - 5:30 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.org



## SPOTLIGHT

### Leigh DeNoon Littiken

Original oil paintings by former Indianapolis radio and Emmy-nominated journalist Leigh DeNoon Littiken will be for sale and on display at the Southside Art League's Off-Broadway Gallery now through May 27. The gallery is located at 299 E. Broadway St., Greenwood and is open Wednesdays through Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Leigh enjoyed a long career on the air at WIBC radio and WFYI Public Media. Her love of art became apparent in middle school, focusing on drawing mostly until she spent a foundational year at Herron School of Art in 1999/2000 where she discovered painting. She was often ribbed on the air by Dave "The King" Wilson about her classes. Leigh is now an avid oil painter and is active with the Indiana Plein Air Painter's Association, Jasper County Art League, and Prairie Arts Council. She is also the fine art superintendent for the Newton County Fair in northwest Indiana,



'Serene Sunrise,' a 14x11 oil painting. Art by Leigh DeNoon Littiken. (Submitted Photo)

where she lives with her husband, Rob. After winning first place in the non-professional division of oil painting at the Indiana State Fair several years ago, Leigh has been entering shows professionally around the state. Living rurally, Leigh enjoys painting scenes from nature and painting with friends at "plein air" (French for painting outdoors) events. For more information, visit leighlittiken.com



# Puzzle Time

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

6 Flowers

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4 Things in the Sky

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5 Pets

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3 Greenwood Townships

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\_\_\_\_\_

2 State Flag Colors

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

1 Center Grove's County

\_\_\_\_\_

**ACROSS**

- 1 Part of Caesar's boast
- 5 Ala. neighbor
- 8 Off the beaten path
- 14 Taboo
- 15 Music genre
- 16 One helping with the dishes
- 17 Lichen found in Hoosier National Forest
- 9 Big name in small planes
- 20 Put in stitches at Sue's Alterations
- 21 Indiana map feature
- 23 "Gone with the Wind" character
- 24 Ratio phrase
- 25 Texas town
- 27 Mown strips
- 30 Johnson Memorial Health doctor's suggestion
- 34 "A Fish Called \_\_\_\_"
- 35 Long-range weapon, initially
- 36 London art gallery
- 37 Antlered animal
- 38 Colt foe
- 41 CGHS transcript fig.
- 42 Ritalin target, briefly
- 44 Future atty's exam
- 45 Utopian
- 47 Where to find some thorns
- 49 Hoosier Park paddock sounds
- 50 Level or bevel
- 51 \_\_\_\_-Seltzer
- 52 Knight's protection
- 55 Deadly
- 57 \_\_\_\_ Friday's
- 60 Hollers
- 62 Area accounting firm (and ICON advertiser!) ... and an anagram of 17-, 30- and 47-Across
- 64 Bradley University site
- 65 \_\_\_\_-cone
- 66 Indy Honda inventory
- 67 Mouthed off
- 68 Half a score
- 69 Troop group

**DOWN**

- 1 QB stats
- 2 Irritated
- 3 Over again
- 4 Misfortune
- 5 Angela Buchman's weather map lines

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11	12	13		
14					15				16							
17					18				19							
20					21				22		23					
				24					25	26						
27	28	29						30					31	32	33	
34							35					36				
37					38	39					40		41			
42				43		44					45	46				
47					48						49					
					50						51					
52	53	54						55	56					57	58	59
60							61						63			
64									65					66		
67									68					69		

- 6 Rodeo rope
- 27 Take an oath in Johnson County Court
- 48 Military maneuver
- 7 Church area
- 28 Hard-to-find guy in children's books
- 49 Hit hard, as brakes
- 8 Curved line
- 29 Egyptian crosses
- 51 Make amends
- 9 Intensely competitive
- 30 "Get lost!"
- 52 Nile reptiles
- 10 Briefly
- 31 Enthusiastic
- 53 Actress Perlman
- 11 Latin 101 verb
- 32 March honoree, briefly
- 54 Fair Oaks Farms cacophony
- 12 Pre-Easter period
- 33 Freshwater ducks
- 56 Kind of UIndy prof
- 13 "Darn!"
- 34 The "se" in "per se"
- 57 Old Russian ruler
- 18 Blunder
- 35 CGHS choir voice
- 58 Start of an idea
- 22 Small-time
- 36 Beech Grove Firearms buy
- 39 IN-144 re-routings
- 59 Wee
- 24 "\_\_\_\_ be an honor"
- 40 Toy piano sound
- 61 Mournful
- 26 Beech Grove Firearms buy
- 41 IN-144 re-routings
- 46 ER pronouncement
- 63 Letters atop the Hoosier Dome, for awhile

See **Answers** on page 10.

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



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*The* Southside Times

## A rose of purple prose arose

**GRAMMAR GUY**

By Curtis Honeycutt

When you think about the color purple, what comes to mind? Probably the movie "The Color Purple." That makes sense. Beyond that, you might think of Prince's "Purple Rain" or maybe even Sheb Wooley's 1958 hit "The Purple People Eater." Not to be discounted, Jimi Hendrix's "Purple Haze" probably outranks Wooley's song on my popular purple song chart.

What do you get when you come to the intersection of "purple things" and grammar? You get "purple prose," a style of overly ornate, elaborate language most often reserved for descriptions of intimate interactions in paperback romance novels and teenage love poems.

I'm sure you're just dying for an example at this point, and I won't disappoint you. In the Victorian era, the purple prose style took off. We see this trend in authors like Charles Dickens. Here's how Dickens describes Oliver Twist's breathing condition in the eponymous novel: "The fact is, that there was considerable difficulty in inducing Oliver to take upon himself the office of respiration — a troublesome practice, but one which custom has rendered necessary to our easy existence ..."

You'll notice that I trailed off at the end of that sentence; Dickens continued to describe poor Oliver's asthma. As a reaction to this type of writing, enter Ernest Hemingway. "The Old Man and the Sea" author was not a fan of purple prose. Hemingway wrote, "A writer's style should

be direct and personal, his imagery rich and earthy, and his words simple and vigorous. The greatest writers have the gift of brilliant brevity, are hard workers, diligent scholars and competent stylists."

I prefer Hemingway's no-nonsense prose even though Dickens got paid by the word. I'm guessing Dickensian purple prose came about as a result of his novels being published in installments. But that was way back then. Surely this style went the way of the dinosaur, right?

Here's an example of recent purple prose. See if you can guess the book from whence it comes. "His skin, white despite the faint flush from yesterday's hunting trip, literally sparkled, like thousands of tiny diamonds were embedded in the surface ... His glistening, pale lavender lids were shut, though of course he didn't sleep. A perfect statue, carved in some unknown stone, smooth like marble, glittering like crystal."

Did you guess the novel-turned-movie series? It seems as though "Twilight" author Stephanie Meyer has brought purple prose into the 21st century. Her description of vampire Edward's sparkly skin could have been much shorter. When it comes to purple prose, I am definitely on Team Hemingway.



Curtis Honeycutt is a syndicated humor columnist. He is the author of *Good Grammar is the Life of the Party: Tips for a Wildly Successful Life*. Find more at [curtishoneycutt.com](http://curtishoneycutt.com)

### Puzzle Time Answers – ON PAGE 10

**Answers to HOOSIER HODGEPODGE:**

Flowers: DAISY, ORCHID, PEONY, ROSE, TULIP, VIOLET

Pets: CAT, DOG, FISH, HAMSTER, RABBIT

Sky Things: AIRPLANE, CLOUD, LIGHTNING, RAINBOW

Townships: CLARK, PLEASANT; WHITE RIVER

Colors: BLUE, GOLD

County: JOHNSON

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

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



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A chocolate lover's dream: The Triple Chocolate Chip NY Style Cheesecake with Ghirardelli chocolate chips and sauce. (Photo courtesy of When Cheese Met Cake)

cheesecake was just amazing."

Hours: Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Closed Sunday through Tuesday. Address: 200 S. Emerson Ave., Ste. B, Greenwood, IN 46143. For more information, call (317) 851-9906 or go to [whencheesemetcake.com](http://whencheesemetcake.com)

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ICONic briefs

Center Grove High School senior named 2023 Regional Academic All-Star

**Education & Leadership** – The Indiana Association of School Principals has named Center Grove High School Senior Brinna Porat as a 2023 Regional Academic All-Star. Porat plans to attend Purdue University this fall to study biomedical engineering. Porat is one of 50 high school seniors selected from 276 nominees from across the state. Each accredited Indiana high school may nominate one senior. Academic All-Star distinction recognizes seniors who excel in the classroom first and foremost, but who also are actively involved in their schools and communities, and take on leadership roles in those activities. Students were honored at an awards program on Thursday, April 20 in Indianapolis. The program is produced by the Indiana Association of School Principals, with university partner Purdue University, along with corporate support from Lifetouch.



Brinna Porat (Submitted photo)





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