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Upgraded facilities, new staff and training help to keep our community safer in the past year

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Grammar Guy Introducing miranyms PAGE 14



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"Hot Water Today or It's You We Pay!"





COMMUNITY

ICONic image



The Greenwood Parks Department held its annual Touch-A-Truck event on Aug. 27. The parking lot at the Department of Public Works was lined with vehicles for children to climb in and take a look around, including construction vehicles, police cars and motorcycles, a fire truck, tow trucks, the Oscar Mayer Wienermobile, a giant Monster Truck shaped bounce house and cars and trucks sponsored by local businesses. White Glove Towing Service covered the \$2 admission for the first 250 kids. (Photo by Nicole Davis)





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.

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Content Editor

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Print and Digital Sales Executive

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ICONic rewind



Steve, Mike and Joe Coffman break ground on their new building early July. (Submitted photo)

Coffman Wealth Management breaks ground on new office building

Financial Services - Coffman Wealth Management, an independent financial firm, broke ground on a new building at 1266 Lincoln Park Blvd., Greenwood, on July 5. Coffman Wealth Management is a family-owned business, consisting of Steve Coffman and two of his sons, Mike and Joe Coffman. Currently, each have their own separate office across the Southside. This new location will

bring each of their offices together into one building, while still operating their businesses independently. Construction is expected to be complete by the end of the year. Securities and advisory services offered through SagePoint Financial, Inc., member FINRA/SIPC. Coffman Wealth Management is a marketing designation. For more information, visit coffmanwealthmanagement.com.















Salite to OUR SOUTHSIDE HEROES

Upgraded facilities, new staff and training help to keep our community safer in the past year

Compiled by Nancy Hammerstrom

Several Johnson County fire and police departments have expanded their efforts to better serve their community in the past year through training and hiring additional staff (including a crisis intervention team to assist those with mental illness) and adding vital equipment and upgrading facilities. As well, a local fire department remembers a paramedic for his extensive experience and education as well as his kind and caring spirit. We thank our Southside heroes for their daily commitment to safety.

Bargersville Police Department

Bargersville police have seen significant changes within their department, including the expansion of both their patrol and infrastructure. Justin Griggs, formerly a sergeant, has been promoted to assistant chief, and Officer Bradley Moore received a promotion to sergeant. As well, two full-time officers have been hired: Jessica Hester and Taeha Stieglitz. BPD plans to hire one more full-time officer in October.

The new building for the police department is now complete. "It is a modern facility with the ability to fit our staffing needs for now and in the future," said Jeremy Roll, public information officer with BPD. "We have expanded our electric vehicle fleet to 10 Teslas which has kept us at around \$60 per month in charging per vehicle. This is a \$450 per month, per vehicle savings, over our traditional fleet."

Johnson County Sheriff's Office

Members of the Johnson County Sheriff's Office participate in many activities throughout the county while speaking with residents on how to protect themselves and remain safe. "We believe in community policing and educating people about what is occurring in Johnson County," said Johnson

County Sheriff Duane E. Burgess.

Officers receive training to help them face the stressors and rigors of police work. Deputy Hannah Greene is currently attending a 16-week mandatory training with the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy.

Entertaining activities include presenting the colors during high school basketball games.

The department has a group of reserves who dedicate many hours throughout the month to assist with covering shifts and working special events throughout the year. "We are very fortunate to have several hardworking reserves on staff," said Burgess.

Johnson County Sheriff's Office has created a CIT (Crisis Intervention Team) Division that consists of three officers or deputies that respond and assist with people who are having mental health issues. Most of the department's deputies and other Johnson County Law Enforcement officers are certified CIT Officers.

For the department's latest events and other important messages, go to Facebook: Johnson County Indiana Sheriff's Office.

White River Township Fire Department

White River Township Fire Department has experienced a range of emotions this past year, from the loss of Paramedic Kyle Martincic in the line of duty to the sense of accomplishment in opening a new public safety building with the Bargersville Community Fire Department, Center Grove School Police, Johnson County Sheriff's Office and Center Grove Schools. "The resiliency of the men and women on our department is a testament to their commitment to serving this community," said Fire Chief Jeremy A. Pell.

Paramedic Kyle Martincic joined the WRTFD in 2019. "He had special way of making people smile due to his gentle spirit

and incredible kindness," said Pell. "These gifts were matched by his vast experience and education in EMS. Kyle inspired those around him to provide the best possible EMS care with a caring spirit. Kyle's sudden passing while on duty was a shock to all of us and has left a void that will never be fully filled."

The department has added additional equipment, training and a facility to improve response times and advance EMS services in the community. The Center Grove School Corporation's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) opened, which also serves as Fire Station 254. "The thing that makes this accomplishment so special is the partnership between WRTFD, Bargersville Community Fire Department, Center Grove School Police and the Johnson County Sheriff's Office. All four agencies worked together to staff the facility just a few hundred yards from the largest Center Grove School campus," said Pell. The facility houses a WRTFD ambulance, a BCFD ladder truck and multiple police officers. "Combining police, fire and EMS in the heart of our community on a school campus is one of the first of its kind in the nation," Pell continued. "Everyone benefits from this mission-based collaborative approach to public safety. Not only does it make our community safer, but it is also an efficient use of taxpayer resources. A model such as this is a game-changer for responding to 911 emergencies in White River Township. Lives will be changed for the better because progressive community leaders in Johnson County supported this effort."

FALLEN HERO

White River Township



Kyle Martincic Paramedic August 23, 2021

Top photo: The Greenwood Police Department hosts the annual Touch-a-Truck event for families. Pictured is Officer Young. | Second: The Bargersville Police Department celebrated its new station at 4949 S. Morgantown Road in July with a ribbon cutting. | Third: A few members of the Johnson County Sherriff's Office's Honor Guard Team present the colors during a basketball game at Franklin Community High School. | Fourth: The White River Township Fire Department mourned the loss of paramedic Kyle Martincic one year ago. | Fifth: A ribbon cutting for Center Grove Community School Corporation's new Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Pictured, from left to right: CG School Superintendent Rich Arkanoff, Sheriff Duane Burgess, WRTFD Community Liaison Mike Hoffman, CG School Police Chief Ray Jackson, CG Asst. Superintendent Bill Long, CG School Board member Scott Alexander, Bargersville Fire Chief Eric Funkhouser, White River Fire Chief Jeremy Pell and Senator Roderick Bray. (Submitted photos)

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ICONic rewind

Local Franklin College students chosen for vital mentoring team

Knowledgeable Guides - Launch Mentors are an integral part of Franklin College's First-Year Experience program for new and transfer students. These student leaders are valued members of the Center for Student Success and play an important role in the college's retention and persistence efforts. Through one-on-one and group interactions, Launch Mentors are knowledgeable guides who provide new students with access to the people and resources critical to their success in their first semester at the college. Launch Mentors must be effective communicators, with positive attitudes and a desire to serve. The goal in selecting that team is to find "someone for everyone." Students chosen as 2022 Launch Mentors include: Libby Baker, a senior from Greenwood; Amy Garrido Portillo, a sophomore from Greenwood; Kiara McGuyre, a sophomore from Clayton; Haley Pritchett, a senior from Greenwood; and Claire Sampson, a sophomore from Southside Indianapolis.

Greenwood native participates in UA's Cooperative Education Program

Firsthand Experience - University of Alabama student Carter Reynolds of Greenwood is participating in UA's Cooperative Education Program during the fall 2022 semester. Reynolds is working for Ascend Materials. In the Cooperative Education Program, students alternate periods of full-time study with periods of full-time employment. This program offers work

related to the academic major or career interests of each student. While in school, students carry regular course schedules. While on co-op, they work with professionals in their fields who supervise their training and work. At work, co-op students earn competitive salaries and may receive benefit packages in addition to job experience.



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ICONic rewind

Perry Kiwanis presents donation to Baxter YMCA

Little Free Library - Perry Kiwanis has donated a Little Free Library to Baxter YMCA for its front lobby. On hand for the unveiling was its first customer, young Amelia Whittaker, who was helped by Kiwanis member and Baxter Advisory Board member Kevin Wheeler. Also on hand with Wheeler was Baxter Executive Director John Schwentker. The project came together with the assistance of club Director Tom Jackson (who purchased the box along with some starter books) and fellow Kiwanis member and Baxter Sports Director Ethan New. The box carries the Kiwanis logo. Kiwanis recently presented a \$2,500 check to Baxter for its annual capital campaign. The Kiwanis Club of Perry Township meets Thursdays at the IHOP restaurant, 7521 U.S. 31 South, at 7 a.m., and on Zoom. For more information, visit its Facebook page.



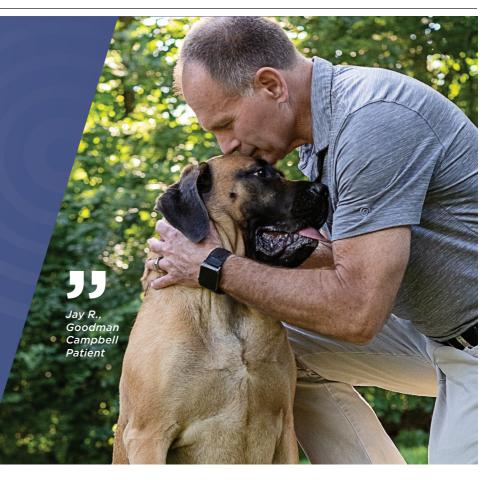
Kevin Wheeler, of Center Grove, presents a book to a child at the new Little Free Library at Baxter YMCA. (Submitted photo)



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Join us in congratulating Daren Hardesty, Senior Advisor, on passing his CFP® certification exam!

The Certified Financial Planner certification (CFP®) is a formal recognition of expertise in the areas of financial planning, taxes, insurance, estate planning. and retirement. The Financial Enhancement Group is honored to announce that Daren Hardesty, Senior Advisor, has completed his formal financial planning education and passed the CFP® Board exam. The CFP® exam consists of 170 questions that test your ability to apply financial planning knowledge to real-life situations. Candidates could spend between 250 and 300 hours studying for the CFP® exam. The CFP® exam ensures you are highly qualified to develop a holistic plan for your clients' finances.

We asked Daren how his life and knowledge has changed over the last three vears, and what the CFP means to him. "I had my mind set on becoming a CFP® as soon as I committed to leaving teaching and starting as an Advisor. I wasn't sure how long it would take, but I knew it was a goal that would help FEG and the families I serve. I have been blessed to work directly with Joe Clark, (CFP®, Managing Partner & Senior Advisor) since I started at FEG. His mentorship, along with the education and encouragement from the other Advisors and teammates at FEG, has been incredible. The amount of information my brain has taken in the last three years is scary. Between the education that Aaron Rheaume (CKA®, Partner & Director of Financial Planning) and the planning team provide on a regular basis at FEG, and the CFP® coursework that I had to complete. my head was pushed farther than it has been in a long time. I am glad that the CFP® certification process is over, but I still plan to continue learning and helping younger Advisors at FEG for many years

to come." Daren went on to say, "Achieving the CFP® designation was a big goal that I set for myself. It was right in the sweet spot of being both very difficult, yet still achievable. There were many late nights studying followed by long days serving families at FEG. It was a marathon, but I kept moving forward. Like any time, you set a goal and achieve it, you realize that reaching the goal is not what you are most proud of – it is the work you put in without giving up when it got difficult."

Daren graduated from Indiana Wesleyan University and taught math at Knightstown High School, where he was also the varsity baseball coach prior to joining the Financial Enhancement Group team in January of 2020. Daren enjoys restoring baseball gloves and spending time with his family & friends. When asked why FEG was the right place for him and his family, Daren stated, "FEG took a chance on me three years ago, and I am thankful every day that I was given the opportunity. I was happy as a teacher and coach for many years so taking the leap to start a new career in a new industry came with a lot of anxiety and stress on my family. Looking back, my wife and I agree that it was the best decision we could have made. FEG has blessed my family, and I hope to be a part of this great company for many years to come."

We are proud of Daren's dedication to the FEG families he serves, our team, and to the industry. As a father of three, a loving husband, and beginning a new career just before a worldwide Pandemic, Daren has demonstrated excellent focus and adaptability. On behalf of your FEG family, job well done Daren! We are proud of you and honored to serve alongside your promising career.

Daren Hardesty

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New study: Tourism contributes \$341.3 million to Johnson County economy

By Festival Country Indiana

A new economic impact study shows tourism contributed \$341.3 million to Johnson County's economy in 2021, up from \$255.7 million in 2017.

The economic impact represents an 8.4% annual spending increase each year.

"This study confirms what we see firsthand, that our hotels have a strong occupancy rate, that our festivals are attracting big crowds, and that our attractions and tourism-related businesses are sustaining their success," said Kenneth Kosky, executive director of Festival Country Indiana, Johnson County's official tourism agency.

Kosky said the annual growth is especially impressive considering that it occurred despite the pandemic. He said Festival Country increased its advertising reach during the pandemic to help local restaurants, stores and other tourism businesses survive and even thrive.

Festival Country Indiana began operating in 2017. Johnson County was one of the last counties in Indiana to form a tourism agency.

An economic impact study conducted in 2013, prior to Festival Country's existence, showed that the economic impact of tourism declined .5% year over year.

The new economic impact study, conducted by Certec, Inc., showed that tourism jobs grew from 2,921 to 3,365, and that taxes generated grew from \$60.2 to \$80.3 million. Destination travelers grew from 1 million to 1.2 million, while pass-through travelers grew from 1.35 million to 1.38 million.

The study showed that 40.3% of visitors

stay one to three nights, while 30.6% are in for a day trip. In addition, 46.8% are on their first trip to the county.

The top attractions in the county include Mallow Run Winery, restaurants, shopping, aquatic centers, The Historic Artcraft Theatre, Rascal's Fun Zone, Whiteland Raceway Park, parks, Otte Golf, the Festival Country visitor center, Apple Works, splash pads, historic downtown Franklin, Johnson County Museum, and live music.

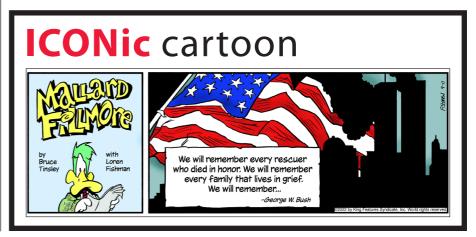
"Tourism is a large, growing business in Johnson County," said Jim Carr, president of Certec.

Certec's study included data analysis as well as in-person interviews and research in Johnson County.

"This study supports what we hear from tourism-related businesses who track the zip codes of their customers. They say that significant spending comes from people outside of Johnson County," Kosky said.

In addition to marketing Johnson County's communities and attractions, and operating the county visitor center in downtown Franklin, Festival Country also engages in product development by offering grants to help create new attractions and festivals, and by building attractions like the Gatling Gauntlet obstacle course at Johnson County Park. These efforts improve quality of life for residents and make the communities more attractive to visitors.

Certec's findings are just one metric that Festival Country Indiana uses to chart its immediate and long-term impact. Other studies and reports show increases in hotel revenue, advertising impressions, website traffic, social media interaction and media reach.



ICONic brief

Upstream Prevention supports installation of 14 NaloxBoxes

Public Education - The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported more than 932,000 people have died since 1999 from a drug overdose (CDC, WONDER). In 2020, 75% of the nearly 92,000 drug overdoses in the country involved an opioid (CDC, WONDER). Upstream announced the installation of 14 NaloxBoxes in Johnson County in time for Overdose Awareness Day on Aug. 31 to address overdoses in the community. A NaloxBox increases the availability of the life-saving medication Naloxone (NARCAN) to the general public through increased access to the harm reduction tool. Research shows increased availability of NARCAN reduces the number of opioid overdose deaths, and increased involvement with treatment (OverdoseLifeline.org). When administered, NARCAN only impacts the opioid receptors in the brain,

thereby only impacting an individual who has opioids in their system. Upstream has partnered with a variety of local organizations to offer Layperson Naloxone Administration training to their employees, as well as partnered with the Johnson County Public Library system to offer this free training to the community over the next six months. Training in the administration of Naloxone and the NaloxBoxes are funded in part through a state department of health grant (IN CARES ECHO) as well as a grant from the Duke Energy Foundation. Funding from these two sources allows Upstream to offer both the training and the NaloxBoxes free of cost to Johnson County residents. One such training will take place at the White River Branch Library on Sept. 25, 2 - 3 p.m. For more information, visit upstreamprevention.org.

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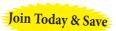








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Labor Day Vinyasa • Take a break from your every day work routine and come flow on your mat in this special Labor Day Vinyasa class. Celebrate the chance to take a break and do what you love under the beautiful morning sun. | When: Sept. 5, 9:30 - 10:45 a.m. | Where: Studio You Yoga, 862 S. State Road 135, Greenwood. | Info: studioyouyoga.com

Fall lawn care class • Got weeds? What kind? How do you treat them? Fall is the best time to fertilize for a better lawn next year. When? How much fertilizer? Bring your weed samples. Class is instructed by Dick Huber. | When: Sept. 7, 6 - 7:30 p.m. | Where: Greenwood Public Library, 310 S. Meridian St., Greenwood. | Info: Register at greenwoodlibrary.us or call (317) 881-1953, x4.

Movies at the Park - Sing 2 • The free Movies in the Park Series is back! Grab blankets or chairs and join for a family feature. Bring your own refreshments. | When: Sept. 9. Sing 2 will air at sundown on the big screen at Old City Park. |

Where: 304 S. Meridian St., Greenwood. | Info: facebook.com/greenwoodparks

Free Cooking Class for Kids • Join Chef Leo and Metamorphosis Friends for this fun and creative event. | When: Sept. 10, 3 - 4 p.m. | Where: Friedens United Church of Christ, 8300 S. Meridian, Indianapolis. | Info: Sarah, pastorsarah.friedensucc@outlook.com, (317) 709-5857.

Puppy POOLooza • When the water park closes for the humans, it opens for the dogs! For one afternoon, bring your doggies out for a fun day at the water park! Free Admission. | When: Sept. 10, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. | Where: Freedom Springs, 850 W. Stop 18 Road, Greenwood. | Info: facebook.com/greenwoodparks

Cooked Up Fun • School-age program: Enjoy this apple season making personalized caramel apples. | When: Sept. 14, 4 - 5 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.org

Upcycled Jar Leaf Lanterns • Make an attractive fall centerpiece using upcycled containers, artificial leaves, and tea lights. All supplies provided. Program for teens, adults. | When: Sept. 15, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.org

Community Campout • Greenwood Parks and Recreation will host its inaugural community campout. Price per campsite: \$40 (max six campers per site). | When: Sept. 17, 3 p.m. check-in begins. | Where: Freedom Park, Stop 18 Road and Averitt Road intersection. | Info: face-book.com/greenwoodparks

Bargersville Harvest Moon Festival • Festival Schedule: parade 11 a.m.- noon; car show noon - 4 p.m.; craft vendors noon-5 p.m.; food/drink vendors noon - 9 p.m.; live music noon - 9 p.m.; petting zoo 1:30 - 4:30 p.m.; Le Rose Dance School 3 - 4 p.m.; evening band Stella Luna & The Satellites 6 - 9 p.m. | Where: Main Street,

Bargersville. | Info: townofbargersville.org/visitor/events/

AARP Driver Safety Class • Valuable defensive driving strategies will be covered as well as a refresher of rules of the road. No driving test. Some insurance companies offer a discount for taking the class. Fee: \$20 for AARP members, \$25 non-members. Class is instructed by Dick Huber. | When: Sept. 20, 6 - 7:30 p.m. | Where: Greenwood Public Library, 310 S. Meridian St., Greenwood. | Info: Register at greenwoodlibrary.us or call (317-=) 881-1953, x4.

Golf Outing • The Center Grove Rotary Club is hosting a traditional scramble golf outing. All proceeds go to Rotary Scholarship Fund supporting local schools. | When: Sept. 22, 11:30 a.m. sign-in and 12:30 p.m. shotgun start. | Where: Hickory Stick Golf Club, 4422 Hickory Stick Parkway, Greenwood. | Info: centergroverotary.org

SPOTLIGHT





"Fallen Monuments." (Art By Dawn Holder) | (Right) Dawn Holder. (Submitted photo)

Weep, Their Banner of Monument

The Franklin College Art Department will welcome its first guest artist exhibit of the 2022-2023 academic year to campus in September. The exhibition is titled: "Weep, Their Banner of Monument." Dawn Holder, who investigates various elements of land-scape and their socio-cultural significance through ceramics, photography and mixed media, will exhibit her work in the Elba L. & Gene Portteus Branigin Atrium, located in the Johnson Center for Fine Arts. She will open the exhibit with a lecture, "Weep, Their Banner: Fallen Monuments," at 7 p.m., on Monday, Sept. 12 in the Henderson Conference Room, also located in the Johnson Center for Fine Arts. An opening reception will follow the lecture. Holder is an associate professor of studio art at IUPUI's Herron School of Art and Design and currently serves as the graduate director of the MFA in Visual Arts program. The events of the evening are free and open to the public. Franklin College faculty, staff and students with a valid college ID card may view the exhibit Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sept. 12 through Oct. 28. For more information, visit FranklinCollege.edu.

AN OPTION

Le Croissant French Bakery

In Paris, the sign of a good French bakery is to witness the long line of patrons waiting for a fresh, soft warm pastry. Fortunately for Southsiders, no plane is required for a taste of Paris. Le Croissant French Bakery, owned by Pedro Ulloa, is just a short drive away. There are 150 different types of pastries, from sweet or savory croissants, scones, quiche and baquettes to fruit tarts, bread pudding, crème puffs, eclairs and crème brulee. A few customer favorites include the strawberry croissant, white chocolate bread pudding and spinach

quiche. Pedro's favorite? The rum almond croissant. "All the pastries were fresh, melt in the mouth delicacies," stated a Google reviewer. "I personally found the scones the right size and so crumbly yet soft in a good way. I have heard there is a popular demand for Pedro's pastries and his pastries



Picking up breakfast for your co-workers? With 150 different types of pastries, the choices are endless. (Photo courtesy of Le Croissant French Bakery)

run out of stock in two to three hours."

HOURS: Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed on Sunday and Monday. Address: 916 E. Main St., Greenwood. For more information, call (317) 360-9263 or go to facebook.com/lecroissantfrenchbakery

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4 Small Indiana "B"

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2 Indianapolis Opera Classics

| 1 Departing Purdue Presider |
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ACROSS

1 Fa follower

4 New Big Ten school, initially

7 Sgt., e.g.

10 Young or Braun, briefly

13 Wash. neighbor

14 Paulo

15 "Say what?"

16 Exploit

17 Unofficial state slogan for dazed tourists?

20 Pacers stat

21 "Yikes!"

22 Short life story

23 Dictator

25 Totaled, as a bill

27 White River slim swimmer

29 Make amends

30 Numero

31 Part of WWII

33 Turkey's region

35 Contemplate

37 ICU lines at IU Health

38 Meadow

39 Official state tourism slogan

42 Doofus

44 Hoosier Motor Club letters

45 "Ditto"

49 Indie, often

51 Org.

52 Hoosier National Forest tree

53 City that is about 100 miles due south of Indy

54 Butler frat letter

56 Roast host

58 Egyptian beetle

60 URL starter

62 Indy newspaper

63 Golfer Ernie

64 Unofficial state slogan for racing tourists?

67 Bluff Creek Golf Course peg

68 Flock mama

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69 Indianapolis Bridge Center

70 Hoosier, to a Boilermaker

71 Puncture sound

72 ___-mo

73 44-Across service

74 Jr. and Sr. at CGHS

DOWN

1 Dry out, in a way

2 Ball Park Pizza herb

3 County seat of Boone County

4 \$, for short

5 Swedish car

6 More snug

7 Blue Jackets' org.

8 Prompted

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9"My goodness!"

10 Presume

11 Baltic country

12 Lipton rival

18 Greenwood summer hrs.

19 Kravitz of "Big Little Lies"

24 "Hogan's Heroes" setting

26 Spencer's county

28 Big name in jeans

32 Type type

34 Bygone IND carrier

36 Think otherwise

37 Muckraker Tarbell

40 Colts roster column

41 Mane site

42 Prophets 43 Map books

46 Make right

47 Mrs. Roosevelt

48 Surfaces

49 Balance sheet heading

50 Mental pictures

51 Ogle

55 Noah count?

57 Denver winter hrs.

59 Shapiro's soup serving

61 Baylor's home

65 Earth-related prefix

66 DVR button

See Answers on page 14.

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Test drive a Chevy Bolt and learn about JCREMC's EV Experience.



Searching for words between the poles – introducing miranyms

GRAMMAR GUY

By Curtis Honeycutt

My kids still don't know that Santa can't live at the

North Pole. There's no land underneath the ice sheets that melt and refreeze throughout the year at the place where elves allegedly make toys. However, there is land underneath the snow and ice at the South Pole.

This isn't meant to be a geography lesson (although I found both of those facts interesting). Moreover, it's an icebreaker meant to introduce the term "miranym." A miranym is a word that lies in between two polar opposite words. It's not "hot" or "cold" – it's "lukewarm."

Of course, nobody wants to be "lukewarm," so let's examine a few more examples of miranyms. Think about "open" and "closed." Some would say a door is either open or closed – there is no middle ground. However, when a door is ajar, it's a little bit of both. In our old house, none of the doors fully close, but that's a topic for my other newspaper column, "Grumble Guy."

Now consider the opposites "all" and "none." It's not all or nothing if it's "some." In the same way, you don't have to be "early" or "late" to something; you can simply be "on time." Is there something in between "coming" and "going"? Yes – you can "stay." Now shake. That's a good boy.

I think we're quick to assign polar opposite words to many things these days. Their side

is bad, while ours is good. Your opinions are either totally right or completely wrong. You're an idiot! She's a genius! It doesn't take more than a brief glance at our Facebook or Twitter feeds to see people flocking to the opposite ends of the earth: I only shop at Target! People who shop at Walmart are the worst! Or: Target is for rich snobs! Walmart is for the everyman!

Needless to say, social media arguments generally focus on polarized politics. I'd like to suggest that most people actually live somewhere in the miranym-land of "somewhere in the middle." Really, only one person can be "the worst," while only one can be "the best." Everyone else is in between. As much as the party bosses don't want to admit it, most politics is non-binary.

I don't know about you, but I'm a big fan of "noon." It's not morning, it's not evening, night, or even afternoon. It's noon. Noon is for lunchtime, going for walks outside, and checking the mail. The sun is out in full splendor. Noon is an exceedingly pleasant miranym (and palindrome, for that matter), and, because I didn't want to end on politics, I ended on noon.



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 13 Answers to HOOSIER HODGEPODGE:

Things: BLOOD, COFFEE, GRASS, GREASE, INK, WINE Names: APRIL, AUGUST, JANUARY, JUNE, MAY Towns: BERNE, BRAZIL, BICKNELL, BUTLER

Places: CHICK-FIL-A, KFC, POPEYES

Operas: THE MAGIC FLUTE, TOSCA

President: MITCH DANIELS

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