

CENTER GROVE ICON

January 15 - February 4, 2022 • mycgicon.com



ICON of the Month
Richard Huber PAGE 18

Our
ICONic
community
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(BENE)FITNESS FOR EVERYONE

Local gyms provide support for beginners, seasoned athletes and everyone in between

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Athlete of the Month:
Makena Wallace

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Greenwood Chef Huckaby
gets his own TV show

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Make a resolution to
bless others in 2022

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Coffeehouse Five is coming soon to Bargersville! Pictured, Brian Peters, owner of Coffeehouse Five and Brian Geitner, owner of the Bargersville building, recently announced the news on the coffee shop's social media. Coffeehouse Five first opened its not-for-profit coffee shop in downtown Greenwood in 2014 as a way to offer free marriage and addiction counseling to those in need. In March 2020 it opened a Franklin location. Peters said the goal is to open the Bargersville location in the summer. (Photo courtesy of Coffeehouse Five)

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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(Bene)Fitness for everyone

Local gyms provide support for beginners, seasoned athletes and everyone in between

COVER STORY

By Todd Travis

The new year is a popular time to reassess goals and objectives. In the midst of the pandemic, the fit-

ness scene changed and adapted to a shift in priorities and goals. In order to help start the year off right, we've compiled a list of local businesses that can help you reach for your aimed success. In this list you'll find ev-

erything from more traditional gyms to the less conventional martial arts dojang. These dedicated owners promise fitness results as well as many other unexpected benefits.

These businesses have much more to

offer than simply fitness. There are good causes to support, skills to learn and life-improving benefits to find along this journey. With the help of your local community, you can make 2022 a year to remember.

Boxing, Kickboxing, Self-Defense

30 Minute Hit
8810 Southeastern Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46239
(317) 759-7117

Women, welcome to 30 Minute Hit, Indiana's only boxing, kickboxing and self-defense gym for ladies. If you're looking for a unique, safe environment look no further. 30 Minute Hit is a 30-minute circuit workout focused on strength, not weight loss, body shaping or looking better. Owners Matt McDermitt and Tami Vance are adamant about acceptance and body positivity. During your circuit you'll be getting stronger, learning skills and getting a full body cardio and core workout.

Catering exclusively to women allows for a unique environment including a tighter comradery between members and a comfort level that comes with the experience. One of the great aspects of the group of women is the mutual support they provide for each other, noted McDermitt. Women work to get stronger and push past mental barriers to reach new levels together. He added that they feel like they can really let go and have fun in this safe environment. McDermitt has a law enforcement background which has allowed him to give high-quality information to all members.

Ascent 121, a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit accredited by the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability and the Indiana Behavioral Health and Human Services Board, works to help sex traffic victims recover from trauma. The organization is supported by both owners, along with women of 30 Minute Hit; it helps connect them with their goals and values, noted McDermitt.

Your first visit with 30 Minute Hit is free, guided by a personal trainer. You can join regardless of your fitness level, experience or body type. There is a kids' area available during your workout. If interested in this unique experience, please call, visit the website or come in to schedule your first free session.



Coach Noreen Dine instructs a 1:1 ramp session for a group class client David Kerr. (Submitted photo)

Crossfit

Swornfit
1052 Greenwood Springs Blvd. Suite C
Greenwood, IN 46143
(317) 300-9073

At Swornfit, trainers and coaches want to help you get out of your complacency rut and into an active lifestyle. If keeping up with your kids or getting up that flight of stairs is difficult Swornfit can help. Group classes are 60-minute workouts that combine a variety of movements that help increase strength and cardio for your daily routines. Personal trainers are also available to work individually to dial in on your exact needs and help to ensure you are doing work that is pain-free. Proper technique and instruction are essential to this goal.

Group classes consist of 12 people and a trainer that will help to get started on your new fitness journey. Swornfit takes a joint-by-joint approach to ensure safe and pain-free workouts. Your first day will begin with a goal assessment followed by a recommendation that might include one-on-one training, group training or a mix of both.

Noreen Dine, owner of Swornfit, helps people live their best life outside the walls of the gym. She participates in Type 1 Takedown which raises money to donate to Diabetes Will's Way, a nonprofit that serves young people in the U.S. with type 1 diabetes.

First-time visitors will have a free coaching consult. Following the consult, you'll get a personalized recommendation to a program fitting your needs. If you're ready to get out of your complacency rut, reach out to Swornfit for the boost you've been looking for.

Kickboxing

9Round
7045 Emblem Dr. Unit D
Indianapolis, IN 46237
(317) 883-1374

Got a busy schedule? No problem. At 9Round, you can jump into a 30-minute, full body workout at your own convenience, no appointment needed. Each workout is broken down into three-minute sets modified to your fitness level. Personal trainers will help instruct and push you for 30 minutes and send you back to your day with a boost of motivation. Your first visit will begin with an interview to review your goals and fitness level followed by a one-on-one workout to get a feel for the program. You may continue with another one-on-one session before joining the group.

9Round follows a three-prong approach that includes fitness, nutrition and accountability with phone calls and texts to provide motivational support, even if you miss a few workouts. Consistent goal reviews also help to recognize and celebrate progress made. 9Round's owner, Craig Valier, added that the club's meticulous attention to cleanliness ensures a safe environment for workouts.

Valier supports Indiana women in need by providing cancer support for them, including rides to and from medical appointments or other necessary transportation issues. He runs fundraisers for breast cancer support (Kick Events); all proceeds go directly to cancer survivors. He also hosts community nights for members to help build relationships.

Men and women at all fitness levels are welcome. The first interview and one-on-one session are free to first-time visitors. Call ahead or visit to schedule in advance or sign up online and enjoy a virtual workout. If you want a full body workout and accountability, check out 9Round today.



Rose Myers with 3rd Degree Black Belt and Level 1 Instructor Trainee Richie Scott. (Submitted photo)

Martial Arts

Pilsung ATA Martial Arts
1729 US 31 South A
Greenwood, IN 46143
(317) 881-2762

Pilsung ATA Martial Arts in Greenwood offers dojang classes (similar to dojo) to improve physical fitness while teaching confidence and life skills. Classes are designed to burn fat, build lean muscle and tone your body, while learning about six values: communication, self-discipline, respect, belief, honor and self-esteem.

Master instructor Rose Myers was featured as our ICON of the Month in December. Rose, co-owner with husband, Brian, emphasized how important celebration and encouragement is to combat existing world negativity, including harassment prevention.

Community involvement is a priority in this dojang. To receive the rank of black belt you must first complete a community service project that speaks to your heart, which has resulted in countless stories of meaningful change right in the neighborhood, according to Rose. It serves well to the mantra they hold: "Be the change you wish to see in the world." One student even raised money to provide Kevlar safety vests for dogs at a local police department.

Martial art students range from as young as 3 years old to more seasoned students in their 70s and beyond. All physical fitness levels are welcome. If you're ready to begin the martial arts journey, you can request free classes through their website (PilsungATA.com).

Strength Training

Victory Strength and Fitness
3115 Meridian Park Dr. Suite O
Greenwood, IN 46142
(317) 721-2821

Bruce Salazar, owner of Victory Strength and Fitness, believes in educating his clients: they won't be thrown into a one-size-fits-all workout on their first day. First sessions begin with conversations about goals and habits followed by a quick movement screen allowing expert trainers to cater to specific needs and abilities. Once completed you will begin your training and education. Clients can expect to see results on day one, noted Bruce.

People come to VSF for various reasons, including weight loss solutions and building muscle. With high-level information, clients understand proper technique, allowing them to improve performance while safely completing the exercises. Each session involves tracking progress to note improvement.

Giving back is essential for Salazar and his team. VSF sponsors the North Grove Elementary fun run each year. They also participate in a fundraiser during the holidays called Check-In for Charity, a



Victory Strength and Fitness serves everyone from beginner to elite athletes. (Submitted photo)

social marketing program that gives businesses more exposure while giving to local and national charities. A generous donor matches all contributions made to the fundraiser.

Victory Strength and Fitness works with beginners as well as elite athletes. Your first session is complimentary and includes an assessment. There is a mix of small group classes (maximum seven people) and private sessions. If you want a workout and an education, this is the spot for you.

Yoga

Studio You Yoga
862 S. State Road 135 Suite I
Greenwood, IN 46143
(317) 882-8733

Studio You Yoga has a friendly environment for all. Owner Chia (pronounced Chy-ah) Bush and her staff welcome men and women of all shapes and sizes. Acceptance is part of the culture. The goal at Studio You Yoga is to help you feel better physically, spiritually and emotionally. Classes help to increase strength and flexibility while providing other benefits, including feeling calmer and even sleeping better after a few classes.

Bush began yoga after feeling the stresses of life. She said she was so happy with benefits received that she began training as a teacher to help others as well. Originally from Taiwan, she got her teaching certification in the U.S. and eventually became a manager at Studio You. She had no plans of becoming an owner until that opportunity presented itself four years ago. She said she is proud to help as many people as she can to improve their health through her work.

Studio You also supports other local businesses by hosting an open house at



Cia Bush, Studio You owner instructs a class. (Submitted photo)

their studio. This is a chance for business owners to come alongside each other and help one another through collaboration. They also donate to local charities though certain classes twice a year.

Women and men of all ages are welcome. Kids' classes are available as well. No previous experience is required. First-time customers can sign up and get 21 days of unlimited classes for only \$30. Call, visit the website or walk in to receive this offer. If you're ready to get fit and de-stress, this might be the right fit for you!



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Bob Rohman's **INDY** Athlete of the Month **HONDA** Makena Wallace

By Mark Ambrogio

When Makena Wallace looks back at her Center Grove High School cheerleading career, one thing stands out: Cheering the Trojans on to back-to-back Class 6A state football championship football in 2020 and 2021 at Lucas Oil Stadium.

"Football is my favorite to cheer, for sure," Wallace said. "I love everything about it. Honestly everything about the football and basketball program have been super special."

A senior, Wallace started cheering when she was 4 years old.

"My main focus was cheer and dance," she said. "They were the only two sports that I participated in. I was always putting in hours at the gym and perfecting my skills. It paid off by getting to the World Championships five times and placing each time."

When Wallace was old enough, she started competing on all-star competitive teams.

"I loved the whole experience and thanks to my coach Jonathon Espinosa I went very far in the sport," Wallace said. "I fell in love with cheer at a competitive level and still miss it, I will always be proud of my accomplishments and friendships made through competitive cheer."

She began cheerleading in school during her middle school years.

"So, this journey has been with all my friends and classmates," Wallace said. "I will graduate this year with one of my best friends from cheerleading still by my side, and some of the best guy friends I could ask for that I have been cheering on from the sidelines for years. Center Grove has so many great memories for me, and all the hard work from the teachers, everyone in the athletic office and the amazing coaches have made that all possible. It really means a lot to look at these coaches who help us and see just how proud of us they really are."

Wallace said several of the fellow cheerleaders are some of her closest friends.

Wallace has been on a team that earned a bid to the World Championships five times Her dance specialty

is hip hop.

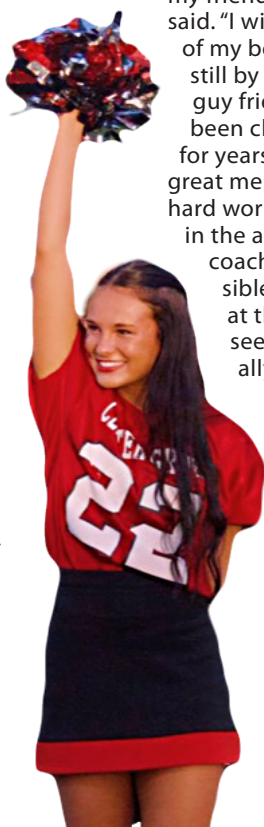
"Teams from all over the world compete in their division," she said. "I cheered and danced for Tiffany's Cheer & Dance Studio in Greenwood. I made my first senior dance team at age 10. That team was my favorite. The first four, from 2016 to 2019, was in person and then the fifth one in 2020 the teams competed virtually due to Covid-19."

The team placed second in the virtual competition. Previously, she was on a team that placed 15th.

She participated in competitive cheerleading for 12 years. She said her strength was tumbling.

"I will miss cheer, but I haven't ruled out possibly cheering in college," Wallace said. "Getting to coach would be so much fun. I would love to coach cheer and or dance one day for sure."

Wallace will attend University in Florida to pursue a degree in marine biology and veterinary science. The animal lover has a bulldog, a rabbit and turtles.



Makena Wallace is a Center Grove High School senior cheerleader. (Photo courtesy of Makena Wallace)

THE WALLACE FILE

NAME: Makena Wallace	skiing and being with friends
HEIGHT: 5 feet 1 inch tall	FAVORITE MOVIE: "The Longest Ride"
AGE: 17	FAVORITE SUBJECT: Science and psychology
CLASS: Senior	FAVORITE GENRE OF MUSIC: Country
SPORT: Cheerleading	FAVORITE VACATION SPOT: Daytona Beach, Fla.
HOBBIES: Dancing, traveling,	

ICONic briefs

Leadership Johnson County to host workshop on coaching

Workshop - In the workshop From Leader to Coach: Transforming Your Followers - And Yourself - For Maximum Impact, participants will develop stronger coaching muscles by addressing questions such as: How is coaching related to servant leadership? How do you push people past their comfort zones but maintain their trust? Should you be a player/coach? How can you best think strategically about developing others? The workshop will be held Friday, Jan. 28 from 9 a.m. to noon, at the Johnson County Armory, 325 Minuteman Way, Franklin. Registration is required. Tickets are \$49 per person for Leadership Johnson County Signature Program graduates, Franklin College alumni, Franklin and Indy Chamber of Commerce members and Aspire members. General public pricing is \$59 per person. Group discounts are available. This workshop is sponsored by the City of Franklin. For more information or to register for the event, visit leadership-johnsoncounty.org

Franciscan Health revises visitation guidelines

Healthcare - With the acceleration and spread of the omicron variant of the coronavirus, Franciscan Health hospitals in Indianapolis and Mooresville are implementing new visitation guidelines, now effective. Patients at both facilities will only be permitted one visitor each day and it must be the same person during that time. In keeping with past visitation policies during the pandemic, Franciscan will continue screening all visitors to determine if they are at risk for COVID-19 or other communicable diseases. Those who do not pass screenings will not be permitted to enter the hospital. A visitor, who must be 18 or older, is required to wear a hospital-provided isolation mask. In clinical areas, visitors should maintain social distancing (6-foot separation) and practice good hand-cleansing hygiene. Visiting hours are 9 a.m.-9 p.m. at both hospitals. For more information, visit franciscanhealth.org.



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From left, Daniel Harris, AJ Ablog, Maria Rowland, Jorge Garcia, Matt Taylor (Anne Therese Kelshaw not pictured). (Photo courtesy of Roncalli High School)

Roncalli welcomes new faculty and staff

New staff - The second semester of the 2021-2022 school year kicked off with Roncalli welcoming six new faculty and staff members. Roncalli High School is excited to have these new faces in the building. AJ Ablog joins as the director of media development and teacher of broadcast and media production. Daniel

Harris is an economics teacher. Physical education added Matt Taylor. Maria Rowland is an English teacher. The guidance department added Anne Theresse Kelshaw as a part-time social worker. Joining the world language department at the end of the semester was Spanish teacher Jorge Garcia.

Shockney joins Home Bank board of directors

Banking - Chairman Dan Moore announced that Brian Shockney has joined the board of directors of Home Bank SB. Home Bank SB is a community bank with offices in Morgan, Johnson and Hendricks counties. Shockney serves as president for the South Central Region of IU Health which includes IU Health Bloomington Hospital, IU Health Bedford Hospital, IU Health Paoli Hospital, IU Health Morgan and IU Health Southern Indiana Physicians. Brian joined IU Health as chief operating officer for IU Health Arnett in 2010. In 2016, he moved to the South-Central Region as chief operating officer and in 2018 was promoted to his current role.



Brian Shockney. (Photo courtesy of Home Bank)

Greenwood native earns perfect 4.0 GPA

Student athlete - UA Little Rock student-athletes posted a departmental 3.28 GPA during the fall 2021 semester. The cumulative department GPA for the Trojans is 3.39. Devin Trammell of Greenwood is one student athlete who received a perfect 4.0 GPA for the fall 2021 semester. Trammell is a graduate of Center Grove High School.

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Struggling to get back to normal after covid

By Linda P. Barnes, OTR
President Therapy On Wheels, Inc.

Many elderly adults are now experiencing difficulty with physical decline, cognitive dysfunction, fatigue, weakness, confusion, stress and anxiety. They are afraid to get back into the swing of everyday activities.

Younger adults may have the same struggles, but generally not to the same degree as older adults. Older adults are many times more isolated, less mobile and may experience more severe symptoms and limitations.

Elderly adults can gain incredible benefits from home based therapy. Many times what's needed most for successful recovery is hands-on human contact and proper therapeutic techniques to regain their pre-COVID functional independence.

Evaluation from a licensed occupational or physical therapist includes an assessment of their cognitive abilities, as well as their physical abilities in the areas of mobility, balance, safety and functional independence in their own home.

Occupational and physical therapy can be an integral component to getting back to pre-COVID normalcy. Therapists are experienced with assistive devices and simple home modifications that can help individuals enhance their quality of life and get back to meaningful activities they enjoy. Therapy is also an integral component of being able to stay in their own home longer versus moving to an assistive living facility or nursing facility.

Therapists will educate and consult with the individual and their support team to ensure everyone is aware of their important role in relation to the designated care program.

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Visit our website at therapyonwheelsinc.com or call (317) 332-9861 for more information.

ICONic briefs



Bricks were placed around the Greenwood VFW flag pole, part of a boy scout project, in December. (Photo by Greenwood VFW)

Greenwood VFW lays first round of bricks around flag poles

Honoring Veterans – Over 250 bricks were put into place near the flagpoles in the front of the Greenwood VFW building in December. A Boy Scout working toward his Eagle Scout rank and a number of other Scouts and parents put everything together. Another order will

be placed in two to three weeks. There are three colors with two sizes. There are brick forms in the Post, 1842 Veterans Way, Greenwood. Stop by after 2 p.m., Monday through Friday to purchase a brick. Anyone can purchase a brick – for themselves, a relative, or a friend.

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Southside comfort food comes to life on the small screen

Chef Chip Huckaby of Smokehouse Catering Company gets his own TV show on Eat This TV Network

By Grady Michael Gaynor

Late December, Smokehouse Catering Company announced that its own Chef Chip Huckaby had traveled to New York to film a pilot episode for Eat This TV Network. For this to air and to film more episodes, they needed help in the form of views, comments and likes on the 24-minute pilot posted to YouTube.

They got it.

After an outpouring of support, Huckaby will soon have his own 13-episode series, with 12 episodes filmed in his own hometown.

"I spent my whole life in this business," Chef Chip Huckaby explained as he recalled his Greenwood childhood. "I started as a kid standing on a bucket to reach the table working at the bakery with my dad. It was either go to work with Dad and Mom or sit at home with a babysitter. He would give me a \$5 bill at first. Then \$10. \$20. Then a paycheck. I've never wanted to do anything else."

Huckaby said he considers his upbringing his greatest advantage to his success in the industry: learning beside his father, his mentor, in their family bakeries and restaurants. He stayed by his father's side for many years learning the trade and committing himself to achieving goals of his own in the culinary arts.

After a recent road trip to New York City and back with his brother, on Dec. 16 Huckaby had the pilot episode of his own TV show appear on the Eat This TV Network, [youtube.com/watch?v=qahLK9nKYsg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qahLK9nKYsg). Like Huckaby's father brought him into the kitchen on a bucket, Huckaby brought his audience members through the screen into the kitchen with him as he shared his special recipes and techniques while he prepared pork belly, collard greens, potatoes and bread pudding.

"It's nice to watch a pro that doesn't assume you already know how to get your smoked dishes turn out like his," wrote one viewer in the comments section of the pilot on YouTube. "Please get him to do more videos."

Huckaby is a lifelong Southside resident

**Check out Chef Chip Huckaby's pilot episode for Eat This TV Network:
[youtube.com/watch?v=qahLK9nKYsg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qahLK9nKYsg)**



From left, Chip Huckaby and Keith Johnson.
(Submitted photo)

who has been cooking for various restaurants over the course of 30 years until more recently opening the Smokehouse Catering Company with its new store location at 1140 State Road 135 in Greenwood. Huckaby said he is excited to see customers come through the doors in droves especially as he has recently accrued his local cooking celebrity status. The Smokehouse Catering Company has all the good comfort food expected at a barbecue place with pulled pork, smoked sausages, ribs, mash potatoes, mac and cheese, all kinds of fresh greens and other sides. The dining area is decorated with all kinds of memorabilia owner Keith Johnson hopes to give diners that southern comfort feel. It was eight years ago that Johnson started a food truck that eventually turned into Johnson's BBQ Shack and in 2018 he branched off into the catering side of things.

"We wanted a little bit of that Texas feel. This is the Southside, this is Greenwood. ... We want to be able to eat well. We want to be able to hang out, be cozy and comfy, stay for as long or as little as we want. Sneak in. Sneak out. Bring the whole family."

Expectations are high for the TV series after its warm reception. Comments online point out Chef's passion, how well he explains things for a beginner cook, his warm personality and his raspy voice many might associate with a man who spends a lot of time around a barbecue pit.

For more information check out their website at [smokehousecateringco.com](https://www.smokehousecateringco.com)



Greenwood opened Old City Park in 2021, earning awards for its design. (Photo: [greenwood.in.gov](https://www.greenwood.in.gov))

Outlook on 2022

Greenwood mayor expresses hope for positive improvement in the new year

Compiled by Nicole Davis

Following a bleak and unprecedented 2020, 2021 was a year of picking up the pieces. Continuing that momentum, 2022 is looking good for the city of Greenwood as Mayor Mark Myers reports positive developments and growth in the works with optimism at the forefront. Learn more about this past year and the Outlook for 2020:

GREENWOOD

•Answered by city of Greenwood Mayor
Mark Myers

What do you feel was the biggest highlight to the city last year?

Last year's biggest highlight was the kickoff of the Madison Project. This is by far the largest public private partnership project that the city has ever been involved. It is great to see the growth and the confidence builders have in our city for them to invest in Greenwood with such magnitude.

What was an unexpected joy this past year?

Our largest unexpected joy for the year would have been the opening of Old City Park and receiving multiple awards for its design and use. To see so many families enjoying this beautiful outdoor park and

being able to go to an outdoor space like this that is safe and healthy always makes me happy.

What is the biggest challenge the city overcame in 2017? How did it do so?

Our biggest challenge was to keep the city running safely thru the COVID crisis. We were able to do this by having our employees volunteer to help out and cover shifts for their sick coworkers. It takes a great team of individuals to offer to step up and help out when things are rough, and they did it!

What projects are you most looking forward to this year?

In 2022 we plan on continuing with the Madison Ave trail program. This will bring the current trail south from Pearl St. to Main St. It will then go east on Main St. to Meridian St. This is very exciting as it will beautify downtown even more and allow for more and safer walkability. We also plan on starting the sports park on the southeast side of the city that will have four baseball diamonds, four softball diamonds, a splash pad and soccer field. We also plan to open the Fieldhouse, our downtown multipurpose sports facility in the first quarter of 2022.

Pick three words to describe your outlook on 2022:

Hopeful, excited and resilient

Bargersville downtown renovation spurs investment, quality of life

By Aspire Economic Development + Chamber Alliance

Bargersville is taking aggressive steps to improve its downtown, reaping a variety of benefits for residents and investors alike.

"Bargersville's downtown has seen a lot of activity recently — streets repaved, new sidewalks installed, new lighting planned," said Vice President of Economic Development Amanda Rubadue, CECd. "The former Red's Place has been purchased and will be redeveloped as a new restaurant. Investment by the town triggers private investment, increased quality of life and community pride."

Susie Qualls, Bargersville Town Council member, explained: "There's been a lot of activity in our historic downtown area the past several years. State Route 144 as well as Main and Baldwin streets have been repaved with decorative crosswalks through the state's Community Crossing Grants program," Qualls said. "During the construction, Bargersville took the opportunity to make improvements to its utility infrastructure and added a walking trail from Route 144 to downtown. Sidewalks and accessibility ramps have been added or improved, and decorative lighting will

be added in the near future."

Why is Bargersville doing this? "The heartbeat of any community is its downtown. Our goal is to create an area where commercial, cultural, educational and community engagement are concentrated. Connectivity of our residents to the downtown is a critical component, therefore the trails are a high priority," Qualls said.

"Private investors are already taking notice of the town's recent improvements and investment in our downtown," she added. "Several new businesses and expanded ones are already in the works. The redevelopment commission is also active in providing incentives to private investors to spur our future growth and development."

These improvements will improve the quality of life for Bargersville residents, Qualls noted. "The demographics of Bargersville have changed considerably in the last 10 years and our community's residents are looking for different amenities," she explained. "They want the ability to walk or bike safely throughout our town. They want the ability to attend a farmer's market or an event or concert or to grab a beer or a bite to eat without having to drive 15-20 minutes to a neighboring com-

munity. Individuals have decided to invest in the community with their purchase of homes and, as a town, we should always be working toward improvements."

"Our goal is to create a vibrant, economically thriving area for residents and visitors to our community to enjoy, an area where there are options for dining, shopping, living and entertainment," she added. "My hope is that as the community starts seeing progress and investment in the

look and feel of our downtown, its sense of pride will only increase."

President and CEO Christian Maslowski added that one of the goals of Aspire's 5-year economic development strategy is to embrace and pursue opportunities for enhanced livability and quality of place. "We wholeheartedly support Bargersville's efforts to improve its downtown and are excited to support the town council's vision for the future."

ICONic cartoon



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NIGHT & DAY LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT ENTERTAINING

EVENTS calendar

Know Your Religion • Know Your Religion is a course that helps you understand Christianity in the context of other major world religions, such as Buddhism, Islam, Judaism and Hinduism. Know Your Religion will take approximately 10 hours to complete. | When: Jan. 17 - April 30. | Where: Mt. Pleasant Christian Church, 381 N. Bluff Road, Greenwood. | Info: mpcc.info

Open Tours at The Sycamore at Mallow Run • Planning a wedding or event? Come and tour The Sycamore at Mallow Run! Venue Coordinators will be on-site conducting informal tours throughout the day. Plus, book a 2022 event in our Estate Room, May-November, and receive 20% off the room rental price! No registration or appointments required. | When: Jan. 17, 2-8 p.m. | Where: The Sycamore, 7070 W. Whiteland Rd, Bargersville. | Info: mallowrun.com

Stop Motion Animation for Kids • Design and create stop motion animation film in this program for school-age children. We will build sets, choose characters, and film a short movie. | When: Jan. 19: 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library,

1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.org

Macrame Earrings • Make a cute pair of macramé earrings either for a gift or as a treat for yourself in this adult program. All supplies provided. | When: Jan. 20, 6:30 - 7:45 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.org

Love You Snow Much Painting Class • Paint this adorable Love You Snow Much Painting Class, just in time for Valentine's Day. Class is instructor led, but also allows you to go at your own pace. Class reservation includes pottery, paints, supplies, and a helping hand. Cost: \$21. | When: Jan. 21, 6 p.m. | Where: 3113 W. Smith Valley Road, Suite D, Greenwood. | Info: upaintpotterystudio.com, (317) 893-5700

The Stinging Peacock Forum Workshop • This is an inversion workshop where yogis keep in their own comfort zone. All these postures are approachable to any level Yogi. Price: #5 for members, \$40 for nonmembers. | When: Jan. 22, 2 to 3:30 p.m.

| Where: 862 S. State Road 135, Greenwood. | Info: studioyouyoga.com

Button Art • Buttons may be everyday objects, but can make extraordinary art! School-age children can view works from artists like Amalia K. Amaki and Beau McCall, then create art. | When: Jan. 24: 4:30 - 5:15 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.org

Moana Jr. • Creative Grounds Fine Arts Academy presents this thrilling and heartwarming coming-of-age story follows the strong-willed Moana as she sets sail across the Pacific to save her village and discover the truth about her heritage. Tickets: \$8 adults, \$5 students. | When: Jan. 27 to 30, 7:30 p.m. and Jan. 29 and 30, 2:30 p.m. | Where: 1251 U.S. Highway 31 N., Greenwood. | Info: cgfinearts.org

Winter Warm-up Tea Party • Chase off the winter blues with some hot tea, tasty treats, soothing stories and more! This program is for all ages. | When: Jan. 29, 10 - 11 a.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. |

Info: pageafterpage.org

Center Grove Night with the Pacers • Help raise money for students and teachers at Center Grove by going to an Indiana Pacers game! | When: Feb. 2. when the Pacers take on the Orlando Magic. Deadline to purchase tickets is Jan. 6. | Where: Gainbridge Fieldhouse, 125 S. Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis. | Info: pacersgroups.com/magic

Are You An Inventor? • In honor of Black History Month, school-age children can explore popular inventions by Black Americans. Next, brainstorm, design, and make inventions from various craft and recycled materials. | When: Feb. 3, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.org

Volleyball and Performance Clinic • This clinic is for any child age 10 and up, whether they are in the midst of club season or just starting to learn the game. Cost: \$50 per player. | When: Feb. 5, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. | Where: New Hope Church, 5307 W. Fairview Rd, Greenwood. | Info: email jenny.greenstone@gmail.com

NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH WITH BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS

January kicks off National Mentoring Month – a time when we encourage the community to consider volunteering to mentor a young person and celebrate the impact of mentoring relationships. As we start 2022, there are more children in our community than ever before waiting to be paired with mentors. At Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Indiana (BBBSCI) alone, there are more than 1,100 who have asked for this support. And, there are 71 kids waiting in Johnson County, 65 of those kids being boys.

BBBSCI serves youth ages 8 - 18 in Johnson, Hamilton, and Marion Counties. BBBSCI partners with parents/caregivers, volunteers, schools, and the donors in the community to defend, ignite, and empower the potential of every child served. The mission is to create and support one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth, and the vision is that all youth achieve their full potential.

Reflecting on the last year, BBB-

SCI is humbled by the dedication of volunteers and donors involved in our mission. In the last year of defending potential, BBBSCI staff and volunteers adapted constantly to keep kids connected – coordinating additional resources and support for families, introducing 252 new mentoring friendships, and supporting a total of 1,191 mentoring relationships.

Mentors showed up in new, often simple, but always powerful ways – from front porch visits, encouraging texts, and virtual tutoring sessions to the return of visiting favorite restaurants and celebrating life milestones like new jobs and high school graduations. Parents and caregivers persisted and carried so much on their shoulders to protect, care for, and continue providing opportunities for their kids to learn, grow, and thrive. As BBBSCI worked to surround them with every bit of consistency, encouragement, and connection possible, the young people of Indianapolis reminded BBBSCI of their unstoppable resilience,

promise, and power.

For each of these stories, there are more than 1,000 others in motion every day – each with its own unique and significant impact. The Match of the Year Honorees demonstrates the impact of these relationships. One Big Brother is guiding his Little through the first steps of starting his own business. His Little Brother saw the work he was doing and asked for advice on how to start a clothing business. Another Big is standing alongside her Little as he struggles with interpersonal relationships at school. These Bigs are not only a friend and supporter to their Littles, but they share actionable advice in difficult or new circumstances and constantly instill values of confidence and self-esteem.

In this coming year, you could make a meaningful difference in the life of a young person by being there for them, encouraging them, and connecting them to experiences and opportunities. Sign up today to become a mentor or to learn more about how you can be involved.



VOLUNTEER TODAY!



Big Brothers Big Sisters
OF CENTRAL INDIANA

NIGHT & DAY LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT ENTERTAINING

AN OPTION

The Energy Spot

Looking for a drinkable meal option? The Energy Spot has more than 74 different protein smoothie flavors to choose from, along with a shot of soothing aloe and energy teas and bombs for an added boost of focus and energy. According to its Website, the-energyspot.com, its smoothies come with 17 to 24 grams of protein with 21 vitamins and minerals under 225 calories for anyone looking for a healthy meal alternative. Its energy bombs help to increase the metabolism to burn calories and provide antioxidants. Reviewers say, at each location, that the staff is helpful at explaining its menu and flavors, while offering drink suggestions based on the customers' tastes. Better yet, Energy Spot has two independently owned locations in the Center Grove area!



The holiday menu, available for a limited time, features many different winter-themed flavors, such as the Sleigh Ride, a blend of chocolate, coffee and peppermint and topped with cookie and candy canes pieces. (Photo by Nicole Davis)

LOCATIONS:

3195 W. Fairview Road, Suite # C, Greenwood
5891 S. State Road 135, Greenwood

ARE YOU A TEACHER LOOKING FOR A CHANGE?



Do you have a passion for teaching? Might you be seeking a change?

Students and teachers at Roncalli High School are able to give their undivided attention and energy to the essential tasks of teaching and learning on a daily basis. Their work unfolds in a faith community that upholds the timeless values of hard work, self discipline and student accountability all within a cellphone free environment.

We have a specific interest in teachers who are seeking a change in their career and/or seeking flexibility in their schedule. Interested candidates are asked to send their resume to Roncalli High School principal, Kevin Banich, at kbanich@roncalli.org.

Roncalli High School is one of only three high schools in the state of Indiana to be honored three times as a Blue Ribbon School of Excellence by the United States Department of Education. We have been recognized as a Four Star School by the Indiana Department of Education for ten consecutive years!



SPOTLIGHT



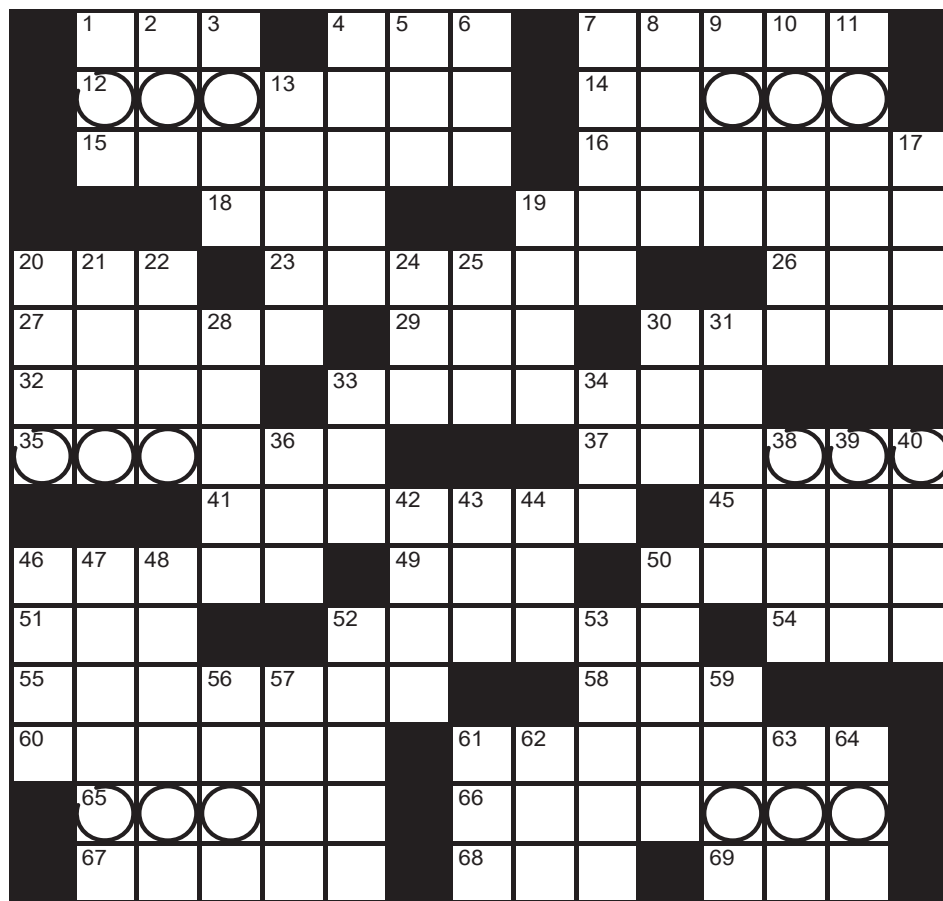
Enjoy the humor of member artists this winter at SALI's three-month exhibit. (Photo courtesy of the Southside Art League)

Make Me Laugh

This winter's art exhibit, from January through March at the Southside Art League Off Broadway Gallery will feature the theme, "Make Me Laugh." Member artists have created a wide variety of styles, subjects and media. Prices will be available, including original framed and unframed paintings, matted giclee prints, ceramic sculpture, paper sculpture and greeting cards. A layaway plan is available. Visit during regular exhibit hours Wednesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Please call SALI at (317) 882-5562 to arrange for viewing by appointment at another time.

ACROSS

- 1. Unhappy
- 4. 1040 org.
- 7. Utter confusion
- 12. Downtown Indy transport that ceased operations in 1953
- 14. Person from Barbados, informally
- 15. Butler frat letter
- 16. Cold Stone Creamery drinks
- 18. CGHS subj.
- 19. Promising young actress
- 20. Comprehend
- 23. Gov. Holcomb's URL ending
- 26. Historic period
- 27. College World Series home
- 29. Zodiac sign



- 30. Lovers' rendezvous
- 32. Well ventilated
- 33. 1989 Indy pro tennis tourney winner
- 35. ___ of Capricorn
- 37. Roman emperor before Hadrian
- 41. Wicked look
- 45. Solitary
- 46. Wed
- 49. Monument Circle musical grp.
- 50. Big name in appliances
- 51. World Cup cheer
- 52. Words on some orange juice cartons
- 54. Pacer foe
- 55. Election loser
- 58. Duke Energy unit
- 60. "That's a shame"
- 61. Multitudes

- 65. Treasure ___
- 66. Ivory Coast's largest city
- 67. Take the helm
- 68. "Doctor Who" net.
- 69. Lennon's lady

DOWN

- 1. R-V connectors
- 2. Dada pioneer Jean
- 3. Prescription amount
- 4. Volunteer's offer
- 5. ___ Speedwagon
- 6. Thesaurus wd.
- 7. WTTV affiliation
- 8. Sounds of laughter
- 9. Slightly open
- 10. Sunglasses brand
- 11. Displays contempt
- 13. Blair or Ronstadt

- 17. Colts fig.
- 19. Any minute now
- 20. What a kid grows up to be?
- 21. Mideast ruler
- 22. Hawaiian tuber
- 24. RN's forte
- 25. "Shucks!"
- 28. Overexcited
- 30. Raptors on a Pacers scoreboard
- 31. Domain
- 33. Old AT&T rival
- 34. GPS reading
- 36. ___ League
- 38. Rocker Jett or comedienne Rivers
- 39. Indiana Fever's first coach: ___ Donovan
- 40. Tidy

- 42. Indy Zoo feline
- 43. Clairvoyant's claim
- 44. Not me
- 46. Castle defense
- 47. Divvies up
- 48. French Lick Springs Hotel, e.g.
- 50. Garden pest
- 52. "Unsafe at Any Speed" author
- 53. Valid reasoning
- 56. Clarinet kin
- 57. Great review
- 59. Swagger, slangily
- 61. UIndy research room
- 62. Tide type
- 63. A Bobbsey twin
- 64. ___-Cat

Puzzle Time



6 Household Pests

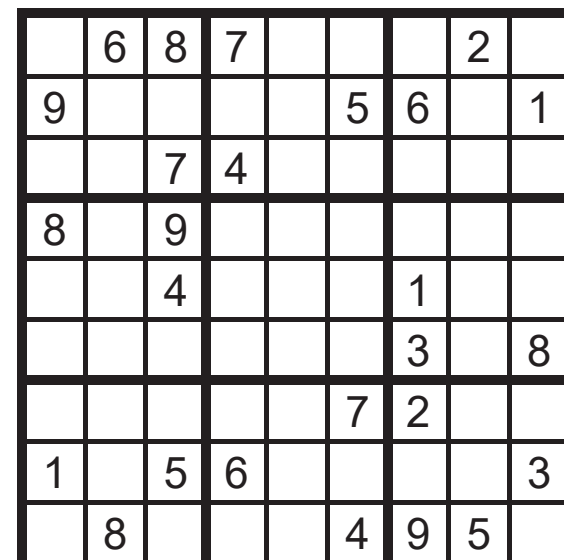
4 Johnson County Towns

3 Bargersville Restaurants

5 Taxes

2 Real Estate Websites

1 Indiana Governor



See Answers on page 17.

PLANNER OF NOTE

Aspire Johnson County
New membersCraig Haggard for State Representative
District 57625 E. State Road 42
Mooreville, IN 46158 - (317) 402-2939

Hoosier Brewing Company

147 S. Madison Ave.
Greenwood, IN 46142 - (317) 215-4753

Journey Health and Wellness

579 Ridge Road
Greenwood, IN 46142 - (317) 945-3459

Koon Financial Planning and Consulting

384 N. Madison Ave.
Greenwood, IN 46142 - (317) 887-1714

MIS Company

5856 W. 74th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46278 - (317) 295-4200aspirejohnsoncounty.com

By Mike Heffner

At the start of every year, I pick one word as a theme to help shape my year, my mindset and tackle new goals. This is something that author and speaker Jon Gordon promotes as a leader's alternative to a New Year's resolution. This year my word is "opportunity." Last year we all looked to adapt, survive and succeed amidst the constant changing circumstances. This is the year to use what we learned and take advantage of the opportunities to grow. I challenge you to join me by starting off your New Year taking advantage of the opportunities around you.

Take more chances – if you are going to take advantage of opportunities, you need to be willing to step out of your comfort zone and do things differently. We are creatures of habit and need to be willing to do things that challenge each of us to improve, expand and develop.

Be more positive – our inner voice plays a large part in what we see. When you look at things optimistically, you can almost see an opportunity on every

PERSONNEL MATTERS

Seize the opportunities of 2022

corner. You will never lack opportunity if you practice rewiring your mindset to look for truth and speak encouragement to yourself.

Have more courage – the world seems to want to scare us. Fear mongers are everywhere. To see opportunity, you need to have courage to overcome the obstacles and move forward. Take ownership, make a statement and put yourself out there. Courage helps us manage and seize the opportunity.

Get things moving – replace fear with action. Momentum is a powerful thing and simply starting creates opportunities. My grandfather used to say, "can't never did nothing." Theodore Roosevelt said, "We must all either wear out or rust out, every one of us. My choice is to wear out." Go start that project, get that work out in, plan the day of activity. Opportunity is created out of action.

Practice more patience – things can change so quickly. The opportunity is to step back and process what's going on. Allow yourself to not react instantly. Taking time to evaluate all the information

allows us to not be as emotional, make calculated choices and see the good in the opportunity.

I hope you take time this year to look forward and think about finding your personal one word. You may already know your one word, or you may need to ponder a few and try them out for a few days. I recommend you Google your options for your word, use it mentally for a day and see how it feels. Check out the website GetOneWord.com. The opportunity is there for the taking.

This article is written by Mike Heffner, the owner of the local Greenwood Express Employment Professionals franchise. Contact Mike at Mike.Heffner@expresspros.com, @IndySouthMike on Twitter or visit ExpressIndySouth.com.



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PEER TO PEER

What are we going to do with a bold new year?

By Howard Hubler

I recently wrote an article about traveling to Washington D.C. In my Hoosier world, masks had become a thing of the past. In our country's capital, people had masks on, outdoors and indoors. If you entered a building without a mask, people were quite abrupt and asked you to put it on before you went very far. The street masks were voluntary; the indoor masks were mandatory. There were so many masks worn on the street it was obvious residents were mask believers.

In 2021, companies could not get people to work. As a result, there were supply line problems because workers weren't creating, manufacturing and delivering goods. In many parts of the country, people still could not attend an indoor event. We learned that Hoosier churches were just starting to get attendees in the pews after several months of being allowed to fully operate. We saw people on TV news teams slowly going back to their studios and being amongst other people on a given show. We also found that we could go back to school and go back to work in person. Students started to report to school after being virtual for so long.

So, Mr. Hoosier businessperson, you and I know the drill. Mask on, mask off; we've been there. Select people work from home, while others work from their office, sales or factory floor; we've been there. Moms have pooled babysitters in a neighborhood so they can come back to work with kids learning at home; we've been there. Let's hope when all the sensationalism of the Omicron variant settles, the comment will be, "This will be very mild for most people and will require very little hospitalization." Let's hope it's the final irritant before America reaches nearly 100 percent of herd immunity. Maybe this will be the beginning of the end of this intense level of Covid. I feel it has replaced seasonal flus and will be with us for a while; let's hope it must be no more threatening than seasonal flus.



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

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ICONic briefs

Greenwood resident named to Harding University dean's list

Academic Achievement - Kaylee Stickels, a junior studying communication sciences and disorders, is among more than 1,200 Harding University students included on the dean's list for grades achieved during the fall 2021 semester. Stickels is a graduate of Center Grove High School. Harding University is a private Christian, liberal arts university located in Searcy, Ark. The dean's list is published each semester by Dr. Marty Spears, University provost, honoring those who have achieved high scholarship. To be eligible, a student must be carrying 12 or more hours with a 3.65 or higher grade-point average and no incompletes.

DePauw University names dean's list recipients

Academic Achievement - DePauw University located in Greencastle, Ind. recently named its Fall 2021 dean's list recipients. The dean's list recognizes students who achieve a semester grade point average of 3.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale. Southside residents included are: Kathleen Ameis of Greenwood, Haley Burgh of Greenwood, Samantha Loudermilk of Greenwood, Yasmin McClellan of Indianapolis, Abigail Resnick of Greenwood, Samuel Sedgwick of Greenwood, Aaron Wills of Indianapolis, Kayleigh Winter of Greenwood and Claire Wolfe of Indianapolis.

Volunteers needed at Interchurch Food Pantry

Drive-thru pantry - Interchurch Food Pantry of Johnson County, 211 Commerce Dr., Franklin, is in need of extra hands to help feed local families. Consider stepping up to fill food orders as part of the drive-thru operation once or twice a week or a few times a month. Hours are 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Volunteers must be vaccinated. Email pantryjcmanager@gmail.com to sign up or visit jcpantary.org.

"Fuzz: When Nature Breaks the Law"

BOOK REVIEW

By Amy Hamilton

"Fuzz: When Nature Breaks the Law," by Mary Roach is an

entertaining and educational book about what happens when animals break human laws. For example, what do you do when a bear or cougar kills a person? Or a macaque monkey steals your phone and drops it from a tree? These are questions that the author attempts to answer in this book.

When humans and animals share territory, problems arise, especially among large animals that can easily kill humans. For example, in the United States and Canada, where bears and humans share land, there is an increase in bear attacks and break-ins. The more bears have access to human food, they grow more confident being in human spaces, and that is when attacks will happen. The experts that the author interviews in the book offer a variety of

solutions, but it is a complex issue dealing with not only animal psychology but also human politics.

"Fuzz" is an engaging and informational look at the conflict between humans and wildlife. Recommend for fans of "Are We Smart Enough to Know How Smart Animals Are?" by Frans de Waal, "Mozart's Starling" by Lyanda Lynn Haupt and "The Bird Way: A New Look at How Birds Talk, Work, Play, Parent, and Think" by Jennifer Ackerman.



This review is written by Amy Hamilton, the adult/teen librarian of the Johnson County Public Library - White River Branch. She enjoys reading, knitting and taking long walks in the woods. Contact Amy at ahamilton@jcpin.org.

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS:

Adult:

"Three More Months" by Sarah Echavarre
"The Midnight Hour" by Elly Griffiths
"Yonder: A Novel" by Jabari Asim
"The Strange Case of the Dutch Painter"
by Timothy Miller

Young Adult:

"The Chosen One: A First-Generation Ivy League Odyssey"
by Echo Brown
"A Face for Picasso: Coming of Age with Crouzon Syndrome"
by Ariel Henley
"Anything but Fine" by Tobias Madden
"The Ivory Key" by Akshaya Raman

Children:

"Light for All"
by Margarita Engle
"If You Want to Knit Some Mittens"
by Laura Purdie Salas
"Our Table"
by Peter H. Reynolds
"Words to Make a Friend: A Story in Japanese and English"
by Donna Jo Napoli

A lesson on parts, in two parts

GRAMMAR GUY

By Curtis
Honeycutt

Today's linguistic lesson is a two-parter. Well, if you really want to get into it, it could potentially be several parts. And, when I say "parts," I mean body parts.

I can talk your earlobes off about body parts. I want to specifically introduce you to the term "anatomy." An anatomy can be one of two different terms, hence the two "parts."

Firstly, an anatomy can be a word for any body part. Elbow. Kneebow. Knee pit. Coccyx. Pinky toe. Uvula. As someone who recently broke a small bone in my foot (the tibial sesamoid in my left foot), I'm becoming more aware of the tiny, intricate parts of the foot. Your body, as John Mayer wrote, is a wonderland, indeed.

When it comes to body parts, let's just say I know some good ones. Purlucue, for example, is the word for the space be-

tween your thumb and your forefinger. The philtrum is the word for the groove between your nose and your upper lip. Your glabella is the area between your two eyebrows - unless you have a uni-brow.

The next time you play Mad Libs on a road trip, consider these anatomies. "Rasceta" is not the name of an obscure Sicilian pasta dish; it's the name for the lines on the inside of your wrist. Do you laugh at the word "armpit"? Show a little class and refer to it as one of its more proper names - "axilla" or "oxter." You know that little half-circle of cartilage at the front of your ear? That's your tragus.

Now we have arrived at part two of this body part word education. Another definition for "anatomy" is a phrase that uses a body part in it. For example, when you conform to someone else's rules, you "toe the line" (not "tow" the line). If you fail to toe the line, you eventually must "face the music," which is when you must confront

the consequences of your bad decisions.

I like anatomies; they are like personification for phrases. Have you ever paid for an expensive wedding? Any time you pay a large amount, often for an unreasonably large charge, you "foot the bill." When you "shoulder the burden" for something, you take responsibility for something difficult. If you "thumb your nose" at something or someone, you are showing disrespect or disdain toward them.

Whether you're dealing with body part names or expressions with body parts in them, anatomies are the type of words that put flesh on phrases. Thanks for indulging my incessant navel-gazing.



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 curthoneycutt.com.

Make a resolution to bless others in 2022

DEVOTIONAL

By Pastor Chris Philbeck

Happy New Year to everyone who is reading this devotion. I hope you are as excited as I am to greet another new year. Recently I read an inspirational story about Josh Elchert, the owner of Heavenly Pizza in Findlay, Ohio who decided to hold an Employee Appreciation Day to show his gratitude for his team and how hard they have been working during the pandemic.

His logic behind the decision was pretty sound. He said, "You can have the best pizza in the world. But if you have no one here to make it, it doesn't matter." So, Elchert posted on his Facebook page that on Monday, July 5 (2021), he would give the entire day's sales to his workers. On a typical Monday, the restaurant fills about 100 orders, but on Employee Appreciation Day, customers came out in full force to show their support, ordering extra pies and dropping big tips. And, at the end of the day all \$6,300, plus \$1,200 in tips went directly to employees who each earned \$78 per hour for their shift. Timmy Lemire, an assistant manager who has worked at Heavenly Pizza for five years said, "I've never experienced anything like this before. It's a big gift."

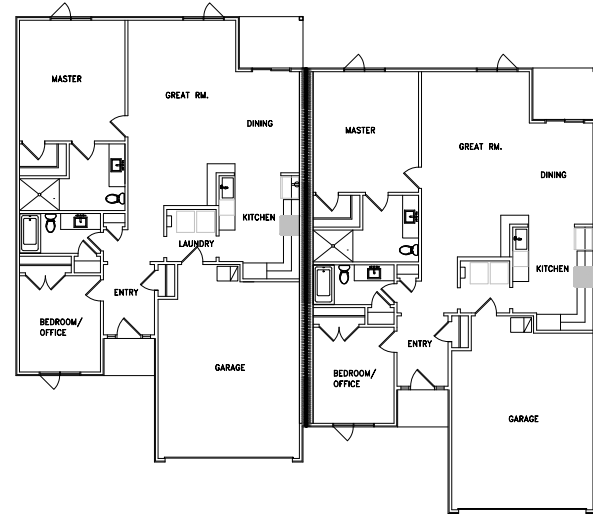
Reading this story reminded me of how easy it can be to make a positive

impact on another person's life – you just have to be thoughtful. In Philippians 2:3-4, Paul wrote, Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too. What would 2022 look like if each of us committed to put those words into action? What would 2022 look like if every day we got up and prayed, Lord, help me to bless someone today?

It's easy to get so wrapped up in your own life that you don't notice the people or the needs around you. But that's not the life God has called us to live. A little later in Philippians 2, Paul encourages his readers to let the fruit of their salvation (their profession) be evident in their lives. He writes in Philippians 2:13, For God is working in you, giving you the desire and power to do what pleases him. God is pleased when we use our lives to bless others. I can't think of a better plan for 2022 – can you?



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



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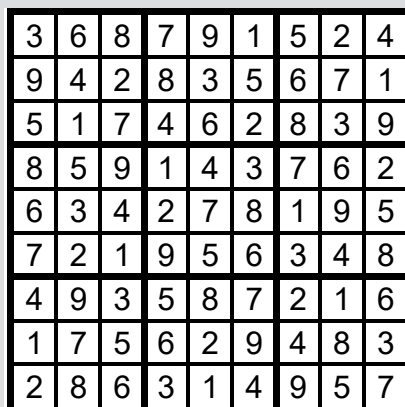
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Puzzle Time Answers – ON PAGE 14
 Answers to HOOSIER HODGEPODGE:

- Pests: ANTS, BATS, FLEAS, MICE, RATS, ROACHES
- Taxes: EXCISE, INCOME, INHERITANCE, PROPERTY, SALES
- Towns: EDINBURGH, FRANKLIN, GREENWOOD, TRAFALGAR
- Restaurants: JOHNSON'S BBQ, LA ROSA, OUR TABLE
- Websites: TRULIA, ZILLOW Governor: HOLCOMB



Richard Huber

AARP recognizes Center Grove resident with prestigious community service award

Compiled by Nicole Davis

Dr. Richard "Dick" Huber was recently selected by AARP, a nonprofit organization for people ages 50 and older, to receive the 2021 AARP Indiana Andrus Award for Community Service. This is the association's most prestigious state volunteer award for community service.

Huber, who resides in Center Grove, has taught 199 driving classes for AARP in the 18 years he has served as an AARP Driver Safety instructor. While he said he strives to reach that 200 mark, in-person classes are currently at a standstill due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The AARP is not the only way Huber donates his time.

Huber retired from family medicine approximately 25 years ago, with the last 10 years of his career having worked in the emergency room. Afterwards, he searched for things to not only occupy his time but be meaningful to those within his community as well.

"Different phases, situations and circumstances in life often require adjustments," Huber said. "Retirement for me meant a somewhat loss of identity; not being noted for my occupation. (I also learned to adjust) my purpose in life so as to love, assist and help others rather

than doing things just for my personal satisfaction and enjoyment."

Through the years, Huber has worked with Meals on Wheels, Second Helpings in Indianapolis, Volunteer Advocates for Seniors and Incapacitated Adults, acted as a Guardian Ad Litem (GAL)/Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) for neglected and abused children, taught lawn care classes throughout the community and given drug presentations in the schools. Aside from this volunteer service, he serves on the White River Township Board, drives a tractor shuttle at the state fairgrounds during the state fair, and this past fall spent a couple of

months helping his nephew harvest soybeans and corn.

Huber was a teacher prior to entering medicine, so he finds himself eager to share about topics in which he's passionate, such as driving safely. While many of his activities are currently on hold due to the pandemic, his lawn care classes will resume shortly. He will teach a class for Master Gardeners in February. In April, he will host a lawn care class open to the public at the Greenwood Public Library. Other classes in the community are being discussed.

What do you consider your greatest virtue?

Being a person known for loving God, being honest, reliable, responsible and simple.

What do you most deplore in others?

Deplore is rather strong. We each have different talents, skills and personalities. I'm somewhat turned off by those who are full of lots of words but show little or no action.

What do you like most about living in Center Grove?

People – people whom are great neighbors, teachers, leaders, volunteers, friends. I'm not really into things and buildings; most neighborhoods have those. It is the kind of people that really make a great community.

If you had to live elsewhere than in Johnson County, where would it be?

Probably just about anywhere. Hopefully I could adapt to just about any place; "grow where you're plant-

ed." There would be challenges and opportunities to work with others just about anywhere.

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

I'm not much of a "what if" person. I have not lived a perfect life but have had lots of friendships, ups and downs and given lots of opportunities.

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

Find worthy charitable organizations that would

be able to benefit more people

What makes you happiest?

Delivering newborns, observing little children, worshipping our Lord and leading community classes

What is your favorite vacation spot?

I have no favorite spot. Some of the most memorable places where there was the opportunity to spend time with the local people. I enjoyed traveling, especially seeing some of the wonderful things God has created.

What do you do with idle time?

I enjoy teaching com-

munity and school classes, yard work and watching some Big 10 basketball games.

What is it that makes you angry?

If I've ever been angry, my memory has blotted that out. I'm disturbed with unsafe, aggressive drivers, who seem to be growing in number.

What do you do to escape from reality?

I don't recall ever wanting to escape from reality. Sometimes when the situations are not great, I try to think what I might do to change or improve circumstances; but not run away.

What or who is the greatest love of your life?

God, family and friends

Which living person in Johnson County do you most admire?

I admire all the volunteers and daily workers whom seldom are recognized for their abilities and accomplishments.





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