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August 14 - September 17, 2021 • mycgicon.com



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**REMEMBERING
JASON MUELLER**
More than "The Voice of the Trojans"
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Back to school

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from a countertop experience

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Trojans senior quarterback Tayven Jackson throws the ball during a practice drill Aug. 9, 2021, at Ray Skillman Field in Greenwood. Jackson, still in his senior season at Center Grove, has already committed to the University of Tennessee to play football next fall. (Photo by Jacob Musselman)

Contact the Managing Editor

Have any news tips? Want to submit a calendar event? Have a photograph to share? Call Jacob Musselman at (260) 271-9728 or email him at jacob@icontimes.com. And remember, our news deadlines are several days prior to print.



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True Colors | 1 punch

Thursday, October 7, 2021 | 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon | Tamara Moore

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Unlocking Innovation – Only Not Like the Other Workshops Called That | 1 punch

Tuesday, November 2, 2021 | 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon | Doug Shaw, PhD

The Work-Life Balancing Act: Developing Resilience, Rejuvenation, and Self-Renewal | 1 punch

Friday, November 19, 2021 | 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon | Christine Turo-Shields, LCSW, LCAC

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Hannah Mueller, Jason's wife, poses for a portrait with the photo that was placed next his casket during his funeral Aug. 8, 2021, on the bleachers of Ray Skillman Stadium at Center Grove High School in Greenwood. | Jason Mueller's ring hangs on a necklace worn by his wife Hannah Aug. 8, 2021, in the press box at Ray Skillman Stadium in Greenwood. After his passing, Hannah put his ring on the chain so she could keep it with her. (Photos by Jacob Musselman)

REMEMBERING JASON MUELLER

More than "The Voice of the Trojans"

COVER STORY

By Jacob Musselman

This year, when the Trojans take the field or the court, a big piece of their team and community will be missing.

Jason Mueller, or "Big guy" as his wife Hannah called him, passed away surrounded by his family on July 22, 2021.

Jason and Hannah are both Center Grove graduates. In high school, Jason played football and baseball and Hannah was a cheerleader. Being two years apart, she never really knew him personally but she knew his name and his brother.

Fast forward several years, Jason became a teacher, Hannah's daughter's teacher at West Grove Middle School to be specific.

She said her daughter and Jason hit it off.

"He was a great educator and she was kind of a teacher's pet and did everything prim and proper and perfect and he loved organization so they got along quite well," Hannah said.

After both of them went through separate divorces, Hannah started coaching the high school dance team. On Friday nights, the dance team would perform during halftime and that is how Hannah met Jason.

From there, their friendship started to grow. She said he was an outgoing guy and had the brightest smile.

"He was six-foot-three and 216. He was just a big man," Hannah said jokingly. "But his personality was even bigger."

She said when they met up again, they had a lot in common. They both lived in Center Grove their whole lives and always attended athletic events and from there, their relationship grew.

The first date Hannah and Jason went on

was to The Melting Pot, which is no longer in Greenwood. It was the first night Hannah had without her kids at home and he asked to take her out to dinner.

"Here I wasn't thinking it was a date, I didn't have that on my mind," Hannah said.

Hannah laughed and said she was almost embarrassed because they both knew so many people, she didn't want to run into anybody they knew.

"He was just so easy to talk to and we just had so much in common," she said.

As many step-parents do, Jason had to get the "approval" of the kids as well.

"There was never any of that awkwardness with us because my kids trusted him," Hannah said.

After a few years, their relationship began to become more serious and her kids thought it was weird she was dating their teacher. A special trip to Starbucks changed their minds.

"He took my kids out to Starbucks to ask them if it was okay if he could marry me and he wanted their approval," she said.

That trip to Starbucks was when Hannah said it clicked for her daughter Vanessa that "this man" loved them and their mom.

The Muellers had a destination wedding with their friends and family down in Florida.

Hannah said Jason was involved with his community just as much as he was involved with his family.

"He made everybody feel so special," Han-

nah said.

She said Jason was a mirror image of his parents, John and Patricia, who both gave a lot to the Center Grove community.

She said she never realized, through his announcing, the magnitude of who he was as an announcer. He would meet with players and coaches before games to make sure he knew how to say everybody's name and to learn little things about them. He was like that with his family members too.

Hannah and Jason thrived on Friday nights. They would listen to music to get them ready on Fridays on their way to school. Then

they would share a kiss before Jason made his way to the press box and she would go prepare the dance team.

Hannah described the way Jason was on Friday nights to a maestro in the way he "conducted" the games. He knew how to blend the normal PA

things with sponsorships, IHSAA statements and everything else that went into a football game production, and the ability to mix his personality in between it all.

Hannah said he was very open with his kids about his struggles and that he always said he was living and getting out of bed each day for his family.

"He lived longer, I think, because of his children," Hannah said.

Brian Proctor, principal of Walnut Grove elementary school where Jason taught, met him a few years prior to Walnut Grove opening.

"There was never any awkwardness with us because my kids trusted him."

— HANNAH MUELLER

"When we opened up the building, Jason was instrumental in bringing his energy," Proctor said.

Proctor said although he was "The Voice of the Trojans," Jason was more than that. He was a family man who carried a lot of pride. Proctor said Jason was like himself, and that it was hard to accept words of affirmation.

"When people started outpouring for him, he didn't want it, he didn't know how to accept it or how to appreciate it," Proctor said. "You know? Because everything was out of his control at the time."

Last year, through the COVID-19 pandemic, Proctor spoke with Jason many times about the meaning of life and his frustrations and was there for him personally through his battle.

"I'm going to pray for you and let you know that you're not walking this journey alone... ever," he said.

In the final year of his life, Proctor said whenever he would text in a group chat he would try to respond to Jason because he knew he only had enough energy for a few minutes of his time.

Proctor said Jason's goal was to start school this fall. He said he would check in with him and ask how long he was staying awake for and kept checking in on him and his progress and strength.

He talked with Jason and broke down how many additional minutes he would need to stay awake and alert than the previous day.

"Our eyes were set on that goal that some

Cover story continued on page 5.

Cover story continued from page 4.



Hannah Mueller is seen in the reflection of her husband's portrait Aug. 8, 2021, in the press box at Ray Skillman Stadium in Greenwood. His school picture was the main photo placed next to his casket at the private funeral for the family.

of us would say, "How's that possible?" but we focused on the goal and not how life and the body was slowly becoming more fragile," Proctor said.

Proctor referred to Jason's battle with cancer as David and Goliath.

"He may not physically defeat Goliath but spiritually and mentally, he was winning," Proctor said.

Throughout his treatment, he never saw all the frustrations. Jason always showed his strength to those around him.

"I think one of the most incredible pieces of this whole thing with Jason is he wouldn't want to be considered a celebrity or an icon at Center Grove, that was never his goal," Proctor said.

He said the bigger message about Jason was taking some of the things Jason did and applying it to other people who are going through struggles in their lives. He said Jason would want everyone to make sure they invest in their community.

"That's what we want of every person in our community," Proctor said.

At the private funeral ceremony for family and friends, Proctor gave an eulogy which he said was one of the hardest things he has had to do.

"Whenever anyone passes away, we hope their legacy continues on but at the end of the day, it's the family," Proctor said. "It's the family that will be the one that carries on... and works hard to keep his legacy strong within their family."

Scott Knapp, Center Grove athletic director, said Jason connected with the kids immediately, especially the student athletes. When those kids grew up through middle school and high school he stayed connected with them.

"He's irreplaceable," Knapp said. "He was a special, special talent."

Prior to becoming the athletic director, Knapp worked as the assistant athletic direc-

tor, and part of that role was to create the script for the PA announcer. He built that relationship through working on the script throughout the week.

"He knew those kids and families which made it special and unique," Knapp said. "It's not just a guy up there announcing names. He knew who they were."

Knapp is neighbors with the Mueller family and in addition to their professional relationship, they also had a friendship.

"Being a neighbor, he would do anything for you, no questions asked," Knapp said. "He was just a great guy and a great human being."

In addition to Proctor, Knapp said he'll remember most about Jason that even though he was in pain and struggling with his health, he never tried to show it.

"He's in a better place and we'll see him again soon," Knapp said.

After his passing, his wife said she received stories from a lot of people from students, co-workers and various members of the community, about how Jason helped them and made an impact in their lives.

From former students of his who were impacted by him and are now in college and graduated because of something he did for them when they were younger.

"He made a way to reach out to the "newbies" at school and go check on them," Hannah said.

Hannah said he was always present and he was like Santa Clause because he was always there for everybody. He's been planting seeds for 20 years, as a teacher and now Hannah gets to watch those seeds grow.

In the final two weeks of his life, Hannah kept telling Jason "It's okay if you want to go but just know that you, somehow, are still inspiring people."

A celebration of life will be held at Ray Skillman Stadium at Center Grove High School at a to-be-announced date and time.

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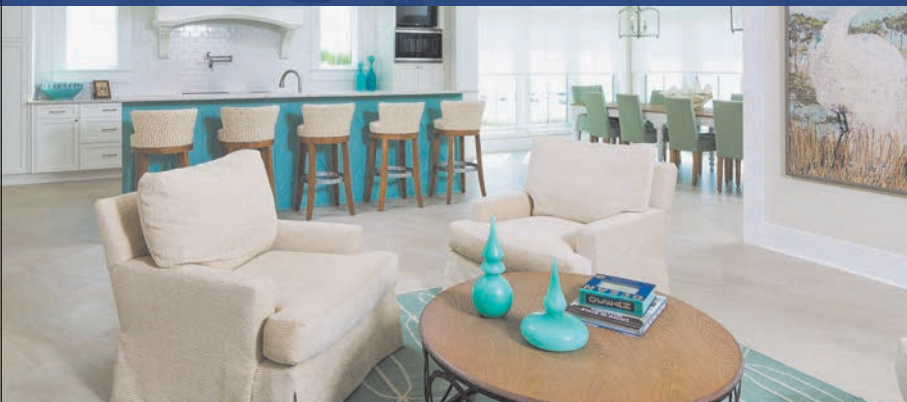
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Here's to a successful 2021-2022 school year!

"We're really excited here at the Archdiocese. We had a great meeting with our new principals and all of our principals last week where we looked at some of those business things that get school started but also had a great speaker in Father Ron Nuzzi and he talked about being irresistibly Catholic in the way we live our lives and our faith and our school communities. We're excited to work with him throughout the year but having

that focus where we're providing a high quality academic education in a gospel filled environment. We're focusing on the teachings of Christ as well as getting our students for college and careers after they graduate."

Brian Disney,
SUPERINTENDENT OF
THE ARCHDIOCESE OF INDIANAPOLIS

The goals of Catholic schools from the Archdiocese of Indianapolis

First-year superintendent of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, Disney said the goals for his schools this upcoming year are going along what they are always going for.

"We want to make sure that everybody associated with our schools is being prepared for heaven, so saint-making is a big key for us," Disney said. "A second key for us is making sure that our kids

are college and career ready when they graduate from our schools and so they're learning academic skills, social skills, emotional skills and gospel values. Especially a little more important than a typical year so we're really focusing on continual growth amongst our students in a year where learning was disrupted and impacted by the pandemic, making sure our kids fill any gaps in learning and continue to push them forward and grow."

Archdiocese of Indianapolis



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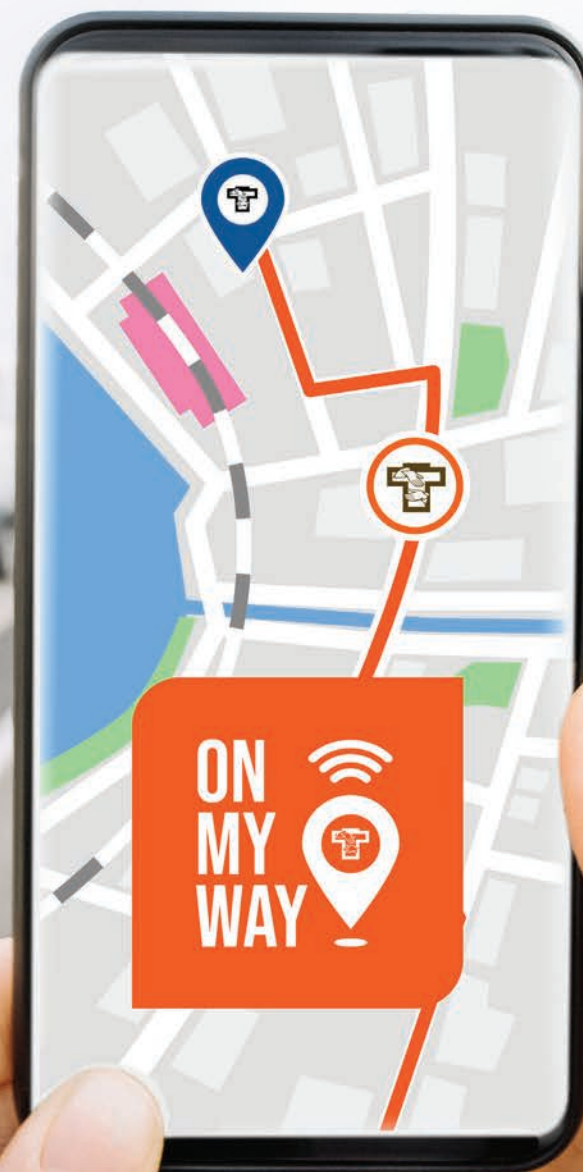
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Roncalli Varsity Football schedule

- Aug. 13 - 7 p.m. at Franklin Community
 Aug. 20 - 7 p.m. home against Southport
 Aug. 27 - 7 p.m. at Franklin Central
 Sept. 3 - 7 p.m. at Bishop Chatard
 Sept. 10 - 7 p.m. home against Columbus North
 Sept. 17 - 7 p.m. at Guerin Catholic
 Sept. 24 - 7 p.m. home against Brebeuf Jesuit
 (Homecoming)
 Oct. 1 - 7 p.m. at Bloomington North
 Oct. 8 - 7 p.m. at Cincinnati Elder
 Oct. 15 - 7 p.m. home against East Central
 (Senior Night)
 Oct. 22 Sectional TBD

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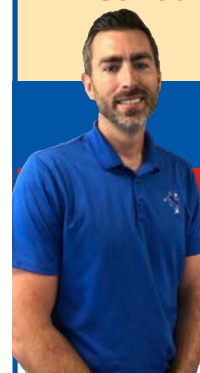


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Bob Rohman's **INDY** Athlete of the Month **HONDA** Raef Sauer

By Mark Ambrogi

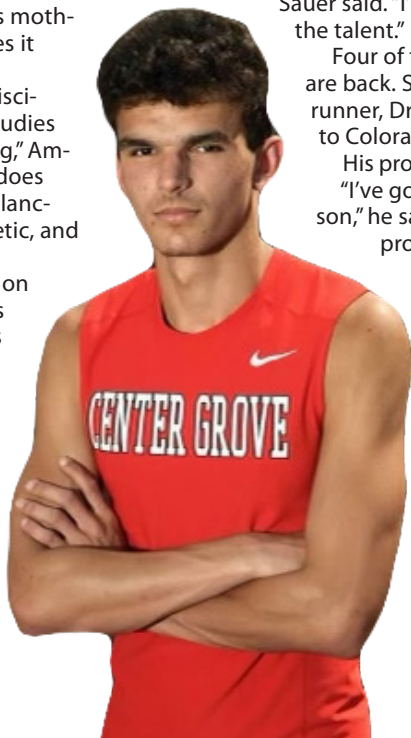
Center Grove High School senior Raef Sauer manages to be a top runner for the cross country and track and field teams, along with being second academically in his class of 2022.

"It's definitely difficult," he said. "Running is a year-round thing and I'm always working a lot harder than other people. It's definitely a struggle to maintain a 4.81 GPA and be all-conference (Metropolitan Interscholastic) and all-county (Johnson) runner. It's helped me be disciplined, learn how to manage time. I think if I just work hard I can handle it all."

Ambrosia Sauer, his mother, said her son handles it quite well.

"Raef is extremely disciplined with both his studies and his athletic training," Ambrosia Sauer said. "He does an incredible job of balancing his academic, athletic, and social life."

Sauer, who turns 18 on April 10, is entering his senior year. He said his top five schools are Stanford, UCLA, Duke,



Center Grove Trojans senior Raef Sauer poses for a portrait at CGHS. Sauer juggles academics, cross country and track. (Photo courtesy of Sauer family)

Harvard and Indiana University.

"I want to go into medicine," Sauer said. "I either want to be an orthopedic surgeon or go into dentistry like my dad."

Sauer began running track in sixth grade and started running cross country in eighth grade.

Sauer, who is the Center Grove Icon Athlete of the Month, placed 64th in 5:20.8 minutes in the state cross country meet in 2020. It was a major improvement over his 152nd place showing in 5:33 in 2019.

The Trojans finished fourth in the state meet in 2020 after being 14th in 2019.

"Our goal is to win state this year," Sauer said. "I'm convinced we have the talent."

Four of the top five runners are back. Sauer said the No. 1 runner, Drew Costelow, moved to Colorado.

His progress has been steady. "I've gotten faster every season," he said. "It's kind of a long

process all through high school of constantly building endurance. We run year round. We don't really take any time off."

During his fresh-

man track season, Sauer suffered a hamstring injury that slowed him early in the season.

"That was a setback. But pretty much since sophomore year, I've built back up," Sauer said. "I've bounced back pretty well. Obviously, it would have been better to stay healthy all the way through. But I was able to overcome that."

During the track season, Sauer normally runs the 400 and 800 meters. Sauer made it to the regional in both the 800 and 3,200 meters relay team.

Sauer played basketball through middle school and still plays pickup games with his friends, but running is his passion.

"It's a sport where the more work you put into it, you are definitely going to reap the benefits," Sauer said. "The more miles you run and the harder you train you are going to get faster. I found I was good at it so that made it more fun to do. It's fun to be successful in a sport."

THE SAUER FILE

AGE: 17	degree in medicine, either orthopedic or dentistry.
HEIGHT: 6-foot-2	
CLASS: Senior	FAVORITE ATHLETE: LeBron James.
SPORT: Cross Country and track and field	FAVORITE SUBJECT: Math.
HOBBIES: Enjoys playing pickup basketball and hanging out with friends. Loves to watch NBA and NFL games.	FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Breaking Bad."
COLLEGE PLANS: Wants to pursue a	IDEAL VACATION SPOT: Hawaii, having visited three times.
	PARENTS: Ambrosia and Aaron Sauer

ICONic briefs



Bradley Smith, new aquatic director. (Photo Courtesy of Center Grove High School)

Center Grove names aquatic director

Natorium - Bradley Smith has been named the new aquatic director of Center Grove High School. He will be the school's first in the position pending approval by the board of school trustees. Smith will play a large role in the operation of the new natatorium. He will be responsible for managing and coordinating the use of the pool in full partnership with the Center Grove High School Athletic Department, Center Grove Swim Club and the Center Grove community. Smith will also be tasked with organizing a comprehensive program of activities and instructional opportunities that address a variety of aquatic interests, skills, and age groups. "We are excited to bring Brad Smith on board, filling our newest position as Aquatics Director," said Scott Knapp, CGHS Athletic Director. "He brings with him a great knowledge of facility management and swim programming that will benefit the entire Center Grove community. His passion and enthusiasm for the sport will ensure this outstanding facility is well cared for and fully utilized." Smith brings 27 years of experience managing swim facilities and programs to CGHS. Smith is an 8th grade Health/Physical Education teacher at Indian Creek Middle School. He has also served as the Aquatics Director for Indian Creek Schools. He previously taught 7th and 8th grade health at Batchelor Middle School in Bloomington. "I am extremely excited for the opportunity to join the CG community," said Smith. "Center Grove has a rich tradition in the pool, and I look forward to helping the Trojans take it to the next level."



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Trojans football schedule

By Jacob Musselman

After going undefeated last year, the Trojans are looking to repeat their state championship run. Their season, along with other schools around Johnson county, kick off in the coming weeks.

Aug. 20 at Warren Central
Aug. 27 v. Decatur Central
Sept. 3 at Carmel
Sept. 10 v. Ben Davis
Sept. 17 at North Central
Sept. 24 at Lawrence Central
Oct. 1 v. Pike
Oct. 8 v. Lawrence North
Oct. 15 at Cathedral

(More games will be added if the Trojans make it into the playoffs.)

Dear Center Grove Icon readers:

We here at CGI are going to be trying to cover sports in Johnson county more often. We'll be out at football games on Friday nights, out at baseball and softball games and in the gyms for basketball and volleyball. We want to hear from you on what kind of sports coverage you would like to see this school year.

**Email our editor at
jacob@icontimes.com with any
ideas or questions.**



1. Trojans junior running back Micah Coyle runs with the ball during a drill in practice. 2. Trojans wide receiver Brandon Wheat looks to catch the ball during practice. | 3. Trojans tight end Zach Greller watches a pass in the end zone during a practice drill. | 4. Trojans wide receiver Brandon Wheat looks to catch the ball during practice. | 5. Trojans wide receiver Brandon Wheat looks to catch the ball during practice. 6. Trojans junior wide receiver Eli Holt looks for the ball in the end zone during practice. (Photos by Jacob Musselman)

Continued from page 10.



5.



6.

Aspire to host Congressman as a part of their Legislation Matters series

Join Aspire Johnson County as they host Congressman Trey Hollingsworth on Thursday, Aug. 19, from 11:30-1 p.m. at the Valle Vista Golf and Conference Center.

Hollingsworth, representing Indiana's ninth district, will be a part of Aspire's 2021 Legislation Matters series.

The Legislation Matters series is an opportunity for members of Aspire to spend

time with elected officials and network. The program features a lively discussion about public policy issues and other specific legislation. Attendees are invited to submit questions and are able to "vote" on key issues to give the elected officials a visual representation on the local business communities stance on issues.

Registration for the event closes at 5 p.m. on Aug. 18

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 NUMERALS



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ICONic rewind



The Center Grove Trojans pose for a photo with the IHSAA Class 6A state title trophy Nov. 27, 2020, at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis. The Trojans beat the Westfield Shamrocks 38-14. (Photo by Jacob Musselman)

Football season recap

By Jacob Musselman

Last season, in a time of uncertainty, the Center Grove Trojans, under the direction of head coach Eric Moore, did the impossible. Center Grove football completed its 2020-21 season undefeated, winning all but one of their games by 20 points or more. Then-junior quarterback Tayven Jackson threw for 1,756 yards, completing .621% of his passes including a 264 yard game against Columbus North.

The Trojans capped off their season with a 38-14 victory over Westfield in the state championships. The team also held all of their opponents combined to a little over 100 points. Prior to the season starting, in 2019, the Trojans went 8-6 and were fifth in their conference.

Other notable players for the Trojans included running back Carson Steele, a running back with the current Mid American Conference defending champion Ball State Cardinals. Steele was also named IndyStar's Mr. Football award. Steele missed his entire junior season due to injury but came back in 2020 and ran for 1659 yards and high school career high 31 touchdowns.

Moore said in a 2929 interview with the Center Grove Icon, "I think the 2020 team was more talented as far as athletic ability is concerned," Moore said. "There will be more scholarship kids from the 2020 team than there were on the 2015 team." in relation to their 2015 state championship victory where they also went 14-0.

NIGHT & day LOCAL Entertainment ENTERTAINING

EVENTScalendar

Art and Wine Festival • Browse local art, sip your favorite wine, try some of your favorite, or soon-to-be favorite foods from food trucks and enjoy live Music at Mallow Run Winery with their two-day festival. Live performances include Jennie DeVoe and the Woomblies Rock Orchestra. | When: Aug. 28-29 12-6 p.m. both days. | Where: 6964 W. Whiteland Rd. Bargersville. | Info: mallowrun.com

Bargersville Farmers Market • Right on Main Street, the Bargersville Farmers Market showcases local artists and crafters. The market, put on by Bargersville Main Street, wants to create a positive atmosphere and stimulate economic growth and create a sense of pride in your community. | When: Aug. 18, 5-7 p.m. | Where: Town Hall 24 N. Main St. | Info: townofbargersville.org

Bark-B-Q • Bring your friends to the second annual Bark-B-Q at The Barn at Bay Horse Inn. There will be a BBQ luncheon buffet provided by Smokehouse Catering in Greenwood, as well as games, silent & live auction items, door prizes and entertainment in this beautiful indoor and outdoor setting. Furry friends are not allowed at this event, they will be allowed at a later event. | When: Aug. 22, 1-4 p.m. | Where: The Barn at Bay Horse Inn 1468 Stones Crossing Rd. | Facebook: The Barn at Bay Horse Inn

Little Scientists • Bring your "Little scientist" to this outdoor program where they can discover the wonders of science through books, simple experiments and interactive learning. The event is designed for children ages 3-5 and the child's caregiver is required to stay for the duration of the event. Registration is required. | When: Aug. 18, 10:30-11:15 a.m. | Where: 1664 Library Blvd. | Info: Jcclin.libnet.info

Mallow Run Picnic Concert series • Sip some wine and listen to live music at Mallow Run winery this month. With events every weekend till the end of the month, the winery is giving you a place to relax and try some wine. Mallow Run is offering a free, family friendly concert from the Toy Factory and a \$10 in advance and \$15 on the day of the show performance by The Breakfast Club. Tickets can be purchased online. | When: Toy Factory Aug. 14, 6-9 p.m. and The Breakfast Club Aug. 21 starting at 7 p.m. | Where: 6964 W. Whiteland Rd. Bargersville. | Info/ tickets: mallowrun.com

PuppyPOOLooza • Bring your furry friend to Freedom Springs for a day of fun in the sun. The pool will be dog-friendly by removing most chemicals in the water. Rules for the day include only one dog per handler, dogs should be



(Stock photo)

at least six months old, must be on leash while not in water and pet owners must clean up after their dog. | When: Sept. 11, 10-11:30 a.m. for dogs under 30 lbs and 12:30-2 p.m. for dogs over 30 lbs. | Where: Freedom Springs Aquatic Center 850 W. Stop 18 Rd. Greenwood. | Info: greenwood.in.gov

Pure Barre pop-up class • Bring an exercise mat and get ready to move. A free Pure Barre class offered outdoors is a great way to learn the basics of Pure Barre. For information and registration, email greenwood@purebarre.com | When: Aug. 25, starting at 6 p.m. | Where: The Barn at Bay Horse Inn 1468 Stones Crossing Rd. | Facebook: The Barn at Bay Horse Inn

Read & Bleed • Head over to the White River Library branch for their blood drive for the Red Cross. All blood types are urgently needed. Ages 17 and up. | When: Aug. 17 from 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. | Where: 1664 Library Blvd. | Info: Jcclin.libnet.info

Summer Concert Series • For the final Greenwood summer concert, Tastes Like Chicken and the Greenwood Marching Band will be performing to end the summer. | When: Aug. 14, 2021, starting at 7 p.m. | Where: The Greenwood Amphitheater in Craig Park 300 S. Washington St. | Info: greenwood.in.gov

WAMMFest • Organized by the Sertoma Club of Greenwood, WAMMFest is an event benefiting the arts and entertainment. All proceeds from the event will be distributed back to the community in support of youth, individual and community organizations. Featuring local beer and wine, more than 60 booths from local artists and a lineup of six bands performing throughout the day. | When: Aug. 21, 12-9 p.m. | Where: Craig Amphitheater 300 S. Washington St., Greenwood. | Info: wammfest.com

Band festival • In a single day, you can see nearly 400 musicians take the Greenwood Amphitheater stage. The concert lineup features eight volunteer bands including five concert bands, two all-brass bands, and a swing band as groups perform at the top of each hour. Enjoy hot food from the grill, plus cold drinks and snacks. Free shuttles will be transporting guests and performers between the venue and the parking lots. The amphitheater in Surina Square Park is located behind the fire station on Main Street in downtown Greenwood. The parking lot beside the fire station provides handicap accessibility. Bring a lawn chair and a friend. Pets on leashes are welcome. Free admission! Tickets are not required. | When: Aug. 28, 12-8 p.m. | Where: Greenwood amphitheater/ Surina Park 300 S. Washington St. | Info: greenwoodband.org

NIGHT & DAY LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT ENTERTAINING

AN OPTION

Saint Shack

Opening up right before March Madness started in Indianapolis, Saint Shack located just south of Monument Circle, had a "trial by fire" during their opening.

Slater Hogan, Brandy Allen-Harveth and John Lerner started watching various cooking shows on The Food Network and got the idea to start selling gourmet hot dogs. After COVID-19 shut down the taco shop that used to be in their space, the owners of Patron Saint bought the upstairs to his bar and he now owns both. Owning the bar downstairs he said gives them a good back-and-forth flow of customers who drink downstairs but then come up for food.

Saint Shack offers a variety of gourmet hot dogs, alcohol and non alcohol slushies and other New Orleans inspired dishes and sides. Their most popular item is the Indy Dog, which for \$8 you get a ¼ lbs vienna all-beef hot dog topped with peanut butter, bacon and jalapenos.

Another option at Saint Shack is their Boudin balls which are a New Orleans tradition that is a creole take on hush puppies. The boudin balls are



The Saint Shack is located above the bar Patron Saint, which the owners of Saint Shack also own. (Photo by Jacob Musselman)

ground andouille sausage, rice, their secret creole seasoning, breaded and deep fried with spicy mustard.

They also offer other kinds of hot dogs if bacon and jalapenos aren't your thing.

More information can be found at their soon-to-be fully updated website: thesaintshack.com

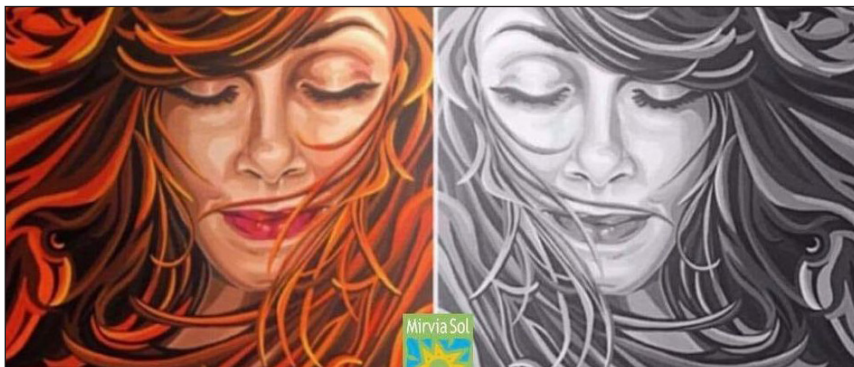
LOCATION:

250 S. Meridian St, Indianapolis.

HOURS:

Open 4 p.m.-3 a.m. Wednesday through Sunday, closed Monday and Tuesday.

SPOTLIGHT



A sample of Mirvia Sol Eckert's art. (Photo Courtesy of Beech Grove Artist Collective)

Mirvia Sol Eckert to be Beech Grove's solo show for August

Starting with Beech Grove Artist Collective's First Friday event, Mirvia Sol Eckert will be featured at Wine and Local Art (WALA) at 616 Main St. with open gallery nights to be announced via social media at a later date. Eckert uses many aspects of her life in her paintings. Her Puerto Rican heritage, love of family and friends and her fascination with nature all influence her art. In the Facebook event page, Eckert said, "If I had to choose the fundamental concept that unifies all of my work, I think it would simply be celebrating beauty. In all of my work, I want the viewer to acknowledge and appreciate the beauty in my subjects. There is beauty in small moments of observation, in embracing our different cultural backgrounds, in the close up details of nature, and even in moments of emotional turmoil and sorrow. Though it isn't always easy, I choose, in my daily life, to focus on what is beautiful, and I hope that by sharing this perspective through my paintings, others may be inspired to do the same."

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- Stump grinding
- Lot clearing
- Deadwooding
- Topping

EQUIPMENT

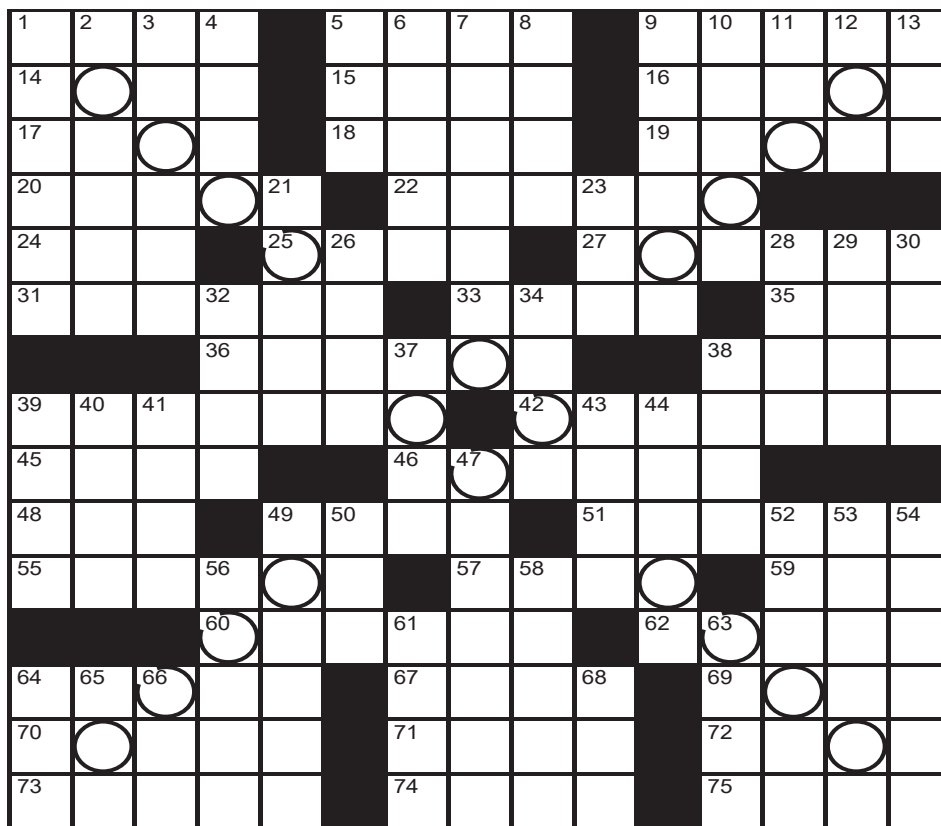
- Bucket truck
- Chippers
- Climbers
- Specialty lifts

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ACROSS

- 1. Fortuneteller's reading material
- 5. Certain Scandinavian
- 9. In the lead
- 14. Frozen drink brand
- 15. ___ gin fizz
- 16. Olympic flame
- 17. Hauls with effort
- 18. ...
- 19. Lucas Oil Stadium seating sections
- 20. Nebraska's largest city
- 22. Sultana Cafe water pipe
- 24. Asian holiday
- 25. Close angrily (and loudly!)
- 27. Some Plains tribes at the Eiteljorg Museum
- 31. Charlie Brown's dog
- 33. Touched down
- 35. Monument Circle musical grp.
- 36. Cover with graffiti
- 38. Approximately
- 39. Broken-leg supports
- 42. Fill with joy
- 45. Gung-ho
- 46. Really ought to



- 48. James Whitcomb Riley's "dusk"
- 49. Annapolis inst.
- 51. Church book
- 55. Ready for a nap
- 57. Front row seat patrons at Bankers Life Fieldhouse, initially
- 59. Clean air org.
- 60. Reddish dyes
- 62. Bangkok natives
- 64. Hard times
- 67. Prefix for -while
- 69. Mellows, at Mallow Run Winery

- 70. Food poisoning bacteria
- 71. Bang one's toe
- 72. Bonkers
- 73. Parceled (out)
- 74. Trojans' draws
- 75. Praiseful poems

DOWN

- 1. Cockpit workers
- 2. Good judgment
- 3. Smooth, musically
- 4. Stocking style
- 5. '60s psychedelic

- 6. Hawaiian greeting
- 7. Washington, DC's river
- 8. Mexican moolah
- 9. "Finally!"
- 10. Big fuss
- 11. Unit of force
- 12. Indianapolis Bridge Center card
- 13. Some batters, for short
- 21. Colorado ski mecca
- 23. Pond carp
- 26. Uber alternative
- 28. Fortify
- 29. Latin 101 verb

- 30. Before long
- 32. Thor's father
- 34. Toy block name
- 37. Org's kin
- 38. Hoosier Park racetrack postings
- 39. Timetable, informally
- 40. Johnson County Court jury member
- 41. Former WTHR late-night host
- 43. Gravy problem
- 44. Top invitees
- 47. Pale yellow cheese
- 49. Log-on name
- 50. Thesaurus wd.
- 52. Poseidon, e.g.
- 53. Per item
- 54. Rodeo ropes
- 56. Milk choice
- 58. ICON edition
- 61. ___ egg
- 63. Angel's ring
- 64. Sleep stage letters
- 65. I-65 winter hazard
- 66. "I ___ You Babe"
- 68. Cable TV inits.

Puzzle Time

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

6 Types of Milk

4 Famous Joes

3 Broadway in Indianapolis Shows

5 U.S. States with Volcanoes

2 White River State Park Acts

1 Latest Center Grove HS State Champ

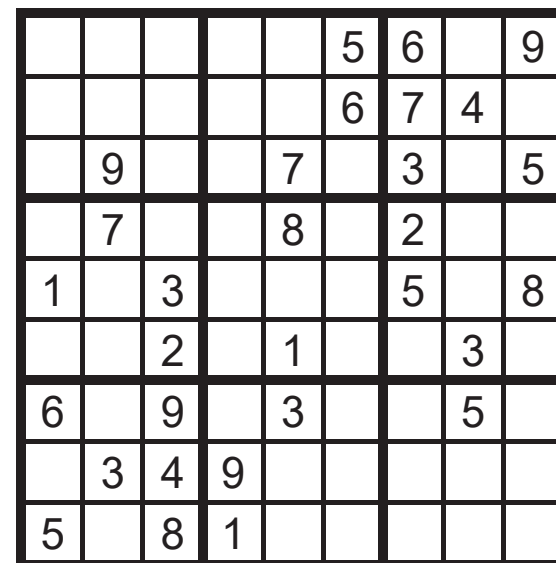
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See Answers on page 17.

PLANNER OF NOTE

Aspire Johnson County
New members

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(317) 881-1752

Bailey & Wood Mortgage Lender

612 N. Madison Ave, Greenwood, IN 46142
(317) 884-8600

Chick-Fil-A

5240 E. Southport Rd. Indianapolis, IN 46237
(317) 780-7477

Roncalli High School

3300 Prague Rd, Indianapolis, IN 46227
(317) 787-8277

Visiting Angels

48 N. Emerson Ave #300,
Greenwood, IN 46143
(317) 215-0600

aspirejohnsoncounty.com

By Mike Heffner

In any sport, business or thing worth pursuing, if you are going to do it well, having the right mindset is the key. Most top performers have a focused mindset in the way they practice, prepare, train, perform and rest. They understand success doesn't happen overnight and there is value in being disciplined in each category. Everything requires balance. They train their minds to be both humble and confident. They know it's equally as important to stay hungry as it is to relax and recover. We have all heard the term – work hard, play hard. Most high performers would agree that they do both, but they also know how to turn it off and on at the right time. Of all the things that make up a good mindset, I think preparation is the biggest key.

Preparation allows you to have the right mindset at the right time. It gives you grace. It gives you the ability to not freak out when the proverbial hits the fan. You already worked through the possible variables. You're prepared and have plan B in your pocket. It allows you to fully rest because you're ready. For everything. Preparation allows you to be

PERSONNEL MATTERS

Win before gameday

confident and humble.

A prepared mindset allows for a humble arrogance. Many don't like the term arrogance but when you couple it with humble preparation, it starts to make sense. Many put in the practice time and are dedicated, but they are not necessarily prepared. Prepared means you have consciously strategized and your mindset is in the right place. You practiced humbly and know you can improve. You planned out your time well, expect things to change, have rested and know you are ready. You are confident that you can perform at a high level.

I recently read a book that helped me think through my thoughts on this topic. Shift Your Mind by Brian Levenson confirmed several things that I have learned over the last few years. I liked his thinking on growth requiring humility. In order to grow, self-awareness and accepting our weaknesses is required. The ability to not blame others and see areas we can improve are required to become a top performer. The best are always learning, preparing, thinking and looking to get better.

Brian says "Humility helps us recognize opportunities to learn, get help from oth-

ers and remain open-minded. It's terrific for preparation, which is when we need to be challenged and focused on growth. It's hard to grow when we believe our 'talent' will carry us." Brian shares that humility requires self-awareness and without that, we can be led to complacency. It also requires us to do something with what we discover about ourselves. To become prepared, study how others perform and learn from them. Learn to utilize and listen to coaches, leaders, parents and stay open to the possibility that you may not be right.

Practicing your sport or craft is important but preparing your mindset cannot be overlooked. Win before it's game day. Wake up with a humble arrogance that believes in your preparation. You're focused, confident and ready to overcome any obstacle.



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.

PEER-TO-PEER

One giant step for mankind

By Howard Hubler

Years ago, I remember where I was when we landed men on the moon. I was in the basement of our home where we gathered to watch TV in the middle of the night. My dad allowed me to make a White Castle run to 38th St. and everyone stayed up late to watch history being made eating sliders. This last month, in the span of 30 days we saw two different people, in two different worlds both having been successful in two different avocations, take private funds with small steps to blast men and women into outer space with vehicles that they have been working on for a handful of years. And everybody came back alive.

Back to the Obama era, The former president said he would close the Kennedy Space Center. The federal government would no longer be sponsoring NASA space exploration but depend entirely on the private sector. I strongly believe in the private sector thought this would be the closest to a giant chapter in our nation's history. I was wrong. I did not know the space shuttle had five to seven year old technology in it when the last one flew or various future models to go up to space and return as we now have. I am surprised at how small the

Elon Musk and the Jeff Bezos operations are in comparison to NASA. One could almost say that they were "rinky-dink". Rinky-dink though they may have been in comparison, they were the Alan B Shepherd's of space exploration projects of today. These were the first men and women to slip past the surly bonds of earth's gravitational pull using private money. This is a big deal. They were small rockets because there was no necessity to make them large. I think these men will find they can do as much as the space shuttle did at a much smaller scale.

I, for one, was impressed. It took me years back to the beautiful earth vistas, the breathtaking launches, and the thrilling re-entries. When America puts its shoulder to the plow, we can do most anything. It's good to be back in the space business. OK, enough TV Hoosiers, let's go back to work.



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

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ICONic briefs

CGHS State of the school

Jeff Henderson, principal of Center Grove High School, gave his 2021 State of the School through a Youtube video in July.

THE MAIN POINTS IN THE VIDEO:

- The new natatorium and old pool**
 This project finished 45 days ahead of schedule and under their targeted budget and without raising taxes for White River Township residents. The old site of the pool will soon be the site of the new art complex and a new wrestling and fitness room.
- Other school renovations/ summer projects**
 In addition to the natatorium, renovations were also made in the mathematics, social studies, English, business and world language departments. New flooring was put in in the early college, science wing and the main level of the school. Various locker rooms are being replaced and renovated.
- Academic achievements recognized**
 Seven National Merit commended students, four national Merit finalists and three National Merit scholarship winners, 22 AP scholars, 9 AP scholars with honor, 22 AP schools with distinction 3 National AP scholars, 30 students who earned their Governor's Work Ethic certificate. In addition to various awards, 56 students earned their Indiana College Core certificate and 58 students earned their associates degrees.
- Athletic achievements**
 The Trojans amassed 12 county championships, 14 team sectional, 18 individual and 4 relay sectional championships. 6 MIC championships including seven team, 12 individual and two relay championships. For state competitions, the Trojans had two semi-state championships and four state runners-up individuals and two team state championships in football and boy's golf. Return to school information can be found at centergrove.k12.in.us/backtoschool and COVID-19 information can be found at centergrove.k12.in.us/covid-19.

"Freedom"

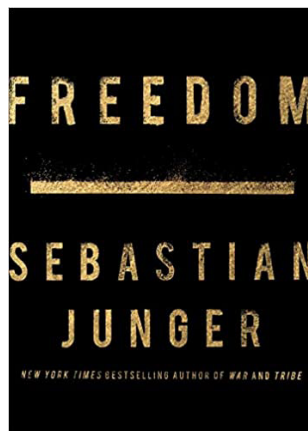
BOOK REVIEW

By Amy Hamilton

"Freedom" by Sebastian Junger is a series of three

essays that combine personal travel and the history of frontier America. The author also writes about individual freedom versus the protection that comes when people form a group. The overriding theme in each essay is the uneasy and sometimes violent balance between complete personal freedom and maintaining a community.

The author describes a journey he and his friends experienced. They spent a year walking the railroad tracks in Pennsylvania along the Juniata River. In the first essay, "Run," he talks about how people since the founding of the United States wanted to escape their lives by walking west into the unknown, the frontier, which at one time was Western Pennsylvania. Then, in the essay "Fight," Junger discusses the conten-



tious encounters he had with people on his trip and with historical battles on the frontier and how a small group of people can fight for their liberty.

"Freedom" is a reflective and lyrical look at what it means to be free. While he doesn't offer any conclusive thoughts about freedom, it does offer insight into the issue. Recommended for fans of "Figures in a Landscape" by Paul Theroux, "I'm a Stranger Here Myself" by Bill Bryson, and "Leave Only Footprints" by Conor Knighton.



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@jcpclin.org.

Coming down from a countertop experience

GRAMMAR GUY

By Curtis Honeycutt

The real estate market is white-hot right now. As soon as a property hits Zillow, the listing agent enjoys a bidding war above the asking price. In fact, someone stopped by to inquire about the Little Tikes house in our backyard. I had to break the news to the curious couple that our plastic, 20 square foot tiny house property is already under contract and pending inspection. After all, the house's plastic countertops are so easy to clean.

Is it buy low and sell high, or vice versa? All I know is that it's not a good idea to buy while high. Either way, all this house market hullabaloo got me to thinking: what's the difference between the words "appraise" and "apprise"? I have a feeling it's time for a refresher.

These two words share so much in common. Both words are verbs. The two words have incredibly similar spellings. Not only that, but both words have their roots in French. "Appraise" comes from the Old French word "appriser," which

means "to set a value on." We get "apprise" from the French word "appris," which means "to inform, give notice or advise." Appraise, appriser. Apprise, appris. Are you surprised we confuse these words?

I'll cut to the chase: "appraise" and

*"Apprise, appris.
Are you surprised we
confuse these words?"*

"apprise" do have distinctly different meanings. "Appraise" means "to estimate or assign value" while "apprise" means "to tell or inform." A Realtor can apprise her clients of the home's appraisal. In this hot market, appraisals are coming in unusually high. Our Realtor apprised us of the fact that we were outbid on the modern bungalow.

Case closed? Not so fast, house hunters! Another word has crept into exis-

tence: "apprize." Although it's an uncommon word that appears in English in the 14th century, its definitions include both "to inform" and "to increase in value." Go home, English; you're drunk. In theory, your Realtor could apprise that the home you want to buy has granite countertops. As a result, this apprizes the home in your eyes. People love a good granite countertop.

First, I'd advise you to forget you ever learned the word "apprize." It only confuses things. When you hear "appraise," think of "raise," as in value. When you hear "apprise," think "advise." I don't know much about real estate, but I do know about words. And you can't put a value on using the right word at the right time.



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

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS:

Adult

"Such a Quiet Place"
by Megan Miranda

"Chasing Shadows"
by Lynn Austin

"The Secret Keeper of Jaipur"
by Alka Joshi

"Dream Girl"
by Laura Lippman

Young Adult:

"Rise to the Sun"
by Leah Johnson

"Six Crimson Cranes"
by Elizabeth Lim

"In the Same Boat"
by Holly Groat

"Radha and Jai's Recipe for Romance"
by Nisha Sharma

Children

"How to Wear a Sari"
by Darshana Khiani

"Frankslime"
by Joy Keller

"Pangolina" by Jane Goodall
"The Magical Imperfect" by Chris Baron

The power of a table: People just want to be invited

DEVOTIONAL

By Pastor
Chris Philbeck

Recently I read the story of Sara Harmeyer who, in 2012, quit her job as charity and fundraising events organizer at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Dallas. While it was a rewarding job, Sara couldn't help but remember how happy she had been when she worked at the Red Porch Café, a restaurant she ran out of her home. "That was the best year of my life," she said. So, she asked her father to build her a table seating 20 people, and, using the Nextdoor website, she invited 300 people to her home.

When more than 90 showed up she said, "I realized that night, as people kept coming down the driveway, that people just want to be invited." One thing led to another and over the last six years she has hosted more than 3,000 people. She now runs Neighbors Table and has placed tables (she literally sells tables) in 28 states, with the aim of placing at least one table in all 50 states by 2020. In an interview with the magazine Real Simple, she said, "Two thousand years ago, we were invited to love our neighbors, and that is for sure what drives me.

The world is a little crazy right now, and we could use more love in our interactions. A lot of people need to feel included and seen. And it's hard – my neighbors are not all like me. But there are ways we

can connect, and the table is a beautiful, natural place to do that. When you're sitting at a big table, you feel part of something." You can't read the Bible and not see the importance of being connected to one another. I love these simple words from David in Psalm 133:1: How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity. At my church we're getting ready to open a new campus in the Old Southside neighborhood of downtown Indy. It will be very different from our church in Greenwood. For starters, the service will happen on Sunday night and it will be centered around a meal.

That means instead of pews or theater seats, people will be seated at a table. When was the last time you invited someone over for a meal? What if good food and genuine fellowship has the ability to break down walls and open the door to meaningful ministry and service? I think that's something we should all try to discover soon because, according to Sara Harmeyer, people just want to be invited.



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

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

- Milk:** ALMOND, BUTTER, COCONUT, OAT, SKIM, SOY
States: ALASKA, HAWAII, IDAHO, NEVADA OREGON - **Joes:** BIDEN, LOUIS, NAMATH, PESCI
Shows: DEAR EVAN HANSEN, MEAN GIRLS, PRETTY WOMAN
Acts: HARRY CONNICK JR, JASON MRAZ
Champ: BOYS GOLF

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

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

Athletic Director of Center Grove High School

Compiled by Jacob Musselman

Scott Knapp is the current athletic director of Center Grove High School. He's worked and been around in the district for many years before taking over longtime AD John Zwitt. Knapp is currently in his first year as AD but has been around the program as an assistant AD previously and has been able to learn prior to starting his new position.

What do you consider your greatest virtue?

In this profession you have to care, so, caring and seeing kids develop from the time they're a freshman to the time they're seniors and seeing them grow and I think that's rewarding and it's one of the joys of this profession.

What do you like most about living in Johnson County?

The closeness and the community feel. We're considered a big school but it doesn't feel that way. It feels very much like a small school. And I mean that in a good way because I've been an AD at smaller schools and it feels that same way only in a big building. So just knowing that you can go to anyone in the community and they'll be willing to help. Having that support is unreal.

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

Probably some place warm and relaxing and some sand with a nice ocean view.

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

I don't know if I would change anything. Obviously as you're younger, there's certain things in life and decisions you want to change and maybe go a different path but every decision you make leads you to where you are today. I'm one of those "everything happens for a reason" kind of people. When one door closes, another one opens, you may just not see it at that time. All in all, I've had a pretty good life. I'm very satisfied and proud and humbled at where I am today.

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

I would probably share it with people that need it more than I do.

What makes you happiest?

Being with my family and enjoying those moments looking back in 20 years that you're glad you had.

What is your favorite vacation spot?

I don't really vacation but probably going to see my parents. They live in Northern Indiana.

What do you do with free time?

Play with my kids and enjoy time with my wife.

What is it that makes you angry?

From a professional standpoint, when I see fans acting foolish at athletic events.

What do you do to escape from reality?

I enjoy watching sports, playing catch with my son or dancing with my six-year-old and watching my older kid play and perform.

What or who is the greatest love of your life?

It's hard to pick one because there's so many great people. If I had to pick one, somebody who's very dedicated, committed and is "all-in" and works with football is probably Aaron Holt. He's had five sons come through the program and he's spent a lot of time and years and has been very supportive of me in my eight years

here. He never really complains. He might vent from time to time but he's always positive and eclipses the big picture. There's just so many great families.

What is your greatest extravagance?

I'm a pretty simple person. But probably shoes. For the most part I'm a minimalist aside from maybe my footwear.

What are your fears, phobias?

Having a packed house on Friday night and not having officials showing up.

What has been the happiest time of your life?

The birth of my children and marrying my wife.

Which talent would you most like to possess?

Singing or playing an instrument. I would probably play the saxophone or the acoustic guitar.

What do you most value in your friends?

Loyalty.

Which historical figure do you most identify with?

I grew up in South Bend and was around Notre Dame and it was a big part of my life growing up so coaches like Newt Rockne, Lou Holtz and Ara Parseghian and those types of coaches. As a kid, you learn about and hear about the speeches they gave and you try to live by some of that stuff.

What is your greatest regret?

Not trying different things. I have no musical talents, I'm not very mechanical, but sports were a big part of my life. I wish I had branched out a little bit as a younger person and learned how to change the oil in my car or just handy, everyday things.



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