

HENDRICKS COUNTY

ICON

Volume 9 • Issue 13, December 1-16, 2016

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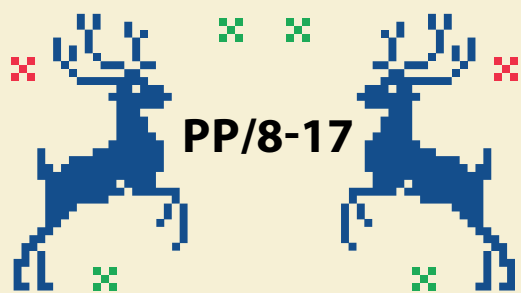
ICON OF THE
MONTH P/35

An Old-Fashioned Holiday

GIFT GUIDE



2016



PP/8-17

When Christmas was:

Hendricks County residents
share holiday memories

PP/6-7

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Stories/News?

Have any news tips? Want to submit a calendar event? Have a photograph to share?

Call Chris Cornwall at 317-451-4088 or email him at news@myICON.

info. Remember, our news deadlines are several days prior to print.

**Want to Advertise?****Hendricks County ICON**

reaches a vast segment of our community. For information about reaching our readers, call Haleigh Inscore at 317-451-4088 or email her at haleigh@icontimes.com.



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**ICONIC**image

Zach Yetter, Pittsboro, a senior football player for Cardinal Ritter High School, clinches his fist in victorious fashion after his Raiders defeated Eastbrook High School (Marion), 28-6, in the State 2A finals at Lucas Oil Stadium on Nov. 25. The win represents a fifth state championship for Ritter out of 11 appearances.

Photo by Rick Myers.

**FOR THE RECORD
HC OBITUARIES****Terry L. Shelton**

Terry L. Shelton, 63, of Avon passed away Nov. 9. He was born June 25, 1953 in Shelbyville, Indiana.

Ole Albert Carlson

Ole Albert Carlson, 83, of Brownsburg, passed away on Nov. 18. He was born April 13, 1933. Funeral services were held Nov. 22 at Liberty Baptist Church.

Patricia Rose Fruean

Patricia Rose Fruean, 72, of Brownsburg, passed away on Nov. 4. She was born April 1, 1944. Services were held Friday Nov. 25 at the Zionsville Masonic Lodge.

Thelma Louise Fortner Meadows

Thelma Louise Fortner Meadows, 88, of Avon, passed away Nov. 26. She was born July 3, 1928. Services were held Nov. 29 at Conkle Funeral Home Avon Chapel.

David R. Smith

David R. Smith, 85, of Avon, passed away Nov. 24. He was born Jan. 26, 1931.

Howard "Russ" R. Seeks

Howard R. Seeks, 82, of Avon passed away Nov. 25. He was born Jan. 1, 1934.

Muriel G. Berger

Muriel G. Berger, 64, of Danville passed away Nov. 11. She was born Feb. 07, 1952. Services were held Nov. 27.

George R. McDonald

George R. McDonald, 72, of Brownsburg, passed away Nov. 20. He was born March 14, 1944. Services were held Nov. 23 at Bethesda Baptist Church.

Nevada Carwile

Nevada Carwile, 95, of Stilesville, passed away Nov. 18. She was born Feb. 8, 1921. Services were held Nov. 22 at Peonia Christian Cemetery, Grayson County, Kentucky.

Linda Jean Ginn

Linda Jean Ginn, 64, of Plainfield, passed away Nov. 19. She was born Dec. 31, 1951. Services were held Nov. 25 at Hampton-Gentry Funeral Home in Plainfield.

James "Jim" H. Summers

James H. Summers, 85, of Avon, passed away Nov. 22. He was born Oct. 15, 1931. Services were held Nov. 29 at Danville Christian Church.

Linda Murrain

Linda (Tyler) Murrain, 73, of Clayton, passed away Nov. 23. She was born Dec. 25, 1942. Services were held Nov. 28 at Hazelwood Christian Church in Clayton.

Roger D. Cloyd

Roger D. Cloyd, 67, of Pittsboro, passed away Nov. 14. He was born Dec. 7, 1948.

Cheryl L. Turley

Cheryl L. Turley, 61, of Brownsburg, passed away on Nov. 14. She was born Dec. 28, 1954. Services were held Nov. 18 at Bethesda Baptist Church in Brownsburg.

Hendricks County obituaries are printed free of charge and published twice a month. Funeral directors are encouraged to send obituaries and photos to info@myicon.info.

HC ARCHITECTURE & HISTORY



Mayberry Café, 78 W Main St. in Danville. Photo by Chris Cornwall

The Mayberry Café Danville, Indiana

By Ken Sebree

If you are old enough to remember the 1960s, then you will remember The Andy Griffith Show which aired most of that decade each week on CBS television for a total of 249 half-hour episodes. The setting for the show was in the fictional town of Mayberry, North Carolina, and featured such lovable characters as Sheriff Andy, Deputy Barney, Aunt Bee, Opie and many others.

For the past 27 years, we have had a little piece of The Andy Griffith Show right here in Hendricks County. In 1989, the Born family opened the 150-seat Mayberry Café, a family-friendly restaurant on the north side of Courthouse Square in a 100-year-old storefront building which was redecorated with flowered wallpaper, checkered tablecloths, memorabilia, autographed pictures and TV sets which were positioned so that every diner could enjoy original black and white episodes of The Andy Griffith Show. The café features favorites such as "Aunt Bee's Famous Fried Chicken Dinner" and "Sheriff Taylor's Favorite Prime Rib," and welcomes diners to take a step back in time with these and many more home-cooked selections. Mayberry Café serves breakfast, lunch and dinner throughout the week.

The unique Mayberry Café has become so popular with local residents and tourists alike that the town now presents a two-day "Mayberry in the Midwest" festival each spring which features some of the original TV cast members. Other festival events include live music, comedy performances, pancake breakfasts, arts and crafts, antique tractors and an Opie look-alike contest. There are also sightings of individuals in costume which may be mistaken for Andy, Barney, Aunt Bee, or Floyd the barber. Most days you can see a replica of Sheriff Andy's black and white Ford Galaxie police cruiser parked at the curb in front of the Mayberry Café.

In a time when most of our dining options consist of fast food and national chain restaurants, it is truly refreshing to experience a little bit of the past by dining at the Mayberry Café.



Ken Sebree is a practicing architect and resident of Hendricks County for well over 40 years. Contact him at ken@sebreearchitects.com or (317) 272-7800.

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Did you know?

- Christmas tree lights were invented Dec. 22, 1882 by Edward Johnson, who worked for Thomas Edison's Illumination Company. However, the lights weren't truly commercialized until New York's Albert Sadacca began selling them through his family's business.
- According to the National Christmas Tree Association, between 25 and 30 million real Christmas trees are sold each year in the United States.
- Though some believe Coca-Cola came up with the depiction of Santa Claus in red and white as we know it today, it is more likely Thomas Nast's engravings in Harper's Weekly between 1863 and 1886 cemented the image. Coca-Cola bolstered the image by using a similar illustration in advertisements for 30 years in the early 1900s.
- Washington Irving reimagined Santa Claus as the fat and jolly man we know today in 1809 with satire Knickerbocker's History of New York, which was also the first instance of St. Nicholas sliding down the chimney.
- Mrs. Claus was first mentioned in James Rees' short story "A Christmas Legend" in 1849.



When Christmas was:

COVER STORY

By Cleveland Dietz

Standing outside a window and dressed as Santa Claus, Charlie Muston, of Plainfield, jingled his bells. A little girl stricken with leukemia put her hand against the window from inside and he put his against the glass to meet it.

Harriett Muston, 79, of Plainfield, didn't reveal the girl's name to protect her privacy. However, she recalled that the little girl's parents



Above: Janet Woodrum (3) in front of the family Nativity set, 1960, North Salem. Submitted by Janet Woodrum.

On the Cover: Picture of Herman Long (Herman Forest Long) as Santa Claus talking to 5 children in front of a Kodaks sign. This is a Christmas card from the Hoosier Casualty Company from 1923. Photo courtesy of Plainfield-Guilford Township Public Library.

called Charlie to visit because they weren't sure she would live to see another Christmas. She was scheduled to receive a complete blood transfusion in New York soon. When Charlie came, she was still too small for him to enter the home, so he stood outside and jingled the bells.

Charlie, who is now 80, dressed as Santa Claus during the season as a habit and Harriett would sometimes join him as Mrs. Claus. He said he learned early that children would often be too intimidated to start by sitting on his lap, so Mrs. Claus was a great help. The two began by having the kids sit in Harriett's lap, then they moved them to Charlie's to give him their Christmas wishes.

He wasn't the only Santa Claus visiting friends and neighbors.

Rex McClain, 78, of Avon, remembered a man who lived down the street who would dress as Santa Claus and visit his children. Kay McClain, 76, of Avon, reminded Rex that he donned the red and white suit to deliver presents for his neighbor's kids as well. Even after the man's children had children of their own, Rex kept it up, going as far as Plainfield to visit them.

They all remember giving more gifts to their own children than they themselves received. Perhaps none more than Wendell Trent, 91, of Avon, whose childhood occurred during the Great Depression.

Trent was from a family with seven children—six boys and one girl. He thought the first time he talked about Santa Claus was when he was 10 or 12 years old and "that was for the benefit of the younger children in the family."

Christmas was smaller for everyone then as there wasn't as much to go around. He and the other boys would usually receive one gift they could all use such as a basketball or board game. His landlord would give them each a silver dollar and his grandfather would give him a necktie.

The bus drivers gave children small brown bags filled with candies and an orange on the last day of school before Christmas. "It wasn't too common to get an orange in those days," Trent said.

He and his family would cut a tree down to use for Christmas. They'd decorate it with chains made of red and green paper links and popcorn on a thread.

More than a decade later, Charlie, Dick Muston, and their two brothers would mark trees with ribbon or cloth at the beginning of November. After Thanksgiving, they'd cut one down and haul it inside the house. The tree had to be set in a container of water so it would stay alive and put on a makeshift stand to keep it upright. Often the stand wasn't enough, so families like the Mustons and McClains would tie a string around the tree and screw or nail it to the wall. It was easier that way because the trees were usually in a corner of the room.

"A lot of times they didn't sit in front of the windows in those days because of the air raids and the blackouts," Harriett said.

Paper chains and strings of popcorn and cranberries were still common adornments on the trees. Silver tinsel and colored bulbs dangled from their branches.

The Christmas tree in America

One need not look any further than the Christmas tree for German influence in the United States.

Historians credit Germans with the first printed reference to a Christmas tree, in 1531, and the invention of artificial Christmas trees during the 1800s. Many people even believe the German Protestant reformer Martin Luther established the tradition of lighting them. The practice would remain primarily a German phenomenon for almost 300 years.

In 1821, Lancaster, Pa. resident Matthew Zahm made the first known reference to a Christmas tree in the United States. By 1851, Mark Carr had opened the first commercial Christmas tree operation in the nation.

Magazine articles about the British royal family's Christmas trees during the mid-1800s contributed heavily to the demand for them. Since then, Christmas trees have developed into a billion-dollar industry.

The National Christmas Tree Association estimates American growers sell 25 to 30 million real Christmas trees per year. By contrast, about 11 million artificial trees were sold in the United States in 2012.

For many families today, Christmas trees have become as much a part of the holiday as giving gifts and singing carols. They are a lighted signal that the season has begun.



Hendricks County residents share holiday memories

Charlie said "one, two, maybe three" gifts for each member of the household sat under the tree. Hand-made clothes if there was a seamstress in the family, basketballs, other sporting goods and the occasional toy were common gifts. Kay said she often received clothing her mother made of repurposed feedbags from her family's farm.

For the McClains and Mustons, who grew up during World War II, ration stamps made staple Christmas goods far less accessible. They remember needing stamps for everything from shoes to car tires.

"Sugar was a big thing," Charlie said. It was an ingredient in so many traditional Christmas dishes. There were cinnamon rolls and all sorts of pie, fruitcakes, persimmon pudding, and cookies for Santa.

Rationing ended and the economy got better shortly after the war. The number and variety of gifts relatives gave each other increased and the meals got larger.

After Trent returned from the war, his parents made a much bigger deal of Christmas.

"I remember the big dinners my mother and mother-in-law always fixed and we enjoyed them very much," he said. "We enjoyed Christmas with our children."

Like learning Christmas recitations and children's songs to sing in the church choir, it was a sentiment they all shared.

"You didn't have a lot of gifts," Charlie said. "It was more the happiness of being together because you didn't see your relations but maybe two or three times a year."

The little girl Charlie visited survived and is now a sophomore at Indiana University. As Santa, he continued to visit her and her siblings at Christmas. When she was big enough for him to come inside, her parents left a bag of gifts for her and her siblings outside their door. Charlie picked up the bag and walked inside. She and her siblings sat on his lap and told him what Christmas gifts they wanted. Then Santa Claus personally gave them their gifts before leaving to make more deliveries.

Clockwise from right: Ann Tussey plays Mary in a sixth-grade production of the nativity scene at Danville Middle School in 1962. Today, the building that was Danville Middle School is the government center.

Joe Lease, around 1925. Photo courtesy of Plainfield-Guilford Township Public Library.

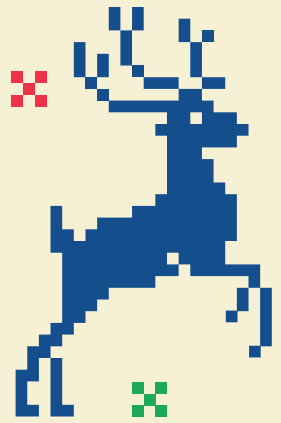
Debbie Gillespie, Jimmy & Rick McLaughlin, David Farnsworth, Kenny McLaughlin, Billy Gillespie, Danny Farnsworth, Tommy Gillespie, Doug Farnsworth & Samantha Smith. Christmas gathering on Rockville Road. Submitted by Amanda Farnsworth.

Rick McLaughlin, and Arch and Georgia Farnsworth, King Street. Submitted by Amanda Farnsworth.

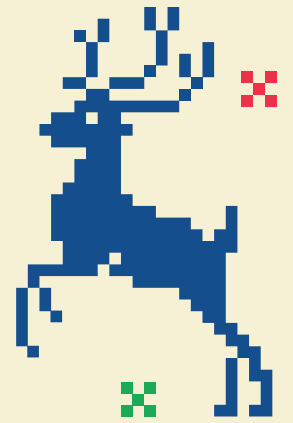
Mandy Van Horn meets Santa. Dec 21, 1977 (originally published in Plainfield Messenger newspaper). Photo courtesy of Plainfield-Guilford Township Public Library.

Christmas 1950. Two unidentified boys seated in front of a Christmas tree. Photo courtesy of Plainfield-Guilford Township Public Library.

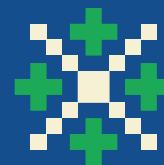
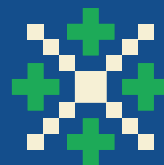




An Old-Fashioned Holiday
GIFT GUIDE 2016



Christmas photo scene of the Edward Barrett family: (l-r): Dorothy Barrett, Margaret Barrett (Margaret Mangan) mother of Edward, Wendell Barrett and Margaret Barrett, daughter of Edward. Circa 1908-1910. Photo courtesy of Plainfield-Guilford Township Public Library.





Before the tree lighting, kids from the crowd were asked thier thoughts on the meaning of Christmas.



Left: After the lighting ceremony, a DJ played holiday music over loudspeakers. Many got into the holiday spirit by dancing on the courthouse lawn.



Right: Glowing holiday decorations lined the historic square. No one seemed more fascinated by the scenes than the youngest of residents.

Photos by Chris Cornwall



With the help of local youngster, Amanda Houser, Santa flipped an enormous switch illuminating the courthouse and Christmas tree.

Holiday spirit shining brightly

ICONography

By Chris Cornwall

Residents from throughout the county gathered at Danville's historic courthouse to celebrate "Christmas on the Square" Nov. 25. Kids crowded around the Christmas tree as Santa and Mrs. Claus counted down the seconds before flipping an oversized light switch. Once the switch was flipped, the tree and the canopy of lights extending from the courthouse came to life as Mrs. Claus led the crowd in a Christmas carol.

This tenth annual celebration marked the official start of Christmas for Downtown Danville. Many families were on hand to experience the charming event. "This is just awesome," said Danville resident Chris Kaiser. "It is such a great community." Chris and his wife Christina attended with their sons Brendan and Caden.

For this edition of ICONography, we would like to share some of our favorite photos from "Light up Danville: Christmas on the Square."

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Preserving holiday traditions

Holiday traditions come in many forms – from decorating the tree and shopping for loved ones to movie nights and your favorite festive foods. However, there is no holiday tradition quite as enjoyable and rewarding as giving back.

Here are several ways that you can create and preserve this important holiday tradition with your family.

Write a Letter to Make a Difference

It's simple to give back during the holidays through Macy's annual Believe campaign. Children of all ages can drop off their letters to Santa at the big red letterboxes in-store or send online through macys.com/believe. For every letter collected through Dec. 24, the retailer will donate \$1 to Make-A-Wish, up to \$1 million, to help grant the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions. Macy's has given \$100 million in total to Make-A-Wish since 2003, with nearly \$13 million donated through the Believe campaign. Keep

the tradition of letter-writing alive and support the cause by spending time as a family writing letters to Santa.

Take Part in Acts of Kindness – Big or Small

Encourage your family to participate in the season of giving by taking on charitable activities. Projects could include volunteering at a food pantry or soup kitchen, coordinating a caroling group for a nursing home or collecting care packages for deployed soldiers. There are also plenty of ways to show children how easy it is to give back in small ways – whether it's paying for a stranger's coffee, creating a feel-good holiday playlist for a friend or leaving a treat for the mail carrier in the mailbox. By preserving these kinds of holiday traditions, you'll help make others' days brighter and instill the importance of giving in a younger generation.

Spread the Spirit of Believing

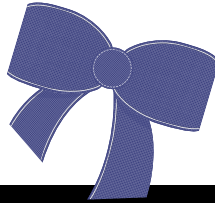
Belief in Santa builds family traditions such as writing letters, setting out cookies and milk, and hanging stockings by the tree. Part of this year's Believe campaign is The Santa Project, a nationwide movement to fill the internet with positive affirmations of belief. Macy's is calling on people of all ages to post a photo, video or message using #SantaProject via Twitter, Facebook, Instagram or YouTube. Everyone can play a role in keeping the magic of the holidays alive and ensuring that the internet is a place where Santa lives on for future generations.



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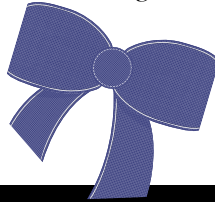


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Holiday hacks: simple seasonal solutions

The air is getting cooler, leaves are changing colors and days are getting shorter. All of these seasonal changes signal that the holidays are fast approaching. While many people love gathering with family and friends at this time of the year, entertaining can take the jolly out of the holiday. This year, take the stress out of hosting with these five simple holiday hacks.

Buy in Bulk. One month before your holiday gathering, buy nuts – almonds, pistachios, walnuts – in bulk. Pour the nuts into screw-top mason jars, label with brightly colored tape and store in your pantry. When guests stop by, bring out a few jars, unscrew and serve with seasonal cider.

Candy Cane Lane. Candy cane flakes work wonders – from holiday drinks to top-

ping off cakes and ice cream. Crush candy canes in a blender or smash between paper towels and store in an airtight container. Simply sprinkle for seasonal ease and festive yum.

Double Duty. Buy flavorful refrigerated salad dressings – think sriracha or ranch – and use to top salads or potatoes, or as a quick, delicious dip. One jar offers many solutions.

Bee Smart. Be prepared for unexpected gift-giving moments and keep several simple and affordable gifts on hand. Pour local honey into mini mason jars, wrap the neck with holiday twine and include a message that works for all, "Have a BEE-autiful Holiday."

Tis the Seasons. For entertainment ease, keep versatile products on hand, like Simply Artisan Reserve Simple Seasons, a soft, finely crumbled cheese in a shakable jar. Sprinkle the cheese on flatbreads, sliders, desserts and more – and enjoy the flavor in every bite. With just 15 minutes of prep, you can make a seasonal dessert that looks like you spent all day in the kitchen.

For more recipes, visit lighthousefoods.com.

Rustic Pear Galette

Serves: 4-6 | Total time: 1 hour, 10 minutes

Pie crust

3-4 medium pears,
peeled, cored and cut into 1/4-inch slices
1 tablespoon lemon juice
1 tablespoon cornstarch
1/4 cup brown sugar, packed
1/8 teaspoon cinnamon (optional)

Glaze:

2 teaspoons honey
1/2 teaspoon boiled water

Topping:

Simply Artisan Reserve Feta Cheese Simple Seasons

Heat oven to 425 F. Line 15-by-10-inch baking sheet with parchment paper; spray paper with cooking spray.

On lightly floured surface, roll crust into 11-inch round. Drape crust over rolling pin, transfer to baking sheet.

In large bowl, toss pear slices with lemon juice. Sprinkle in cornstarch, brown sugar and cinnamon. Toss until pears are evenly coated.

Arrange pears in mound in center of dough, leaving 2-inch border. Fold border over filling to cover pears partially. It does not need to be even.

Bake 15 minutes then reduce oven temperature to 350 F and bake additional 40 minutes until pears are tender and crust is golden brown.

In small bowl, stir together honey and boiled water to make glaze. When galette is done, remove from oven and brush honey glaze over top of fruit and crust, and sprinkle liberally with feta cheese.



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SANTA SIGHTINGS

Nov. 25 – Dec. 25 - Winterland Christmas Light Show Sunday | Thursday, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Friday & Saturday from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. | Ellis Park, 600 E. Main St. in Danville | Santa available for photos Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Closed Christmas Day. Fees/Admission: \$10.00 a car at the gate. Ellis Park is located at 600 E. Main St. in Danville | For more information, contact Danville Chamber at (317) 745-0670.

Dec. 1 - 23 - Santa Arrives (Plainfield) | From 4:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays for dates: Dec. 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, and 16. | From 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, dates: Dec. 3 and 4. | From 4:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 19 – 23. | From 11:00 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, dates: Dec. 3, 10 and 17. Santa will be joined by his reindeer on Dec. 17 from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Mitch's Incredible Ace Plainfield at 1800 E Main St. in Plainfield. For more information, call: (317) 839-8410.

Dec. 3 - Avon Christmas Tree Lighting | 5:00 p.m. | Avon Town Hall Park | Pictures with Santa, a train ride, crafts, and fireworks. | For more information, contact Lora Lacey at (317) 745 – 0785. | Avon Town Hall Park is located at 6570 E. U.S. 36.

Dec. 3 - Christmas under the Stars Parade | 6:00 p.m. | Brownsburg Town Hall Green | Free pictures with Santa will be in Town Hall directly after the parade, compliments of Kim Berry Photography. | For more information, contact Brownsburg Parks at (317) 858 – 4172. | Brownsburg Town Hall Green is located at 61 N. Green St.

Dec. 3 - December Chili with Santa at the Firehouse | 6:00 p.m. | Firehouse in Coatsville | Enjoy some chili, chat with Santa, and bid on some great items. | Firehouse is located at 8098 Main Street in Coatsville.

Dec. 3 - Danville Tri Kappa "Breakfast with Santa" | Doors open at 8:30 a.m., breakfast served from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Santa arrives at 9:00 AM. | Danville Community Middle School | Crafts, games and goody bags. Kids under 8 years old will receive a gift. Tickets are limited and pre-purchased tickets are preferred. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact Tammy Carrol at (317) 445 - 5609. | Danville Middle School is located at 1425 West Lincoln St.

Dec 3 - Brownsburg Lions Club "Breakfast with Santa" | From 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. | Arbutle Acres Park (Bundy Lodge) | Santa will have time to hear Christmas wishes from the children. Adult meals can be purchased for \$6 and kids under 6 are free. | Arbutle Acres is located at 200 N. Green Street in Brownsburg. For more information, contact Larry Whitmore at (317) 852-3167 (Ext. 110) or by email at lwhitmore@bburghlibrary.net.

Dec. 08 - Holiday Fun with Silly Safari Reindeer Reserve | 6:00 PM | Plainfield-Guilford Township Public Library, located at 1120 Stafford Rd. in Plainfield.

Dec. 9 - Breakfast for Dinner with Santa | 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. | Washington Township Park | \$10 per person, \$40 per family of 5 Additional family members \$5 each | For more

information, contact Alisha at agibboney@avonfd.org. | Washington Township Park is located at 435 Whipple Lane in Avon.

Dec. 9 – 10 - Old Fashion Christmas at North Salem | Friday, 6:00 p.m. (tree lighting) | Saturday, 8:00 a.m. (Breakfast with Santa) | The Town of North Salem will host an Old Fashion Christmas on Friday and Saturday. The Tree Lighting will take place next to the Post Office at 6:00pm Friday, there will also be Free Carriage Rides until 8 pm and a Chili Cook Off until 8:30 pm. Saturday will start with a free-will offering breakfast with Santa at the North Salem Methodist Church. For more information, contact Terri Solomon at (765) 676-5039.

Dec. 9 – 10 - Christmas with Santa and the Ponies | 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. | Strides to Success | Located at 1350 Terry Drive in Plainfield. For more information, call (317) 838-7002, ext. 0.

Dec. 10 - Candy Cane Hunt at the Ranch | 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. | Natural Valley Ranch | \$5 per person in advance or \$7 at the door | Santa will be making an appearance and children participate in the annual Candy Cane Hunt which takes place at noon. Petting zoo and popcorn bar. Pre-registration is encouraged. Bring a non-perishable food item to donate to area pantry. Natural Valley Ranch is located at 6310 East C.R. 350 N. in Brownsburg. For more information, call (317) 509-3577.

Dec. 10 - Hometown Holiday at Hummel Park | 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. | Photos with Santa, pony rides, horse drawn carriage rides, train rides, a live Nativity, door prizes, grand prize drawings, cookies and cocoa, face painting. | Guilford Township Hummel Park is located at 1500 S. Center St. in Plainfield.

Dec. 17 - Sensory Santa | 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. | Washington Township Park Pavilion Center | Each child and family will get 15 minutes alone with Santa in a quiet more controlled setting. | \$10 per 15 minute spot | Washington Township Park is located at 435 Whipple Ln. in Avon. For more information, contact Lora Lacey at (317) 745-0785.

Dec. 17 - Breakfast with Santa | 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. | Washington Township Park Pavilion Center | \$10 per person | Located at 435 Whipple Ln. in Avon. For more information, contact Lora Lacey at (317) 745-0785.



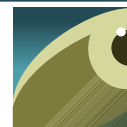
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Rich, easy pecan pie for the holidays!

RECIPE

By Jerry Rezny

Pecan Pie has been associated with Christmas in the United States for more than 125 years. The real beauty of this pie is the delicious richness and the relative ease of making it! The pie pictured is on a gluten-free crust. Notice that the recipe calls for Corn Syrup. This is good, old fashioned corn syrup, or glucose, (not the unhealthy high fructose corn syrup.) The recipe that follows is the easy way to make a great tasting pie!

Ingredients:

- 1 unbaked 9 inch pie crust
- 5 Tbsp. Butter,
- 1 cup (packed) brown sugar
- 6 oz. corn syrup (glucose)
- ½ tsp. granulated salt
- 2 cups shelled pecans
- 2 tsp. vanilla extract
- 3 eggs lightly beaten

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Put the parbaked pie crust into a pie plate on top of a cookie sheet for easy transfer to the hot oven when ready. In a saucepan, melt the butter, mixing in the brown sugar, corn

syrup and salt. Stir and boil for a minute. Remove from heat and fold in the nuts and vanilla. Allow to cool for 5 to 10 minutes. Whisk the beaten eggs into the filling and pour the mixture into the crust. Put it in the oven for 35 to 45 minutes until edges are set. Cool, serve and enjoy!



Jerry Rezny lives in Avon and owns Handcrafted Beverages. He also teaches at the International Culinary School. Contact him at handcraftedbeverages@yahoo.com.



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Happy Holidays!



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The staff of the Hendricks County ICON wholeheartedly wishes you and yours the very best this holiday season. We hope you will take some time to appreciate the company of your family and friends as you celebrate the spirit of Christmas with its seasonal scents, sites and sounds. Our Holiday Gift Guide is designed to help you enjoy the richness of our community and its spirit of giving. Here's to a very happy and healthy holiday season, from our family to yours!




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Authentic holiday success

MOM'S THE WORD

By Alyssa Johnson

The holidays are upon us! Are you going to enjoy them or obsess over what others think? You get to choose.

This thinking is a common reason to feel overwhelmed during the holidays. We're around family or hosting more frequently. We get stuck in beliefs that the house, the food, and the gifts, all have to be perfect.

We find ourselves overdoing it. Why? In order to feel like we've earned someone's approval. If we don't feel we've measured up, then we worry about disappointing someone.

I recently had a coaching client who struggled with this. She assumed that if she didn't host a family gathering, her adult children were going to be extremely disappointed. Her life circumstances shifted this year and even thinking about hosting this event caused a lot of stress. She no longer had the time and energy to devote to it as she had in the past.

With some coaching, she was able to see that it wasn't a failure to let her children to know she wasn't available. Once she reached out to them, she discovered that her daughter has wanted to take over the event for sev-

eral years, but was afraid to mention it. The daughter worried it would disappoint her if could not host the event!

As my client and I discussed the process she went through, she recognized the wasted time and energy that both she and her daughter had gone through.

All of us make assumptions every day. This is why clearly communicating what's important to us is essential if we're going to have truly meaningful and authentic relationships.

Your Vibrantly Live Challenge: What actions are you continuing to do, for fear of disappointing someone, that no longer serve you? Can you think of a way to have a conversation with that person to share with him/her how you feel and brainstorm together how a change might serve you both?



Alyssa Johnson is a counselor and coach exclusively for women. Learn how she can help you live the life you were created for by visiting online at: VibrantlyLive.com or by calling (317) 520-1476.

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^ \$500 Closing Cost Credit applicable only on first mortgage purchases and refinances that include closing costs which are charged to the borrower. Offer good through December 31, 2016 and applies to mortgages closed on properties within Johnson, Marion, and Hendricks Counties only. Subject to credit approval.

**Offer valid for new cardholders at the Greenwood branch locations only. Zero percent APR (Annual Percentage Rate) on purchases and balance transfers effective from the credit card account open date and continues through the 12th monthly billing cycle. After that, APR will vary with the market based on Prime Rate. Visit iucu.org for complete details. Balance transfers cannot be requested between IUCU accounts. Offer not valid on Business Credit Cards. Offer good through December 31, 2016.

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Save time on holiday Entertaining

With each holiday season comes joy, laughter and celebrations with family and friends. However, all that revelry takes time. Fortunately, there are ways to keep the planning and preparation for holiday entertaining from infringing on your enjoyment of all the holidays have to offer.

This year, make it easier to minimize your time spent preparing and maximize your time entertaining guests with these simple tips.

Clean efficiently. Get all hands on deck so you aren't trying to clean the entire house alone. Whether you assign each person a task such as dusting or vacuuming that they do through the entire house, or each person tackles a room from top to bottom, the extra hands will make the worktime shorter. Before your big cleaning day, be sure to take inventory of your cleaning supplies and ensure you have everything you need on hand.

Menu shortcuts. A successful holiday host knows how to simplify meal preparation without sacrificing taste. Idahoan Signature Russets Mashed Potatoes – which can be made in only five minutes – are packaged mashed potatoes worthy of being served during a holiday dinner. With a nice, smooth taste and just a hint

of butter and cream, they taste as good as if you peeled, boiled and mashed them yourself.

Prep in advance. Rather than rushing around the morning of the get-together, take care of as much of the party setup as you can the night before. For example, you can set the table, put up decorations and adjust furniture for easier movement and conversation before the big day arrives. Pay attention to the details, too. Don't wait until your first guest arrives to make space in the coat closet or figure out where the ladies can store their purses.

Keep decorations simple. It's easy to get carried away in the holiday spirit, but less really can be more when it comes to decorating. Focus on your entryway so guests arrive to a festive setting, but round out the decor with small touches that make a big impact, such as table centerpieces, mantle ornaments and seasonal bouquets or stacks of empty boxes wrapped in pretty paper scattered about the home. Another trick for trimming: elevate your look and make it pop by limiting your decorating theme to just one or two colors.



The Immaculate Conception Masses

† A Holy Day of Obligation †

Wednesday, December 7th ~ 6 pm

Thursday, December 8th ~ 8:15am, 7pm

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses

Saturday, December 24th ~ 4pm, 7pm, 10pm

Sunday, December 25th ~ 10am

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother Masses

† A Holy Day of Obligation †

Saturday, December 31st ~ 5:30pm

Sunday, January 1st ~ 7:30am, 10:00am, 12pm



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DEAR EDITOR:

I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, 'If you see it in THE SUN it's so.' Please tell me the truth; is there a Santa Claus?

VIRGINIA O'HANLON.
 115 WEST NINETY-FIFTH STREET

VIRGINIA, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, **VIRGINIA**, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus. It would be as dreary as if there were no **VIRGINIAS**. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

Yes, Virginia, There is a Santa Claus

You may tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, **VIRGINIA**, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God! he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

Francis Church
 Editor, The Sun
 New York, NY.1897



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Dr. Monet Bowling
Breast Surgical Oncologist



FROM THE EDITOR

Catch the holiday spirit

Bundled up families and tinsel wrapped streetlamps lined the square at this year's "Light up Danville" celebration. Like a pillar, the courthouse stood supporting countless unlit bulbs running to every building across the street. A giant red light switch stared back at the rumbling crowd. But when a young girl turned on the lights, for a moment there was only the sound of sniffling noses beneath wide eyes. It was then certain that Christmas in Hendricks County had begun.

This was just one of the truly special Christmas events we have each year. And after witnessing it, I asked myself why I ever missed it to begin with. But "witness" isn't

"But 'witness' isn't the right word. It was rather an experience in that you take something back home with you when it is over"

the right word. It was rather an experience in that you take something back home with you when it is over – something pure and incorruptible some may call the "holiday spirit."

But if you did not get the chance to experience "Light up Danville," do not worry – Hendricks County has many more holiday celebrations planned this month like "Parade under the Stars" in Brownsburg, Avon's Christmas tree Lighting and "Hometown Holiday in Hummel Park." I encourage everyone in Hendricks County to get out and enjoy one, if not all of these holiday celebrations.



Chris Cornwall is the editor of Hendricks County ICON and the Hendricks County Business Leader.

ICONtoon



Forget me not

HUMOR

By Dick Wolfsie

Indiana is about to complete the celebration of her 200th birthday. Many stellar names are associated with our great state: Abraham Lincoln, Ernie Pyle, Kurt Vonnegut, Jr., Cole Porter, James Dean, Benjamin Harrison, John Mellencamp, and Red Skelton, to name a few...instead of naming a few hundred. There are several forgotten Hoosiers who didn't make it into the history books, but who have now made it into my column. They deserve better, of course, but here are my two favorites:

Eiffel Plasterer was a total bubble brain. The Huntington County resident had a passion for ordinary and not-so-ordinary soap bubbles. He fascinated children and adults with his demonstrations for almost half a century. Plasterer was a man of both religion and science, a contradictory combination in the 1920's when he attended DePauw University. There he became especially intrigued with bubbles and began working on the perfect solution (a concoction of soap ingredients, water, and glycerin) as part of a lifelong attempt to produce an almost unbreakable bubble.

And he blew those bubbles on more TV shows than you could shake a wand at: Real People, Letterman, Tom Snyder, and Dick Cavett. Plasterer also holds the record for bubble longevity, capturing a bubble inside a mason jar to protect it from air currents and keeping it intact for one day short of a year. Longer than most gerbils live.

Plasterer believed you never outgrow the joy of blowing bubbles, and he preached that philosophy up until he was almost 90 yrs. old. Eiffel Lane, named after the famous

"bubbleologist," now runs through Hiers Park in Huntington. Plasterer's words still ring loud and clear: "Our hopes and dreams are the bubbles of life we are blowing. They do not all have to break."

Hoosier Roy Robertson got his big break while working for the Salem Creamery. In the 1940s, Audra Qualkinbush, one of the owners of the creamery—and a home economics teacher—complained about the chubbiness of some of her students. Robertson was asked by his boss to perfect a new product that had less butterfat. Skim milk had already been invented, but consumers had no choice between the 3.5% milk and the virtually tasteless skim, nicknamed "Blue John" by many country folks because of its watery blue tint.

Robertson worked for more than a year tinkering with how to remove the fat and then replace it with other milk solids so the taste would still please milk lovers. Robertson was never recognized nor did he profit from his invention. Since he never got a patent for his process, other dairies were soon producing his 2% milk.

Robertson lived in Salem, where the Stevens Museum (307 East Main Street; 812-883-6495) chronicles this little-known story.

By the way, 1% milk was later invented by Robertson's half-brother. (Just kidding.)



Dick Wolfsie lives in Indianapolis with his wife of 33 years. Dick is usually in the basement trying to think up something funny to write. He can be reached at: wolfsie@aol.com.

OUR VIEW

Shop local this holiday season

When the holiday season arrives, there is always shopping to be done. And with all the department stores and chain restaurants lining major roadways, small businesses may get overlooked. But these hard-working individuals are what make Hendricks County a special place to live; they add diversity to the products available to us, customer service is more hands on and personal, not to mention the money spent there goes back into the community.

The values they offer are not written on a price tag. Small businesses bring creativity, work ethic, and ingenuity to Hendricks County. Not to mention, shopping locally offers the chance to better connect with the community. Customers and owners build trust that can last a lifetime.

Although Hendricks County has a population of over 150,000 residents, it still retains that small town charm. And local business is critical to this. Once that small-town feel is gone, it is nearly impossible to recover. We encourage our readers to continue to shop local, especially this holiday season. We also commend and support local shop-owners for making small business a big part of Hendricks County.

Yes, we want your letters:

Readers of the HC ICON are encouraged to send letters to the editor as often as they wish. The stipulations are that the letter is timely, focused (not more than 200 words) and verifiable. Please make sure to provide your complete name and daytime and evening telephone contact numbers. All letters are subject to editing for brevity, clarity and grammar. Please direct your correspondence to: chris@icontimes.com.

BELIEVE IT!

Our nation has all sorts of arcane, nonsensical laws on the books. Each issue, we'll share one with you...

In Wyoming, you may not take a picture of a rabbit from January to April without an official permit. **SOURCE: dumblaws.com**



...And Hope does not disappoint us

THE POETRY CORNER

Can we replace this bench? I wondered as I walked into HOPE Healthcare Services.

I'll think about suggesting that at the Board Meeting next week.

As a HOPE board member since we were Kingsway Community Care Center, but knowing that administration was not my forte, I began volunteering on a day-to-day basis. I may not be able to provide healing skills or prescribe medicines, but I can schedule appointments. I can pray for patients. I can always listen to them.

Annie (not her real name) might be coming in today. She's in constant back pain, and she just lost her grocery-stocking job. But Dr. Burkholder is helping her. And I have prayed with her....

I first worked with the fundraising team to acquire this facility at 107 Park Place Blvd., and then on the new-name-and-logo team.

Before 2009, Kingsway Community Care Center operated in a crowded building on US 36. But when volunteer doctors, nurses and dentists donate their time, they deserve better. This building has four medical exam rooms and four dental rooms, and HOPE Healthcare has four paid staffers to facilitate their work.

Passing the office of Director John Mollaun, I remember we can't replace

a bench—we may need to replace the building's heating/AC system! John & his assistant Branna Shores already manage miracles—acquiring donations, juggling expenses and paying the bills. And Clinical Services Director Chet Linson is like a force of nature, constantly moving from the moment he walks through the door. He does so much—lining up volunteers, scheduling, spiritual care, prescription assistance—but he sees and knows every patient. He'll leave some day for his MD residency; he's only at HOPE for a season. Thank Heaven for his assistant Becki Henson.

HOPE is a low-cost clinic in Hendricks County (& other neighboring counties) providing medical and dental care for the uninsured. Despite all the efforts in affordable healthcare, the 2016 Community Health Assessment reports that in Hendricks County alone, there are 19,000 without health insurance. And though we do charge minimally for our services, we have never turned away a patient who can't afford the fees.

Don't assume we don't need you. Find out how you can donate (and get a 50% Indiana State income tax credit) or volunteer; go to www.myhopehealth.org or 317-272-0708.

Mary Lofton - 46123

QUOTE

"Christmas... is not an external event at all, but a piece of one's home that one carries in one's heart"

~ Freya Stark

OPERATION ROUND-UP

Operation Round-Up helps your small change make a big difference in your community.

Operation Round-Up is a voluntary fundraising program that lets members round-up their energy bill to the next whole dollar. So it is never more than 99 cents per month. The difference is then deposited into a fund held at the community foundation. Together, the co-op and the community foundation determine the most appropriate uses to benefit the community.

Together, our small change makes a big difference! If 5,000 members participate with an average donation of \$6 per year, that's \$30,000 we can put to work in our community. This is a great way to give back.

Call our office at (317) 745-5473 to sign up!



Those interested in receiving funds for the good of the community can find our guidelines and application at www.hendrickspower.com.

www.hendrickspower.com

HENDRICKS POWER
Cooperative

Electrical, mechanical updates planned for three Plainfield schools

By Becky Schroer

Plainfield Community Middle School, Brentwood and Clarks Creek elementary schools will undergo \$16-million in mechanical, electrical and construction upgrades with the intent of improving the schools' physical environment and thus the learning environment for students. These schools have systems that are 20-plus years old.

The Plainfield school board approved the three contracts with Performance Services of Indianapolis during its Nov. 10 meeting at the newly completed administration building.

The work at Brentwood and Clarks Creek will be finished the summer of 2017. Middle school construction will begin early 2017 and end before school starts in late summer.

According to Steve Thoman of Performance Services, the systems at each school have outlived their life expectancies. The company will be bringing the equipment into the 21st century, he added. He also noted that Plainfield Schools



are able to do this work without raising taxes.

At Brentwood, new efficient heating/ventilation/air conditioning (HVAC) and mechanical systems will be installed. Other changes include plumbing updates and sidewalk repairs as well as LED lighting installation in the cafeteria and gym.

Only a partial HVAC update is needed at Clarks Creek where windows will also be replaced. Other work includes reworking the automated door entrances to meet American Disability Act (ADA) require-

ments as well as improvements to the administration and guidance areas.

Minor renovations will be made to the orchestra area at the middle school. Other updates include a new HVAC system, windows, plumbing and LED lighting.

The changes will improve noise, humidity and carbon dioxide levels, and temperatures within the schools, Thoman said. These levels will be monitored by the company, which will alert the schools should there be any anomalies in the numbers. He also anticipates some "fine-tuning" throughout the first year. "We guarantee the learning environment when we are done," Thoman said, adding if the monitored levels result in repairs required by Performance Services, there is no additional cost to the school system.

The next Plainfield school board meeting was scheduled for Dec. 8 at 7 p.m. in the administration building, 985 Longfellow Lane.

Brownsburg School Administrator named 2016 State Assistant Principal of the Year



Amber Schroering of Brownsburg was recently named the 2016 State Assistant Principal of the Year by the Indiana Association of School Principals. In addition to serving as Assistant Principal for Brownsburg East Middle School, Schroering was chosen as the District 8 Assistant Principal. This district covers parts of west central Indiana including Clay, Greene, Hendricks, Owen, Parke, Putnam, Sullivan, Vermillion and Vigo Counties. The Indiana Association of School Principals is a not-for-profit, professional association serving over 2600 building level administrators in the state of Indiana.



Jesus welcomes you here

Join us for Christmas services!
December 18 at 10 a.m.
Christmas Eve at 4 p.m.

We meet every Sunday, 10 a.m. at Harris Academy
725 South Green Street, Brownsburg (Door #1)

Children's activities & nursery available

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Hendricks County's ICONIC

Homes by Cathy Sturm



RE/MAX Centerstone

Cathy Sturm
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 7341 E US Highway 36
 Avon, IN 46123



Merry Christmas!

10 Reasons to list your home during the Holidays

Selling a home can be a challenge anytime of the year, not just during the holiday/winter season. Working with a Real Estate Agent should make the process easier and less stressful. With the right marketing plan and approach an home can sell quickly. People are always moving. Leases are ending, promotions are happening, marriages are bloom, babies are coming...all great reasons for people to be in the market to buy.

1. Only the SERIOUS buyers are out in the fall/winter.

Fewer may be looking but you are more likely to get a contract from those that do come through!

2. Home May Show Better While Decorated.

Your home may look its best during the Holidays. Cozy fireplaces, evergreens, scented candles... All add to the beauty inside when it's not so pretty outside.

3. It's OK to have specific "no showings" Times During Holidays.

Just because you're planning a few holiday events is no reason to not be for sale the rest of the time.

4. Houses Feel More Like "Homes."

After being in the cold weather, a cozy feeling causes emotions in a Buyer you can't get other times of the year. "Home Sweet Home" is never sweeter than now!

5. Online Searches Go Way Up.

People stay home more in colder weather and search for homes online.

6. Buyers have more day-times off during mid-November through January.

Increasing serious buyer traffic during normal business hours vs. showings during your evenings and weekends.

7. Buyers at this time of year often have an "urgency factor."

Many employers want new hires to start in January, so they can't wait to buy your home. If you don't list until after January 1, you might miss out on those buyers. They can't buy yours if it's not for sale.



8. Inventory of Competition is Lower.

Your home stands out better with less to choose from. Your odds of selling may actually go UP during this time of year. Listing now means more serious buyers per home for sale.

9. Late occupancies are common during this time.

Some buyers that need to buy by end of the year don't have to occupy the home right away, allowing you a real win-win. They win with lower interest rates now, and you could negotiate your move for later.

10. Buyers Who Buy Closer to the End of the Year

may pay closer to full price than other times, as they are often buying under a deadline. They have less time to negotiate and less inventory to choose from... getting you the BEST price.

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Hendricks County September-November – Price Bands

Starting/Ending Price	\$0-\$100,000	\$100k-200k	\$201k-300k	\$301k-400k	\$401k-500k	\$501k-600k	\$601k-700k	\$701k-800k
Number of Active Listings	115	291	180	100	39	12	11	9
Number Closed	107	931	416	148	39	9	6	2
Number Pending	22	107	37	16	2	2	0	0
Number Expired	41	119	76	31	24	15	6	7
Average Days on the Market	61	46	61	93	112	120	97	63
Average List Price	76,635	154,355	249,416	346,633	452,385	546,067	677,800	733,500
Average Sale Price	74,885	151,718	244,214	337,223	433,295	524,433	635,750	704,500

Protecting our greatest assets

BEHIND THE BADGE

Residents of Brownsburg and certainly those with students in the Brownsburg Community School Corporation may be familiar with Officer Nate Flynn. As a School Resource Officer (SRO), he can be seen visiting schools, attending games, and participating in community events.

September 11th inspired Flynn to serve his country and dedicate himself to building better communities. Originally from Bedford, Indiana, Flynn studied law enforcement at Vincennes University and graduated with a B.A in Criminal Justice from Indiana University. He has been an officer with the Brownsburg Police Department for eight years. Flynn is married with two children and his wife is a fourth grade teacher at Eagle Elementary in Brownsburg.

How long have you been a police officer?

I have been a police officer for nine years, having pursued this career straight out of high school with the desire to serve in and give back to a community. I started my career at IU. They have a program that allows you to become a certified police officer while obtaining your degree. After I graduated, I joined the Brownsburg Police Department.

What is the motivating factor behind your work?

I am a School Resource Officer with Brownsburg Schools. That means I'm a fully certified law enforcement officer specially trained to work in schools and with juveniles. We follow the National Association of School Resource Officers triad model, which says we are not only law enforcement, but also educators and informal counselors or mentors. Currently, there are four officers assigned to the Brownsburg schools.

Most of those in the law enforcement field entered with a desire to "make a difference." That opportunity is never more present than within the role of an SRO. Working day in and day out with students to help them on a positive path, we truly do get to make a difference in a lot of lives.

The role of SRO is both important and positive for students, teachers and faculty. Can you describe your daily work?

Our objective is to create safe schools so our teachers can teach and our students can learn. We strive to build relationships within the school environments to develop trust, guide our students, and promote positive interactions with law enforcement. Our education efforts focus on law-related topics to help our students understand their rights and realities of the legal system.

What do you value most in serving as a SRO?

I consider my team to be not only the other officers I serve with, but the Brownsburg Community at large. There are so many times that I have been impressed, amazed, and proud of the achievements and the character of this incredible community - from many great successes to the way people rally around those in need. The objective of providing a safe school is strongly supported by the fact that so many people care so much for Brownsburg.



Student Resource Officer, Nate Flynn, celebrates his eighth year with the BPD this month.

Submitted photo.

Compiled by Tiffany Giles

Where Local Good Grows
**Hendricks County
Community Foundation**



Thank you to our 2016 corporate partners who helped us make a lasting impact for good in Hendricks County!

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- The National Center for College Costs
- The Payroll Department, Inc.
- Robert Hall Insurance
- RLS Building Corporation
- Stoops Buick

Contracts awarded for Brownsburg High School, Brown Elementary

By Becky Schroer

Nearly \$2 million in construction-related contracts were awarded by the Brownsburg Community School Board during its Nov. 7 meeting.

Contracts totaling \$1.66 million were awarded to six different companies for various equipment purchases at the high school. The bids are the first to be let for the high school and represent one percent of the overall construction project.

Another \$236,431 was approved for parking lot, storm sewer, sidewalk and curb construction on the west side of Brown Elementary School. Work will be completed this year, weather permitting. Also at Brown, bleacher and basketball court work is now complete.

The board also discussed the \$98-million in construction projects at the high school and for the new Lincoln Elementary School. Mechanical plans for the high school and construction plans for Lincoln will likely be



presented to the school board at its Feb. 13, 2017, meeting, said chief operating officer John Voigt. Construction plans for the main portion of the high school are expected to be presented in May 2017.

In other business, the board recognized the Sound of Brownsburg Marching Band for its recent national and state competition appearances; teacher Zach Kelley, who was named Indiana physical education teacher of the year; teacher Chris Floyd who was named state outstanding educator in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM); Brown Elementary which was named a national blue ribbon school; and Cardinal Elementary students for their "compassion" presentation.

The next school board meeting is scheduled for Dec. 12 at 6:30 p.m.

Plainfield undertakes actions for future retail growth

By Becky Schroer

Plainfield is planning ahead for future retail growth and redevelopment opportunities. The Plainfield Town Council discussed its plans during a special session and its regular meeting Nov. 14.

The council in earlier meetings approved the hiring of The Veridus Group, Inc., of Indianapolis to consult with the town on retail planning and development as well as to assist a new town economic development director whose hiring has been approved for 2017.

Veridus provides services from concept and design through completion, acting as a project manager throughout the process. The group has overseen work in Noblesville, Lawrenceburg, Brownsburg, Whiteland and other areas throughout Indiana.

A new park in Plainfield – the Bicentennial Park, marking Indiana's 200 birthday – received a boost from the Duke Energy Foundation through a \$62,250 donation. The park will have elements noting the history of Plainfield. "I'd like to thank Duke Energy for its continued support

of the community," said councilperson Lance Angle, who also serves as council representative to the park board.

In other business, the council approved three items relative to traffic in Plainfield. They included:

- The Indiana Department of Transportation's installation of a traffic signal at Main Street (US 40) and Mecklenburg Drive/Vandalia Boulevard. The light will be installed in 2017 in anticipation of continued growth in that area.

- A \$17,500 contract increase with Butler, Fairman and Seufert, Inc. to complete in early 2017 a traffic analysis at County Road 200 South and All Points Parkway to determine if a traffic signal is needed.

- Approved a \$26,390 contract with Traffic Engineering, Inc., to complete the town's annual analysis of traffic volume in 32 locations and turning movements in four locations. Traffic Engineering is consultant to the town and will post its findings on the website <http://www.online-trafficdata.com/map> by the end of 2016.



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NIGHT & day LOCAL Entertainment ENTERTAINING

EVENTS

Dec. 2 • Holiday Fest | 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. | Hendricks County Conference Center 4-H Fairgrounds | Fill a box of homemade holiday cookies and or purchase a pre-made tray, select unique holiday gifts from many vendors., and enjoy holiday music from local children and adults. | Lunch served from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. | For more information, visit: <https://extension.purdue.edu/hendricks>. | The 4-H fairgrounds are located at 1900 E. Main Street in Danville.

Dec. 3 • Tri Kappa Gingerbread Christmas | 9 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. | Plainfield High School | Over 130 vendors will be on-site with unique, hand-crafted gifts, home decor, accessories, seasonal artwork, and more. | Admission \$3 | P.H.S. is located at 1 Red Pride Drive in Plainfield.

Dec. 12 • A Birthday Bash (Indiana bicentennial) | 4:30 p.m. | Avon Washington Township Library located at 498 N. Avon Ave in Avon.

The Hendricks Symphony presents its annual Christmas Concert

By Tiffany Giles

Under the direction of Benjamin G Del Vecchio, the Hendricks Symphony will perform "Christmas Potpourri".

Del Vecchio who began The Hendricks Symphony ten years ago, explained this year's concert is a three part program. "This year is a Christmas classic. The first piece celebrates the sacred Christmas story, the second includes the most popular songs from The Nutcracker and the third is Pops Christmas with an audience sing along. People will enjoy the music and know many of the songs. It is a really wonderful performance with the most wonderful people," said Del Vecchio.

This year's concert has close to 100 musicians from the Hendricks County community as well as several dancers from The Children's Ballet of Danville. The classically

trained ballet students will perform a variety of dances from Tchaikovsky's work including Lighting of the Christmas tree, The Marche, Grandfather's Dance, Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy and Waltz of the Flowers.

The Hendricks Symphony is a nonprofit volunteer organization dedicated to bringing great music to audiences. Started as his retirement project, Del Vecchio who has dedicated his life to building music programs, began working with local musicians to showcase their talent and share great music. The Hendricks Symphony incorporates the musical talents of an orchestra, an adult choir and "Joyful Voices", a youth choir made up of children grades 3-12.

The 2016-17 symphony season also includes fan favorites Peter and the Wolf and The Pirates of Penzance. To purchase season tickets or to donate to the Hendricks Symphony go to hendrickssymphonic.org

The upcoming program, Christmas Potpourri will be performed on Friday, Dec. 9 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 11 at 3:00 p.m. at Avon Middle School North, 1251 Dan Jones Road. Tickets are available for purchase

online or any of these locations: State Bank of Lizton (Hendricks County branches) in Brownsburg, Clayton-Liberty Township in Danville, and Plainfield-Guilford Township Public Libraries.

Please note that purchases made at outlets are cash only. Advance ticket prices are \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors and \$5 for students.



Members of Hendricks Symphony Choir from Sept. 28 concert. Submitted photo.



Christmas Through Their Eyes

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Doors open at 1:15 PM and 6:15 PM.
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To Order online use QR code or www.circlecitysound.org

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Premium Seating (limited)	\$20	2PM__or 7PM__	x__=	\$_____
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Students 9yrs-college	\$10	2PM__or 7PM__	x__= [+]	\$_____
Children 8yrs & under	FREE	2PM__or 7PM__	x__= [+]	\$0.00

Please check those that apply:
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 Please send information on how I can make a tax-deductible contribution to support Circle City Sound.
 If you were referred to this event through a member of Circle City Sound, please provide their name: _____

Orders received after Tuesday - December 6, 2016 will be held at WILL CALL.

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(If you are paying by check, please make them payable to "Circle City Sound")

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HC ICON Quiz Answers

from page 29

1. C
 2. B 4. C
 3. A 5. D



Visit online:
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Send event news to
chris@icontimes.com

FAITH ON FOOD

by Faith Toole

AN OPTION

The Porch

2411 West Main Street
Danville

The scoop: It was a trip down memory lane when my Mom and Aunts met me for lunch at The Porch in Danville. Prior to The Porch, the little blue gingerbread house was my Grandparents home. During my childhood the home was filled with great food and so much laughter.

The Porch did not disappoint, we walked into the aroma of bread baking for the freshly made chicken salad sandwiches and homemade white chicken chili soup. As Grandma would say, we filled our bellies and JoAnn Masterson's Tea Room with laughter remembering our legacy.

The Porch Tea Room is filled with a

wonderful selection of flavorful tea that will be freshly brewed to sip with your lunch and purchase. You'll be amazed to see the walls displaying delicate and whimsical teacups and teapots for sale.

Grandma walked across the street to work at Beasley's Orchard Greenhouses, where the apples, vegetables and Poinsettias were sold. We finished our lunch with warm apple crisp and ice cream. Yes it was delicious and made with Beasley's apples!



WHERE I DINE

Bobbi Miller
Plainfield

Where do you like to dine?

One of my favorite locally owned restaurants is Indian Bistro located in Plainfield.



What do you like there?

Being a vegetarian, sometimes the selection can be limited. Indian Bistro has a wonderful selection of Vegetarian options. My favorite is the Paneer Tikka Masala. Paneer is a cheese curd that is used in many Indian dishes. In this dish, the Paneer is cooked with tomatoes, butter and a creamy sauce. My other favorite is their Vegetable Korma. The vegetables are cooked with onions and a creamy tomato sauce. They have several types of Naan but my favorite is the garlic naan. I also love their wine and beer selection!

What do you like about this place?

The place is nicely decorated, very clean, the food is excellent and the owners are always pleasant. During lunch time, they have a buffet where you can sample any of their specialties.

Indian Bistro
130 N. Perry Road
Plainfield

BEHIND THE BARS

Prime 47
47 S. Pennsylvania Street
Indianapolis

Bleeding Blue

- ◆ Effen Vodka
- ◆ Blue Curaçao
- ◆ Lemonade
- ◆ Splash of lemon-lime soda



Faith Toole is our Hendricks County Foodie. She can be reached at #HCICONFoodie or HCICONfoodie@icontimes.com.

TsT Home Improvement Services Tip of the Month By Tom S. Truesdale

The Finished Basement

The winter season is a great time to complete a finished basement, this month I will provide some tips and idea specifically directed to this type of project.

1. Begin by considering layout for the space:
 - Will the finished space be an open floor plan?
 - Or separate areas such as a bedroom, living space and a bath.
2. If you are considering separate areas including a bath under slab plumbing routing should be planned.
3. If a lower level bedroom is being considered - fire escape egress also needs to be planned and meet local code requirements
4. If a basement wet bar is desired, planning for plumbing and electrical is critical.
5. Electrical circuits should be considered prior to construction, bringing an extra circuit into the space is generally a good idea.
6. Plan for entertainment space:
 - Audio, visual, monitor, lighting, seating and surround sound layout is critical and can become very complex.
7. Any wood framing in contact with concrete should be treated lumber.
8. Consider a drop in ceiling vs drywall, there are advantages to both.
9. Lighting controls and layout should be considered no matter which type of space you are planning.
10. Make sure that any Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing valves, dampers and shut offs are accessible via an access door or chase that can be opened in the future.
11. Selection of finishes:
 - Durability and moisture resistance should be considered.
12. Flood planning should not be overlooked:
 - At a minimum a battery back up sump pump system on a dedicated circuit should be installed.



A finished basement provides immediate usable square footage and value to your home. Basement space is easily kept cool in the summer and warm in the winter. Options for use are endless, from bedrooms, bathrooms, open recreational space to entertainment space. Planning and considering all the options is key before beginning your project. As always consult with a local qualified Construction Professional before starting your project. Have a great holiday season and I hope this month's tips are helpful. Please do not hesitate to call if you have any questions.

TsT Home Improvement Services
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When is *your* big day?

Bridal Show

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**6th Annual
Hendricks County ICON
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January 29, 2017
Noon to 4pm
Held at the Prestwick Country Club
5197 Fairway Drive
Avon, Indiana 46123

To register, please email: debbie@icontimes.com

For questions or vendor space information, please contact
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The Trump effect

By Jeff Binkley

Within 3 days of Mr. Trump's stunning win of the White House, the S&P 500 was up over 3% from its election eve close. Within 11 days, the S&P 500 had achieved a 5% gain. I have written in this column numerous times how "conventional wisdom" is so very often neither conventional nor wise. The 2016 election proves that axiom yet again.

As we head into 2017, it appears that the market has already begun to choose some winners and losers, at least in the investment world. Mexico? Loser. Investments with a Mexican bent had already begun to nod off as Election Day got closer, but when Mr. Trump won, they promptly fell all the way out of bed losing 20% of their value

As we head into 2017, it appears that the market has already begun to choose some winners and losers, at least in the investment world.

within a few days. (WWW.Bigcharts.com)

On the plus side, infrastructure companies, aerospace and defense companies, energy, and financials started to move higher. Both Mrs. Clinton and President-Elect Trump had often spoke of the need to invest in

the bridges, roads, airports, power companies and railway systems that undergird our economic system. After Election Day with Trump on top, people spoke of their belief in his abilities by snapping up companies closely poised to profit from his anticipated infrastructure spending. The new president has made no bones about his ill will to federal regulations. The financial industry is highly regulated and is a prime target for Trumpian deregulation focus. Big banks and other BIG MONEY companies shot up dramatically following the election. And last but certainly not least, Aerospace and Defense companies shot up as well (Pardon the pun). Apparently investors think Mr. Trump will come through on his campaign pledge to rebuild our military into what it once was.

Conventional wisdom said a Trump presidency would send the markets into a tail spin. For now at least, We The People seem to have spoken in defiance of conventional wisdom. And We're speaking with our investment dollars.



Jeff Binkley is the Founder and Managing Director of Binkley Wealth Management Group. He can be reached at Jeff@thebinkleygroup.com or (317) 697-1618.

Make your life insurance work for you

(Family Features) Life insurance is a valuable asset, but over time you may find that your life insurance no longer fits your situation. You might be surprised to learn that in addition to your home, stocks, bonds and antiques, your life insurance is another asset you can sell.

Life insurance policies can be converted to immediate cash through a life settlement, but as many as 85 percent of seniors don't realize this option is available, according to a survey conducted by Coventry Direct.

A life settlement is a financial transaction in which a policyowner sells an unneeded life insurance policy for more than they would have received from the insurance company if they were to lapse or surrender the policy. Most life insurance policy types qualify, including universal life, whole life, variable life, survivorship and even term life policies.

Among the reasons you might consider a life settlement:

- Your life insurance policy is too expensive to maintain. If your premium payments have continued to increase, your policy may no longer be affordable. However, simply

allowing the policy to lapse results in a total loss of the premiums you have paid.

- You have more life insurance than you currently need. As your circumstances and need for financial protection change, you may want to reduce the overall insurance you own. For example, if your policy was intended to pay off your mortgage in the event of your death, but you've since sold the home or paid off your mortgage, you may not need the same amount of coverage.

- You need help with increasing medical or long-term care expenses. Selling your policy can help cover your immediate needs for health care or other unforeseen medical expenses.

- Your debt load exceeds your comfort level. Whether a single emergency incident or a combination of variables compounded your debt, working your way out can be emotionally and mentally draining, but applying untapped assets to reduce the burden may help.

Learn more about life settlements and whether selling your life insurance policy is right for you by calling 888-858-9344 or visiting coventrydirect.com/lifeselements.

HC ICON News Quiz

How well do you know your Hendricks County community?

Test your current event knowledge with a little Q&A!

1 A free kit of Naloxone and training is being offered by the Hendricks County Health Dept. to help what rising problem?

- A. Lockjaw
- B. Heartworms
- C. Opioid Overdose
- D. Unclean tables at restaurants



2 Two native Hoosiers and television actors died Thanksgiving week. Who were they?

- A. Greg Kinnear and Shelly Long
- B. Florence Henderson and Ron Glass
- C. Florence Henderson and Steve McQueen
- D. Dick York and Betsy Palmer



3 The National Transportation Center recently received a zoning amendment for a planned unit development on the site located in what small Hendricks County town?

- A. Belleville
- B. Hazelwood
- C. Haughville
- D. Reno



4 According to a report released by the Indiana Department of Workforce Development, in September of 2016, Hamilton County had the lowest unemployment rate of the nine counties in the Indianapolis-Carmel region surrounding and including Marion County. Hendricks County tied for second (at 3.6 percent) in lowest unemployment tied with what county?

- A. Hancock
- B. Morgan
- C. Boone
- D. Johnson



5 Amber Schroering was recently recognized as Assistant Principal of the Year by the Indiana Association of Schools. What school building does she administrate for?

- A. Plainfield Community Middle School
- B. Danville South Elementary
- C. Brownsburg Community Cardinal Elementary
- D. Brownsburg Community Middle School East



Answers on Page 26

Happy Holidays! Ray's TRASH SERVICE

RAY'S HOLIDAY RECYCLING TIPS:

You can recycle magazines, cardboard boxes, catalogs, and even eggnog cartons using curbside recycling or at a local drop-off site.

Helpful hints:

- Place ALL materials loose in the bin - do NOT bag
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- For Christmas trees, remember to cut the tree into 4' sections and remove ALL ornaments - check your local government website for tree recycling information

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Starting Your LIFESTEPS Journey

DIETARY

By Martha Rardin

As we approach the New Year our thoughts turn to new habits, and initiating a weight loss journey often tops our list of New Year resolutions. Losing weight is difficult and starting the journey is often as difficult as actually working on weight loss.

When the change process is initiated we tend to want the change to occur as fast as possible. And when weight loss doesn't happen quickly, we sometimes get discouraged. Do you remember the Tortoise and the Hare? Change is difficult and ordinarily slow, but always remember that it doesn't mean you aren't making progress. A good friend of mine once told me all you have to do is "do it", and I have encouraged others to understand that the healthy lifestyle journey is important and starts with the first step of starting the journey.

If you are ready to start your journey, Hendricks Regional Health and HRH YMCA have a 16 week program called LIFESTEPS. This journey looks different for everyone, and a past participant states "one must learn to be comfortable with being uncomfortable". LIFESTEPS involves accepting change to re-establish good habits, and improve overall control by making simple changes. LIFESTEPS is a weight management pro-

gram that stresses the importance of diet, fitness, and behavior modification. This program is taught by a Registered Dietitian who focuses on the fundamentals of nutrition and food habits that are pertinent to your goals. Our program also supports you in your current fitness level and can be monitored or modified by our Hendricks Regional Health Exercise Physiologist. If you have not moved or been active in a while, it's okay. The LIFESTEPS program meets you where you are on your journey.

This program requires practice, motivation and repetition in your day-to-day lifestyle which can be tailored individually. LIFESTEPS will build your confidence and self-discipline for the rest of your life. This program has profoundly changed the lives of many. Are you ready for it to change yours? Save your spot now and sign up to attend a FREE LIFESTEPS orientation in January to find out if this program is fit for you. To learn more visit <http://www.hendricks.org/lifesteps>.



Martha Rardin, MSM, RDN, CD, FAND, is Director of Nutrition and Dietetics for Hendricks Regional Health.

The you who you really are

LIFE'S CHOICES

By Karl Zimmer

During the course of our lives, we learn from all of our experiences, whether they are good or bad. Some may argue that we learn best from our unpleasant experiences. We best learn from our mistakes or we'll be doomed to repeat them. May that be motivation enough for us to pay full attention to each and every experience.

At one time or another, especially in our younger years, we may not always make

At one time or another, especially in our younger years, we may not always make the best decisions...

the best decisions, which give us ample opportunity to learn. That is part of growing up and learning who we are. Even as we get older, circumstances present themselves that may cause us to not make the best choices, and that is also part of growing into

who we are meant to be. I am a firm believer that ultimately, everything works out for the best. Every experience has a positive outcome, one way or another. What I know for sure is that if we believe that, it will be true for us.

I have been blessed with a life of many experiences, many opportunities to learn and to grow, and thankfully, I'm still at it. My passion and purpose is helping others navigate life by sharing what I have learned so that they may learn without having to, necessarily, experience the same painful lessons I have experienced. I realize that some people have to learn the hard way, but for those who are able and willing, I am happy and honored to help in whatever way I can. That brings me to one particular hint of a lesson that serves as a reminder for us all. It is a reminder because we already know it, deep inside our souls, and yet we don't always abide by it.

Throughout the rest of this year and in all the years to come, we'll enjoy celebrating our respective holidays. Many of us notice that people tend to be kinder during the holidays. Some people let you cut in line during heavy traffic, some seem to smile a bit more, and many tip their servers at the restaurants a bit heavier, too. What that tells me is that deep inside each of them and each of us, there is a being who is kinder, gentler, more compassionate, more understanding, and more forgiving. I believe that we each have that inside of us at all times. Wouldn't it be great if we allowed that being to come out more often? Would your life be more enjoyable if you did? Isn't that the you who you really are? How cool is that?



Karl Zimmer III is a Board Certified Hypnotist. His practice, Zimmer Success Group (<http://Z-Success.com>), is in Plainfield. Information provided is for informational purposes only and is not intended to diagnose, treat, or cure any condition or illness.

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How to keep your family active this winter



WELLNESS

By Christina Summers

As the temperatures fall and the daylight fades with the season, it can be more difficult for many people to stay active. If exercise was challenging to fit into a family's busy schedule during the summer, there are even more excuses in the winter months.

"When it's cold outside we tend to exercise less and use the cold as an excuse for not going to the gym. We also spend more time in front of the TV and other electronics," says Kathie Saeger, CPNP, a certified pediatric

When you're active in the winter, it can also prevent or improve getting the winter blues.

nurse practitioner with Indiana University Health. "At the same time, we're making a lot of heavy holiday food and saving up money for gifts and parties. There can be a lot of barriers to winter exercise."

When the winter weather sidelines adults and children who are active the rest of the year, there are often measureable differences. Saeger says it's particularly noticeable in patients with chronic illness.

"When they're not exercising or watching their diet, people with conditions such as heart disease, high blood pressure or diabetes may see worsening in those conditions, which improve in warmer months when they tend to be more active," she says.

The good news is that finding ways to stay active can be incredibly beneficial when it's cold and dreary outside. Not only does health improve, but mental outlooks can also benefit.

"Staying healthy can boost your immune system so you can feel better and possibly ward off illnesses," says Saeger. "When you're active in the winter, it can also prevent or improve getting the winter blues or seasonal affective disorder. Plus, getting active gives you a sense of accomplishment because you're continuing to achieve your goals."

Winterize your workout

Saeger says there are a lot of ways to stay active during the winter. She suggests:

- **Making it a competition** among the family to get active during commercial breaks or to walk or run the stairs.
- **Remove sedentary activities.** Stand up while you eat, stop using the remote control to change channels and sit on an exercise ball while watching TV. Or, better yet, decrease screen time all together.
- **Take short walks.** Even 10-30 minutes on a sunny, cold day can make a difference.
- **Treat exercise like an important appointment** and put it into your calendar.
- **Embrace the season** by building snowmen, ice skating and sledding. If going to the gym is too costly, walk laps at the shopping mall

Winter is also the season of large, calorie-rich holiday meals. Saeger says this is the time to consider serving sizes and stay hydrated.

"Eating healthy is about portion control," she says. "I'm an advocate for writing down what you eat and review it daily or weekly to really understand your habits. And be sure to stay hydrated. You spend most of the winter in a warm house or work so your skin gets dry and you may not realize how thirsty you are."



Chris Summers is the Regional Public Relations & Digital Engagement Coordinator for the IU Health Suburban Indianapolis Region serving IU Health North, Saxony, Tipton & West hospitals. She can be reached by email at: csummers1@iuhealth.org.

COMMUNITY

Crane sworn in as District 24 state senator



As his wife, Jean, looks on, senator-elect John Crane (R-Avon) takes the oath of office Nov. 22, officially becoming the state senator representing District 24. Crane, along with eight other new members of the senate, was sworn in by Indiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Loretta Rush. Crane will serve portions of Hendricks and Putnam counties. He fills the Senate seat previously held by State Sen. Pete Miller.

Photo submitted.



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Court rules Brownsburg annexation cannot proceed

By Becky Schroer

After more than three years of court proceedings surrounding annexation of 4,461 acres north of Brownsburg, Marion County Superior Court Judge Heather Welch ruled Nov. 16 that the town "did not satisfy its requirements under Indiana code...and the annexation may not proceed."

The court indicated that questions remained about the uses for the area, Ronald Reagan Parkway construction timing, school impact, etc.

"You can never say it is successful until we know they do not appeal. It has been a hard fight for us," said Sabrina Graham, one of the organizers of the North Group Against Annexation (NGAA). "We will file a motion for cross appeal" should the town appeal the ruling, she added.

"They [the town] thought we would give up because they thought we would run out of money. This was not well thought out... they [the town and council] were trying to beat new state legislation concerning annexation," she added.

The council adopted the annexation ordinance July 11, 2013, and state annexation code was amended in 2015. In October 2013, NGAA filed its remonstrance with the court and included property owner signatures representing 69.48 percent of land parcels within the annexation territory. Several other legal steps were taken prior to the bench trial August 2016, and the subsequent ruling Nov. 16.

Graham said NGAA was able to pursue the cause legally thanks to donations from residents in town and in the annexation area as well as people outside of annexed area "who were afraid they were next." NGAA has spent about \$40,000 fighting the annexation, she added.

While town officials declined to comment about the ruling and whether the town would appeal, Brownsburg Town Councilman Brian Jessen did. "We are trying to be very transparent through this whole process," Jessen said, explaining that some individuals are indicating that legal fees used for this case have not been properly coded. As a result, Jessen requested an accounting of all legal fees, and that figure, he said, is \$547,000. He added that the town and council need to review the case to lay out priorities while listening to residents from both sides of the annexation.

Jessen also pointed out that none of the current town council members were on the board in July 2013 when the annexation was approved. Then council members Duane Sawyer, Rob Kendall and Gary Hood voted in favor, and Dave Richardson and Don Spencer voted against the item. Town council members today include Jessen, Ashley Bacsu, Dennis Dawes, Sean Benham and Chris Worley.

According to the Town of Brownsburg website, "The annexed area increased the town's population by over 3,000 residents

and added approximately \$273 million in assessed value...It is projected to develop within the next 10-plus years, due in part to the annexation area's proximity to the future Ronald Reagan Parkway corridor."

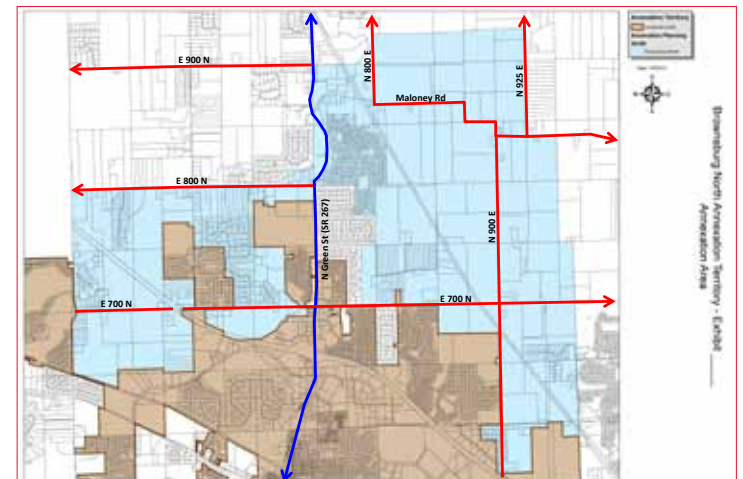
The court stated that the town said the area is "needed and can be used" for the extension of the Ronald Reagan Parkway, for future planning purposes and for road improvements within the western portion of the annexation area. It also indicated that, while the timing for the extension may be within five to 15 years, the construction timing is not precisely known.

The court went on to state, "The town also contends that the annexation area is needed and can be used for future planning purposes, such as development associated with schools in the annexation area and residential development. However, the testimony of Dr. [Jim] Snapp, superintendent of Brownsburg Community

School Corporation, indicated that the school district has no plans with regards to the development of schools within the annexation area of the 111 acres which the school owns."

Additionally, the court said remonstrators testified that the county provides adequate services "and that the only reason that the town wanted to annex their land was for the tax revenues."

NGAA's Graham added, "We don't get to vote for town council. That's what's so frustrating."



Rodgers speaks at AEF breakfast



Patrick Rodgers, pro golfer and Avon High School graduate, was the featured speaker at the Avon Education Foundation's 9th Annual Community Breakfast, Nov. 28 at the Washington Township Park Pavilion Center. Rodgers, middle, took time to have his photo taken with Avon varsity golfers, from left, Camden Gongwer, Cameron Klein, Mike McCue and Payton Kelly. Photo by Rick Myers

Steuerwald honored



State Rep. Greg Steuerwald (R-Avon) accepts the 2016 Legislator of the Year Award from members of the Indiana Trial Lawyers Association, Bruce Kehoe (left), and Dan Ladendorf (center), at the organization's awards dinner in Indianapolis recently. Photo submitted.

December 2016

Teacher of the Month

Miss Shelley Henrich
by Kai Rutemoeller
White Lick Elementary, Brownsburg
Kindergarten



Heather Painter, Shelley Henrich, Chick-Fil-A Baby Cow,
Chris Tincher & Kai Rutemoeller

Since I'm a kindergartener, my mom is helping me write! My teacher, Miss Henrich is great because she gives us tickets for being good. She gives us a prize when we fill up our stare chart for doing our homework. And we are having new math stations this week! She always does fun stuff with us when we are at school. I like that she comes to lunch and talks to us. I really like that she takes pictures of us and makes special books nobody else has. I can read because of her.

Kids, send your name, address and telephone number, along with a 100-word summary of why your teacher should be honored as the Chick-Fil-A/Heat & Cool LLC/Hendricks County Icon Teacher of the Month, to teacher@myicon.info. The deadline for nominations for the December 2016 Teacher of the Month is November 18. Your teacher will receive special recognition plus your class will win a lunch party compliments of Chick-fil-A (Avon/Plainfield). Please take time to nominate a deserving teacher from Hendricks County.

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At right, photos of students in
Miss Henrich's kindergarten class at
White Lick Elementary enjoying a party
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WHERE WE WORSHIP

My name is Dawn C. and I have 2 daughters, Sarah who is attending Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas majoring in Animal Science, and Carolina who works in Park 100. We started off as a military family living in Germany, Colorado, Oklahoma, and then Indiana. My late husband, John, served in the US Army for 20 years, dying from complications related to his last deployment in Iraq. As a family we have been involved in 4-H, FFA, NRA, and other community activities. Having lived in Hendricks County for 14 years, we all call this home.

What is it about your place of worship that helps you grow spiritually?

We are a close knit family community. Members do not just talk about serving others but take action helping Members and non-Members alike; since there is no paid ministry we all have the opportunity to serve! Members went out of their way to connect me into the Church, fellowship with me and have continued to even after I became a member!

What is it about your place of worship that helps you to feel connected to your spouse, children, parents or other family?

The Church has reminded me that we are all sons and daughters of a loving Father in Heaven and how we can be Families together forever!

What is one meaningful event that has taken place at your place of worship?

One meaningful event to me is called "Fast Sunday" which happens the first Sunday every month. Each Fast Sunday we go two meals without eating or drinking so we can become more spiritually in tune. We then donate the money we would have spent on food to the needy. On this day at Church, there is no planned sermons so

members are invited to get up and share their testimony. I enjoy this Spiritual experience!

Why would you recommend your place of worship to someone?

We believe people are all heirs of a loving Father in Heaven and will all have an equal opportunity to live with Him in his Kingdom as we show our Faith and love in his Son Jesus Christ! The Missionaries came over to serve and teach me; answering all the questions I had about the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Through the lessons, I learned more about the Church but was also connected to Church resources and members. I love being a Member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints! Check out the Church's website: MORMON.ORG

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

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Compiled by Cathy Myers



Dawn C. and her daughters, Sarah and Carolina.
Submitted Photo

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Hendricks County ICON's Greatest Generation

Frank Fannin, 90



Frank Fannin, born in Kentucky in 1926, enlisted in the Navy two days before his 18th birthday. He served in WWII and in combat on the Battleship Iowa from 1944-45. Frank was the youngest of five brothers who served along with two brothers-in-law. One brother was a prisoner of war for 18 months.

The Iowa was anchored next to the Battleship Missouri where the peace treaty was signed ending the war and he was able to see the ceremony take place.

Frank is a retired electrician and spent most of his life in Ohio. Now 90, he lives in Plainfield.

NOMINATE someone in Hendricks County that we should recognize as a "Greatest Generation ICON" • email: news@myICON.info

The Word Made Flesh

DEVOTIONAL

By Michael LeFebvre

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God... And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth."

(John 1:1, 14, ESV)

God the Father has always communicated to his people through the Second Person of the Godhead. In the Old Testament, he was known as "the Messenger of the LORD" (Exodus 3:2-4; 23:20-23) or "the Word of the LORD" (Genesis 15:1, 4; 18:1). These titles reflect his role as One who reveals the Father's promises to the world. But in Old Testament times, the Word of the Lord came and went: speaking to his prophets and then departing.

Christmas reminds us of the day when that all changed. In the birth of Jesus, the Divine Word took on human flesh. "And," the Apostle John adds with great marvel, this time he "dwelt among us!" In other words, "he stuck around awhile!" Never before had men and women been able to see, touch, hear, and know the person and heart of God

so intimately. The incarnation is truly the greatest marvel of all time!

Born into a poor household, the only bed that could be provided for him was an animal feeding trough (Luke 2:7). Yet being the very Word or Messenger of God, his birth was celebrated by a choir of heavenly angels (Luke 2:13). The irony of these glorious and glory-less features of his birth suitably capture the marvel of Christmas. The God who is beyond our comprehension has made himself known to us in Jesus.

"We have seen his glory," John leads us in marvel. And in Jesus we find that heaven's glory is not like the glory sought by the elite of this world. Heaven's glory is not consumed with power, domination, and wealth. The glory of heaven that we experience in Jesus is "full of grace and truth."

This Christmas, seek God through his Word, Jesus Christ.



Michael LeFebvre is the pastor of Christ Church Reformed Presbyterian (online: ccrp.church), holds a Ph.D. in biblical studies, and has authored several books.

Denise Mesarosh ensures others have a wonderful Christmas experience

Denise Mesarosh has been on the Project Angel board for five years. She served as vice-president for two years, and was elected board president in April of 2015. She resides in Avon with her husband and six children. Denise was formerly employed with Eli Lilly & Co. working as a data manager for clinical trials. She chose to leave Lilly when she was expecting her fourth child to be home to raise her children. "Finding Project Angel was a blessing that came at a very difficult time when my husband's job was down-sized years ago. We were in need of help ourselves. Project Angel was there for us to help us provide a memorable Christmas for our children that year. The following year, my husband Ronn and I thought it would be a good experience to show our kids how we could "pay-it-forward" by helping Project Angel with delivering food and toys to other families who were in need. It was an amazing, emotional experience, especially for my kids. We were hooked!" The following month, Denise and Ronn were both asked to join the board.

What do you consider your greatest virtue? I believe my greatest virtue is that I try to be "real"! I make a lot of mistakes, but they are usually honest mistakes. I am always trying to fix things for people because I want them to be happy. I often put others feelings before my own, which can be both a curse and a blessing.

What do you most deplore in others? The inability to do the right thing, even when it is hard, uncomfortable, or not trendy. I guess I am one of those who think people should do the right thing, simply because it is right. It isn't easy, but it is always gratifying. Don't make selfish decisions! Ask yourself what is right, and what is wrong. It sounds simple, but missed often.

What do you like most about living in Hendricks County? I love the sense of community! Nobody rallies for their friends, neighbors or acquaintances like we do as a county or community. I also love how we are minutes from the amenities of downtown Indianapolis, but I can also take my kids for a short drive to see a cow, a tractor, or what a cornfield looks like.

If you had to live elsewhere than in Hendricks County, where would it be? I could answer quickly and say any place warm, but when I think about it, I would miss the seasons. There is nothing more beautiful than the first large flaked snow of the season. It looks magical, like glistening pieces of cotton that cover the ground in a clean white blanket of security. I need snow for Christmas! Then it can melt the day after and bring on 50 degrees!

If you could begin life over, what would you change? I would have definitely told my parents how amazing they are, more often! I would have been way less defiant as a teenager. I would have embraced my faith at a younger age because I loved God before I ever knew why. I would try to filter what comes out of my mouth a little more (nah, I wouldn't). I would have stuck up for myself at a younger age because I allowed myself to be hurt emotionally way too often, and I would definitely have finished college. I was so close to my nursing degree when I finally became a mom. I didn't want to miss a second of that!

If money were no issue, how would you spend it? The one selfish thing I would do would be to build a house that suits our family. When we built our house, we were still being told that we couldn't have children. We ended up having five babies, Gretta, Grayson, Pressly, Lennon and Lincoln. And recently we added Aaron to our family. After our house was built, I would pay off my current home, and I would look for a family who rents, and works really hard to do the best they can for their family and I would sell them my current home for \$1.00.

What makes you happiest? My family having fun together. Giving to those in need, and laughing until I cry or snort, whichever comes first.

What is your favorite vacation spot? My husband has family in Alabama and Georgia. I love them all so much. My favorite vacations are to go see them, with no specific plan, just having fun with aunts, uncles, cousins, and watching all of our kids play together like they have never been apart.

What do you do with idle time? I love anything crafty, and I love home improvements. I would

have to flip a house or two when I get my financial windfall. But for now, I don't have much idle time. I have six kids. I try to give them at least a few minutes of individual time to tell them I love them and give kisses. Car rides to run errands have become mine and my husband's alone time.

What is it that makes you angry? I read this question out loud, and my husband said "me"! Not always true. He is my best friend and worst enemy, but we make it work for us. We have been together since I was 18 years old. I can't imagine him not being in my life! Like most moms, I would have to say that the one thing that makes me most angry is when kids are mean to my kids for sad reasons, and even worse is when parents justify their child's bad behavior. You can't teach your kids that they never make mistakes, or that it is ok to say mean things to people.

What do you do to escape from reality? I'm a big dreamer. I daydream a lot! I used to write screen plays to escape reality and put my creative mind to work, but that is one of the things I have tucked away for now. I love to act as well, I did that for a bit out in Los Angeles. Anything creative gives me a break from reality. Painting, crafting, building something, home projects, etc.

What or who is the greatest love of your life? God! Without him, I wouldn't have my other loves. My husband, my kids, my home, my incredible job, my parents, my brothers and sisters, and my friends that are there when I need them no matter what!

Which living person in Hendricks County do you most admire? The living person I most admire would be a 3-way tie between Maggie Hoernemann, Rick Wagoner, and Kris Kingery.

What is the quality you most like in a man? A great sense of humor! You have to be able to laugh, it is what keeps you sane!

What is the quality you most like in a woman? It is admirable to me when a woman can put her family ahead of her career or material possessions. It's not easy to do, especially in today's society. It is hard to walk away from a promising career, and that second income and purposely choose to struggle a little, to be able to be home with your kids.

What is your greatest extravagance? I'm not sure that I have an extravagance. I am happier spoiling others than I am myself. I do love a good French fry!

What are your fears, phobias? Ever losing one of my kids, for any reason. My heart aches for those who have. Not having a safe and secure country for my children to raise a family in. I know this has been a worry with every generation, but some of the things in place in our society today stress me out! I fear growing old, because I have always been so independent. I don't want to think about slowing down.

What has been the happiest time of your life? Being a teen in the 80's! We had great music, great hair, fun clothes and I had a boyfriend who was in a band! Becoming a mom was overly incredible. I can remember every emotion!

Which talent would you most like to possess? I would love to be an entertainer of ole. Back in the time of all of the iconic entertainers, like Bing Crosby, Betty Davis etc, they had to have it all! You had to be able to act, sing and dance. It wasn't just about looks. It was about amazing talent.

What do you most value in your friends? Loyalty! I'm sure I'm not the easiest person to have as a friend. I can be very opinionated and forward. It takes the right kind of person to know that I would do anything for my friends, or family for that matter, and if that means being brutally honest and telling them even the things that they don't want to hear for their well being, than I will.

Which historical figure do you most identify with? If someone has done something great in history, than they are something special. I just don't see myself as special. I just try to follow the right path in life.

What is your greatest regret? Regret for me is pretty short term. I have periods of regret for not continuing to develop my acting and writing career. I regret some things I've done as a parent. I regret some things I've done or not done as a wife or sister. But, for the most part, those feelings are very short lived. I am typically pretty content with the crazy normal that I call my life.

What tenet do you live by? Do the right thing, just because it's right!

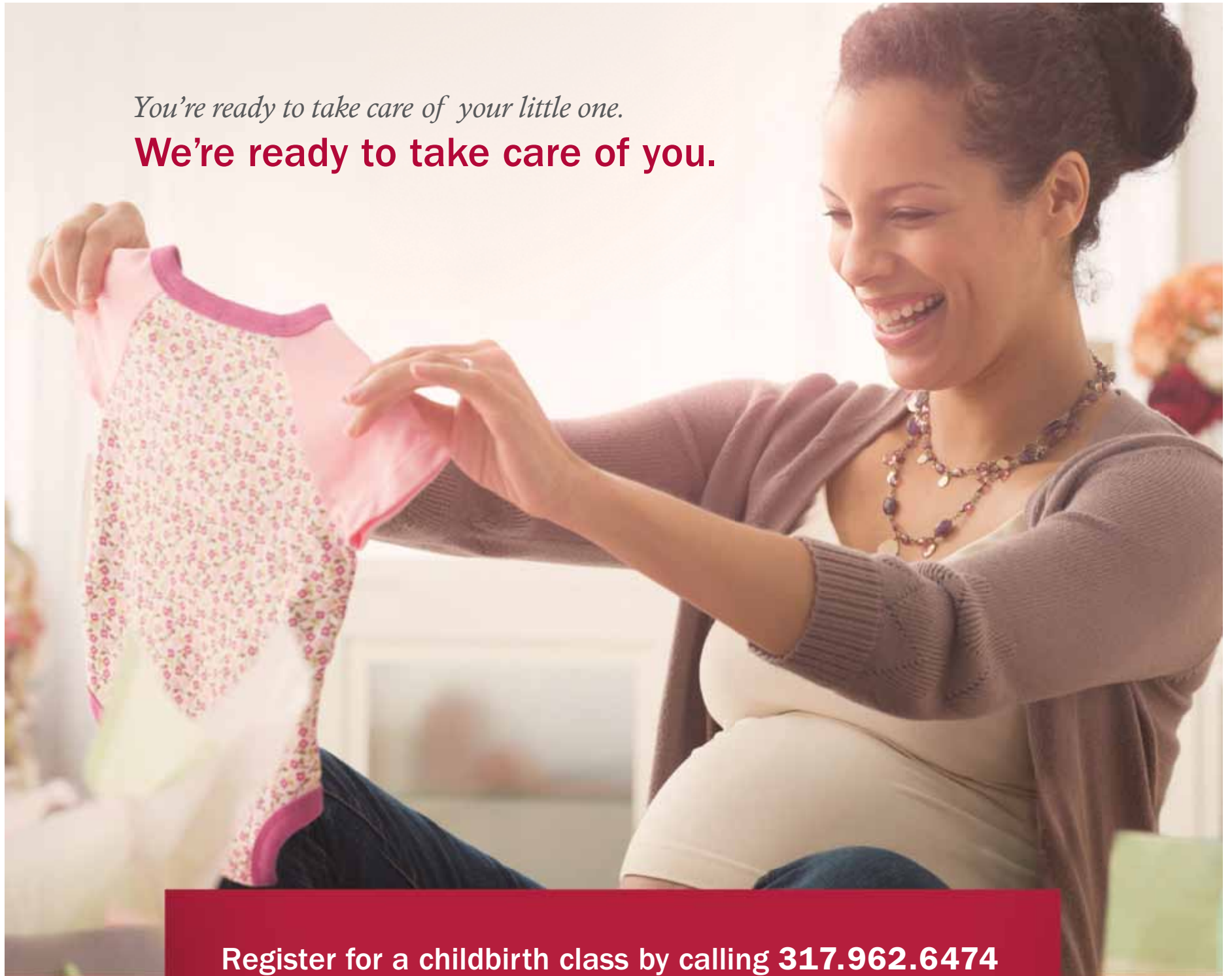


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At Indiana University Health West Hospital, our highly skilled team of doctors and nurses will provide you with exceptional care throughout the entire birthing experience. With comprehensive maternity services, from birthing classes to our Level II Special Care Nursery, each interaction is designed to make you and your family feel safe and special. Because when everything is taken care of, you can focus on your newest family member.



West Hospital

iuhealth.org/maternity