

HENDRICKS COUNTY

ICON

Volume 9 • Issue 14, December 17-31, 2016

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FROM THE PUBLISHER

Thanking Pearl Harbor survivor, Lemar Hartman

When I learned I would have the opportunity to meet Pearl Harbor survivor, Lemar Hartman, I immediately jumped at the chance. I had a full Saturday already, but nothing was going to get in my way.

The gymnasium at North Salem Christian Church on Dec. 10 was slowly becoming stuffy with people - family, friends, and surely those who had no connections, like me, with Lemar at all.

As the story goes, Lemar, who lives in Irving, Ill, but lived in North Salem and served as the Eel River Township Trustee, enlisted in the Navy in 1941. Serving on the USS Selfridge, he arrived in Pearl Harbor on Dec. 6, the day before the Japanese attacked. Lemar also published a book titled *5 Years - 7 Months - and 4 Days - Including Experiences During WWII*.

Lemar was honored by the town of North Salem as well as the American Legion Post 145, Avon. Lemar's grandson, Mikel Hartman, told those in attendance that his grandfather was the "greatest patriot" - "I just want to thank him for his service and honor him."

"What an honor to be in the presence of such a hero," Mike Welsh, commander of Post 145 told those in attendance.

Indeed.

Hendricks County Sheriff Brett Clark brought his son, Jack, and some of his friends to meet Lemar. One by one the young men went up and shook his hand and said, "thank you." Yes, thank you, Lemar, and to all of you who served during World War II, your sacrifices will never be forgotten.

Mikel told me that Lemar enjoys communicating via Facebook and that he checks his email "every 15 minutes." For those of you who use Facebook, I encourage you to drop Lemar a note - tell him how much you appreciate the sacrifices he made for our country. I guarantee you'll be happy you did.



Rick Myers is co-owner of Times-Leader Publications, LLC., publisher of Hendricks County ICON and Hendricks County Business Leader. Write him at rick@icontimes.com.



ICONtoon

The worst gifts of the year

HUMOR

By Dick Wolfsie

Each year I poke fun at the world-famous Hammacher Schlemmer gift catalog and highlight their most ridiculous holiday offerings. This latest December issue had a few doozies, like:

THE SPINNING SPAGHETTI FORK, which first appeared in the catalog three years ago. It was a boon for people too tired to

This is the perfect present for the person in your life who is looking for a new way to annoy people...

drive to Olive Garden only to then have to actually twirl the spaghetti themselves.

Apparently, the device was such a hit that in this month's catalog we now have THE LAZY LICKER'S SPINNING ICE CREAM CONE. Yes, as we celebrate the 115th anniversary of the ice cream cone, the folks at Hammacher Schlemmer have finally found a way to take all the fun and guesswork out of eating America's favorite treat. The battery-operated plastic cone spins at 25 rpm, "providing lethargic lickers" with the joy of their favorite frozen treat without having the tedious task of moving their jaw. This is the perfect gift for...for...I have no idea.

Just below the Spinning Spaghetti fork is the CHILD'S VACUUM SET and the SOUND EMULATING JUNIOR LANDSCAPER'S SET. Both these products are pint-sized replicas of the actual devices so toddlers can practice what they apparently hope to do when

they grow up: clean houses and mow lawns. Parents can set a good example, using this gift idea to instill a strong work ethic in their children. And they can do this while they're sitting in a lounge chair while operating their Lazy Lickers Ice Cream Cone.

How about some TAP A TUNE MUSICAL GLOVES? Put on these hand warmers and you can turn any flat surface into a keyboard, each finger of the glove playing a different note. This is the perfect present for the person in your life who is looking for a new way to annoy people if telling bad jokes, humming holiday tunes, or wheezing incessantly just hasn't done the trick.

The CHILDREN'S VOLKSWAGON TOUR BUS allows a youngster to role play as a tour bus driver while sitting atop the pedal car, equipped with a microphone. While you go on with your own adult conversations—ignoring your child's babbling—your precious two-year-old will have the impression you are paying attention. Just like a real tour guide.

Finally, there's the APP CONTROLLED ROOMBA 980. This is a device you can command from anywhere in the world. Using an app on your smart phone, you can tell the Roomba to clean your carpet in any part in the house. I can't tell you how many times my wife and I have awakened during a vacation, looked into each other's eyes and said: "Let's do it...let's remotely vacuum our carpets."

Happy Holidays!



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

Have a memorable Christmas

For many hard-working folks in Hendricks County, Christmas is an opportunity to spend time with friends and family. And time is precious. Always fleeting, it can seem unforgivable. But it does afford us the chance to create lasting memories. Because as we make our way around the sun, once again, the year 2016 will be little more than a series of memories, just like the photographs printed in this paper. The most significant images are recorded, impressed, and retrievable. The rest are forgotten.

But to be fair, every moment is significant in a way. Ralph Waldo Emerson said "I cannot remember the books I've read any more than the meals I have eaten; even so, they have made me."

As right as Emerson is, that even forgettable moments make an impact, the time we have with our family should be anything but. And what better time than Christmas to ensure moments are special - that they will be remembered and shared for years to come? After all, happy memories are gifts in and of themselves.

Many Hendricks County residents have taken this to heart. From our bigger towns

The most significant images are recorded, impressed, and retrievable.

like Avon and Brownsburg, to the smaller communities like Pittsboro, Amo, or Clayton, entire families can be seen out enjoying the festivities. What's interesting is that people seem to enjoy small events just as much as they do large, grander ones. This lends itself to the idea that, regardless of external ques such as brightly lit events or mountains of wrapped presents, the important thing is that family and friends are together for the holidays.

We want to wish our readers a Merry (and memorable) Christmas, and encourage everyone to take some time away from work, and give it back to your loved ones.

BELIEVE IT!

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

In Rhode Island, you may not sell toothpaste and a toothbrush to the same customer on a Sunday. **SOURCE: dumblaws.com**



Pet present

READER'S WRITES

Imagine the joy a child feels waking up on Christmas morning to find a kitten or puppy wagging its tail. It is truly a lovely sight. Other toys are thrown aside as the children focus all of their energy on this new, furry family member. The bond between a child and their pet is amazing.

That being said, setting your child and your pet up for success is extremely important. There is an increase in animals surrendered to shelters every spring. These are the once small pups and kittens that were so cute under the Christmas tree.

For some owners, the novelty wears-off. And jumping that was once cute is now a nuisance, that adorable nipping now hurts, and the care involved takes more time than was expected. These animals want so badly to please their owners, but without an adult taking the time to work with them, they often become too much to handle.

Holidays are busy and families typically lack the time needed to establish a routine for their pet - and a routine is vital. If you find yourself saying you don't have time, remember that pets do take a lot of time, es-

pecially puppies! The time you invest early on will create a happy dog, and in turn, a happy family. Even older dogs coming into a new home take time to learn what is expected of them.

While caring for a pet is a valuable experience to share with your child, the responsibility should fall on the adult. Children are still learning these things themselves. So we can't expect a child to provide care for another living creature.

If you decide you have the time to invest in a pet, consider wrapping a collar and putting it under the tree. Once the holidays are over and you have more time, go to a shelter as a family and find the pet that is a great match for you and your children.

If you don't feel you have the time for a pet, consider volunteering at a local animal rescue. Placing a dog outside to live or crating them for long hours isn't fair to them. Dogs need exercise and thrive in a family environment. A pet is a lifetime commitment and shouldn't be taken lightly. Pets take time and patience, but the joy they provide makes it all worth it.

Renee Harlor
46112

QUOTE

"For eleven months and maybe about twenty days each year, we concentrate upon the shortcomings of others, but for a few days at the turn of the New Year we look at our own. It is a good habit."

~ Arthur Hays Sulzberger

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.

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

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Cooperative

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.



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Hendricks County ICON reaches a vast segment of our community. For information about reaching our readers, call Debbie Abshier at 317-443-6191 or email her at debbie@icontimes.com.



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ICONICimage



Lemar Hartman shows those gathered at North Salem Christian Church on Dec. 10 a framed acknowledgement that he received from the Town of North Salem. Family and friends brought Hartman back to North Salem from his home in Irving, Ill, to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor and his survival of the attack. Hartman was the Eel River Township Trustee and spent his 30s and 40s in Hendricks County. Read more about Hartman in From the Publisher, page 6. Photo by Rick Myers.

OOPS!

In the Dec. 1-15 issue of the Hendricks County ICON the photograph, "Holiday Spirit Shining Brightly" was incorrectly identify. The person is Hannah Hauser. The ICON regrets the error.

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Students honor Indiana with historical performance

White Lick Elementary students recently honored veterans and celebrated the Indiana Bicentennial with song, dance, juggling, and a wagon parade. This historical performance called "Bicentennial Kids" was made possible through a grant awarded to music teacher Marie Kirkeiner and instructional coach Julie Copeland. In addition to a musical performance, students built and paraded wagon floats, each one representing a point of interest in Indiana. The InCredible Award grant was presented by the Brownsburg Education Foundation and sponsored in part by Falcone Volkswagen, Subaru & Saab. For more information, visit brownsburgeducationfoundation.org.



Fifth-graders from White Lick Elementary performing. Submitted photo.

Time-honored: recognizing the efforts of volunteer historian and former teacher Sally Lawson

COVER STORY

By Gus Percy

A tireless volunteer that keeps the torch of Hendricks County history burning, our ICON of the year is Sally Lawson of Danville.

Lawson, as nominated by Gail Tharp, is a critical volunteer at the Hendricks County Historical Museum. In 2007, she joined the board of the museum at 107 S. Washington St., in Danville.

"Her interests at the county museum have been many, as she has been a hands-on person with displays, tending to the care of the former sheriff's residence (which houses the museum), organizing the Christmas decorations, and serving as the tour director for the past nine years," Tharp wrote in her nomination letter. "She has spent countless hours on the telephone arranging docents to assist with the tours, of which school groups are her favorites."

"Sally does this because she has a love for it."

~ Deanna Hindsley

There might be a very simple reason for Lawson's passion for school tours. She retired as a teacher of 22 years at Danville Community School's South Elementary, where she helped third and fourth graders learn about Indiana history.

"She puts a lot of time in on the phone and also trains the docents," Tharp said. "So when someone says they want to be a volunteer, she trains them on the tour and what to do."

"That's probably why she loves being a volunteer," said lifelong friend Suzanne Whicker. "She's still teaching."

The former Sally Sutherlin arrived in Danville as a fourth

grader herself. She lived in many historic homes in the area, even the apartment above the Royal Theater at one time, says Whicker. In high school, Lawson was a cheerleader at Danville High School, encouraging the Warriors to victory. She graduated from Indiana University with a teaching degree.

"She's always upbeat," Whicker said in describing Lawson. "Always has something positive to say. She has a terrific laugh and a great sense of humor." Whicker added that Lawson is a lifelong learner and a consummate reader.

Lawson is no longer on the board of the museum, but continues to organize the tours, tour guides and the arrangements of the museum. "Sally is the quintessential volunteer because she probably knows more about the museum than any of us," said Hendricks County History Museum Board President Deanna Hindsley. "When she does a tour, it's a thorough tour. It's almost impossible to get that kind of volunteer. Sally does this because she has a love for it."

Lawson also does the rounds at the service clubs, giving presentations on the museum and the history of Hendricks County. In addition, she is an active member of Alpha Tri-Kappa, another organization dedicated to the community.

She's married to attorney David Lawson.

For her work as a community volunteer and all she does to preserve the history of Hendricks County, the ICON is proud to designate Sally Lawson as our ICON of the Year.



ICON of the Year, Sally Lawson, with husband, David.



ICON of the Year, Sally Lawson giving a tour to Avon third graders at the Hendricks County Historical Museum. Photos submitted.



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www.danvilleindiana.org/parks

Investigation into shooting continues

By Gus Pearcy

Investigations into the death of 29-year-old Bradley King of Avon continue, said Capt. Amanda Goings of the Hendricks County Sheriff's Department.

"There is an internal investigation," Goings said. "There's also, I guess for lack of a better word, a parallel investigation. We brought in an investigator from the Avon Police Dept. as well just to make sure everything is transparent and above board."

The reserve officer who fired the fatal shot has not been identified, but will not be scheduled to work until after the investigation is complete, Goings said.

King called 911 twice on Nov. 29. The first time, he asked to speak to an officer, but then cut off the call saying he didn't need an officer after all. A call from the same number came at 2:42 p.m. but no one was on the line. When dispatchers returned the call, the caller said it was an accident.

Following protocol, the Hendricks County Sheriff's Dept. sent officers to the address on Sheffield Drive in Avon after both calls. The first time, officers could not get an answer to their knocks. The second time, however, the officers found King in the backyard.

According to the report, while officers were talking with King, he pulled a knife out of his pocket. He was asked several times to drop the knife. Instead, King "rapidly approached" one of the officers who shot King in the torso. He was pronounced dead on the scene.

Since the shooting, family members have revealed that King was schizophrenic. They have also raised several questions about the officer's conduct. Foremost is why the officer in question couldn't use his taser instead of shooting King.

The investigation is expected to wrap up soon with word from the Hendricks County Prosecutor's Office, Goings said.

Grant towards officer's salary reallocated at his own request

By Cleveland Dietz

The Avon Police Dept. will use \$117,000 grant towards the purchase of an unmarked police car this fiscal year.

The grant was awarded by Project Lifesaver, an organization that provides funding to emergency service agencies to aid in finding people with mental disabilities who tend to wander and get lost. The funds also included payment for 75 percent of the salary of Assistant Police Chief Brian Nugent for his role as program coordinator. However, Nugent asked the Avon Town Council at its Dec. 1 meeting to reallocate funds budgeted for his salary to the cash purchase of an unmarked police car.

Nugent told the council the department has historically financed new vehicles over three years. This was an opportunity to buy a car without impacting years of town budgets.

The car would be assigned to Police Chief Sean Stoops. His current car — another unmarked vehicle — would then go to the department's pool of reserve cars. It would be the only unmarked car in the pool and detectives would use it as a backup vehicle.

"We wouldn't want them conducting surveillance in a marked car a quarter-block from the suspect," Nugent said.

According to Stoops, as it stood, if a detective's car becomes unavailable, then they have to resort to using a marked car or trade cars with him or Nugent to keep working.

Nugent also requested approval for a \$10,740 purchase of two in-car video recording systems. Revenue raised earlier in the year — through an Avon Chamber of Commerce fundraiser, and the sale of two decommissioned police cars — would cover the cost.

The chamber's goal was to raise \$10,000 for protective equipment for the police. It raised \$17,054.

"It was pretty incredible — the support from all the businesses and community," Nugent said.

The council asked police if they had purchased protective equipment as required. Nugent told them money for the cameras would come from some of the excess funds raised.

The council approved both requests unanimously.



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THE SPIRIT OF CARING®

St. Vincent opens health care center in Plainfield

By Gus Pearcy

Dec. 12 St. Vincent opened an ambulatory care center offering immediate care, imaging, cardiovascular, and physical therapy services. It is the first of three planned ambulatory care centers to open in west central Indiana. The others will be opened next year in Brownsburg and Crawfordsville.

"As the healthcare industry moves toward more personalized care, patients expect providers to make their services more accessible and convenient for them," said Aaron Shoemaker, Chief Medical Officer, St. Vincent Medical Group. "These new centers will provide the same high quality care our patients have come to expect from St. Vincent, but with a lesser wait time, which will provide a better experience for the patient."

Even though there are many medical providers in Hendricks County, St. Vincent

Director of Public Relations Tangelia Floyd said that the new center will help local St. Vincent patients.

"Depending on which immediate care facility you go to, not all of them offer everything," Floyd said. "We are trying to make our services more accessible to everyone. So having these locations, people won't have to come all the way to St. Vincent to get something done that can be handled by these centers."

The center is located in the former Staples building at 2155 E. Main St., Plainfield. Hours are 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays.

St. Vincent is a nonprofit healthcare system sponsored by Ascension

For more information, call (317) 204-6800.



St. Vincent Ambulatory Center, 2155 E. Main St., Plainfield.

Submitted Photo.

Time Capsule Dedication



Kelly Meyer, Danville, looks on as Pam Chapman, Danville, looks at a miniature Hendricks Power Cooperative truck. The truck, amongst other items, was on display during the dedication of the Hendricks County Bicentennial Time Capsule at the Hendricks County Government Center Dec. 10. The Bicentennial Time Capsule, which will be opened during the state's Tricentennial, is sponsored by Hendricks Regional Health. Photo by Rick Myers

AHS student named delegate to U.S. Senate Youth Program

Avon High School Student, Rushi Patel, was recently selected to represent Indiana as a delegate to the United States Senate Youth Program (USSYP). Patel is one of only two students chosen from the state to take part in the program which is held in Washington D.C. March 4-11. He will also receive



Patel

a \$10,000 scholarship towards his college education. While in Washington, Patel will join other student delegates and attend policy addresses by senators, cabinet members, officials from the Departments of State and Defense and directors of other federal agencies, as well as participate in a meeting with a justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. For more information about the USSYP, please visit www.ussenateyouth.org.

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Brownsburg's Hession Farms wins Indiana Soybean Alliance' Best Colts Tailgate

ICONography

Hession Freedom Farm Tailgate won the Best Colts Tailgate Contest, presented by the Indiana Soybean Alliance, on Dec. 11. Hession and Unsupervised Chaos, were selected from over 100 entries and six semi-finalists.

Fans submitted tailgating resumes via Colts.com and the team's social media outlets. Semi-finalists were invited to set-up at a selected Colts home game where they were judged on Colts pride, creativity, food quality and overall presentation. As the winner, Hession received \$1000 in cash, a \$500 Pro Shop Gift Card, a Colts Team Autographed item, a prime tailgating spot in 2017 and will have their name placed on the "Colts Tailgate of the Year" Trophy.

"We were very excited to win the 2016 Award for the Best Colts Tailgate," Tammy Hession noted well after the tailgate. "We said we were in it to win it!"



Top, left: From left, Tammy Hession, Matt Hession and Anthony Hession celebrate their first-place win. Middle: Hession tailgaters celebrate after the announcement they had won. Bottom, left: Stephanie Railey and Kelli Hession; Bottom, middle: From left, Indiana Soybean Alliance judges Katie White and Angie Six try some of Bo and Stephanie Railey's Bacon Explosion. Bottom, left: The sign says it all. Photos by Rick Myers

FOR THE RECORD - HC OBITUARIES

Avon

Bradley W. King

Bradley Wayne King, 29 of Avon, passed away Nov. 29, 2016. He was born Nov. 23, 1987. Services were held Dec. 3 at Mary Queen of Peace Catholic Church in Danville.

Marilyn M. Bennett

Marilyn Mae Bennett, 80, of Avon, passed away Nov. 30, 2016. She was born June 7, 1936. Services were held in Centerburg, OH.

Brian Patrick Bixler

Brian Patrick Bixler, 28, of Avon passed away Dec. 4, 2016. He was born Sept. 11, 1988. Services were held Dec. 8 at Conkle Funeral Home Avon Chapel.

Joyce M. Henderson

Joyce M. Henderson, 62, of Avon, passed away Dec. 8, 2016. She was born July 17, 1954. Services were held Dec. 14, at Hampton-Gentry Funeral Home in Plainfield.

Kathy Ann Trout Graves

Kathy Ann Trout Graves, 72, of Avon, passed away Dec. 9, 2016. Services were held Dec. 12 at Hampton-Gentry Funeral Home in Plainfield.

Edward Lee Lash

Edward Lee Lash, 90, of Avon, passed away on Dec. 05, 2016. He was born June 25, 1926. Services were held Dec. 10 at Flanner and Buchanan in Speedway.



Andrews



Bennett



Bixler



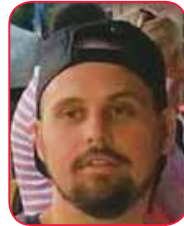
Graves



Janssens



Johnson



B. King



Lee



Malone



Edwards



Ryan



Henderson

Brownsburg

David H. King

David H. King, 61, of Brownsburg, passed away Nov. 27, 2016. He was born July 11, 1955. Services were held Dec. 17 at Eaton Hall in Brownsburg.

Robert A. Janssens

Robert A. Janssens, 92, of Brownsburg, passed away on Nov. 28, 2016. He was born Sept. 5, 1924. Services were held Dec. 1 at Messiah Lutheran at Eagle Creek.

Patricia Louise Wesley

Patricia Louise Wesley, 74, of Brownsburg, passed away Nov. 30, 2016. She was born Aug. 18, 1942. Services were held Dec. 2 at St. Malachy Church in Brownsburg.

Rose Lee Ryan

Rose Lee Ryan, 77, of Brownsburg, passed away Dec. 6, 2016. She was born July 27, 1939. Services were held Dec. 10 at Connection Pointe Christian Church in Brownsburg.

James V. Andrews

James V. Andrews Jr., 73, of Brownsburg, passed away Dec. 7, 2016. He was born April 6, 1943. Services were held Dec. 10 at Matthews Mortuary in Brownsburg.

Mary E. Webster

Mary E. Webster, 81, of Brownsburg, passed away Dec. 11, 2016. She was born June 18, 1935. Services were held Dec. 14 at Hampton-Gentry Funeral Home in Plainfield.

William G. Doherty Jr.

William G. Doherty Jr., 72, of Brownsburg, passed away Dec. 11, 2016. He was born July 23, 1944. Services were held Dec. 16 at Conkle Funeral Home, Speedway Chapel.

Danville

Barbara A. Lee

Barbara A. Lee, 86, of Danville, passed away Nov. 28, 2016. She was born July 2, 1930. Services were private with Burial at Crown Hill Cemetery in Indianapolis.

Norman K. "Norm" Malone

Norman K. Malone, 85, of Danville, passed away Nov. 30, 2016. He was born May 10, 1931. Services were held Dec. 5 at St. Augustine Episcopal Church in Danville.

James Vincent McMahon

James Vincent McMahon, 84, of Danville, passed away Dec. 3, 2016. He was born Dec. 13, 1931.

Dorothy H. Flaherty

Dorothy Helen Flaherty, 92, of Brownsburg, passed away Dec. 8, 2016. She was born on Dec. 26, 1923. Services were held Dec. 15 at White Lick Presbyterian Church in Avon.

Plainfield

Louise Campbell Johnson

Louise Campbell Johnson, 84, of Plainfield, passed away Nov. 26, 2016. She was born on May 16, 1932. Funeral services were held Dec. 3 at Hampton Gentry Funeral Home in Plainfield.

Noble W. Edwards

Noble W. Edwards, 95, of Plainfield, passed away Dec. 7, 2016. He was born Nov. 22, 1921. Services were held Dec. 11 at Hampton-Gentry Funeral Home in Plainfield.

Francis Dale Graves

Francis Dale Graves, 99, of Plainfield, passed away Dec. 8, 2016. He was born on April 20, 1917. Memorial services were held Dec. 17 at the Plainfield Friends Meeting.

Elaine Irick

Elaine Irick, of Plainfield, passed away Dec. 3rd. Services were held Dec. 17 at the Plainfield United Methodist Church.

HENDRICKS COUNTY ICON'S
ADOPTABLE PET OF THE MONTH
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Brownie a one year old Lab mix and just a bundle of fun energy! Her original owner loved her but was placed into a nursing home and is unable to care for her. Brownie has been raised around children but seems to do best with older children. She does great with the dogs in her foster home. She is doing great learning her house manners and has done well when crated. We have a trainer working to help her learn those basic manners. She is so smart and picks up on things very quickly! Brownie will do best in an active family where she is able to have plenty of time to play. If you are looking for an active dog to join your family, please apply to adopt Brownie.
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Christmas cheer around HC

Photos by Chris Cornwall

Top: Josie Miller (5) plays a game of ring toss with Venture Church member Tammy Shook at Pittsboro's Christmas in the Park, Dec. 11. Tammy, along with Pastor Rob Dugan, and his wife Jaime set the station up for kids waiting in line to see Santa. The event also included carolers, local vendors, and a crafts station from the Northwest Hendricks County Kiwanis.

Bottom left: Residents filled the Historic Square during Light up Danville, Nov. 26. The Kaisers were just one of the many families that took part in the celebration. Pictured here are Christina and Chris Kaiser with sons Brendan (6) and Caden (8).

Middle: Boston (4) and Callie (6) Boling feed marshmallows to Barney, a 3-year-old dromedary camel owned by Tom Bales (left). The petting zoo was one the attractions featured at Hometown Holiday at Hummel Park, Dec. 10. Parks Administrator Derrek Clay said what makes the event so special is a "phenomenal community."

Right: As Santa approaches in his sleigh, youngsters quickly gather candy thrown from passing floats on Green Street during Christmas under the Stars in Brownsburg, Dec. 3. The parade always begins after dark, highlighting a caravan of brightly lit floats.



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Mobile pantry feeds 100 families in two hours

By Cleveland Dietz

The line at the Hendricks County Convention Center Expo Hall is long. People in it carry empty boxes and reusable grocery bags. Some have carts. When they get to the sign-up table, Bill Matlock or Teresa Muncie asks for the number of people in their household and their ages. Then she gives them a clothespin with a number on it. They move past her to lines of boxes and cans of food stacked on a row of tables. Each has a sticky note with a number written on it to tell people how much they can have.

This is Gleaners' Mobile Food Pantry. It visits the convention center once a month and typically serves between 90 and 125 families in two hours. Volunteers from the Hendricks County Coalition of Food Banks run the event.

Matlock and Muncie each operate a food pantry in the county. Matlock's is at Stilesville Christian Church. Muncie and her husband, Gary Montgomery, run theirs at Graceway Fellowship in Plainfield. Their pantries, along with several others in the county, are Gleaners partners.

"If I could help people financially I would, but I can't do that. This is just my way of helping."

~ Teresa Muncie

Gleaners partnership used to mean that pantries could pick up donations from retailers at a food storage warehouse in Indianapolis. Now Hendricks County pantries can bypass the warehouse and go directly to the retailer. Muncie, who is partially blind in both eyes after having a stroke in 2000, arranges pick-up days for Graceway, Stilesville Christian, St. Mark's, St. Stephen's, and Faith Lutheran.

"It's my way of being able to help people," she says. "If I could help people financially I would, but I can't do that. This is just my way of helping."

The work keeps her and her husband busy about 48 hours a week. Their pantry is open for regular hours twice a month, but they also serve folks as the need arises. Besides his work with the Graceway pantry, Montgomery works nights as a security guard.

"We did not expect it to blow up and expand like it has, but by the grace of God it has and by the grace of God it keeps going," Montgomery says.

The Graceway pantry serves an estimated 80 to 105 families per month. Muncie says the work is a continuation of a lifelong desire.

"Helping people has basically been my passion all along," she says.

Coalition board member Brandon Morphew is the administrator of the food pantry at Abundant Life Compassion Ministries in Danville. He says the coalition has served 158,000 meals this year so far and all 21 member-pantries have served more people than they did last year.

"You have to look beyond the people that may abuse it, because if you can reach the ones that do need it that's what's important," Matlock says. "I think it's just the right thing to do—help each other."



Above: Gary Montgomery and Teresa Muncie stand together in the pantry room at Graceway Fellowship in Plainfield.

Below: On a day described by volunteers as "very slow," clients of the Gleaners Mobile Food Pantry in the expo hall at the Hendricks County Convention Center work their way through the selection of food and other items on offer.



Santa House celebrates 50-year tradition

By Gus Pearcy

He was only 10-years-old when his parents, Henry and Vivian Haase began the tradition of Santa's appearance at Plainfield Plaza. That was 1966.

"They had a second store next to the shoe shop called Heaven to Eleven," Henry and Vivian's son Mitch Haase said. "It was a children's shop, newborn to size 12. They thought that lent itself to Christmas, Santa and kids, so they, back in the day when businesses had windows that they set, they put Santa up and had a photographer taking pictures."

A few years after the 1974 formation of the Plainfield Kiwanis Club, Henry Haase was looking for some help with the Santa House and it provided a perfect fundraiser for the club.

Today, with help from the Plainfield High School Key Club, a youth version of the Kiwanis, the Santa House is celebrating 50 years of tradition.

Mitch says around 1971, after the children's clothing store closed, Santa was moved to the 8X12 mini shed that is festively decorated for the holidays, sitting out in front of the Wings Etc. in the plaza.

Aside from suffering an act of arson in the mid-1980s, the shack has maintained the same set up for all these years. Tom Hilligoss, the managing volunteer for the Kiwanis, says all the profits are then donated to Riley Children's Hospital. Last year, the Plainfield Kiwanis and Key clubs gave a check to Riley's totaling \$4,100.

"I'd call it a Plainfield tradition more than anything," Hilligoss said. "We've had grandmothers come in that had their pictures taken when they were little, bringing their

grandkids in. I have a crew of three ladies in their 50s that have been coming since they were kids. They still come in every year and get their picture taken with Santa."

On Saturday Dec.17, reindeer will be on site for photos and petting. It's one of the most popular days of the year for the Santa House.

The Santa House is open 4-7:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, 11 a.m to 5 p.m. on Saturdays, and 12-3 p.m. on Sunday through Dec. 23. Photos with Santa are \$6.



Photo by Jim Meyer

New firefighter paramedics introduced, council expands internal controls policy

By Chris Cornwall

Fire Chief Mark Morgan introduced two new recruits at the Danville Town Council meeting Dec. 5. Upon completing a two-week training program, recruits Zachary Gruber and Ray Mulvihill will serve as fire-

fighter paramedics for Danville's department which covers 112 sq. miles. "They came with beaming recommendations and we are thrilled

to have them," said Chief Morgan. He went on to say that the addition of Gruber and Mulvihill will bring the department back to a full staff of 23.

In other business, the council moved to adopt an internal controls policy that, in the event of missing funds, stipulates what dollar amount would or would not be reported to the State Board of Accounts and State Police. Clerk Treasurer Jennifer Pearcy recommended that all discrepancies/theft over \$1000 be reported. "That doesn't mean if \$100 is stolen that we aren't going to do something about it," she clarified.

Pearcy assured the council and public that any discrepancy, despite the dollar amount, would be addressed. However,

reporting amounts under \$1000 to the State would not be prudent in light of the resources required to do so. Pearcy also explained the decision to recommend this amount was made

after consulting with officials from neighboring municipalities, along with various legal and financial professionals. The ordinance is expected to be adopted

before year's end.

In other council business:

- Madam President Lynch announced that beginning next meeting (12/19), the Danville Town Council will begin taking public comments again.

- Proclamation for Home Health Care was reviewed but could not be approved by the council given the fact November has already passed. The proclamation would have made the month of November "Home Health Care Month."

- The council also approved the implementation of a new phone system by One Choice Technology that will cut costs by approx. \$300 monthly.

The next Danville Town Council meeting will be Monday, Dec. 19 at 7:00 p.m.



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*John, Jamestown
Zac, Brownsburg*



Plainfield seeking school counseling grant through Lilly Endowment



By Becky Schroer

Plainfield Community School Corporation will evaluate its current counseling programs via a Lilly Endowment grant.

The school board Dec. 8 approved application for the grant as proposed by Dr. Laura DelVecchio, director of student learning at Plainfield schools. The endowment program includes two phases – planning and implementation. Schools could receive up to \$50,000 for the planning phase for which Plainfield is requesting \$12,000.

The Lilly Endowment's Comprehensive Counseling Initiative for Indiana K-12 Students, is a five-year effort to encourage school corporations to explore how they help students from elementary grades through high school prepare for academic, career and personal success. Through the grants, schools may learn more about the best practices for comprehensive counseling programs in Indiana and from around the country, evaluate their current counseling programs, and develop and implement plans to enhance the quality and expand the scale of their counseling programs.

The initial non-competitive planning grants as well as the secondary competitive implementation grants are based on student enrollment. For implementation grants, which can be used during a four-year grant period, applicants may request up to \$100 per student enrolled, and the amounts may range from \$100,000 to \$3 million. At this point, Plainfield is only considering application to the planning phase, Dr. DelVecchio explained.

She also explained that Plainfield will use the \$12,000 grant to partner with Indiana Youth Institute to evaluate its current counseling programs. One step is to survey the community, students, teachers, administrators, etc., to see where the schools' counseling practices stand and if the schools are meeting the students' needs. If the findings show additional counseling programs are needed, the school system will apply for a highly competitive implementation grant, Dr. DelVecchio added.

"The endowment's aim is to help school corporations and charter schools eventually implement comprehensive approaches to school counseling that address the academic, college, career, and social and emotional needs of K-12 students," said Sara

B. Cobb, the endowment's vice president for education. She added that there are promising approaches to counseling in Indiana. Some school systems are adopting aspects of best practice comprehensive counseling models, such as using on-line counseling and advising tools, integrating counselors into school leadership teams, reducing counselors' non-counseling duties and engaging local businesses and community organizations to augment school counseling programs.

The endowment, however, believes more of such approaches are needed. "Enhancing and expanding in a comprehensive way the academic, postsecondary, career, and social and emotional counseling in Indiana's schools could help reverse Indiana's negative trends," Cobb said.

Some of those negative trends include:

- Indiana ranks 45th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia in the number of K-12 students per counselor with an average of one counselor for every 620 students.

- Indiana ranks 30th in the nation in the overall well-being of children and youth. A survey of 43 states showed Indiana ranked first in the percentage of high school students who had considered attempting suicide and second in the percentage of high school students who attempted to take their own lives.

- Indiana ranks 43rd in the nation in the percentage of adults, age 25 to 64, with at least a bachelor's degree. And according to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, in 2015 Indiana ranked 39th in the nation in per capita income, having slipped from 29th in the nation since 1995.



The Plainfield Middle School orchestra performs just prior to the Plainfield School Board meeting Dec. 8. This is the first year for the orchestra at the school. Students played a variety Christmas carols at the delight of the audience.
Photo by Becky Schroer

Happy Holidays! Ray's TRASH SERVICE

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HC ICON News Quiz

**How well do you know your Hendricks County community?
 Test your current event knowledge with a little Q&A!**

1 Who tweeted over Bicentennial weekend, "Two hundred years and we're just getting started. Happy Birthday, Indiana?"
 A. Senator Evan Bayh
 B. Senator Dan Coats
 C. Gov. Mike Pence
 D. Governor-elect Eric Holcomb



2 Voter turnout for the 2016 election was at a record high in Indiana. Hendricks County, along with Vermillion and Wells counties, tied for second highest turnout at what percentage?
 A. 70 percent
 B. 71 percent
 C. 68 percent
 D. 57 percent



3 The Plainfield Rotary Club sponsored a Bicentennial Legacy project commissioned by the Indiana Bicentennial Commission. The project named the 10 Most Beautiful _____ in Indiana.

- A. Uber drivers
- B. Historical plaques
- C. Taverns
- D. Courthouses



4 Started by a doctor, what landmark in Hendricks County recently went up for sale?

- A. Hendricks Regional Health
- B. Doc McStuffin
- C. Chateau Thomas Winery
- D. The Palms (formerly Primo's)



5 The Angel of Hope statue in Avon Town Hall Park is based off of which novel?

- A. The Christmas Box
- B. Angels Among us
- C. Angels and Demons
- D. Chicken Soup for the Soul series



Compiled by Gus Percy
 Answers on Page 18



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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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EVENTS

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.

Dec. 17 – 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. 17 - 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. 17 - 24 • Santa at The Shops at Perry Crossing | Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. | 2499 Perry Crossing Road in Plainfield | Santa will be available for photos. For more information, visit www.perry-crossing.com/go/mallevents.cfm.

Chateau Thomas hosts annual 'New Year's Eve Party'

By Tiffany Giles

One of Hendricks County's hidden gems lies tucked away in Plainfield and for anyone yet to make New Year's Eve plans, Chateau Thomas Winery may be just the place to welcome 2017.

The winery boasts an impressive list of over 50 varieties of wine, each made at Chateau Thomas. Owners Dr. Charles Thomas and his wife Jill take great pride in wine making, giving attention to every detail to ensure quality. The award-winning wines are crafted using old world French techniques from grapes grown in the Pacific Northwest.

"The food is five star, the wine is award winning and the party is fun."
~ Colleen Byron

On Dec. 31, Chateau Thomas is teaming up with the Staybridge Holiday Inn Express to host a New Year's Eve celebration for a 150 lucky guests. The hotel is conveniently located within walking distance of the winery, and guests are invited to check into their rooms as early as 3:00 p.m.

At 5:00 p.m. in the hotel lobby, there will be meet and greet where Chateau Thomas wines will be featured. During this tasting, each couple will select a complimentary bottle of wine for their dinner. Light hors d'oeuvres will be served.

Head Chef Pete Gulesian will then prepare a gourmet meal to be served at 8 p.m. in Chateau Thomas' Grand Vineyard Room. Gulesian has been creating delectable dishes at the winery for over eight years and is currently finalizing the holiday menu.

After dinner, couples can dance the rest of 2016 away with DJ J'Ivan (pronounced



J'Ivan) under a traditional New Year's disco ball and welcome 2017 with a champagne toast. To be sure guests aren't going to bed hungry, at 1:00 a.m. a light omelet station will open and eggs will be made to order.

Staybridge is offering breakfast as well as late check out to all Chateau Thomas party goers on Jan. 1.

"The food is five star, the wine is award winning and the party is fun. Couples can relax and enjoy the evening because we have taken care of everything!" said Colleen Byron, Banquet Coordinator.

To book your New Year's Eve reservation at Chateau Thomas, call Colleen Byron at (317) 203-7846. The cost is \$335 per couple which includes the hotel accommodations. Payment is expected at the time of booking. Groups are welcome and will be seated together in the Grand Vineyard Room.

If you can't make it to this year's holiday celebration, don't fret, the winery is open year round, offering guests a unique tour through the winery and tastings daily and of course it's never too early to begin your Valentine planning.

Dec. 18 • Scout Sunday: Earth Party | 1:00 p.m. - 4:00pm | McCloud Nature Park, 8518 Hughes Rd. in North Salem | Kids explore meteorology and geology through experiments. Recommended grades 2-5. \$10 per person. Registration is required. To register or for more information, visit www.hendrickscountyparks.org.

Dec. 18 • Christmas Dance Party | Brownsburg Ballroom Dance Studio, 1650 N Northfield Dr., Ste. 400 | Group swing class, 6:15 p.m.; Party starts at 7:00 p.m. | \$12 in advance or \$15 at the door, includes dinner, door prizes, open dancing, and showcase dancing. Space is limited. For more information, call (317) 286-7504.

Dec. 20 • 6th Annual Soil Health Winter Clinic | 8:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. | Starkey Farm, 9225 County Rd 700 W in Brownsburg | Presented by Hendricks County Soil and Water Conservation District. Tickets are \$20. For more information, visit <http://hendricksswcd.sdf.org>.

Dec. 20 • Plainfield 653 Installation of Officers | 7:00 p.m. | Plainfield Lodge & Appendant Bodies, 107 S Center St. | Food and fellowship will start at 6pm with the ceremony to follow. The ceremony is open to the public.

Dec. 31 • State Bank of Lizton NYE Party | Begins at 8:30 p.m. | Green Street Pub & Eatery, 911 N Green St. in Brownsburg. | No cover charge for this event.

Dec. 31 • Jambox New Year's Eve Bash | 10:00 p.m. | Brownsburg Bowl/The Dog House, 18 Whittington Dr. in Brownsburg.

HENDRICKS COUNTY
ICON

Send event news to:
Chris@icontimes.com

HC ICON Quiz

Answers

from page 17

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



Visit online:
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FAITH ON FOOD

by Faith Toole

AN OPTION

Mayberry Cafe
78 West Main Street
Danville

The scoop: My husband and I enjoy going to the Mayberry Cafe for some of Aunt Bee's cooking (by Brad Born, Chef and owner). Once you're comfortably seated, you can watch reruns of The Andy Griffith Show as Aunt Bee cooks for Andy, Opie, and Barney.

The catfish dinner is my husband's favorite. I enjoy the pork chops, but usually order the spinach salad with grilled chicken, seasonal fruit, and dressing on the side. We order without looking at the menu, but this visit we did. Brad has updated the Mayberry Cafe's menu with new entrees as well as lighter healthy choices. Well, neither of us ordered healthy. Guess who had the

catfish dinner with salad bar? I ordered one of the Ciabatta Bread Sandwich selections and chose the Turkey & Brie cheese with spicy cranberry sauce. Just like the menu read, "It's to die for!"

As Barney Fife would say after one of Aunt Bee's suppers, "Yep, that's the plan. Home...little nap."



WHERE I DINE

Nikki Norton
Avon



Where do you like to dine?

The Black Swan in Plainfield is one of my favorites.

What do you like there?

Their truffle fries are amazing - all kinds of combos available between the seasoning and spices. The sliders are great too. And I love their pear cider.

What do you like about this place?

The bar is dark wood, large booths and high top tables. The service is always friendly and quick. I frequently meet friends and clients here for a drink after work. It's a relaxing atmosphere.

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



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La Ranchera
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Reds' catcher, Barnhart, gets behind diabetes fundraiser



Samp's Hack Shack, Brownsburg, was the place to be on Dec. 10 as owner Bill Sampen and his wife, Amy, held their annual "Strikeout Type 1 Diabetes" fundraiser.

Cincinnati Reds catcher and Brownsburg High School graduate, Tucker Barnhart, was on hand for autographs and photos. There were also plenty of sports memorabilia auctioned off. In addition, Mississippi Raglips and The Riverdogs were there to entertain.



Top, Bill Sampen talks to those in attendance. Middle, Tucker Barnhart give Maddox, Wynk, 8, Brownsburg, an autograph on his Reds jersey. Bottom, left, Jim Cooley, left, and Brian Barnhart belt out a tune. Bottom, right, Jeff Shriver make the harmonica scream.

Photos by Rick Myers

Easy prime rib for New Years!

RECIPE

By Jerry Rezny

Prime rib is an easy product to roast and perfect for holiday entertaining. It is also known as "ribeye roast" or "standing rib roast" (if you took the raw roast, cut out the bones and sliced it, you would have ribeye steaks). I like the bone-in roasts because the bones act as a rack in the roasting pan. Also, the name "Prime Rib" does not mean that the grade of the meat is prime, it just means it's a primal cut.

Ingredients:

- 1 5-6 lb. Prime Rib
- 1/3 cup olive oil
- 3 minced garlic cloves
- Kosher salt
- Fresh cracked black pepper
- 1 tsp. sugar
- 1 tsp. white vinegar

At least 2 hours before cooking, rub roast with garlic, kosher salt and cracked black pepper, then put roast in a roasting pan, bone side down. Let it warm to room temperature. Preheat oven for 30 minutes to 450 degrees.

When oven is fully preheated, put the roasting pan in the oven. After 15 minutes, lower the heat to 325 degrees. Check inner



temperature with a digital quick-read thermometer every 15 minutes until it reads 110 degrees. Remove from oven, tent some foil over it and let it rest for 20 minutes. It will keep cooking as it rests. Final temperature should be around 125 for medium rare. As it rests the juices will redistribute so don't be tempted to cut it until it has rested!



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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How will the election affect small wineries?

WINE & DINE

By Charles R. Thomas, M.D.

From the results of the Presidential election Nov. 8, most of the people in the service area of Chateau Thomas Winery were pleased to see Donald Trump elected President and our Governor Mike Pence the new Vice President. We will await the changes they promised to deliver. Indiana will remain in Republican control with a new Governor, Eric Holcomb, who will hopefully embrace the value, merits, and needs of Indiana's Small Farm Wineries and Microbreweries.

Regulation

One of the promises of the new President is to reduce the Federal bureaucracy. With that comes a reduction not only of the regulations, but of the number of people currently working to administer them. There have been many regulations levied by the Federal Government and the Environmental Protection Agency that have adversely affected grape growing and production, especially on the West Coast where the majority of grapes is produced. Water rationing and rights, the protection of obscure endangered species, property rights of farmers, and disputes over the insignificant production of carbon dioxide by the fermentation of grapes once a year are just a few of the seemingly nonsensical issues that plague the wine industry. Hopefully, a more practical approach to the problems will result in harmony and more



wine. Environmental issues related to the Global Warming/Climate Change skirmishes impact the grape and wine making industry in many ways.

Grape Growing

Immigration reform is also an issue that affects the wine industry both positively and negatively. We need workers to pick product and all the other duties necessary in the growing of grapes and the making of wine.

Wine Shipping

The difficulty wineries experience shipping their product across state lines lies not with Indiana or whatever home state is involved, but with the recipient state where laws have been enacted to protect the wine industry of that state. Remedies proposed and enacted in recent years have sounded good, but, in fact, paying a fee of \$300 to \$2500 every year for the privilege of selling wine in that state is too costly for most small wineries.

Tourism

Tourism is the lifeblood of a small winery. The ability to interact, one-on-one with a visitor to engage them with the virtues, history, merits, and products is how wineries and breweries have reached the popularity they enjoy currently. Wineries have an impeccable history of product safety, public enjoyment, and the highest consumption responsibility in the industry. They are almost all family run and family oriented. It is hoped that new administrations will avoid undo or unnecessary regulations that will stifle tourism. Tourism feeds the industry, but also the financial coffers of state and local governments in many ways.

In Plainfield, The Hendricks County/Embassy Suites Convention Center has just begun work on the new Convention Center on Clark's Creek Road at Perry Road that promises to greatly increase tourism in Plainfield, Hendricks County, and all of the Indianapolis International Airport corridor.

Hopefully, with this election, the future for wineries and other small businesses has just improved.

TO THE KIND READER -

For the past 9-10 years, it has been my pleasure writing wine articles for the ICON and Times. There are now an abundance of articles to educate and entertain you in every issue, so I am taking my leave now and will be a reader instead of a writer. I wish my successor and all you faithful readers good Holiday Cheer (if you know what I mean) and best wishes for the New Year. It has been fun!



Charles R. Thomas, M.D. owns Chateau Thomas Winery with locations in Plainfield, Fishers, Bloomington and Nashville. Contact him at charlest@chateauthomas.com.

Plainfield rec and aquatic sprucing up

Users of the Plainfield Recreation and Aquatic Center have or will see several updates to the facility, following renovations completed in August.

"Probably the biggest change was the renovation of the men's and women's locker rooms," said parks and recreation director Clay Chafin. "These included redoing the floors, installing new hand dryers to eliminate paper and become more eco-friendly, adding new wallboards and decorative wall panels to improve aesthetics, and updating shower equipment and replacing shower curtains."

"We've ordered new LED lights to replace most of the lights in the locker rooms, too," he added. "We'll be installing those when they come in." A deep cleaning of the locker rooms was also completed.

"Requests for meetings spaces requiring a warming kitchen have increased," Chafin said, explaining that the indoor café was repurposed to accommodate this change. "We also updated the technology in the two large meeting rooms. We now have new screens and new sound systems. Patrons can more easily access their presentations," Chafin added.

Replacing the indoor aquatic center roof, which was begun during the closure, will continue through the end of 2016. "It's a maintenance issue that really needed to be addressed. We're using the aquatic center's slowest time of the year for accomplishing the task, but there's never a perfect time to do something like this," Chafin explained.



Richard A. Carlucci Recreation and Aquatic Center, 651 Vestal Rd. in Plainfield. Photo by Chris Cornwall

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BIZ FOCUS

Seizing a jewel of an opportunity

For almost nine years, Sarah Fentz was at a career crossroads. She was studying interior design at IUPUI and even held a job in the industry. But just before graduation, the job was no more.

So the 2003 Brownsburg High School graduate did what many of those who are about to graduate from college don't do - start her own business.

"It was just kind of a hobby, side income," she says. Well it's paid off - Enter Seize the Night Handmade Jewelry & Accessories, Danville. She then just, "put more time into my jewelry and it took off."

Peruse her shop and you will see all kinds of eclectic jewelry - rings made of old typewriter keys, etc. Customers can come in and ask Fentz to expand on the many designs or simply create something custom.

She has been in her present location for a little over two years - prior to that she worked out of a home studio. "Small-town charm," she says of her desire to be on Danville's Square. "I wanted a place to separate my personal life from my business."

Fentz says she'd like to grow her business but it's not easy finding someone who can duplicate her talents as an artist. "It's a lot to try to teach someone, but if I could expand I would."

Seize the Night

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Photos and story by Rick Myers



Above: Sarah Fentz, owner/operator of Seize the Night Handmade Jewelry & Accessories in Danville.

Left: Fentz crafting a piece of custom jewelry in her workshop.

Above Left: Fentz takes inspiration from anything and everything as evidenced by her workshop.

Above Middle: With artistic precision, Fentz pieces together a daisy pendant.

Above Right: Pieces of jewelry that Fentz has crafted.

Business Leader Extra

Taking the helm

After months of serving the Hendricks County Economic Development Partnership as its interim director, Jeff Pipkin finally gets the green light to lead

Jeff's list...

Five books that had an impact on Jeff Pipkin:

- *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee
- *The Shack* by C. Baxter Kruger
- *Atlas Shrugged* by Ayn Rand
- *Benjamin Franklin* by Walter Isaacson
- *Slaughterhouse Five* by Kurt Vonnegut

How Jeff did it:

What's the best advice you ever received?

Never burn a bridge with someone. You never know when that relationship will come back around. It's always better to stay on good terms with someone.

Best business decision you ever made:

The decision to stay within the economic development industry and not the industry that matched my college major (Computer Information Systems). I believe this industry has been much more fulfilling than what I would have had in computers. Every project is different and you get to interact with a lot of great people.

Worst advice you ever received:

It is not actually advice, rather something I learned from observing someone. Shooting down every idea or always playing the devil's advocate when your board members are offering ideas gets tiresome very quickly.

In five years, I want ...

I would like for the HCEDP to be back and firing on all cylinders with a full staff of 3 (maybe 4) and Hendricks County to continue to be one of the fastest growing counties in the State.

My secret to success is...

Always being honest, approaching all ideas with an open mind, and listening first rather than speaking.

By Chris Cornwall

While earning his degree in computer information systems (CIS), a career in economic development never crossed Jeff Pipkin's mind. Today, Jeff is the Executive Director of the Hendricks County Economic Development Partnership (HCEDP). "A lot of people in this industry get into it by accident," he said.

Pipkin graduated from Franklin College in 2001, a time sandwiched between the 'tech-bubble' and 'Early 2000's Recession.' Consequently, the recent graduate had trouble finding work in the CIS industry.

Needing a job, he heard that the Mooresville Economic Development Commission was looking for someone good with computers. "I took that job thinking I'd be there for six months," he said.

But what he thought was nothing more than a temporary position, soon revealed itself as a possible career path. His interest in the area grew, and he began taking training classes with University of Oklahoma. "I was able to get deeper in the weeds of economic development. Before, there really wasn't a curriculum for it," Pipkin said.

His efforts certainly paid off. Presently, and just twelve years after taking that first job in Mooresville, Jeff Pipkin was named Executive Director of HCEDP.

He learned however, when first coming to Hendricks County as Director of Business Development in 2013, that the work-demands were quite different. "It's night and day with respect to the amount of projects that come here in comparison to Morgan County," he said.

Pipkin says that many of

these projects look to Hendricks County for its transportation infrastructure. Two of its most attractive assets are Interstates 70 and 74. "Most large projects need to be within five miles of an interstate to make business-sense," he said. "We also are near the airport (IIA) which has the second largest FedEx hub in the world."

He also described the racing industry as key for future development. Brownsburg is currently home to almost 30 race teams. But it's not just that these teams are doing business here that's valuable. "There's so much innovation and precision that has to go into making race parts - getting the cars to work the way they do," said Pipkin. "Some of those skills can transfer over to medical device companies for example."

The high volume of potential projects has continued since Pipkin joined the HCEDP in 2013. But more recently, with the departure of former Executive Director Cinda Kelley-Hutchings in January, his workload increased significantly. He was tasked with running the day-to-day operations by himself as Interim Executive Director. "We were already busy with 3 people. So with only me it was just chaotic. I was working 70-80 hours a week to keep everything going," he said.

Jeff persevered however, and his "interim"

status was dropped in October. He has also begun rebuilding the team. Pipkin recently hired Laura Steele, the current communications manager. "She has taken a lot off my plate. I met her at Leadership Hendricks County and she has been fantastic," he said.

Now that he is Executive Director of the HCEDP, Pipkin looks to future with specific goals in mind. His plan follows the initiatives set forth by the Inspired financial campaign in 2013. One of these is trying to get Hendricks County working synergistically. Although the towns are very different from each other, he said it's important they work together towards the same targets.

Another focus for Pipkin is business retention and expansion. He makes it a point to check on local businesses to see if they are having issues. "...that could be anything from issues with the police or fire, or shaky internet or electricity. Then we can get them in touch with resources that can take care of that, or we can call them ourselves" he said. Additionally, if a business is looking to expand, Pipkin says they will help with potential incentives that many are unfamiliar with.

Over the course of his young career, whether it was taking extra classes to cope with a new job, or working 16 hours a day just to maintain it, Pipkin has proven capable of overcoming every obstacle in his way. But now that Pipkin isn't working 80 hours a week, he is thankful to have more time with his family. He and his wife Erin have three children together. Erin Pipkin is currently Vice President of Borshoff, an advertising and public relations company based out of Indianapolis. Their sons are Sam (13), Max (10), and Alex (7).

"It's a good feeling when I drive by a building that I helped bring a company into. I can say, 'hey I had a hand in bringing business here that just gave 300 people jobs.'"



Photo & Cover Photo by Rick Myers

HCEDP receives \$5,000 grant from Duke Energy

Duke Energy has awarded a grant of \$5,000 to the Hendricks County Economic Development Partnership for a marketing program focused on specific properties in combination with a targeted industry study. "Through Duke Energy's Marketing Partnership Program, we provide funding to local and

regional economic development organizations in our service territory to help attract jobs and business investment," said Erin Schneider, Duke Energy Indiana director of economic development. "We're proud to support these groups who are working hard to bring economic vitality to their communities."

Duke Energy selected a total of 12 Indiana economic development groups to receive the grants through a competitive application process that demonstrated their plans for creating and achieving long-term strategic goals.

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RISKY BUSINESS?

Regaining the reins

By Chris Cornwall

Ever since a pony graced her third birthday party, Emily Rose Phoenix has been hooked on horses. Today she is the owner of Phoenix Rising Horsemanship. As a professional horsewoman, Emily travels throughout the county giving lessons to riders, and training horses for their owners.

Phoenix began taking lessons at eight years old. At 15, she self-financed her first horse, a Half Arabian named Arrow, and began teaching riding lessons. She even earned a degree in Equine Training and Instruction from St. Mary of the Woods in Terre Haute. While in school, Phoenix was able to teach on a part-basis. "The real education comes from working under people who do it, and from hands-on experience," she said.

After school, Phoenix made the leap to full-time and became a professional riding instructor. But like any young career, it hit a few snags along way. It seemed that whenever she found a venue to lease, the owners either sold their stables or eventually became opposed to Phoenix's client traffic. "I finally just shut done," she said. "It was disheartening and I took a lay-off for a while." Phoenix took an assistant teaching job.

Although Phoenix was burned out on the business end, her love of horses led her to compete in the 2016 Hoosier Horse Fair last April. She displayed her horsemanship prowess, catching the attention of many equine enthusiasts. "Out of nowhere, people were coming up and asking me if I could train their horses," she said. Re-igniting her interest, she quit her day-job and reestablished herself with Phoenix Rising Horsemanship.

"A lot of people tell me that your passion should be your hobby, not your job. "But also I hear that if you love what you do, then you won't work a day in your life. I'm trying to find the balance in between."

For more information about Phoenix Rising Horsemanship, visit: www.phoenixrisinghorsemanship.com.



Above right: Phoenix riding Cocoa through the creek that runs in front of Swalley Stable.

Above left: Emily helps Asciana Herndon (8) mount her Mustang before starting the day's lesson. Asciana has been riding since age 2. "Emily has really furthered her riding skills," said mom Kyra Herndon.

Bottom: Phoenix riding Cocoa in the vast pastures of Swalley Stables in Brownsburg.

Photos by Chris Cornwall



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Puzzle Time

Across

- 1. Nae sayer?
- 5. Spoiled child
- 9. Swiss city on the Rhine
- 14. Hindu lawgiver
- 15. Long fish
- 16. Diciembre follower
- 17. Dentist's request
- 18. Home of the Bruins
- 19. Mr. Moto portrayer
- 20. Ape
- 22. Multicolored
- 24. Smack
- 25. The beginning
- 26. Outcast
- 29. Kingdom
- 31. Water vapor
- 32. ____ shui
- 33. "As if!"
- 36. RR stop
- 37. Power plug transformer
- 40. Weep
- 41. Big bang cause
- 42. Iowa State city
- 43. Encore!
- 45. The Hilton, e.g.
- 47. Infuriate
- 48. Swindle

51. Not fooled by

- 52. Inhibit
- 54. Eyelash cosmetic
- 58. Accumulation of fluids
- 59. Side
- 61. saw Elba
- 62. Beer mug
- 63. 1975 Wimbledon winner
- 64. Interpret
- 65. Emcees
- 66. Bluey-green color
- 67. Dextrous, lively

Down

- 1. Problem with L.A.
- 2. Crime boss
- 3. Doozy
- 4. Republic in N Africa
- 5. The land of Israel
- 6. Summary
- 7. Everything
- 8. Nicholas II was the last Russian one
- 9. Satan
- 10. Assumed name
- 11. ____-Croatian
- 12. ____ the side of caution
- 13. Lerner's partner

21. South American ruminant

- 23. Proverb
- 26. Hey, you!
- 27. Env. notation
- 28. Hire
- 29. Drive away
- 30. Tolkien tree creatures
- 32. Renown
- 33. Final Four org.
- 34. Not a dup.
- 35. Actress Daly
- 38. Palm fruits
- 39. Tirades
- 44. Food store
- 45. Recluse
- 46. Vast seas
- 47. Tooth covering
- 48. Newly made
- 49. Resulted in
- 50. Fencing blades
- 51. D-Day beach
- 53. Sports figure
- 55. Carpeting calculation
- 56. The back end of something
- 57. Helper
- 60. End for Siam

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
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62						63					64			
65						66					67			

Look for puzzle solution in the next issue of the Hendricks County ICON

Happy Birthday, Indiana!

The Avon-Washington Township Public Library held its "Birthday Bash" in celebration of Indiana's admittance to the Union on Dec. 11, 1816. Susan Truax, AWTP's local historian, talks with Christian Townsend; Charlotte Richardson, 4, waves an Indiana State Flag; Some of them items that will be placed in a time capsule which will be open in 50 years.





From left, Bart Fisher, Kim and Carl Baver, and Charlotte Frazier

Avon Chamber of Commerce members get into the Christmas spirit



From left, Bev Austin, Dave and Debbie Cox



Whitney Driver and Jeff Binkley

Avon Chamber of Commerce members gathered to share holiday spirit Dec. 9th at the Avon American Legion Post 145.

Photos by Gus Percy



From left, Lesley Rhoden, Jeff and Carrie Hanni, and Autumn Bucy



From left, Chuck McLean, Tom Klein, Geoff Bradley and Greg Zusan



From left, Susan Lindgren, Jennifer Miles and Don Kohler



From left, Tracy Whetstone, Maggie Hoernemann and Melanie Allen

Questions for...

10

2017 Indiana Mr. Football Hunter Johnson

Hunter Johnson recently became the first Brownsburg High School player to be named Indiana's Mr. Football, and is the second consecutive selection from Hendricks County to earn the title. Avon quarterback Brandon Peters won in 2015. Johnson passed for 2,233 yards and 25 touchdowns, leading the Bulldogs to an 8-2 record and Hoosier Crossroads Conference title. The 6-foot-4, 200-pound Johnson will graduate early and start classes at Clemson after he plays in the U.S. Army All-American Bowl on Jan. 7 in San Antonio. Here we ask Hunter Johnson 10 questions...



Photo by Kim Berry

1 Was becoming Mr. Football in your mind when you started your high school career?

Definitely, Mr. Football was something I hoped I would get one day. During the season or seasons past, I never thought about it. I would just go week to week and focus on each game. After this season, I felt I had a pretty good shot at it. Now that it's happened, it's pretty cool. It's something that I've really worked for and wanted for a long time.

2 What was special about your career at Brownsburg and what will you take with you moving forward?

It's just the people I've met there, the players, the coaches and the teachers. They're all great people I will be in touch with for a long time. Players on the football team, I'll be in touch with for the rest of my life. Ever since I came to Brownsburg (as a freshman), they've been nothing but welcoming to me. I couldn't be happier with how things went for me there. It was just a great time.

3 When you visited Clemson, what convinced you that it was the right fit?

I kind of knew after my first visit that Clemson was where I wanted to go. They are the kind of people I want to be around and the coaches I want to play for. It's just a great fit for me personally. I couldn't be more excited about it.

4 In the four years you played at Brownsburg, in what area did you see the most improvement?

Starting as a freshman and working my way up to be a senior, I've grown a lot as a leader for my team. Being around the older guys, I had to learn to how to communicate with them. I knew I had become someone who could lead a team, and I think I was able to do that this year. But it was a great year overall for all of us. We had such a strong senior and junior class - and guys below that as well.

5 Your dad, Reed, played football and baseball at the University of Evansville, how much help has he and your mother Shana been for you and your brother?

My dad coached us in football, baseball and basketball when we were younger. Both my parents' support has been huge for me and my brother — how much time they've given up for us and all the traveling around the country. They would do anything for us. I love them to death.

6 What do you do to relax from recruiting stress?

Outside of football, I definitely try to be with my friends as much as possible. I'll have 15 or 20 guys over at my house and we just hang out. Or we go to their houses and hang out. That was a big thing for me, developing relationships with my best friends. Sometimes we'll play basketball until 2 or 3 in the morning.

7 Your older brother, Cole, has had athletic success and is playing (as a receiver) at Northwestern. What impact has he had on you?

My brother (an Avon High School graduate) has always been a great example for me. He's someone I've always looked up to. He's been great about giving me advice when it comes to college and playing at the next level. He's a really great person.

"Players on the football team, I'll be in touch with for the rest of my life."
 ~Hunter Johnson

8 Clemson coach Dabo Swinney is a dynamic personality. What are your thoughts on him?

He's a great guy and really honest with you. He's just a great coach and I can't wait to play for him as well as the rest of the staff. They are a lot like me and people I could enjoy being around for four years. It's fun to see how much success they're having with the talent they have this year.

9 You were able to meet Payton Manning at his Manning Passing Academy camp. What influence has he had on you?

Going to his camp, it was neat to be around him and to seeing how detailed oriented he is. He was also fun to watch (for the Colts), seeing what a smart football player he was. It was something to aspire to.

10 Any mixed feelings about missing half of your senior year at Brownsburg?

I'll definitely miss being at Brownsburg and being with my friends. I'll try to get back for graduation and to see those guys as much as I can. But I'm definitely excited to jump in and get started. I'm going to go in and compete and give myself the best chance possible. I'll see how it goes from there.

Compiled by Mark Ambrogi

Are You Looking to Make a Difference?

The Brownsburg Education Foundation (BEF) invites you to become a Corporate Sponsor in 2017 or to be involved with BEF through volunteering and Board service!

Since it was founded in 1987, BEF has given over \$1.4 million back to the teachers and students of the Brownsburg Community Schools. YOU can be part of changing lives and impacting future generations.

To inquire about a 2017 sponsorship or becoming involved with BEF, contact the BEF office at 317.852.1056 or BEF@brownsburg.k12.in.us

Visit our website at www.brownsburgeducationfoundation.org to learn more about the grant projects funded by BEF in the 2016-2017 school year.

We hope you will consider partnering with us in the upcoming year!

