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How Can You Make 2017 Your Best Year of Giving Ever?

Step 1: Learn about the Hendricks County Community Foundation



Who are we?

The Hendricks County Community Foundation (HCCF) is a local nonprofit organization that partners with generous people to realize their charitable goals while addressing community needs in meaningful and lasting ways. We provide a way for local people to come together and solve local challenges facing our community, leaving a lasting impact for good. We work as an advocate for the whole nonprofit sector in connecting caring, philanthropic-minded people and organizations across all of Hendricks County.



What do we do?

For over 20 years, the Hendricks County Community Foundation has been helping donors match their passions with community needs, awarding over \$10 million dollars in grants to nonprofit organizations and scholarships to high school seniors, and collaborating with other Hendricks County nonprofits to make a lasting impact for good.



What can we do for you?

Because of our Board's expertise and our professionally invested endowment funds, we can multiply the impact of your gift dollars for the greatest good of the community you love. We offer several types of endowment funds, including Donor Advised Funds and Legacy Funds, which offer you the most flexibility in giving back to the causes you care most about.

Check out our new website at www.hendrickscountycf.org to learn more about HCCF and how we are working towards our vision of Hendricks County as a vibrant, giving community.



Step 2: Meet donors just like you and learn how you can donate just like them!



Larry & Merrily Nilles, Annual Support Donor

Why do you give to HCCF?

"Merrily and I have been regular donors to HCCF since 1998 because we believe the Community Foundation is a great way to help local causes. HCCF is so much more knowledgeable about evaluating the needs and merits of local charities than we could ever be. They know how to put our money to the best use."

How do you donate to HCCF?

"We have benefitted greatly from the tax benefits of donating stock to the Foundation directly from our brokerage account. We get the full market value tax deduction on the day of the transfer and do not have to pay capital gains tax. It's a total win-win!"

Terri McCoy, HCCF Board Member

Why do you give to HCCF?

"I first got involved with HCCF when my son Spencer was a finalist for the Lilly Scholarship. I quickly recognized the real needs that the Foundation was meeting in the community. I was so impressed with their work that I knew I wanted to get involved myself. Over the past 11 years, I've served on 5 different HCCF committees and am now on the Board of Directors. I have met many passionate, giving people throughout my time at HCCF and am so thankful for the experiences I have had on the leadership team."

How do you donate to HCCF?

"I give monthly through automated payments generated through bill pay on my bank account. It's easy to set up, and I love knowing that I am contributing every month to an organization that is really making a difference in Hendricks County."



Call us at 317.268.6240 or email William Rhodehamel, our President and CEO at william@hendrickscountycf.org to learn more about the tax benefits of a stock donation or how to set up a recurring automatic donation. Join these donors in making your contribution to a vibrant growing Hendricks County — donate today!



Beverly Allen, HCCF Volunteer

Why do you give to HCCF?

"I was first introduced to HCCF by Deedee Daniel, HCCF's first Executive Director, more than 10 years ago. Through Deedee and other friends involved with HCCF, I learned about the many ways the Foundation was impacting our community, especially in helping families, single moms and children in need through the Habit of the Heart Fund. For many years I have volunteered on various committees of the Foundation and have been one of their biggest fans."

How do you donate to HCCF?

"I give every year to HCCF by writing a check for their annual support. On my own I don't feel like I can do much, but I know what I give to the Foundation is used to help people all over Hendricks County and that makes all the difference!"

Chris & Amber Tincher, Legacy Fund Holder

Why do you give to HCCF?

"As a family with three small children, we love how HCCF supports the youth of Hendricks County through scholarships and leadership development programs. As a family of faith, it is also important to us that the Foundation supports local faith-based nonprofits, like Get Real inC , Sheltering Wings and Hope Healthcare Services. As a local business owner, we have tremendous community support and want to give back locally. Giving through HCCF is the best way to do all of that."

How do you donate to HCCF?

"We opened a Family Legacy Fund last year and were able to take advantage of the Lilly Endowment GIFT VI match to double our money. We love knowing our fund will be a lasting way to 'pay it forward' and support youth and faith-based programs in our community for generations to come."



Open a Family Legacy Fund that will forever make a difference in the lives of those you love in this community! Call us at 317.268.6240 or email William Rhodehamel, our President and CEO at william@hendrickscountycf.org. Join these donors in making your contribution to a vibrant growing Hendricks County — donate today!



Step 3: Get Involved!



Our Get Involved event is the best way to learn how to get involved in Hendricks County! Get Involved is HCCF's volunteer fair offering members of the general public the opportunity to learn more about and volunteer for nonprofit organizations serving Hendricks County. Get Involved connects people with a passion for giving back to organizations looking for dedicated volunteers or Board members. Food trucks, breweries, and activities for the whole family will be onsite. This event is free and open to anyone who wants to Get Involved!

Join us for Get Involved 2017 on September 14th at the Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds. We want to help you connect to the great nonprofits serving Hendricks County — Get Involved!



Our Nonprofit Learning Series is designed to help local nonprofit organizations learn the best ways to serve our community. Through this series, HCCF provides low-cost, monthly learning opportunities for nonprofit staff, Board and volunteers covering a variety of topics, including Development, Governance, Management and Marketing. Utilizing various program styles including webinars, panel discussions/roundtables and workshops, these sessions also provide a great avenue for nonprofit leaders and volunteers to network with their peers and benefit from an open forum of ideas and discussion.

Check out our all new lineup of education workshops for 2017 by visiting our website at **www.hendrickscountycf.org/non-profit-learning-series**. We would love for you to join our network of community minded people desiring to learn the best practices in serving Hendricks County!

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@mylCON.



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

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The Hendricks County ICON is published



April 2008

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ICONICimage



Tom Bond poses proudly after scoring his first 300 game as a bowler. The Avon High School senior, who bowls for the Orioles, got the perfect score on Jan. 7 during opening competition of the Bowlopolis Saturday Morning Youth League at Western Bowl, Indianapolis. "I had never shot a 300, even in practice..." Bond, who has been bowling since he was 8, said shortly after hitting the milestone. "Three in a row, it's pretty exciting. I wasn't nervous." Bond hopes to play collegiality for Indiana State University next year.

Photo by Rick Myers

BRIEFS

Thacker named new Fire Chief of PFT

Joel Thacker was recently named Fire Chief of the Plainfield Fire Territory. Before his appointment, Thacker served as chief of fire prevention and administration. He is also the acting president of the Indiana Fire Instruction Association. Thacker is replacing Fire Chief Brian Russell, who voluntarily resigned his position earlier this month. Russell had served as Fire Chief since 2011 and plans to remain an integral member of the PFT.

BHS grad receives Pete Dawkins Trophy

Brownsburg High School graduate, Hunter Johnson, was named MVP of the U.S. Army All-American Game played in San Antonio, TX on Jan. 7. The Clemson commit threw for 91 yards and one touchdown in a 28-17 victory over the West.

Danville officers promoted

Detective Brent Allison and School Resource Officer Matt Oliphant both of the Danville Police Department recently achieved the rank of corporal. Oliphant and Allison were presented with their new badges earlier this month during a ceremony at Danville Metro Police Dept. Headquarters.

Bridal show cancelled

The 2017 ICON Bridal Show, scheduled for Sunday, Jan. 29 at Prestwick, has been cancelled. Please call (317) 451-4088 for additional information. Thank you.

Correction

From the Jan. 1 issue of Hendricks County ICON, ICON of the month, Duane Huge's last named was spelled "Hugh." The ICON regrets this error.



A'pizza' the American Dream:

'So Italian' owner escaped Chilean coup to later come to the U.S.

COVER STORY

By Becky Schroer

'So Italian' restaurant owner, Felipe Espay, has come a long way from his days as a boy when his

family was forced to escape a military coup in Chile.

Espay's stepfather, who was in academia, was imprisoned during the Chilean coup in the 1970s. He was able to reconnect a few months later with Felipe, his older brother



Filipe and Lizabeth's daughter, Heva Espay (23) slicing tomatoes at So Italian. Heva will manage the new 'So Italian' restaurant planned to open this spring in Plainfield.

Alberto, and their mother Patty in Venezuela. It was in Venezuela that Espay met his wife Lizbeth, and the two have been cooking together ever since. On permanent-resident VISAs, the couple moved to Indianapolis in 1998 with their then five-year-old daughter Heva. The boys' natural father, a US citizen, was already living in Chicago.

But it wasn't the first time in the Espay family history that they were forced to flee a country. Espay's mother Patty, as a child, escaped Germany under Hitler's rule. That is when her family came to Chile.

In 2007, the Brownsburg Espays (including younger daughter Mia) became US citizens. On a wing and a prayer, the couple opened their first restaurant in April 2006 and moved their family to the town soon after. And God answered their prayers -- so much so that the Espays recently celebrated their restaurant's 10th anniversary and are in the process of purchasing and opening a second So Italian restaurant on Ind. 267 near I-70 in Plainfield early this spring. The new restaurant will assume the former Three Pints Brewing Co. at 5020 Cambridge Way.

Espay was quick to point out that they had a lot of help along the way. The Espays' church family and friends, such as the late Dr. David Wilcox and his wife Vicki, were instrumental in So Italian's success, especially in the beginning. The church members volunteered their time to help serve and wash dishes at So Italian. Another friend created So Italian's logo and designed its first menu free of charge. And Fred Thomas, owner of Sonny's Pizza where Espay worked for eight years, also helped open the restaurant.

"It's very good, when you first start, to receive so much help," Espay said. So Italian has returned the favor through charity fund-raisers on Sundays when the restaurant is normally closed "for the day of our Lord."

So how did a family from a His-

panic background come to open an Italian restaurant?

"I was the only one at home who made my own pizzas," Espay said, explaining he made his own dough as a child. "And Lizbeth always wanted to be a chef," he added. "She was always cooking. She is very passionate about cooking."

While Espay said the So Italian pizzas are his specialty, the salad dressings, desserts and sauces for pasta dishes and entrees are made by Lizbeth with her own recipes. "We are always creating new entrees and pizzas," Espay said, adding that his newest is chicken chipotle pizza. "It's spicy!" he added.

It was Espay's pizza dough that landed him the opportunity to cater several days a week in cafeterias at Eli Lilly and Company, and Dow AgroSciences. Both companies approached him. "They fell in love," Espay said, adding they said they had never tasted a pizza crust like that of So Ital-

When the new Plainfield restaurant opens, it will be

23-year-old daughter Heva at the helm as manager. And why Plainfield?

"I wanted to stay in Hendricks County. I love Hendricks County. It's



From left: daughter Heva, mother, Lizabeth, daughter, Mia, and father, Filipe. (Cover photo) The Espays in front of the 'So Italian' Van.





A worker is silhouetted doing some drywall work.

PUBLIC LIBRARY PUBLIC LIBRARY

 $\label{thm:continuous} The front of one of only \ a few working \ Carnegie \ libraries \ in \ the \ country.$

New space for an old face

Carnegie Library additions underway in Danville

ICONography

How do you add on to an alreadybeautiful Carnegie

Library? We asked Danville Librarian Loren Malloy. As the equipment that is placed outside of the The Danville-Center Township Public Library suggests, it is currently undergoing construction; it's third addition since the library opened in 1903. Cost for the project, including the parking lot, is approximately \$2.5 million. Says Malloy in a written statement: "Emphasis has been placed on providing more space for the library's customers, with highlights including new meeting rooms for the public's use, a periodical reading room with a gallery wall for displays by local artists, and an outdoor 'Reading Garden' on the north side of the building. Originally built with a grant from steel magnate Andrew Carnegie, the library will build on the historic look and feel of downtown Danville while providing the latest in information services for the whole community... We're concurrently working on a separate project for energy savings, including solar panels, that's guaranteed to pay for itself. The initial cost is \$250,000"

Malloy says
DCTPL is one
of only a few
working Carnegie libraries in
the country. The
renovation is
scheduled to be
completed by mid
February. Mallow
said the library
plans a celebration in April.



An outside view of the renovations facing west.

Photos by Rick Myers



Danville-Center Township Librarian Loren Molloy stands in front of where the "Reading Garden" will be.

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FOR THE RECORD - HC OBITUARIES

Avon

Melba J. Smith

Melba J. Smith, 94, of Avon, passed away Dec. 26, 2016. She was born Sept. 6, 1922. Services were held Dec. 30 at Hampton-Gentry Funeral Home.

Louis Joseph Jugg

Louis Joseph Jugg, 74, of Avon, passed away Jan. 3, 2017. He was born Nov. 12, 1942. Services were held Jan. 6 at St. Susanna Catholic Church in Plainfield.

Mildred N. Wissen

Mildred N. Wissen, 89, of Avon, passed away Jan. 8, 2017. She was born July 10, 1927. Services were held Jan. 12 at Matthews Mortuary in Brownsburg.

Brownsburg

Carolyn S. Huber

Carolyn S. Huber, 73, of Brownsburg, passed away Dec. 26, 2016. She was born Sept. 9, 1943. Services were held Dec. 29 at the Brownsburg Church of Christ.

Casey J. Trout

Casey J. Trout, 30, of Brownsburg, passed away Dec. 26, 2016. He was born Nov. 6, 1986. Services were held Jan. 3 at Matthews Mortuary.

Richard William Catlin

Richard W. Catlin, 79, of Brownsburg, passed away Dec. 28, 2016. He was born July 26, 1937. Services were held Jan. 7 at St. Bartholomew Anglican Church in Tonawanda, NY.

Alexander M. DiFalco

Alexander M. DiFalco, 22, of Brownsburg, passed away Jan. 2, 2017. He was born Aug. 13, 1994. Services were held Jan. 6 at Matthews Mortuary.



Plainfield

Danville

Shirley Ann (Reitzel) Pace Shirley Ann Pace, 88, of Bloomington, formerly of

Hendricks County, passed away Jan. 1, 2017. She

was born March 23, 1928. Services were held Jan.

7 at Hampton-Gentry Funeral Home.

Mayson Lee Weaver

Mayson Lee Weaver, 20, of Plainfield, passed away Dec. 24, 2016. She was born July 25, 1996. Services were held Jan. 8 at Hampton-Gentry Funeral Home.

Mary Ann Billups

Mary Ann Billups, 87, of Plainfield, passed away Dec. 24, 2016. She was born Oct. 7, 1929. Services were held Dec. 30 at Hampton-Gentry Funeral Home.

Lizzie Haddix

Lizzie Haddix, 89, of Plainfield, passed away Dec. 27, 2016. She was born July 5, 1927. Services were held Jan. 3 at Hampton-Gentry Funeral Home.

Jack R. Matthews

Jack R. Matthews, 69, of Plainfield, passed away Dec. 30, 2016. He was born Oct. 17, 1947. Services will be held Jan. 14 at 12:00 p.m. at Weaver and Randolph Funeral Home in Clayton.

Gloria S. Frost

Gloria S. Frost, 90, of Plainfield, passed away Jan. 4, 2017. She was born April 2, 1926. There will be no calling or services.

Billups Frost Haddix Huber Jugg

Smith

Joseph Mark Sipe

Pace

Joseph M. Sipe, 60, of Pottstown, PA, formerly of Brownsburg, passed away Dec. 31, 2016. He was born July 3, 1956. Services were held Jan. 7 at Matthews Mortuary.

Sandra S. Bannister

Sandra S. Bannister, 71, of Brownsburg, passed away Jan.3, 2017. She was born July 21, 1945. Services were held Jan. 10 at New Hope Church in Whitestown.

Robert D. Morrow

Robert D. Morrow, 59, of Brownsburg, passed away Jan. 5, 2017. He was born July 17, 1957. Services were held Jan. 9 at Bethesda Baptist Church.

Marcia L. Gibbonev

Weaver

Trout

Marcia Lynn Gibboney, 67, of Brownsburg, passed away Jan. 8, 2017. She was born April 20, 1949. Services were held Jan. 11 at Matthews Mortuary in Brownsburg.

William H. Elkins

William "Bill" Elkins, 67, of Indianapolis (formerly of Brownsburg), passed away Jan. 8, 2017. He was born Jan. 25, 1949. He served in the US Army and fought in Vietnam. Visitation will be 10 a.m. -12 p.m. with services beginning after at Matthews Mortuary 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.

Science is in the air



The recent snowfall in Hendricks County presented a unique learning opportunity for Maple Elementary (Avon)

students. Before taking to the cold, however, students from Mrs. Janet Craig's and Mrs. Renee Moore's kindergarten class used chemistry to simulate a snowflake's crystalline structure with borax. Afterwards, the kids went outside and caught falling snow crystals on black cloths as Craig and Moore snapped photos. To learn more about creating your own borax crystal snowflakes, visit www. stevespanglerscience.com/lab/experiments/magic-crystal-snowflake.

Photos by Chris Cornwall



Maple Elementary kindergartner, Selome Tekle, examines her snowflakes closely



From left: Gwen Clark, Indigo Streeter and Maple Kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Janet Craig.

Parks/trails demand high, but meeting it can be tricky

PARKS

By Cleveland Dietz

Residents have an insatiable appetite for them,

according to Avon Public Works Director Ryan Cannon and Parks, Recreation and Beautification Council President Charlotte Martin.

Whenever we do anything, the input we get is that people want more trails," Cannon said.

Avon has partly tried to meet the demand through collaboration. It worked with Brownsburg to develop the White Lick Creek Trail and the Bicentennial Trail, both of which connect the two towns.

Another strategy is expansion of the town's parks system.

"We want to make sure we have things available in Avon, that we use some of the properties before they're used up by shopping malls and subdivisions," Martin said.

But acquiring land can be tricky. According to Cannon, available land close to US 36 is generally too expensive for the town. Land that's further away from the highway runs the risk of being too close to neighboring towns to make sense. It's a struggle.

Improving quality of life helps the town meet two goals: serving the needs of its residents and drawing in new residents. It's



iphotos

a goal the county shares.

Jeremy Weber, parks superintendent for the county, said parks give people low-cost opportunities for healthy lifestyles that include social gatherings and physical activity.

"Our parks are nature parks. We want to give people the opportunity to have that connection with nature and to learn from it," he said. "(We want) to help develop social capital and help, in our case, the county by being a driver of economic development."

The demand for those kinds of opportunities is on the rise nationwide — a pattern that holds true in Hendricks County. During 2011, about 71,000 people visited county parks. During 2016, about 160,000 people

had visited by the end of October.

"People want to live near parks. They want to be able to walk to parks. Businesses

that are looking to locate in an area look for access to parks as one of those quality of life indicators for employees," Weber said.

Estes Automotive awards 'Drive 4 UR School' check to Brownsburg Education Foundation and Brownsburg Community Schools



Rene Behrend, Executive Director of the Brownsburg Education Foundation, accepts a check for \$8,750 from Andy Wernsman, General Manager of Bill Estes Ford. In addition, community businesses matched the pledge from Ford Motor Company for a total of over \$22,000 raised during this one-day event. Funds will go to benefit students and teachers of the Brownsburg Community School Corporation.



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Customer Satisfaction With No Excuses

Stan Bassett remembers the first call he ever made to a customer. It was 1978 and the Hazelwood couple had an oil furnace that was not working. For years, the couple remained customers of Bassett Heating and Cooling. It was also the beginning of a life-altering journey for Stan and his family.

What would become Bassett Services, Inc. began out of Stan's garage in Clayton. Most of the service calls were on oil furnaces and service technicians would use pay phones too communicate with the dispatcher.

By 1982, Bassett moved his operation to Plainfield. "Customer satisfaction with no excuses," became the company motto. Each and every call was handled with attention to detail. Their reputation of solid, dependable service grew, too.

Today, Bassett Services has 37 employees including Stan's sons Jeff and Greg who grew up in the business, literally.

"They started in the crawlspace," Stan said of his two sons.

In 2003, Jeff and Greg purchased the company that bears the family name. Since then, the boys have tripled the business and completed two acquisitions: Hession Heating and Cooling (Mooresville) and Smith and Sons (Indianapolis).

Despite their successes, the Bassetts know they couldn't do it alone.

Bassett Services depends on its employees. Every week, each department meets for training. Service Technicians get more than 100 hours of classroom instruction each year. The Bassett way is to make sure every customer is ecstatic with their appointment, from the first contact with a dispatcher to the in-home call with the technician

Many of Bassett Services' employees have been with the company more than 10 years.

"I just love Bassetts," said employee Joy Ray. "They count on me and I count on them. We are just a small company that is big, really."

That culture of a big "small" company is one of the reasons Bassett Services is so successful. In the field, each technician knows that customer satisfaction is the most important aspect of the company's success.

"Each technician is empowered to make the correct decision for what makes sense to the customer," Jeff Bassett said.

From accounting to install to service calls, Bassett Services and its dedicated employees have you covered. The owners are proud to put their name on every truck because they know they have the best employees in the business.

You are greeted at the door with photo ID, shoe covers, uniform, and a pleasant smile.

The Bassetts are natives of the Hendricks County community and their success is largely dependent on the community that has continued to use their services time and time again.

As a family, the Bassetts have quietly given back, supporting such causes as the Plainfield Police Dept. K-9 unit, Sheltering Wings, Sycamore Services, as well as other charities and families that are in need, which helps make Hendricks County a better place to live.

In 2012, the family started a Family Legacy Fund with the Hendricks County Community Foundation. The Bassett Family Legacy Fund is just one of several

funds offering grants to worthy projects that impact the community.

"Over the past few years, the family legacy funds have supported (the purchase of) a handicapped van at (Hendricks Regional Health), training for first responders, countywide, for dealing with fire and emergency situations involving hoarding," Hendricks County Community Foundation Executive Director William Rhodehamel said. "The restoration of paintings at the Hendricks County History Museum was paid for by our legacy fund. Those family legacy funds are pooled together to support one, maybe two, projects. We're fairly thoughtful about what kind of projects they are."

Family Legacy funds are easily started. All it takes is \$500. There are 23 of these funds at the foundation. For more HCCF information visit www.hendrickscountycf.org or call 317-268-6240.



From left, the Bassetts: Jeff, Stan and Greg.

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FROM THE PUBLISHER

Your opportunity to feel a 'part' of the process

Former US Speaker of the House, Tip O'Neill once said "All politics is local." I whole heartedly agree.

That's why I encourage you to attend the 2017 Legislative Breakfasts Series – the first one scheduled for Monday, Jan. 30, 7 a.m., at the Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds & Conference Complex.

There are many issues that the 120th Indiana General Assembly will debate - From funding roads to education as well as a plethora of social issues. It's sure to be a spirited session.

Thanks to Hendricks Power Cooperative, North Salem State Bank and Hendricks County Farm Bureau for making this series possible. Because of it, you will have the opportunity to speak directly to representative Bob Behning, Greg Steuerwald and Jeff Thompson - along with newly elected senator John Crane and incumbent senator Mike Young.

What a great way to have access to these elected individuals – and again, enough thanks can't be given to those entities who put this series on.

"That government is the strongest of which every man feels himself a part."

~ Thomas Jefferson

If you can't make the breakfast on the 30th you have three additional opportunities: Feb. 27; March 27; and April 24 - all Mondays at the same location beginning at 7 a.m. To RSVP, call (317) 745-4463 the Thursday prior to each breakfast.

As Thomas Jefferson said: "That government is the strongest of which every man feels himself a part."

I know without question this series will give you the opportunity to feel a "part" of the legislative process.



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.



A year of laughs

HUMOR

By Dick Wolfsie It's that time once again when

I look back and give thanks (and a few NO THANKS) to the dozens of people and situations that inspired many of my 50 humor columns in 2016.

THANKS to Menards for offering a publication with tips on projects you can make with an empty five-gallon bucket. "The buckets are remarkably strong...adaptable and not easily bent out of shape...easy to work with and hold up under pressure." Wow, I wish we could have found someone like that to run for president.

NO THANKS to my new financial service's website that asks security questions that even I don't know the answer to, like "What time of day was your first child born?" I don't remember, but I know it was a beautiful day on the golf course. I also didn't know what city my parents were married in. How would I remember that? I was only a year old.

THANKS to the security guard at the airport who witnessed my typical frantic search of my pants and coat to see if I had my cell phone or if I had left it at the check in. "I'm not going to search you," said the agent. "You've done a great job of patting yourself down."

NO THANKS to me for not having faith my

headlights will go out automatically. I have spent about 17 hours of my life staring at my car because I didn't trust the technology to do the job when I went inside my house or into a restaurant. In the old days, if I mentioned this to strangers who had left their lights on, they'd say "I appreciate it. I sure didn't want a dead battery." Years later, they said, "No problem, this is one of those cool new cars where they go off automatically." Lately I get a lot of: "Relax, Grandpa. When's the last time you bought a set of wheels?"

THANKS to our tour guide on a recent vacation. I realized that in retirement I could make a little extra pocket money doing the same thing. You know, just making up stuff no one would remember and telling silly jokes. A seamless transition from TV.

A final good-bye to my friend Anna Weisenberger who died this year at age of 109. I went to her 100th birthday celebration, then the 101st and 102nd. At her 103rd, she said the day was a bit too taxing and she requested we simply celebrate every other year.



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

Student athletes, something to cheer about

Former student athletes from Hendricks County have been making waves as of late. Names like Brandon Peters (2015 Indiana Mr. Football) and Chloe Dygert (Olympic Silver Medalist) have become a source of pride these last few years.

Most recently, Brownsburg High School graduate, Hunter Johnson, was named MVP of the U.S. Army All-American Game. We congratulate Johnson on his recent success and wish him the best of luck down in South Carolina.

However, all student athletes are not destined for the big-time. But that doesn't mean what they learn over the span of their young athletic careers will not serve them in the future. A 2014 study, 'Sports at Work,' conducted in part by Cornell University (Ithaca NY.), shows that former student athletes display significantly more leadership, self-confidence, and self-respect. These are traits that will serve them both in the classroom and later in whatever career they choose.

And with winter sport sectionals just around the corner, there will be plenty of opportunity to support your local high

"There will be plenty of opportunity to support your local high school athletic programs."

school athletic programs: the ISHAA state wrestling tournament kicks off Jan. 28, the girl's basketball sectionals will tip-off a few days later on Jan. 31. In February, the state tournament begins for boy's and girl's swimming, gymnastics, and boy's basketball.

We encourage residents to get out show their support for our young student athletes.

BELIEVE IT!

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

In Boulder, Colorado, it is illegal to permit ones llama to graze on city property.

SOURCE: dumblaws.com



Dear sir/madam,

How to drive safe this winter

READER'S WRITES

As an insurance agent, I know this is not new information, but a reminder of tips for driving in

the winter. Cold weather tests the limits of your car's abilities and treacherous conditions test your abilities as a driver. If you're not careful, you could find yourself sliding towards a ditch and wondering if your affairs are in order.

If you have not had regular service for your car, get it done now. Bad hoses, belts, water pumps and spark plug wires can leave you stranded in the winter.

One item that's often overlooked is tire pressure. Tire pressure drops by about one pound per ten degrees of temperature. So, if it's -10 now, and the last time you checked your tire pressure was back in July, your tires will be dangerously low and will jeopardize your car's handling.

Your mechanic should check the battery, charging system, and belts. Your battery can leave you stranded simply because it's old. Or it could leave you stranded because your charging system isn't working well, and the battery isn't getting charged properly.

Check the cooling system. You can check the freeze rating of your car's coolant yourself with a little device that you can buy in an auto parts store. Using a good coolant in your engine is very important because if it freezes, it expands, and it's bye-bye engine block.

A lot of people ask about carrying sand in the back of their cars. If you have a rearwheel-drive vehicle that needs help in the snow, you can put a bag or two of sand behind the rear axle. This extra weight will increase the traction of the rear wheels. However, you can make things worse by putting too much weight too far back. In essence, by weighing down the rear end too much, you "lift up" the front end and lose some steering and braking abilities.

Know your car. You should know if you have front, rear, part-time or full-time four-wheel drive; anti-lock brakes; traction control; and stability control. You should know what kind of tires are on the car, and how all those things work and how they help you or don't help you. In fact, it's not a bad idea to do a little driving in an empty parking lot on a snowy day just so you know what to expect from your car when you drive on snowy roads.

Make sure your windshield wipers are in good shape and your washer reservoir is full. Enough said!

Clean off your car - entirely! Clear off the entire car, not just a little peephole in the windshield. You need just as much, if not more, visibility in poor conditions. Make sure every glass surface is clear and transparent by using a snowbrush and/or ice scraper. Your side-view mirrors and all lights should be brushed and cleared as well. Clean the snow off the rest of the car. Why? Because the rest of the snow will either, (A) slide off the roof and cover your windshield as you're slowing down; or (B) fly off onto someone else's windshield and causing him or her to smash into you.

Steve Ferguson, 46168

QUOTE

"People ask me what I do in winter when there's no baseball. I'll tell you what I do. I stare out the window and wait for spring,"

~ Rogers Hornsby



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



BELIEVE — In Your GREATNESS

Trey Lyles won a state championship, played in the NCAA Final Four, and was the No. 12 lottery pick in the 2015 NBA Draft, all before his 20th birthday. He relies on his team at Hendricks Regional Health for building strength, increasing agility and preventing injury on his road to becoming the most versatile player in the NBA. Believe in your possibilities. We can help. Request an evaluation at **HENDRICKS.ORG/PHYSICALTHERAPY**.

Trey Lyles Utah Jazz

> Hendricks Regional Health



LIVESREMEMBERED

By Gus Pearcy

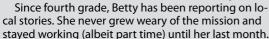
It is people who make a community. Last year, as in every year, Hendricks County lost many residents, some life-long, others who were here for a short time. Some led amazing lives and we never knew. While the loss of all human life is a tragedy, we look back on the deaths of seven individuals who left us in 2016. For their loved ones, they were certainly lcons; for the way they lived their lives, and in some instances served community, lcons for us. As we enter a new year, they may be gone from this earth but they are not forgotten.

Betty Jean Weesner



Beity Jean Weesner

You could say that Betty Jean Weesner was born with printer's ink under her nails. The 90-year-old publisher of The Republican left us in March. She took over the 169-year-old newspaper when her father retired in 1961. He ran the paper for 32 years. It is still a beacon of local information for all of Hendricks County.



"You still feel her presence around," said Betty Bartley, a friend and coworker. A native of Danville, Betty Jean was born in 1926 and graduated from Danville High School in 1944. She earned her degree in journalism from Indiana

University. She was inducted into the DHS Alumni Hall of Fame in 2005. The Republican itself has only had three publishers since 1890. It moved to its current location, one block east of the Historic Town Square, in 1897.

Betty Jean, like her father, lived and breathed The Republican and telling the truth.

Bartley says the newspaper will continue to be published, Weesner made sure of that, but it will be a bit harder because the institutional knowledge of the newspaper has passed away. "It's a bit lonelier in the office without Betty Jean," she said.

Her contribution to the community is hard to calculate, but there is no doubt, Danville would be very different if Betty Jean Weesner had not been a part of it.

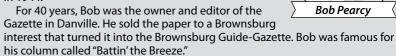
The greatest tribute to Betty Jean Weesner may be the mural painted on the Historic Town Square in Danville this summer. It depicts Betty Jean delivering Republicans from her bicycle. She never got to see the finished project.

"Memories are the architecture of our identity"

~ Unknown

Bob Pearcy

In a strange coincidence, the county also lost Robert "Bob" Pearcy, 89, who was a cohort of Betty Jean Weesner in many ways. Bob also grew up in Danville, born the same year as Weesner. They were classmates all through school at Danville and graduated together in 1944.



Bob Pearcy was an ICON in Danville. He and his wife Marty were members of Danville Christian Church for 66 years. He was an avid member of the Danville Rotary Club and was honored as a Paul Harris Fellow. He also served as president of the Hoosier State Press Association. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and the Korean War.

To boot, Bob was named to the Danville High School Alumni Hall of Fame in 2005, the same year as Weesner.

There's no doubt that Bob Pearcy left Danville a better place.



Phyllis Gladden was a dynamo. When she passed in May, it was near impossible to imagine Hendricks County without her and her husband Frank's leadership. The couple were famous for Gladden Farms. Her obituary listed her occupation as a homemaker and farm wife, but those who knew her knew she was so much more



Phyllis Gladden

A member of the Fairfield Friends Meeting, Phyllis raised four children and helped raise her grandchildren. Her pastor, Phil Gulley, tells a story where he volunteered the Gladdens to host a group of inner-city youth for a hayride in the country, even though he had never met them. As Gulley tells it, he didn't even ask them by phone but passed the number on to the organizers of the trip. When he saw his friend a few days after the event, he naturally asked if everything went well.

Not only did the trip to the country go well, but the Gladdens invited the group to return the following year. It's the kind of hospitality and kindness that Phyllis Gladden was known for, and it will be sorely missed.

Don Wahle

Don Wahle was a master showman. He could bring a smile to even the grumpiest of humans. Don would regale you with stories that would make you slap your knee.

What you don't know about Don will amaze you. Born near Cincinnati, Don quit high school to join the U.S. Air Force. He served a very brief time in Vietnam before being injured. For his bravery, he earned a Purple Heart medal.



Don Wahle

Don lost his life in April of 2016.

"He never bragged about anything," his wife Marcia said. "And so many people that knew him well didn't know about all the medals he earned."

He was a real jack-of-all-trades. After 10 years in the service, Don was a volunteer firefighter and EMT, a regional manager with Sylvania Lighting, part owner and crew chief of a USAC/ARCA and NASCAR team, flagman at Raceway Park, all while owning 46 Suzuki Motorcycle dealerships in Indiana and Kentucky. He even spent a season as a marketing VP for the Indianapolis Racers hockey team.

Around Central Indiana, he was best known as a commercial real estate developer, responsible for the Park Fletcher development next to Indianapolis International Airport.

We all have our bucket list and we are blessed if we can achieve even a handful of these lofty goals. It's not clear where the dream started, but Don wanted to see Africa. The timing was right about four years ago. Marcia had no desire to see the Serengeti Plains, so Don took his 14-year-old grandson, Austin Brown.

"They had the time of their lives," Marcia said. "They went to London for four days and then on to Africa for 11 days. They went on safari every day. They rode in hotair balloons over the Serengeti. They just had a ball.

"Every time I see that picture of them (hanging on her refrigerator), it just warms my heart," she added.

Jonathan Legg

Jonathan Legg, a young man tragically lost in a single-vehicle car accident in April, was one of the most gut-wrenching local stories of 2016. Johnathan was more than a statistic. He was a 17-year-old, Avon High School junior who was a great big brother to his two sisters and brother, said his mom, Sarah Smith.



Jonathan Legg

He was a member of the Avon Marching Black and Gold where he played a euphonium. In band he also learned to play trombone. His life was typical except for the kindness he showed. Legg was also a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Smith says her son enjoyed playing basketball, video games, paintball, hunting, and fishing.

On the day of his accident, Smith says she took Jonathan to visit Purdue University for a college visit.

"We spent the whole day together," she said. "That usually doesn't happen with a teenage boy. We had a really good day."

Marlene Crager

Marlene Crager, 81, was a fixture in Plainfield for many years. She and her husband, Bruce, were the owners of the Plainfield Bowl from 1984-96.

"Her and dad bought it from the original owners who built the place back in the 60s," her son, Derek Crager, said. "A lot of people knew her before they bought the bowling alley because she was out and about"



Marlene Crager

Marlene was a volunteer at Central Elementary, as well as a waitress at various restaurants before the bowling alley. Her son said she was at the bowling alley six days a week. She was also active in the Indiana State Youth Bowling Association.

She passed away Dec. 16.

Tammy Lakin

Tammy Lakin, 50, had a thing for flip-flops. "She must've had a million pairs," family friend Bryan Titus said.

Titus met Jim and Tammy Lakin at a Hendricks County ABATE function (where Tammy was an officer) and struck up a quick friendship with them in 2008. Along with Titus' wife and about three other couples, a close bond was formed. The group



Tammy Lakin

planned many vacations and fundraisers together, which always ended in a party. Lakin passed away in August, the victim of a brain aneurysm.

In addition to owning Danville Florist, Lakin was continuously organizing charity rides and fundraisers for the Plainfield Eagle Riders, a group of motorcycle enthusiasts from Eagles Lodge #3207. Titus is the president of the local Eagle Riders and statewide chair. He knew he could count on Tammy's creativity and organizing prowess to make events successful. The Eagle Riders have supported several causes over the years and Tammy had a hand in most of them.

"She found out that if she spoke up about something, I'd put her in charge," Titus said.

Tammy loved animals and was a huge supporter of Waldo's Muttley Crew Animal Rescue, creating an adoption event locally.

Titus added that she always appeared as a happy-go-lucky girl. She loved her family so much and would do anything for them. Titus, as well as all her friends, mourn the loss to the community as well as themselves.

As a lasting legacy, Lakin donated her organs. As a tribute, the Eagles will hold a fundraising awareness event for organ donation in late February.



Understanding good and bad cholesterol

DIET

By David Stopperich, M.D. This is a very impor-

tant and often con-

fusing topic. There are two main carriers of cholesterol that are named based on their densities. The low-density lipoprotein (LDL) is known as the "bad" cholesterol and the high-density lipoprotein (HDL) is known as

the "good" cholesterol. LDL is known as the bad cholesterol because this type of protein carries cholesterol and deposits it in arterial walls, increasing your risk of heart attacks and strokes. The HDL molecules perform in the opposite manner by removing cholesterol from the body to help keep arteries cleaner. Lowering LDL cholesterol is mainly based

on controlling your diet. A 5-15% decrease in LDL can be expected when changing to a "healthier" diet. Experts recommend limiting total fats to 30% of your total calories and limiting saturated fats to only 7% of your total calories. Most people can meet these guidelines by limiting fat consumption and eating more fruits, vegetables,

"Lowering LDL cholesterol is mainly based on controlling your diet."

beans and whole grains. If you need to use cooking oil try using sunflower, canola, olive or corn oil. Eat only lean red meats and consume more turkey, chicken and fish. Finally, plant sterols and plant stanol esters can be included in the diet and may reduce LDL values by approximately 10-15%. Commercial preparations are available as margarine substitutes (eg, Benecol, Take Control).

There are several steps you can take to raise your HDL cholesterol to help keep your arteries cleaner. First and foremost if

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you smoke, this is another reason to stop. Studies show that smoking lowers HDL and therefore quitting smoking will raise your HDL levels. Being overweight lowers HDL. Ask your doctor what a healthy weight for you would be and come up with a plan to reach it. A waist circumference greater than 40 inches for men and 35 inches for women increases cardiac risk, and keeping under these measurements can be a good initial goal. Poorly controlled diabetes lowers HDL, so if you have diabetes make certain you and your physician are managing it appropriately. In some small trials fish oil capsules with omega-3 fatty acids have been shown to slightly increase HDL levels. Finally, exercise raises HDL. Exercising 30 minutes per day at least 5 days per week is recommended for cardiovascular fitness and better control of cholesterol.



Dr. David Stopperich, M.D., is with Lizton Family Medicine, part of the Hendricks Regional Health Medical Group. His office is located at 1045 Wyatt Way, Lizton. For appointments call (317) 994-6600. For more information visit liztonfamilymed.com.

Free Christmas tree recycling continues

Two Hendricks County locations will continue to offer free Christmas tree matter recycling through Jan. 23. Residents may leave their unwanted trees (natural and undecorated only) at both the Brownsburg and Plainfield Yard Waste Recycling Centers free of charge. Brownsburg Yard Waste Recycling Center is located at 90 Mardale Drive. Plainfield Yard Waste Recycling Center is located at 7020 S County Road 825 East. For more information, call (317) 858-6070.



DO YOU HAVE TIRED, ACHY, HEAVY-FEELING LEGS?

COMPLIMENTARY PHYSICIAN VISIT



Wednesday, January 18th 5:00PM - 7:00PM

105 S. Raceway Rd. Suite 135 Indianapolis, IN 46231

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At Center for Vein Restoration we can bring relief from the pain, discomfort, and unsightly appearance of varicose veins.



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An Education Is Forever

Presented by **bill estes**

Friday, March 10, 2017

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Reservations can be made by calling the BEF Office at 317.852.1056 or online at www.brownsburgeducationfoundation.org

All proceeds benefit the students and teachers of the Brownsburg Community School Corporation. Indiana Festival License #142730

Quick, easy stir fry

RECIPE

By Jerry Rezny Now that the Holidays are over,

wouldn't it be great to make a simple stir fry with chicken and fresh vegetables? You can use the vegetables in the recipe, or use any vegetables you have on hand. It's healthy, delicious and can be ready in 30 minutes! Foods rich in color not only look better but tend to have more diverse nutrients.

Ingredients: Serves 4

2 cups of rice

1 lb. boneless chicken, white or dark meat, (whichever you prefer)

3 tbsp. Cooking oil (dark sesame is especially good.)

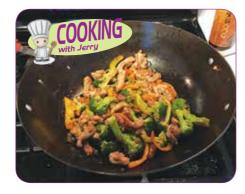
Salt and pepper, 3 garlic cloves, crushed, soy or teriyaki sauce

2 heads of broccoli

cut to bite-sized portions

2 red or orange peppers (or whatever color you prefer)

Boil 4 cups of water. Rinse 2 cups of white rice, drain and put into the saucepan with the boiling water and a little salt. Cover tightly and simmer until all water is absorbed and rice is fluffy, about 10 to 15 minutes. Don't uncover, letting the steam out until it is done. (A glass cover helps with seeing the progress!)



Salt and pepper the chicken. In a wok, or a sauté pan, add oil and turn heat to high. Add the garlic and cook the chicken for about 4 minutes on each side. Remove, slice into strips and set aside. Add the rest of the oil and vegetables. Stir fry quickly until vegetables begin to soften. Add the chicken strips and cook for 3 minutes. Put rice on the plate and top with the stir fry!



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

HC ICON News Quiz

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

Joel Thacker was recently named Fire Chief of the Plainfield Fire Territory. Who was Thacker's predecessor?

☐ A. Mark Morgan

□ B. Dan Smith

☐ C. Robert Parrish

☐ D. Brian Russell

Maple Elementary students of a simulate the crystalline features of a Maple Elementary students were able snowflake with what boron compound?

☐ A. sodium borate

☐ B. borax

□ C. sodium tetraborate

□ D. All of the above



Compiled by Chris Cornwall **Answers** on Page 29

Former Brownsburg Bulldog, Hunter Johnson, was named MVP of the 2017 U.S. Army All-American Game. What former Heisman winner and military serviceman is the trophy named after?

☐ A. Pete Dawkins

□ B. Tom Harmon

☐ C. Angelo Bertelli

☐ D. Bruce Smith



Which former America's Got Talent contestant is scheduled to perform at the 2017 Presidential Inauguration on Jan. 20?

☐ A. Michael Grimm

☐ B. Jackie Evancho

☐ C. Meryl Streep

□ D. None the above

Danville Police Officers Matt Oliphant and Brent Allison were recently promoted to the rank of _

☐ A. Sergeant

□ B. Colonel

☐ C. Corporal

■ D. Commodore





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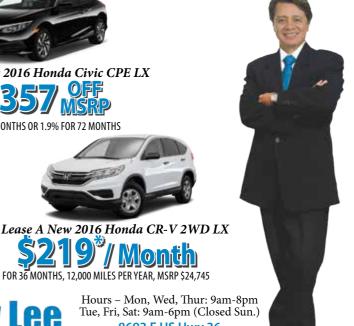
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Entertainment ENTERTAINING

EVENTS

Jan. 14 • Child Car Seat Safety Clinic | 9:00 a.m. -

12:00 p.m. | Station 123, 400 Airtech Parkway in Plainfield | Safety clinic hosted by the Plainfield Fire Territory. They ask parents to bring owner's manual for the vehicle that the car seat is installed in, the information book that came with the car seat, the automobile that the seat is going into, and most importantly, the child that belongs in the car seat. For more information, call: (317) 839-6939.

Jan. 19 • Celebration of Leaders | 5:30 p.m. | Hendricks County Fairgrounds & Conference Center in Danville | Hosted by Leadership Hendricks County. Celebrate the Leader of the Year Awards, network, raffle, and cash bar. \$40 per person includes light dinner. For more information, call: (317) 268-6240.

Jan. 21 • Backyard Beekeeping 101 | 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. | McCloud Nature Park, 8518 Hughes Rd., North Salem | Join an experienced local beekeeper to learn the basics of honeybee behavior, discover what supplies are required for beekeeping, discuss hive maintenance practices, and more. |For ages 18 and older | No reg. req. |For more information, call (765) 676 – 5437.

Jan. 25 • Margins to Center: Coming Together to Prevent Sexual Violence | 9:00 a.m. | Hendricks County Fairgrounds & Conference Center in Danville | This conference is a joint collaboration between MESA and the Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence. Presenters will focus on inclusion and access in efforts to create stronger, healthier communities free of sexual violence. For more information, email Skye Ashton Kantola, Program Coordinator at MESA at: brown810@purdue.edu.

Jan. 28 • Winter Tree ID | 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | Sodalis Nature Park, 7700 S County Rd 975 E. in Plainfield. | Go on a hike with a Park Naturalist and learn tree identifying tools. Wear comfortable shoes and appropriate dress for weather | Free | all ages | For more information, call (317) 718 – 6188.

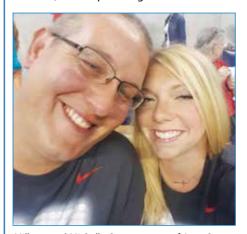
Jan. 28 • Who's Hiding Under the Snow? | 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. | McCloud Nature Park, 8518 Hughes Rd., North Salem | Learn about the overwintering adaptations of some of Indiana's native animals. Optional hike with Park Naturalist after program (dress appropriately)| Free | all ages | For more information, call (765) 676 – 5437.

Couple gets creative with winter fun

By Tiffany Giles

Looking for a way to get your family outside and enjoy this beautiful Indiana winter? Avon Sports Park located at 104 S County Road 652 East in Avon has some unusual events you may want to consider. The park was recently purchased by husband and wife team Milburn and Michelle Green and it is their mission to "put quality activities back into family time."

After years of traveling for little league baseball, the couple recognized a need for



Milburn and Michelle Green, owners of Avon Sports Park. **Submitted photo**.

a local venue to host athletic events. But in their minds there needed to be more than fields to play on, there needed to be a place for families to enjoy their time together and make the most out of their weekend. The Green family became heavily involved in volunteering with little league and tournament planning. Aside from scheduling games, they worked to find hotels and restaurants that encouraged family interaction and participation. After five years of volunteering as well as balancing work and family life, the couple decided it was time to invest fully behind the need for sports hospitality and they purchased the park.

"We value family time and the opportunity to help others create that time is important. We are excited because the park is giving us the chance to think outside the box, create new spaces and places for families" said Michelle. Avon Sports Park is open for all types of play and has a party room available for rent.

There are two events this January that are sure to get your family outside and enjoying the cool winter weather.

Saturday, Jan. 14 the Avon Sports Park will host the Snow Bowl Flag Football tour-

nament. Registration is limited to 12 teams and is quickly filling up. There is an entry fee of \$150 per team with a max of 10 players per team. This tournament will have 3 divisions: Men's, Co-ed, and Women's. It is a double elimination tournament with awards given to Championship teams.

Saturday, Jan. 21 is the 1st Annual Snow-ball Fight Kickball Tournament. Entry fee is \$75 per team with a min of 7 players and max of 10 players per team. To better promote quality family time, this event has 3 divisions: 12 and under, 17 and under, and Adult. It will be a double elimination format and WAKA rules apply. Awards will be given for champions of each division.

Admission to the park is \$3 per person, children under 12 are free. For additional information on Avon Sports Park, to register for an event or to check the upcoming calendar, visit their website Avonsportspark. com.

And in case of inclement weather, plan to play.

"It's Indiana, it's supposed to be cold and snowy. We want everyone to come enjoy this season with us at the park," Milburn laughed.

The Biz Academy presents Madagascar Jr. A Musical Adventure



Submitted photo.

The story of Alex, Marty, Melman and Gloria's journey from New York to Africa comes alive when The Biz Academy presents Madagascar Jr. A Musical Adventure at Harmony Baptist Church 5697 Broyles Road, Avon on February 17-19. Featuring an all kid cast ages 6-12 and special arrangement by Music Theatre International, Madagascar Jr. tickets are currently available for purchase online.

Tickets are \$12 adults \$6 ages 15-5 ages 5-under are free. For complete information including showtimes, ticket purchases and a map to Harmony Baptist Church go to thebiz-academy.com.

FAITHONFOOD

by Faith Toole

AN OPTION

It's a new year and it's cold! I'm sitting by a warm fire, looking back on the fun experiences I had as your Hendricks County ICON Foodie in 2016. One of many was a beautiful summer evening on The Coachman's deck. We enjoyed a great dinner and live jazz by Phoebe and the MojoMakers. I can remember the Fajita salad and the house made dressing.

Another great experience has been meeting so many new faces who reside in Hendricks County for 'Where I Dine' and seeing their eyes light up with a fond memory of their special 'go to place'. We would like to hear about your favorite place to dine in Hendricks County and the greater Indianapolis area. You'll need to answer three questions:

Where do you like to dine? What do you like there? What do you like about this place? You could be featured. Email your answers to HCICONfoodie@icontimes. com with your town of residence and a color photo. Your face could pop up in a future Hendricks County ICON FAITH ON FOOD.

Follow me on Instagram and Twitter @HCICON_foodie. Tag to let me know of your favorite places and where you think I should do a feature for, An Option; Behind the Bars; or Behind the Bean.

Now back to my fire as the flames dance, to dream of a beautiful warm day sitting on a deck enjoying a great meal.



WHERE I DINE

Krista McGilvry Brownsburg

Where do you like to dine?

Our family likes to drive just a little bit for our

BBQ. We love Big Hoffa's Smokehouse in Westfield, just look for the smoke coming out of the big red building and you're there.

What do you like there?

I love their pulled chicken meal which comes with two side items. Or sometimes if I'm really hungry I will get the Hoffanator... the Hoffanator is a mountain of fries topped with macn-cheese, baked beans, pulled pork, BBQ sauce, and ranch dressing. They

also have great kids meal choices and a variety of iced teas.

Dessert looks good but I've yet to try any because I'm always so full.

What do you like about this place?

The atmosphere at Big Hoffas is very relaxed...it's not a place you rush through eating. Nice place to gather with family or take your order to go. Order at the counter and by the time you get your drink the food is ready. Prices are good and their portions are enough to fill up your belly.

Just look for the smoke coming out of the big red building and your there.

> Big Hoffa's Smokehouse 800 East Main Street Westfield, IN 46074

BEHIND THE BARS

Red Lobster, Avon Malibu Hurricane

- ♦ 1 1/4 oz. Malibu Rum
- ♦ 3 oz. Tropical mix
- ♦ 1/2 oz. Southern Comfort

Mix rum and tropical mix. Gently pour rum to float.



Tropical Mix: Equal parts sweet & sour, orange juice, pineapple juice and grenadine for color.



Faith Toole is our Hendricks County Foodie. She can be reached at HCICONfoodie@icontimes.com. Follow on Instagram and Twitter @ HCICON_foodie #HCICONfoodie



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Free concert



Photo submitted.

The Hendricks Symphony Orchestra and Chorus, under the direction of Benjamin G. Del Vecchio, will present a free chamber concert on Sunday, Jan. 29 at 3 p.m. in Bartlett Chapel United Methodist Church,

4396 E Main Street in Avon. The concert will feature classical music performed and chosen by instrumental and vocal ensembles from the Hendricks Symphony. For more information, call: (317) 272-0452.

5 advantages of moving to an assisted living community sooner

By Linda Jenks

By Park Square Manor

Adult children often say having the "talk" with a parent about moving to an assisted living community is too difficult to even think about. Then a crisis like a bad fall or a car accident occurs and the family is forced to make this decision amidst an already stressful situation.

One reason families say they are reluctant to talk about this is they don't want their parent to feel as if they will be losing their independence. But the reality is an assisted living community promotes independence. In providing the support an older adult needs, as well as focusing on wellness and life enrichment, seniors can live a healthier, more vibrant life.

Here are a few additional facts adult children should should know about assisted living communities:

1. Life Enrichment for the Body, Mind and Spirit: Our Lifestyle 360 program focuses on all five dimensions of wellness: intellectual, emotional, social, physical, and spiritual. Activities ranging from Tai Chi and yoga to book clubs and daily devotionals, help residents live happier, healthier lives.

2. Nutritious Meals Enjoyed with Friends: Many senior living communities like the Five Star Senior Living campuses in Indiana offer a wide range of dining options. Our menus are planned under the direction of celebrity Chef Brad Miller and served in a beautiful dining room. Residents enjoy well-balanced meals and good conversation each day.

3. Freedom from the Burdens of Home Ownership: For seniors, the burdens of owning



Graphicstock

and maintaining a home can be physically and financially stressful. Some tasks like clean-

ing gutters and shoveling snow may even be dangerous. A move to an assisted living community can free seniors of these tasks. This allows more time for travel, hobbies and the grandkids!

4. Good Financial Sense: An assisted living community in Indiana can also make good financial sense for seniors. Many of the services and amenities older adults require are included in the monthly fee. From transportation to wellness programs in life enrichment activities, an assisted community is a good lifestyle and financial choice.

5. Assistance When Needed: A big advantage of a move to an assisted living community is having the support that's needed when it's needed. Residents who receive a little help with tasks now can stay safe and healthy longer. For example, having assistance managing their medication schedule can prevent a senior from making a dangerous mistake that leads to a serious health crisis.

If you aren't sure how to start the conversation about moving to senior living, these tips may help.



SPECIAL SECTION published by Times-Leader Publications, LLC



Veterans Breakfast Every Second Wednesday

PARK SQUARE MANOR

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At Park Square Manor we celebrate Veterans Day every day! Veterans, come celebrate your service to our country with a complimentary breakfast every second Wednesday from 8:00 a.m to 9:30 a.m.

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Winter Poses Challenges for Those with Dementia

By Eunice Trotter
American Senior Communities



It was Christmas Eve. Betty Morris knew something was wrong. She called family. She checked with neighbors. She drove around the neighborhood, frantically looking for her husband. She called 911. Finally, the hospital called. Police had taken her husband to the emergency room after he was found wandering along a street in the wintery weather.

This incident, the latest of several, made Mrs. Morris know that her husband, Floyd, had to have 24-hour care in a residential dementia treatment center. Mrs. Morris chose an American Senior Communities center in Indianapolis that specializes in the care of people with Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia.

There are many precautions that can be taken to make sure loved ones with dementia remain safe.

The outcome of the incident could have been tragic. Winter poses an extremely worrisome time for people with dementia when they leave their homes unsupervised, driving or walking. If not found within 24 hours, up to half of wandering seniors with dementia suffer serious injury or death, according to the Alzheimer's Association

Wandering is a typical symptom of dementia. "Six out of 10 people with dementia wander," said Corinne Grott, memory care specialist for American Senior Communities.

Mr. Morris, 79, had always lived a vibrant life. Then symptoms started. He forgot important information. He misplaced things. Sometimes he would leave home walking, wearing only a light jacket when the weather was frigid. "I would go out looking for him and find him freezing in the cold," said Mrs. Morris.

There are many precautions that can be taken to make sure loved ones with dementia remain safe. There are also respite programs available that will allow you to leave your loved ones in good hands if you need to travel or just take a break.



Floyd and Betty Morris.

Photo submitted.

American Senior Communities specializes in caring for people with Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia. For more information, call one of ASC's Westside centers: Brownsburg Meadows, 2 East Tilden Drive, 317-852-8585; Danville Regional Rehabilitation, 255 Meadow Drive, Danville, 317-745-5451; or Eagle Valley Meadows, 3017 Valley Farms Road, 317-293-2555.

You may also visit the website at www.ASCSeniorCare.com to find a location near you. \\





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BIZ FOCUS

From apart to finished: restoration pros at work

By Chris Cornwall

For Rob Staley, the owner of Furniture Fix/Bulldog Glass and Mirror (FFBGM), it's impossible to predict what project will walk through the door next. It seems anything capable of taking damaged could end up at his workshop in Brownsburg.



The Snakebite was iconic around Hendricks County, if you are old enough to remember it.

~ Mike Myers

For example, the old bar from the Snakebite (now A Stone's Throw) recently landed on his shop floor. It was clear the bar had seen better days. It was covered in black soot as a result of the owner's home catching fire.

"The Snakebite was iconic around Hendricks County, if you are old enough to remember it," said Mike Myers

Myers is a veteran carpenter specializing in furniture construction and repair. He has also restored homes damaged by fire and storms. He began working at FFBGM when Staley bought the business back in May of 2015.

Prior to this, Staley did all the finish-work for Southeastern Supply in Indianapolis. "We would do a lot of work for state exhibitions and universities," he said. Ball State and the Indianapolis Museum of Art were just a few places he named off.

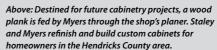
With their combined skill, Staley and Myers can "fix" almost anything. This includes home and commercial projects. A good portion of their business comes from refinishing dated furniture and cabinetry – things the homeowner would have otherwise replaced.

For more information on FFBGM, visit: furniturefixindy.com.

Furniture Fox/Bulldog Glass and Mirror

604 East Main Street, Brownsburg 317-858-7246 Facebook | Pinterest furniturefixindy.com





Left: Myers sands a table top made from Black Walnut. This type of wood is coveted for its drastic change in color from white to dark brown. A sapwood jacket encases the darker wood found inside.

Right: Staley collects the pieces of mirrored glass he cut to replace broken ones from a mirror brought in by a customer.

Below: Revealing years of etching, Staley wipes soot from the old Snakebite bar-top. It was brought in for restoration by the owner after it suffered fire damage.

Photos by Chris Cornwall







Growing Avon: Tom Downard works to grow the Chamber of Commerce and his community

Tom's list...

Five books that had an impact on Tom Downard:

- Who moved my cheese by Dr. Spencer Johnson
- How full is your bucket by Tom Rath
- Never Ever Quit by Jane Hoeppner
- Beyond Basketball by Mike Krzyzewski
- A season on the Brink by John Feinstein

How Tom did it:

What's the best advice you ever received?

Never fall in love with your business investments.

Best business decision you ever made:

To get into business. (In college, Downard was an education major. He wanted to teach high school and coach. Now he coaches girls basketball at Ritter High School.)

Worst advice you ever received:

Get a steady job and a steady paycheck.

In five years, I want ...

To help our community grow from a business standpoint. The other is that I want my kids to be healthy and happy.

My secret to success...

Working hard and getting out into the community to talk with people.

Avon Chamber of Commerce Avon Station Medical Center 8244 E. U.S. 36 Suite 140 Avon, IN 46123



As originally appeared in the January 2017 issue of Hendricks County Business Leader.

By Gus Pearcy

Before becoming a chamber director, Downard was an entrepreneur with his lifelong buddy, Charlie Rodgers. Together, they formed DRI Management Group and got heavily into Subway franchises.

"It kind of grew from Subway franchises to Amoco (BP)," he said. "We moved from there, too. By chance really and by opportunity, we purchased the ground around us and built retail centers." From there, it became a property management group.

Since then, DRIMG has sold off most of its retail centers. They still do some property management. Most recently, they sold off the Hendricks County Community Foundation building.

"We're pretty much out of the office retail business," he added.

A graduate of Ben Davis High School and the University of Indianapolis, Downard would spend his summers at Prestwick Country Club and Golf Course. When he graduated from U of I in 1986, he moved to Avon permanently.

The Avon Chamber of Commerce is successful on many levels, but one event it puts on every year is the Avon RibFest, a huge gathering from all over Central Indiana. Melanie Allen is the Chamber Executive Assistant. Downard credits her with much of the recent success and growth of the chamber.

As director, Downard says he has his finger on the pulse of the community. Plus, his background in development is helpful to his members and, he hopes, his town.

Downard says Avon missed a huge opportunity to diversify its tax base when the AllPoints Midwest development on Morris St. chose to be annexed into Plainfield.

77

Somebody's got to go out and find those people. I think it should be me.

~ Tom Downard

"We'll never get that back," Downard said. "That revenue is lost forever."

He'd like to stop that from ever happening again. Thus, begins his pitch on why he should be designated as the Avon Economic Development Director, or some similar title. He wants to be on the front lines of development for Avon, be a liaison to the town council, and market Avon in a new light.

"Somebody's got to go out and find those people," Downard said. "I think it should be me. The Hendricks County Economic Development Partnership does a great job, but their focus is not just Avon. It (An economic development person) is a needed thing we don't have and it's a per-



Downard also coached varsity basketball at Cardinal Ritter High School.

fect fit for the chamber."

Being sandwiched between two communities which have superior access to interstates is a bit of a challenge. Downard, however, believes Avon is ripe for medium sized office buildings and service centers.

The 10th Street corridor is slated for medical office or senior community buildings. Also, Avon has a business park designated for the site of the old Speedway Airport on N. County Rd. 900 E. But Downard says Avon has been reactive to the development, rather than focused on a plan.

"You can sit down with the (Town) council and say, 'What do you want?" Downard said. "Then I can go out there and get it for them"

Downard believes this is the next step for the chamber. It's the next level.



Downard has been the executive director of the Avon Chamber of Commerce for 17 years.

Biz Local

Floras add a fresh coat to painting industry

By Chris Cornwall

At first glance, one could easily mistake Aaron and Justin Flora for college students. But don't let their beards and youth fool you. Since starting their interior painting business five years ago, the Floras have secured a firm grasp on the local market. They are part of the millennial wave carving out a niche with new approaches.

Yet, they also value and benefited from those who came before them. The brothers first broke into the industry working for their uncle, Gary Thayer, at Thayer's Painting & Wallcovering in West Lafayette, IN. There they learned the job "from the ground up," a philosophy they carried over into their own business.

Justin and Aaron graduated from Purdue University in 2010. A year later, they opened Flora Brothers Painting just north of Six Points in Hendricks County.

During the start-up process, the Floras maintained a close connection with their uncle. "When we came up with the idea to start this business, he gave us a lot of good guidance. We still call him to this day," said Aaron.

They learned a lot from Thayer, but now he is learning from them as well. Aaron recently returned to West Lafayette to train his uncle's company on new "estimate software." The Floras use this software with IPads capable of turning measurements of homes and business into quick and accurate estimates for clients.

In addition to streamlining the tedious task of taking measurements, technology in the form of social media has also become an invaluable tool. The Floras see it as more than just a place-holder for their business's information. "When we first started, I actually sat down and studied Facebook," said Justin. "It's a medium that lets you target any demographic."

Although the Floras recognize the potential of social media marketing, nearly half their business comes from referrals. This is notable considering they don't try to match bids from other contractors.

"From day one, we set out to try and change the perception of this industry," Aaron said. They believe in a transparent way of doing business, even letting the customer know how much money they stand to earn from each job. "I'll show them what our percentage is, and ask them if they think it is fair. There will always be bargain shoppers, but we found out a lot of people are willing to pay for quality."

In fact, many of these clients would ask them to paint their exteriors as well. The question came up so much that they felt the need to establish an entirely separate company. "We just got tired of being asked the same question over and over, so we started All Brothers Exteriors," Aaron said.

The company was established last summer, but Justin says they are taking the winter to prime it for the busy season.

The Flora brothers have blended triedand-true methods with their own fresh approach, but they attribute much of their success to taking a realistic view of progress.

"Set goals that are achievable. You don't want to set unobtainable goals, but you need to push yourself."



Aaron (left) and Justin Flora in their warehouse on South Co. Road 1050 E. in Plainfield.

Photo by Chris Cornwall

Money Matters



iphotos

'Risk on'

By Jeff Binkley

January is a time of new beginnings and reflecting on the past. The investment big media complex often use these first few weeks to give you logical sounding reasons on how the past will show you exactly what will happen in the future.

Bushwa (that's French I think but I could be wrong. I took two years of German in high school a LONG time ago and only got B's).

So I'm not gonna try to predict the year ahead. But I am gonna try to explain what's happened in the recent past. Disclaimer: Investment guys and gals have as many different opinions as there are investment guys and gals. So understand that this is just one investment guy's opinion. Talk with your own guy or gal, or chat with me more in depth before taking any action.

This guy's opinion is that the market has moved to a "risk on" phase. So what does that mean?

Investors' appetites for risk change over time. Sometimes they think risk is low and move toward higher risk investments, i.e. "risk on." Often times, investors perceive risk is high and go "risk off," moving to cash and short-term bonds etc. Since the election, it appears investors have gone full "risk on," at least when it comes to equities.

Bonds are an entirely different matter. Bonds, to put it mildly, have not done well. Well, what did you expect? Mr. Trump has a history of being comfortable with debt in his business dealings. And he has often said we need to "Rebuild America" with new roads, bridges, rail, energy, and other infrastructure investments. Where does

that money come from? New debt. I.e. new issues of government bonds. And what happens when you provide more of something that the market already has plenty of? The value of that existing somethings falls. That's why the 20+ treasury etf (TLT) is down over 9 percent since Election Day (11/8/16 – 12/14/16), the market thinks Mr. Trump is going to go on a borrowing spree. And all that borrowed money is going to go into the economy, which is a partial reason why "risk on" is happening.

Another reason is the promise of de-regulation. Industries that have seen massive increases in government regulation during the Obama years are anticipating some respite in Mr. Trump. Industries like energy and financials have done very well. Energy investments are up 12 percent since Election Day. And financial companies are up a whopping 17 percent (11/8/16 – 12/14/16 XLE and XLF respectively per BigCharts. com).

So now what? How long will we stay in "risk on" mode? If anybody tells you they know the answer, use some French on them.



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.

On stable ground: stories from Swalley Stables

FEATURE

By Chris Cornwall

Take a stroll through Swalley Stables and you will see beautiful horses, rolling pastures, and the occasional Civil War era head-

stone. You might also see ceiling lamps from Union Station, lockers from the old Hoosier Dome, and an original covered wagon. And if there were any remaining doubts, the nineteenth century church bell should put them to rest; Swalley Stables is a sanctuary for history. When asked how he managed to come by it all, 83-year-old Ben Swalley replied, "If you're in the right place at the right time, it's no big deal."

50 years ago, Swalley bought a piece of land on what is now the eastern edge of Brownsburg. He and his wife, Bonnie, moved there from Speedway in 1965. It looks different than it did back then. Over time Ben has built several homes, a greenhouse, the stables, and trucked over a complete log cabin. But the old farmhouse where they first lived still stands in view of their current home.

Back then, the Swalleys had no intention of keeping other peoples' horses. They did keep their own however. Bonnie said they always kept a few ponies on hand for the kids to ride. And taking care of horses wasn't anything new for Ben. He grew up on a farm in Bowling Green, IN (south of Brazil) where his father used them to work the land.

"When I was eight years old, my dad had a riding plow and a walking plow - he used to put me on the riding plow," Ben said. "Horses were just a part your life. If you wanted to farm, and you wanted to eat, well you'd better get the horses out and farm them."

Once Ben bought his own land, it seems he had other ideas for how to use it. He began building homes on the property to pay off the mortgage. Today, the area resembles a small neighborhood. Ben said he also worked fulltime for the telephone company and did electrical work on the side. So apart from the ponies they had for the kids, stabling horses wasn't part of the plan.

But that changed one day when a neighbor, who also had horses, left a note in the Swalleys' mailbox.

"The letter asked if we would board her horses," Bonnie recalled. "We said, 'yes.' Then another friend wanted to come, and then another one. So that's how it got started." Today, the Swalleys are well-known for their horse boarding business.

One afternoon however, before much of the land had been cleared, Ben and Bonnie were delivered a different message. The news came from Ben's brother-in-law who had just come from the other side of the property.

"I found a dead guy back there," Ben recalls him saying. "I said, well, we better call the Sheriff then."

"He (the brother-in-law) said there was no need. He's been back there about a hundred years."



The gravesite of Isaac Brown who died in 1861 from the measles.

It turns out that part of his property was the site of an old cemetery. And what he found was a gravestone with the name, 'Isaac Brown' and the date '1861' etched in it.

"He came from New York and died from the measles. Some of his relatives came out and asked to see the gravesite. So that's how we figured that out," Bonnie said.

Another headstone lies a few feet away, broken and weathered to the point that no name can be read. Ben has since filled in sunken areas where more gravesites likely exist.



Above: Ben Swalley rings the bell he salvaged from a church built by his great-grandfather in the nineteenth century.

Photos by Chris Cornwall

Next to the gravesite is a church bell Ben salvaged from Clay County near where he and Bonnie grew up. The church that housed the bell, Swalley Chapel, was built by Ben's great-great-grandfather.

"It literally fell apart," he said.

So Ben recently restored the bell and built a new housing. A plaque on the outside marks the occasion: ... Built in the 1800's by John Swalley, Restored by Ben Swalley in 2009.

Presently, Benita Turner, the daughter of Ben and Bonnie, has taken over most of the duties at Swalley Stables. She began helping in 2007 after Ben injured is foot. For Turner, the old church bell also has special meaning.

"This is where most of us got married at," she said while looking at the bell. "My husband and I, my daughter, both my brothers, and my parents renewed their vows here."

Solutions from page 30

Answers to HOOSIER HODGEPODGE: Painters: CEZANNE, DALI,

KAHLO, MONET, PICASSO, WARHOL

States: ALABAMA, FLORIDA, ILLINOIS, OHIO, UTAH

Movies: COLLATERAL, JERRY MAGUIRE, RAINMAN, TOP GUN

Cities: GARY, GREENSBURG, GOSHEN

Journalists: PAULEY, PYLE Restaurant: RATHSKELLER

HC ICON Quiz Answers from page 21

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Answers to last issue's puzzle

Find the items in the puzzle going up, down, sideways or diagonally and list them. Each letter is used no more than once.

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- 5. Indianapolis Fencing Club weapon
- 9. ___ Kong
- 13. Nevada city
- 14. Up to it
- 15. "My bad!"
- 16. Westgate classic coupe
- 18. Indy-based
- 19. Colonel Lilly
- 20. Itty-bitty
- 21. Montrose Farms alpaca group
- 23. Cozy corners
- 25. Reason for sneezin'
- 29. "Cheerio!"
- 30. Indiana's leading vote-getter in the 1996 U.S. presidential election
- 31. Finish Line shoebox letters
- 32. Hem again
- 35. Part of TLC
- 38. Slurpee seller
- 40. Paired "sows" and "cows"
- 42. Like some organs
- 43. Lucas Oil container
- 44. Resembling most of the dresses at Suzy's Consign & Resale
- 46. Sell
- 50. Garth's car in Wayne's World
- 53. Not as nice
- 55. M/I Homes design detail
- 56. Revolutionary leader
- 57. Start of Hammond's area code
- 58. Old Broad Ripple supermarket
- 61. Eiteljorg Museum tribesman
- 64. Fissile rock
- 65. Ex-Indiana Superintendent of Public Instruction: Glenda ___
- 66. Craving
- 67. Eagle Creek Reservoir driver's seat
- 68. Ultimatum word
- 69. Danville Middle School spelling competitions

Down

- 1. Gung-ho
- 2. Old Indy water company
- 3. Formally charge, in Hendricks County Court
- 4. Greyhound, for one
- 5. Confronts
- 6. Brownsburg HS band woodwind
- 7. Ind. neighbor

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58	59	60				61	62				63			
64						65					66			
67						68					69			

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

- 8. Redbox rental: ____ Weapon
- 9. Rowdy crowd
- 10. Sphere seen from the Holcomb Observatory
- 11. Pro-Second Amendment org.
- 12. IU Health specialty: OB/___
- 15. Dawson's Too turf partner
- 17. Indiana State Fair barn female
- 22. Shoelace place
- 24. Sheik's women
- 25. Word of reservation
- 26. Blood line
- 27. James Whitcomb Riley's dusk
- 28. Hoopster Miller, to friends
- 30. Cub Scout Pack 306 group
- 33. Adam's madam
- 34. Entice
- 36. Midwest Fertility stock
- 37. Aftershave brand: Aqua ___
- 38. Match (up)

- 39. Pho 36 pot top
- 40. Nipper's co.
- 41. McAlister's Deli meat
- 45. Tie down
- 47. Whole
- 48. Karma Records section
- 49. Pilotless planes at Grissom
- 51. First Baptist Church sacred hymn
- 52. SS Peter & Paul Cathedral area
- 53. U of M team color
- 54. A long time at the Indiana
- Geological Survey
- 56. 2015 World Series team
- 58. Fire residue
- 59. Booth Tarkington novel:
 - ___ Magnificent Ambersons
- 60. The Lakers on a Bankers Life Fieldhouse scoreboard
- 62. Up to, informally
- 63. WRTV voice-over

Solutions on page 29

Puzzle Time



Questions for.

Rep. Greg Steuerwald

Indiana State Representative Greg Steuerwald (R-Avon) has served District 40 since 2007. The General Assembly recently began a new legislative year, revealing plans to solve some of the state's most pressing issues.

Steuerwald was named Assistant Majority Caucus Chair in 2014 and serves on the following committees: Judiciary (Chair), Statutory Committee on Ethics (Chair), Rules and Legislative Procedures (Vice Chair), and Courts and Criminal Code (Member). Here we ask Rep. Greg Steuerwald 10 questions...

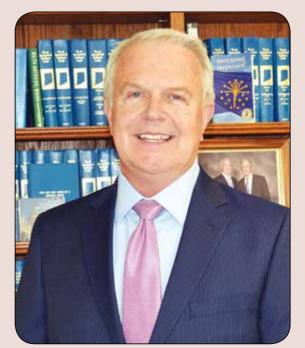


Photo by Chris Cornwall

You are now in your fifth term as representing district 40. Has the job gotten any easier?

I understand the process much better now. So from that perspective, the job has gotten easier. But there are always new challenges. The Speaker (Brian C. Bosma) has given me some projects and responsibilities, which I'm grateful for and glad to do.

On a local level, what do you feel the big issues are for Hendricks County? I think it's road funding - from the counties, towns, and cities all the way up to the

State. Between inflation and the influx of hybrids and electric cars getting better mileage, we have simply lost buying power at every level of government in order to maintain the roads and bridges properly...

What steps are being taken on the state level to maintain 3 What steps are being taken on the state of infrastructure?

and/or improve our transportation infrastructure? Part of the plan, which was revealed (earlier this month), is an

increase in gas tax. It hasn't been raised since 2003, and because of the loss in buying power alone, we are adjusting it to where it should be. The estimate is that we will need over \$1 billion a year just to maintain what we have. Ninety Seven percent of local units of government say its revenue is inadequate to maintain current roads...

"I always wanted to pretend to be an architect - that's a line from Seinfeld."

~Rep. Greg Steuerwald

As part of a 6 bipartisan effort,

you recently announced

legislation that would

make it mandatory for

persons arrested for a felony crime to supply DNA (at the time of the arrest). How would this benefit the State of Indiana?

It would intercept the person at the time of the arrest, and identify him for other

jurisdictions if the person has a warrant or an unsolved case. In my opinion, this is a great tool that could be used to apprehend a serial murderer or rapist... An example is the murder that happened in Zionsville. They caught him because Ohio has DNA taken at the time of the arrest. They were able to solve that murder and that is what I want Indiana to do... And from every indication I've seen it is incredibly accurate...

How do you respond to the argument that the method might be intrusive?

Historically, they had this debate years ago when they began taking mugshots. The same thing came up with fingerprints. This is just the most logical, most advanced technology to use today... There are only 25 markers out of thousands that you need, the only information you can glean from that is if the person is male

or female and who the specific person is... It identifies the guilty and exonerates the innocent. This is a win-win situation within the criminal justice system.

On a national level, how has the political landscape changed as a result of the presidential election?

The pendulum swings all the time. And now it is swinging back in the direction from which it came. Obviously, it is going to be much more conservative than it has been in the last few years on a federal level, which I am looking forward to.

What was your reaction to the election results?

Quite frankly, because of all the forecasting, I was surprised at the results. But I saw the voting lines and wondered what that meant. I thought it was a good sign, but wasn't sure until we got the results....

If you couldn't be in law or politics, what profession would you peruse? I always wanted to pretend to be an architect - that's a line from Seinfeld. I had a house built once and I drew the plans. But it was like a stick-man compared to the Mona Lisa. I just kind of designed what I wanted, and then the real architect took over. But I enjoyed it.

In terms of legislation, what are your goals for 2017?

First of all, as always, we want to maintain a balanced budget, and we want to preserve the 2 million dollar surplus. Because of that surplus, the bond rating agencies have given Indiana a triple-A bond rating. That applies to counties, cities, and towns. On every project that they do, that they issue a bond, they get a lower interest rate because of that surplus... An estimate of the long-term savings is that with a \$100 million dollar bond issue, the amount of interest saved over 20 years would be \$2.6 million. That is difference between a triple and double-A rating. That number jumps to \$9.1 million saved in interest between a triple-A and single-A rating...

5 ISTEP testing has recently been repealed. What difficulties do you foresee when considering a new test?

We have to make sure that the tests we give are a proper measurement of the data we want. We need to ask ourselves, are we truly measuring progress or not? So get down to what produces the best results for what has been a proper measurement for student achievement. Get the right test for the right data... I am not on the education committee, but that's where I think we be should going, and I think that's where they are headed. But it sounds easier than it is.

Compiled by Chris Cornwall

A Salute to Our Veterans

We salute our residents and appreciate all of our veterans. Thank you for your service from the staff at Park Square Manor.



Royce Armstrong US Army Private 1st Class



Victor Baroni USAF Sargeant



Don Beuke US Army Corporal



Robert Beuke US Army Staff Sergeant



Walter Bliss US Army Engineer



Ross Burnside US Army E5



Floyd Burton US Marines Staff Sargeant



J Gregory Cord US Navy Parachute



Pearl Donnelly USAF Corporal



Charles Eldridge US Army Corporal



Ray Gurley US Air Force Staff Sergeant



Max Harrah US Navy Quarter Master



William Jackson US Army Radio Carrier



Ray Jones US Army Sergeant 1st Class



Al Luckett US Army Sergeant



Norman Malone US Air Force Sergeant



Al Mikolasek US Army Technical Sergeant



Maury Unversaw US Army Staff Sargeant



Ruby Watkins US Navy Mate 2nd Class



Don Woodard US Navy Seaman General



Clyde Wright US Army Brigadier General