

HENDRICKS COUNTY

ICON



ICON of the Month
Duane Hugh
Page 27

Volume 9 - Issue February 1-13, 2017

Our Annual
'Give-back' Issue

CROWDFUNDING

The latest craze in philanthropy
- are there downsides?

Page 7

Retired trucker
turns 90, gets B-day
surprise Page 10

Carving out a
wood-erful
hobby Page 12

'Must Do'
events of
2017 Page 23

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West Hospital

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



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



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ICONICimage



Sasebo, Japan - Navy Religious Specialist 1st class Justin Robinson of Avon loses his beard as he plays Santa during a volunteer service project at Emukae Kindergarten Dec. 21. Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Diana Quinlan.

Oliphant resigns, a/v upgrade approved



By Chris Cornwall

Deelynna Oliphant announced her resignation from the Danville Town Council during its Dec. 19 meeting. In an emotional address, Oliphant revealed that one of her family members has been dealing with an illness. "For those of you who don't already know, Matt (her husband) and I have a very sick little girl - and I've stuck this out... I feel that I've done my best and appreciate all this community has done..."

Members individually offered their prayers and thanked Oliphant for her service to the community.

The council also heard from Will Lacey on upgrades to the town's audio/visual system. The new system will include an updated projector, and the addition of cameras and hardwired microphones. A bid of \$32,000 by Esco Communications to complete the project (with the exception of camera installation) was approved by a vote of 4 to 1, with Vice President Neilson opposed.

In addition to improving audibility during meetings, the new equipment will make it possible to record and stream meetings live.

In other business:

- The council approved an increase in funding for CDL physicals from \$50 to \$80 for public employees who hold a license. The increase will cover the out-of-pocket cost, which has jumped to \$75.

- Introduced Ordinance 31-2016 – Parking Amendment – Amendment would clarify language in regards to rules for parking large vehicles (e.g. R.V.'s, trailered boats, semi-trucks etc.) on residential streets.

CLARIFICATION

From the Dec. 17 issue of ICON, in the Avon Town Hall article, we would like to make clear that Asst. Chief Brian Nugent informed the council that money had already been budgeted for his salary, not that the department sought to reallocate grant funding.

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CROWDFUNDING

COVER STORY

By Gus Pearcy

Amanda Richart of Camby is a single mother of two. This year she was diagnosed with a relapse of brain cancer. She had surgery this year and the follow-up treatment. She was unable to work and medical bills started piling up. So her friends from Plainfield High School decided to help. They did a fundraiser at the Plainfield Eagles in December to raise awareness and cash. Businesses set up booths and every attendee paid \$2 to gain entry. It seemed pretty successful, but many of her friends that lived out of state could not attend.

"I know she's a single mom and on disability," Carrie Clement of Danville said. "Even with just one set of treatments, and I know she's doing two, it's expensive. I know she gets some help from her medical insurance, but the out-of-pocket expenses that she's had to pay. And she can't drive, so she has to find someone or pay someone to take her places. She's just hurting."

Clement decided to sponsor a GoFundMe.com page to raise additional donations. The goal was \$10,000 and at the date of publication, \$1,320 has been raised according to the site.

Crowdfunding like this has been around for a decade, but the recent influx of new sites that do this has increased exponentially. The idea is to raise money from multiple sources through a page. This can be for donations, like in Richart's case, or for business ventures, and even personal projects like a trip.

Clement said the fees to do a GoFundMe were much higher than she imagined. GoFundMe.com charges 5 percent for every transaction. Plus when you sign up, you are automatically enrolled in a WePay account that handles the transaction then funnels it into a bank account. This is so donations can be accessed immediately. WePay charges 2.9 percent plus .30 cents per donation.

"I don't like GoFundMe," Clement said. "If someone donated only \$5, you were lucky if you got half of that."

GoFundMe and similar sites also have a drawback, that the money donated is not tax deductible. Plus, many campaigns fail because there is no follow up. Even with a donation

The latest craze in philanthropy - are there downsides?

page, organizers are encouraged to still pitch the cause to friends and family and other potential donors.

Kickstarter, another site, admits on its site that most of the funding will come from fans and friends of each project. So it's important to have an audience.

In addition, you have to market it. The success of these campaigns are directly contingent on getting the word out. Plus, you can't expect to publish it one time and get results.

Crowdfunding does have advantages when it comes to getting donations from family and friends far away, but perhaps setting up a fund at a bank could be just as lucrative.

William A. Rhodehamel, Executive director of the Hendricks County Community Foundation says that Crowdfunding – the practice of raising money for a project or individual from a large number of people – is certainly a growing trend in fundraising. He sites a Forbes report that over \$34 billion was raised through crowdfunding in 2015. Rhodehamel states that most crowdfunding is done through the internet, with many of the projects advertised through special website or social media. Many campaigns are for startup and for-profit ventures, but some crowdfunding campaigns have been for nonprofit or social entrepreneurship ventures.

"Crowdfunding in the nonprofit sector has seen a number of successes, but there are important considerations," Rhodehamel said. "Many models and platforms have been developed in a variety of different program areas. While many have produced great results, donors will want to be certain that funds raised will be used for appropriate charitable purposes. It's also important to recognize that crowdfunding donations may not be eligible for a charitable tax deduction. If there's any question, it is best to request more information prior to making a donation or to make the donation through an organization that is familiar to the donor."



Rhodehamel

Crowdfunding a hit for Avon senior's cause

By Chris Cornwall

Its Christmas break and a group of high school friends are filling brown paper bags with food. On each one, they write "God Bless You!" in black permanent marker. The bags are carefully packed in Tupperware tubs, destined for downtown to feed the homeless.

One of these teens is Jakeem Tyler, a student at Avon High School. He is a member of New Life Worship Center in Indianapolis and said his charitable values were instilled at an early age. He remembers that his parents would always cook for their Church on Sundays and take the left-overs downtown to feed the homeless. Tyler said seeing that gave him an "amazing" feeling he still cannot explain to this day.

His parents were deacons at the United Holy Church of Virginia. When they would deliver food to the homeless, a young Jakeem was usually made to wait in the car. "The family was always very protective of him," said Tracey Tyler, Jakeem's father. He weighed only three pounds at birth and spent his first three months in the hospital.

"Jakeem was a miracle baby – that's what his mother called him," Tracey added. "He must have been observing us. I didn't realize at the time that it would have such an indelible effect on him."

"My heart really changed when I went on a mission trip to San Diego," explained Jakeem. While in California, he worked with kids and spread testimonies for Sport Quest Ministries. The experience was special for Tyler, who is also a youth group leader at Ben Davis Christian Church.

"After that mission trip, my heart and mindset for giving was on fire like I never felt before," he said. "So coming back to Indiana, I saw some of the homeless people, and I wanted to help them in a way that would impact their life."

Tyler was involved in a car accident on Nov. 30 when he was t-boned by another driver at an intersection. His injuries temporarily left him unable use one of his arms for work. He also had to wear a neck brace due to muscle strain in his neck and back. "Physically, it's not too hard. But I really want to help the team out more," Tyler said a few days after the injury.

You may have seen Jakeem on the national news after a photo of him working through the injury at Chick-fil-A, Avon, went viral. After learning the injured teen was earning money to feed the homeless, a customer posted the image on Facebook, lauding Tyler for his work ethic.

"We sneeze too hard and decide to call in, but he's working like nothing's wrong," wrote Cameron Nelson. It has since gained nationwide attention and sparked a GoFundMe campaign.

When the story first broke national news, Tyler said he was awestruck. "Because I'm only 18, and like, 'What? I'm on the news.'"

Despite the initial shock of seeing his face everywhere, Tyler is grateful for the attention his story has received.

"It's a blessing to have the word spread like this," he said. Since it went viral, the GoFundMe page started by Cameron Nelson (the same customer who originally posted the photo on Facebook) has surpassed its initial goal of \$2,500. In fact, the total amount raised has surpassed \$40,000.

But Tyler should not be known only for the photo. "I think helping people is important every day, not just during

the holidays," Jakeem said.

After graduation, he plans to go to Johnson University in Knoxville, Tennessee for Biblical Studies. Then he wants to come back to Indiana for a while to evangelize. But ultimately, he wants to open homeless shelters throughout the country.

"We should show God's love all the time, and try to be a blessing instead of receive a blessing."



Jakeem Tyler, right, packs food with his friend, Jacob Susud.

Photo by Chris Cornwall

FROM THE EDITOR

Excited about 2017

Is there anything more inspiring than seeing members of your own community help each other? Our annual 'Give-back' issue focuses on individuals and organizations that seek to make life better for someone else. I must say, producing it was a privilege.

I had the opportunity to meet some extraordinary people. Jakeem Tyler, for one, is an Avon H.S. student who caught the media's attention with a now famous photo (see cover story). Although he is only eighteen-years-old, Jakeem plans to open homeless shelters across the county after he graduates from college.

"Who has made a difference in your life?"

Stories like this are good for the soul, especially after the holidays. We are left facing a long winter when inspiration seems harder to come by. I want to ask our readers to share their own inspirational stories. Who has made a difference in your life? Email me at, chris@icontimes.com.

Next, I want to say that I am excited about 2017. We have a lot planned for the next 23 issues. Expect to see added features, columnists, and even puzzles customized for residents of Hendricks County.

Finally, I want to wish Hendricks County, a community second-to-none, a Happy New Year.



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

Yes, we want your letters:

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



ICONtoon

PANTS ON FIRE

HUMOR

By Dick Wolfsie

Have you seen my pants lately?

I mean a pair of 35x31 pants. That's not a brand name, like 501 jeans. It's my size. Yes, I have a 35-inch waist and two 31-inch legs. Now you know. I am not particularly proud of this. I didn't aspire to it (except when I was a 36). But I'm not unhappy with it either, although I'd rather be a 34.

Now, I ask you again: have you seen these pants? I'm beginning to think the ones I'm wearing were the last 35x31s made in

to hide a pair of 35x31s. No luck. Let me tell you something: you can hide some of your income from the IRS in a bank in Switzerland, but you can't hide a pair of 35x31 pants. Trust me, I've tried.

So what is the explanation for this situation? Maybe there are not enough men who are that size to make it worth it to the manufacturers. But why would that be? To have a 36-inch waist, you have to be a 35 for at least a couple of weeks, even if it all changed right after that cruise to the Bahamas. You can't skip a size. You have to grow through it. Think about it: at some point in time, even 7' 4" former Pacer Rik Smits had a 31-inch inseam. Okay, maybe just for one weekend in grade school. But still, he needed pants, didn't he?

None of the clothing makers care about us 35-31s, or 33-27s or 37-35s. They pretty much think that our waists and legs are always an even number of inches. I know God works in mysterious ways, but that's a little too mysterious for me.

I am going to start a support group for men who have waists and inseams that are not even numbers. Share your stories, explain your frustrations. Admit you are odd. I'm going to call it Alterations Anonymous.

Of course, if you are a perfect 40x30, or an exact 38x34 and especially if you are a real honest-to-goodness 36x30 (the most common size), you probably read this entire humor column and didn't find any of it very funny.

Well, neither do I.



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.

"I am going to start a support group for men who have waists and inseams that are not even numbers."

America. I'm looking for another pair. Where have all the 35x31s gone? Every Saturday morning, I head out the door to look for pants. I'm either wearing my only six-year-old pair of 35x31s, or I'm scrunched into 34x28s. Sometimes I waddle around in a pair of 36x32s.

First, I go to Macy's to shop. Man, do they have pants. And they have some really great sizes: 38x34, 42x28, 42x36, 40x34, 36x28. Then I try Kohl's, JCPenney and Sears. I look through all the shelves and racks, hoping some guy who's a 35x31 realized he forgot his credit card, squirreled away his size in the wrong area and planned to return the next day and reclaim his treasure. Maybe there's a 35x31 hidden between the 44x30s and the 32x28s. That's where I once tried

OUR VIEW

The direction is always forward

Now we are in 2017. New Year's is typically a time that we start anew. We shed the old year and bask in the new year, full of hope for the possibilities.

In 2017, there will be annual festivals full of fun, events (new and old), continued economic growth, new friends, and plenty of sunshine.

The arrow of time always moves forward. There is no reliving the past except in your mind. Many are worried and concerned about our future. There are good reasons to be vigilant, but we need hope if we are to ever make progress. This year, make it a point to be positive.

The Hendricks County ICON challenges you to find something new in 2017, whether it is a new event or festival or restaurant.

"Take time to rediscover Hendricks County and all of Central Indiana."

Take time to rediscover Hendricks County and all of Central Indiana.

Here are some ideas to lift your spirits: ArtsScape, The Hendricks Symphony, Programs at area parks, Pancake breakfasts, Fish Fries, The Hendricks County Museum, The Royal Theater, Hendricks Civic Theater, Maple Syrup Days, Mayberry in the Midwest, Farmer's Markets, Hendricks County RibFest, Play'nfield in the Park, U.S. Nationals at Lucas Oil Raceway, And, of course, IKEA opens in the fall. For more, see our "Must do" events of 2017 (pg.19).

The Hendricks County ICON will keep you up-to-date on all these events and many more. Just watch your mailbox and you won't miss an issue.

BELIEVE IT!

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

In New York, a person may not walk around on Sundays with an ice cream cone in his/her pocket. **SOURCE: dumblaws.com**



Resolve to get involved

READER'S WRITES

Resolutions, it's all the thing this time of year. What to resolve to do to make your life better, your family better, and your community better?

I often feel when a person looks beyond themselves, the answer becomes most rewarding. Unfortunately, most are weighed down by commitments and responsibilities. But can we do better? Imagine if each person who lived and worked here got involved on some level.

There are boards to serve on, service organizations, and not-for-profits needing support. Of course, to do good for others, it isn't an absolute necessity to join a group. But there is power in numbers. Plus it makes your involvement more fun as you build close friendships.

But how does one find a good fit when looking to get involved? Do a personal reflection – ask yourself what brings you satisfaction and happiness. Do you love animals? Then you may look into Misty Eyes Animal Center or the Humane Society. Do you have a passion for books? All the libraries have boards and other volunteer opportunities. Do you love children? All the schools can use volunteers in various ways. Want to help the elderly? Check out the Hendricks County Senior Center. Want to do global good as well as projects in your own community? Check out Kiwanis, Rotary, Optimist, Tri Kappa, or the Sertoma Club.

And if you're really not sure where to start, go to the Hendricks County Community Foundation site www.hendrickscountycf.org. Reach out to them and see what feels right to you. We can all make a difference.

Lynn Peters, 46112



Long Term Care

Long Term Care is a great option for those who can no longer be cared for at home due to illness, injury, frailty, or other limitations. Under the guidance of an attending physician, long term senior care is provided at our long term care facilities by licensed nurses, specially trained health care aide and a full interdisciplinary care team. Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapies are also available to ensure our long term health care residents function at the highest level of independence as possible. The setting is home-like, cheerful, soothing and secure.



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OPERATION ROUND-UP

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

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

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

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



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

www.hendrickspower.com



FOR THE RECORD - HC OBITUARIES

Brownsburg

Zachary W. Christian

Zachary "Zakk" W. Christian, 22, Brownsburg, passed away Dec. 11, 2016. He was born Jan. 22, 1994.

Francis Porter Ward

Francis Porter Ward, 81, of Brownsburg, passed away Dec. 12, 2016. He was born Dec. 18, 1934. Services were held Dec. 18 at Conkle Funeral Home Avon Chapel.

Russell K. Poole

Russell (Keith) Poole, 86, of Brownsburg, passed away Dec. 16, 2016. He was born July 26, 1930. Following his wishes, Poole was cremated with no service.

Charles E. Martin

Charles E. Martin, 86, of Brownsburg, passed away Dec. 20, 2016. He was born Oct. 21, 1930. Services were held Dec. 29 at Conkle Funeral Home in Avon.



Christian



Martin



Pruett



Ward

Danville

Garnet E. Anderson

Garnet E. Anderson, 72, of Danville, passed away Dec. 13, 2016. She was born Dec. 22, 1943. Services were held Dec. 17 at New Winchester Christian Church.

Patricia F. Mercer

Patricia F. (Robison) Mercer, 83, of Danville, passed away Dec. 15, 2016. She was born May 16, 1933. Services were held Dec. 22 at Weaver Randolph Funeral Home in Danville.

Plainfield

Kenneth E. Conatser

Kenneth E. Conatser, 86, of Plainfield, passed away Dec. 11, 2016. He was born Nov. 16, 1930. There will be no calling or services.

Betty J. Pruett

Betty J. Pruett, 77, of Plainfield, passed away Dec. 16, 2016. She was born Aug. 18, 1939. Services were held Dec. 21 at St. Augustine Episcopal Church in Danville.

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.

Retired trucker turns 90, gets B-day surprise

By Chris Cornwall

Charles (Chuck) Smith, who will turn 90-years-old Jan. 3, was given quite a birthday surprise when he left work. Parked in front of Mitch's Incredible Ace Hardware, where Smith has worked for the past 23 years, was a state-of-the-art semi-truck. Also waiting in the bitter cold were a dozen family members, including Jo, his wife of 72 years. They came out to celebrate Chuck's birthday and see his wish of riding in a modern semi-truck come true.

Smith began driving trucks when he was 17 years-old. Apart from serving in the Philippines near the end of WW2, he made his living on the road. He became a professional truck driver in 1945 and re-

mained so until his retirement in 1988.

"He started with dump trucks, and then semis," Jo Smith said. "He drove 7 million miles through 37 states with no chargeable accidents."

After seeing a new semi on TV, Chuck mentioned he would have loved the chance to ride in one, said son Terry Smith. Terry took his father's comment to heart and set-up the surprise with the help of Daum Trucking. "You either have a love of trucks, or you don't," said Marshall Singleton, Safety Director for Daum Trucking. "I have a lot of respect for someone who is 90 and still works."

Chuck hugged his wife, got into the truck and once more, was on the road.

Making bad moments better

BEHIND THE BADGE

By Tiffany Giles

Officer Corey Hill of the Brownsburg Police Department is

passionate about the community he lives and serves in. Hill, who is married and has three boys, says his wife Amber is "unbelievably supportive" of his career. She is continually working hard to keep things going at home while he serves.

"As a police officer, sometimes you are a part of someone's worst moment, so my goal is to make that moment better," he said.

And for Hill, making life better is a constant motivator. "Growing up I wasn't sure if I should be a teacher or an officer. Both gave me an opportunity to help others. When I was around 12-years-old, a good family friend named Rick Phillips encouraged me to seek out all my passions and develop each of them. He also told me to always have a Plan B."

As a lifetime resident of Brownsburg, Hill graduated from Brownsburg High School and began commuting to IUPUI for the next four years while he earned his Bachelor's degree in Exercise Science, another passion of his. While in college, Hill began working at Brownsburg Fitness to develop his professional skills.

When the opportunity arose to attend Indiana's Reserve Police Academy, Hill decided to pursue this passion as well. "For nine months, I went to college, worked, and trained at the academy. It was tough," Hill said. "I graduated from IU in August, and then the Police Academy in December."

However, his dedication paid off in 2014 when he was offered a full time position on the Brownsburg Police Department. "Suddenly, my plan switched, and Plan B was now Plan A. There isn't a better scenario for me," said Hill. "Being part of the BPD is incredible. The training I received is second to none, I am encouraged to continue growing and I work with great people. From administration to the police to records, everyone cares about our community and works together as a family."

As for his passion for fitness, Hill continues to work as a personal fitness trainer and his clients even include local retired police officers.



Officer Corey Hill, Brownsburg Police Department
Submitted photo.



Chuck Smith sits in a brand new semi-truck in front of Ace Hardware in Plainfield. His family was there with Daum Trucking to make sure 90 year-old Smith's birthday wish came true. Photo by Chris Cornwall.



Hendricks County's ICONIC

Homes by Cathy Sturm



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Hendricks County October-December – Price Bands

Starting/Ending Price	\$0-\$100,000	\$100k-200k	\$201k-300k	\$301k-400k	\$401k-500k	\$501k-600k	\$601k-700k	\$701k-800k
Number of Active Listings	100	268	154	92	43	3	10	9
Number Closed	106	892	399	131	34	10	6	2
Number Pending	26	74	34	18	3	1	0	1
Number Expired	33	127	90	37	26	14	6	7
Average Days on the Market	60	48	64	82	119	123	110	63
Average List Price	76,637	153,867	250,070	346,161	450,101	543,950	668,300	733,500
Average Sale Price	74,353	151,050	244,975	337,159	429,238	523,690	637,000	704,500

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Far left: Paul Dieterlen shows off the bison he carved for the Avon Washington Township Public Library during a recent Bicentennial celebration.

Left top and middle: Tools of the trade.

Bottom left: Dieterlen carves the face of a yard gnome.

Below: Dieterlen carves out a piece of wood.

Photos by Rick Myers

Retired Avon veterinarian is carving out a wood-erful hobby

ICONography

By Rick Myers

A retired veterinarian, Paul Dieterlen, D.V.M. Avon, had a career he can no doubt look back on with much pride.

It began in June 1957 in Nappanee, IN shortly after graduating from Ohio State University. After 33 ½ years of practice he sold his share of the practice and in 1991 began working for the Indiana State Meat Inspection Division as a veterinary area supervisor in northeast Indiana.

He was later promoted to Director of the Meat and Poultry Inspection Division, a division of the Indiana State Board of Animal Health – finally retiring after 16 ½ years as an employee of Indiana in September 2007.

What Dieterlen is proud of now is his wood working. In May, as part of the state's Bicentennial celebration, he carved a bison, out of a tulip poplar – the State Tree of Indiana, from a dairy barn built (circa) 1850 near Nappanee.

This work consumes his life now. He says he has boxes of carvings, stacks of wood (enough for at least 10+ years), and lots of ideas for carvings. "Most of my carvings I donate to my church (Plainfield UM) or charities or give as gifts to friends or family although I do occasionally sell some," he says.

Dieterlen has no formal training - and says he only learned from "practice, reading, observation and my fellow carvers." In retirement, Dieterlen carves 1 to 2 hours daily and at the twice-weekly meetings of the West Side Carving Club where he is one of the instructors. The WSC meets at the Hendricks County Senior Center, 1201 Sycamore Lane, Danville, on Monday from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. and Friday from 10 a.m. to noon. For more information, call the (317) 745-4303 or contact Dieterlen at pdieter57@yahoo.com.

What does Dieterlen like about woodcarving? "I enjoy the physical 'feel' of the tool cutting the wood (since I only use hand tools), the sense of seeing the subject emerging from the wood, the pleasure of seeing my finished creation (I design and draw the plans for nearly all of my carvings), and the compliments from other people, especially those receiving one as a gift," he states.



Plainfield invests \$1-million to aid warehouse industry

By Becky Schroer

As part of its ongoing efforts to attract and retain the warehousing industry, the Plainfield Town Council on Dec. 12 approved \$1-million in assistance to the Vincennes University Logistics Training and Education Center (VULTEC).

VULTEC, located at 853 S. Columbia Rd. in Plainfield, provides logistics-related training and is used by local warehouses to train their employees, said Tony Perona, assistant town manager. "One of the needs in these warehouses is technicians who know how to repair the high-tech equipment in those warehouses," he added.

As a result, VULTEC is increasing its investment to train students in the maintenance and repair of this high-tech equipment. Toward this effort, the town will provide \$500,000 in capital investment and assistance to VULTEC in 2017, and \$100,000 for five years thereafter.

"It (the warehousing industry in Plainfield) has brought us a lot of assessed value."

~ Tony Perona

Perona explained that VULTEC, within its 40,000-square-foot warehouse, currently provides hands-on training in packaging, shipping and distribution to students. With the new investment, Perona anticipates students who are certified in servicing high-tech equipment may anticipate higher paying jobs. He explained that many of the warehouses are fully automated, and the need is high for these types of positions.

Plainfield is home to 40-million square feet of warehousing facilities, either existing or in development, Perona said. "It (the

warehousing industry in Plainfield) has brought us a lot of assessed value and allowed us to do infrastructure improvements. It has brought money into all of the taxing units and al-

lowed for lower tax rates. Everyone has benefited from it," he added. In other business, the town council:

- Approved a contract with Context Design of Indianapolis to assist with the development of Plainfield's downtown. Perona said, starting in early January 2017, the company will be holding informational meetings for townspeople to provide input on what they would like to see for the downtown.

- Approved American Structurepoint to assist with securing a professional to prepare an application to the Metropolitan Planning Organization in order to secure federal planning and study funding assistance for a potential I-70 interchange between the Indiana 267 and 39 existing exits. The town is considering County Road 525 East and Moon Road for the potential interstate exit.

- Approved contracts totaling \$347,561 with Global Contractors for continued improvements to Quaker Boulevard (Indiana 267) gateway off of I-70.

- Approved a \$570,630 agreement with Butler, Fairman & Seufert for engineering services for planned improvements to Smith Road from Main Street (US40) to County Road 200 South.

The next town council meeting will be Jan. 9 at 7 p.m. in the Plainfield Municipal Building, 206 W. Main St.



Brownsburg awards \$16.9-million wastewater project

By Becky Schroer

Bowen Engineering's \$16.9-million bid for the wastewater treatment plant expansion and sanitary sewer system improvements was accepted by the Brownsburg Town Council Dec. 15. The vote was 4-1 with councilperson Brian Jessen opposing.

Consideration of a \$411,600 alternative bid for a 16-inch sanitary sewer force main was postponed until spring 2017. The wastewater construction bids were \$6 million lower than expected, according to town officials.

The expansion project will result in a 6.9-million-gallon plant intended to accommodate 40,000 residents by 2036 as well as incorporate state-mandated environmental upgrades. Brownsburg's population is approximately 25,000 now.

The town previously approved a 47.2-percent sewer rate increase over the next five years to repay a \$16.4-million state revolving fund loan to finance the project. Other funding includes \$3 million-plus in available town funds and a new \$2-million general obligation bond.

In other business, the council:

- Amended the urban-commercial mixed-use ordinance addressing residential use on the first floor. Following a favorable recommendation from the plan commission, the council approved all three

readings of the amendment during the Dec. 15 meeting. First-floor residential will likely be considered on a case-by-case basis and will require special exception approval in certain areas of the urban-commercial district.

- Approved the \$90,000 purchase of nine acres to expand the B&O Trail from County Road 300 North to the Ronald Reagan Parkway. The trail expansion ties into other trail systems along Ronald Reagan, providing access through to Plainfield.

- Approved all readings of an ordinance addressing 2017 town salaries and pay ranges. These include:

- Town council members \$13,703
- Town council president \$14,703
- Town court judge \$35,429
- Clerk-treasurer \$74,294
- Board/commission members \$75-120 per meeting
- Civil hourly employee pay \$8-30 per hour
- Civil salaried employee pay \$40,000-130,000
- Police chief \$89,000-99,000
- Ranked police officers \$70,000-81,000
- First class police officers \$51,000-65,000
- Fire chief \$82,000-93,000
- Other fire chiefs \$76,000-90,000
- Firefighters \$42,000-75,000



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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](https://www.hendricks.org/physicaltherapy).

*Trey Lyles
Utah Jazz*



HC ARCHITECTURE & HISTORY



B&O Trail, E. Co. 300 North, Brownsburg.
Photo by Chris Cornwall

The B & O Trail

By Ken Sebree

Although railroads are still important to our nation, recent decades have seen the abandonment of thousands of miles of rail lines throughout the country. The main reason is the development of the Interstate Highway system and the convenience and speed it offers to passengers and freight.

The "Rails to Trails" movement gained traction about 25 years ago when farsighted citizens realized the abandoned rail corridors provided a perfect opportunity for the development of recreational trails throughout the country. This also coordinated with an increased national awareness of the health benefits of walking, running, and biking.

In 1992, the B & O Railroad requested that the interstate Commerce Commission abandon rail service for its line running through Marion, Hendricks, and Putnam counties. The request was approved, and in 1993 the tracks and bridges were removed. In the fall of 1992, a meeting was organized by Indy Greenways Director in Speedway. It was attended by interested persons from Marion and Hendricks counties to discuss the possibility of developing a recreational trail on the soon-to-be abandoned B & O rail line right-of-way.

Interest in developing the B & O Rails to Trails was high, so in July 1993, the Hendricks County Trail Development Association, Inc. was formed as a non-profit entity. The first major challenge facing developers was ownership of the land along the rail corridor. With removal of the tracks much of the land reverted back to the adjacent properties and had to be purchased by the Trail Development Association. In the late 90's however, INDOT approved grants of almost \$3 million for acquisition of right-of-way and construction of the first stage of the B & O Trail.

By 2005, the name of the organization changed to "B & O Trail Association." Currently, six miles of trail construction is complete and 19 miles of right-of-way have been acquired for future trail development. Funding has come from government grants, private businesses, and individuals who understand the benefits of the trail system. For the past 25 years, each June the B & O Bicycle Tour has been held as a fundraiser. Beginning in Brownsburg, this family-fun event weaves through Hendricks County and along the B & O Trails to heighten awareness and generate funding for ongoing development and maintenance.

Due to the dedication and tireless effort of a few Hendricks County residents, the B & O Trail is becoming a reality.



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

Regency development phase approved amid concerns

By Cleveland Dietz

The Avon Plan Commission approved the construction of 48 homes as part of the Regency subdivision development at its Dec. 19 meeting.

This is the second phase of development for the property near the intersection of County Road 200 North and County Road 900 East.

The commission approved the first phase — 62 single-family homes and 72 duplexes — in March. According to Banning Engineering Project Manager Bob Staton, that leg of development is almost finished. Since they haven't completed interior roads between the first and second sections, County Road 900 East will remain the only access.

"We have kind of an unwritten thing on connectivity and two entrances," Commission President Dave Cox said. "I'm a little nervous with that (second phase) only having one entrance and exit."

Staton told him the developers kept the number of lots under 50 because of that concern. However, a second entrance and exit to the area may not come until phase three or four of the project.

"There won't be any more houses developed without a connection through," he said.

Avon Town Councilman and commission member Steve Eisenbarth asked that the developer consider installing photocell lights, which are used for automatic "dusk-to-dawn" lighting, in the homes' carriage light fixtures.

"The idea behind it is that we're not dependent on the resident for supplemental security," Eisenbarth said.

The inquiry led the commission to consider whether they should change lighting requirements in the town code. The commission added the suggestion to its motion to approve the development.

CrossRoad Engineers, which works with the Avon Planning Department on civil engineering standards, hadn't given its approval of the project at the commissioners meeting. But Vice President Greg Ilko said he didn't see any issues moving forward, just "minor housekeeping." He expected to wrap up some time around the new year.

Timberstone Development, LLC plans to build 191 single-family homes, 50 paired patio homes and 282 duplexes in all for the subdivision.



HC ICON News Quiz

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

- 1** The Hendricks County Parks Dept. will participate Jan. 2 in an annual early-winter bird census with the National Audubon Society. What is it called?
- A. Birding with the Bon
 - B. Count your birds not your chickens
 - C. The Great Backyard Bird Count
 - D. Christmas Bird Count

- 2** Who is the new Fire Chief in Plainfield?
- A. Joel Thacker
 - B. Brent Anderson
 - C. Andrew Klinger
 - D. Brian Russell



- 3** Avon has a new website promoting the benefits of the community. The new website's address is...
- A. AvonGov.org
 - B. AValleyOfNeighbors.com
 - C. AvonCalling.com
 - D. ThisisAvon.com

- 4** In all, how many Indiana Bicentennial projects were endorsed by our state's Bicentennial committee?
- A. 10
 - B. 2
 - C. 24
 - D. 35



- 5** IU Health West recently celebrated its anniversary in the community. How many years has the hospital been open?
- A. 11
 - B. 7
 - C. 12
 - D. 8



Compiled by Gus Percy
Answers on Page 18

Diversity is a given at Salvation and Praise Worship Center

WHERE WE WORSHIP

The Shamsid-Deen family and we are happy to represent our local Salvation and Praise Worship Center. To offer a better understanding, I would like to start by identifying who we are individually. My name is Cheyanne Shamsid-Deen, the wife of Freedom Shamsid-Deen. Our oldest daughter is Leah Shamsid-Deen, our middle child is Analuah Shamsid-Deen, and our youngest son is Sincere Shamsid-Deen.

We have been attending Salvation and Praise for over six years now and feel blessed to be a part of that body and what they do. My husband and I plan to be a part of Salvation and Praise until the lord says otherwise. Our children love the church and the freedom they offer to praise god openly. Our goal as a family is to always try and be an example of Christ and what he represents. Though we are not perfect, we strive to be who he has made us to be and to raise seeds of light.

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

As a family and individually, we love that our place of worship gives us the freedom to see the gifts god gives us. Also, it lets us see it as a learning ground to move forward in who we really are.

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

Our place of worship connects and brings my family and me closer to each other. It has always been based on the love of Christ, the perfect example to keep us close.

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

One of the most memorable and meaningful events that took place at Salvation and Praise Worship Center was our revival. But to be perfectly honest, as a family we have experienced many meaningful times. We always let the Holy Spirit have its way, so we always see and experience numerous things. We love our church. Salvation is what we have, Praise is what we do, and Worshipers are who we are! God Bless.

Why would you recommend your place of worship to someone?

I recommend anyone to come to our place of worship because the freedom is there to let the Holy Spirit move you like never before.



From left: Leah, Freedom, Cheyanne; front left: Analuah and Sincere Shamsid-Deen.
Submitted Photo

Salvation and Praise Worship Center

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Compiled by Cathy Myers

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Make 2017 a year of wisdom!

DEVOTIONAL By Michael LeFebvre

"The wisdom of the prudent is to discern his way, but the folly of fools is deceiving."
(Proverbs 14:8, ESV)

Several years ago, I stopped to check on a sick friend. He was battling a nasty head cold. While we sat visiting, he reached into a dish beside him for a handful of candy.

"Are you sure you want to eat all that sugar," I asked, "while battling a cold?" With a look of surprise, he asked me why not. As it turned out, he assumed that eating lots of sugar while sick would help him have more energy. He was naive to the fact that sugar is bad for you, and hinders recovery from illness. But once he learned better, he pushed the dish of candies away.

The book of Proverbs speaks of those who exercise poor judgment due to ignorance as "simple." One can respect the simple in that they make poor decisions because they do not know any better. But the book of Proverbs uses a different word for those who make the exact same decisions, but do know better. Those who know better, but stubbornly continue in the way they want to believe will work, are called by the Hebrew word "kesiyil," usually translated "fool!"

There are moral laws that bring blessing or failure to life and relationships, just as there are physical laws that govern our physical efforts. A wise person is someone who discerns life's principles and succeeds by honoring them. But folly (kesiyil) is stubbornly persisting in the way I want the world to work—regardless of the facts.

Someone who eats candy when sick be-

"Wisdom requires humility."

cause he doesn't know any better needs instruction. But one who gets that instruction and then rejects it, clinging stubbornly to what he wants to believe will work (just because he wants it to be right), is self-deceived and a kesiyil-fool. Wisdom requires humility. Pride leads to folly.

Let this new year be a year of humility that leads to wisdom and success.



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

NIGHT & DAY LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT ENTERTAINING

EVENTS

Jan. 7 • Rock Your Inner Animal | 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. | McCloud Nature Park, 8518 Hughes Rd. in North Salem | \$3.00 per person | Learn why animals have been personified with human characteristics | For more information, call: (317) 718-6188.

Jan. 11 • Coupon Class | 6:30 p.m. | Brownsburg Public Library, 450 S Jefferson St. | The cost for the class is \$20 per person | For more information, call: (317) 852-3167.

Jan 11 • Euchre Night | 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. | Avon Town Hall, 6570 E US Highway 36 | For new and experienced players. Members of the Indianapolis Euchre and Pinochle Club will be on hand to help out. New players can attend a brief tutorial at 6:00 p.m. | For more information, call: (317) 272-0948.

Jan. 14 • DIY Maple Syrup Workshop | 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. | McCloud Nature Park, 8518 Hughes Rd. in North Salem | \$5.00 per person | Discover the ins and outs of the entire maple sugaring process from an experienced maple syrup producer | For more information, call: (317) 718-6188.

Authors take a page from local history

By Cleveland Dietz

Two Hendricks County residents published books recently, but aside from being products of Hoosiers, they couldn't be more different.

Plainfield native, columnist and author Jeffrey Kamm's book, *Classic Restaurants of Indianapolis*, is a chronicle of restaurants with staying power. Each one of the 35 places that Kamm covers lasted more than 30 years. About a dozen of them are still operating, including Plainfield's Oasis Diner.

"Hopefully, people will take a look at it and reminisce."

~ Jeffrey Kamm

"I thought that was a really good example of something that looked like it was going to meet its fate — the wrecking ball — and the steps that can be taken to preserve it and for it to become popular and thrive," Kamm says.

He began writing the "At Your Leisure" column for *HistoricIndianapolis.com* three years ago. The column spotlighted historic restaurants, hotels, night clubs, bars and

more. It became so popular, a publisher approached him about doing a book a year later.

"My initial thoughts were, 'I don't think I could ever have time for that,'" Kamm said. Then he thought more about it. He was already writing a weekly column, and he'd already written about so many restaurants. But Kamm agreed and his book hit shelves the day after Thanksgiving two years later.

"I think it's a good look back at some of the independent establishments that helped make Indianapolis unique," Kamm says. "Hopefully, people will take a look at it and reminisce."

Plainfield-based author R.S. Craig says his novel, *The Innocent and the Dead*, is inspired by a real-life event that occurred in the late 1960s or early 1970s.

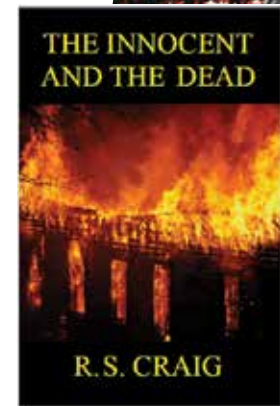
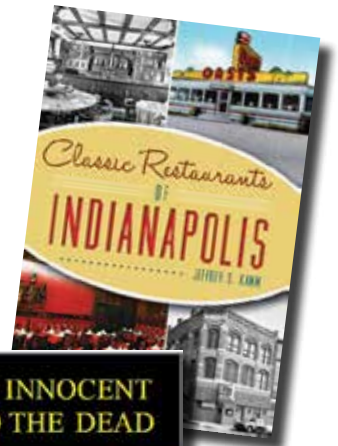
One day a woman in his paranormal study group told everyone her and her husband's house was haunted. She saw an apparition of a man. Things vanished. When the man appeared, he was always in her periphery. And he was gone by the time she turned around.

"One night," Craig says, "she woke up out of a sound sleep in a pitch-dark bedroom. She swore there was someone leaning over her. She screamed and her husband turned on the light. There was nobody there."

Craig says that's when the couple called the leader of their group to hypnotize her. She would channel the ghost so he could tell him to move on.

The play worked in real life according to Craig, but, in his novel, it isn't the end.

He began the work around 1990. Between then and the book's late 2016 release,



he completed a nonfiction work titled, *Children with White Knuckles*.

"It's hard work. It is hard work. But it's fun," Craig says. "I wouldn't do it if it wasn't fun."

Proceeds from both of Craig's books go to local charities including Sheltering Wings, Suzie's Place, and the Hendricks County Fraternal Order of Police.

HC ICON Quiz

Answers

from page 16

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



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Answers to last issue's puzzle

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FAITH ON FOOD

by Faith Toole

AN OPTION

K & H Catering

KandHcatering@outlook.com
317-615-0318

The scoop: What do you do when your calendar is completely booked and you need some kitchen help? Grab your phone and order a home cooked meal delivered to your table by K & H Catering. Their menus are seasonal because they only use the freshest ingredients. Their featured Harvest Menu has selections for all palettes. We narrowed our selection to Latin, and asked Karen to choose her favorites. Pork Fritada and a delicious Milanessa were her choices, both recipes from Heinz's Ecuadorian childhood.

When delivered, our Pork Fritada was hot and ready to eat. The entree included caramelized onions, steamed rice, fried plantains, and lime infused tomato onion relish. And, get ready for this ... the best seasoned cooked hominy! It was delicious.

After hearing about Hienz's family shrimp farm in Ecuador, our next order will be the

shrimp ceviche. Only the best Ecuadorian shrimp from the International Fish Market is used for his family's recipes. In other words, he knows shrimp.

K & H Catering home meal delivery is currently limited to the north east quarter of Hendricks County. Their plans include local expansion in 2017. The delicious tastes we enjoyed made me imagine the high quality of their event catering throughout central Indiana.



WHERE I DINE

Susannah Stapp
Brownsburg



Where do you like to dine?

Asia Wok on the north side of Brownsburg

What do you like there?

I like the Lettuce Wraps. They are as good as PF Chang's but right here in our town. You can't beat it!

What do you like about this place?

They are always friendly and the two girls that work at night, they flat out hustle! Every time I'm in there, I enjoy watching them do their thing. They work in tandem like a well-oiled machine! The food is always consistent, tasty, and comes out, as my boyfriend says, "Hotter than the sun!"

Asia Wok
1430 North Green Street
Brownsburg, IN 46112

BEHIND THE BEAN

The Beehive
55 East Main Street
Danville, IN 46122

Honey Bean

- ◆ Espresso
- ◆ Milk
- ◆ Cinnamon
- ◆ Local Honey
- ◆ Homemade Vanilla Syrup



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

'Must do' events of 2017

Feb. 18 - Sheltering Wings Annual premier Event, "Things Aren't Always As They Appear" | 5:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. | Top Eliminator Club at Lucas Oil Raceway Park, 10267 US-136, Indianapolis | For more information, call: (317) 386-5052.

April 1 - Break at Dogtana Dog Show | 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. | Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds and Conference 1900 E. Main St. in Danville | \$5.00 per dog | For more information, call: (317) 250-5251.

April 21 - Arts Gala: Perspective Starlight Reception | 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. | Plainfield-Guilford Township Public Library, 1120 Stafford Road | For more information, call: (317) 839-6602.

April 22 - ArtScape | 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. | Avon-Washington Township Public Library, 498 Avon Ave in Avon | For more information, call: (317) 272-4818.

May 6 - Geranium Festival | 9:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m. | Hendricks County Courthouse Square in Danville | Kick-off for the summer full of Farmers Markets | For more information, call: (317) 745-0670.

May 27 - Annual Night before the 500 USAC Midget Series Race | Lucas Oil Raceway Park, 10267 US Highway 136 | For more information, call: (317) 291-4090.

June 3 - Annual B&O Bicycle Tour | 7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. | 940 S. Locust Ln. in Brownsburg | Choose from four ride lengths, 10-62 miles. Homemade refreshments at rest stops, and barbecue and live music at the finish | For more information, call: (317) 745-2471.

June 9 - 11 - St Susanna Festival | 1212 E. Main St. in Plainfield | For more information, call: (317) 839-3333.

June 24 - Hendricks County Rib Fest | 5:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. | Kingsway Christian Church, 7981 E County Road 100 N in Avon | For more information, call: (317) 272-4333.

July 16 - 22 - Hendricks County 4-H Fair | Fairgrounds and Conference Complex, 1900 E. Main St. in Danville | Fair activities include the 4-H Queen Contest and Little Miss & Mister. Judging and Dog Obedience show. Highlights include the annual car show, Fiddlers Contest, and the Pet Parade | For more information, call: (317) 745-9260.

July 15 - Festival of the Arts | 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. | Arbutle Acres Park, 200 N. Green St. in Brownsburg | For more information, call: (317) 852-7885.

Aug. 1 - Night Out Against Crime | 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. | Various Locations: 8244 East U.S. Highway 36 in Avon; Danville Square; Brownsburg Town Hall, 61 N. Green St. | For more information, call: (317) 852-7885.

Sept. 2 - 4 - Old Fashion Days | SR 75 & 236 in North Salem | For more information, call: (765) 676-5474.

Sept. 9 - Bow Wow Bash | 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. | Williams Park, 940 Locust Ln. in Brownsburg | For more information, call: (317) 858-8022.

Sept. 9 - Habit of the Heart Gala | Primo Banquet and Conference Center, 2353 E. Hadley Rd. in Plainfield | Dinner, Dancing and Live auction | For more information, call: (317) 718-1200.

Sept. 15 & 16 - St. Malachy Country Fair | 4:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. | St. Malachy, 9833 E County Road 750 N. in Brownsburg | For more information, call: (317) 852-3195.

Sept. 16 - Quaker Day Parade and Festival | 10:00 a.m. (all day event) | Parade route can be found www.plainfield-in.com | For more information, call: (317) 839-3800.

Sept. 23 - Care to Eat | 5:00 p.m. | Hendricks County 4H Fairgrounds, 1900 E. Main St. in Danville | A creative dinner to benefit Hope Healthcare Services, a medical and dental clinic serving our uninsured neighbors. Tables of 6-8 people bring their own food and theme their table. | \$300 for a table of 6-8 people, individual tickets are \$50 each | For more information, call: (317) 272-0708.

Sept. 23 - 30 - Celebrating Avon | Avon-Washington Twp. Public Library and Washington Twp. Park, 115 S. CR 575 E in Avon | Starting Sept. 23 at the Avon Library and ending Sept. 30 with the big event at Washington Township Park | For more information, call: (317) 272-4818.

Oct. 7 - Masquerade Mayhem for Susie's Place | Indianapolis Country Club | Dinner, dance, and auction to support Susie's Place | For more information, call: 317-272-5696.

Dec. 2 - Christmas Under the Stars Parade | 6:00 p.m. | 61 N. Green St. in Brownsburg | Lighted parade with Santa | For more information, call: (317) 852-4172.

Thank You, Hendricks County

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 to 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 (Mooreville) 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.

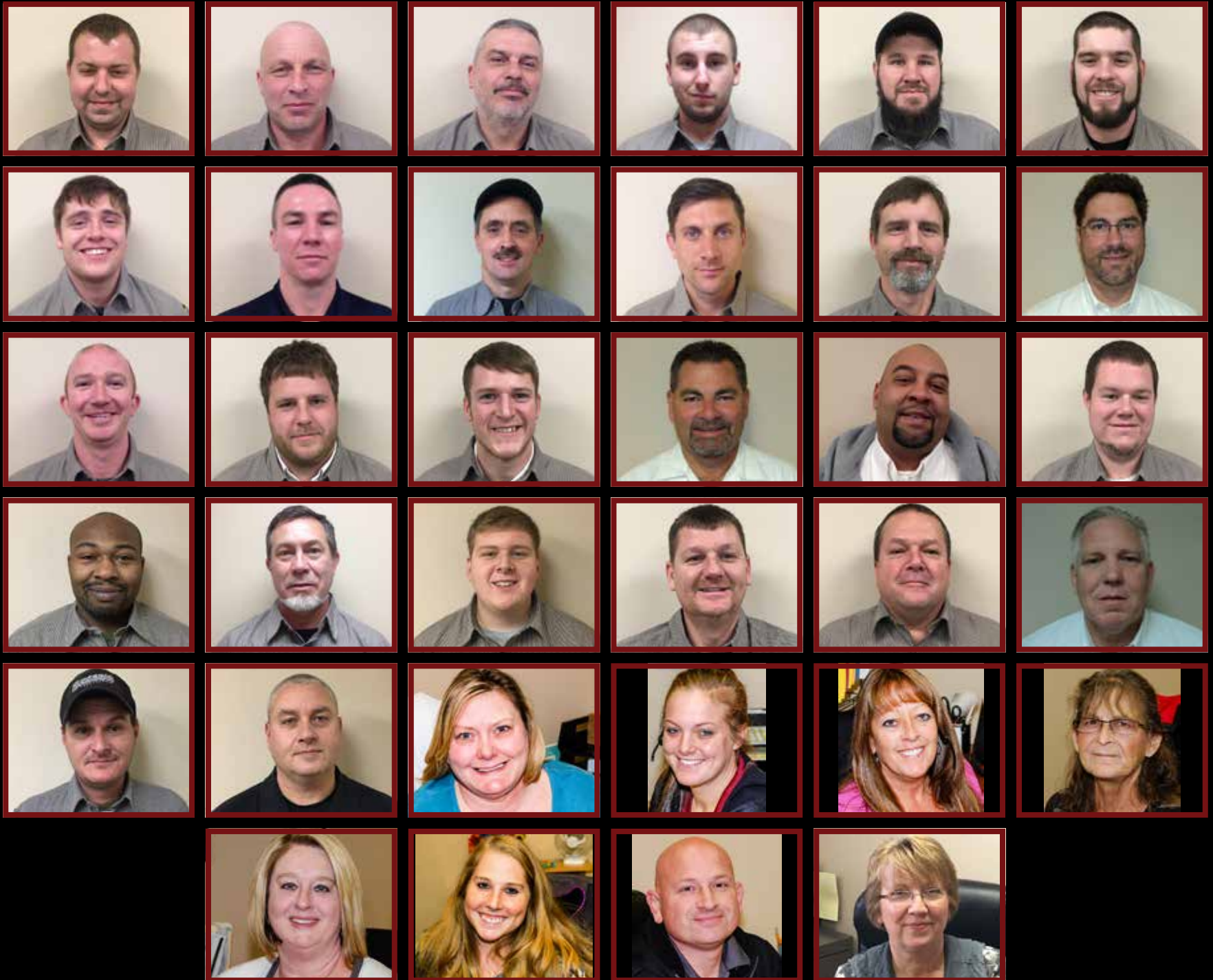
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How less is more

LIFE'S CHOICES

By Karl Zimmer

The notion that, "less is more," is not new and can have several different meanings and

applications. For many of us, our busy lives have become so hectic that we have little time for ourselves, let alone all the things we would like to do. So how can we use, "Less is More" to our benefit?

Remember a time when someone asked you to do something, and you felt an immediate tightening in your chest with panic setting in and the thought of, "Oh my, I have so much on my plate already, how can I ever..." running through your mind? What did you do in that moment, besides feeling the panic? What is it about doing things for others that creates such dis-ease? By the way, how well have you been sleeping, lately? Realize that when we allow ourselves to be in "dis-ease," we are creating an environment within ourselves, mentally and physically, that is conducive to illness.

Not only is it in their nature, but women, especially, have been conditioned to be nurturing and caring. How many women do you know, including yourself, who put themselves on the bottom of their list of people to care for? Most, if not all, of the women I work with have themselves on or

very near the bottom. My first suggestion is for them to place themselves higher if not on top. Some hesitate to put themselves on top, which I understand, but the point is to move themselves up and understand that the best way for them to be helpful to others is to take care of themselves, first. That goes for us all. "Place the oxygen mask on yourself before assisting other passengers."

Most of us enjoy doing things for others because we have been raised to be kind, to help our neighbors, and that good things come to good people. Too much of a good thing is not always good, though. So, how do we take care of ourselves so that we can be most helpful to others, and what does that have to do with, "less is more?" Train yourself to say, "No." It is as simple as that. It may not be easy, at first, but it will get easier with practice, and it will most definitely make your life easier. Your reward will be better sleep, better health, with less stress and more joy. Less really is more. How cool is that?



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

Do I have a nutrient deficiency?

DIETARY

By Martha Rardin

HRH dietitians are asked this question occasionally and the answer is a combination of your past dietary practices (do you eat from all food groups?) and your state of general health. Some of us do have nutritional deficiencies but that number is very small. When we see nutritional deficiencies it is typically in a person with a chronic illness or an obstacle that is a barrier to eating a wide variety of foods. What we occasionally do encounter are situations where essential nutrients may be in lower than necessary amounts. This usually occurs when someone eliminates a major food group from their diet such as dairy, protein, or carbohydrates.

In recent years, food companies have marketed their products to consumers with specific nutrients in mind. Orange juice fortified with calcium or high protein bars are common examples of foods that are processed to have more of a specific nutrient. While these are good for marketing companies and food manufacturers, recent trends tell us that consumers are not purchasing these types of products as often. Instead, they are purchasing more whole foods and less processed foods.

So how do you ensure you and your family have balanced diets? My best advice is to

keep it simple. When you plan your lunch and dinner, choose: a protein, one dairy, two vegetables, one fruit, and two or three carbohydrates.

So, what does that "look like" on your plate? A grilled chicken breast (around 3 ounces), glass of skim milk, sautéed spinach, glazed carrots, baked potato with butter, and a serving of pasta salad. For your next meal, switch-up your protein, veggies, and carbohydrates for variety.

Nutrition is a complex science and human digestion is even more complex, but the good news is our bodies are perfectly designed to utilize whole foods with minimal processing and in correct portion sizes. Take it from this dietitian, eating right isn't hard and shouldn't be confusing. There are certain times in a person's life when they may need extra nutrients. Pregnancy is one example that comes to mind. But if you focus on whole foods and a wide variety, then you won't have nutritional deficiencies.



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

Brownsburg
High School

April 8

1000 S. Odell Street

Hendricks County
Fairgrounds

May 20

1900 E. Main St, Danville

Hickory
Elementary School

July 29

907 Avon Ave, Avon

Hendricks County
Fairgrounds

September 16

1900 E. Main St, Danville

Plainfield
Middle School

October 21

985 S. Longfellow Ln.



2017 Tox-Away Days

Tox-Away Days are opportunities for Hendricks County households to properly dispose of household hazardous waste (HHW), tires, electronics and appliances.

All HHW (chemicals, auto fluids, fluorescent bulbs, batteries, pesticides, herbicides, medicines, sharps, propane tanks, etc.) is accepted from households free of charge.

Fees are charged for the recycling of TV's (\$20/\$25), appliances (\$5/\$10) and tires (over a certain number).

Regulations prohibit wastes from businesses or other organizations from being accepted at Tox-Away Days. Latex paint should not be brought to Tox-Away Day for disposal—instead, dry it out and throw it away.

Events are open from 8am to 1pm | Visit HendricksSolidWaste.com or call 317-858-6070 for more info.

Resolution solution

RELATIONSHIPS

By Sherry Strafford Rediger, PhD

January is

traditionally a time for new resolutions. We are attracted to the beauty and power of the white, blank calendar page. And, just as certain, almost everyone has experienced the disappointment of February; how little progress has been made despite our honest determination.

Why is the making and breaking of resolutions such a prevalent cycle? Consider this. Have you ever watched a mime outline with his hands the walls of a box in which he appears to be trapped? No one can see the box, of course, because it's not there. But the box is very real to the mime and he can touch its boundaries perfectly.

The subconscious creates false boundaries that we live within. If we are not intentionally training our thoughts to work in our favor, then our subconscious is likely working against us. Its intentions may be to keep us safe, but in reality we live small-- much less than we actually are.

It is the part of the mind we are less aware of, but is continually at work. If you practice quieting your mind you can hear its hum. It sounds like a background tape -- one that we are so accustomed to we don't even notice it's playing: "I'm never lucky;" "I don't have enough talent;" "I know I'll never get out of debt."

An essential life force within us recognizes we are more than what we are currently living; thus the impulse to set goals and make

resolutions. We desire change, but asking a foundling, untested desire to arm wrestle a longstanding, unexamined belief regularly leads to defeat.

There are a number of steps that will help change this frustrating pattern:

- 1) Develop a practice of meditation, prayer, or mindfulness. Be still. Listen. You will begin to recognize the negative thoughts.
- 2) Create a collection of the negative thoughts -- attempt to capture them word for word. Write them down.
- 3) Find exceptions to the negative thoughts -- create truths that directly refute the negative. Write them down.
- 4) Put new thoughts into action. Action is powerful. Sometimes "fake it till you make it" is a good tool. Find ways to manifest the new truths and break free from the old tapes that have made us much smaller than we are meant to be -- even if you don't quite yet believe in them.

This year, before you leap into a free fall of new resolutions, take the time to more fully comprehend the background tape of your mind. And make your first resolution to change the tape.



Sherry Strafford Rediger, Ph.D. is the founder and director of Strafford Institute of Family Therapy & Training and can be reached at (317) 839-1333, at SherryRediger.com, SherryRediger@gmail.com.

Cardiac stents that dissolve

WELLNESS

By Christina Summers

Each year, more than half a million

Americans undergo a procedure to place cardiac stents - small, metal mesh tubes used to prop open and de-clog arteries. Metal stents have become the gold standard over the years, but a new kind of cardiac stent recently approved by the FDA dissolves in the body instead of staying in place indefinitely like metal stents. They're called bio-absorbable vascular scaffolding, or biodegradable stents.

"These are stents that have a scaffold, or body, made of polylactic acid that dissolves over time," explains Ibrahim Abu Romeh, MD, a cardiologist at Indiana University Health West Hospital.

Biodegradable stents are made from lactic acid, a natural byproduct of the body, which eventually washes away through the body's hydrolysis. Through use of these stents, there's no risk of scarring that can occur with metal stents and no metal pieces are left behind in the arteries.

"The stents are not permanent in the body -- they dissolve after the artery heals," explains Dr. Abu Romeh.

The evolution of unclogging arteries be-

gan with balloon angioplasties in the 1980s, which inflated to push plaque out of the artery. Balloons were eventually replaced by metal stents in the 1990s, which provided much safer means for unclogging of arteries, but with the drawback of scarring.

Eventually, metal stents were coated in a drug that would suppress the scarring process and inflammation, cutting the rate of stent recurrence. The new biodegradable stents are coated in the same anti-scarring drug, and without the drawback of metal buildup.

But there will always be a need for metal stents, particularly among patients with severely calcified blood vessels.

"The new stents have not shown superiority to the stent that are currently being used in practice," adds Dr. Abu Romeh. "More studies are needed to understand long-term benefits."



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

It's all about choices: a reflection on 2016

MOM'S THE WORD

By Alyssa Johnson

Each of us is blessed with 24 hours in every single day. That blessing brings many hard choices about how we spend our time. Too often we get caught up in believing we don't have any choices when it comes to our days. That's a lie. Everything is a choice!

We make thousands of decisions every single day. You decide what clothes you'll wear, what you'll have for breakfast, which way you'll walk to the kitchen, whether to fix your hair, brush your teeth, pack a lunch, and on and on it goes.

I believe being rushed is an epidemic in our society, especially for women. We take on so much that we become exhausted, cranky and feel as if we have no choices. Well, I'll stand here screaming at the top of my head that you do have choices! You don't have to live that crazy, chaotic life everyone else is choosing to live!

How? It all starts with values. What do you value? Don't just keep reading -- I really want you to answer that question. What's most important to you?

Now, here's where the truth will come out... what you truly value, you spend time and money on. Take a look at your calendar; peak at your bank account. Do they match with what you said is most important? For example, if I say I value my family most, then am I investing more time in them than anything else (more than work, housecleaning, errands, etc.)?

Have your actual choices (as evidenced by your calendar & bank account), boxed you in so much that you don't have time to live out your values? This can be hard truth to swallow. So... now what?

Your Vibrantly Live Challenge: Take a look at 2016 and how you are feeling. Are you happy with the way it went or are you feeling like you missed the mark? If so, then I encourage you to review the exercise I mentioned above and come up with a new plan for how you'll make different choices in 2017.



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

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Hendricks County ICON's Greatest Generation Harriett (79) & Charlie (80) Muston, of Plainfield



Not everyone who went came back and those who did didn't want to talk about it. That's what Charlie and Harriett Muston remember about the soldiers who went to World War II.

Charlie lived in Avon in 1945 on a street with four houses. Harriett lived in Indianapolis. When the war ended, Charlie was 9 and Harriett was 8 years old.

They remember writing letters to the "soldier boys," air raid sirens, blackouts and using ration stamps. Wives and mothers went to work and some continued even after the war ended.

Charlie said he'll never forget the day Pearl Harbor

was bombed. It was unusually warm and his father wondered aloud where it was.

Their experience of the end of the war was as different as their environs. Charlie's family must've fired shotguns into the air. They celebrated a lot of things that way. In Indianapolis, people crowded the streets. Harriett and her mom took the bus to Monument Circle. She jumped and played in the water that day.

"That was the highlight of my year," Harriett said. "(Mom) never said one word to me about getting my shoes wet, my dress wet or anything. In fact, she was in the water too."

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

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

Window and door replacement

Happy New Year! The cold winter weather of January and February is right around the corner. This month I wanted to provide some thoughts and ideas regarding window and door replacement.

A significant amount of energy can be lost through old or leaking windows and doors.

Here are some examples to look for to determine if a window or door replacement is needed:

- Seals and swing function should be checked for proper operation.
- Does the door or window close and seal tightly?
- If window glass is fogged this generally means the seal between the glass has failed.
- Rotted wood around the frame and trim is a sign of failed weather protection.
- Condensation on the glass is a sign that the glass insulation value has failed.
- Drafty areas in a home can usually be traced to window or door failures.
- Light infiltration anywhere around the edge of a door or window, if light can get in so can air.

There are many options on the market when it comes to window and door replacement, many styles from simple to decorative, vinyl, wood, metal and composite, but as with most products



you get what you pay for. A lesser priced window or door generally will not have the insulation and performance characteristics as a higher quality product. Warranty and service are also important things to consider. I recommend choosing a product that has a product and installation warranty. Finally, make sure that the installers are certified and trained to install the brand of product you choose. Different products do have different installation requirements.

As always choosing a contractor that will stand behind his product and installation is critical. If you have any concerns or questions do not hesitate to contact a local Contractor and Construction Professional for help and guidance. Hope this month's tips are helpful, TsT.

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website: tsthomeimprovement.com

East Coast Crab Cakes

RECIPE

By Jerry Rezny
It seems like every Oceanside

region has a favorite fishcake. The United States' most popular fishcakes were originally from the East Coast, mainly from the Chesapeake Bay area. They are best made with crabmeat from the Blue Crab, but any crabmeat will work just fine. The following recipe is very basic. They are floured and fried in butter. Panko breadcrumbs can be used for a crispier texture. You could also skip the floured coating and broil the crab cakes. Dipping sauces are popular in some areas. I prefer red pepper mayonnaise or spicy hot sauce.

Ingredients:

- 1 pound crabmeat
- 5 crushed Ritz crackers
- 3 green onions chopped finely,
- 3 oz. mayonnaise
- ½ tsp. Old Bay seasoning
- 1 egg
- 1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
- juice of ½ lemon
- flour or Panko for coating
- ½ cup fry oil



In a bowl, mix all ingredients together except the flour and fry oil. Then form patties and coat with flour or Panko. Heat the oil in a frypan to about 350 degrees (about medium.) Fry each side for about 4 minutes until golden brown. This time can vary depending on thickness (Don't worry about the crab not being cooked enough, it normally comes already cooked).



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



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January 2017

Mrs. Lindsey Stevenson
by Evan Welsh
Clarks Creek Elementary, Plainfield
4th Grade

Teacher of the Month



Lindsey Stevenson, Evan Welsh & Chick-Fil-A Baby Cow,

Mrs. Stevenson is the best teacher ever because she... let me bring in my dog for show and tell. She brought brownies for us to eat and let us eat in the room and watch TV. If we're good she lets us have extra recess. She gives every kid equal respect. She doesn't just teach she makes a relationship. She also came to my football game. Mrs. Stevenson is the best teacher ever!

Kids, send your name, address and telephone number, along with a 100-word summary of why your teacher should be honored as the Chick-Fil-A/Heat & Cool LLC/Hendricks County Icon Teacher of the Month, to teacher@myicon.info. The deadline for nominations for the February 2017 Teacher of the Month is January 13. Your teacher will receive special recognition plus your class will win a lunch party compliments of Chick-fil-A (Avon/Plainfield). Please take time to nominate a deserving teacher from Hendricks County.

Chick-fil-A (Avon/Plainfield)
is the official ICON
Teacher of the Month
Lunch Party supplier

At right, photos of students in
Mrs. Stevenson's 4th grade class at
Clarks Creek Elementary enjoying a party
provided by Chick-Fil-A!



HENDRICKS COUNTY
ICON

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& COOL** LLC.  SINCE 1970

Puzzle Time

Across

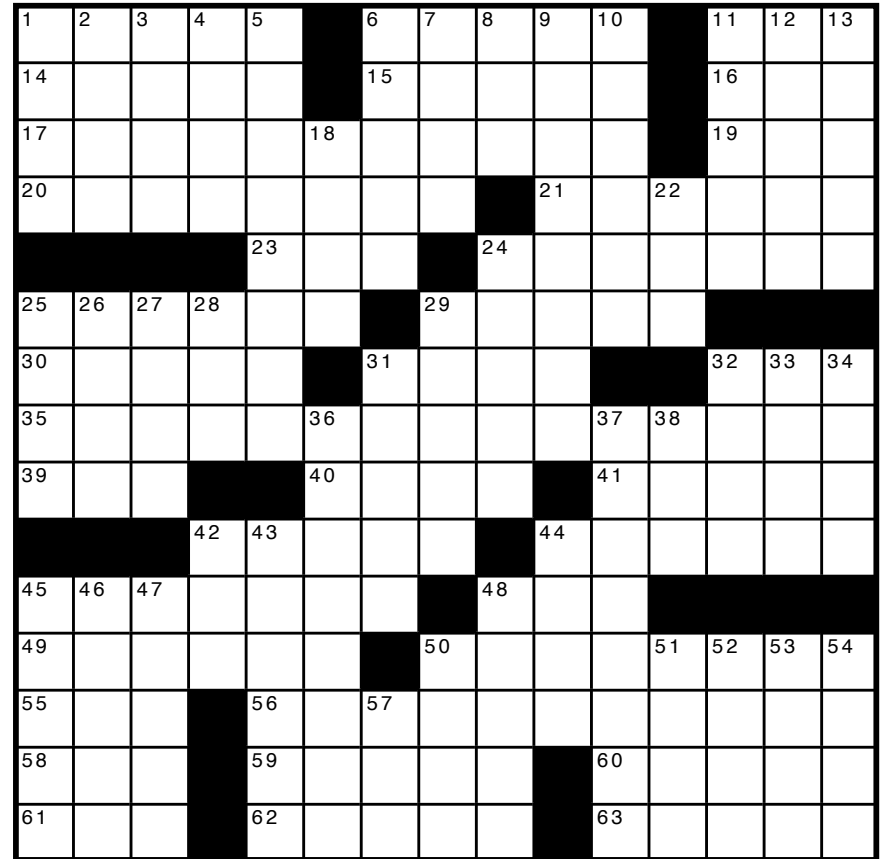
1. Sir ___ Newton was an English mathematician
6. Wild rose
11. Not pos.
14. Pelvic bones
15. Do not disturb
16. Mimic
17. Vision defect
19. Actress Ruby
20. An amorous glance
21. Large towns
23. Having four sharps
24. Illness
25. Sailor
29. Attack on all sides
30. More competent
31. Bar bills
32. Sound of a cow
35. In spite of
39. Brian of Roxy Music
40. "Exodus" author
41. Stand used by painters
42. ___ the side of caution
44. Branching
45. Arrive as a support
48. Christmas tree
49. Beggars

50. Mendicant Hindu ascetic
55. Hard water
56. Hotelier
58. Cartoon dog
59. Healing plants
60. Pizzeria order
61. Mined mineral
62. Uptight
63. Blind parts

Down

1. Golfer Aoki
2. Freelancer's encl.
3. Broadway beginning
4. Seed cover
5. Seaport in S Sardinia
6. Part of an ice skate
7. Nerve network
8. "Lord, is ___?": Matthew
9. The x-coordinate of a point
10. Surrender by deed
11. Gymnast Comaneci
12. Sporting blades
13. Farm birds
18. Jazz flutist Herbie
22. Vietnamese New Year

24. Sums owing
25. All there
26. Black, to Blake
27. Choir member
28. Cry of a cat
29. Circular water container
31. Spasm
32. Japanese soup
33. Singles
34. Give the eye
36. Litmus
37. Proximity
38. Block
42. Sister of Zsa Zsa
43. Linux variety
44. Skating area
45. Hubert's successor
46. Stomach woe
47. Designer Geoffrey
48. Wrong
50. Gets the picture
51. Shout
52. Capital of Western Samoa
53. Denomination
54. Ticks off
57. Freight weight



Answers in next issue of Hendricks County ICON

ANGEL WELLS JOINS



MANTOOTH INSURANCE AGENCY

We're proud to announce that Angel Wells of Danville has accepted a position with the Mantooth Insurance Agency, Avon. Angel is looking forward to serving Hendricks County and the surrounding area. In her new professional role she will be able to offer a full line of insurance products, including: auto, home, commercial and life.

Give Angel a call at (317) 272-1010 or (317) 371-0305 or email her at angel@mantoothinsurance.com.



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Educator Duane Hugh plants seeds of success in each student

Growing up on a 1,200-acre farm in Monticello, Duane Hugh always had an interest in Agriculture. He obtained a B.S. in Agriculture Education from Purdue University, and has been a teacher for 31 years. He has spent the past 11 of those years teaching Business and Agricultural Science at Danville Community High School. In addition to teaching more conventional Ag courses, Hugh gives his students a chance to learn Horticulture Science, Natural Resource Management, and Landscape Management.

He is also involved in Future Farmers of America events, for which he coaches Career Development Teams. Hugh and his students will be competing in the State Finals on Jan. 28.

He currently resides on his 150 acre farm with his wife Jane and daughter Mariah who is a freshman at Purdue University studying Animal Science.

What do you consider your greatest virtue?

My caring attitude towards my students along with always wanting to do things right the first time. I love to see my students succeed. Whether it's in the classroom, in an FFA competition, or in their career years after they have graduated, I maintain contact with many former students that have entered careers in the agriculture industry and try to stay abreast of their successes.

What do you most deplore in others?

Lack of preparation. And then especially lying about why they are not prepared. I see so many students today that want to "cut corners" and try to get along by doing the absolute least that they can.

If you had to live elsewhere, where would it be?

If I hit the lottery and retired, I would buy a house on the beach in the Grand Cayman Islands. Our family has vacationed there a couple of times and we love it there.

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

I would have bought more farm land at an earlier age.

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

I would set up a Foundation called PYIA (Promoting Youth in Agriculture). It would provide scholarships to students all over the U.S. to study agriculture in college.

What makes you happiest?

Spending time with my family.

What do you do with idle time?

My favorite past-time is raising cattle. It's my "getaway" when I have a bad day at school. It's amazing how well they can listen to me.

What is it that makes you angry?

When people don't follow through with what they have promised to do.

What do you do to escape from reality?

Watching Purdue Basketball. We have season tickets and really enjoy driving to West Lafayette to follow the basketball team.

What or who is the greatest love of your life?

Without a doubt, my wife, Jane. I don't know how she has put up with me and all of the time I spend at school.

Which living person in Hendricks County do you most admire?

Meredith Kincaid. I met Meredith the first year I taught at Cloverdale. He has been a great resource for me in the county. He has served on the school board, been very involved with the Farm Bureau, and is a real advocate for the agriculture industry. His front porch is always available to me. We talk and bounce ideas around about the direction of the Danville High School Agriculture Program. I highly respect his opinion.

What is the quality you most like in a man?

Honesty.

What is the quality you most like in a woman?

Honesty.

What is your greatest extravagance?

Probably our "dream house" we built a few years ago. Or the cruise we took to the Baltic Sea - we left England and went to Russia before turning around. It was awesome!

What are your fears, phobias?

I am not afraid of the water but it's not my favorite thing. My wife was born on lake Freeman in Monticello and loves everything water - swimming, boating, skiing ... you name it. I am kind of a drag on her interests in that perspective. We took scuba diving lessons many years ago so I'd feel more comfortable in the water.

What has been the happiest time of your life?

When I married my wife in 1986, and when our daughter was born in 1998.

Which talent would you most like to possess?

I always thought it would be wonderful to play the piano. I am a long-time musician (drummer) and have always been in awe of people who could play the piano really well.

What do you most value in your friends?

Having an outlet outside of work and family.

Which historical figure do you most identify with?

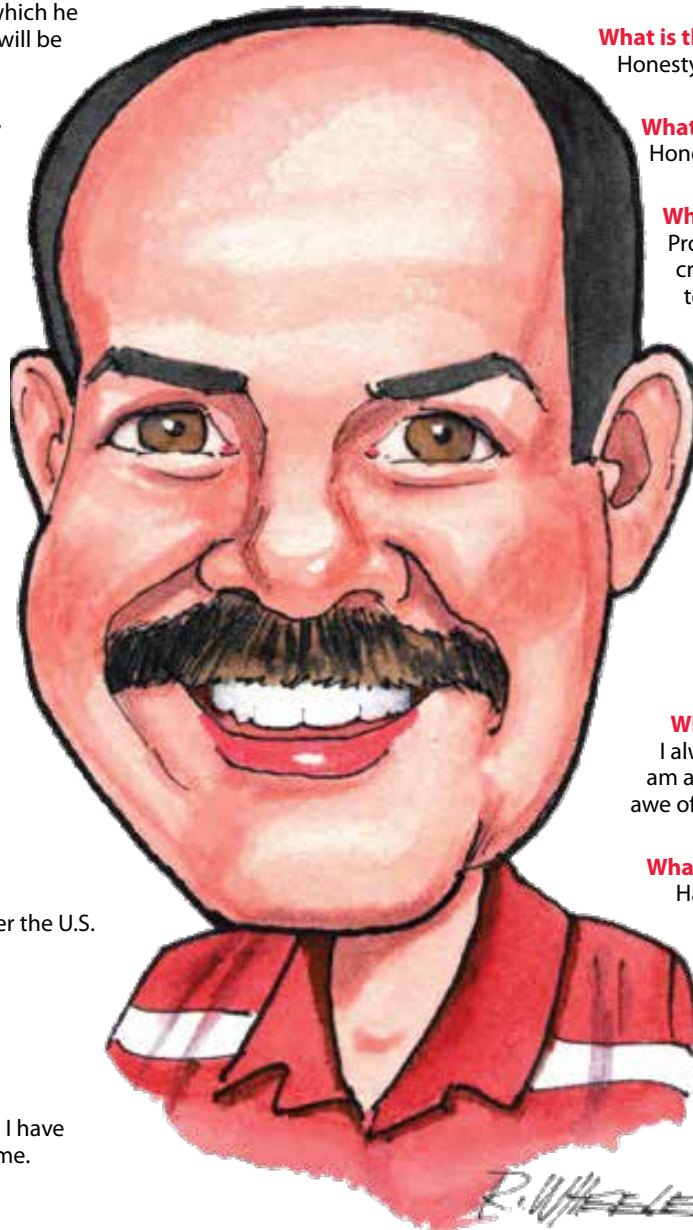
George Rogers Clark. He had more to do with settling Indiana and Illinois in the eighteenth century than anyone. He was a true leader in his time and didn't get enough recognition for what he accomplished.

What is your greatest regret?

None.

What tenet do you live by?

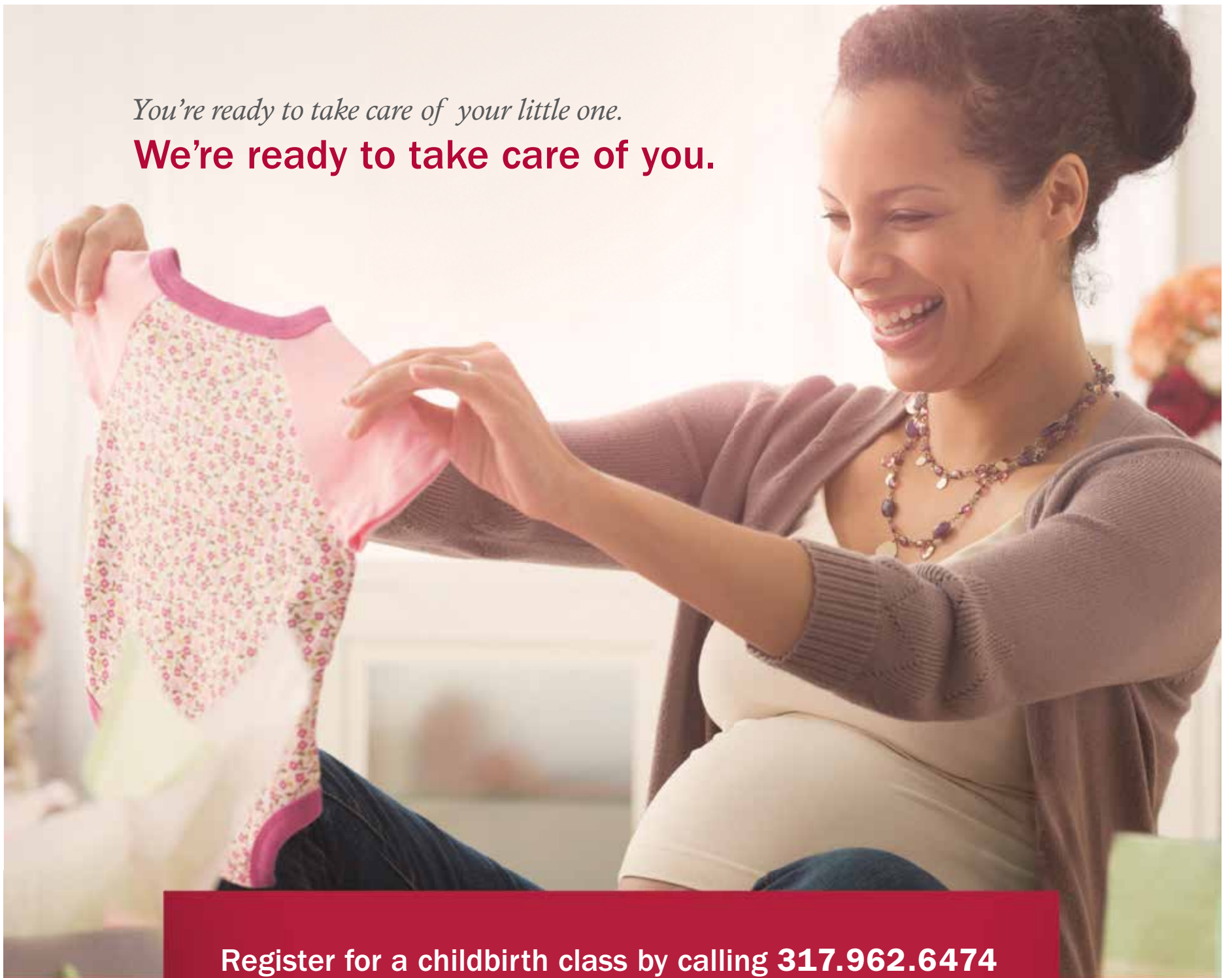
I keep a quote by my desk from Martin Luther King. It reads: "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy."



Compiled by Cathy Myers

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