



# CENTER GROVE ICON

December 16, 2017 - January 19, 2018 • [mycgicon.com](http://mycgicon.com)



*You name it, they've framed it* Page 14

**BUSINESS LEADER**  
SOUTHSIDE

Pages 14-17



*ICON of the Month*  
**Jim Schwarz** Page 22



**PASTOR CHRIS  
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## 2017 ICON of the YEAR

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# ICONICimage



**Light seeing** - Center Grove is shining bright this holiday season. Taking a drive down Smith Valley Road, in between State Road 135 and 37 on S. Runyon Rd., it's impossible to miss this house filled with Christmas lights. Turn on the road and it's sure not to disappoint! There are quite a few houses with lit up and decorated for the holidays. (Photo by Nicole Davis)

## Contact the Editor

Have any news tips? Want to submit a calendar event? Have a photograph to share? Call Nicole Davis at 300-8782 or email her at news@myICON.info. Remember, our news deadlines are several days prior to print.



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Jillian Castor. (Submitted photo)

## THE CASTOR FILE

**NAME:** Jillian Castor  
**YEAR:** Senior  
**SPORTS:** Swimming and diving  
**SPECIALTY EVENTS:** 200 and 500 freestyles, 200 & 400 freestyle relays  
**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:** State Meet qualifier in 2016 (400 freestyle relay) and 2017 (200 freestyle, 400 freestyle relay)

**FAVORITE TV SHOW:** *The Office*  
**FAVORITE MOVIE:** *Get Smart*  
**COLLEGE:** Plans to swim in college but is still mulling options; plans to major in message therapy or athletic training  
**PARENTS:** Dan and Banita Castor

## Bob Rohrman's **INDY** Athlete of the Month **HONDA** Jillian Castor

By Rick Morwick

Forgive Jillian Castor if she doesn't remember her first swimming lesson. She was only a toddler.

Forgive her, also, if she doesn't recall her first competitive swim meet. She was still in preschool.

"I started taking swim lessons when I was 2, and I started competitive swimming when I was 4," said Castor, who has created countless memorable moments in the pool ever since.

One of the state's top high school swimmers, Castor is a senior on Center Grove's girls varsity team. A two-time IHSAA State Meet qualifier, she is bidding to cap her career with a third straight state meet appearance.

Center Grove's only individual state qualifier last season, she expects to be among the top contenders in her specialty events when the postseason begins Feb. 1. The state meet is Feb. 9-10.

"I've definitely made a lot of progress," said

Castor, who made her state meet debut two years ago. "I've definitely got a lot more comfortable at that meet. When I walked in as a sophomore, I was really scared, because it's the biggest stage I've ever been on.

"I thought I was going to choke, but I ended up doing pretty well."

Castor made her state meet debut in 2016 as a member of the Trojans' 400-meter relay. She returned to state the following year in the 400 relay and, for the first time in her career, qualified as an individual in the 200 freestyle.

A distance specialist who also swims the 500 freestyle and 200 freestyle relay, Castor is confident of not only returning to state for a third consecutive year, but improving on her previous two appearances.

Castor did not advance out of the preliminaries in 2016 or '17 but expects to do so this time, which would mean reaching the consolation finals or the finals.

"I'm a lot more confident swimming at that meet now," Castor said. "I'm definitely

more relaxed. It's still super-tense, but I'm more comfortable with it. I'm not going in with no experience. My goal this year is to make it to the finals."

An aspiring college swimmer, Castor has received offers from a number of schools but is still sorting her options. She expects to draw even more interest after the State Meet, especially if she achieves her goal of reaching the consolations or the finals.

"I have a lot of options right now, but I don't have an official plan," Castor said.

A lifelong swimmer, Castor credits the sport - and the self-discipline it forges - for her success in and out of the pool, particularly in the classroom, where she is an honors student.

"(Swimming) pushes me. It gives me a determination," she said. "I like the atmosphere and I like being competitive. It's my favorite thing. Swimming is my favorite thing to do. I've been doing it for so long, that's probably why I love it so much.

"It's definitely taught me a lot of life lessons."

## Center Grove News Quiz

How well do you know your Center Grove community? Test your current event knowledge each month with a little Q&A!

**1** This month's Athlete of the Month Jillian Castor had her first swimming lesson at what age?

- A. Two       B. Five  
 C. Ten       D. Sixteen

**2** Congrats to Mt. Pleasant Christian Church Pastor Chris Philbeck on receiving a nomination and selection of ICON of the Year! Outside of the church, what is his "only" hobby?

- A. Rock 'n Roll concerts  
 B. Family time  
 C. Travel  
 D. Golf

**3** Center Grove Icon has a new columnist! Curtis Honeycutt is the \_\_\_\_\_ Guy. Read his column weekly!

- A. Recipe  
 B. Grammar  
 C. Tech  
 D. Book

**4** Jeff Beck writes in this month's history and architecture column about Charles "Shep" and Priscilla Shepherd. What did Shep do for a living?

- A. Real estate broker  
 B. Preacher  
 C. Milk truck driver/farmer  
 D. School teacher

**5** ICON of the Month Jim Schwarz credits which organization to opening his eyes to the concept of civic leadership?

- A. Center Grove Community School Corporation  
 B. Leadership Johnson County  
 C. Greater Greenwood Chamber of Commerce  
 D. Greater Greenwood Lions Club

ANSWERS ON PAGE 21

Bob Rohrman's **INDY**  
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# ICON of the Year

## Pastor Chris Philbeck

Mount Pleasant Christian Church senior pastor inspires others with his passion for people and giving back

### COVER STORY

By Nicole Davis

Mount Pleasant Christian Church (MPCC) has a vision "to be a church that is locally focused and globally engaged with an undeniable IMPACT for Christ." Behind that vision, leading by example, is Senior Pastor Chris Philbeck.

His passion for people shows not only through his church services but how he conducts himself through each and every day, in and outside of Mt. Pleasant. Because of this, Pastor Chris Philbeck is the 2017 Center Grove ICON of the Year.

"Our Pastor here at MPCC is a great candidate for Icon of the (year)," wrote Johnette Cruz, communications director at MPCC, in an email. "He's really been laying the groundwork for serving the community at large and loving people right where they are."

Chris is originally from Oklahoma, graduating from Ozark Bible College in Joplin, Mo. Previously, he served as senior pastor of Northside Christian Church in Broken Arrow, Okla. and Kingsbridge Christian Church in Sugarland Texas. He came to Mt. Pleasant Christian Church in 2001.

"He believes in the church and he's dedicated his life to it," said Chris' son, Andrew Philbeck, who serves as home groups and young adults pastor at MPCC. "I feel I've really seen it now that he had an experience with throat cancer and had to be away from the church for so many months. He draws a lot of meaning and purpose from (the church). It's what he was called to do. I'm proud of him and happy for the impact we're able to make, but there's a part of me that just wants to shrug my shoulders and say that's the way it's always been. It's the way he's always been."

Chris has been married to his wife, Sandy, for 30 years. They have two children, Andrew and Tricia. In his free time, Chris enjoys spending time with his family, is an Oklahoma Sooners fan, and an avid golfer - his "one and only" hobby.

Within the church, Chris has a reputation of being genuine, caring, loyal and having a heart for the gospel.

"I first met Chris about nine years ago when I interviewed to go on staff at Mt. Pleasant," said Brian Tabor, worship pastor. "I was struck by how thoughtful he was and how committed he was to making sure the worship services at Mt. Pleasant

were of the highest quality."

Through the past nine years, Tabor said they have built a strong work relationship.

"Chris is a very fun guy but he is also very committed to his calling to be a senior pastor," Tabor said. "I don't know that I've ever met someone that has a deeper love for the study of the scripture and the Bible. His commitment to that is really inspiring. I drive from Fishers, 35 miles one way. I tell people every day, if I left the Mt. Pleasant staff for some reason, I would continue to go to church there. That is all embodied in Chris. I tell people if you go to a restaurant and ask the staff if they eat there and they say no, you should walk out. That's a parallel to what I'm saying. If you talk to a staff person and they say if they didn't work there, they would still come to church there, that is the highest compliment you can give to a senior pastor.

He's a great leader. He leads by example. He is a man of great character."

Earlier this year, Tabor was able to travel to Austria with Chris to visit a missions organization which MPCC supports. They spent several days working in the kitchen together, cleaning, cooking and preparing food.

"Just the fact that he was right there with us meant a lot to all of us," Tabor said. "He wasn't avoiding the hard work. That was very meaningful to me, to get to serve alongside him in a way we don't normally get to do."

Matt Goodpastor, church administrator and Community Life Center director, first came to work at MPCC in 2010. His wife's family had attended MPCC previously, so he had heard about Chris' reputation in the community.

"As an individual, everything I heard about him, that he was extremely genuine and who you saw on Sundays was who he is behind the scenes as well, I can tell you that was true," Goodpastor said. "He's fiercely loyal both to his family, friend and

staff. He has a huge heart. He's extremely caring and compassionate. Ultimately for him, he wants to do whatever he can to leave a lasting impact and legacy on our community."

On a broader scale, MPCC does many things through the year to not only make an impact within the church, but the overall community.

"One of Chris' desires is that Mt. Pleasant would be one of the most generous churches in the region," Tabor said.

Each Sunday, they have the

*"One of Chris' desires is that Mt. Pleasant would be one of the most generous churches in the region,"*

— BRIAN TABOR

Change for a Dollar program, asking families to donate an extra dollar for each member of the family. That money is then given to a person in the community who is going through a hard time and is in need of financial support.

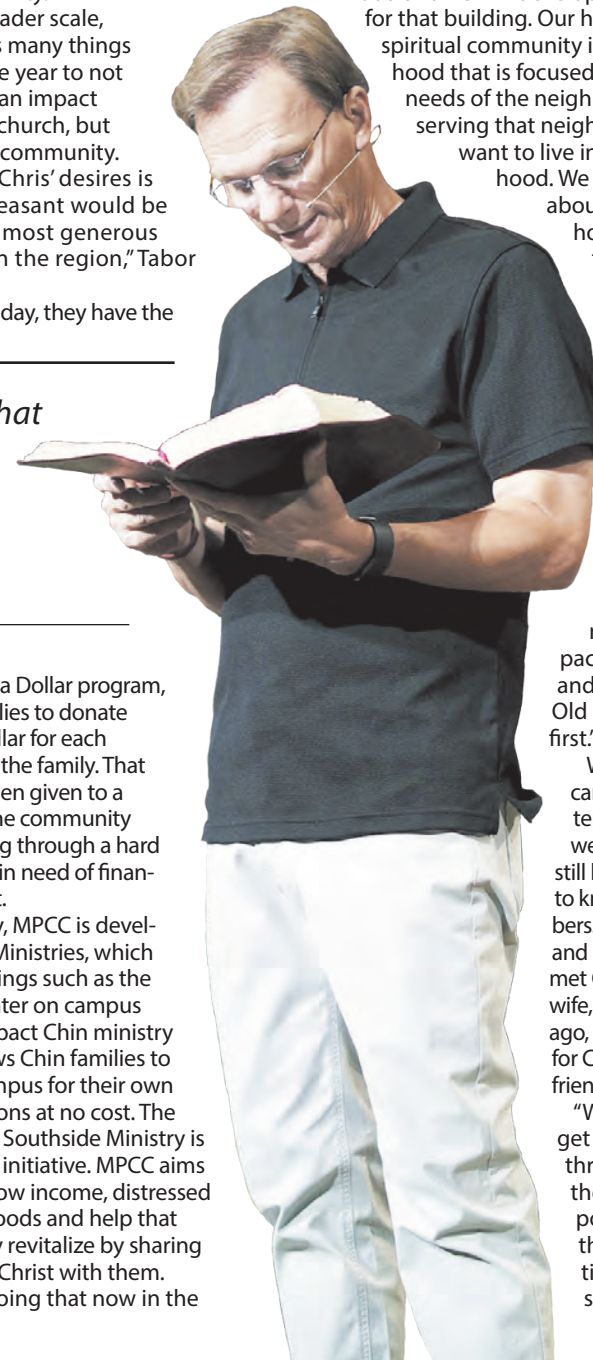
Currently, MPCC is developing its Impact Ministries, which includes things such as the Impact Center on campus and the Impact Chin ministry which allows Chin families to use the campus for their own congregations at no cost. The Impact Old Southside Ministry is the newest initiative. MPCC aims to go into low income, distressed neighborhoods and help that community revitalize by sharing the love of Christ with them.

"We're doing that now in the

old Southside neighborhood," Goodpastor said. "We've bought a building there and operate out of there. We've hired a staff member who now lives in that neighborhood and he will develop a ministry plan for that building. Our hope is to have a spiritual community in that neighborhood that is focused on meeting the needs of the neighborhood and serving that neighborhood. We want to live in the neighborhood. We want to learn about the neighborhood, learn about the people, what their needs are, what programs already exist and love the people in the neighborhood by serving and providing basic needs. That's the big project in front of us right now, those impact neighborhoods and ministries. The Old Southside is the first."

With a church that can see 3,000 attendees in a given weekend, Chris is still known to try and to know the church members. Members Brandon and Nesha Anderson met Chris and his wife, Sandy, nine years ago, at Riley Hospital for Children, where a friend's child was sick.

"We were able to get to know them through being with them and supporting friends through tough times," Brandon said. "He's just





Scenes from MPCC's trip to Austria in the spring of 2017: Left, Pastor Chris Philbeck helps in the kitchen. | Middle, Brian Tabor and Philbeck. | Right, Philbeck speaks to a crowd. (Submitted photos)

a kind-hearted, truly caring man that is there to minister."

Unfortunately, the child passed away. The Andersons joined their friends at MPCC for a service afterwards, thinking they would never want to attend a church that large just to get lost in the crowd.

"After meeting him, listening to his sermons and how he reached out to people, it just felt like home," Brandon said. "We've been attending Mt. Pleasant since then. Last year, I had a terrible accident myself which resulted in the amputation of my leg. Pastor Philbeck reached out to us

very early, ministered to us while I was in the hospital, several times. When it came down to the fact that I was going to lose my leg, he made it a point to speak to me several times, pray with me and my wife, and make sure we were doing okay physically, mentally and emotionally. When we came home from the hospital, he made time to come to our home and visit us here, pray with us, talk to us and be a friend, not just a pastor, but a true friend."

Nesha continued, "It's about a 30-minute drive to come to church, so for him to take the time to come here, it wasn't just a few

minutes of his day... I think he goes above and beyond what his true job description would be, especially in a church that size. Once you get involved, we've never felt like it's too big. He does a great job at making that happen. After each service, he is out greeting people. He doesn't go off and hide. He is right there, in the midst of everybody."

While there are many leaders within the church staff, Chris is one that gives much inspiration.

"If you look at what Mt. Pleasant has accomplished, all of those things are based on the leadership, vision and direction that

Chris instills in us every day," Goodpastor said. "Anytime that you see a leader who is extremely passionate and intentional about what they want to do and hope to accomplish, it's easy to buy into that mission and vision and it's easy to gain a passion of your own for the same things."

*Editor's Note: The ICON of the Year does not know about their selection prior to the article going to print. This surprise allows the selected nominee's friends, family and peers to speak about that person and their impact on the community.*

# holiday GIFT GUIDE

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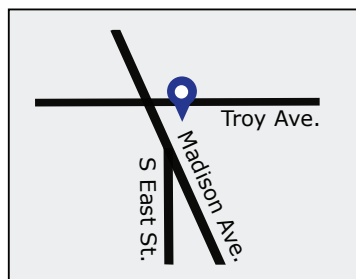
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[www.GoToLee.com](http://www.GoToLee.com)**HISTORY & ARCHITECTURE****The memory of Shep and Priscilla is one be recognized**

By Jeff Beck

White River Township and surrounding community, I am happy to introduce Charles and Priscilla Shepherd. The couple lived in WRT for many years and will be remembered as a giving and loving couple. Charlie, as I always called him, and Priscilla raised five children: Susie, Kim, Shannon, Matt and Scott. Susie lives out of state, while the rest of children live in our community. I'm proud to call them family friends; the Shepherds have contributed greatly to our community.

Priscilla passed recently after living at the Methodist Community where she and Charlie enjoyed condo living prior to their health concerns. Charlie passed years earlier. The couple will always be remembered. The Shepherds moved fairly often in WRT, living in the southern part of township off Morgantown Road, in a large two-story home at corner of Stones Crossing Road and Morgantown Road, a Fairview Road home and finally at the Methodist Community.

The couple attended and served Bluff Creek Christian Church. Priscilla especially enjoyed Bible Study groups. The Shepherds shared fellowship with Sunday school class, sharing meals, always good discussion and friendship. Priscilla served as the manager of the home; gardening and flowers were enjoyed along with keeping up with the children's activities. I recall a lady named Ruth Gainey and Priscilla being good friends and visiting often. Ruth and I worked together at Eli Lilly, talking often about our friends the Shepherds.

Charlie, was the best known of the couple, mainly due to his life's work, a milk truck driver, trader and delivery of livestock, hauling livestock to market and other related projects. Local farmers and residents owning cattle open called Charlie to "rent" a bull. Charlie was known as an honest and fair man. A friend, Jeff Patterson, talked often about Charlie being a reliable, honest and fair, good friend. I vividly recall my father and Charlie trying to come to an agreement on the price of hogs that my father was interested in selling, a back and forth discussion on price. The men, close to an agreement, would finally flip a coin with winner getting his price. On a handshake, the men parted as friends, surely



Priscilla and Charles Shepherd. (Submitted photo)

to do the same task at a later date.

Collectibles were a passion for Charlie. Arrow heads and milk bottles were of great interest to my friend. Charlie was always stopping by garage sales or flea markets in search of treasures. I would often see Charlie in our farm fields or fields of local farmers after tillage checking for arrow heads. The community, knowing the pickup truck with stock racks on the side was just Charlie enjoying looking for arrow heads, would honk and wave. Charlie was known locally and statewide for his collections, a good resource for information.

Memories are important and need to be shared. In closing, I must a share memory of Charlie and Priscilla sitting on the porch facing south of their Morgantown/Stone Crossing Road home in the early 1990's. The couple lived in the large, two-story home, on the Northwest corner of the intersection for many years before moving on to another adventure. My daughter was active at Center Grove School and not yet driving so I made many trips driving her to school events. Heading north on Morgantown Road going down the hill I would see couple sitting on porch. With the loudest voice I could muster shouted "SHEP," and always heard a return "HEY." Sure, Charlie did not know who made the greeting, but he always answered while my daughter ducked her head so as not to be seen.



Jeff Beck is a lifelong Bargersville resident who has a passion for the history of the Center Grove area. He has authored the books, *Bargersville* and *Center Grove: Unveiling the Past*.

# CENTER GROVE

## Holiday Church Key

Find some of your local church holiday services here!

Greenwood Presbyterian Church  
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### Smith Valley Baptist Church rings the bell

**Giving** - Members of Smith Valley Baptist Church rang the bell for the Salvation Army on Dec. 2. The bell ringing season starts each November and runs through Christmas Eve, when the red kettles are packed away for the season. According to [salvationarmynorth.org](http://salvationarmynorth.org), volunteers raise about \$30 per hour, or enough to provide a family with two bags of groceries or one person a night of shelter.



### Christmas at Emmanuel

**Dress-up** - Emmanuel Church held an Ugly Christmas Sweater Day for the staff of Emmanuel Church on Dec. 4, and "these crazies went all out," stated the church's Facebook page. The winner was Andrea Goulet! Photography is by Danny Anderson!



Tricia Rake  
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### Helpful hints:

- Place ALL materials loose in the bin - do NOT bag
- Bundle/break down cardboard boxes
- Wrapping paper, gift bags, and party supplies should NOT be placed in the recycling bin
- For Christmas trees, remember to cut the tree into 4' sections and remove ALL ornaments - check your local government website for tree recycling information

## RAY'S TRASH SERVICE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

<b>DECEMBER 25</b> No Pickup	<b>DECEMBER 26</b> 1 Day Delay	<b>DECEMBER 27</b> 1 Day Delay	<b>DECEMBER 28</b> 1 Day Delay	<b>DECEMBER 29</b> 1 Day Delay
<b>January 1</b> No Pickup	<b>January 2</b> 1 Day Delay	<b>January 3</b> 1 Day Delay	<b>January 4</b> 1 Day Delay	<b>January 5</b> 1 Day Delay

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## ICONICbriefs

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Select Johnson County Public Library Foundation as the supporting charity and continue shopping. Amazon will remember the selection. And when it's time to load up on groceries for those holiday meals and visits, Kroger gives a little to JCPL when you select the Friends as the charity. Go to kroger.com/rewards, sign in

or create an account, click Enroll Now, type "Friend of Johnson County Public Library 14736" in the search box, click Enroll Now. Learn more about the Friends and become a member today at [pageafterpage.org/friends-of-the-library](http://pageafterpage.org/friends-of-the-library).

### Johnson County local chosen for Lugar Series

**Government** - Shannon Stahley, a Johnson County resident, was recently inducted into the 2017-18 Lugar Series Excellence in Public Service program at the Ivy Tech located in downtown Indianapolis. Stahley will take part in this competitive program, whose mission is to increase the number and influence of Republican women in elected and appointed governmental positions at local, state and federal levels. As a participant in this national leadership program, Stahley will receive specialized training in preparation to serve in key governmental and political positions. The class meets each month to learn the various skill sets required to become a public servant, run a campaign, network with state and local leaders and listen to business professionals on issues facing society. Stahley brings with her a background in government affairs, mergers and acquisitions and special projects. In her current position at Citizens Energy Group, she works with a full range of stakeholders including elected officials, regulatory agencies, and neighborhood and community organizations.



Larry and Lilly, 2016. Photo by Nicole Davis

### Save the Date: Night to Shine 2018

**Dance** - Mt. Pleasant Christian Church will host the annual Night To Shine Prom, sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation, on Feb. 9, 2018. Night to Shine is an evening dedicated to guests with special needs, and their caregivers. Volunteers help to make the night possible. For more information, email [nighttoshine@mpccministry.com](mailto:nighttoshine@mpccministry.com) or visit [mpcc.info](http://mpcc.info).



## ICONICrewind



Guests participate in a candle light ceremony. (Submitted photo)

### Candlelight remembrance allows community to honor their loved ones

**Hope** - On Saturday, Dec. 2, Forest Lawn Community Outreach hosted the LIGHT OF HOPE Community Candlelight Remembrance at Forest Lawn Funeral Home, 1977 S. State Rd. 135, Greenwood. This family-friendly community remembrance was free and open to the public. The LIGHT OF HOPE Community Candlelight Remembrance, designed to promote comfort, hope and healing provided an opportunity for the Greenwood community to come together to honor the memory of their loved

ones. This candlelight experience featured beautiful music by the Mt. Auburn United Methodist Church Hand Bell Choir; an uplifting message by Pastor Marion Glover of Emmanuel Church; an interactive community candle lighting ceremony and dessert reception. Each guest received a special gift to honor the memory of their loved one. Guests were encouraged to bring family and friends with them. Forest Lawn Funeral Home Manager, Robert Holland said this, "Our Light of Hope Community Candlelight.

### Johnson Memorial Health receives "A" for patient safety

**Rating** - The Leapfrog Group, a national nonprofit health care ratings organization, today released new Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grades. The Safety Grade assigns letter grades of A, B, C, D and F to hospitals nationwide based on their performance in preventing medical errors, infections and other harms. Johnson Memorial Health was one of 832 awarded an "A" for its commitment to keeping patients safe and meeting



the highest safety standards in the U.S. Larry Heydon, Johnson Memorial Health CEO/President, stated "We are pleased that our continuous performance improvement efforts are leading to our patients being safer from preventable harm, infections and medical errors. Receiving our fourth straight A from the Leapfrog Group clearly represents our ability in meeting the highest safety standards in the United States." To see Johnson Memorial's full grade, visit [hospitalsafetygrade.org](http://hospitalsafetygrade.org).

# Wine Event

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## OUR VIEW

2017 **8****Good tidings to you,  
Center Grove readers!**

As we wrap up 2017 and enter into the New Year, it's time for reflection – and a look forward.

We have been blessed with kind, thoughtful people, impeccable school systems, and an ever-improving housing and economic state. Such a recipe can only spell success for our future. We've enjoyed all the wonderful folks we've met in 2017 while bringing you news that captures the heart of the Southside and we're looking forward to all that 2018 has to offer. We're certainly up for the challenge, are you?

Whether you resolve to make it to the gym more frequently or to get out and involved in the community more often – we'll be right there with you, working in tandem with this community we love so dearly to bring you the best journalism on the Southside.

You don't have to resolve to cure cancer or end world hunger to make a difference in the world – sometimes even the smallest gestures can brighten someone's day. We know the Center Grove area is full of folks who make us proud to serve you – we were shown that, again, by the nominations we received for Center Grove ICON of the Year and ICON of the Month throughout this year – and we can't wait to showcase all that Center Grove has to offer in 2018.

From our family to yours, we wish you a truly Happy New Year.

## BELIEVE IT!

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

In Massachusetts, at a wake, mourners may eat no more than three sandwiches.

SOURCE: [dumblaws.com](http://dumblaws.com)

## ICONtoon

**I literally could care less**

## HUMOR

By Gus Pearcy

For posterity, I am against the use of "literally" to mean figuratively. You say, "But, Gus, you have literally written a dozen times about the evolution of English and how it keeps evolving with the advent of emojis and text speak."

Yes, I have.

I'm OK using text speak and emojis in communicating casually with friends or family, if it is a familiar group that understands what you're communicating. I don't hate it. However, the scourge of substituting literally, when you really mean figuratively, must be stopped.

**Here's why:**

Literally means free from exaggeration. If you say, "He literally dropped \$200 on dinner," you're saying that the bill was \$200. OK, I'll give you \$199.50, but no less than that.

If you say, "We literally picked a million weeds," you are using literally as an intensifier. You don't mean that the earth has been ridden of literally one million weeds. You're just emphasizing that you picked lots and lots of weeds and a good three-syllable word adds that emphasis.

The problem with literally as an intensifier is that you're using it for exactly the opposite of what it means. Once you've done that enough, what are you going to use when you literally want to use the word "literally?"

Precisely!

What if we started doing that with all our words? What havoc could we wreak on com-

munication should this trend continue? Will one eventually mean two?

Our culture likes to do this. Bad means good. Sick means very good. Awful used to mean full of awe. A person who was naughty originally had nothing. Today, it means they are indecent or the opposite of nice. Nice on the other hand meant silly or foolish.

I don't want the same fate for literally. It's too good of a word when used properly. An example: I saw him literally picking his nose. Join the "literal" force

Be aware that literally is not a good substitution for "It feels like..." I know, it is a great drum roll kind of word that captures the ear like a colon or a full stop. Trust me, I get the effect when you say, "I LITERALLY: could care less." It makes heads turn. It's wrong, however.

Similarly, stop saying you could care less. You couldn't care less. If you could care less, you still care a little. That's not the purpose of the saying. The purpose is to mean that you don't give two figs about the particular subject or situation.

If we work hard and make fun of people who use these words or phrases wrong, we can save or preserve English.

It's literally our duty to care.



Gus Pearcy is a contributing columnist to the Center Grove ICON. He may be reached at (317) 403-6485 or [pearcy.gus@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pearcy.gus@sbcglobal.net). Gus blogs frequently at [guspearcycommunications.wordpress.com](http://guspearcycommunications.wordpress.com).



THUMBS UP

THUMBS DOWN



To Greenwood Parks and Recreation for hosting a sold out KiD CITY Christmas! Families had a great time getting in the holiday spirit with this community event!



To Heather Garvey, teacher at Pleasant Grove Elementary, who received a \$600 grant from the Center Grove Education Foundation. The money will be used to purchase copies of the book "Found" to read as a class novel. This grant was made possible thanks to the Beck Family Memorial Fund.



To Alex Aukerman for competing in his final Army/Navy Game on Dec. 9. Congrats on four years of college football!



To the Town of Bargersville for another great Santa Train event on Dec. 1 Characters of all kinds came during Santa's visit, as well as reindeer from Silly Safaris Shows Inc.!



To Saints Francis & Clare Catholic School for hosting a children's toy drive on Dec. 10. Families were encouraged to ask their children to give their good toys to another child who hasn't been as fortunate. What a great way to teach students give back this holiday season!

## QUOTE

**"I say luck is when an opportunity comes along and you're prepared for it."**

**– Denzel Washington,  
Actor**

# NIGHT & DAY LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT ENTERTAINING

## EVENTS calendar

**SALI Super Sale** • The Southside Art League Off Broadway Gallery will exhibit original art works perfect for gift giving this Christmas season. A wide variety of styles, subjects and prices will be available. | When: Now - 23, regular hours, Wednesday - Saturday, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. | Where: 299 E. Broadway St., Greenwood. | Info: (317) 882-5562.

**Live Nativity** • Honey Creek United Methodist Church hosts its annual Live Nativity. | When: Dec. 16, 6 - 9 p.m. | Where: 2722 S. Honey Creek Rd., Greenwood. | Info: honeycreekumc.org.

**Discover the Magic of Christmas with Pastor Jeanne Moore** • Explore how the Shepherds experienced Christmas, Jeanne Moore, a Greenwood resident and an Ordained Minister who studied in Israel, speaks about C"How the Shepherds Experienced Christmas." | When: Dec. 16, 5:30 p.m. and 17, 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. | Where: Vineyard Community Church, 512 S. Madison Ave. | Info: Jeanne, jmoore@vccindy.org.

**Christmas Cantata (Musical)** • The cantata will take place during both Sunday morning worship services. | When: Dec. 17, 9 and 11 a.m. | Where: Center Grove Church, 2340 S. State Rd. 135, Greenwood. | Info: centergrovechurch.org.

**Experience Christmas** • Come experience Christmas at Southland with this special evening featuring a full choir and orchestra. Children's ministry will be provided for infants through Pre-k. | When: Dec. 17, 6:30 p.m. | Where: Southland Community Church, 5800 W. Smith Valley Road, Greenwood. | Info: southlandchurch.org.

**Joyful Sound Christmas Concert** • Joyful Sound, a handbell group out of Greenwood, will perform its concert series. | When: Dec. 18, 7 p.m. | Where: Greenwood United Methodist Church, 525 N. Madison Ave., Greenwood. | Info: joyfulsound.info.

**Artist Makerspace** • Design a creation with paint, markers, chalk, and more! Dress for a mess. | When: Dec. 19, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.org.

**Speed Racer Science** • School-age children can explore speedy racing robots such as Dash and Sphero and make a speed racer! Experiment what makes things move and how to make them move even faster. | When: Dec. 20 4:30 - 5:15 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.org.

**Winter Wonderland Party** • Embrace the cold and celebrate the winter season with snowy activities, frosty treats, and chilly crafts. | When: Dec. 21, 2 - 3:30 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.org.

**Christmas Eve Services** • These are not the nor-

mal weekend service times! | When: Dec. 23, 6 p.m. and Dec. 24, 8:45, 10, 11:30 a.m. and 11 p.m. | Where: Mount Pleasant Christian Church, 381 N. Bluff Rd., Greenwood. | Info: mpcc.info.

**Overnight Sensation** • The biggest star of the Real Celebrities of Christmas is Jesus Christ. Why did God go to so much trouble to put on flesh and experience our existence? | When: Dec. 24, 9 and 11 a.m. | Where: Southland Community Church, 5800 W. Smith Valley Road, Greenwood. | Info: southlandchurch.org.

**Christmas Eve Services** • Join Stones Crossing Church for hour-long, family friendly service. | When: Dec. 24, 9:15 and 11 a.m. | Where: 7000 W. Stones Crossing Rd., Greenwood. | Info: stonescrossing.com.

**Christmas Eve Service** • Join Center Grove Church for Christmas Eve worship. | When: Dec. 24, 4 and 7 p.m. | Where: 2340 S. State Rd. 135, Greenwood. | Info: centergrovechurch.org.

**Life Size Games** • Teens between 12 and 17 years old can compete in their favorite games, but life sized! Be the game piece in popular games like Hungry Hungry Hippos, Jenga, and Kerplunk. | When: Dec. 29, 3 - 5 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.org.

**Ring in the New Year Barn Style!** • Join Barn at Bay Horse Inn to ring in the New Year. Admission is \$25 at the door. Enjoy live music by Smoke'n Guns, a cash bar, dancing and food trucks. | When: Dec. 31, 8 - 11:59 p.m. | Where: 1468 West Stones Crossing Road, Greenwood. | Info: (317) 760-8778 to RSVP.

**MLG (Major Library Gamers!)** • Gamers between 5 and 12th grades, play Minecraft, Roblox and more. Practice skills and even learn to make your own mini games. Ipads and Laptops are available on a limited basis, or bring a device. | When: Jan. 2, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.org.

**Craft Night: Birthday Calendars** • Attendees grades 8 to adults can create a perpetual calendar to keep track of family's and friends' special days. All materials provided. | When: Jan. 10, 6:30 - 8 p.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.org.

**Tot Art** • Create a masterpiece! Toddlers ages 1-3 with their caregivers can create tot-friendly art projects. Stick around after the craft for socialization and a short playtime. Dress for a mess. | When: Jan. 12, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. | Where: White River Branch library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: pageafterpage.org.



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Happy Holidays from all of us at

**CENTER GROVE ICON**

*Happy Holidays*

A very happy holidays to you and yours from the Center Grove ICON! The holidays are a busy time of year for many people, and it can be difficult to keep up with everything going on during this season. Take some time for you and your family by participating in old traditions and let yourself be inspired by our ideas for new traditions.

This Gift Guide is our present to you this holiday season. Our suggestions are intended to make your holiday easier, inspiring you with locally-crafted gifts and small-business activities for the whole family to enjoy. Explore the selection of unique merchandise available for your family and support your neighbors by shopping local this year.

Here's to a joyous holiday season of fun and friends, and remember to spend time with your family this year. Snow may fade, but a happy holiday memory is forever.



**Mug & Gear**  
Coffeehouse Five  
323 Market Plaza, Greenwood  
INFO: coffeehousefive.com  
PRICE: \$12 mug

**GIFT IDEA:** Consider purchasing a branded Coffeehouse Five mug for the coffee lover. The for-benefit shop also has coffee, fresh-roasted in a house for \$15 per pound, including its special Holiday Blend. Or, consider Coffeehouse Five gear, including hats and t-shirts, as well as gift cards.



**Knit hats**  
Coffey Connections  
1000 S. Morgantown Rd. Greenwood  
INFO: (317) 300-9639  
PRICE: Prices range from \$12-20

**GIFT IDEA:** Knit hats are not only practical but affordable gift. Those team colors should keep your friends and family warm! Coffey Connection can dress customers from head to toe - from the cap on your head to the socks on your feet, with company logo gifts as well as local spirit wear.



**Pop! characters**  
Comic Book University  
7623 Shelby St., Indianapolis  
INFO: comicbooku.com  
PRICE: \$11.99 per Pop! character

**GIFT IDEA:** Comic Book University specializes in comic books, boards, trading card games, action figures and other pop culture items. Pop! Vinyl characters at CBU include Star Wars, NFL, Star Trek, DC, Marvel, Mean Girls, A-Team, Golden Girls, UFC, Pirates of the Caribbean, Scott Pilgrim and more.



**Grab a growler**  
MashCraft Brewing  
1140 N. State Road 135 Suite M, Greenwood  
INFO: (317) 215-4578

**PRICE:** Growler, \$4. Fills start at just \$9. Save \$3 every Monday!  
**GIFT IDEA:** Cheers to great beer this holiday season! Grab a growler and fill it with your favorite winter seasonal to gift to friends and family this year. Other specialty MashCraft Beer Gear includes six styles of glassware, baseball tees, die-cut stickers, and of course, gift cards.



**Mini art**  
Pro-Art Gallery & Custom Framing  
3100 Meridian Parke Dr., # X Greenwood  
INFO: (317) 885-0110  
PRICE: \$35, mini framed art

**GIFT IDEA:** Shop owner and artist Pauline Beuke paints her own original, holiday-themed miniature framed art. The shop also sells custom shadow boxes with personal memorabilia, handmade jewelry and other pieces by local artists.



**Humidor**  
Southside Cigar & Tobacco,  
8918 S. Meridian St. Indianapolis  
INFO: southsidecigars.com  
PRICE: \$119

**GIFT IDEA:** This humidor, a box designed to maintain constant humidity to store cigars or pipe tobacco, includes a flask to store your scotch or any other adult beverage, and a hygrometer to measure the water vapor in the humidor. It holds about 40 cigars. Be sure to look at the fine selection of fine cigars Jeff Bryant has at Southside Cigar & Tobacco.

## 4 Ways to Survive Holiday Gifting

### FAMILY FEATURE

While the holidays might be the most wonderful time of the year for children, the gifting season can quickly spiral out of control for unprepared shoppers.

These four tips can help you conquer holiday gifting like a pro:

• **Get organized.** The secret to conquering the holiday season is having a plan. Take 10-15 minutes to update your calendar with all your holiday parties, family engagements, secret Santa exchanges or any other

gifting commitments. Make sure to include dates, locations, times and even specifics, like themes, if they're available. Sync your events across all smart devices for an easy glance at the touch of a button.

• **Find your go-to gifts.** As an adult, deciphering what kind of gifts a child wants in this digital age can be tricky. Some classics like brick toys are still a hit with kids of all ages. Studies show that 60 percent of children love playing with brick toys and more than half of parents love that

their kids do, according to Mattel Global Consumer Insights. Try product lines like Mega Construx and Mega Bloks, which combine the fun of brick toys with popular franchises to create exciting products for kids. Find more holiday gift ideas at shop.mattel.com.

• **Wrap gifts early.** Now that you have your plan in place, save time by purchasing all the gifts you will need for the holidays and wrapping them at one time.

• **Build a gifting closet.** Once you have your gifts wrapped and ready to go, consider using an old crate or storage container and turning it into a "gifting closet." Insert dividers to separate the gifts by age range and set aside your treasure trove in an

easy-to-reach storage area. You can even use this closet year-round for birthdays and other gifting events.

Another option to save time and money this holiday season is to enter for the chance to win a gifting closet with \$1,000 worth of Mega products to help you conquer the gifting season. To enter the sweepstakes, post an original holiday photo to Instagram or Twitter with a short caption that includes why the entrant likes to give or receive construction toys as gifts. For full details, visit rules.prizelogic.com/MegaSocialSweeps.



(Photo courtesy of Getty Images)

## Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus

Eight-year-old Virginia O'Hanlon wrote a letter to the editor of New York's Sun, and the quick response was printed as an unsigned editorial Sept. 21, 1897. The

work of veteran newsman Francis Pharellus Church has since become history's most reprinted newspaper editorial.

Dear Editor,

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

Virgina O'Hanlon  
115 West Ninety-Fifth Street

Virginia,

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

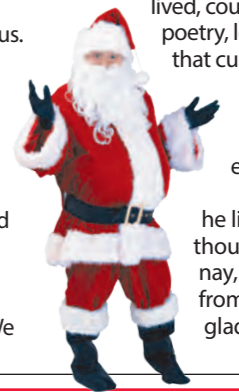
Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus. It would be dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We

should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

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

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

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



## COMIC BOOK UNIVERSITY FOR THAT GEEK ON YOUR CHRISTMAS LIST

Stop by **Comic Book University** and pick up a stocking stuffer for your favorite comic book enthusiast. The U has gift certificates, graphic novels and a variety of toys, games, statues and apparel.

Comic Book University is located at Greenwood Place Shopping Center on the southeast corner of Shelby & US 31.

7623 Shelby St. • Indianapolis • (317) 885-6395 • www.COMICBOOKU.com



*Getting to know Pauline and Heather...*

- "I have Heather's Holistic Paw Prints on the side, so I deal with pet nutrition. I say holistic health for pets and their humans. I wrote a book about it when my dog had cancer. We treated her cancer holistically." - DIERS
- "I used to do ceramics and porcelain and had classes. I still have the big kiln. I love gardening and I love to sew and do needlework." - BEUKE
- "Cricket, my dog, comes to the shop. She goes everywhere I go. Cricket is a part of business." - BEUKE

*How did they do it?***BEST ADVICE:**

She's always said, we give a lot back to our customers. We do free things all of the time, so they'll remember us when they do have a bigger order. Our customers are so loyal to us but I think it's because all of the things that we give back to them in appreciation for them doing business with us. One of the best things you can do for your customer is not nickel and dime them to death. - DIERS

**WORST ADVICE:**

When it comes to marketing, a lot of people are all about cold calling. That's never been my strategy. Especially in this industry, it seems like a waste of time.

**BEST BUSINESS DECISION:**

Reaching out to our local artists. That has set us a part from other local framing galleries. We have at any given time over 30 local artists now. It's always growing. It makes it so that our inventory is always changing.

**SECRET TO SUCCESS:**

Quality work. If something is wrong, we'll change it without questions. We're loyal to customers and they're loyal to us. We truly have built the business with word of mouth.


**IN 5 YEARS...**

I feel like we'll be doing more of the same. Hopefully we'll have online sales going. I would like that to be a five-year goal.

*ProArt Gallery & Custom Framing*

3100 Meridian Parke Dr., #X  
Greenwood, IN 46142

(317) 885-0110

 /proartgallery

**BUSINESS**  
SOUTH  
**LEADER**

December 2017 | Issue 134

www.businessleader.bz

## You name it, they've framed it

Pauline Beuke and Heather Diers focus on supporting their customers and local artists at ProArt Gallery & Custom Framing

By Nicole Davis

Pauline Beuke and Heather Diers never know what customers will bring into their shop each day to be framed: artwork, letter jackets, war medals, family heirlooms, historical artifacts or another type of memorabilia. That's part of the excitement of running ProArt Gallery and Custom Framing - the ever-changing items and the customers who stop by.

"I want our business and quality of work to be the perfect but I want it to be a fun place to come to," said Beuke, a Center Grove area resident. "It usually is fun. I like to make friends with all of my customers. I'll work an hour later if I need to, as long as I get the work done, but I'll stand here and have a conversation with my customers. I'll follow them all the way out to the car, talking. I do love people."

ProArt Gallery not only offers frames, but prominently displays artwork from local artists around the Greenwood shop. The front window features a different artist each month. Beuke's own paintings are also spread throughout the shop. She particularly enjoys painting miniature artworks, often themed for the current season/holiday.

The first painting Beuke ever created was in an art class with Luke Buck, where she fell in love with painting. She purchased ProArt Gallery from Buck in 1982, transforming the business over the years from being mostly a place for art classes, into a gallery where they support local artists and do custom framing.

"I don't know if mom realized how much talent she had until she started doing classes with him," Diers said. "Her artwork still sells the best in our gallery. People really love her style and her work."

The business was originally at Madison and Thompson in Indianapolis, prior to moving to Greenwood. Beuke was the second person to sign a lease in the shopping center at 3100 Meridian Parke Dr. # X, Greenwood, and while she relocated from the front to the side of the center, she's been there ever since.

Diers, a Perry Township resident, began working in the shop for her mother while in college, where she gained firsthand knowledge of the trade. She worked for an interior design company before going into business with her brother in custom cabinetry and furniture. In 2009, she began working in ProArt on the weekends



Above, Heather Diers and Pauline Beuke, with Cricket, enjoy getting to know the customers at ProArt Gallery, as well as supporting local artists. (Photo by Nicole Davis)

then in 2011 took on more of a management role, all the while maintaining her cabinet and interior design business.

Together, the mother/daughter duo operate the business, growing their support of local artists while keeping up with today's trends. ProArt carries frames from four to five different frame companies which allows them to offer a large variety and specialty pieces. Shadow boxes are a popular selection, and Diers has deemed her mother the 'shadow box queen.'

"We've shadow boxed just about everything," Diers said. "Our shadow boxes have been the most unique. Usually when (customers) bring in memorabilia, whether it's military, their grandfather's medal, or other things, those are special."

As they look to the future, Beuke and Diers said they're happy continuing the quality of work they've offered for decades. Diers said they are looking into online sales, particularly for selling the local artwork like Beuke's miniatures.

Age 83, Beuke jokes that she plans to retire at 95.

Although, "I can hardly think about not being at work," she said. "I love the people that come in here, the customers, because they share my interests."



Above, Pauline's miniature art is a best seller at ProArt. (Photos by Nicole Davis)

## PERSONNEL MATTERS

## Will you fill the void this year?

By Mike Heffner

So you are probably starting to think about what you want your New Year's resolution to be for 2018. Let me make a suggestion- decide this year to become a leader. If you are already in a leadership position, then I want to encourage you to become a better leader. If you don't think you are in a leadership position, then I hope this information encourages you to take the next step.

Every leader had to take a chance, fill a gap, make a change or act on an idea. They didn't start out as a leader. Each one of us has been given leadership qualities. Here are 7 things that can help you move forward as a leader.

- 1. START NOW** – there is no time like the present. Nothing happens until you make it happen. Start thinking about things through a new lens. Approach whatever you do with curiosity. Look to learn and grow.
- 2. JUST DO IT** – take the risk, make the move or change the approach. No matter what lies ahead, it won't happen unless you take the initiative.
- 3. YOU DON'T NEED PERMISSION** – if you are waiting on someone else to tell you to lead, you may never see that happen. Give yourself permission.
- 4. SET A GOAL** – you achieve what you spend time thinking about. Write it down and make sure it's measurable. Share the goal with someone.

**5. ASK FOR HELP** – find a mentor that will help you stay accountable and motivated. Most professional athletes have coaches. Everyone needs help with focus, encouragement and feedback.

**6. BE BOLD** – be willing to live in some conflict. I am not suggesting creating conflict, but leaders say what should be said and stand up for what needs to be said in a constructive way.

**7. DON'T GIVE UP** – you will fail and you will make mistakes. Give yourself permission to get up and try again. Leaders have perseverance and always find a way.

Starting to lead or committing to be a better leader requires a change in mindset. Being a leader doesn't require a title- it only requires a mindset change. I tell my team often to look for the leadership gaps and find a way to fill them. Tell whoever is in charge of leading you that you plan to step up, and then talk about what that can look like. Every company is looking for employees to step up and fill leadership voids. If you lead, I guarantee others will follow. Good luck this year as you move forward as a leader!



This article is written by Mike Heffner, the owner of the local Greenwood Express Employment Professionals franchise. Contact Mike at Mike.Heffner@expresspros.com, @IndySouthMike on Twitter or visit ExpressIndySouth.com.

## AROUND TOWN

## Hamilton Facial Plastic Surgery names new practice manager

**Promotion** – Julie Shuttleworth has been named practice manager for Hamilton Facial Plastic Surgery. She has been in the plastic surgery medical field for 14 years, most recently with Aspire Plastic Surgery in Ft. Wayne, Ind. Hamilton Facial Plastic Surgery has offices in Greenwood and Carmel. Dr. Hamilton is dual board certificated and trained in otolaryngology and facial plastics.



## New Members

**Grant Key's Lawn Service**  
1701 E. Edgewood Ave.  
Box 47430  
Indianapolis, IN 46247  
(317) 727-7999

**Big Woods Franklin**  
1800 E. King St.  
Franklin, IN 46131  
(317) 739-0378

**Brickhouse Coffee Co**  
100 Byrd Way  
Greenwood, IN 46143  
(317) 550-0034

**Edible Arrangements**  
997 E. County Line Rd.  
Greenwood, IN 46143  
(317) 859-3711

**Greenhouse JoCo**  
1530 American Way  
Greenwood, IN 46143  
(317) 807-6484

**Hellenic Senior Living - Indianapolis**  
8601 S. Shelby St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46227  
(317) 885-4446

**Made by Munsters LLC**  
Greenwood, IN 46143  
(806) 543-8559

**Priority Communications**  
3880 Pendleton Way, Suite 300  
Indianapolis, IN 46226  
(317) 941-7811

**RESQ Health & Safety Training**  
6845 S. Madison Ave.  
Indianapolis, IN 46227  
(317) 786-7260

**SIM2K, Inc.**  
6330 E. 75th St., Suite 336  
Indianapolis, IN 46250

**The Garrett Companies**  
1051 Greenwood Springs Blvd.  
Suite 101  
Greenwood, IN 46143  
(317) 886-7923

**Union Savings Bank**  
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## BIZ WEB

## Google Came to Town

By Andrew Angle

Without hopping a plane, you typically can't meet with Google staff in person. So far, I have encountered G-team members at conferences in NYC, Chicago, and Santa Clara; but on November 10-11, 2017, for the first time ever, Google provided a live workshop here in Indy.

The event titled "Grow With Google" was highly polished, free to the public and included networking opportunities fueled by d'oeuvres and caffeine to heighten your focus in their workshops. All of the sessions delivered basic intro-level overviews of Google's array of products. For me, the best part was in taking advantage of their valuable, hour long, one-on-one sessions directly with several of Google's product specialists looking directly into my sites and campaigns to offer informed tips and guidance in the marketing campaigns I manage.

The workshop ran throughout most of the two days. Thinking back to an astute observation I once read about a difference between business school students at Harvard versus students from other colleges, when Harvard students go to a networking event, they leave knowing the name and background of each person in the room. With that success trait in mind, I spent

most of both days picking the brains of every Google team member, vendor, and attendee I could meet. Interestingly enough, one of the conversations lead to an invitation to participate in one of Google's new product focus groups.

Beyond the traveling tech troupe with matching shirts emblazoned with the colorful logo, it was fun meeting old acquaintances from Indy's tech circles, plus a former co-worker buddy of mine who adopted an appropriate nickname "Sunshine" Rucker. Contacts from the past are already priceless, but new contacts opened interesting discussions about real joint venture possibilities. Opportunity is everywhere, especially at events people attend in search of business opportunities.

If "Grow With Google" comes to Indy again next year, you can bet that it will be carved into my calendar. *Will you be there, too?*



Angle catches up with a friend "Sunshine" Rucker at a Google conference.



Andrew Angle, of Greenwood, is the owner of NetGain Associates, Inc. He can be reached at 317.534.2382.

## PEER TO PEER

## On the backs of the poor working-class: haven't heard that song before?

By Howard Hubler

A couple years ago, people sent a clever email around about an interesting story of Bill Gates. It seemed this is how the story went: Bill in his philanthropic way wanted to buy the country out of our national debt so he wrote a check to pay off the debt. At the end of the year, it was determined that he wrote a check for a few billion dollars too much and wanted his excess money back. The Democrats decided that the billions of dollars was to be split amongst the poor working-class; they did not give a penny of it back to Bill. It was his money. You get the picture, standard story of class envy. When Bill cried, "Foul," they said he is rich, "Who cares."

Today I was listening to some folks on the Fox Business Channel. They were indicating that 10 percent of our population paid 70 percent of our taxes. This is a standard tax formula that has been true for the last several years. The suggestion was that everybody was getting a proposed tax cut but these high end people. The thought also was that we wanted to get economic growth beyond 4 percent.

If this 3-4 percent growth grew the total net worth of our country some \$4 trillion, what would 5 percent growth do? Well, these people made a great argument for the fact that the huge amount of job creation needed to provide this kind of economic stimulus could not be done without the assistance of the people who locked up 70 percent of our nations

economic capital. If we wanted them to invest at a greater degree than they had in the past, they would need greater tax incentives to do this. So the big question asked was, "Are we going to give them a tax break as well so that we can all bathe in our fair share of this huge potential economic growth?" By the way, if they get a cut, and it results in no personal growth for themselves, no harm no foul.

It goes without saying that the Fox Business Channel would like the cuts to go to these wealthy individuals as well, however they said it will never happen. We have done such a marvelous job managing "class envy" in the in this country that we would rather slow bigger growth and not help billionaires and millionaires whom we loath in spite of the fact that lowly paupers at the bottom would enjoy their share of additional wealth as well.

The poor middle class: "clowns to the left of me and jokers to the right of me, stuck in the middle with you." (Author unknown) Maybe by time you read this, we will have a new tax code. We might even do it on a postcard. If I could even do mine on three or four pages, I'd be moving up.



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

## PLANNER OF NOTE

## Newly Incorporated Businesses

## A R Construction

Nicole Rocha  
6243 W. 250 S.  
Morgantown, IN 46160

## Brooke Perigo DBA BP Sales &amp; Marketing

Brooke Nichole Perigo  
1112 Rustic Lane  
Whiteland, IN 46184

## Custom Designs

Austin Turner  
2553 S. 75 W.  
Franklin, IN 46143

## Durham Renovations

Stephen Durham  
9685 N. Judson Dr.  
Mooresville, IN 46158

## Fast and Easy Carrier

Barinda Singh  
1844 Harvest Meadow Dr.  
Greenwood, IN 46143

## G. Wynne

John A. Rose II  
1626 Woodfield Dr.  
Greenwood, IN 46143

## Glizilis

Gregory A. Hardin  
3156 Fairway Ct.  
Greenwood, IN 46143

## Kreate by Kristen

Kristen Richards  
249 Forum Dr., Whiteland, IN 46184

## Litespeed Tool

Johnnie Mules  
1203 Aberdeer St.  
Franklin, IN 46131

## Love ya by Sandy

Sandra Auiles  
715 Green Meadow Dr.  
Greenwood, IN 46143

## Ohler's Handyman Services

Aaron Ohler  
58 Halldale Dr.  
Whiteland, IN 46184

## On Bended Knee Cleaning Services

Eva Goeb  
3749 N. 600 E.  
Franklin, IN 46131

## Premier Grant Productions

Noah Weddle  
5451 E. 300 S.  
Franklin, IN 46131

## Thomas, Twig and Sparrow

Ana Thomas  
1675 W. Smith Valley Rd.  
Greenwood, IN 46142

## Werres Nutrition

Allison N. Werres  
Online  
Greenwood, IN 46143



## Upcoming chamber meetings and events

20 - Greater Southside Business Alliance (Holiday Party); Dec. 20, time TBA, Small Business Initiative, 6825 S. Madison Ave. For more information, visit [gsbaweb.org](http://gsbaweb.org).

4 - Greater Greenwood Chamber of Commerce (Complete Nutrition Grand Opening Ribbon Cutting); Jan. 4, 3 - 4 p.m., Complete Nutrition, 1001 N. State Rd. 135, Suite B7, Greenwood.

12 - Greater Greenwood Chamber of Commerce (Legislation Matters Luncheon); Jan. 12, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., Valle Vista Golf & Conference Center, 755 E. Main St., Greenwood.

18 - Greater Greenwood Chamber of Commerce (Business After Hours); Jan. 18, 4 - 6 p.m., The Nest Events, Inc., 400 Byrd Way, Greenwood.

## OPEN 4 BUSINESS



Brandon Landes custom makes the high-quality mattresses at Crash Beds. (Photo by Nicole Davis)

## Pay less, sleep better

### Brandon Landes co-founds Crash Beds to make mattresses more affordable and give back to the community

#### Compiled by Nicole Davis

Crash Beds is aiming to help Southside and other local residents catch those z's in comfort, getting a high-quality mattress at a lower price than major retailers.

Crash Beds is a veteran-owned, small business. Co-founder Brandon Landes, a graduate of IU Kelley School of Business before spending eight years in the army, decided to open the business after gaining experience in the mattress business. With a wife, Nicole, two kids and going through graduate school, he's staying busy by adding "entrepreneur" to his credentials.

Landes makes the mattresses for Crash Beds in the Greenwood retail location. Every mattress is customizable, with options such as dual comfort levels.

"I'm excited to just help people get good sleep without paying a ton of money," Landes said.

Landes originally wanted to use Crash Beds as a way to give back to the community, which he is doing through partnerships with Chin Community of Indiana, the United Service Organizations (USO) and Hoosier Veterans Assistance Foundation. A portion of all proceeds through the end of December will be given to the USO. He said he hopes to continue that effort through fundraisers with schools or other nonprofits.

#### Why did you open this business?

I used to work at Temper Sealy. We would have employees come in and try to purchase a high-quality mattress, at the 75 percent discount, and still couldn't afford it. I know what goes into a mattress, what makes it high quality and have good relationships with suppliers. I figured I could do this at a much lower price. I wanted to do something to give back. We partnered with the Chin Community of Indiana, sponsored youth teams and made mattresses directly for them. We also partnered with the USO of Indiana and Hoosier Veterans Assistance Foundation to provide them mattresses. Once I realized I could do it for these groups, I could do it for everybody. I started making more and more mattresses on the higher end, memory foam, organic latex, and started expanding it.

#### What did you do to prepare for opening your business?

I'm in grad school at the same time. This is the perfect way to supplement an MBA program, is go through, take exactly what I'm learning and apply it to a current business. One of the courses I'm in is how to do a startup. Getting all my ducks in a row as far as finances, how to establish a company as far as supplies. The biggest thing is finding

a location. (Commercial Self Storage), they were great to work with for a start up.

#### Who is your ideal customer/client?

Anybody that is looking for a better sleep but isn't looking for a brand name. A lot of customers come in with back pain or frustrated with the mattress shopping experience. You go into a store and there's 90 different options, it's confusing and someone's pushing you to buy something. Here, I will help them find what they want and not pressure them into anything.

#### How do you plan to be successful?

Through providing good sleep. People aren't buying a mattress. They want quality sleep. We have a couple of standard selections but we can also customize to whatever people want because we have those relationships with suppliers. Once they're satisfied, getting good sleep and their back pain has gone away, then that word of mouth is helping us to be successful. Then maintaining low cost is the most important thing from our standpoint.

#### What would we be surprised to learn about you or your company?

We'll offer complete transparency. You can come in here, I'll show you how it's made, how clean the materials are, you can watch it be made and learn about mattresses.

## BUSINESS

## Greenwood's Koon speaks at Investment Conference

**Midwest** – Janette F. Koon, CFP® was recently a featured speaker for the 2017 Waddell & Reed Midwest Cluster Meeting in Belterra, Ind. This gathering – bringing together advisors from across the Midwest – was held to bring advisors together to attend sessions focusing on trends on financial planning practices, investment updates, Long Term Care issues and Health Care costs in Retirement, Social Security strategies in Retirement. Koon, has been a professional in the financial services industry for more than 20 years, serving individuals and families throughout the Johnson County community on their personal, long-term investment goals. She affiliated with Waddell & Reed in 1993. Koon earned a bachelor's degree from University of Indianapolis and also holds the CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ certification.



## Center Grove sellers see home value increase

**Real estate** – Sellers in Center Grove are seeing their home values rise. According to F.C. Tucker, the average sale price for homes sold in Center Grove in October 2017 was \$251,621 at \$115.07 per square foot. This sale price represented a 7 percent increase from October 2016. In addition, homes in the city sold in 60 days, the same amount from this time last year.





## Good Grammar *Is* the Life of the Party

### GRAMMER GUY

By Curtis Honeycutt

Grammar: it's everywhere. And, as soon as someone identifies himself as an expert, you can almost always safely assume he's going to judge you anytime you end a sentence with a preposition.

I'm no grammar czar; I'm just here to help improve your grammar and make your life more awesome.

Good grammar is wonderful because it opens doors--to job interviews, romantic relationships, and even elegant parties where people drink wine from bottles (I always thought it only came in boxes). By improving your grammar, your Facebook friends will rightly assume you've started wearing a gold-rimmed monocle while playing polo on your yacht. Fancy!

Let's start with your family - yeah, we're going there. Specifically, when you want to sign your family's collective name on a holiday card or get it laser etched on a fake rock for your front lawn, how do you write it? Is it *The Millers* or *The Miller's*?

Everyone likes a good party (after all, that's why you're improving your grammar, right?), and apostrophes are like sentence confetti, adding a fun flair to

your scintillating syntax. But a misplaced apostrophe is like confetti at a funeral - inappropriate and impossible to undo.

To make your last name plural, never add an apostrophe. Just don't do it. *The Millers went to the concert* is correct. Adding an apostrophe to your last name makes it possessive: Did you see *The Millers' cool new van*?

If your last name ends with *s, z, x, ch* or *sh*, simply add *es* to make it plural: *Season's greetings from The Foxes*. If your last name ends in any other letter (including *y*), simply add an *s*: *The Honeycutts are incredibly photogenic*.

So, if you're considering adding your family's name on the back of your luxury yacht, write *The Millers*. Adding an apostrophe will simply get you uninvited from those swanky boat parties, leaving you to sadly drink your boxed wine alone while you sadly stalk everyone else's happy boat photos on Facebook.



Curtis Honeycutt is a freelance humor writer. Have a grammar question? Connect with him on Twitter @curtishoneycutt or at curtishoneycutt.com.

## Amazon Echo and Google Home

The capabilities are ever-growing

### TECH SAVVY

By Regina Miller

**My daughter asked for an Echo Dot for Christmas. What is this exactly and would the Google one be better?**

It's hard to say what an Amazon Echo Dot is exactly because it's so many different things packed into one little box the size of a hockey puck with price tag under \$50. While some describe it as a Bluetooth speaker, it's so much for than that. The Echo Dot is the smaller device of Amazon Echo family that utilizes Alexa, a virtual assistant persona that uses artificial intelligence, when commanded to connect to

music, look up information, execute simple tasks and control connected devices. The Google Home Mini is a competing product that has a similar skill set. Both devices allow access to a lot of free content but also can serve as an aggregate to access many of your digital entertainment subscriptions in one place and play the content over its speaker or another connected device. You can look up recipes, ask for measuring conversion equivalents and even call a friend - all hands-free while you're elbow deep in cookie dough by using voice commands. The capabilities are increasing all the time and whichever you decide to go with, Amazon or Google, you'll get a lot of bang for your buck on these little devices.



Regina Miller owns Geek in Pink. Contact her with tech questions at regina@geekinpink.com or (317) 882-1606.



### Greenwood Lions provides dictionaries to third graders

**Literacy** - The Greater Greenwood Lions Club presented 347 dictionaries to excited third grade students at 4 Greenwood schools. The students get to keep these for their own, personal use. This is one the club's annual projects, along with vision screening, assistance for those who need glasses and cannot afford them, and many other programs locally, statewide, and internationally. Information about meetings is available by calling President Vickie Gilmore, (812) 603-4440.

## TWEET of the MONTH



"Talking about goals, careers and education... plus a great haircut. Thank you Chad!!!

@ChadsBarberShop #E3CG #CGAA"



Center Grove Alternative Academy  
@CGAltAcademy



Puzzle Time



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

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

6 Indy-Area Pizza Joints

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

4 Center Grove E-W Roads

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

5 Indianapolis Colts

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

3 Hubler Chevrolet Models

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

2 Shakespeare Characters

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

1 Winter Month

\_\_\_\_\_

ACROSS

1. ISO trumpet's sound
6. Dutch cheese
10. Yemen's Gulf of \_\_\_\_
14. Christmas lights sites
15. Wabash River barrier
16. Hurting from training for the Mini-Marathon
17. Send a 140-character message
18. Indiana Grand trot or canter
19. Went like the dickens on I-65
20. Holiday tune with the lyrics "Prospero Ano y Felicidad"
23. Use lots of Verizon minutes
26. Catch sight of
27. Ticked off
28. Show horse
30. Noah's landfall
34. Center Grove Little League coach, often
35. Resell Pacers tickets
37. Santorini's food on a stick
39. Holiday tune with the lyrics "And on every street corner you'll hear"
43. Michael Feinstein's instrument of choice
44. Holiday Inn Express offering
47. Community Hospital x-ray unit, briefly
50. Assembly Hall and Mackey, e.g.
53. Distinctive flair
54. Burger topper
56. Greet the opposing team at Memorial Stadium
58. French Lick Resort Casino roulette choice
59. Holiday tune with the lyrics "Tis the season to be jolly"
64. Mideast title
65. Sweeping story
66. Senegal's capital
70. 1492 ship of note
71. Arni's handout
72. Ex-Indiana Fever player White
73. IND luggage IDs
74. CGHS volleyball stats
75. Sharply dressed, like a WRTV anchor

DOWN

1. Hoosier Park wager
2. Krasutsky & Hervey field
3. Madison or Emerson follower: Abbr.
4. Coral ridge
5. Local car czar
6. More tense
7. WTHR reporter: Carlos \_\_\_\_
8. Similar (to)
9. Prefix with physics
10. Buzzing with activity, like Greenwood Park Mall at Christmas

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13	
14						15					16				
17						18					19				
			20		21					22					
23	24	25		26						27					
28			29		30		31	32	33			34			
35				36			37				38				
		39			40	41						42			
			43							44			45	46	
47	48	49		50				51	52		53				
54			55					56		57		58			
59					60	61	62				63				
64					65						66		67	68	69
70					71						72				
73					74						75				

11. Thingamajig
12. Typos
13. Essential
21. Grazing ground
22. IU Health measurements
23. Marathon product
24. Circle segment in a CGHS math class
25. Johnson County Fair ovine calls
29. WISH weather radar image
31. Where Goodyear is headquartered
32. Yank's foe
33. Indiana's Lincoln
36. Flexible
38. Indiana flag color
40. Dictionary abbr.
41. Center Grove-to-Richmond dir.
42. Hoosier farm storage cylinder
45. Wee bit
46. CGHS lineman
47. Clydesdale Pest Control target
48. Iron-poor blood condition
49. Preparing carrots, perhaps
51. Asian calculator
52. Costa del \_\_\_\_
55. Gumbo veggies
57. Antiquated
60. Jodi's Custom Alterations lines
61. Indianapolis Fencing Club sword
62. Help for the stumped... it starts with H!
63. "...nobody doesn't like \_\_\_\_ Lee"
67. Hobby Lobby buy
68. Perform with the Buck Creek Players
69. Ford dealer Skillman

Answers See Page 21

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

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 2 E. Tilden, Brownsburg

**Washington Healthcare Center**  
 8201 W. Washington St., Indianapolis

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## Don't get all tangled up by Christmas

### DEVOTIONAL

By Pastor  
Chris Philbeck

I read an interesting story recently, about a service that would be beneficial to many people in the U.S. this Christmas. Tesco, a British Supermarket Company, posted an ad for a new job: Christmas Light Untangler (not sure "untangler" is a word). The company's website offered the following description for the 36-hour-a-week job: "This new position will offer you the chance to show that every little bit helps, by running a unique in-store service with a friendly, flexible approach to making a difference in the little things that matter to our customers this Christmas." It went on to say, "The first duty includes

manning and managing the Christmas Lights Untangling Stand." Tesco says candidates should be able to untangle 10 feet of Christmas lights in less than 3 minutes as well as check the bulbs for signs of breakage. They go on to say the ideal candidate should "be passionate about Christmas." I've heard of "seasonal" employment, but this is the most unusual example I've encountered. Reading this story reminds me of two things. First, how easy it is to get all "tangled" up by Christmas. There's really only one word to describe what we try to accomplish in the first three weeks of December each year: MADNESS! Think about all of the things we do. First, we try to redecorate our entire house, inside and

out. Then, we decide to sit down and write out a card or letter to every single person we've ever met. We follow that up with buying a gift or gifts for every single person we've ever met. And we spend just about every evening going to some kind of Christmas pageant, program or party. Second, the simple truth that Jesus, who we celebrate at Christmas, came into the world to "untangle" our lives. One of my favorite Christmas verses is Isaiah 9:6. For us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. It's the name "Prince of Peace" that I love the most. Jesus came into the world to

bring peace. Peace between man and God and peace in the heart of man. I can't give you a referral, this Christmas, for someone to untangle your Christmas lights or schedule. But I can give you a referral for someone who can untangle your life. His name is Jesus. And he is passionate about you. Give him first place in your life this Christmas, and experience his peace.



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

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## OBITUARIES

## CENTER GROVE

**Doyle B. Anderson Jr.**

Doyle B. Anderson Jr., 68, of Greenwood, died on Nov. 15, 2017. Visitation was Nov. 20 at G.H. Herrmann Greenwood Funeral Home at The Gardens at Olive Branch, 1605 S. State Rd. 135. Entombment is at Forest Lawn Memory Gardens.

**Barbara J. Cooper**

Barbara J. Cooper, 87, of Greenwood, died on Wednesday, Nov. 22, 2017. Funeral service was Nov. 28 at G.H. Herrmann Greenwood Funeral at The Gardens at Olive Branch, 1605 S. State Rd. 135. She will be laid to rest privately at Washington Park East.

**John O. Kindred**

John O. Kindred, 86, of Greenwood, died on Nov. 26, 2017. John served in the United States Air Force during the Korean War. Services was Dec. 1 at University Heights United Methodist Church. Visitation was Nov. 30 at Singleton Community Mortuary and Memorial Center. Graveside service followed to Fairview Cemetery in Bedford, Ind.

**Dr. Robert R. Kopecky**

Dr. Robert R. Kopecky, of Greenwood, died on Wednesday, Nov. 29, 2017. Dr. Kopecky spent 35 years in family practice during which the last 30 years was limited to obstetrics and pediatrics. He delivered approximately five thousand babies during this period. Visitation was Dec. 3 at G.H. Herrmann Greenwood Funeral Home at The Gardens at Olive Branch, 1605 S. State Rd. 135, Greenwood. Funeral service was Dec. 4 at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, 600 Paul Hand Blvd., Franklin. He will be laid to rest at Forest Lawn Memory Gardens in Greenwood.

**Danny L. Lawrence**

Danny L. Lawrence, 68, of Greenwood, died on Nov. 15, 2017. Visitation was Nov. 17 at The Creek at Shelby Steet, 8435 Shelby St., Indianapolis. Funeral services were Nov. 18 at the church. He will be laid to rest in The Gardens at Olive Branch, 1605 S. State Road 135, Greenwood. Arrangements have been entrusted to G. H. Herrmann Madison Avenue Funeral Home, 5141 Madison Ave.

**David A. Mason**

David A. Mason, 62, of Bargersville, died on Tuesday, Nov. 7, 2017. He worked for Allison Transmission as a cutter/ grinder for over 33 years. Arrangements and care provided by Lauck & Veldhof Funeral & Cremation Services, Indianapolis.

**Mary Kathryn Parker**

Mary Kathryn Parker, 82, of Greenwood, died on Nov. 27, 2017. Visitation was Nov. 30 at G. H. Herrmann Greenwood Funeral Home at The Gardens at Olive Branch, 1605 S. State Rd. 135. Funeral services was Dec. 1. She will be laid to rest in Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, Glens Valley.

**Jason Eugene Statom**

Jason Eugene Statom, 87, of Greenwood, died on Nov. 14, 2017. Gene worked for 40 years at Allison's. Funeral services were Nov. 20 at G. H. Herrmann Greenwood Funeral Home at The Gardens at Olive Branch, 1605 S. State Rd. 135. He will be laid to rest in Greenwood Cemetery.

**Richard Clyde Sturm**

Richard "Bud" Clyde Sturm, 91, of Greenwood, died on Nov. 21, 2017. He was a WWII Navy Veteran and served in the Philippines. He served in the Indianapolis Public School system for 38 years and retired as a principal. Visitation and service was Nov. 25 at Resurrection Lutheran Church, 445 E. Stop 11 Rd., Indianapolis. Burial will be at Forest Lawn Memory Gardens.

**Randall D. Willis**

Randall D. Willis, 88, of Greenwood, died Nov. 8, 2017. He was a Navy veteran of the Korean War veteran. Visitation and service was Nov. 11 at G. H. Herrmann Greenwood Funeral Home, 1605 S. State Road 135 and Olive Branch Road. He will be laid to rest at The Gardens at Olive Branch, where military graveside rites was presented.

**Lois Irene Young (Tibby)**

Lois Irene Young (Tibby), 92, of Greenwood, died on Thursday, Nov. 30, 2017. Lois worked for over 23 years at Isom Central Elementary School as a custodian. She was a member of an Assembly of God Church and a member of the Retired Indiana Public Employee Association. Funeral services were Dec. 9 at Wilson St. Pierre Funeral Service and Crematory, Greenwood Chapel. Burial followed at Forest Lawn Cemetery in Greenwood.



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**Puzzles & Answers**

SEE PAGE 19

**Answers to HOOSIER HODGEPODGE:**

**Pizza:** ARNI'S, DOMINO'S, JET'S, JOCKAMO, PIZZA HUT, PIZZA KING;

**Colts:** CASTONZO, GORE, HILTON, SANCHEZ, VINATIERI;

**Roads:** CURRY, DEMAREE, FRY, SMITH VALLEY;

**Models:** CAMARO, CRUZ, MALIBU;

**Characters:** HAMLET, JULIET;

**Month:** DECEMBER

**Q&A**

ON PAGE 3

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

B	L	A	R	E	E	D	A	M	A	D	E	N
E	A	V	E	S	D	I	K	E	S	O	R	E
T	W	E	E	T	G	A	I	T	T	O	R	E
G	A	B	F	E	L	I	Z	N	A	V	I	D
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			S	I	L	V	E	R	B	E	L	L
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## Jim Schwarz

### Center Grove Real Estate Inspections owner takes a step toward civic leadership

#### Compiled by Nicole Davis

While Jim Schwarz has held leadership roles in the community for years, it wasn't until he joined the Greater Greenwood Chamber of Commerce three years ago that his eyes were opened to the concept of civic leadership.

"How do you contribute and be a part of planned growth and the overall master plan of how a community comes together?" He said, "When you're around the people that are part of the Greenwood Chamber, that's where those visions come from. This is the stuff I want to be involved

in. I want to get more involved in civic leadership here in town."

Owner of Center Grove Real Estate Inspections, Schwarz is also a member of Southside Division of MIBOR. Through that, he enjoys giving back with MIBOR's philanthropic programs.

Through the years, he has taken leadership roles at Mt. Auburn Christian Church and other organizations, stepping down to let the next generation take the reigns. He is still an ambassador and greeter at Mt. Auburn. He decided to join the Greenwood Chamber after receiving a call during its annual

membership drive. Since that time, he has found inspiration for civic leadership, and hopes to get more involved as his schedule will allow.

"I enjoy giving back," he said. "As my business matures, I'm getting a chance to see how things work from the civic standpoint."

Recently, he was asked to join the board of directors for Girls, Inc., a nonprofit with a mission of empowering girls by creating a positive community around them. Schwarz was first introduced to the organization when he was asked to do an inspection for them. Inspired by its mission, he began to contribute. He will serve the three-year

board term beginning in January.

Schwarz, who was involved in the dairy manufacturing business for 25 years, came to the Center Grove area in 1995. He started his own business in 2006 and went full-time there in 2013. He lived in Cincinnati from '98 to 2003, returning to Center Grove where he has resided since with his wife, Rose, a substitute teacher at Center Grove and Maple Grove Elementary. Their two children, Jessica, 28, and Grant, 25, finished school in the area.

Here, we learn more about our January ICON of the Month, Jim Schwarz.

#### What do you consider your greatest virtue?

I feel like I have the ability to read people pretty accurately.

#### What do you most deplore in others?

I like working with and being around transparent people. Life is so much easier when you know where you stand with those around you. Just 'Say what you mean and mean what you say.'

#### What do you like most about living in Center Grove?

People of the area have been very good to us, as a family. We have been in the area 20+ years and have seen much change. We have made fine friends, both personally and professionally.

#### If you had to live anywhere else in the Metro Indianapolis area, where would it be?

I don't feel the urge to change what we are doing. However, living downtown Indy would be very intriguing.

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

I grew up on a dairy farm in Northwest Missouri. My family still farms there. I was the one that chose the corporate ladder life and left the area. This life taught me how to work hard and not be afraid of what you are capable of accomplishing. Given that, I don't see anything I would change.

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

I have come to enjoy giving back to various organizations that provide a worthy service to our community. Money has not been a driving factor in our family. We have been blessed with an ample lifestyle and the ability to manage it.

#### What makes you happiest?

I have enjoyed seeing our kids come into their own purpose in life. Likewise, it has been fun to see the satisfaction of a growing business. I really enjoy finding time to wet a fishing line on a summer evening.

#### What is your favorite vacation spot?

For me, I go on a Canada fishing trip with my father each June. It hard to believe what some time on pristine waters and islands can do for the soul.

#### What do you do with idle time?

I became a member of the Commemorative Air Force this year. This is a non-profit, all volunteer organization that works to keep WWII vintage planes flying as flying museums. The passion of these people to honor the Greatest Generation is simply unbelievable. The stories of veterans are beyond gripping. We have an Indiana Wing of the group that is based at the Fishers Airport that has three planes in their care. This is something I hope to find more time to spend time with. Check them out if you have an interest.

#### What is it that makes you angry?

I have a hard time handling the discourtesy and lack of self-respect that is showing up, nowadays. What has become of the kindness we're supposedly taught?

#### What do you do to escape from reality?

I could permanently escape from reality on an island in Lake of the Woods, Ontario Canada.

#### What or who is the greatest love of your life?

I could never be without my wife, Rose. She has been a wonderful mother and life partner/wife. Of course, our kids, Jessica and Grant, need to be remembered, as well.

#### Which living person in Center Grove do you most admire?

That's tough. We have a lot of very kind and progressive people in the area. I look up to our longtime friends, Phil and Barbara Howard. Even though they now live in Franklin, they are still part of the CG community.

#### What is the quality you like most in a man?

I want to see integrity, honesty and humbleness in any man and his sons.

#### What is the quality you like most in a woman?

I believe integrity, humbleness and a kind-hearted spirit is so necessary.

#### What is your greatest extravagance?

We have spent some time traveling Europe the past few years. There is so much to learn about different cultures and how they relate to us.

#### What are your fears/phobias?

I don't really have any fears. God knows I am a work in progress and I keep my backs packed for Him.

#### What has been the happiest time of your life?

I think we are at the happiest time in our life, right now. We have raised our kids to be on their own, our business remains strong and I look forward to what is on the horizon.

#### Which talent would you most like to possess?

I have always loved to fly and have learned I may have a talent for it.

#### What do you most value in your friends?

I have a few lifetime friends. That is, those who we go months without communication and pick up life right where we left off. No judgement or pretense.

#### Which historical figure do you most admire?

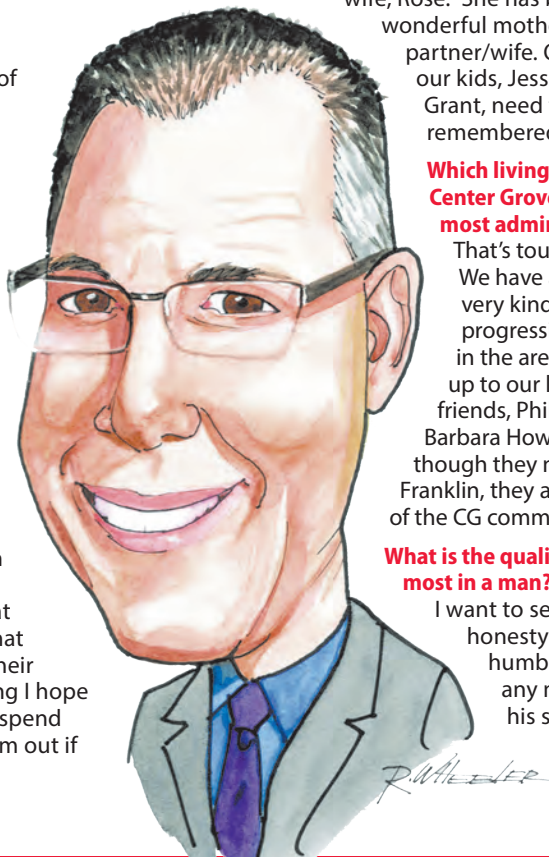
I would look to Dwight D. Eisenhower or Thomas Jefferson. Those men knew life was no popularity contest and were not afraid to make tough decisions.

#### What is your greatest regret?

Time has a way of healing regrets. We have all done things we regret, but then we find ways to move on from them. I can't say I have any regrets today.

#### What tenet do you live by?

I believe in one basic slogan. It is: Stand for something or You will fall for anything.



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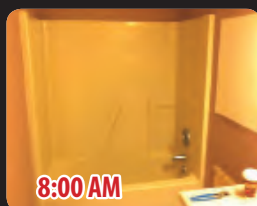
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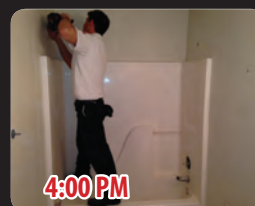
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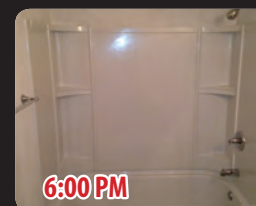
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