

HENDRICKS COUNTY

ICON

December 1-15, 2017
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CELEBRATING THE HOLIDAYS IN
Hendricks County

INSIDE >

ALL DOLLED UP
for Christmas!

Brownsburg artist delights with her hand-made, facially-expressive dolls, pages 4-5.

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Jennifer Willis Miller, MSN, RN
Director of Emergency Department

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Stories/News?

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

Call Chris Cornwall at 317-451-4088 or email him at chris@icontimes.com.

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 Rick Myers at 317-451-4088 or email him at rick@icontimes.com.



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HENDRICKS COUNTY



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ICONICimage



Photo by Chris Cornwall

'ON' THE FIRST DAY OF CHRISTMAS | Youngster Alyssa Jones, daughter of Jennifer Sanford, was selected to flip the giant switch marking the start of Christmas in Downtown Danville, Friday, Nov. 24, 2017. "I have wanted to do this for 10 years," Jones said. The event was the 11th annual Christmas on the Square for the Downtown Danville Partnership.

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Q: Where is your favorite Christmas light display? Why?



Ellis Park (600 E Main St., Danville). It's local and has beautiful displays, not as gaudy as others around.

Susie Rude,
North Salem



The house on 21st St. (E. Co Rd. 200 N.) west of Dan Jones. It reminds me of the Griswold House!

Hong Artman,
Avon



The Indianapolis Zoo plus the houses on West Michigan (St.) between Warman and Holt roads. I enjoy driving by to and from work.

Kelly Allen,
Plainfield



ALL DOLLED UP for Christmas!

Brownsburg artist delights with her hand-made, facially-expressive dolls

Edna Tkachuk with Santa. Photos by Rick Myers (includes outside cover photo)

COVER STORY

By Lindsay Doty

Step into Edna Tkachuk's Brownsburg home and you'll be greeted by a mannequin dressed in a proper hat and Victorian dress, a vintage baby doll in her crib and do antyhose.

She's been doing it for decades and loves a good character just as much as the craft itself.

"I want them to be warm and friendly and tell a story and so when you see one, well, people laugh and it occurs to them what this doll is thinking," explains Tkachuk.

"I make my own faces and they have different expressions. I actually like to make them up. I have a lot of fun and I think about the person I'm going to create."

Like Gladys, a busty woman with a zest for life—and pink—living out retirement in Florida.

"This is definitely a snowbird because a Floridian wouldn't be dressed in all this

Flamingo stuff," laughs Tkachuk about her doll.

"Her nickname is sugar butt... is that offensive? I don't know."

Her dolls were once a business, now a hobby. She's made hundreds of them. The retired nurse and grandmother of six—who won't reveal her exact age—has sold and shown pieces through the years at art shows across the country. She still has her creations on display in Cincinnati and The Mariette Museum of Art & Whimsy in Sarasota, Florida. The sculptures range in size from six inches to

six feet and can retail around \$250.

While she doesn't do art shows anymore, the longtime Hendricks County resident has never stopped creating. Come holiday season, her star character is, of course, Jolly Saint Nick. You can find her "soft" large Santas at the Gallery on the Square in Downtown Danville.

"I think about the old Coco-Cola Santa when I make him and I try to capture his twinkle."

The sitting Santas, much like her other characters, are complete with distinct

cartoon-like faces, handmade clothes and life-like wigs. Santa touts his signature red suit and a potato-sack bag topped with real toys.

"I like to buy some trains, some little toys. It's just fun," she says.

She makes a traditional "mall" Santa but also does a more reserved Victorian version. This week, she's up late at the sewing machine parked temporarily in her living room, crafting a new batch for Frazee Gardens in Brownsburg.

"When I make the Santas, I feel that warm, friendly joy and cheerful Christmas spirit," said Tkachuk.

The sculptures are always time-consuming and can be costly to make.

"Oh wow, it's expensive, even the Pantyhose costs. But I do it for fun now."

While she doesn't mass produce dolls, they still have a niche clientele that leads to a sale here and there. She shares a picture



I want them to be warm and friendly and tell a story and so when you see one.



Top, Edna sews a hat for her Sitting Santa Doll. | Bottom left, Edna at her work station. | Bottom right, various doll faces.
Photos by Rick Myers

of two happy women from a past Christmas leaving her house with their new Santas in tow, carrying them out like large toddlers.

"There are people that collect them. I had a man buy his wife a Santa for Christmas and then I would hear from him every year to get more," she recalls.

"I do it in the day. I do it in the night. I'm a stay-up-late person."

Tkachuk started making dolls and "creating" stories at a young age, inspired by her Nana.

"I was the first grandchild and My Nana just adored me," she said. "She always told me creative stories, (like) floating on a banana into Coca-Cola. So that's where the creativity came from."

Decades later, she has plenty to show for it. Her house is chock-full of collections and creations, each with a story. There's a doll in a chair above her television set and plenty of "dinner guests" in the dining room. And through the years, there have been plenty of extra "parts" lying around.

"I had these heads on this sheet once and my father-in-law thought they were cookies," she laughs.

Whether it's the man in red or a flamboyant retiree, they all have a little of her in them and a lot of personality.

"It is exhausting until it is done. It's good for me. It's like therapy."

THE DISH ON DOLLS

Your best sale?

"There was a couple in Florida who bought a "Ruby" doll. They had her for years sitting on their bar. When it came time to sell their house people said they wouldn't buy the house unless the doll came with it."

Strangest client?

"One lady wanted to make a quilt out of my dolls by taking them apart. She came to one of my booths at an art show and explained the whole thing."

Family and friend reactions to the hobby?

"Sometimes when my daughter was younger her friends would ask, 'Is your mom a witch or something?' because there would be heads and parts everywhere."

holiday GIFT GUIDE

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HC ICON News Quiz

How well do you know your
Hendricks County community?

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

1 Washington Township Park,
in partnership with Premier
Inflatables, recently opened Hendricks
County's first _____.

- A. Inflatable gymnasium
- B. Waterless swimming pool
- C. Iceless skating rink
- D. Go-kart track

2 Beginning in May 2018,
Indianapolis International Airport
begins offering direct flights to which
famous European city?

- A. Paris, France
- B. Amsterdam, Netherlands
- C. Berlin, Germany
- D. Sarajevo, Bosnia



3 The late Wilbur Tague,
photographer and businessman,
was well-known throughout the county
for impersonating which U.S. President?

- A. Thomas Jefferson
- B. Martin Van Buren
- C. Abraham Lincoln
- D. Richard Nixon

4 American Senior Communities
recently honored local nurses
Amber Hubbard, Nekisha Lewis,
Michelle Boeckx, and Famata Kiadii
for with what award?

- A. Quest for Excellence
Award
- B. Journey Award
- C. Quest for Greatness
Award
- D. Nurse Award



5 The town of Avon recently
celebrated the completion of
which road project?

- A. The Avon Avenue Bridge Project
- B. Pedestrian Bridge 100 east of 100
South Roundabout
- C. Widening of U.S. 36, Avon
Commons to Raceway Rd.
- D. Reconstruction of 200 N. from
Dan Jones to Reagan Parkway

ANSWERS ON PAGE 15
Compiled by Chris Cornwall

HENDRICKS COUNTY PLANNER

AVON

Town Council | Dec. 7, 7 p.m.
Board of Zoning Appeals | Dec. 21, 7 p.m.
All meetings are held at Avon Town Hall,
6570 E. U.S. Highway 36. For more
information, call (317) 272-0948 or
visit avon.org.

HENDRICKS COUNTY

County Council | Dec. 5, 9 a.m.
**Commissioners Meeting
Dec. 12, 9 a.m.**
All meetings are held at the Hendricks
County Government Center
355 S Washington Street.
For more information, visit:
co.hendricks.in.us.
To reach the Plan Commission or Board
of Zoning Appeals, call (317) 745-9255;
for County Council, call (317) 745-9221;
and for the Board of Health, call
(317) 745-9217.

BROWNSBURG

Town Council | Dec. 7, 5:30 p.m.
**Board of Zoning Appeals
Dec. 11, 7 p.m.**
Town Hall | Dec. 5, 7:30 a.m.
All meetings are held at Brownsburg
Town Hall, 61 N Green Street. For more
information, call (317) 852-1120 or visit
brownsburg.org.

DANVILLE

Town Council | Dec. 4, 7 p.m.
All meetings are held at Danville Town
Hall, 49 N Wayne Street. For more infor-
mation, call (317) 745-4180 or visit
danvilleindiana.org.



Danville auctioneer readies to sell Manson letters

By Chris Cornwall

The recent death of convicted
murderer Charles Manson has once
again cast the figure into the spot-
light. The dispute over his estate,
including music rights, has made
major headlines recently. His ties
to Hendricks County are well-docu-
mented as he spent several years at
the old Indiana Boys School in Plain-
field. However, it appears Manson
also did time in Danville.

In the Sept. 16 issue of *ICON*, we
interviewed a local auctioneer, Vic
Pelver, owner of Vicary Auction
House, Danville, who had two hand-
written letters from Manson. The let-
ters substantiate a long-held belief
that Manson was briefly incarcerated
in the old Hendricks County Sher-
iff's Residence, which doubled as the
county jail, and is now the Hendricks
County Museum.

Now that Manson is dead, Pelver
plans to auction off the letters.
How much could he get?

"You really don't know with some-
thing like this," he said. "It could
bring \$50 or it could bring \$50,000."

Pelver, who collects signatures, said
he half-jokingly wrote the convict and
didn't expect to receive a reply.

Manson wrote back not once but
twice describing his time in Danville,
or rather the "Danville Jail."

He wrote that he had stolen a
truck in 1948 or 1949 after escaping
from the Indiana Boys School.

Evidently, Manson didn't make it
too far from Plainfield as he goes
on to say that the Danville jail was
the only place where he liked being
locked up.

"I liked that place, but I didn't know
no other place (while) I was on a Run
from B.R. to Death R," Manson wrote.

Pelver said the fact that the letters are
considered "personal correspondences"
make them much more valuable.

"There are more prison postcards
out there because that's what he
would send to people," Pelver said.
"But to have the correspondence, the
person to person contact, is worth
much more than a flat cut signature."



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Happy Holidays!



RAY'S HOLIDAY RECYCLING TIPS:

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

Helpful hints:

- Place ALL materials loose in the bin - do NOT bag
- 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

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DECEMBER
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1 Day Delay

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28
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DECEMBER
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4
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OUR VIEW

Hendricks counting
our blessings

Although Christmas is still weeks away, the Hendricks County community has already given itself some very notable "gifts" this year. We saw the groundbreaking of the county's first full-service business-class hotel, the Embassy Suites by Hilton, earlier this year in Plainfield. Busy U.S. 267, which runs through the county's three largest cities, was given a lift by the town of Avon as it completed the much anticipated Avon Avenue Bridge. In Brownsburg, with the recent opening of Hendricks Regional Health Brownsburg Hospital, residents will enjoy the benefits of having a full service hospital in their own backyard.

We can't name every improvement project, groundbreaking and grand opening for the year 2017, but we think that's a good thing. It draws attention to the fact that the sheer number of improvements are too many to name.

Christmas may only come once a year, but we consider living in Hendricks County to be a gift that lasts all year long.

Shop local
this holiday season

Now that the holiday season has arrived, there is always shopping to be done. And like every year, big box store advertisements will flood the airwaves. We encourage residents not to overlook the small businesses that make Hendricks County a special place to live. They bring product diversity, in-person customer service and the money spent goes back into the community. Locally owned businesses are also critical for the vitality of our downtown areas. They help retain the small-town charm that so many of us proudly identify with. Let's not lose it.

We support local commerce and thank our hard-working small business owners for being a big part of Hendricks County.

QUOTE

*"Every gift which is given,
even though it be small,
is in reality great, if it is
given with affection"*

~ Pindar,
ancient Greek poet



ICONtoon

House Husband

HUMOR

By Dick Wolfsie

We were watching TV one evening last week when my wife asked, "Don't you think it's about time we moved?"

"Sure," I said. "I'll stretch out on the floor with a pillow; you take the couch."

Apparently that is not what she meant. After 30 years in our house, Mary Ellen now thinks we should be living in a condo, a place where the owners don't have to mow or water the lawn or shovel snow. My son will be disappointed if we move. He was making good money doing all that.

My wife is certain we have many good years in front of us, but she doesn't believe in having anything above us. Like rooms. Mary Ellen wants everything on one floor. I like going upstairs to go to bed. That's my 12-step program from Exercisers Anonymous. If we buy a home all on one level, that's the end of my 30-second evening workout.

So last weekend, despite my misgivings, we started looking for a new place to live. We have this great real estate agent who is the most effusive and energetic person I have ever met. He's excited about everything. The first condo we looked at, Brad got very emotional about the baseboards that accented the tall walls and high ceilings, the inch-thick granite countertops, and the stamped concrete patio (whatever that is). He was quick to point out that there was an electrical outlet on the kitchen island where we could make frozen margaritas. And those slow-closing drawers and cabinets? He was ecstatic.

Home shoppers often go into houses while people are still living there, but the homeowners must vacate their residence when the realtor is doing a showing.

What's incredible is how perfectly tidy and immaculate everything is. I hadn't planned on relocating from Indy to Stepford.

My wife has fun speculating about the lives of the residents of the homes by just a casual observation of the furnishings. "This is probably a very nice older man," she ventured at the last condo we toured, "who may recently have lost his wife and who has six young grandchildren. He loves modern art and reads science fiction."

"And he makes his own lasagna from scratch," I said.

"Wait, how did you know the lasagna was homemade?"

"Relax. I washed the fork and put it back in the drawer."

(Note to Brad: I'm kidding.)

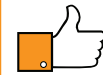
Mary Ellen and I have totally different sets of criteria regarding what we are searching for in our next home, so I took Brad aside and said, "Go into that cool realty app you have and see if you can find a four-bedroom home with a little alcove for an office, and a finished basement where I can put a TV and an exercise bike. Also, I'd love to have a private back deck with a view of secluded woods. And I prefer living on a cul de sac."

Brad called me the next day. "Dick, I found the ideal place for you. Looks like it's not up for sale quite yet, but you can still make an offer.... Wait a second, this is your address. This is where you live now!"

"Great job, Brad. You are the best. You found the perfect house for me."



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.

THUMBS UP,
THUMBS DOWNAVON RESIDENTS GET OVER
TRAIN WOES

Drivers rejoiced Nov. 15 with the official opening of the Avon Avenue Bridge south of Highway 36. A procession of local police and firefighters led motorists over the new structure. Getting stuck behind a train can cause a lot of grief, but it's safe to say that residents have gotten over it.

THE GRINCH WHO STOLE YOUR
AMAZON DELIVERY

Package thieves are back so guard your Amazon Prime orders. There have been reports out of the Plainfield area already of mail packages being stolen right off doorsteps. One homeowner in the popular Saratoga neighborhood caught the suspect on her security camera but the perp was too tough to identify. However, we conjecture his heart was three sizes too small.

GARBAGE GUYS GIVE GIFT
TO GIRL

Garbage guys from Hendricks County gave a little girl with severe health problems a big smile for her birthday. Timmy and Dylan O'Conner with Ray's Trash Service have noticed on their route how excited little Hope Parker would get when they would pick up at her house. So for her 11th birthday, they surprised her with an official stop and present. Parker can't speak due to health issues but her smile said it all. For a dirty job there is a lot of sweet there.

PETERS TAKES
QUESTIONABLE HIT

Avon native and Michigan Wolverines quarterback Brandon Peters went to the hospital after suffering a head injury in the third quarter of the Wisconsin game on Nov. 18. The vicious hit he took has many folks crying foul. So far, reports are saying his head scans don't show anything serious. We can't say the same about this hit going unpunished, refs.

BELIEVE IT!

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

In Illinois, those under 21 can drink legally, but they must be enrolled in a culinary program to do so.

SOURCE: dumblaws.com

BEHINDthe**BADGE****Former St. Louis FD
Paramedic takes on
new role as PFT EMS
Division Chief**

By Chris Cornwall

For over 20 years, Douglas Randell worked for one of the country's largest fire departments as an EMT, paramedic and eventually EMS Training Officer. In September 2016, after his four children had grown, he made the jump from St. Louis to Plainfield by becoming its next Division Chief of EMS. Now he is bringing his experience and leadership to the Plainfield Fire Territory.

It's unusual to come into a new department in a leadership role, Randell said, so he made sure to meet many of his fellow firefighters and EMTs right from the start. Randell visited each of the stations at dinner time so he could sit down and eat them. "Employee engagement is a big part of my day," he said. "For me, employee engagement is all about relationship management. When someone has an issue, I want them to feel confident and comfortable coming to me."

As EMS Division Chief, Randell is responsible for ensuring lifesaving emergency medical equipment is up to par, and that billing documentation is accurate. However, he says his experience both on the job and with training EMTs is key.

"I think that it is very important for someone in a leadership role to have real world experience," he said. "I've seen some very interesting things because of where I come from, and I try to provide some insurances. This is what's expected when dealing with a particular circumstance because I've seen it, not because I'm guessing."

Although Randell does go on cardiac arrest runs, his new role doesn't require him to work a standard EMT shift, which lasts 24-hours. But, he chooses to do so anyway about once a month.

"The best way to evaluate a process is to get in there and do it," he said. "Also, my office at headquarters is miles away from the other stations, so it's a way to be part of the overall system."

After Randell's children were grown, he spent the next two years both working and going to school full-time in preparation for a new challenge. He earned his Bachelor's Degree in May 2016.

"It was a big challenge coming here, but I told myself I wanted to do something better."

What inspired you to become a paramedic?

When I was 10-years-old, I wanted to be a gastroenterologist. The reason I learned about gastroenterology was because I would watch television and become sad when I saw people with stomach problems. I wanted to make people happy and able to eat...

So why didn't you go into medicine?

Although there was a good pre-med program at Iowa State, there was also the financial burden and my parents didn't want me to be bogged down with student loans. So we went with plan B. I earned a scholarship to EMT school... I went for my



Douglas Randell, Plainfield Fire Territory
EMS Division Chief.

Photo by Chris Cornwall

first ride-along and I was bitten by the bug. I liked medicine, but to have the freedom of providing medicine in the natural habit of folks freed me to be who I was, where I was. Helping people in their location, I can't really explain the feeling... When you treat them in a certain way and with respect, your day is so much better. I love being paramedic.

While on the job, what's one of your best memories?

We don't usually deliver babies, that's a misnomer. We catch them. When mom is delivering those babies and we're catching them, to see something like that joy and excitement when the process is over, and to be part of the process of bringing new life into the world is very special.

What do you think is most difficult about being a paramedic?

Being a paramedic is wonderful, but there is one part of the job that's most difficult and it has nothing to do with skills. I'm talking about decision making. Any paramedic worth his/her salt is confident in what they do when making decisions. But early on in anyone's career there will be situations when they feel unsure. Questioning your own decision making can really bog you down...

As EMS Division Chief, what does a normal day consist of?

My normal day is a day that I adapt, which is what I need to do to handle my responsibilities. For example, there could be equipment issues that I need make sure are resolved. Something goes south every week and it's never the same issue... So there are always equipment issues, technology issues and things that just break.

Employee engagement is a big part of my day. For me it's all about relationship management and that means when someone has an issue they feel confident and comfortable coming to me.

I'm also responsible for EMS billing, which means ensuring documentation meets or exceeds the standard we have set to deliver good patient care... and also so we are able to properly bill the services we provide...

Apart from professional skills, how has your experience working for the St. Louis Fire Department prepared for this new leadership role?

While in St. Louis, I worked at a station with 800 people. You get to understand who people are. I'm not talking about a firefighter, an EMT or a paramedic. I'm talking about an individual. When you get to the core of a person, then you will know how to connect with them...

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- paper towel
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- white vinegar
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- Sharpies
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- light corn syrup
- canned kitten food
- Purina Cat Chow
- Purina Nurture Kitten Chow
- Purina Complete Adult cat food
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- non-scoopable cat litter
- cat and dog toys
- gift cards to Tractor Supply, Walmart or PetSmart

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FOR THE RECORD HC OBITUARIES

AVON

Caleb Michael Joyner

Caleb Michael "Catfish" Joyner, 36, passed away Nov. 8, 2017. He was born May 12, 1981. Services were held Nov. 16, at Calvary Baptist Church, Kokomo.

Robert L. Ferguson

Robert Lee "Bob" Ferguson, 87, passed away Nov. 19, 2017. He was born May 7, 1930. He served his country for two years in the Navy. Services were held Nov. 25 at Danville Friends Church.

Bruce D. Miles

Bruce D. Miles, 66, passed away Nov. 17, 2017. He was born Oct. 1, 1951. Services were held Nov. 19 at Conkle Funeral Home, Avon Chapel.

Mary "Evelyn" Olinger

Mary "Evelyn" Olinger, 81, passed away Nov. 20, 2017. She was born Aug. 26, 1936. Services were held Nov. 28 at Christ Church, Plainfield.

BROWNSBURG

Earl M. Dick

Earl M. Dick, 73, passed away Nov. 9, 2017. He was born Jan. 16, 1944. Private services were held.

Gertrude L. Griner

Gertrude L. Griner, 88, passed away Nov. 15, 2017. She was born Sept. 13, 1929. Services were held Nov. 19 at Matthews Mortuary, Brownsburg.

Mark Roscoe McClure

Mark Roscoe McClure, 61, passed away Nov. 19, 2017. He was born June 14, 1956. Services were held Nov. 22 at Matthews Mortuary, Brownsburg.

Tula Marie Morrow

Tula Marie Morrow, 90, passed away Nov. 12, 2017. She was born April 12, 1927. Private services were held.

Wilbur Allan Tague

Wilbur Allan Tague, 71, passed away Nov. 19, 2017. He was born Aug. 2, 1946. Services were held Nov. 25 at Connection Pointe Christian Church, Brownsburg.

Jerry James Vik

Jerry James Vik, 67, passed away Nov. 9, 2017. He was born June 15, 1950. Services were held Nov. 15 at Conkle Funeral Home, Avon Chapel.

DANVILLE

H. Keith Baldwin

H. Keith Baldwin, 90, passed away Nov. 20, 2017. He was born May 5, 1927. He served his country in the U.S. Army during WWII. Services were held Nov. 25 at Bartlett Chapel United Methodist Church, Avon.

Jeanne Annette (Myers) Dillon

Jeanne Annette (Myers) Dillon, 55, passed away Nov. 20, 2017. She was born Dec. 13, 1961. Services were held Nov. 25 in Baker Funeral Home, Danville.

Marie Rutledge Higgins

Marie Rutledge Higgins, 96, passed away Nov. 17, 2017. She was born Dec. 26, 1920. Services were held Nov. 22 at Danville United Methodist Church.

Karen A. Miller

Karen A. Miller, 73, passed away Nov. 13, 2017. She was born April 25, 1944. Services were held Nov. 17 at Christ Lutheran Church, Brownsburg.

PLAINFIELD

Mary A. Anderson

Mary A. Anderson, 88, passed away on Nov. 17, 2017. She was born Nov. 22, 1928. Services were held Nov. 22 in Hampton-Gentry Funeral Home, Plainfield.

Brian C. Atwell

Brian C. Atwell, 43, passed away Nov. 21, 2017. He was born April 28, 1974. Services were held Nov. 24, 2017 at Conkle Funeral Home, Speedway.

Phillip W. Felix

Phillip W. Felix, 71, passed away Nov. 14, 2017. He was born Sept. 3, 1946. Services were held Nov. 19 at Carlisle - Branson Funeral Service & Crematory, Mooresville.

Bobbie Gearn

Bobbie Gearn, 80, passed away Nov. 19, 2017. She was born July 13, 1937. Services will be in Thomson, GA.

Beulah G. Haynes

Beulah G. Haynes, 95, passed away Nov. 15, 2017. She was born Feb. 12, 1922. Services were held Nov. 18 in Hampton-Gentry Funeral Home, Plainfield.

Virginia L. Monday Keller

Virginia L. Monday Keller, 88, passed away Nov. 8, 2017. She was born Dec. 3, 1928. Services were held Nov. 11 at Hazelwood Christian Church, Clayton.

Tina Dione McManama

Tina Dione McManama, 66, passed away Nov. 11, 2017. She was born Dec. 19, 1950. Services were held Nov. 16 at Center Community Church, Plainfield.

Gail J. Perkinson

Gail J. Perkinson, 72, passed away Nov. 20, 2017. She was born Oct. 17, 1945. Services were held Nov. 25 at Center Community Church, Plainfield.

PITTSBORO

Richard J. "Dick" Stuffle

Richard J. "Dick" Stuffle, 77, passed away Nov. 9, 2017. He was born Sept. 10, 1940. Services were held Nov. 18 at Matthews Mortuary, Brownsburg.

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



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LIGHT UP
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HOLIDAYS
SALES EVENT



A new day in Indiana's health is coming.

Wilbur Tague appeared on the December 2010 cover of the Hendricks County Business Leader, sister publication of the ICON, months after the opening of Wilbur's Lincolnwood Toy Store in 2009. It closed in 2016. His long-time photography colleague, Gary Martin, shot the photo.

Wilbur Tague was a 'giant of a man'

By Rick Myers

The Hendricks County community turned out aplenty Nov. 25 at Connection Point Christian Church, Brownsburg, to celebrate the life of Wilbur Tague, photographer, businessman and Abraham Lincoln impersonator.

Tague, 71, of Brownsburg, passed away on Nov. 19. He was born Aug. 2, 1946, in Danville, IN to Wilbur and Anges Tague. He graduated from Danville High School in 1964 and from Milligan College in 1968. On July 5, 1968, he married Rebecca Ellen McFarland in Roachdale, IN. Tague, along with his wife Becky, started Wilbur Tague Photography, which saw great success as one of the premier photography studios

in Hendricks County and the surrounding area.

He also opened Wilbur's Lincolnwood Toy Store in 2009, which closed in 2016. Tague also served as an elder at Brownsburg Christian Church (now Connection Pointe Christian Church) for 35 years. But perhaps, Tague was best known for his resemblance to Abraham Lincoln where he would go to local schools and impersonate the 16th president.

Former Connection Point Christian Church Pastor Steve Reeves officiated the celebration of Life on Nov. 25, where well over 400 people attended. A friend to Tague for 35 years, he called him a "giant of a man," who cared deeply about his

church and those around him.

"How many of you have had a picture taken of you by Wilbur Tague? Reeves asked.

A majority of the the hands raised.

Reeves said that Tague was a dreamer – a big-picture visionary who was always thinking of what could be possible. "He was a born leader out of the get-go," Reeves said. "He lived life to the fullest every day.

Tague is survived by his wife Becky; children Aaron Tague and Clista Lovell; six grandchildren; sister Cheryl English. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Connection Pointe Christian Church for missions via online at connectionpointe.org.

A Legacy of Learning

For 17 years, Sharon Pinnick passionately instilled a love for learning in her Avon elementary students. After she lost her life to cancer, her husband honored her memory by creating the Sharon Pinnick Educational Fund at the Community Foundation.

To date, this fund has provided over \$40,000 to Avon Teacher of the Year nominees and the Avon elementary media centers. Through this fund, Sharon's love for children continues to make a difference in our community over 20 years later! Call HCCF today to leave your legacy for the causes YOU care about!



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 Sunday December 24 (Christmas Eve) at 10 a.m.

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ChurchThatServes.org





Teacher of the Month

Kids, school has just started so we want to know who has the coolest teacher. Send your name, address and telephone number along with a 100-word summary of why your teacher should be honored as the Hendricks County Icon Teacher of the Month to teacher@myicon.info. The deadline for nominations for January Teacher of the Month are due December 16th. Your teacher will receive special recognition plus your class will win a Chick-fil-A chicken party compliments of Chick-fil-A. Please take time to nominate a deserving teacher from your school.

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CELEBRATING THE HOLIDAYS IN Hendricks County



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 news-

man Francis Pharcel-lus Church has since become history's most reprinted newspaper editorial.



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 high-

est 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.

Dear Editor,

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

Virginia O'Hanlon
 115 West Ninety-Fifth Street

Virginia,

Your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepti-

cism 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

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Saturday, Dec. 2: Meet Santa from 9:00am-3:00pm

Sunday, Dec. 3: Wreath Workshop at 1:00pm
 This workshop includes 20" wreath, bow and embellishments to create a beautiful holiday decoration. Our design staff will be on hand to assist you. Space is limited to 12. RSVP required. \$35 due upon reservation. Call 317-858-8440 to reserve your spot.

Tuesday, Dec. 5: Centerpiece Workshop at 6:30pm
 Create a beautiful centerpiece for your holiday table. Bring your own container to decorate or you can purchase one at the workshop. Our design staff will be assisting you in creating your arrangement. RSVP as class sizes are limited. Cost of class varies based on arrangement you create. Call 317-858-8440 to reserve your spot.

Saturday, Dec. 9: Wreath Workshop at 2:00pm
 This workshop includes 20" wreath, bow and embellishments to create a beautiful holiday decoration. Our design staff will be on hand to assist you. Space is limited to 12. RSVP required. \$35 due upon reservation. Call 317-858-8440 to reserve your spot.

Saturday, Dec. 16: Last chance to meet Santa from 12:00pm-4:00pm

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Top and left, plush toys displayed at the Winter Farmers Market. | Right, Hong Artman, owner/operator of Plush Pillowly Cuties. Photos by Chris Cornwall

Avon woman starts custom plush toy business

By Chris Cornwall

When it comes to classic holiday gifts, stuffed animals are right at the top with toy trains and Barbie Dolls. Residents won't need to look far to find these cute critters as Hong Artman, Avon, recently began creating one-of-a-kind -plush toys which can be found at the Winter Farmers Market in Danville.

The prices range from \$65 to \$25 depending on the size of the animal. Artman keeps the most popular types such as hippos, pigs and giraffes in stock but also designs specific animals and patterns on request.

"People have requested everything from warthogs to cheetahs to bats, even an octopus," said Artman, who has a background in engineering.

She is a fan of plush toys herself which is what ultimately led her to start her own operation. Artman said

she was set on finding a stuffed giraffe to decorate her bedroom. After a bit of searching, she said found one that she really liked.

"I found a big, beautiful giraffe," she said. "But when I looked at the \$200 price tag, I said there's no way I'm going to pay that. So I learned how to make it myself."

After making her own stuffed giraffe, she said a lightbulb went off and decided to go into business for herself. Artman started Plushy Pillowly Cuties back in June and ever since, has been busy keeping up with demand.

"I design almost every pattern which takes several days and then couple more to make the pattern," she said. "But I really enjoy it." I love taking a piece of fabric and turning it into something precious."

For more information about the Hendricks County Winter Farmers Market, check its Facebook page.



Throw a Christmas cookie party

FAMILY FEATURE

The next best thing to baking cookies for many home chefs is baking cookies with friends. Dust off your favorite recipes, create a festive playlist and fill your home with the tantalizing aroma of baked goodies for the ultimate Christmas cookie party. Turn things up a notch and swap classic sugar cookies for these festive Peppermint Truffle Cookies.

Peppermint Truffle Cookies

8 ounces bittersweet baking chocolate
1/2 cup (1 stick) butter
1 cup sugar, divided
1 egg
1/2 teaspoon McCormick Pure Peppermint Extract
2 cups flour
36 milk chocolate kiss-shaped candies, unwrapped

- Heat oven to 350 F.
- In large, microwavable bowl, heat chocolate and butter on high 1-2 minutes, or until butter is melted. Let stand 10 minutes to cool slightly. Add 1/2 cup sugar, egg and peppermint extract. Beat with electric mixer on medium speed until well blended. Gradually beat in flour on low speed until well mixed.
- Shape dough into 1-inch balls. Press chocolate candy into center of each ball, forming dough around candy to enclose it. Roll in remaining sugar to coat. Place 1 inch apart on greased baking sheets.
- Bake 9-11 minutes, or until cookies are set. Cool on baking sheets 5 minutes. Remove to wire racks; cool completely.



Photo courtesy of Getty Images

Holiday giving for the whole family

FAMILY FEATURE

Part of the magic of the holiday season is making wishes come true, not only for your loved ones but for others in the community, too. Show children how rewarding it is to embrace the true spirit of generosity and compassion this holiday season with these activities that make giving back fun.

Set the stage

With the aid of modern technology, you can introduce kids to the goodness of giving with a century-old story about the impact of love and kindness. Nearly 120 years ago, 8-year-old Virginia O'Hanlon wrote a letter to the "New York Sun" newspaper asking if there really was a Santa Claus.

"Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus," wrote the paper's editor, Francis P. Church. "He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist."

Now fans of this heart-warming story can learn more by tuning in to watch the "Yes, Virginia" animated film online at youtube.com/macys. The award-winning, half-hour holiday special features Taylor Hay, a former Make-A-Wish child who had her own wish granted when her voice was captured for one of the film's characters, alongside an all-star cast in-

cluding Neil Patrick Harris, Jennifer Love Hewitt, Alfred Molina and Beatrice Miller.

Get hands-on

No matter what type of giving activity your family chooses, there's undoubtedly a way for kids to get involved. Whether it's helping select toys for an adopted family or making cards to include in care packages for children who will spend this holiday in the hospital, find ways to let your little ones put their own special touch on the project. Not only can they learn through the example of doing, they'll get to revel in the same feel-good vibes you get from a simple act of kindness.

Write a letter

As part of Macy's 10th annual Believe campaign, you can bring kids' stamped letters to Santa to your local store and drop them in the big red letterbox, or send a letter to Santa digitally at macys.com/believe. For each letter collected in stores and online until Dec. 24, Macy's will donate \$1 to Make-A-Wish, up to \$1 million, to help grant the wishes of children with critical illnesses. Through the iconic letter writing campaign, the retailer has raised \$15 million for Make-A-Wish over the last nine years. Dedicate an afternoon to writing letters then make a family trip to the store to drop them off.

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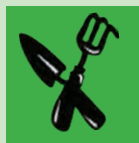
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Celebrating the Holidays



Christmas cheer tastes better with beer

By Scarlet Samm

Your Christmas lights may be twinkling in a crisp blanket of snow and the sound of holiday cheer is swirling around creating blissful feelings of the holiday season. Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way... to the beer fridge? Absolutely! Everyone thinks of pairing Christmas dinner with beautiful centerpieces and amazing wine but beer is often overlooked. I love pairing beer with my meals especially around the holidays where they are often shared with family and friends.

If you have a first course of salad or meats and cheese, something crisp and light would be best. A hefeweizen would be a great starter beer! My favorite is Weihenstephaner and it is 5.4 percent and very easily attainable. These are crisp with really nice, light citrus notes and sometimes accompanied with slight hints of spiciness. A hefeweizen is a wheat beer originating from the south of Germany that typically has low alcohol content, usually around 5 percent. I love a good hefeweizen in the summer months and feel they are often overlooked as the weather cools down.

The main course is where the food shines and everyone can pile their plate high with beautiful ham, yams, noodles, and whatever else your heart may desire. My absolute favorite beer to drink with a hefty main course is North Coast Old Rasputin. While this may not be dubbed the best to drink with hearty meals, I like to follow my own lead and drink what I like.

Hailing from Fort Bragg, CO., North

Coast Old Rasputin is a Russian imperial stout that is 9 percent ABV and a solid standard in my house. It is super easy to come by and is really tasty. North Coast produces Old Rasputin in the 18th century English brewers style that supplied the court of Russia's Catherine the Great (courtesy of Beer Advocate). When you pour this beer, it looks like motor oil. It is thick and has a creamy mouthfeel. You get a ton of chocolate on the nose and the balanced malt really adds to the flavor profile that yields some dark fruits, chocolate, and hints of coffee.

Oh my favorite! Dessert! Apple pie, bourbon balls and fudge may be lining your table. A great dessert beer is Lindeman's Framboise. I LOVE this stuff! It is basically a raspberry dessert in a bottle with a hint of tartness that is only about 2.5 percent ABV. This is amazing with anything chocolate. Lindeman's is based in Belgium and has a long history of Lambic making. Trust me; you need this in your life!

Whether you are drinking big ABV or light and crisp beers, there is definitely something for everyone this holiday season. Pair your menu with great offerings and go along on a magical beer journey. Enjoy your family and friends and happy Christmas to all, and to all a good night.



Scarlet Samm is a wife and mother residing in Pittsboro. She is a self-certified beer geek. Scarlet can be reached at scarletsamm@gmail.com.

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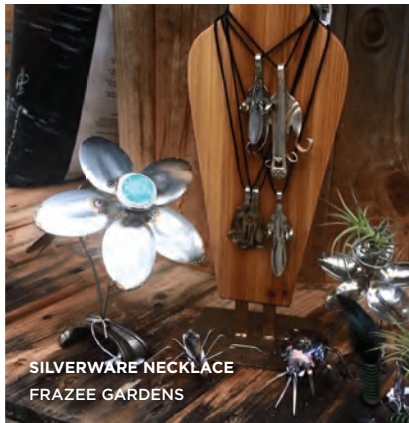
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Photography by Sarah Crail

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Worried the holidays will derail your weight loss goals?

By Martha Rardin

Once again the holidays are upon us. Some of us enjoy this time of year. We love the hustle, bustle, parties and gathering we experience. But even if you love this time of year you might have a little trepidation about holidays and trying to keep up your activity routine and not gain weight during all the festivities.

It is possible to make progress towards your health goals during this busy time and with the firm resolution to taking care of you.

Think ahead

Before you head out to a party or gathering consider how the event will flow. You might even call the hostess or check with the party planner to inquire about the menu. If you know what is going to be on the buffet table or the menu, you

can plan how the offerings fit into your plan. If you have the opportunity to take a dish to the event, prepare an offering that fits within your plan.

Eat ahead

Try not to go to an event on an empty stomach. By eating a snack before the event, you won't be as hungry and can concentrate on networking and talking to old and new acquaintances instead of hitting the buffet table. Even a low calorie granola bar eaten before the party won't wreck your plans but will help set you up for restraint and success.

Don't fast in preparation

This is a recipe for overindulgence. By the time you arrive, you will be so hungry you could eat the whole buffet table. You need to maintain your normal schedule as much as possible and can even cut back a little on meals and snacks but fasting prior to a big event usually doesn't go according to your plan.

Use a small plate at the buffet

This is an easy tip and helps you limit quantities. Instead of choosing a large dinner plate, choose a smaller salad plate. Mentally picture your normal portion size then place only half on your plate.

Watch the alcohol

Enjoying a cocktail or adult beverage can fit into your plans. Just watch quantity and how many you consume. Alcohol calories can add up quickly and leave you hungry.

Cook light

If you are the cook of the event, use broth to baste your turkey instead of drippings or sauté the onions and celery for your stuffing instead of using fat. Using this trick you can save over 800 calories on your recipe.

Make time for activity

Plan your activity into the day of your event. Take a walk after the dishes are done. Or park farther out in the parking lot. Being physically active helps you keep focused on your goals and committed to taking care of you.

Make wise investments

Don't waste your calories on something that doesn't look interesting and make sure you are eating for the right reasons. Enjoy the tastes of the season and all the great food just in smaller quantities.



Martha Rardin, MSM, RDN, CD, FAND, is Director of Nutrition and Dietetics for Hendricks Regional Health. Her goal is to share ideas about how to eat healthier, increase activity and inspire others.



The Immaculate Conception Masses

A Holy Day of Obligation

Thursday, December 7th - 6:30pm

Friday, December 8th - 6:30am, 8:15am

School Christmas Program

Tuesday, December 12 - 7pm

Advent Penance Service

Thursday, December 14th - 7pm

Journey to the Inn (La Posada)

Sunday, December 17th - 4pm

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Brownsburg, Indiana 46112 • Stmalachy.org

Church Christmas Concert

Wednesday, December 20th - 7pm

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses

Sunday, December 24th - 4pm, 7pm and 10pm

Monday, December 25th - 10am

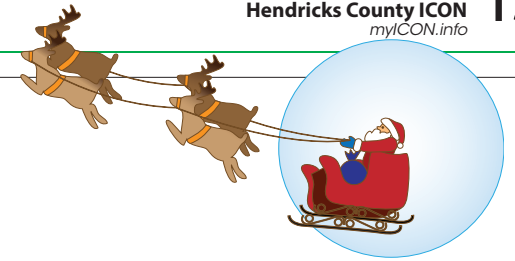
Solemnity of Mary, The Mother of God Masses

A Holy Day of Obligation

Sunday, December 31st - 6:30pm

Monday, January 1st - 10am





Santa Sightings

DECEMBER 1-23

Santa Arrives at Mitch's Ace Hardware

Santa will be available for photos at Mitch's Incredible Ace, 1800 E. Main St., Plainfield, at the following times: Dec. 1, 4-7:30 p.m.; Dec. 2, 11a.m.-5 p.m.; Dec. 3, 12-3 p.m.; Dec. 7, 4-7:30 p.m.; Dec. 8, 4-7:30 p.m.; Dec. 9, 11a.m.-5 p.m.; Dec. 10, 12-3 p.m.; Dec. 14, 4-7:30 p.m.; Dec. 15, 4-7:30 p.m.; Dec. 16, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Dec. 17, 12-3 p.m.; Dec. 18, 4-7:30 p.m.; Dec. 19, 4-7:30 p.m.; Dec. 20, 4-7:30 p.m.; Dec. 21, 4-7:30 p.m.; Dec. 22, 4-7:30 p.m.; Dec. 23, 12-5p.m. Santa will be joined by his reindeer on Saturday, Dec. 16, 12-2 p.m. For more information, call (317) 839-8410.

DECEMBER 1-30

Winterland Holiday Light Show 2017

Santa will be available for photos at Ellis Park, 600 E. Main St. Danville, from 6 - 10 p.m. on Fridays; 6 - 10 p.m. on Saturdays; and 6 - 9 p.m. on Sundays. Regular hours for the Winterland Holiday Light Show are: 6 - 9 p.m. Sunday through Thursday; and 6 - 10 p.m. on Friday & Saturday. The display will be closed on Christmas Day. Admission is \$10 per car at the gate. Half price coupons are available from the Danville Chamber of Commerce website: danvillechamber.org, and inside the Hendricks County ICON.

DECEMBER 2

Brownsburg Lions Club Breakfast with Santa

When | 8-10:30 a.m. | Where | Ar buckle Acres Park, 200 N. Green Street, Brownsburg
• Santa will hear Christmas wishes with photo

op for parents. Breakfast will be available for purchase. Adult meals are \$7, kids under 6 eat free. For more information, call Nick Xinopoulos at (317) 852-8015.

Cookies & Cocoa

When | 10 a.m. - noon, & 1-3 p.m. | Where | Natural Valley Ranch, 6310 E. CR 350 N., Brownsburg

• Photos with Santa by the fire, holiday snacks, storytime, crafts, petting zoo, pony ride. Guests encouraged to bring non-perishable food items to donate to a local food pantry. Price: \$10 per adult / \$5 per child. For more information, call Marie Damler at (317) 852-6615.

Pittsboro Christmas in the Park

When | noon - 4:30 p.m. | Where | Scamahorn Park, 80 N. Meridian St., Pittsboro

• See Santa, play games, sing with carolers, crafts for the kids and enjoy tasty refreshments. Local vendors. No cost. For more information, call Sherrie Haas at (317) 892-7667.

Avon Christmas Tree Lighting

When | 5:30 p.m. | Where | Avon Town Hall Park, 6570 E. U.S. Hwy 36

• Photos with Santa, train rides, crafts and fireworks. For more information, call Laura Lacey at (317) 745-0785.

Christmas under the Stars Parade

When | 6 p.m. | Where | Brownsburg Town Hall Green, 61 N. Green St.

• Free photos with Santa in Town Hall directly after the parade, complements of Kim Berry Photography. For more information, call Brownsburg Parks at (317) 858-4172.

Chili with Santa at the Firehouse

When | 6 p.m. | Where | Coatesville Firehouse, 8098 Main St.

• Enjoy some chili, chat with Santa and bid on

great items. No cost, but will accept good will offerings.

Pittsboro Christmas in the Park

When | noon - 4:30 p.m. | Where | Scamahorn Park, 80 N. Meridian St.

• See Santa, play games, sing with carolers, crafts for the kids and enjoy tasty refreshments. Local vendors. No cost. For more information, call Sherrie Haas at (317) 892-7667.

DECEMBER 8 & 9

North Salem Old Fashion Christmas

The Town of North Salem will host an Old Fashion Christmas on Friday and Saturday. The Tree Lighting will take place next to the post office Friday, Dec. 8 at 6 p.m. Breakfast with Santa starts at 8 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 9. Activities are planned to run throughout the day. For more information, call Vicki Cox at (765) 676-5039.

Christmas with Santa and the Ponies

This event will run Dec. 8 and 9 from 4-8:30 p.m. at Strides to Success, 1350 Terry Drive, Plainfield. Tickets are \$25 per family and can be purchased at the door. Proceeds will go to support children and adults that participate in our programs and need financial assistance. For more information, call Strides for Success at (317) 838-7002.

DECEMBER 9

Candy Cane Hunt

When | 10 - 11:30 a.m. & 1 - 2:30 p.m. | Where | Natural Valley Ranch, 6310 E. CR 350 N., Brownsburg

• Visit with Santa Claus, hunt for candy canes, make a craft, time to visit the animals at the petting zoo, take a pony ride (candy

cane hunt, petting zoo and pony ride are outdoors) and enjoy a snack from the popcorn bar. Guests encouraged to bring non-perishable food items to donate to a local food pantry. Price: \$5 per person in advance / \$7 at the door. For more information, call (317)-509-3577.

Hometown Holiday at Hummel Park

When | Noon - 4 p.m. | Where | Guilford Township Hummel Park, 1500 S. Center St., Plainfield

• Photos with Santa, pony rides, horse-drawn carriage rides, train rides, live Nativity, door prizes, grand prize drawings, cookies and cocoa, face painting and more.

DECEMBER 12

Katie's Dog Grooming

When | 5 - 7 p.m. | Where | Katie's Dog Grooming, 1217 E. Main St., Plainfield

• Photos with Santa. For more information, call (317) 839-0026.

DECEMBER 16

Sensory Santa

When | 9 a.m. - noon | Where | Washington Township Park Pavilion Center, 435 Whipple Ln., Avon

• Sensory Santa gives children with special needs the opportunity to do activities and have their picture taken with Santa and listen to a story by Mrs. Claus in a calm, less intimidating environment resulting in a healthy, positive holiday experience. REGISTER FOR A SCHEDULED TIME SLOT FOR YOUR CHILD TO ENJOY THEIR OWN PERSONAL TIME WITH THE RED JOLLY FELLOW. Register at www.washingtontwparks.org. No cost. For more information, call (317)745-0785 ext. 3, or email ttayman@avonfd.org.



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Happy Holidays!

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HENDRICKS COUNTY
ICON

Danville preacher feels blessed for the opportunity to play Santa

Compiled by Cathy Myers

James R Walker, known by most folks as Rocky, was reared in a large coal-mining family in West Virginia. One of eight children, Walker said he was born into poverty, but it was during this time that he learned what it truly meant to be "wealthy."

"It is there we were taught the values of life that really matter: family, faith, and forgiveness," he says.

Walker resides in Danville with his wife, Mary, and two adult children.

"Danville is a special town for me, unlike most I have lived in before," he says. "There are kind-hearted people here who are willing to help others whenever the call goes out."

Walker is a truck driver by profession, but says his passion is preaching and teaching the bible.

"It is my relationship with Jesus that

drives me into the community to help where I can," he says. "I try to brighten someone else's day. Who knows it might just be the very thing that saves someone from doing something bad to themselves or someone else."

December is a special month for Walker. Ten years ago, his hours were cut at work. Right about this time one of his coworkers gave him a Santa suit. He decided to make use of the suit and began greeting folks as

they came through town.

"That has blessed my heart more than you could ever imagine," he said. "My family gets involved and we schedule events around Santa time. The townspeople and travelers throughout Hendricks County have come and showed their support. Cookies, coffee, stuffed animals, pictures, hugs and even tears,,, I love Hendricks County and my little part of the county I call home, Danville."

What do you consider your greatest virtue? I love serving others, especially family and close friends, in any capacity.

What do you most deplore in others? Simple things people refuse to do for themselves, but quick to tell you what to do.

What do you like most about living in Hendricks County? I really enjoy the small towns, the closeness of communities, mom-and-pop restaurants; none better than my town Danville. Love it!

If you had to live elsewhere than in Hendricks County, where would it be? Hensley in McDowell Co, West Virginia. This is the place and county where I was born. I still have family there.

If you could begin life over, what would you change? I would listen more, judge less, be more compassionate, and love more; love everyone more.

If money were no issue, how would you spend it? I would organize a place for those who have been hurt by religion and churches and offer help, books and counseling. So many today have been hurt and need a relationship with God, not more rules and regulations.

What makes you happiest? Getting all the family together; brothers, sisters, kids, grandmas, grandpas, and listening to the stories and the laughter, sharing food and forgetting time and troubles.

What is your favorite vacation spot? The Pigeon Forge area in Nashville, Tenn. It's a beautiful place with friendly people.

What do you do with idle time? Spend time on the street preaching, witnessing and passing out free Bibles.

What is it that makes you angry? Abuse of any kind: child abuse, senior abuse, spousal abuse... basically everything from abuse of government handouts to those in power abusing that position. I have no tolerance for it.

What do you do to escape from reality? I work my yard or flower gardens, stand on the corner and pass out Bibles and visit elderly friends. It keeps me focused on the real things that matter.

What or who is the greatest love of your life? My wife, Ms. Mary. She is the strongest woman I know and faithful as the day is long.

Which living person in Hendricks County do you most admire? I have watched Pastor Jonathan Lilly for years now. He is the Pastor of Harmony of

Avon, a great church. He is strong enough to lead the church and yet man enough to weep when touched by the need or the moment. He has not had the easiest of roads but handled great adversities against all odds. He is a man to follow after, a man of God, a family man and friend. He is truly an example for many in our community to follow.

What is the quality you most like in a man? Faithfulness and dependability. These are huge qualities that are lacking in our world today.

What is the quality you most like in a woman? Confidence and compassion.

What is your greatest extravagance? I'm not an extravagant guy but a few years ago I gave into getting older and bought a snow blower. I justify it by using it for more than my driveway. You call, I haul.

What are your fears, phobias? Small bugs, fear of failure and dying alone.

What has been the happiest time of your life? Present day. I couldn't be happier than today. I have a wonderful family, my kids are grown and working, I have a wonderful home, employment and a good church that allows me to teach and preach. I live in a great little town that embraces my passions from witnessing to Santa on the Square. God is good to me and I am thankful.

Which talent would you most like to possess? The ability to sing and play a musical instrument.

What do you most value in your friends? Faithfulness through good times and bad. True friends are always available no matter the time or the need.

Which historical figure do you most identify with? Martin Luther.

What is your greatest regret? The lack of a relationship with my daughter, Carole Elizabeth.

What tenet do you live by? If we gotta start somewhere, why not here? If we gotta start sometime, why not now? If it's gotta start with someone, why not me?



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Speer-heading HRH

Hendricks Regional Health CEO Kevin Speer leads the organization's growth to Brownsburg

By Nicole Davis

Kevin Speer always thinks of himself as a husband and father first and foremost, but says to an extent, you are what you do in your day-to-day job. That's partly why he took the chance to leave a stable and successful career as a health lawyer and step into a leadership role as president and CEO of Hendricks Regional Health.

"I love the direct impact on patient care and the direct impact on the experience people have when they're receiving health-care," he says. "There was no roadmap that got me here. Early on, I chose to go to work in Indianapolis for Hall Render Killian Heath & Lyman because they were a different kind of law firm. I had a passion to work with good people. It's not about money, it's what did you receive personal gratification from. How did you leave the world a better place? I love what I do. I love who I get to do it with. I tell my kids, and my dad told me, work for people who care more about you than they care about themselves. That advice is what got me to here. Each one of those decisions, the people I met, cared more about me than they did themselves. It's been a formula. My dad is a brilliant man and it shows there."

Speer, originally from Northwest Indiana, is a graduate of Purdue University and Valparaiso University Law School. He took a job practicing health law with a then-small boutique law firm, Hall Render Killian Heath & Lyman, as its 16th lawyer. He stayed 18 years with that company, which grew immensely as the industry grew.

In 2004, Speer was asked to become the general counsel with St. Vincent Health while still a partner with Hall Render. In 2006, St. Vincent's CEO asked him to consider leaving the traditional practice of law to become chief strategy officer for the hospital.

Speer began talking to his family about his interest in having a role that is more directly involved in patient care, a position where he could see the results of his actions versus simply taking action and moving on. That potential career change could mean his family leaving their Carmel, Ind. home. After his fam-

ily expressed their support, the opportunity to serve as president and CEO of Hendricks Regional Health opened. Hired in 2012, he and his family have since purchased property and built a home in Brownsburg.

"I had an opportunity both as my role as a lawyer and in my role at St. Vincent to get to know most of the hospitals and their leadership teams in the state of Indiana," he says. "I was always impressed with Hendricks Regional Health, the way the hospital was run, the people in the organization and the market that it sat in. When this opportunity came up, it was a once in a lifetime opportunity."

He spent the first 90 days doing a complete assessment of the organization, meeting with everyone who plays a role in the hospital to evaluate what Hendricks does well or could do better.

"Many times when things are going well, you have a tendency to ignore it while you focus on the shortcomings," he says. "I wanted us to focus on the shortcomings, but I wanted to invest heavily on the things we are doing well."

He and his started the 'Hendricks Way' project. By pulling together a group of associates who brainstormed and defined the hospital's value set, the administration was able to use that in its everyday decision making.

Speer's leadership also led to the redesign of the hospital's business office and applications.

"We were using some very antiquated models," he says. "We use business analytics to allow us to make informed decisions around the care of patients. The focus on patient safety and quality has been remarkable. We implemented patient safety huddle. Every day at 9:05, the management at the hospital meet and go through a defined set of questions which we believe allows us to deal with in a very transparent way the safety and care of our patients. That group meets either phone or in person to have a conversation every day. That to me is a remarkable accomplishment during this time period."

That commitment to safety has led to Hendricks Regional Health receiving an "A" in the Fall 2017 Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grades. When Speer first came to Hendricks, they were a "C-."

"It was very purposeful decisions and com-



From left, Kevin Speer chats with Dr. Stephen C. Heegen, DO, at the public open house of the new Brownsburg Hospital on Nov. 19. Photo by Rick Myers

mitment to safety huddle, to timeouts prior to surgery, to a new peer review process, to a transparent culture," he says. "I don't care if you mow the grass or are doing highly complex surgery, if you have a concern, you are empowered to raise your hand and draw attention to it."

Lately Speer's interests have been on developing the new Brownsburg Hospital, 5492 N. Ronald Reagan Pkwy. Conversations began nearly five years ago about the market dynamic in Brownsburg and the void of health-care accessibility. Those conversations put the construction of a new hospital in motion. The 100,000 square-foot facility is expected to be complete by the end of December.

"This particular facility, we're trying to think 10 years ahead," Speer says. "Our goal has been to be the low cost, high-quality provider in our service area. I believe it's our obligation to the community and to the business community to create an environment where businesses thrive and families thrive. Most statistics show that the primary reason people move to a community is schools and health-care. That says, when we started this project, we had a very retail focus which is a unique word. Retail to me means that it's easy access. You can get in and out of the building easy. You're not parking in the parking garage and having to follow complicated signs. Once you

get in the building, it's easy to navigate. Then if you need additional follow up, the people you need for that are also in the building. There is a complete and seamless communication between those entities."

Speer and his wife, Kim, stop by most evenings on their way home to see the progress that's been made. While the new hospital is a great accomplishment for Speer, he says it's not his greatest.

"The greatest accomplishment is the team I've been able to pull together, I believe is second to none," he says. "I've had the blessing to be involved as a lawyer and chief strategizing officer with a lot of teams around the state.

I've never been part of a team as competent as this one. Their trust and confidence in the organization and the way we do business and their ability to speak up is incredible. This building would not have happened so fast and as relatively issue-free without that team."

Hendricks is still growing its service lines, and Speer says he'll be shocked if the Brownsburg Hospital doesn't begin to expand its facility in the next 24 months, as goes for Plainfield.

"Healthcare is not for people who don't appreciate challenge," he says. "You can't predict what the next day is going to bring. I'm very excited for the future."

ice rink, or standing next to a lacrosse field or driving to a lacrosse field.

- I'm an avid fly fisherman. To me, it's not about catching the fish. Fish live in very beautiful places. I love the American West and ability to fish there.

- I've become a hunter. It wasn't until I

moved to this role, thanks to some people in the community including our board chair, that I had gotten into hunting.

- When time permits, I'll get on a plane and go anywhere. This summer my family and I went to South Africa on a safari. Whether it's travel to French Lick or to Swaziland in Africa, I love travel.

GETTING TO KNOW KEVIN

- My first priorities in life are my wife and children. In 1987, I met my wife, Kim, on her first day of law school. We got married in 1990. We celebrate our 28th wedding anniversary this year. She's an attorney as well.
- We have two boys, Eric, 23, who just grad-

uated from DePauw University and works in Chicago in a consulting role and Cole, 18, who goes to DePauw University as a freshman.

- Both boys are hockey, lacrosse players. Our older son played college lacrosse and our younger son is playing college lacrosse. We spent our entire life for the last 20 years standing next to an ice rink or driving to an

The truth about truth

LIFE'S CHOICES

By Karl Zimmer

We all know what is real to us, but do we always know what is real? With all the rhetoric about what is real and what is fake being reported by various news outlets, I thought it might be interesting to look at "Truth" from a different point of view.

Have you ever heard the expression, "Seeing is believing?" Most of us think we, "Know it when we see it," but what is it that we "know?" Each of us believes what we see, and the truth is we may be right. What is also true is that we may only be right for us, and what we believe is right and true may not be true, or even right. How can that be? I realize that all sounds like a bunch of confusing, double talk, so let's explore.

The human mind is amazing, capable of much more than we allow, which is why



some say that we only use 10 percent of our mind's capability, if even that. Each of us is bombarded with vast amounts of information, in the neighborhood of 2-4 million bits of information per second. The actual range may be even greater, but suffice to say, it's a lot.

The mind is capable of processing it all, but the conscious mind is only capable of processing approximately 134 bits per second. The information is processed on an unconscious level, and it is through our filters (previous beliefs, model of the world, etc.) that the unconscious mind categorizes the information so that we can process consciously.

Since those filters determine what we process consciously, they are responsible for what we believe we see and hear. Once you realize that your filters and your preexisting beliefs determine what you believe you hear and see, it becomes interesting to lis-

ten and look in a different way, one that allows you to expand your view of the world and what may be true, especially if that differs from what you had previously believed to be true.

We tend to believe what we've been told often enough, which is how commercials work. It is also why our limiting beliefs limit our potential. If we believe we aren't good enough and don't deserve to be happy, we will do whatever it takes to create our experience as if we aren't good enough. We will create an unhappy life to make that belief true. It is up to each of us to challenge our beliefs so that we can realize our fullest potential and happiness. It is up to each of us to challenge everything so that we can be sure to see the truth. The truth is, you are good enough and deserve the best life. How cool is that?



Karl Zimmer III is an author, speaker, and Board Certified Hypnotist. His company, Zimmer Success Group (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.

What are the risk factors for breast cancer and how can I protect myself?

FEATURE

By Dr. Andrea Huffman

Answer: Breast cancer is a concern for women, and for good reason. Breast cancer diagnoses have increased in recent generations, and today one in every eight women living to age 90 will be diagnosed with the disease.

Some of the most common risk factors for breast cancer include a family history of the disease (the risk being greatest if your mother or sister had breast cancer), not having children or having your first pregnancy after age 30, obesity, current or previous oral contraceptive use, being over age 50, regular alcohol use and carrying an alteration in one of two "breast cancer genes." Also, a woman who has had breast cancer previously has an increased risk of developing it again, as well as women who have had an abnormal breast biopsy in the past.

Having one or more risk factors for breast cancer does not necessarily mean someone will develop the disease but there are a few things to lower one's risk and increase overall health. Lowering body fat and maintaining an ideal body weight through regular exercise can lower the risk for breast and other cancers. A diet rich in fruits and vegetables containing vitamin A and beta-carotene has also been shown to lower a woman's risk for cancer. Earlier pregnancies carried to full-term and breast-feeding has also been shown to lower risks for breast cancer.

The real key to fighting breast cancer is early detection. Risk factors can make a difference but most women diagnosed with breast cancer have no apparent risk factors for the disease. Breast self-exams performed at the same time every month can be an effective way for women to get to know their bodies and recognize changes that need to be brought to a doctor's attention. Annual exams by a physician should become part of a woman's routine and mammograms, beginning at age 40, provide a closer look at changes that occur in the breast.



Dr. Andrea Huffman is an OB/GYN at Westside Physicians for Women, part of the Hendricks Regional Health Medical Group.

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ICONICrewind

ASC honors four Hendricks County nurses

American Senior Communities, which operates senior nursing centers statewide, has honored local employees with the Quest for Excellence Award. Amber Hubbard, a LPN at Brownsburg Meadows, Nekisha Lewis, a LPN at Brownsburg Assisted Living, Michelle Boeckx, a CNA at Danville Regional Rehabilitation, and Famata Kiadii, a CNA at Countryside Meadows each received the honor. ASC is Indiana's largest senior health care provider and awards individuals who have consistently demonstrated a commitment to excellence, dedication to his or her job, a positive attitude, and a "whatever it takes" passion for customer service. The awards were presented at the J.W. Marriott in downtown Indianapolis.



PROJECT 365: From left: Faith Toole and Christi Patterson recently announced a new fundraising program to benefit the Hendricks County Food Coalition called Project 365. Patterson, who designed the program, said the idea is to have Hendricks County restaurants sign up for one day out the year that they would fundraise for the coalition. The ultimate goal is to get 365 days covered.

Photo by Rick Myers

Puzzle Time

Solutions from page 21

Answers to HOOSIER HODGEPODGE:

Words: COMET, EARTH, GALAXY, METEOR, PLANET, STAR;

Cities: CHICAGO, HOUSTON, LOS ANGELES, NEW YORK, PHOENIX;

Names: LOUNGE, PUB, SALOON, TAVERN;

Museums: CHILDREN'S, EITELJORG, INDIANA STATE;

Companies: DUKE, IPL;

Coach: MILLER



HC ICON Quiz

Answers

from page 6

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

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

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Iceless skating rink opens in Avon

By Chris Cornwall

Washington Township Park and Premier Inflatables, Avon, have partnered to open Hendricks County's first iceless skating rink, "Avon Ice Rink." The new attraction, located at 435 Whipple Lane in Washington-Township Park, promises an enjoyable, outdoor skating experience without weather-related worries like melting ice.

What is synthetic ice? It's made from a proprietary polymer compound... in other words, a specially made plastic. Panels of this compound link together like the pieces of a puzzle. Altogether, the panels make for a surface large enough to skate on.

How does synthetic ice work? Similar to real ice, lubricating liquid lessens the friction from the bottom of your ice skates, allowing the skater to coast with little effort. It's said that skating on synthetic ice takes a little more effort but not so much as to take away the thrill.

The rink will be managed by Premier Inflatables, Avon.

"This is a traditional outdoor activity that the whole family can do together," said Premier inflatables owner Cassie Still. "It's fun, not weather dependent and just a great addition to Hendricks County."

Still said they are using EZ Glide 350, the

newest and most popular synthetic ice available. This is the same type of synthetic ice used by major hockey teams and figure skaters.

Premier Inflatables has managed kids' events and venue locations for the last 25 years. In that time, it has partnered with Washington Township Park on several occasions.

General admission is \$10 per person and includes ice-skate rental. However, groups of 15 or more pay a discounted price at \$8 per person. If the rink is at capacity, skate time will be limited to 90-minutes per person.

Regular hours of operation are: 4-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 4-10 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m. - 10 p.m. Saturday; and noon-7 p.m. Sunday. Please note that holiday hours differ (see figure). For more information, contact Premier Inflatables at (317) 567-2144.

Avon Ice Rink Holiday Hours

Dec. 18- 22 | 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Dec. 23 | 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Christmas Eve | 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Christmas Day | CLOSED
Dec. 29 | 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.
New Year's Eve | 12 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Jan. 1 - 2 | 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Jan. 3 | Reg. operating hours resume



Above, Avon Ice Rink, Washington Township Park, 115 McClain Pl., Avon.
Photo by Chris Cornwall



EVENTScalendar

December

3 Sunday

Hendricks Symphony Presents Dr. Albert Lilly, Trumpet

When | 3 p.m. | Where | Bartlett Chapel United Methodist Church, 4396 E. Main Street, Avon |

Dr. Albert Lilly is the principal trumpet with the Hendricks Symphony Orchestra and has recorded radio and television commercials and jingles around Indiana. His trumpet work can be heard on NPR, ESPN and CBS records. Admission: FREE.

3 Sunday

Hendricks County Winter Farmers Market

When | 2-5 p.m. | Where | Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds & Conference Complex,

1900 E. Main St. Danville | Local farmers, producers, food inspired companies and arts and crafts. For more information, contact Tuwana Roberson at (317) 603-0751.

9 Saturday

2017 Breakfast in Bethlehem

When | 9 a.m. | Where | Messiah Lutheran Church, 801 S. Green St., Brownsburg | Breakfast with Mary, Joseph, Baby Jesus, the Shepherds, Wisemen and Angels. Visit the shops of the carpenter, herbs and spices trader and baker. Hear the Christmas story and see it acted out. Price: \$5 for adults, \$3 for children. Purchase tickets by Dec. 6 by calling the church office at (317) 852-2988.

13 Wednesday

Gaming Night

When | 6 p.m. - 8 a.m. | Where | Washington Township Park Pavilion Center, 115 S. C.R. 575, Avon | Hosted by Whosyer Gamers, come enjoy an array of board games for all ages and families. Find an old favorite to

play or learn a new one. No cost. For more information, call (317) 450-7853.

15 Friday

Hendricks Symphony Presents Christmas Classics

When | 7:30 p.m. | Where | Avon Middle School North, 192 N. SR 267 | The Hendricks Symphony Orchestra and Chorus under the direction of Benjamin G. Del Vecchio, with the Children's Ballet of Danville will present a holiday concert of Christmas classics. The Orchestra and chorus open the concert with Mendelssohn's beautiful "Von Himmel Hoch." The chorus is then highlighted for several selections including "O Magnum Mysterium" and "Hallelujah Chorus" from Handel's Messiah. Completing the first half of the program, The Children's Ballet, Danville, joins the orchestra to perform several dances from Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker." Tickets: adult: \$12; senior: \$10; student: \$5 with student ID. Discounted advance tickets may be purchased online at HendricksSym-

phony.org. For more information, call (517) 403-8379.

16 Sunday

Winter Birding

When | 10 - 11 a.m. | Where | Sodalis Nature Park, 7700 S. CR 975 E., Plainfield | Join a Naturalist at Sodalis Nature Park and try to spot some winter birds of Indiana. Dress for the weather, and don't forget your binoculars. Recommended for ages 10 and up. No advance registration is required. For more information, call (317) 718-6188.

17 Sunday

Hendricks Symphony Presents Christmas Classics

When | 3 p.m. | Where | Avon Middle School North, 192 N. SR 267 | The Hendricks Symphony Orchestra and Chorus under the direction of Benjamin G. Del Vecchio, with the Children's Ballet of Danville will present a holiday concert of Christmas classics (see Dec. 15 event above for details).

FAITHONFOOD

by Faith Toole

AN OPTION

Chapel Hill Noble Roman's Pizza 7201 West 10th St., Indianapolis

I took a walk down memory lane recently stepping into the Chapel Hill Noble Romans. As you walk in the jukebox is playing tunes from the 60s and 70s as you watch the pies being tossed. The business has been there since 1974. A recent fire closed the restaurant allowing renovations during the reconstruction. We're greeted by Scott Booth, an Avon native, who started in 1987 as the "Pie Guy" working his way up to general manager.

We ordered a large pizza with sausage, pepperoni, banana peppers and the salad bar. It was fun to watch the Pie Guy tossing pizza dough.



Yes, an order of the bread sticks is a must. The salad bar was full of fresh cut veggies and green leaf lettuce. The breadsticks were freshly baked dripping with butter and perfect with our salads. Barely through our first plate of salad, our pizza arrived. The crust was baked to perfection with the first slice of pizza had the melted cheese stretched across the table. The first bite took me back to high school.

WHERE I DINE

Michelle Williams,
Avon

Where do you like to dine?

Thai Lanna in Avon

What do you like there?

Garlic Sauce with Shrimp –
Medium Heat (2 or 3)



What do you like about this place?

The food is delicious and we always get good service there as well. It is quick, easy and delicious. My husband and I like to go there because it is different and something we typically don't cook at home.

Thai Lanna
9655 E. HWY 136, Avon

BEHIND THE BARS

Ralph and Ava's Cafe

6 West Main St.
Mooresville, Ind.

Snowball Martini

Rim glass with coconut

Fill shaker with ice
• 2 oz Rumchatta
• 1 oz Whipped Vodka
• 2 oz Coconut Rum



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

WHO WILL IT BE?

We want your nominations for the

2017 HENDRICK COUNTY ICON ICON OF THE YEAR

– someone who deserves to be recognized for their contributions to Hendricks County.



Please email nominations to news@icontimes.com no later than Dec. 7 with why this person should be chosen, who we can speak with about them and contact information.

SHH... THIS IS A SURPRISE FOR THE CHOSEN PERSON!

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

Home Additions: All Shapes & Sizes

This month I am providing some dialog and thoughts regarding home additions. The possibilities for an addition to your home range from simple to complicated. Here are a few examples in no particular order. Bathroom wall expansion, Back porch enclosure, Garage buildout, Second story addition, Garage Expansion. Virtually any wall in your home can be moved or expanded, however depending on location and structural configuration will determine the complexity and in turn cost. Examples and points to consider:

• Bathroom wall expansion:

- If more space is needed, in your bath before you renovate, planning a small wall expansion can add a great deal of flexibility when designing your new bathroom.
- Windows, fixtures and vanity locations should all be considered during planning of a bathroom wall expansion project.

• Back porch enclosure:

- Enclosing a back porch or screened in porch can be a very economical way to add interior square footage to your home.
- Consider if this space will be conditioned year around.
- Consider electrical needs in the space.
- Think about finishes, floor, ceiling depending on how the space will be used.

• Garage Buildout:

- Finishing and enclosing the garage space can provide a great way to add attached square footing to your home.
- Space can easily become a new living room, new bedroom or a recreational space.
- As mentioned above, consider conditioning and finishes depending on how the space will be used.

• Second story expansion, garage expansion or traditional room addition:

- All three of these examples can be the most complicated addition to complete, but all are very possible.



- Each example should be well planned and bid by a qualified General Contractor.
- Common construction activities such as foundations, wood framing, insulation, drywall, electrical, roofing, masonry, plumbing, painting, finishes and concrete could all be part of the project depending on the scope.
- **Planning and construction:**
 - Permitting is generally required - make sure you check with you local jurisdiction.
 - Matching exterior materials - Brick can be challenging to get an exact match
 - Siding can offer a good alternative and an opportunity to accent the exterior ascetics.
- **Planning and bidding:**
 - Consult with a qualified local construction professional to assist in both planning and bidding.
 - Remember the lowest price is not always the best, take time in evaluating your Contractor, relationship and trust are key!

If you have any concerns or questions don't hesitate to contact a local Contractor and Construction Professional for help and guidance. Hope this months tips are helpful, enjoy the summer! TsT

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Indy to Paris direct flights start next spring - if you plan to go

TRAVEL

By Will & Nikki Gott

In early September of this year, the Indianapolis Airport Authority announced that the Indianapolis International Airport will offer direct nonstop flights to Paris beginning on May 24, 2018. This means you can fly from the Indianapolis International Airport to Paris' Charles de Gaulle Airport in 8.5 hours vs. 10 to 14 hours. This also means it will be quicker and easier to fly to Europe than some Caribbean islands or Hawaii. For many, a dream trip to Paris is closer than they think!

If you plan to visit Paris, here are a few tips to help you prepare to make your visit to the City of Lights stress free and memorable.

1. Prepare your visit. An active passport is required to visit Paris. Make sure your passport is current and not within six months of expiring. If you are visiting Paris for less than 90 days, a visa is not required. Also, enroll in the free Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) which informs you of the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate of your visit and any other urgent alerts of which you should be aware.

2. Read a French history book. France is rich in history and history that is not always taught in U.S. schools, so take some time to read up, especially around topics related to the 100 Years War, the French Revolution, and World War II.

3. Learn a few French words. Bring a book or a smartphone with an offline app to translate some of the harder stuff. But know the basics without looking in a book. "Hello" and "thank you" (bonjour and merci) are the absolute bare minimum.

4. Invest in, and break in, good shoes. Paris is vast and best explored by foot, so a good pair of walking shoes is a must. Because of the amount of walk-

ing you will do, don't buy new shoes the day before your trip and then break them in for 10 hours on your first day in Paris. Nothing will sour your trip quicker than blisters!

5. Take a power converter. You won't be able to push an American electric plug into a French electric outlet. French plugs have round tongs, not flat ones. You'll have to buy a converter for your computers and mobile phones. Most technology works just fine with either 110 or 220 volts, so a cheap plug converter is usually all you need.

6. Mind your manners. Parisians take dining seriously and will be dismayed if you are on your mobile phones during your meal. You may not be tossed out, but you won't impress anyone with your good manners. Turn off your mobile phones and tablets and enjoy the heady vibes in this, the most romantic of cities.

7. Grab a map. The Seine cuts Paris in half with the Right Bank to the north and the Left Bank to the south. The city is divided into 20 districts called arrondissements, identified by number. The geographical center of Paris is the 1st arrondissement and the rest spiral out from it clockwise. Definitely grab a pocket map if you're interested in learning the lay of the land.

8. Ask for the check. Dining out in France is a long, considered process without any pre-established time limits, so it's a faux pas for a waiter to bring the check before you ask. In Paris, you must ask for it.



Will and Nikki Gott are owners of Magnified Vacations CruiseOne, a locally owned and operated Travel Agency, located in Avon.

Biz History from the Hendricks County Historical Museum



Tracy Shearer in the Royal Theater projection house. Photo by Deanna Hindsley

The Royal Theater, a working museum of projection history

FEATURE

By Deanna Hindsley

Royal Theater owner Tracy Shearer loves her theater on the courthouse square in Danville. She was glad to tell me her story.

The Shearer family moved to Danville in 1998, and since Tracie loved "all things old" she saw the Royal as a most interesting piece of Danville and dreamed of re-opening it. When she learned that building owner, Lee Comer had the same dream, the two made it a reality.

This small-town theater focuses on family movies, retro movies, and concerts. My husband and I love to go and sit among the families who come here for an affordable evening of fun. We munch our barrel of popcorn, slurp our soft drinks and indulge ourselves in Pixar fun!

I had always wanted to see the projection room, so out the front door we went and up a stair into a small second story projection room—a virtual museum of the projection history. The room is lined with lead because in the old days, the film was shown through a projector the held two electrical arcs that actually produced a flame which was the light for the film to show through - and the film was flammable. Should the film catch fire, the heat would cause the doors on the windows to automatically drop, seal off the room and the projectionist would run out the door, slamming it behind him, so the lack of oxygen would kill the fire. Projectionists for paid well for this dangerous job.

In those days a movie was shipped to the theater in 4-5 spools that had to be spliced together to show.

Now, they have a digital projector a little bigger than R2D2. It can download the

movie from a small device about the size of a VHS cassette.

Tracy had told me a great deal about the history of the Royal, but she added, "If you want to really learn about the history of the Royal, talk to Betty Bartley at The Republican newspaper."

I knew that Betty keeps an encyclopedia of Danville history in her head, so I headed over to her office.

Indeed, she did know the history, and recounted it, including how the Royal Theater has nurtured the town throughout its life. Betty began:

In 1911 Ed Caldwell showed movies in a small frame building on the west side of the courthouse square in Danville, eventually moving to the west side.

Second owner, Englishman Thomas Barnett, built the current building in 1918. His English heritage probably accounts for the Tudor style of the building. During this time, high school graduations were held in the theater. He died in 1932 and The Republican issue of February 11, 1932 read "Local Theater Man Called by Death." His funeral was held in the lobby of the Royal Theater.

During WWII, the Royal Theater supported Victory Bond drives by offering free admission if you bought a War Bond. It also supported the Red Cross.

In 1948 when a tornado destroyed homes in Coatesville and Danville, the Royal showed free movies to entertain children while parents cleaned up the rubble and rebuilt houses.

In the 1960's Robert Ahart owned the

theater. He also was a great friend to the community. There was a boy who often fell asleep in the back row of the theater. Robert knew the family, so after the movie, Robert would pick him up and carry him home.

The Royal was one of the first buildings in town to be air-conditioned and advertised that, so people would come to the movies to be comfortable and cool.

The original building had a ticket booth in front that faced the sidewalk. After a prankster threw a firecracker into the ticket booth, the ticket sales counter moved inside. The early theater did not have concessions. At some point, a countertop was added where a popcorn machine supplied this crunchy treat.

Betty wrapped up her soliloquy by reflecting, "The town of Danville truly feels ownership of the Royal Theater because so many of us grew up there with our families. First dates were there, first kisses were there. And when in 2007 Tracy had to convert to a costly projector that could show digital movies, the town came together in fundraisers, school kids donated, and businesses chipped in. The Royal is a part of our personal history." In 1948 when a tornado destroyed homes in Coatesville and Danville, the Royal showed free movies to entertain children while parents cleaned up the rubble and rebuilt houses.

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Deanna Hindsley is president of the Hendricks County Historical Museum and has served on the museum board for 8 years. She is also a freelance writer and lifelong resident of Brownsburg. dkhindsley@gmail.com

OPEN 4 BUSINESS



Allison Lukovich-Dixon, owner of Schokolad Chocolate Factory. Photo by by Faith Toole

New Chocolate shop is chocolate lovers dream

FEATURE By Faith Toole

When Allison Lukovich-Dixon describes her chocolate shop, it sounds like something straight out of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*.

"A magical factory with a chocolate looking floor, chocolate melters flowing, irresist-

ible coffee and cocoa drinks, scrumptious gelato, elaborate truffles and custom hand-made chocolates," she said.

Allison's recently opened the doors of Schokolad Chocolate Factory in The Shop's at Perry Crossing in Plainfield.

Allison was raised in her parent's health

club, in charge of the vending (candy) machines. Now she is taking her love of chocolate to a whole new level.

The name Schokolad, a combination of co-founder, Baruch Schaked and the word "chocolate," is associated with three generations of chocolate making which is made

Describe your business in one sentence.

A chocolate lover's paradise, a magical, happy place to be.

Why did you want to open your own business?

I love meeting new people and enjoy making chocolate creations. A company that is known not only for its fine chocolate but its creativity is heaven to me.

Describe your Schokolad Chocolate School experience.

A week filled with chocolate, learning the machinery and how to mold and dip chocolate. The secrets of perfecting each piece. A lot of sampling and educating myself on the benefits of good chocolate.

What is one thing that could help your business?

I have to believe that would be to share

fresh, on premises at each location. Schokolad believes that chocolate is one of life's perfect foods--passion for the palate and fuel for the soul. Opening the franchise is the perfect fit, and chocolate will continue to be a part of her happy life

the health benefits of chocolate. There are many studies that say eating a small square of dark chocolate daily can help lower blood pressure and stress hormones.

What advice would you give to someone thinking about opening their own business?

My kids' advise, "Mom you will never know unless you try!" I know where they have heard that from ... my husband, Larry and our family. My sister, Angela Pedregon has been cheering me on since last year when I started dreaming this up. She gave me stickers that I look at every time I need a push. The love the one that says, "When you feel like quitting think about why you started" and my favorite, "The voice in your head that says you can't is a liar." So my advice would be, go get your happy!

Schokolad Chocolate Factory 351 Marketplace Mile, Unit 160, Plainfield



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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.

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

6 Astronomy Words

4 Names for a Bar

3 Indianapolis Museums

5 Largest U.S. Cities

2 Indy Area Electric Companies

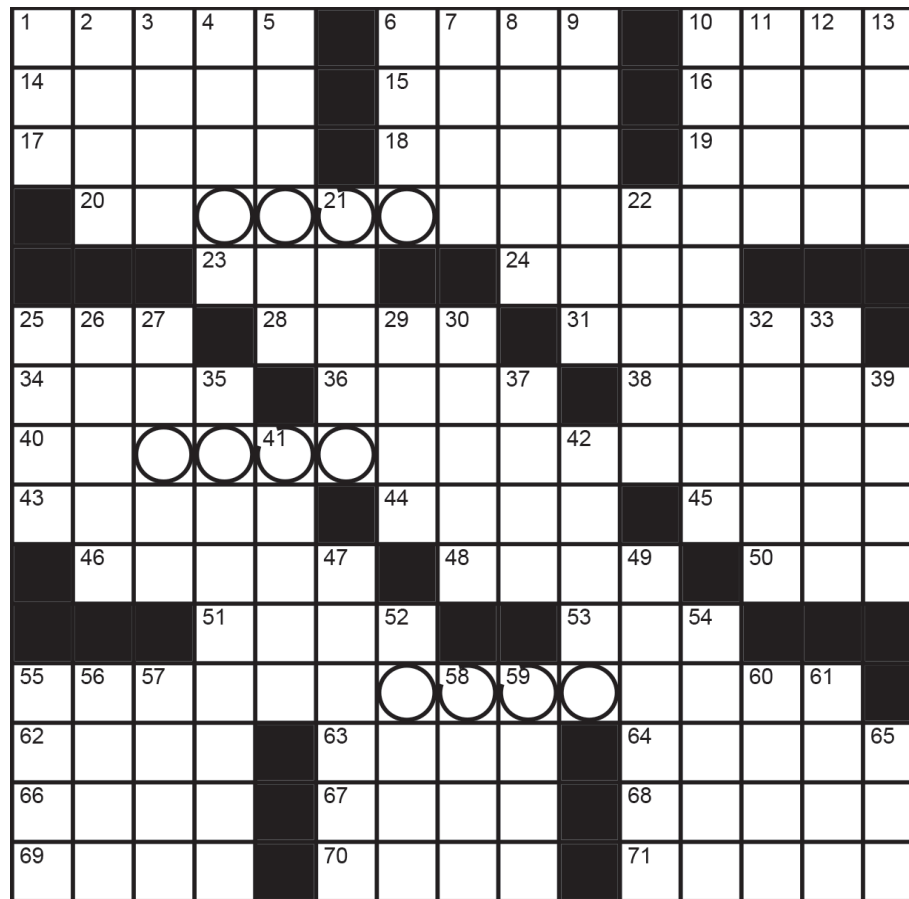
1 IU Basketball Coach

ACROSS

1. Enola Gay cargo
6. *The Sun* ____ *Rises*
10. Hit alternative
14. Old Andy Mohr Toyota model
15. Babe in the Hoosier National Forest
16. Andrew Luck, for one
17. State Road 267 construction sight
18. Give off
19. IND plane part
20. Elocutionist's phrase on 100.9FM?
23. John Crane's pos.
24. Tackle box item
25. Paper with NYSE news
28. Space Age drink
31. Stopwatch button
34. Was in the hole
36. Frozen treats
38. "My bad!"
40. New Zealand batsmen on 88.7FM?
43. Participate in a bee
44. It's got you covered
45. Electrical letters
46. Ex-Pacer Monta
48. ISO musical composition
50. Oolong, e.g.
51. "What's gotten ____ you?"
53. Go bad
55. Hub of the Mile High City on 1260AM?
62. Bug-eyed
63. Hodgepodge
64. Invite to enter
66. No more than
67. Writer Stratton-Porter
68. Abounds
69. Hendricks County Court jury member
70. Butler fraternity letters
71. On the briny

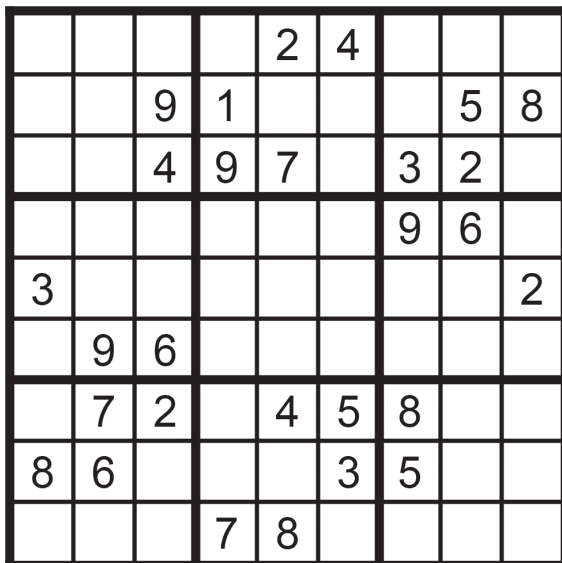
DOWN

1. Android download
2. ISU basketball coach and grandfather to an Indiana governor
3. 1952 Olympics site
4. Cat chorus
5. Easter topper
6. Hardly any
7. Indiana State Fair barn baby
8. Go in circles



9. Traveling with a band
10. Big Ten school
11. Plainfield prison overseer, briefly
12. Average
13. Whole bunch
21. WRTV studio sign
22. Seize
25. Happy Dragon pans
26. Pilfer
27. Precious stone at Zales
29. WTTV military drama, initially
30. Geico lizard
32. Upright
33. Stock transaction
35. "Public Enemy No. 1" from Mooresville
37. Bypass
39. Avon gym site
41. Singer Black
42. Harden
47. Larry, Moe or Curly
49. Beethoven's "Moonlight ____"
52. Young hooter
54. Sidelines Sports Pub fixture
55. Wettish
56. S-curve
57. Modeled
58. 1492 ship of note
59. "Easy ____ it!"
60. Manages, with "out"
61. Winter coating
65. Hush-hush org.

Answers See Page 15



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The Borcherdings: 'everything we do we do as a family'

WHERE WE WORSHIP

Micah and Michelle Borcherding have been married for eight years and have four children; Samuel, Hannah, Rachel and Sarah. Micah has been a physics teacher at Avon High School for ten years now. At church he teaches Sunday School and plays bass guitar with the praise team. Michelle is a stay at home mother and enjoys her time with the children. She is heavily involved with MOPS (mothers of preschoolers) at Our Shepherd Lutheran Church, and also teaches Sunday School. Samuel, Hannah and Rachel attend Our Shepherd Lutheran School and also participate in Little Rams soccer and basketball. Sarah spends all of her time and energy being a precious baby.

What is it about your place of worship that helps you grow spiritually? We appreciate how every aspect of one's spiritual development is met in multiple ways, and for all family members. Our children receive an excellent Christian education during the week at school, and again during the Sunday School hour on the weekend. Pastor Lepley and Pastor Douglas are both focused on teaching the Word of God during Sunday School, Saturday and Sunday worship, and

Wednesday evening service and Bible study.

What is it about your place of worship that helps you to feel connected to your spouse, children, parents or other family? Everything we do is as a family. Michelle teaches Hannah's Sunday School class. Micah's mother teaches the parents and twos (and threes) class to Rachel. Our children participate in choir and love singing hymns at the traditional service, or worship songs at the contemporary service, which Micah's brother leads. Special events such as the Easter egg hunt, trunk or treat, or any other church activity are also great ways for our children to get involved at Our Shepherd with us and our church family.

What is one meaningful event that has taken place at your place of worship? With October being the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, Our Shepherd held a night of worship at the beginning of the month that was attended by a large number of families of all sizes and ages. It was a joy to see my children singing songs both familiar and new, as well as spending some time as a family in Bible study. A great moment as a family, and a church family.



From back and left: Samuel, Michelle, Micah, Sarah, Rachel and Hannah Borcherding. *Submitted photo*

Why would you recommend your place of worship to someone? We have never been to a church that has been more welcoming and compassionate towards all visitors and members. It truly feels like a church family. We also enjoy how clearly and deliberately the Word of God is taught at all times and in all places. Best of all, it has connected us as a family to each other, and more importantly, to God...

Compiled by Cathy Myers

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— *Rooted Locally,* —

GROWING EMERGENCY CARE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Michelle Fenoughty, MD, MBA
Chief Medical Officer/OBGYN



Knowing when to go to the Emergency Department or visit Immediate Care can save time, money and even help save your life. If you are in a significant amount of pain, the Emergency Department is the right place to go. For less severe illnesses and injuries, it is best to contact your primary care physician, or visit Immediate Care if you are not able to see them in a timely manner.

For the last 55 years, Hendricks Regional Health has put down roots in Hendricks County with a commitment to delivering high-quality, low-cost patient-centered care. Our campuses and continuum of care have since evolved—and continue to evolve—to better serve the growing needs of Western and Central Indiana.

Our full-service Emergency Departments in Danville and at our new Brownsburg Hospital, featuring a side-by-side Emergency Department and Immediate Care Center, further our mission in providing increased access to care close to home. Learn how we're growing health care for our community at [HENDRICKS.ORG/EMERGENCY](https://www.hendricks.org/emergency).



A GIFT THAT'S STRAIGHT FROM YOUR HEART TO THEIRS.

If your loved one is overweight, smokes, or has a family history of heart disease, we have the perfect gift idea: a **\$49 Heart Scan Gift Card** from Indiana University Health. There's no better way to tell them how much you love them, and it might just save their life.

To purchase a \$49 Heart Scan Gift Card go to iuhealth.org/heartcard



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