

The Southside Times



THIS WEEK on the WEB

MPCC pastor's work inspires others. **Page 2**

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2017 SOUTHSIDE PERSON OF THE YEAR

Jim Coffman

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Honoring
Southside
residents who
have passed
away in 2017.



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THIS WEEK on the WEB



Mount Pleasant Christian Church pastor inspires others

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

ss-times.com/mpcc-pastor-inspires



Beech Grove chamber searches for new director

The Greater Beech Grove Chamber of Commerce announced that Ron Mayes has resigned as the Executive Director. The Board of Directors will form a hiring committee and have a plan in place to begin immediate recruitment.

ss-times.com/bg-chamber-searches-director

For more information on these articles and other timely news, visit ss-times.com. To join the conversation, visit our Facebook page or follow us on Twitter [@southsidetimes](https://twitter.com/southsidetimes).

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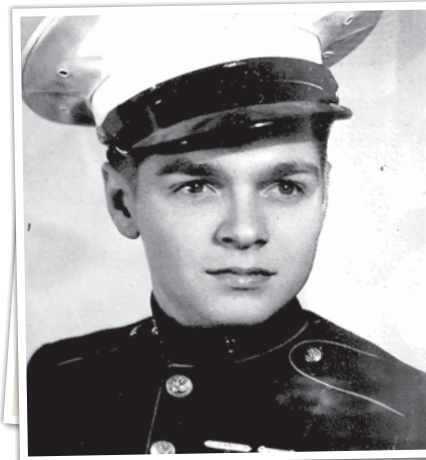
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FOR THE RECORD

96th BIRTHDAY



WWII veteran Cyril DesJean celebrates his 96th birthday with a special commendation

WWII Marine veteran Cyril W. DesJean celebrated his 96th birthday on Dec. 11, 2017. He was surrounded by several of his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren as well as several of his caretakers to commemorate this special day. Cyril received a memorable birthday visit from General J. Steward Goodwin, Brigadier General, USAF (ret), now Indiana War Memorial Executive Director. Cyril was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for his service and a challenge coin from the General. General Goodwin said he was humbled and honored to present the acknowledgement for Cyril's willingness to give of himself for the protection of the nation during WWII. He expressed his and the country's gratitude for Cyril's four years in the Marine Corps and vowed to him that his service would not be forgotten. Several of Cy's family members followed in his footsteps to defend their country, serving in the Army, Navy, Air Force and Secret Service.

Contact the Editor

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



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A lighted snowman can only point the way to an optimistic future in 2018. (Photo by R. Hinton)

The New Year's resolutions carry on for 2018

HAUNTS & JAUNTS

By Rick Hinton

The New Year means many different things to many different people. New Year's resolutions certainly play a part. Resolutions all boil down to being dissatisfied with ourselves and admitting our shortcomings, to finally making it all straight in 2018. Will we? That's the million dollar question. Where do we want to go? Who do we want to be? Speculating we have another year to make these changes, will it be enough time? I have changes I'd like to see materialize as I'm sure you do. I believe (and have to) that 2018 will be that year!

The past few years I have examined, dissected and reviewed my involvement in the paranormal; taking a cold hard look at the reasoning (my own in particular) behind investigating it. Admittedly, it has been for personal satisfaction and a drive to place a finger upon the unknown. After several years of doing this I'm convinced there's something out there just beyond the veil, waiting to be discovered. Will it, and documented for authenticity, proving beyond a shadow of a doubt? Will it change a skeptic's opinion? In 2018... I don't feel that will happen. For years I was an explorer, however now, I don't feel the desire to do those weekend excursions anymore. I already know it's out there. What am I go-

ing to prove that I already don't know? Nothing! I no longer feel the need for an adrenaline rush, to test out costly equipment (or even buy it), lose sleep, put miles on my car, or most important, baggage on my personal psyche. Laura and I live in a haunted house on the Southside of Indianapolis. We own one in Kentucky. When I feel the need...it's there on our home front. There and waiting!

New Year's resolutions? In no particular order: lose some weight (the heavier I get, the more sluggish I feel), and encourage my wife in the same; cut the adult beverages to a minimum; I don't need to smoke, but I do; become a better husband and father; and make some rash financial decisions for upcoming retirement literally around the corner. Yet, of utmost importance—reinvigorating my faith in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and becoming a faithful servant, witness and worker for our new church home! Yet, there's one more: helping those in need of a paranormal or supernatural situation.

We'll do what we can. Life can be quirky. Our world has a lot of questions without easy answers. It seems that it's US that often carry the weight!

Happy New Year!



Rick Hinton, a Southport resident, loves researching things that go bump in the night. His articles can be read on Facebook: Rick Hinton, Southport Paranormal Examiner. Hinton conducts paranormal investigations with his team, South Central Paranormal.

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2017 SOUTHSIDE PERSON OF THE YEAR

Jim Coffman



Jim Coffman. (Photo by Brian Ruckle)

Jim Coffman volunteers his time to improve and revitalize the City of Beech Grove

By Nicole Davis

James "Jim" Coffman is always willing to step in and help if that task is something that benefits Beech Grove businesses, residents and the overall community. Along with running his own business, he has taken initiative to serve as an active member of the Greater Beech Grove Chamber of Commerce, Beautify Beech Grove and Next Stop, Beech Grove.

Jim Coffman has been selected as *The Southside Times* 2017 Person of the Year for his numerous com-

munity contributions which extend beyond his own business in an effort to improve the city of Beech Grove in its entirety.

"Jim is a Southside business owner, vice president of the Beech Grove Chamber, (last year's president), he is a founding member of Beautify Beech Grove, a local nonprofit agency which raises money for beautification projects in the city, and also a founding member of the Next Stop Beech Grove organization which he currently serves as treasurer," wrote Julie Lockwood in an email to nominate Coffman for the Person of the Year. "Jim can always be counted on to assist in making the city a better place to live."

Coffman was born and raised in Beech Grove, the eighth of 10 siblings. He had went to Indiana University for college, then returned to his Beech Grove hometown.

"We loved it here growing up," said Coffman's sister, Mary. "He wants people to see how great it used to be and get it back to where it used to be, the small town feeling. It's a good area to raise his kids. He loves Beech Grove, wants to stay here, make things better for Beech Grove and get more people to realize its greatness."

Coffman purchased Eckstein Shoe Store and Repair in 2011, a

90-year old small business that was nearing its end. With no background in the shoe business, he had to learn quickly. Since then he has worked to grow not only his business, but all of those around it.

"He's a true leader for the community because he's not about himself," said Liz Lamping, Beech Grove City Councilor and member of the Beech Grove chamber and Beautify Beech Grove. "Jim's the kind of guy that will do so much stuff for our community in every avenue of progress that is going on but he never boasts about himself. He's humble. He's a leader for the community and people respect and have faith in his ability. He has brought unity to that downtown business district. It's not just about his business doing well. He looks to each side of his business to see how his neighbors are doing. He really cares about building the entire city up."

He started by joining the Greater Beech Grove Chamber of Commerce. That transitioned into him serving as its president and currently, vice president. He will serve another term as president beginning in January.

He serves on Beautify Beech Grove, fundraising for projects such as decorating Main Street for each season.



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Jim Coffman *Southside Person of the Year*

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Left, from left, Jim, Claire and Jennifer Coffman. | Right, from left, Kris Henthorn, Angel Calvert McKenna and Jim Coffman, members of Next Stop, Beech Grove. (Submitted photos)

Through his business, Eckstein Shoe Store, he sponsors a Centennial Award, recognizing those who impact Beech Grove City Schools.

Next Stop, Beech Grove, formed in 2016 with a goal of becoming an Indiana Main Street Organization through the Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA). Coffman serves as treasurer for that organization. In November, Next Stop held a public information meeting, discussing the \$40,000 grant awarded from OCRA to study what Beech Grove is lacking, what it does well and what can be improved. The next goal is to apply for a facade grant to improve the look of Beech Grove Main Street.

"Everybody is busy, and service organizations as a whole have a hard time getting people in, involved, getting things done," said Kris

Henthorn, owner of Henthorn Agency Inc. and president of Next Stop. "Sometimes you can find volunteers that'll volunteer time for one organization, but he volunteers for several. He definitely devotes the time and effort and does a great job at that."

When he's not at work, volunteering for a nonprofit or committee, Coffman can be found spending time with his family. He and his wife, Jennifer, have one daughter with another on the way.

"He's a family guy," Mary said. "He would do anything for them. His hobbies are really hanging out with (his

daughter), doing what she wants and focusing on her, and his wife, too. That's about what he does. He works, is on a committee, is going to city hall meetings or spending time with his family. He's a very busy guy. He realizes that what he's doing will have an impact and will help with things. He just keeps seeing the results versus the stress of it all."

Personally, Mary describes her brother as very kind, caring and forthright.

"He uses what worked in the past, embraces what works in the present and looks ahead to find out what will work in the future."

- LIZ LAMPING

With the work ongoing, it's not likely Coffman will stop his volunteer efforts anytime soon.

"Someone his age, the fact that he has a young, growing family, and he takes the time out to do what he does, that's amazing," Lamping said. "I look forward to his work and progress on Next Stop, Beech Grove. He is unifying that downtown district and really sees the good in it. He uses what worked in the past, embraces what works in the present and looks ahead to find out what will work in the future."

In what way have you witnessed Jim Coffman have an impact the Beech Grove/greater Southside community?

Since becoming a business owner, Jim has jumped in full stop as a proud member of Main Street Beech Grove. Eckstein Shoes has flourished under his leadership. He's always promoting our city and making it better. As a member of the Beautify Beech Grove committee, Jim makes sure the Christmas tree is up at the roundabout, and the wreathes and flags are hung during the appropriate seasons. He supports Shop Small each Thanksgiving season and has served as the president of the Greater Beech Grove Chamber of Commerce. His customers and friends can always expect a bright smile and a knowledgeable answer to their inquiries about shoes, shoe repair or almost anything else. I can't think of a better person to be selected as the Southside Person of the Year. Congratulations, Jim!

- SR. MARY LUKE JONES

Jim has a deep connection and love for Beech Grove and the Southside. As a lifelong resident, he's seen changes in the community and has a heartfelt desire to make a positive impact. His involvement in the Greater Beech Grove Chamber of Commerce, BG City Schools, Beautify Beech Grove and formation of Next Stop Beech Grove are evidence of his commitment to the community... Jim is a hard-working and dedicated person, who wants to see everyone around him succeed, and he will do his part to ensure the best possible effort has been put forth to accomplish the set goals. He has a desire to see the community build and improve. He has a positive attitude about Beech Grove and the Southside and a vision for its future.

- LAURA BARNARD
former Beech Grove chamber executive director

Jim has made every person/business owner he has come in contact with feel welcome. He gives of his time to help make the community a better place... He truly believes that the community can improve, and he is not afraid to go out and do the work that needs to be done to make that happen.

- DAWN WHALEN
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He'll take the lead in a program, just like the chamber of commerce. He's now going to be president with his second child on the way. Beautify Beech Grove, he's always there for us. He assists in the fundraising. He's always promoting on the social networking, this business, that business. He's always there to acknowledge that someone else does something good. Then in his business, his store does service for people that need his service. He doesn't price people out to where they can't afford to come back. If he sees that a customer needs something for the wellbeing of their health, he will manage a way to help them get that.

- LIZ LAMPING
Beech Grove city councilor

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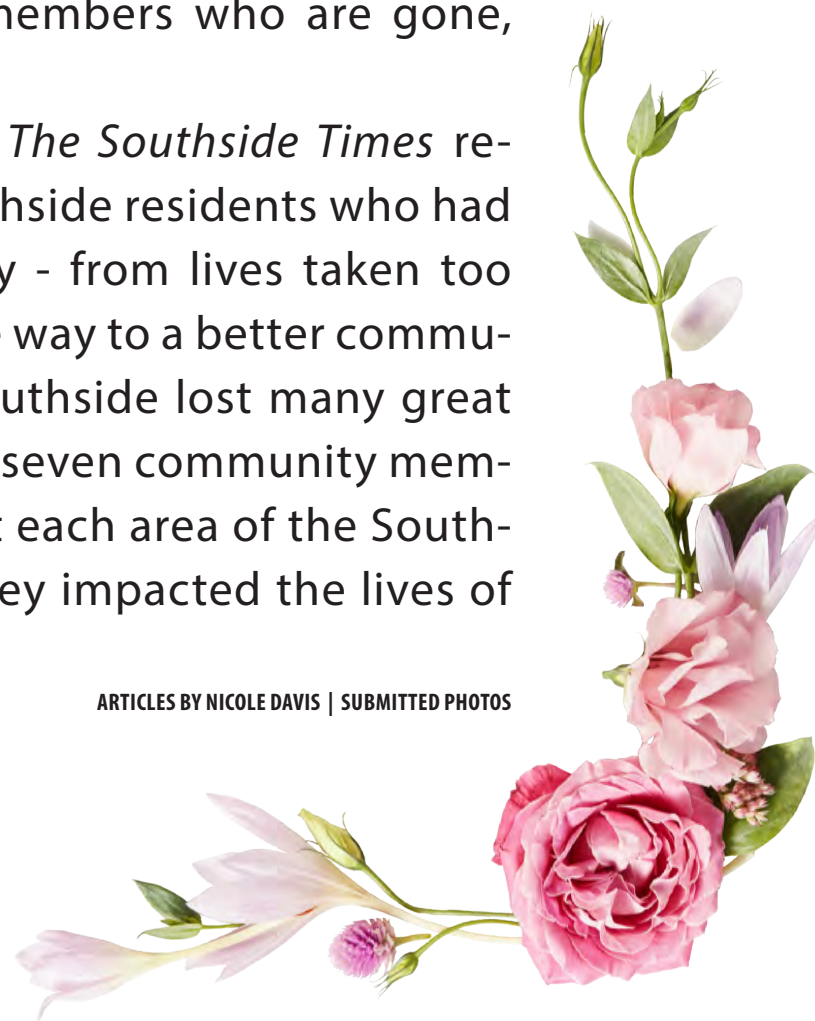
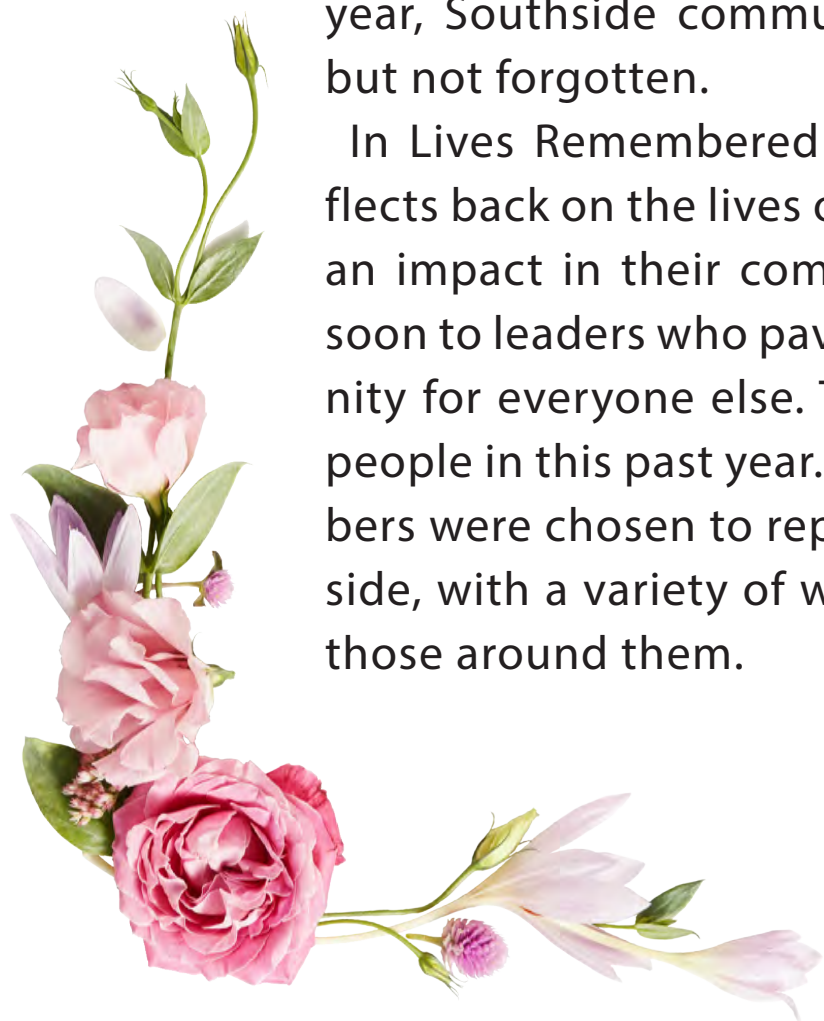
GONE, BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

In memory of those who passed away in 2017, reflect on the lives of seven late Southside residents

In memory of everyone who passed away this year, Southside community members who are gone, but not forgotten.

In Lives Remembered 2017, *The Southside Times* reflects back on the lives of Southside residents who had an impact in their community - from lives taken too soon to leaders who paved the way to a better community for everyone else. The Southside lost many great people in this past year. These seven community members were chosen to represent each area of the Southside, with a variety of ways they impacted the lives of those around them.

ARTICLES BY NICOLE DAVIS | SUBMITTED PHOTOS





Lt. Aaron Allan

Five months after his death, Southport Police Lt. Aaron Allan is still receiving an outpouring of love. Donations are still coming in to help support his family in their time of loss. Events held in his name draw a crowd, even with those he never met, to remember the life he lived.

"I think he'd be shocked at the impact he had," said Southport Police Chief Thomas Vaughn. "He'd of had that grin on his face, like 'I told you I was good,' but I think it would have overwhelmed him, too. You never know how many people you touch through what you do every day. It's neat to sit back and look. Southport is not a very big city, but we feel it from all over Marion County, Johnson County, everyone just came together."

Lt. Allan was a veteran of the U.S. Airforce, had a degree in criminal justice and had nearly 20 years of law enforcement experience. He came onto the Southport Police Department as a reserve officer in 2011, working full-time as an officer for the Franklin Township Community School Corporation. Even as a reserve, he was active in all the Southport department did, including volunteering for the dunk tank at National Night Out, volunteering to shop with children in need during the annual Trooper Bartram Christmas for Kids event, or giving money and helping with fundraisers which benefitted local families in need. For his eagerness to help, he was given a nickname of "Teddy Bear."

Allan was promoted to Southport's first-ever full-time police officer position in January 2017. He was also in charge of the training program at the Southport Police Academy.

A resident of the Northwest side of Indianapolis, he prioritized his family - his wife, Stacy and two sons. On July 27, Allan asked Vaughn for permission to come in late so that he could walk his youngest son to school on his first day of kindergarten.

That afternoon, while on duty, he responded to a car crash at South Madison and Maynard avenues. The vehicle was inverted with the driver and a passenger still inside. He leaned in to ask the driver if he was okay, when the driver shot at Allan multiple times. Allan is the first-ever Southport police officer to be killed in the line of duty.

It wasn't long that evening before the community began to gather at the Southport Police station, where officers had parked Allan's police vehicle.

"When this happened, I got here that night in the city parking lot which was full of people," Vaughn said. "I told everyone then, I'm not going to talk about the incident, I want everyone to understand who Aaron was and what he did for the community."

That support has yet to cease. So many fundraisers were being organized, the police department created a special supervisor position to control all of them, making sure the funds went to the family.

"We still have money coming in, for his family," Vaughn said. "You can tell the impact not only here, but the community has been so supportive, it's overwhelming. There's two reasons. One, the way we do community policing. We do have the support of the community. With Aaron being the full-time officer, he would get out there five days a week, get out of his car and talk to people, say hi and wave. Another part is, people are upset by the way he was killed. That struck a cord with a lot of people that maybe didn't know the police department"

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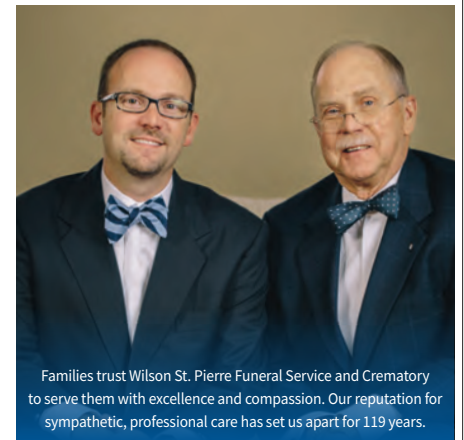
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Lives Remembered 2017 continued from page 7



Gene Nix

Gene Nix took pride in having served his county, his community, his family and his God.

Nix, 94, passed away on May 23, 2017.

Nix grew up in Gary, Ind., enlisting in the Navy after Pearl Harbor. The Navy turned him away due to him having a perforated ear drum. He went to work in a steel mill and later decided he wanted to go to college, at 21 years old. He graduated from Western Kentucky, the first in his family to do so, with a degree in education in 1948.

He worked for the welfare department, investigating parents who wanted to adopt children, for three months before being drafted for the Korean War, serving as an army counterintelligence officer. He was sent to Nagasaki, Japan and served there for three years. After his three years were up, he was selected to serve as a special agent in the Pentagon in Washington D.C. He was discharged in 1956, returning home to work as a claims superintendent for State Farm.

Nix and Viola, now deceased, had four children. He once told The Southside Times his family has always remained of upmost importance to him.

"Both my daughters were drum corps majors in the Greenwood band and I was more proud of that than anything I did," Nix said in 2014.

Through his time living in Greenwood, Nix spent 18 years serving on the Greenwood Park Board, 10 years on the Indiana State Park Board and 10 years on the Greenwood City Planning Commission. He was instrumental in the creation of Greenwood's community center and the amphitheater, which he said earned him a lifetime achievement award from the state park board. He was an active member of American Legion Post #252, VFW, and Warrior's Hope.



Joe Brunk

Joe Brunk was an incredible basketball player, golfer, coach and friend. Most importantly, he was a family man who cherished spending time with his wife and two sons. "Big Joe," 56, of Franklin Township, passed away April 15, 2017. He underwent brain surgery in October 2016 after a blood clot was discovered.

Joe, who was 6-foot-5 and a 1978 Southport graduate, was a two-time National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) All-American. He is sixth on Hanover's all-time scoring list with 1,659 points and fifth in career rebounds with 789. He was named Hanover's Most Valuable Player in 1979, 80 and 81.

Through his time playing basketball in high school, Southport was one of the best teams in the state and Joe was one of the best players, said his friend, Robin Miller. Miller worked as a sports writer for The Indianapolis Star at that time. He reconnected with Joe approximately seven years later, began playing golf together and grew to be close friends.

"He had so many friends because he was this great teddy bear that everyone liked," Miller said. "He had great jokes. He was someone you would instantly gather to because he was so fun to be around. When Joe became your friend, you were friends forever. That's just how he rubbed people."

Joe spent some time overseas before returning to Indianapolis. He eventually got into the gaming business - video games and pinball machines - as president of B&M Amusements.

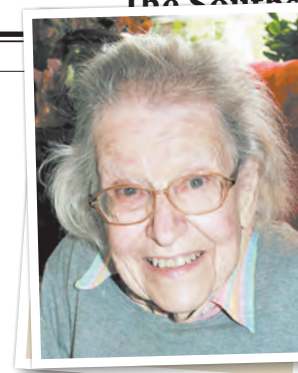
Joe also enjoyed traveling. Miller and Joe often went to Las Vegas together.

"The first time I took him to Vegas, I'm probably responsible for him becoming a giant gambler," Miller laughed. "Joe's net worth at that time was about \$48. (A friend) and I gave him each \$100 and put him at the craps table. He ended up winning \$1,600. He was so excited because he thought that's the way Vegas was. I told him no, that was an anomaly. From 1986 to 2017, we went to Vegas probably 40 times together and probably won twice. It didn't matter because part of the action is the action itself."

More important to Joe than his business, travels or athletics, was his wife and sons, Joey and Johnny.

"Joe had this passion and drive that he wanted his kids to be as good if not better than he was as a basketball player but only if they wanted to do it," Miller said. "Thank God he got to see Joey pretty much resurrect Southport's basketball team. There used to be 800 people at Southport's basketball games and by the time Joe was a senior, there'd be 5 to 6,000."

Joey is now a star player for Butler University's team. Johnny plays basketball at Roncalli High School.



Sylvia Henricks

Sylvia Henricks was dedicated to showing that the Southeast side of Indianapolis had many interesting things of which to be proud. She wrote books and articles on the topic and was active in the Franklin Township Historical Society until the day she passed away.

"One of her favorite lines that she loved to repeat, was when she had a group of school children and one of the students said, 'Gosh, I didn't know Franklin Township had a history.'" Sylvia's daughter, Ann Hansen said, "To me, that encapsulates what she was trying to get across, yeah, we have quite the history. She loved to keep saying it because it said to her, that's why we're here. She very much felt that to keep our history a part of our present was why the society was here. That's powerful!"

Sylvia, 94, passed away on March 19, 2017. She was born April 6, 1922 in Dayton, Ohio. She graduated from the University of Dayton in 1942, and married Marvin Henricks in 1943. A preacher's wife, she moved across the U.S. before settling down on six acres, the Ash Grove, in Franklin Township.

In 1976, Sylvia and Marvin became founding members of the Franklin Township Historical Society.

"The society was the brainchild of the Gouldys," Hansen said. "In 1976, the Gouldys, my mother and father and several other longtime town people came together to form the historical society at the same time that Pioneer Baptist Church folks wanted to give their meeting house to someone. Everything came together beautifully. The meeting house was the gift of that extremely dwindling congregation. Mom was right there at the instigation of that."

Marvin passed away in 1988, but Sylvia remained active in her Franklin Township community.

"She was rooted in this township and in this community, in this life, and that was important to her and the people around her," Hansen said.

Sylvia enjoyed writing about the community, everything from the Acton campground, artists at Greenwood's Southside Art League, and about people. She wrote a column in the Franklin Township Informer, titled *From the Ash Grove*, later changing the name to *Remembrance*. She enjoyed taking photographs for her columns and developing them in her darkroom. Sylvia also wrote books on local history, such as *Humble but Historic*, published in 2012, picturing and providing history on the 12 original outhouses in Franklin Township.

Sylvia stayed involved in the historical society - of which she served as president approximately 15 times - attending her last meeting in February, the month before she died. In October, the society honored her with a historic market on the site of the lost town, Gallaudet, in Franklin Township at the intersection of Franklin Road and the railroad tracks.



Michael Alexander

Michael "Mike" Alexander wanted to make sure other people were remembered. With a smile always on his face, he taught journalism, served as an editor for multiple publications and even ventured into writing books - all to tell the story of others.

Mike, 78, of Greenwood, passed away on May 19, 2017. Born in Indianapolis, he graduated from Arsenal Technical High School, president of his 1957 class. He never lost contact with his classmates, handwriting lengthy letters on a weekly basis. Before his passing, the school contacted him to award him with the Hanson H. Anderson Award, for people who have given back to the community in some way. Through his time at the school, he had been sports editor for the Arsenal Cannon newspaper, the start of his journalism career.

He went on to become sports editor at Franklin College before spending 18 months in officer candidate school for the Navy. He had also served in the U.S. Navy aboard the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Ticonderoga, where he ran the public information office. He was aboard when the first bombs were dropped on North Vietnam in 1964.

Mike served as a reporter for the Indianapolis news, public relations director for the Monroe County Community School Corporation, editor of the Anderson Herald Bulletin and even taught journalism at Valparaiso University and IUPUI. He was public relations director of National American Legion, and president of Indiana Republican Editorial Association, and president of Indiana chapter of National School Public Relations Association. He spent the last 10 years of his career working for Ford, where he retired. After his retirement, he served a couple years as editor of *The Southside Times* and continued to write for the publication.

"He was always a good speaker and writer," said Mike's wife of 16 years, Donna. "But he enjoyed talking to people. He was really quite a talker and could tell lots of stories. He had a good memory for names, places and dates. He had lots of stories but he enjoyed getting stories from other people. He had that gift of putting it on paper. When later in life, I told him rather than being a journalist, you would have been good to stay with teaching journalism because he had a good way of encouraging other people to do well."

Alexander loved his work and the people he worked with seemed to love and respect him.

"Mike always had a smile for everybody," said *The Southside Times* Publisher Rick Myers. "He was just a wonderful individual. It is easy for us to see how he could get the stories he got because he connected with people." Donna describes Mike as a strong individual, and very loving.

"He always had a smile. Everybody always remembered him as rosy cheeks and a smile all the time.



Tedvan Pierson

If you needed a ride to the Beech Grove Senior Citizen Center, Tedvan Pierson would be the first to step up and volunteer. How about a dance partner? A helping hand to set up events? Just a friend to swap stories with? Ted was always ready for that, too.

Pierson, 95, passed away on Dec. 16, 2017.

"I feel sorry for the future members, that will never get a chance to meet him or know him," said Stephanie Bramlett, director of the senior citizens center. "I've only been here 10 years and I don't feel like that was nearly long enough. It's a great loss and I don't think we'll ever fill it. He will never be forgotten. He'll always be missed. The city lost a great man. He didn't just do for us. He put on a dinner for the fire department. He did for the kids at Holy Name. He did for the military. They'll never be someone that can hold a candle to him."

Pierson was a Beech Grove High School graduate, class of 1941. He went into the Navy in September of 1942. He arrived home in January, 1946. He married his wife, Delores, on May 17, 1947 and they had three children. She passed away in 2007. He worked at Eli Lilly Co. for 38 years.

As a retiree, Pierson enjoyed being a member of Holy Name Catholic Church and spending much of his time at the Beech Grove senior center. He was actively involved many of the center's activities, including Wii Bowling and going on trips around the town. If the center didn't have enough people to justify using its 25-passenger bus for transportation, Pierson had a van he would use take everyone instead.

He was always volunteering, even up until the end. One of his last actions to benefit the senior center, he was pushing the city to get a new security camera to keep the staff safe at work. Bramlett laughed that the city wasn't moving fast enough for him.

If money was the issue for the center not having something, he would volunteer to cover it. At the Memorial Day block party each year, Ted was the first to show up to help direct deliveries and was the last one to leave, making sure there was nothing left to do at the end of the day. For Mother's Day or members' birthdays, he would bring the women a bouquet of flowers. He made sure everyone had a dance partner at dances. Through the center's Sunshine Group, he would visit members when they were put in the hospital.

Pierson would do anything for the military. He had the opportunity to participate in the Indy Honor Flight, an organization which transports WWII, Korea and Vietnam veterans to Washington D.C. to visit the war memorials. He then made it his personal mission to ensure that any qualified veteran he met received that same opportunity.



Megan Woodward

There wasn't a person that Megan Woodward wasn't willing to help. An English teacher at Southport High School, she not only taught her students valuable lessons inside of the classroom, but had a passion for helping with their needs outside of the school day as well.

Megan, 29, passed away after sustaining a head injury on Sept. 28 while decorating a float for the homecoming parade.

"She was just a really good person," said Jessica Walpole, teacher and friend to Megan. "I think we're all forever in debt to the greatness she brought to our school, our students, her friends and colleagues. For myself and for the girls (on the dance team), its like she's still here and she's not. I think it will be like that for awhile for all the students. She was such a huge part of the school!"

Megan is survived by her husband, Wes and two children.

Megan's classroom was one room down from Walpole's. Their relationship started by sharing about assignments and curriculum, developing into a close friendship. Walpole coaches the Southport High School dance team which Megan started helping coach this past year.

"The year before, she just started showing up and randomly helping us," Walpole said. "No one asked her to. It was nice to have someone who had a background in dance. This year, while I was on maternity leave, I asked if she'd start helping us out full time and she said of course."

That was just part of who Megan was, always eager to give. Walpole said she would help students on the team who may have had a need for parental or financial support. Last year, she set up a gofundme account to help one of her students who had lost his parents and struggling to support himself.

"It was never a question of can I do this, it's I will do this," Walpole said. "She had the biggest heart."

After her death, the dance team was able to paint a large rock outside of the school green, Megan's favorite color. It wasn't just her giving nature that made her students love and respect her, but her fun, outgoing personality.

Walpole said. "She's really funny. She can make anything into a joke. She's very much like me and I think that's why I enjoyed her. She's always being a goofball. It didn't take much for her to get our attention and listen to her. I think that's why her students really loved her. When I think about a lot of our memories, I think one of my favorite things about her was just looking at her and we were thinking the same thing. She would pop into my classroom and say something strange and just walk away. I was 30 weeks pregnant and we did a bouncy ball race down the hallway. We'd done dance-offs together. I don't have any bad memories."

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READERS' WRITES

A great year for
Beech Grove

On behalf of the City of Beech Grove, I would like to wish everyone a healthy and prosperous New Year. 2017 was a very good year for our beautiful city and 2018 is shaping up to be even better. A heartfelt thanks goes out to all city employees, elected and appointed officials, department heads and those who volunteer their time to serve on committee's and boards. All of you are the reason our beautiful city continues to move forward.

A couple of reminders for the New Year's Holiday. If you live in Beech Grove, our trash pick up is on normal schedule and if you have a real Christmas tree, please set it out with your trash tote and we will pick it up for you.

Happy New Year's Everyone,

Dennis B. Buckley
Mayor, City of Beech Grove

READERS' WRITES

A resolution
to reduce
distracted driving

The next time you're at a traffic light in heavy traffic, take a look at the drivers in the cars around you. You can predict what you'll see: countless bowed heads as people check email, text and more. Every once in a while, we glance up to see if the light has changed. When it does, we step on the gas – sometimes after setting the phone aside, sometimes not.

We all know that distracted driving is dangerous, and that our phones have become our greatest distraction. Stats from the Indiana Department of Labor make the level of danger clear: People who text are 23 times more likely to crash than others. In recent years, we've seen more crashes due to distracted driving than drunken driving.

As troubling as that is, I don't think active texting is the only problem. I worry about how distracted we are in the moments after we set the phone aside. Think about it: When you see that light change out of the corner of your eye and you let your foot off the brake, are you really fully engaged in your driving? Or are you trying to quickly finish a text, or still setting the phone aside, or simply still thinking about the conversation you were just engaged in? Would you notice if someone was running a red light? If a pedestrian was trying to scramble to beat the light?

As I think of all those bowed heads at stop lights, I worry that we're all putting ourselves and those around us in danger. Sure, we're not texting while driving, we're also not giving our full attention to the job of piloting a ton of steel through busy streets.

As I set my 2018 goals both personally and professionally, I plan to stop using my phone in the car for anything other than emergency phone calls. I encourage everyone to make the same pledge. I am sure I'll be a better driver as a result, and I'll certainly feel safer if I know that others are also trying to be more attentive to their driving.

Anna Gremling
Executive Director
Indianapolis Metropolitan
Planning Organization

FROM THE EDITOR

2017 8

Good tidings to you, Southside readers!

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

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

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

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

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

The Southside Times welcomes letters to the editor in good taste.

All submissions are subject to editing. Please send to news@ss-times.com. All letters must be signed. Please include a daytime phone number for verification purposes only.



STARS & STRIKES ON THE SOUTHSIDE

The Southside Times is all about people and our community. What do you like in your neighborhood? What don't you like? Who has done something nice, no

matter how small and should be recognized? Email your "Stars and Strikes" to news@ss-times.com.

★ **Stars:** To all of those who are working and serving the community on the holidays!

★ **Stars:** To the Greenwood Police Department for hosting a public outreach event at the Greenwood Park Mall on Dec. 20. Residents were able to chat with police officers while enjoying some cookies.

★ **Stars:** To the Indianapolis Department of Public Works (DPW) and Indy Parks which are teaming up to help recycle live Christmas trees for the city's residents. Trees must be free of tinsel, lights, tree stands and all other decorative materials in order to recycle them

properly. Trees can be dropped off from dawn to dusk. Now through Jan. 31, trees without any decorations can be dropped off on the Southside Indy Parks location: Perry Park (451 E. Stop 11 Road) soccer field parking lot.

★ **Stars:** To the Center Grove students from Sugar Grove Elementary's Student Council kids who delivering a check for \$1,000 to Riley Children's Hospital - a great community service project!

★ **Stars:** To Beech Grove schools for hosting Coaches Vs. Cancer at the Beech Grove vs. Danville girls basketball game Beech! Money raised supports the American Cancer Society!

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Cheers to a new year and another chance for us to get it right."

– Oprah Winfrey

HUMOR



TOP TEN REASONS YOU DIDN'T GET WHAT YOU WANTED FOR CHRISTMAS

By Torry Stiles

10. Elves went on strike right after Thanksgiving and the scab crew couldn't fill the quotas.
9. Last year's presidential campaign forced a complete re-interpretation of the meaning of "nice."
8. Your stuff is on the other side of Trump's wall.
7. Melting Arctic ice is proving to be a logistical nightmare. Global warming is real and Santa has the flooded workshops to prove it.
6. "If ya ain't on Santa's lap then all you're getting is crap."
5. You used a DVD of a burning fireplace and a picture of some milk and cookies. Here's a link to a picture of a Harley-Davidson.
4. The Mann Act is still on the books.
3. The hippopotamus for Christmas thing is just a stupid song.
2. "Half naughty" doesn't mean "half nice." Good try, though, Senator.
1. It does no good to suck up to Dad when Mom is the one buying the presents.

BELIEVE IT!

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

In Columbia, Missouri, though clotheslines are banned, clothes may be draped over a fence.

Source: dumblaws.com



Personal weight loss coach covered by insurance

By Mary Ann Wietbrock RN MSN ACNS BC
Specialized in Fitness & Nutrition & Medications

Are you ready to lose weight? Has your doctor told you to lose weight? Have you tried several weight loss plans that do not work for you?

You are reading the right article. You have found a weight loss program that has proven results for all types of people. So, you're not sure if this program can work for you. Let's take a deep dive into what this weight loss program has to offer for you.

As your personal weight loss coach, I help you dream your goals, create your personal life style menu, and celebrate your success. The first step is to arrange a personal private appointment at my office located at Family Fun and Fitness at 5151 West US 40 Greenfield IN 46140, just north of New Palestine. You do not need to be a gym member.

We will start with a free preventative health assessment covered completely by Anthem, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, United Health Care, and Medicare. There is no

co co-pay and no deductible and no out of pocket fees. I file the insurance claims and receive funds directly from your insurance company. You will not receive a bill.

I will measure your body fat, body mass index, do a physical exam, review your life style, and do a food inventory. I will review your medical history, medications, and lab results. You are given a full report on your second visit.

On your first visit you will also be provided with a plan of action and help in creating three life style days that work for your life. There are no cookie cutter plans. We will continue to work on your plan during the next five weeks and longer as needed.

Cardinal Elements Inc. private office is located on the gym floor. I design plans for food choices and fitness level that can be done in any setting. Memberships and workout classes are also available.

The 6 months average results are a reduced body fat of 5 percent, reduced waist size of 3.5", reduced body weight of 26.5 lbs., better digestion, and more energy. Testimonials at cardinalelements.com. Call (317) 410-9140 or email askRN@cardinalelements.com.



Carole's Fitness provides a full workout for those 55 and over

By Carole Pefley

As Carole Pefley was leaving Carole's Fitness and heading to Starbucks, she stopped by the mailbox. There were Christmas cards from a couple of the girls who exercise at her facility.

Later, while having coffee, she carefully opened the cards, taking care not to tear the envelopes as they were really decorative and amazingly beautiful. On the front of one, Santa Claus was sitting on a bench and feeding a deer and there were rabbits and birds taking part in the feast too. The stamp had Mary, Joseph and Baby Jesus in a manger. A star shined above them, the sky was mostly clouded and toward the earth it was somewhat lighter. The return address label was Santa in his red suit sitting in a red and gold sleigh. The back of the envelope was green and the flap had gold stars. On the second envelop, the return address label was Christmas presents wrapped with gold paper and tied with red ribbons and bows. The stamp appeared to be an angel holding a baby. On

the back there were three holiday stickers ... "cardinals," "holiday greetings" and "joy."

After reading both the personal and card messages, Carole took time to reflect back on personal blessings and the amazing friendships developed among the people at Carole's Fitness. They are now starting their sixth year with an average of 55 participants.

The groups are small so she is able to give personal attention and instruction to each one. The atmosphere is fun, friendly and respectful; the workouts are challenging. Classes are custom tailored so each person can work at his or her own pace, from beginner to advanced levels; evening and daytime classes are available. Anyone interested in taking a class is welcome to attend one at no charge. You will also be able to get acquainted with the folks working out.

There are four main elements to get fit: cardio, weight work, core exercises and stretching. Carole's Fitness does them all!

We serve the community, and have several get-togethers throughout the year. Come and join us. You'll be glad you did! Merry Christmas, and have a safe and happy new year.



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Community service class brings cheer

Bingo – Ms. Thompson's Community Service class arranged for Holiday Bingo at the Beech Grove Senior Center, a Santa Shop at The Altenheim Senior Living community, and a party for some of the students at Hornet Park Community Center!



Bruce and Ilze Bye recognized with Centennial Award

Impact – Bruce and Ilze Bye were recently recognized as Centennial Award winners. The award is in recognition of their positive impact and contributions to Beech Grove High School and Beech Grove City Schools. Pictured with Bruce and Ilze is Jim Coffman of Eckstein Shoes, the sponsor of the award.



Ethan Smiley named Marion County Champ

Wrestling – Ethan Smiley, member of the Beech Grove Wrestling Club, is now a three-time Marion County Champ!



David Wiggins shares about fingerprinting and crime with BGHS

Lab – David Wiggins, who is a fingerprint examiner for the Indianapolis Metro Police Department Crime Lab, came and spoke to Beech Grove High School science mentor Ms. Kimball's forensics classes. They thoroughly enjoyed hearing about real cases that have been solved from someone in the trenches. Mr. Wiggins is going to arrange for the class to visit the crime lab for a tour in the spring.

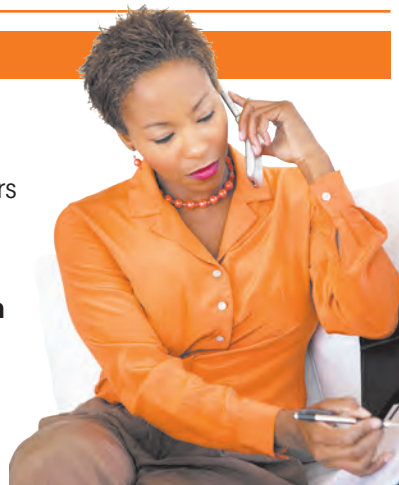
UPCOMING BEECH GROVE MEETINGS & EVENTS

JAN. 2, 6 P.M.
Board of Sanitation Meeting
City Hall Council Chambers

JAN. 2
Board of Public Works and Safety Meeting
following the Board of Sanitation Meeting
City Hall Council Chambers

JAN. 2, 7 P.M.
City Council Meeting
City Hall Council Chambers

JAN. 16, 5 P.M.
Beech Grove Greenscape Commission
Hornet Park Community Center



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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.

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

6 Cars Named After Animals

4 Indiana State Parks

3 Indy Hardware Stores

5 Cities in Ireland

2 Pacers Colors

1 January Honoree

ACROSS

1. 'Zine online
5. Speaker of the Indiana House
10. Word on a door
14. Indianapolis Opera aria, e.g.
15. Former Pacers all-star Jermaine
16. Vacation spot
17. EVENT NAME
20. Packing heat
21. Like some remarks
22. Lilly retirement gift, maybe
23. Indy 500 letters
26. One of Alcott's "Little Women"
27. Bon ___ (witticism)
30. Do *The Southside Times* work
32. FYE music section
34. Ledger column
36. Slanted
39. Brazilian dance
40. EVENT DATE
42. Arcade name
44. Jack of hearts feature
45. States as fact
47. Hoosier hooter
48. IMPD team
52. UK leaders
53. Egyptian boy king
55. Resembling a fox
57. Hotel freebie
58. PU frat letters
60. Greenwood post office scale unit
62. EVENT LOCATION
67. Greek currency
68. Treat badly
69. Gaelic tongue
70. Blood type, briefly
71. Prize won by IU's Elinor Ostrom
72. Turned blue, maybe

DOWN

1. Break out of the Marion County jail
2. Tied up at Geist
3. IUPUI graduates
4. Not at home
5. Physique, informally
6. Musical Yoko
7. Puts in stitches
8. Food from heaven
9. Hubler Nissan model
10. Hoosier National Forest evergreen
11. GI entertainers
12. ___-pitch softball

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

13. Indiana State Fair fowl
18. Trojans 6-pters.
19. Amazing adventure
24. Shapiro's Deli carrier
25. Opposite of neo-
27. Greedy cry
28. Downtown Indy gambling inits.
29. IND screening org.
31. Lucas Oil Stadium levels
33. ISO instrument
35. Puts away
37. Gnarled
38. Work teams
40. Indiana Senate votes
41. Auction off
42. Nile biter
43. Gordon Pipers cap
46. Beat the field at the Mini Marathon
49. Mallow Run, e.g.
50. Blame
51. Swarmed
54. Popular fitness system
56. Ulndy map phrase: ___ are here
58. Online journal
59. Social slight
61. Like the clothing at Kids Kloset
62. Cummins boardroom bigwig
63. Attila, for one
64. Pique
65. Beech Grove-to-Louisville dir.
66. Pacers' Hall-of-Famer Daniels

Answers See Page 17

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

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Washington Healthcare Center
8201 W. Washington St., Indianapolis

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CENTER GROVE

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

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

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

GARFIELD PARK

Beginning Word • Families and individuals of all ages are invited to learn how to write letters, resumes, papers, and other documents. By the end of this class, participants should be able to create, edit, save, and open a document; change formatting and appearance; check spelling and grammar; and print files. | When: Jan. 3, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. and Jan. 9, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. | Where: Garfield Park Branch library, 2502 Shelby St., Indianapolis. | Info: (317) 275-4490.

SOUTHPORT

Family Game Day at Southport • Families and children of all ages are invited to drop in any time to make new friends while playing board games or solving puzzles. Games and puzzles will be provided. | When: Jan. 6, 12 - 4 p.m. | Where: Southport Branch library, 2630 E. Stop 11 Rd. | Info: (317) 275-4510.

ENJOY YOUR WEEK!

Visit ss-times.com for weekly news and events.



Anna Kendrick, Brittany Snow, Rebel Wilson and Anna Camp in Pitch Perfect 3. (Photo by Quantrell D. Colbert - © Universal Pictures)

Pitch Perfect 3
One of the worst films of 2017

MOVIE REVIEW

By Adam Staten

Music plays a major role in our world, touching nearly every aspect of our lives in one form or another. It accompanies us during the commute to and from work. And depending on where one works, it's enjoyed (usually at a low volume). Tunes tag along - usually in the form of an iPod - during our workout. Most places of worship utilize music in their services. It's used to mark specific holidays and seasons of the year. It's also used as a means of entertainment, with people willing to shell out exorbitant amounts of money to see the latest and greatest band. So films where music plays a major role is nothing new or surprising.

Pitch Perfect 3 is the third and final film in the saga of Becca, Fat Amy and the rest of the acapella-singing Bellas. After graduating at the end of the last film, the latest entry picks up with the young ladies out in the real world. As they are finding out, the real world isn't a kind place. Nearly every woman in the group is struggling to find their place, unhappy with their careers and just life in general. Everyone yearns for the good ole days. Luckily, out of the blue, the group is soon back together and performing again as part of a USO tour.

While the first two films aren't exactly the best pieces of cinema, they still manage to be enjoyable, providing a fair amount of laughs due to the odd mixture of personalities. However, no one on screen is able to overcome the absolute trainwreck that is *Pitch*

Perfect 3's plot. For starters, the idea of the ladies performing on a USO tour really does come out of nowhere and then the very next scene they are on a military base. From that point, things only get much, much worse.

For whatever reason, one of the film's subplots involves a kidnapping, up close hand-to-hand combat and explosives. Again, this is a film about singing without the accompaniment of instruments. Characters also have unexplained, gravity-defying abilities, which come out of nowhere. It's almost like the filmmakers just went with the most outlandish idea they could possibly conjure up and it doesn't work, at all.

There are several laughs sprinkled throughout, even if they are telegraphed a mile away. The ridiculous story and poor direction make this, not only the most inferior of the three *Pitch Perfect* films, but one of the worst this year. 1 out of 5.



Adam Staten lives in Perry Township and is a movie buff. Staten graduated from University of Southern Indiana with a degree in Communication Studies. He can be reached at adam.staten1@gmail.com

Southside News Quiz

How well do you know your Southside community?

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

1 Congrats to *The Southside Times* Person of the Year, Jim Coffman! What is NOT one thing he is currently involved with in Beech Grove?

- A. Beautify Beech Grove
- B. The chamber of commerce
- C. Business/entrepreneurship
- D. Politics

2 _____ is a special section *The Southside Times* runs the last issue of the year to highlight those who have passed away in the last year.

- A. Heavenly Highlight
- B. Lives Remembered
- C. Honoring heroes
- D. Yearly Deaths



3 Sylvia Henricks was a wealth of knowledge and had an interest in many things, particularly the _____ of her Franklin Township community.

- A. Architecture
- B. Economy
- C. History
- D. Growth

4 Lt. Aaron Allan continues to be honored after falling in the line of duty on July 27. What is one reason Southport Chief Vaughn says as to why people continue to give in his name?

- A. The police department continues to push fundraisers
- B. They know his family needs the help.
- C. They were struck by the manner in which he gave his life.
- D. Allan loved fundraisers.

5 Southport alumnus Joe Brunk is best known for his athleticism in which sport?

- A. Basketball
- B. Football
- C. Soccer
- D. Baseball



ANSWERS ON PAGE 17

IN OUR SCHOOLS



Pictured from left, Katherine Minton, Amanda Blankenberger, Mary Alice Furgeson and Benjamin Pesto.

Roncalli Rebels named Rising Stars

Achievement – Four Roncalli High School juniors have been named Indiana "Rising Stars" in the most recent publication of the Indiana Association of School Principals (IASP). Amanda Blankenberger, Mary Alice Furgeson, Katherine Minton and Benjamin Pesto were selected from among the class of 2019 for this honor based on a combination of academic achievement, standardized test score results, and school/community involvement. In addition to receiving a certificate from the IASP, these students will be made known to potential future college choices in Indiana.



Pictured from left, Adrian Daves and Sam Hansen.

Roncalli students named San Damiano Scholars

Marian Univ. – Roncalli High School seniors Adrian Daves and Sam Hansen were selected into Marian University's San Damiano Scholars Program. This scholarship program is for students interested in becoming leaders in parishes, schools, healthcare and not-for-profits. Students selected in the program participate in specific theology courses, retreats, monthly community meetings, service, internships and pilgrimage opportunities.



Principal Stephanie Quinlan

Southport Middle School supports Pack Away Hunger

Food – Students and staff at Southport Middle School are serving the less fortunate. One hundred forty-five students packing 32,000 meals made of rice, soy, spices and vitamins to support the Pack Away Hunger initiative, a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of children and others who suffer from hunger and malnutrition.



Pictured from left, Ashlyn Streicher, Patrick Cherry, Mary Alice Furgeson.

Roncalli Rebels attend Lugar Leadership Conference

Leaders – Roncalli High School juniors Patrick Cherry, Mary Alice Furgeson and Ashlyn Streicher attended the 2017 Richard G. Lugar Symposium for Tomorrow's Leaders on Dec. 9 at the University of Indianapolis. These three juniors, who attended the symposium along with nearly 500 other students from around the state, were selected based on their outstanding leadership and service. At the symposium, the students attended sessions on the following topics: "Crime Prevention and Leadership: Thinking Outside 'The Offender'"; "#Fake-News: What is it, how to spot it, and what to do about it"; "US Leadership in the World"; "US Entry Into World War I: Lessons 100 Years Later"; "Backlash Against Globalization"; and "You Say You Want A Revolution? Protest in Popular Music." In addition to attending the sessions, these students heard from Senator Richard Lugar, and met other leaders from around the state.



Meat myths, mammals and renunciation

NUTRITION

By Wendell Fowler

With news outlets around the globe in our faces screaming "eating too much meat can kill you," every cell in my temple wept as I heard a local TV host express their love of all things meat... sleepwalking in the face of rock-solid research revealing animal products had the strongest connection among female breast, kidney, ovarian, pancreatic, prostate, testicular and thyroid cancers. Tobacco smokers with diets high in animal products had the strongest correlations with elevated cancer rates.

Many good people still believe meat is the one and only source of "real" protein. This silly myth going back to 19th-century Germany refuses to die. There's clean protein everywhere: quinoa, broccoli, greens, peas, sprouts, kale, avocado, mushrooms, oatmeal, peanuts, spirulina, beans, flax, chia, hemp and pumpkin seeds, tempeh, tofu, Ezekiel bread and nutritional yeast flakes.

Humans are mammals (Class Mammalia) who can be trained just like a dog. Obedient humans have a dumbed-down knowledge of the importance of eating; freely consuming whatever a tilting advertising mascot suggests. Healthy plant-based foods abound but our programming to eat meat, (and lots of it bub), and dislike

vegetables has been tattooed on your cells. If mom and dad didn't eat plant-based foods, chance are you don't or won't either. There are some folks with genes making them more likely to stay hooked and eat a lot of meat. Combined with aggressive, repeated marketing by profit-motivated meat cartels, makes it depressingly easy to manipulate human nature for the worse. Sit, stay! Roll over.

I'm not telling you to stop eating meat. That's blasphemy. Just cut down a bit, that's all. For decades, you've been programmed and grossly misinformed by the flawed, corporately-biased Standard American Diet. Yes, like religion, it's incredibly difficult to change your core beliefs. But you can dear friend, you can. Know why? You are an awesome, perfect miracle of creation, designed to express perfect health. Here for a purpose. Alive and full of love. To bud into the truest, most authentic version of yourself, light shining brightly, you must love yourself enough to end the suffering. No one can save you but yourself. And you're definitely worth saving. *Happy New Year!*



Chef Wendell is a lecturer and food journalist. Contact him at chefwendellfowler@gmail.com.

The best way to lead off a New Year

GRAMMAR GUY

By Curtis Honeycutt

It's resolution time, which means your local gym's treadmills will be in high demand while they glisten with other people's sweat (until roughly the end of February). You've probably set some goals for yourself and defined ways you'd like to be more awesome in 2018. Allow me to suggest an additional resolution: to win at life with better grammar.

We can start right now. Since it's time to lead off a new year, let's examine the words lead and led, which often trip us up (just like that treadmill you set at a slightly-too-ambitious speed).

Lead is an example of a heteronym. Heteronyms are homographs that are spelled the same, have different meanings and sound different. *Lead* is not only a heavy metal with a short e vowel sound, but it is also when someone is in charge, or ahead of something (as a verb) or a position of advantage in a competition (as a noun), and has a long e vowel sound.

Where *lead* gets tricky is when people incorrectly use the word *led* in its place. When you were in first place, you were in the *lead*; you led the race for 19 laps. Use *led* as the past tense for the verb lead (the one that rhymes with bead).

The confusion, of course, is when *lead* (like the metal) and *led* (the past tense verb) go head-to-head. These words are homophones, which are homonyms (words that sound the same) with different spellings. Homophones trick us, kind of like the small print in the gym membership stating we can, under no circumstance, quit the gym.

This paragraph is a lightning round to clear up any other lead/led related words. *Leed* (with a long e vowel sound) is a Scottish word for language or speech. *Led Zeppelin* (with a short e vowel sound) was an English rock band, who, ironically, was one of the pioneering bands in the genre of heavy metal music (not pioneers in *lead*, the literal heavy metal). One of their favorite venues was Leeds University (pronounced with a long e vowel sound).

So, if you'd like to get the *lead* out on 2018, I suggest you lead the way by working out with *Led Zeppelin* blaring in your earbuds. And wipe down the treadmill before you use it.



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

Puzzles & Answers - SEE PAGE 14

Answers to HOOSIER HODGEPODGE:

Cars: BEETLE, BRONCO, CHARGER, JAGUAR, MUSTANG, RAM;

Cities: CORK, DUBLIN, GALWAY, LIMERICK, WATERFORD;

Parks: LINCOLN, POKAGON, SHADE, SHAKAMAK;

Stores: ACE, HOME DEPOT, LOWE'S;

Colors: BLUE, GOLD;

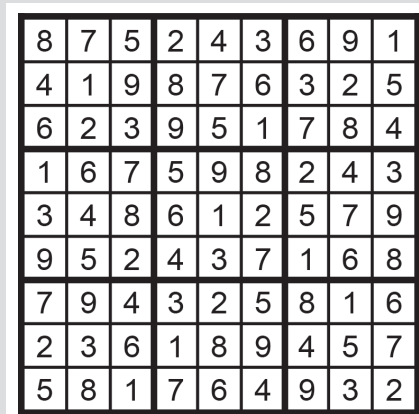
Honoree: MARTIN LUTHER KING JR



Q&A

SEE PAGE 15

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



ON CAMPUS

Southside students make Belmont Univ. Fall Dean's List

Academics - The following students achieved the Dean's List at Belmont University for the Fall 2017 semester: Zachary Hootman of Indianapolis (46237), Kaitlin Whiteside of Greenwood (46143) and Dylan Windler of Indianapolis (46217). Eligibility is based on a minimum course load of 12 hours and a quality grade point average of 3.5 with no grade below a C.

Local students earn degrees from Butler Univ.

Graduate - The following students were awarded a degree at Butler University's 2017 Winter Commencement ceremony held on Dec. 16: Amy Dean, an MBA in Business Administration and Heather Gant, an MS in Education Administration, both of Greenwood; Samantha Lilly, a BS in Marketing and Brooke Stevenson, a BS in Middle/Secondary Education, both of Indianapolis.

Greenwood's Emmie Ward makes Dean's List

Academics - Dr. Diane Bartholomew, vice president of academic affairs for Missouri Valley College, announced that Emmie Ward, a freshman majoring in Liberal Arts, of Greenwood, made the Fall 2017 Dean's List. The requirements for the Dean's List are a 3.3 or higher grade point average; at least 12 graded hours for the semester and no "D," "F," or "Incomplete" grades for the semester.

Parker Nye Named to Bob Jones Univ. Dean's List

Academics - Parker Nye, a Sophomore Business Administration major of Indianapolis, was among approximately 890 Bob Jones University students named to the Fall 2017 Dean's List. The Dean's List recognizes students who earn a 3.00-3.74 grade point average during the semester.



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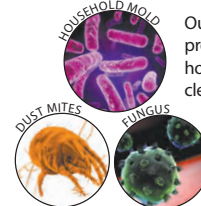
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The Southside Times

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BUSINESS

Doctor joins staff at Franciscan Franklin Township Family Medicine

Providers – Lyle R. Cortez, DO, has joined Franciscan Physician Network Franklin Township Family Medicine. He joins Danielle Van Gemert, DO, and Cass Cortez, MD, and a team of advanced practice providers, whose offices are located at 8325 E. Southport Road, Suite 100, Indianapolis. Dr. Cortez most recently was a member of Indiana Internal Medicine Consultants/Indiana Primary Care Associates in Greenwood. Board-certified in family medicine, he received his undergraduate degree in biology and minored in chemistry at Indiana University. He also was a post-baccalaureate student at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology in Terre Haute and attended Rosalind Franklin University Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine. Dr. Cortez earned his medical degree from Midwestern University-Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine in Illinois. To schedule an appointment with Dr. Cortez, call (317) 862-6609.



Greenwood's Adam Allen named Top 100 Bank Advisors

Magazine – Adam Allen has been named as one of Bank Investment Consultant (BIC) magazine's Top 100 Bank Advisors for 2017. Allen is a Raymond James financial advisor located at MainSource Bank, 1263 State Rd. 135, Greenwood, and is affiliated with the Financial Institutions Division of Raymond James Financial Services, Inc. (RJFS). Member FINRA/SIPC. The magazine evaluated the honorees on six variables, including assets under management, production, percentage growth in both AUM and production, fee business and the ratio of production-to-AUM. Allen joins 24 financial advisors who are affiliated with Raymond James and honored on this list, compiled annually by Bank Investment Consultant.

**OBITUARIES****Clyde E. Bobb**

Clyde E. Bobb, 80, of Beech Grove, died on Dec. 19, 2017. Clyde was born on Oct. 10, 1937 in Indianapolis to Lee S. and Irene (Butchert) Bobb. Clyde was married to Sandra K. Renforth on Nov. 9, 1956. He served in the United States Marine Corps. He was an active member of the Beech Grove Athletic Club and Beech Grove Little League. Survivors include his daughters and son-in-law, Sherri Jo Porter, Kerri and Alan Matzdorff; son, Jerry Bobb; 10 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren. Preceding Clyde in death are his parents; wife; two sons, Barry Bobb Sr. and Terry Bobb Sr. A Celebration of Life was Dec. 26 at Harvey's Tavern, 614 Main St, Beech Grove. Private Graveside Services will be conducted at Washington Park East. Newcomer Funeral Home has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Helen Veronica Davis

Helen Veronica Davis, 80, of Indianapolis, died on Dec. 22, 2017. She was born on June 3, 1937 in Loogootee, Ind. to the late Elmer and Bernadette Gough. She was a member of Holy Spirit Catholic Church. Survivors include her daughter, Ju An Davis; granddaughter, Dorie Davis; brother, Bill (Stella) Gough; one nephew; five nieces; and two great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her son, Michael Davis; one sister and three brothers. Visitation is Dec. 28, 4 - 8 p.m. with the Rosary at 7 p.m. at G. H. Herrmann Madison Avenue Funeral Home, 5141 Madison Ave., Indianapolis. Funeral Service is Dec. 29, 11:30 a.m. Burial will be at Calvary Cemetery.

Vera Louise Gadd

Vera Louise Gadd, 94, of Indianapolis, died Dec. 19, 2017. She was born April 10, 1923. She is survived by her daughter, Shirley (David) Creasey; son, Larry Johnson; six grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents and several brothers and sisters. Vera was a member of Apostolic Lighthouse Church. She was a choir leader for 35 members, song leader, a Sunday school teacher and superintendent, testimony leader, and she sang for 15 years with the Duzan Trio. A funeral service was Dec. 23, 2017 at Apostolic Gospel Lighthouse Church, 3702

E. Raymond St., Indianapolis. Vera will be laid to rest in New Crown Cemetery. Arrangements are by Wilson St. Pierre Funeral Service & Crematory, Stirling-Gerber Chapel.

Jacqueline Margaret Hall

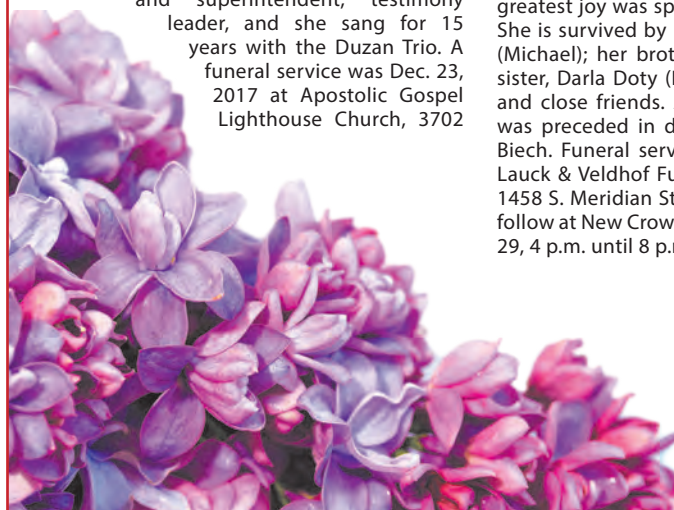
Jacqueline Margaret Hall, 83, of Indianapolis, died on Dec. 23, 2017. She was born on Aug. 2, 1934 in Indianapolis to the late Arthur and Mary Walden. Jacqueline is survived by her children, Mary (Rick) Higgs, Cathy (Joe) Pichette, Jeffery Dwight (Cecily) Hall, and Robert Lamar (Suzy) Hall; 11 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband of 55 years, Dwight L. Hall. A Mass of Christian Burial will be Dec. 29, 2 p.m. at St. Patrick Catholic Church, 950 Prospect St., Indianapolis. Visitation will be from 12 p.m. until time of Mass. She will be laid to rest in Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, Glens Valley.

Juanita Hunt

Juanita Hunt, 79, of Franklin, died on Dec. 22, 2017. She was born on Nov. 26, 1938 in Scottsville, Ky. to the late Edward and Pernie Isenberg. Survivors include her children, Debbie (Bobby) Jones, Darrell (Terri) Hunt, and David (Cheryl) Hunt; six grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; brothers, Larry, Kenny, and Gary Isenberg. She was preceded in death by her husband, Bobby G. Hunt; granddaughter, Shannon Hunt; sister, Gertie York; and brother, Edward (Buck) Isenberg. Visitation was Dec. 27 at G. H. Herrmann Greenwood Funeral Home, 1605 S. State Rd. 135 and Olive Branch Road. Funeral service is Dec. 28, 11:30 a.m. at the funeral home with additional visitation from 10:30 a.m. until the service. Entombment will be at Forest Lawn Memory Gardens.

Karen K. McDowell

Karen K. McDowell, 69, of Indianapolis, died on Thursday, Dec. 21, 2017. She was born on Oct. 14, 1948 in Indianapolis to the late Arthur and Mary Biech. She worked for American State Insurance Company as a clerk. Karen enjoyed doing puzzles and drinking coffee and watching her favorite television shows. However, her greatest joy was spending time with her family. She is survived by her daughter, Susan Rumble (Michael); her brother, Larry Biech (Chris); her sister, Darla Doty (Don); other extended family and close friends. Aside from her parents, she was preceded in death by her brother, Randy Biech. Funeral services are Dec. 30, 11 a.m. in Lauck & Veldhof Funeral & Cremation Services, 1458 S. Meridian St., Indianapolis with burial to follow at New Crown Cemetery. Visitation is Dec. 29, 4 p.m. until 8 p.m. at the funeral home.



Jerry C. Meek

Jerry C. Meek, 71, of Fairland, died on Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2017. He was born in Indianapolis on Aug. 31, 1946 to the late James and June Meek. He provided for his family by working as a machinist, a job which he loved. He was an avid football and NASCAR fan, he was a volunteer firefighter for Warren Township. In his spare time he enjoyed traveling and camping, listening to old country music and 50's and 60's Bluegrass music, and metal working. Jerry had fond memories of making custom parts for a raffle motorcycle that Lucas Oil Stadium commissioned. Above all his greatest joy was spending time with his family. He is survived by his wife of 27 years, Brenda A. Meek; four sons, James Meek, Fred Cook (Crystal), Gary Cook (Shirley), and Timothy Cook (Kim); daughter Amy Meek; sister, Jenny Hays (Chuck); seven grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; one niece and one nephew. Final disposition will be cremation according to Jerry's wishes. There will be no formal services observed. Arrangements and care provided by Lauck & Veldhof Funeral & Cremation Services, Indianapolis.

Johnna Beth Oaks

Johnna Beth Oaks, 52, of Danville, died Dec. 23, 2017. There are no services scheduled at this time. Arrangements were entrusted to Simplicity Funeral & Cremation Care.

Gary Rhoades

Gary Rhoades, 63, of Greenwood, died on Dec. 15, 2017. He was born on April 18, 1954 to the late Glen and Shirley Rhoades. He is survived by his wife, Beverly Rhoades; two daughters, Jennifer Moore and Kathryn Rhoades; son, Joshua Rhoades; numerous extended family and close friends. There will be no services. Arrangements and care provided by Lauck & Veldhof Funeral & Cremation Services, Indianapolis.

Ida Marie Sgro

Ida Marie Sgro, 93, of Indianapolis, died on Dec. 20, 2017. She was born on Jan. 14, 1924 in Columbus, Ohio to the late Michael and Clara Mercurio. She retired from Indiana Bell after 30 years of service. She was a member of Our Lady of Lourdes, Telephone Pioneers and the Italian-American Club. She loved spending time with her family, traveling, playing bingo and golfing. Ida is survived by her three daughters, Tina (Steve) Waugh, Gina (Steve) Horton and Denise (Jed) Ehret; four grandchildren, Chris Waugh, Courtney Sharp, Justin Ehret and Rachel Ehret and six great grandchildren, Ashley Waugh, Alexis Waugh, Alyssa Toney, Rocco Waugh, Brady Waugh and Brooklynn Ehret. She was preceded in death by her husband of 66 years, Joseph "Joe" Sgro and daughter, Diane Nourse. A Mass of Christian Burial was Dec. 23 at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, 5333 E. Washington St., Indianapolis. She will be laid to rest in Calvary Cemetery. Arrangements have been entrusted to G. H. Herrmann Madison Avenue Funeral Home, 5141 Madison Ave.

Gerald Howser Strong

Gerald "Gerry" Howser Strong, 75, died on Sunday, Dec. 17, 2017. He was born June 21, 1942 in Lafayette, Tenn. to the late Ralph and Hassie (Perigo) Strong. He was retired from the Beech Grove Fire Department and a member of Local 416 Fire Fighters Union. He was also a member of St. Jude Catholic Church and Beech Grove JC's. As an Entrepreneur, he and his wife operated Front Row Seating, providing team chairs and scoring tables as they traveled the southeast. He always kept his golf clubs handy as he enjoyed golf as well as Ritter's Ice Cream. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Sharon (Karnes) Strong; children, Kimberly Sharp (Steven), Brenda Strong, and Rob Strong; brother, Harold Strong; grandchildren, Brittany Chatham, Tony Bell (Brooke), Nick Bell (Kourtney), Brianne Chatham, Micheala Johnson-Strong, and Taylor Strong; and many nieces, nephews, great and great-great-nieces and nephews, extended family members and friends. Visitation was Dec. 21 at Little and Sons Funeral Home, 1401 E Stop 11 Rd., Indianapolis. His funeral service was Dec. 22 with burial to follow at Washington Park East in Indianapolis.

**Brenda Gale Walker-Powell**

Brenda Gale Walker-Powell, 59, of Indianapolis, died Dec. 8, 2017. Brenda was born on Dec. 4, 1958 in Birmingham, Ala. to Andrew J. and Elnora (Holmes) Walker. She is survived by her father, Andrew J. Walker; husband, Fred Powell; two sons, Deven L. Haggard, Garry K. Smith; eight grandchildren: two sisters, Pamela Pulliam, Angela Matheny-Allen; three brothers, Robert Boyd, Kenny Walker, Tony Walker and many other family and friends. Brenda is preceded in death by her mother, Elnora (Holmes) Walker; two brothers, Harold Holms and Dennis Boyd. A graveside service was Dec. 23 at New Crown Cemetery. Newcomer Cremations, Funerals & Receptions, Indianapolis Chapel have been entrusted with her services.

Paul C. Young

Paul C. Young, 68, of Indianapolis, died on Tuesday, Dec. 19, 2017. He was born on Oct. 19, 1949 in Indianapolis to Winifred V. Burnett. Paul owned his own tree trimming service before his health required him to retire. He liked all types of music, enjoyed watching sports (especially football) and was known to be very outgoing. His greatest joy was spending time with his family (especially his grandchildren). He is survived by his daughter, Jessica Van Huss (Brandon Modlin); his son, Mark Van Huss; his six grandchildren, Besslin, Shyann, Richie, Aironna, March and Ricky Van Huss. He is also survived by numerous extended family and close friends. There will be no funeral services held at this time. Arrangements and care provided by Lauck & Veldhof Funeral & Cremation Services, Indianapolis.

Obituaries are printed free of charge. Funeral directors are encouraged to send obituaries and photos to news@ss-times.com. Information received by noon Tuesday will be published Thursday, space permitting.

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EVENT

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The Southside Times



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CLASSIFIED ADS

CLASSIFIED ADS



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The Southside Times **ADVERTISE TODAY!**
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To advertise a line ad, please fill out this form. Include your name, address, phone number, dates you wish your ad to run and credit card information and mail to: The Southside Times, 7670 US 31 S. Indianapolis, IN 46227 or call: (317) 300-8782 to place your ad! Line Classified Ads are \$11.00 for the first 4 lines and each additional line is \$1.00 per line. (NOTE: 1 line is around 28 characters, spaces or punctuation. All caps changes the word count). Deadline for submissions are Tuesdays, noon.

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Wishing you a very Happy Holidays from

Rick Myers
 Publisher
 Brian Kelly
 Chief Executive Officer
 Brogan Dearing
 Director of Operations

The Southside Times

Nicole Davis
 Editor
 Brian Ruckle, Advertising Account Executive
 Asha Patel, Production/Art Mgr.
 Graphic Design

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