

CENTER GROVE

ICON

Volume 4 Issue 05



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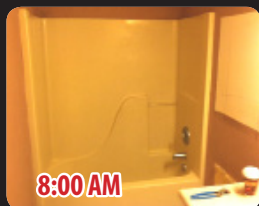
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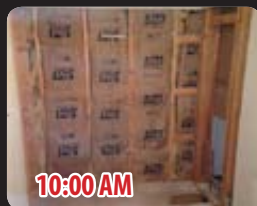
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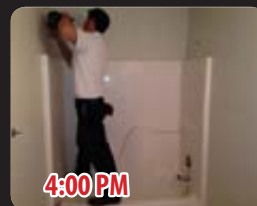
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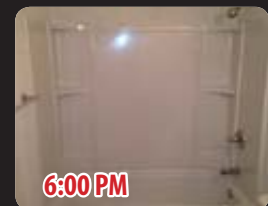
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Have any news tips? Want to submit a calendar event? Have a photograph to share? Call Nicole Davis at 300-8782 or email her at news@myICON.info. Remember, our news deadlines are several days prior to print.

**Contact the Product Champion**

Center Grove ICON reaches a vast segment of our community. For information about reaching our readers, call Haleigh Inscore at 300-8782 or email her at info@myICON.info.



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Greenwood and Whiteland VFWs partner to fundraise for handicap bathroom for Center Grove child

FEATURE**By Nicole Davis**

It started with a handicap ramp. The Whiteland VFW pitched in to build Hannah Fults, a 12-year-old with cerebral palsy, a new ramp leading into her Center Grove-area home.

Seeing the family was still in need of things that would make life better for Hannah and her family, Whiteland and Greenwood VFWs have partnered together to help the family raise enough money to remodel their bathroom, fix a leaking tub and make the bathroom more handicap accessible.

"It's not just Center Grove, Whiteland or Greenwood, but everyone out here has such a sense of community and family," says Laura Evans, Hannah's mother. "They care about each other and help each other. The schools all help each other. I've never seen a community help each other as much as this one until I moved here about 10 years ago."

Laura has lived in the Center Grove area since 2006 with Hannah and her son, Brian Fults. She is also the caregiver for her mother, Sandy Brune. She recently married to Chuck Evans in 2015. Hannah attends Center Grove Middle School Central half days. Because of her disability, she is confined to a wheelchair and is prone to seizures. Laura says Hannah is a very happy child who loves music and playing with her toys.

The family's neighbor, Bill Smith, says he noticed the family could use a handicap ramp last year. A member of the Men's Auxiliary with the Whiteland VFW, he asked the VFW if they would like to contribute to the project, which was completed in the fall.

"Laura is phenomenal how she takes care of these kids and this family," Smith says. "She puts herself aside. She never complains."

They have since started a gofundme.com page, gofundme.com/9hfw4vqc, to raise money to fix the bathroom, partnering with the Greenwood VFW to help with the fundraiser. The shower was remodeled for Hannah's needs more than four years ago, but it has worn over time. Steve Milbourn, commander of the Greenwood VFW Post 5864, said the VFW is always happy to help with these community-oriented projects.

"This is a great project



From left, Laura Evans, Christopher Baldwin, Chuck Evans, Steve Milbourn and, seated, Sandy Brune.

Photos by Nicole Davis:

for our membership and our local community members throughout Johnson County to become involved with," the page says. "Families like these have such a struggle every day and it is import for organizations like ours to assist them."

Through the gofundme page, which is open for donations through March 31, and local fundraising such as setting up a donation booth at the Greenwood Rural King on March 5, the groups have almost met the \$7,000 goal. Mount Pleasant Christian Church recently donated \$3,500 to the

family for the project. Anything exceeding the cost of the project would go to looking at how to fix the family's handicap van.

"They clearly have a need," says Whiteland VFW Post 6978 Commander Christopher Baldwin. "A lot of people want to help, but can't. We felt this was something we could do. There was a need and something we should do. All it took was a couple of people sitting around a table, having coffee and coming up with a plan of action."

The next step, Baldwin says, is getting contractors into the home for bids on the project.

"I just can't express enough; I say from my heart how much I appreciate it," Laura says. "I get emotional because there have been so many years we have struggled and tried to get help that was needed. This time we weren't trying to get help. We've just had the blessings coming in."



Hannah Fults



HELP US HELP YOU!

This newspaper is for, by and about
the community it serves.

Our editorial content is wholly dependent on independent
marketplace research, and in order to remain relevant,
it's time to freshen our data.

You may be contacted via e-mail by SMARI, Inc., the firm
Center Grove ICON uses for such research.

If you receive the e-mail, please take a few minutes to
complete the survey in it so we may remain focused on what
it is you want and expect in your monthly newspaper.

If you do not receive an e-mail, please visit
<http://survey.smari.com/tc1> to take the short survey.

Thank you in advance for your participation, and thank you,
as always, for reading Center Grove ICON, where
we're fond of saying, "News is what our readers say it is."

CENTER GROVE
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HISTORY & ARCHITECTURE



What the Center Grove graduating class would have looked
like circa late 1800s.

Submitted Photo

Alumni Association seeking growth

By Jeff Beck

The Center Grove Alumni Association is thought to be the longest active alumni association in Indiana. It was founded on May 21, 1898 by graduates of the class of 1897 with 15 attending banquet. The 1897 class consisted of six graduates, three women and three men.

Leaders of alumni association provide many hours of service trying their best to keep the association active and vibrant. Slowly, attendance at the events have dropped. With so many students graduating from CGHS, more graduates are needed to take part in growing the association.

The CGAA was eventually turned over to the Center Grove Education Foundation. The CGEF is currently being led by Executive Director Carla Johnson. She met with many interested Center Grove graduates trying to gain strength for the school's alumni program.

The foundation hosts an annual Gala - this year April 22 - and makes a strong effort to honor graduates of 10, 25, and 50 years. On occasion, attendance for those honorary classes is very few and sometimes none.

Please consider helping CGEF and the CGAA through both service and financial support, as it is always needed. Let's get back to celebrating CGHS alum!



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

OUR VIEWS

Best wishes to Rep. John Price

As the Indiana General Assembly concluded its 2016 legislative session on March 10, this was the final session for one Indiana State Representative. John Price, district 47 representative and White River Township resident, is stepping down.

Price began his career at the Johnson County Sheriff's Department, from 1973-1994, retiring after 21 years. He served as director of the Johnson County Highway Department, on White River Township Advisory Board and entered the private sector as president of JLP Enterprises and Irrigation Solutions. He was elected onto the Johnson County Council serving as president and vice president and finally served four years as the county commissioner. When asked to run for state legislator, Price says he had to give the decision a lot of thought and prayer before he agreed. He was elected with more than 70 percent of the vote in 2012.

Price has been an inspiration throughout his political career. He always spoke of his desire to be a voice for his district and vote in a manner to best serve not only his neighborhood, but Indiana as a whole.

We can only hope the next person serves as honorably as John Price has served. We wish him well in his future endeavors!

BELIEVE IT!

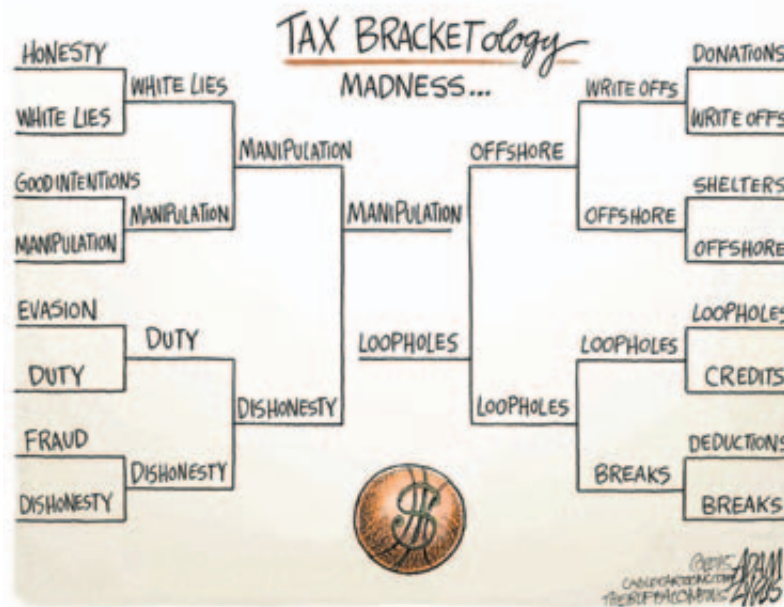
Our nation has all sorts of arcane, nonsensical laws on the books. Each month, we'll share one with you....

In New Jersey, you may not slurp your soup.
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MONTHLY QUOTE

"The golden opportunity you are seeking is in yourself. It is not in your environment; it is not in luck or chance, or the help of others; it is in yourself alone."

~ Orison Swett Marden,
American Writer



Listening without ears

Commentary by Gus Pearcy

People believe Van Gogh cut off his ear for love. In my estimation, he cut off his ear so people would stop telling him that God gave him two ears and one mouth for a reason. It's an annoying truism designed to make people shut up and listen to you, but it makes a good point: Listening is the best way to make people like you.

I had an Uncle Orly who lost his ear in a welding accident. He could hear just fine. And he wouldn't just hear people; he listened to them. He had a genuine interest in everyone.

Now, I think about Uncle Orly when I listen. He was intense when he listened. He would nod, contemplate and smile as he listened to you. He was a master listener despite his lack of an ear saddle. I've thought about what I learned from Uncle Orly and as a journalist myself. Here are some keys.

Listen with intent. Listening with intent is to listen with a goal.

Listen for the nonverbal. These are things like body language and context. Listen for how people say the words. Are they excited? Sad? This will help you synthesize the words into meaning.

Listen for their pride and joy. Listen for an accomplishment that you can refer to the next time you meet someone. This validates the reason they told you about the accomplishment in the first place.

Coolest trick of all: Pay attention to plaques and programs. If a name rings a bell in a future conversation, ask them if they are the same John Smith who is VP of the chamber or was employee of the month at their

organization. I can't tell you what an impact this has on someone.

Showing sincere interest in another will instantly make you likable and memorable. Uncle Orly used to rub off his own ear (replica he bought by mail) to people who never met him before. He would palm it and viciously rub his ear and exclaim in a falsetto as he brought down the ear in his palm. Women would faint. Men would swoon, but no one ever forgot him. Ever.



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

Yes, we want your letters

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

FROM THE PUBLISHER

Arkanoff: property value tied to district

No secret that Center Grove Community Schools continues to grow.

Dr. Richard Arkanoff, superintendent, spoke to the Rotary Club of Greenwood March 14, along with other area superintendents.

He told those in attendance that this year marks the largest kindergarten class in the history of the school district at 588. He said the same type of number is most likely for next year as well.

It's all about "enrollment management" as he dubbed it. Citing that it sounds better than "redistricting" which the very word brings out many emotions for those families that are touched by it.

He called on those in attendance – and in the business of real estate and land development – to share with folks that property value is not attached to a particular elementary school.

"The reality is your property value is tied to the school district and of course the community as a whole," he said "But not to one particular elementary."

He said the district does as much as it can to balance enrollment across the district and in each school – knows that it can be emotional to change schools, but will still attempt to accommodate a family.

"If they want to drive usually we let them stay at the elementary they want to stay at as long as we keep our class room numbers balanced ...," Arkanoff said.

Center Grove High School football coach Eric Moore was the Keynote speaker for the Rotary Club of Greenwood's 50th anniversary celebration, March 4 at Dye's Walk Country Club.

I've heard many great things about Coach Moore over the years but never met him. I'm very happy he spoke at the 50th anniversary celebration. He's got a lot of energy – He needs it at the age of 55 – I'm close by – with children ranging in age from 9-23. He is very passionate about Center Grove and about what makes a community a community – after listening to him it's easy to see why he is so successful.

"I feel like Donald Trump with play money," he said about being fortunate to coach and live in Center Grove.

I'm sure the community feels the same way.



Rick Myers is co-owner of Times-Leader Publications, LLC., publisher of Center Grove ICON, Southside Business Leader and The Southside Times. Write him at news@myicon.info.



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John Dean

Greenwood battalion chief says there is something special about working in a department with such a high standard of excellence

BEHIND the BADGE

From day one, John Dean says he has been pushed out of his comfort zone while working with the Greenwood Fire Department (GFD).

"If you know many firemen, you know we're driven individuals and enjoy the challenge of the unexpected nature," he says. "When the bell rings, you don't know what they're going to say. Over time, you come to understand what most calls will be like, but you never know what you're going to get. That was a rush to a new guy, to come into an environment where I was totally green. I was lucky to have gracious and caring firefighters who would help me understand what was going on and lay down a good foundation."

Dean graduated from Southport High School. He was hired part time to GFD in 2001, then full time in 2003. He was promoted to lieutenant in 2006. In '09 he was put in charge of the department's dive team. In June 2013 he was promoted to his current rank of battalion chief. Dean says he is happy to have found a career at GFD.

"There is something special about this department," he says. "There always has been. There is a really long history; we just celebrated our 125th anniversary last year. That tradition and high standard of excellence has been passed down. It's a demanding place to work but it's a place you strive to be a part of."

Dean resides in the Center Grove area with his wife, Amy and children, Russell and Ava.

What was your inspiration to become a firefighter?

I was in college, wanting to be a history teacher. I had gotten to know some guys in the school that were not sure if that was the direction we wanted to go or not. One mentioned he was going to enroll in an EMT class at a local hospital. It was something new I never considered before. I got my foot in the door with the EMS side. I finished an EMT class at Community Hospital. I got to know some firefighters in the EMT class, learned about the fire service and started going through the hiring process.

What has been one of your most gratifying moments on the job?

Helping people is both the most rewarding and difficult part. You get to show up in people's moment of need and many times it's one of the worst days of their life. You get the opportunity to change that or stop it from getting worse.

What aspect of the job do you find most challenging?

Seeing people hurting whether it be from physical or emotional pain. Those moments in people's lives that maybe happen once in a lifetime, an injury or car accident, whatever would cause us to be called to help them, we see that all of the time. It does take its toll on you when you see people hurting. We're trained to deal with that, but we

(also) have the comradery and brotherhood of the fire service and knowing you're going through those experiences with other people helps a lot.

What do you enjoy doing in your off-time?

I'm married and have two young children, ages 6 and 9. My wife works full time so my job the last nine or so years on my off-days I take care of the kids, get them ready for school. I'm a runner so I also spend a lot of time running.

What are your future goals, professionally or personally?

I don't have an ultimate position I'd like to obtain. The rank of battalion chief is enough responsibility for a lifetime. I'm more than satisfied with the position I have now... Personally, I want to be a good husband and father. When you have children you realize that time goes so fast and they age so quickly. I am really focused in on my family... Focusing on what's important: my faith, family and my job.

What would you have done if you hadn't become a firefighter?

I originally wanted to be a history teacher, college professor. I still have a passion for reading and understanding history.



Greenwood Battalion Chief John Dean.

Photo by Nicole Davis

Compiled by Nicole Davis

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It took two months to film *Hoosiers*, a movie about a small-town Indiana basketball team that rose above the challenges it faced to win the state championship.

Thirty years later, and Brad Long still talks about his role in the film wherever he goes, from public speaking engagements or chatting with high school students through his work as a sales representative for Jostens, selling class rings, graduation announcements, caps gowns and diplomas.

"I don't think any of us could have any idea at the time what impact it would have all of these years later," he says. "The reason it's done so well, one, it's a true story. Two, it's a story about basketball but with a theme of redemption and second chances. When an underdog does well, people root for that. It makes people feel better about themselves and makes them realize that they can overcome this obstacle."

Long attended Greenwood Community Schools until eighth grade when he moved to the Center Grove area. Through high school, he played basketball and ran track and cross country. He graduated from Center Grove High School in 1981.

"I had some great years and great memories in Center Grove High School," he says. "We won sectional my sophomore year. We had a good team my junior year and got upset in the sectional that year. That's what makes basketball great. Anything can happen."

Long graduated from Southwestern College in Kansas in the spring of 1985. He read in the paper about the search for basketball players to portray a high school basketball team in a movie inspired by the Milan High School team that won the 1954 state championship.

"I felt like I was too old, but back then I looked young for my age," he says. "My friends talked me into trying out for a part. It was really a lucky break. I just happened to fit a character they were looking for. I had no acting experience whatsoever. In most sports movies they look for actors and

hope they can play basketball. In this movie, they looked for basketball players and hoped they could act."

Hoosiers was released in 1986, written by Angelo Pizzo and directed by David Anspaugh. Gene Hackman starred as Coach Norman Dale with co-stars Barbara Hershey and Dennis Hopper. Long portrayed the character Buddy Walker, the defensive expert. Buddy gets kicked out of the practice early on. Long says the explanation as to why never made it into the film. Interim coach Norman Dale kicks Buddy's father out of the practice so Buddy acted out. Buddy later redeems himself and becomes the team captain.



Hoosiers cast members pose for a Hickory basketball team photo.

Submitted Photo

"Some of my favorite memories are the hijinks that went on with the players behind the scenes," Long says. "One day we were throwing a football around. Dennis Hopper threw the football into one of the lightings on the set." Long goes on to say, "Or, how much attention they paid to detail. The crowd would sit there for

hours and the production crew would come in and hand out drinks. After an hour of filming, the director says 'cut.' That's because they didn't have aluminum cans back then. They flew out old glass bottles and reshot those scenes."

Long says the comment he gets most is how historically accurate the film was because of that attention to detail. They used actual towns and gyms in Indiana and allowed Indiana residents to take part in the film as extras in the movie.

"One of my favorite memories, Gene was doing an interview and said these are some of the best extras he had ever worked with," Long says. "He says only in Indiana could you get 8,000 people to come cheer for a fake basketball game. That was true."

After college, Long had begun working with Jostens, the company he still works for today. He and his wife, Lisa, reside in Whiteland. They have two children, Shelby, 26, and Landry, 19. Long says he still enjoys shooting hoops in his drive-

way and runs every day to stay in shape. He is starting a basketball league at his church, Greenwood Christian Church.

"I'm at an enjoyable time in my life," Long says. "I have two children that my wife and I are very proud of. It's a bit of an adjustment now, with both of them out of the house."

Long says there's been a renewed interest in the movie this year, in the 30th anniversary of the release. The Pacers first wore Hickory jerseys on Nov. 6. Each time they wear them, they honor someone/something that impacted Indiana basketball. There will be a golf benefit in honor of the film in May. He still keeps in touch with many of the other actors in the film, saying they consider each other like college roommates – they don't see each other much but when they reunite it's like they haven't missed a beat.

"I was 23 when we filmed that," he says. "At 53, you get nostalgic and look back and think it just didn't seem like that long ago. It was a humbling experience. Out of the filming of *Hoosiers*, it led to a lot of things for me in speaking engagements. I speak to a lot of churches, youth groups and civic organizations ... I talk about three things in my faith that are important to me: prayer, scripture reading, and witnessing. I relate that to the movie. I talk about in basketball you have a coach and other teammates that help you. I relate that to my faith in that God is my coach and I have teammates that help me with my walk in life."

With a continued love for basketball and history, Long says he feels privileged to have been a part of a movie that is still talked about to this day.

"We knew *Hoosiers* would do well in Indiana," he said. "People would go see it out of curiosity. Much to our surprise it did well nationally and internationally. Any success that *Hoosiers* had, I give credit to the writer and director. They really made sure they got it right. It's a movie that really captures its history. I think the Lord was looking out for me to give me the opportunity to do (be part of it). I'm humbled by that."

On the cover and below: Brad Long (Photo by Nicole Davis) and the front of the old gymnasium in Knightstown, nicknamed the "Hoosier Gym" because it was used for the filming of the movie *Hoosiers*, it was built in 1922 (Photo in Public Domain).



LONG'S SHOT

By Nicole Davis

Thirty years after the release of *Hoosiers*, Brad Long says acting in the basketball film as 'Buddy' continues to provide opportunities

Getting to know Brad...

- I'm a music lover. If I didn't do what I was doing now, I'd love to be a disc jockey on the radio. That's what a lot of people don't know about me. I'm on the road a lot so I like to listen to music a lot, mostly a 70s rock and roller.
- I'm an elder at Greenwood Christian Church and have a lot of duties there.
- I enjoy golfing.
- Favorite movie: *Gladiator* with Russell Crowe
- Dream car: 74 Corvette Sting Ray

Center Grove News Quiz

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

1. The Center Grove Education Foundation will hold its annual Gala for the Grove on April 22, tickets on sale now. What is this year's theme?

- A. Unforgettable Friday
- B. To the Future Together
- C. Reach for the Stars
- D. Throwback Thursday



2. Center Grove's Hardwood Club, led by its President Billy Bemis, provides funds and resources to which Center Grove athletic team?

- A. Soccer
- B. Tennis
- C. Basketball
- D. Cheerleading



3. A GriefShare group led by Bob and Mary Gerlach of Center Grove began early March, running Wednesday evenings through May 25. Participants can join at any time. Where does this group meet?

- A. Center Grove Church
- B. Mt. Pleasant Christian Church
- C. Mt. Auburn Christian Church
- D. Southland Community Church

4. Center Grove graduate Brad Long is celebrating the 30th anniversary of the movie Hoosiers. What character did Brad play?

- A. Shooter Flatch
- B. Whit Butcher
- C. Buddy Walker
- D. Coach Normal Dale



5. It's time to visit with the Easter Bunny! The Town of Bargersville will host its Easter Egg Hunt on March 26 at which local elementary school?

- A. Center Grove
- B. Maple Grove
- C. Sugar Grove
- D. Pleasant Grove



Answers on Page 30

CGEF to celebrate an Unforgettable Friday with Gala for the Grove

FEATURE

By Nicole Davis

Center Grove High School has won three state championships this year. Four Center Grove graduates will be 500 Festival princesses. Between the accomplishments of Center Grove School Corporation, its students and alumni, there is a lot to be proud of in Center Grove.

The Center Grove Education Foundation (CGEF) plans to recognize that at its annual Gala for the Grove: Unforgettable Friday on April 22, 6 p.m. - midnight at JW Marriott Indianapolis.

"It will be a big celebration of all things exceptional at Center Grove," says Carla Johnson, executive director of CGEF. "It's exciting to have it toward the end of the year because we can take a look back and celebrate."

Proceeds from the Gala will help CGEF with teacher grants and student scholarships. The board allocated \$50,000 for grant funding - more than double the amount awarded in any previous year. Applications totaling more than \$60,000 were submitted during the first grant cycle alone. Johnson says because of this, they have increased their fundraising goal for the Gala.

The evening will include a VIP reception, dinner, and silent and live auctions, followed by live music and dancing. WRTV-6 News

Anchor Rafael Sanchez will serve as the Emcee, with live music by The Company Band.

Among those to be recognized are Center Grove High School State Championship Coaches Russ Milligan (softball), Jamison McLaughlin (boys soccer), and Eric Moore (football), along with Athletic Director John Zwitt who will make a grand entrance into the ballroom; 500 Festival Princesses Elyse Hoy, Jessi Arbuckle, Morgan Lee, and Nilofer Rajpurkar; and Teacher of the Year Kim King. Center Grove Alumni and Friends will recognize the classes of 2006, 1991 and 1966 for their 10, 25 and 50-year anniversaries, while the class of '91 will use the Gala for its 25th reunion. Sarah Vance of Cummins Inc. will be recognized for donating her \$10,000 prize money from a contest to the education foundation for technology initiatives.

Diamond Sponsor Franciscan St. Francis Health, which recently completed a \$30 million expansion of its women and children center, is compiling a video for the evening. They are searching for Center Grove children born as St. Francis, showing baby pictures that tie in with the Unforgettable theme. Deadline for submissions is March 28.

Tickets for the gala are \$100 per person or \$850 for a table of 10. For more information, visit centergrovefoundation.org, email CGEF@centergrovefoundation.org or call Johnson at (317) 881-9326, ext. 1530.

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AROUND TOWN



WRT Flux Capacitors are Robotics State Champions

The Flux Capacitors, Team 323Y of Cornerstone Robotics from White River Township, won the Indiana State VEX Robotics Tournament and the Excellence Award on March 5. This qualifies them to attend the VEX World Robotics Competition in Louisville, Ky. April 20-23. The Flux Capacitors are a homeschool high school team with a winning record of 93-3 this year in seven competitions. They won each competition they attended and received one Judges Award and 7 Excellence Awards, the highest VEX award given to a team at each competition. Team members are Jared Grider, Joanna Grider, and Ethan Griffin. They are mentored by Jason Griffin.

Sharing is healing

FEATURE

By Nicole Davis

There is a right way to grieve – one that can grow you stronger in your faith and you can find strength from, says Bob Gerlach, co-coordinator of a GriefShare support group in Greenwood which runs through May 25.

“It’s a good program, a program I feel strong about,” Bob says. “It was a big help to me and my family. A number of years ago I lost my wife and shortly after my daughter lost her husband ... I ended up going a couple of times to two 13-week sessions. We decided it was a good enough program that we wanted to be a part of it. I want to get the word out.”

GriefShare has more than 12,000 churches worldwide which host support groups. The curriculum-based program consists of three parts: a half-hour video with people who have been through grief speaking about the

experience, a workbook with daily activities or scriptures aimed to help with grief, and a time of sharing.

“The sharing is very important in they get to finding out what they’re feeling,” Bob says. “They realize when they talk that what they’re feeling is normal and they’re okay. There is a lot of healing in the sharing. You can tell as time goes on, week one we have a hard time getting discussion going... You see people that are really having a difficult time and within five or six weeks you can see the burden lifting off their shoulders. The thing about GriefShare that impresses me is you’re dealing with people that have been through grief and they know what you’re going through. By the time 13 weeks is up, we become a close-knit group and they sort of feed off of each other.”

Bob and Mary Gerlach, of Center Grove, coordinate the group that meets at Southland Community Church, 5800 W. Smith Valley Rd., Room 31, in Greenwood on Wednesday evenings, 6 to 8

p.m. Participants can join at any time, as each week touches on a different topic.

“We have plenty of room here at Southland,” Bob says. “This church has gone overboard to promote it. I can’t tell you how many people in the congregation come up to us and thank us for doing it. It’s just a good program. It helps a lot, getting people to see they’re not the only ones grieving, and sometimes people need to be healed, understood and forgiven.”

GriefShare is free, but the workbook is \$20. For more information on GriefShare, visit griefshare.org. To register for the Southland GriefShare, email Mary at gerlachme@yahoo.com.



Mary and Bob Gerlach coordinate the GriefShare group that meets at Southland Community Church.

Photo by Nicole Davis

Greenwood Grief Share

When: March 2-May 25
Wednesdays, 6 – 8 p.m.

Where: Southland Community Church
5800 W. Smith Valley Rd., Greenwood

Info: Visit griefshare.org
or email gerlachme@yahoo.com

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Brides to Be 2016

Modern traditions with old-fashioned roots



Above: Floral and plant-life arrangement example, small lantern with fragranced soy candle.

Left: Reclaimed ladder and distressed bird sculptures.

**Photos by
Haleigh Inscore**



SPECIAL SECTION
published by
Times-Leader Publications

PAGES 10-12

CENTER GROVE
ICON

Brandon and Nicole Nicoloff provide bridal bouquets and household décor at Marshmallow Monkey

DECOR

By Haleigh Inscore

For four years, Brandon and Nicole Nicoloff of The Marshmallow Monkey have been bringing rustic home décor and distinctive flower arrangements to Johnson County. For furniture seekers and brides alike, the couple's specialty is the personalization and customization that comes with each customer's request.

"Every bride's bouquet that we create is truly a piece of artwork," she says. "There's always a surprise included...we get to know them so deeply that by the time they get married, there's something that they always find in their bouquet." One bride, whose friends called her "Duck," received in her bouquet a piece of jewelry embellished with a duck, which was woven "into the wrapping and encasement of the stems."

It all started, Nicole says, with her grandfather, who was known as one of the first Hoosier Boy tomato growers. He and her grandmother had built their home and vegetable growing business "by hand" on the Southside of Indianapolis.

After Nicole's grandfather had a heart attack, her parents (her mother was a floral designer) decided to start a wholesale flower business out of the old market shed. Thanks to Nicole's grandpa, they had inherited a customer base that spanned multiple generations. "So we kind of took the shift from growing tomatoes and lettuce on the family property to repurposing that old building into a place where they could house their business," she says.

After having both worked in different industries for 20 years prior, Nicole in health-care and Brandon at the Greenwood Fire Department, the couple decided it was time "to start planting seeds for the next generation," Nicole says.

While they both had an interest in antique

and vintage furniture, they began by taking over the flower business. However, since her grandfather's property was sold off, Nicole and Brandon had to run the business out of their garage, which quickly became crowded with flowers. "Some of the events we've done and the weddings have been rather large so we've literally had to close our old location down because there were so many flowers, you couldn't walk through the shop," Brandon says.

In addition to space limitations, the Nicoloffs were beginning to enter the home décor realm of business, and custom orders for large pieces of furniture were pouring in.

The Nicoloffs now operate The Marshmallow Monkey out of a 6,000 square foot store at 41 W. Monroe St., Franklin, but the additional space doesn't mean the service is any less personal. They are still intent on making a friend of each person who



Nicole and Brandon Nicoloff owners of The Marshmallow Monkey.

walks their door.

"Like [my grandfather] always said, 'Good business is built on friendships and how you make people feel, it's not about what you're selling,' Nicole says. Brandon agreed: "We enjoy the conversations and getting to know everyone...and they're not always going to remember what we say, but I guarantee when they walk out of here they're going to remember how we made them feel."

They now host customers from all over the country, Brandon say, "as far as Wisconsin that will call as they travel through going to Florida." And there was even one woman who bought a bus ticket from Evansville to come down and visit their shop.

Brandon and Nicole share an affinity for what they call "the bygone era"—a time like the one in which her grandfather lived, where communities were tight-knit and have a "small town feel." They hope to create that type of environment for their own children through owning the shop and continuing to provide personalized services to their neighbors and new friends.

Finding a gown that is uniquely you

WHAT TO WEAR?

By Jessica Limeberry, owner of Sophia's Bridal



You've gotten engaged, set a wedding date, found the venue, and maybe even reserved your dream photographer. Now what do you do?

It is time to shop for the perfect wedding gown!

There are so many fun (and funny) TV shows now that showcase the ins and out of weddings, particularly wedding dress shopping. While these are entertaining to binge watch, sometimes they give us unrealistic expectations of how your experience should be. At Sophia's Bridal, Tux, and Prom, we want everyone's experience to be perfect. Maybe you are loud and emotional, or maybe you're more shy and quiet. Both are perfect. The most important part of the whole process



is that you get to relax, enjoy yourself, and find the wedding gown that is uniquely you!

We like to say that finding the perfect wedding gown is a lot like finding the man of your dreams. You never quite know when it will happen, and it isn't always exactly what you expect. But when the moment happens, you know. We always recommend that you

go shopping prepared to fall in love. There are two key things you can do to get ready: decide on your budget, and carefully pick your entourage.

Budget can be a scary six-letter word, but it is absolutely essential to your experience! There are gorgeous wedding gowns in all price points, and your consultant should be

able to help you find the perfect combination of style and price.

When deciding who to bring with you on your wedding gown hunt, bigger isn't always better. Sometimes, lots of opinions can be overwhelming, and some places can't accommodate huge parties. If you are planning on bringing a larger party, consider making a weekday appointment. At Sophia's, we also do private appointments on Sundays for those larger groups who want an even more personalized experience.

The best piece of advice the Sophia's consultants have for

a bride is to relax, enjoy, and trust the experience. We are here to walk you through the whole process, and our biggest goal is to make you feel loved and beautiful.

Sophia's Bridal is located at 7015 U.S. 31 S., Indianapolis. For more information, visit sophiasbridalandtux.com

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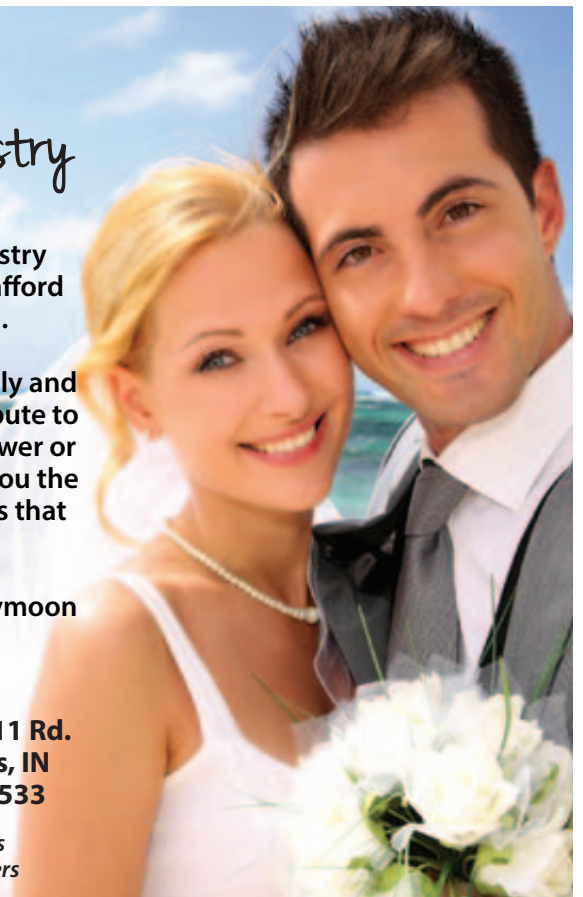
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Left: The Barn at Bay Horse Inn team at the groundbreaking ceremony, Feb. 29.

Center: Floor plan and inspiration board for the Event Barn.

Right: Framed Bay Horse Inn emblem over refreshment table at groundbreaking event. Food provided by MBP catering, a Bay Horse Inn partner.



Barn built for wedding bells

Bay Horse Inn to construct a rustic-style barn which will fit modern wedding trends

VENUE

By Haleigh Inscore

The Barn at Bay Horse Inn in Greenwood is a concept that owner Amanda Cottingham and her team have been working toward since May of 2015. On Feb. 29, the group celebrated the groundbreaking of the new venue, which will be constructed on a seven-acre portion of 35 acres that belong to Amanda and her family.

The facility is named after the house that Amanda grew up in, which Karen Brandon, the Barn's marketing director, explains was actually "eight barns that had been combined into one dwelling."

"So it was very unique," Karen says, "and the gateway into the home was an etched glass window that had 'The Bay Horse Inn' written in it."

"When we were naming this," Amanda says, "I wanted it to have a meaning and there's a lot of people that know me from childhood that know what that means."

In addition to weddings, Amanda says the Event Barn will be equipped to host corporate events, fundraisers for non-profits, and other community functions. It will feature a saloon, bride and groom's rooms and enough space to seat 425 guests. An option for overnight accommodations on the property is "the Inn," an updated cabin that sleeps about six guests.

According to project coordinator, Sarah

McCarty, the Barn will "have the feel of an old barn, but with modern amenities," built with weddings in mind.

"You can come in and not a lot will have to be done, basically. There will be chandeliers hanging all the time, we'll have string lights, the lighting can be dimmed to fit whatever the need is," Sarah says. The Barn will also be built for year-round service with heating, cooling, and a large stone gas fireplace.

The Barn will satisfy a growing rustic-style wedding trend. Sarah says brides and grooms are attracted to the natural landscape that the site has to offer for photos. "I feel like people want that outdoorsy effect...where they're not necessarily picking the most glamorous of things." Popular flower arrangement choices also mirror this natural theme, often including wildflowers, grasses, leaves and twigs rather than a traditional rose bouquet.

At the core of this project is Amanda's relentless effort in making it a reality. Karen, who has worked with the family business, Cottingham Realty, for many years, says, "She's someone who had this idea and did her research, did her background...she dug her feet in and went to work and is making it a reality. Within a year of her idea, it will be here." The Barn at Bay Horse Inn will celebrate the grand opening of the Event Barn in September.

Photos by Haleigh Inscore

The Vineyard Room at Chateau Thomas Winery

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A time for fun, skill learning and friendship building

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SPECIAL SECTION
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By Nicole Davis

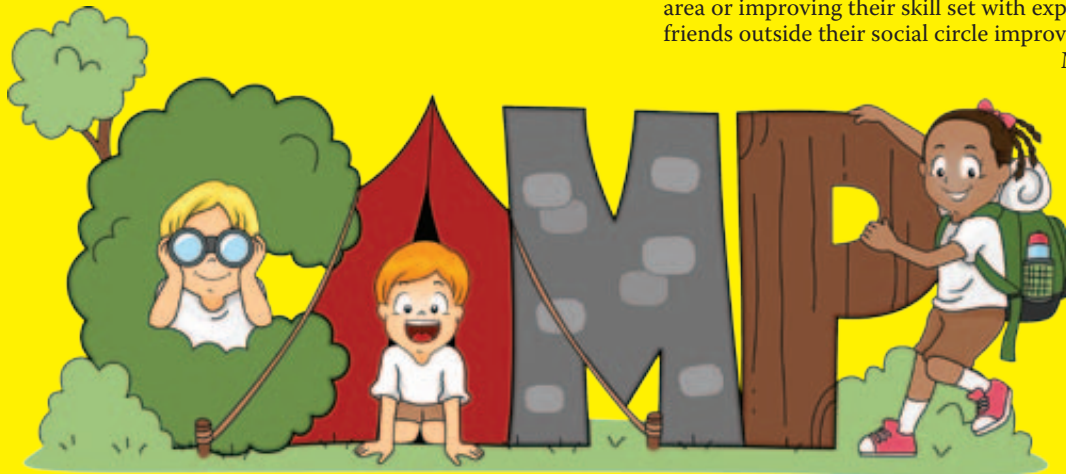
The possibilities of a summer break are endless. With no school or homework, children might be tempted to spend every waking hour in front of a video game console, iPad or cell phone.

Use this time to show young people that there is fun to be had beyond a screen. Summer camps across central Indiana offer everything from outdoor, adventurous experiences to scientific, hands-on activities.

Director of University of Indianapolis Summer Programs Rachele Merkel-Diaz says summer camps are valuable for many reasons. "Participants can try something new and expand their horizons by gaining knowledge in a new area or improving their skill set with experts in their field. As a part of summer camps, participants will make new friends outside their social circle improving their social skills, gain confidence, experience success and have fun."

Merkel-Diaz also noted that holding camps at universities, such as UIndy, exposes kids to "leading faculty and top-notch coaches."

Center Grove ICON's special Summer Camps section provides a directory of many camp opportunities available for our Center Grove readers: from offerings at Indy Parks, the YMCA, at local schools or UIndy. With an array of topics, there is sure to be something for every child. With two to three months left until summer break, it's time to start planning before openings fill up!



SUMMER CAMPS 2016

Pages 13-17

Technology fun for kids

SUMMER CAMPS

By Camp Invention



Since 1990, Camp Invention has taken summer fun and transformed it from ordinary to extraordinary! Local educators lead a week of hands-on activities created especially for first-sixth graders. Boys and girls will spend their time constructing and personalizing a DIY solar-powered cricket with a unique habitat and taking apart electronics to assemble something new. Lessons explore connections between science, technology, engineering and innovation. Early registration discounts are available. Visit campinvention.org or call 800-968-4332 for information.

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June 13-June 17

Center Grove Elementary School
Greenwood
June 6-10

V.O. Isom Elementary School
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June 13 – 17

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June 27 – July 1

Abraham Lincoln Elementary School
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June 20-24

Nativity Catholic School
Indianapolis
June 13 – 17

Sidener Academy for High Ability Students
Indianapolis
June 27 – July 1

Heritage Christian School
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July 17 – 22

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June 13 - June 17: Harry Potter
June 20 - June 24: Astronomy
June 27 - July 1: Secret Agent/Ninja Warrior
July 5 - July 8: Olympics Stars and Stripes
July 11 - July 15: Superhero
July 18 - July 22: Nature
July 25 - July 29: Give Back Week

Visit our site to find out more about all of our camps!

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SUMMER CAMPS

By University of Indianapolis

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Academic and enrichment camps include:

- June 10-12: Leadership Institute (for grades 11-12)
- June 12-19: A Girl's Gift (for ages 10-14)
- June 13-16: Language Arts Curriculum (for high school teachers)
- June 19-25: Young Writers (for grades 11-12)
- June 27-July 1; July 11-15: Math Beyond Numbers (for grades 6-8)
- June 28 & July 19: Grand Camp (for ages 9-13 and grandparents)

Arts camps include:

- June 6-10: Piano Camp (for ages 7-12)
- June 6-10: Chamber Music Institute (for grade 9 through adult)
- June 13-17: Keyboard Academy (for ages 12-18)
- June 13-17: Saxophone Camp (for ages 14-18)
- June 19-26: Vocal Arts Institute (for grades 9-12)
- July 18-22: Theatre - Story to Stage

- Camp (for ages 10-14)
- July 25-29: Theatre - HS Intensive Camp (for grades 9-12)

Sport and Athletic Camps Include:

- May 22: Football Senior Prospect Camp Day (for grade 12)
- June 6-9: Youth Swimming (for ages 6-14)
- June 11: Volleyball Camp (for ages 12-18)
- June 13-15: Soccer - Junior Camp I (for ages 6-12)
- June 18: Volleyball Camp (for ages 12-18)
- June 19: Basketball (M)- Elite Camp (for grades 11-12)
- June 20-23: Basketball (M) - Session I (for grades 2-9)
- June 20-23: Youth Swimming (for ages 6-14)
- July 11-14: Volleyball - Youth Camp (for grades 5-9)
- July 16: Soccer - Men's ID Camp (for grades 9-12)
- July 18-20: Soccer - Junior Camp II (for ages 6-12)
- July 18-21: Basketball (M)- Session II (for grades 2-9)
- July 22-24: Volleyball - Elite Camp (for grades 9-12)
- July 29: Soccer - Women's Elite Camp (for grades 9-12)
- August 6: Lacrosse Camp (for grades 5-9)

For more information, visit uindy.edu/summer.



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June 20-24th - 1pm-3pm - Glass Camp \$120 (ages 7+)



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Get artistic and get fit at Roncalli High School this summer

SUMMER CAMPS

By Roncalli High School



Are you going to let another summer go to waste watching television or playing video games? Not if you spend your summer at one or more of Roncalli High School's many arts or sports camps.

The Junior Rebel Theater camp has two sessions: a first camp June 6 to June 30 and a second camp July 11 to July 29. The Summer Sports Camps, which are scheduled at various dates between May and July, include football, lacrosse, volleyball, basketball, gymnastics, cross country, softball, baseball, tennis, swimming, diving, wrestling, soccer, golf, and cheerleading.

Miki Lewinski, administrative assistant to the fine arts department, said that the two Junior Rebel Theater camps will give students second grade through eighth grade a real production experience. This year the campers will perform *Elf Junior* based on the popular movie starring Will Ferrell and Zooey Deschanel.

"It is an introduction to what it takes to put on a production including audition-

ing skills, improv, music, some acting techniques and all that culminates in the performance of a musical," said Lewinski.

The cost is \$200 per participant with a \$50 discount for each additional sibling. To download the information letter and registration form, go to roncalli.org, click on Fine Arts and under Theatre links select Junior Rebel Theatre Camp.

The Roncalli High School Summer Sports Camps give aspiring student athletes many sports to choose from. Some of the camps are three days long and others are longer. While most of the camps take place on the high school campus, the swimming and diving, golf, gymnastics, and girls cross country take place off campus.

"These camps are instructional, fun, and prior experience is not necessary. The campers will learn the fundamentals and work with our high school athletes and coaching staff" said Athletic Department Administrative Assistant Chris Lauck.

The registration fees are \$50 per camper and per camp. To download the summer camps brochure and register, go to roncalli.org, click on Athletics and under Athletic links select Summer Sports Camps.

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Directory

Compiled by Haleigh Inscore

Camp Invention

(See article on page 13)

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● **SpringHill Day Camps:** include small group Bible teaching, high-energy large group sessions, and adventure activities such as archery, bungee trampoline, camp songs, climbing wall, crafts and more. Camper ages and week length may vary by location. June 13-17, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Visit springhillcamps.com for more information.

IUPUI Summer Camps

901 W. New York St.
Indianapolis, IN 46202
(317) 274-6787

● **Jaguar Camp:** Jaguar Camp is a traditional camp held every week for children ages 5 -12. This camp is designed to let kids explore many different activities throughout the day. Weekdays, June 6-Aug. 12 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Enrichment Options:

● **Bricks 4 Kidz (LEGO Mania):** Learn, build, play... with LEGO bricks! Using both traditional and LEGO Technic pieces such as gears, axles and motors, campers will work together to construct a variety of models using instructions as well as creations of their own. Ages 6 and older. Weeks of June 13 through Aug. 1.

● **Sky Hawks:** Sky Hawks provides sports camps where children can develop athletic skills, teamwork, respect and sportsmanship. Designed for the beginner and intermediate athlete, campers will participate in a variety of sport activities. Ages 7-12. Weeks of June 6 through July 25.

● **Crouching Tigers:** A mobile fitness and martial arts program offering a curriculum devoted to the physical, emotional and social development of children is designed to improve balance, coordination and other sensory stimuli. All ages. Weeks of June 20 and 27, July 11 and 18 and Aug. 1.

Enrichment Camp is designed to allow children to explore their interests in a variety of activities. Campers will experience all benefits of the Jaguar Camp PLUS Enrichment curriculum starting at 9 a.m. continuing to lunch.

Lutheran High School

5555 S Arlington Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46237
(317)787-5474

● **Summer Sports Camps:** Lutheran High School conducts several sport camps during the month of June. All camps are open to athletes who are in good physical health, have their parent's consent and support, and are serious about wanting to improve their skills and knowledge in the sport. The varsity coaches from each sport will conduct the

respective athletic camps and will be assisted by members of the LHSI coaching staff and other experienced personnel. June 2016 sports camps include Soccer Camp, Cross Country Camp, Volleyball Camp, Boys' Basketball Camp, Girls' Basketball Camp and Tennis Camp. Visit lhsi.org/athletics/ summer-sport-camps for more information.

National Flag Football

(317) 759-2691
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● **Fall 2016 Flag Football:** Registration Deadline – Indianapolis Aug. 1. Season Dates: Mid-September – November

Available in Pike, Perry and Noblesville to boys and girls ages 4 to 14 (Pre-K through eighth grade). Games are held on Sundays between teams of 8 to 11 players. Registration includes an official NFL Flag Team jersey, NFL Flag Belt and end of season medal. Visit nationalflagfootball.com for more information.

Roncalli High School

3300 Prague Rd.
Indianapolis, IN 46227
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● **Junior Rebel Theatre Camp:** Campers will experiment with acting, improv and music when they put on a performance of Elf Junior – a musical based on the Christmas film Elf starring Will Ferrell. Camp will take place on weekdays over two session periods: June 6-30, and July 11-29. Find more information or to register, visit roncalli.org under "fine arts" > "theatre links."

● **Summer Sports Camps 2016:** During the months of June and July, Roncalli offers many sports camps. Campers learn the values of dedication, perseverance and commitment to teamwork, while meeting new friends and having fun. All camps are led by the coaching staff at Roncalli, and are directed to the ability level of each child.

Visit roncalli.org/athletics/summer-sports-camps to see the dates and ages for the following camps: Football, Football Kicking, Boys Lacrosse, Girls Volleyball, Girls Basketball, Gymnastics, Boys Basketball, Girls Cross Country, Boys Cross Country, Softball, Baseball, Tennis, Swimming, Diving, Wrestling, Boys Soccer, Girls Soccer, Golf, Boys Volleyball and Cheerleading.

Saints Francis and Clare

5901 Olive Branch Rd.
Greenwood, IN 46143
(317)215-2826

● **Wolf Adventures Camp:** This camp is a fun-filled, educational summer program with themed weeks for students PreK- 8th grade. The program will run June 6-July 29. Single days and full weeks are available (pool day options offered too) with flexible drop-off and pick-up times between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m., with breakfast, lunch and snack provided. (PreK campers must be at least 3 years old and fully potty trained by the start of their camp experience.)

Themed weeks include: Harry Potter, Astronomy, Nature, Superhero and more! For more details, visit ss-fc.org.

University of Indianapolis

(See article on page 14)

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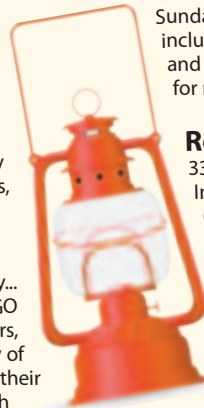
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YMCA of Greater Indianapolis

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● **Flat Rock River Camp:** Flat Rock is an overnight camp for kids ages 7-17, located at the Ruth Lilly YMCA Outdoor Center in St. Paul, Ind. There are nine camp sessions available from June 5-August 6 as well as Adventure and Mini camps to choose from. Camp activities include archery, zip lining, horseback riding, fire making, canoeing, swimming and more! Visit flatrockymca.org.

● **YMCA Day Camps:** Day camps will be held in 22 YMCA locations in the Indianapolis area and begin on May 23. Campers can be registered online at OurCauselsYou.org, by phone at (317)484-9622 or at any area Y. Financial assistance is available.



Every summer has a story: Find yours at the Y

SUMMER CAMPS

By Raena Latina, YMCA



Camping, like many YMCA programs, is about learning skills, developing character and making friends. But few environments are as special as camp, where kids become a community as they learn both how to be more independent and how to contribute to a group as they engage in physical, social and educational activities. At the Y, we are dedicated to making sure camp is an amazing experience for every camper.

YMCA Camps are accredited by the American Camp Association (ACA), which means they have met or exceeded the highest nationally recognized standards for health, safety, staff training and program quality. We offer traditional, sports and enrichment camps with multiple popular themes. Our Day Camps provide age appropriate activities for each child and pool time is included with all camps. Families can choose half day, full day and overnight camp programs for their children.

Flat Rock River YMCA Camp is the Y's overnight camp, located 45 minutes south-east of Indianapolis at the beautiful 240-acre Ruth Lilly YMCA Outdoor Center in St. Paul, Ind. Flat Rock is a great way to give your child an experience away from home. All campers will enjoy amazing outdoor activities such as the zip line, horseback riding, swimming, biking, canoeing, archery and more!

YMCA Day Camps will begin May 23 and run all summer, with 22 locations across the city. Parents can register their child by stop-

ping by any YMCA location, at OurCauseIsYou.org or by calling (317) 484-9622. Financial assistance is available and CCDF vouchers are available at most locations.

Overnight summer camp sessions begin June 5. For more information about Flat Rock River YMCA Camp and its spring and fall break camps, call (888) 828-9622 or visit flatrockymca.org for more information.



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Banta Campus
6602 Harding Street
Indianapolis, IN 46217

DATE:
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Completed:
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What a treat!

Tracey and Ron Held celebrate a decade of baking healthy dog snacks at Bella Dog Bakery

Getting to know Tracey & Ron...

- We like to fish. You give up a lot of hobbies to have a business. We no longer have a boat.
- Married 30 years in May. We met on a blind date. We didn't want to meet each other, but we gave in and went on the date. Five months later we were married and we have been together ever since.
- We groom our own dogs.
- We read a lot and work in the yard, work in the shop on our days off.
- We're part of a group of people that we call the Dinner Posse. We do and have dinner together, critique restaurants, generally get in trouble together and have amazing food. We enjoy each other's company.

How Tracey & Ron did it?

Best advice: Always take care of the customer first. That's always been first and foremost in our mind, making sure we take care of them, that they're happy. You have to. When you're this tiny, it's what you have that competes with a larger venue.

Worst advice: We don't believe anyone has ever given us bad advice. We are members of the Greater Southside Business Alliance. Past president Joan Miller has given us such solid advice. It's been a real blessing.

Best business decision: Coming to this space. We needed a building of our own, our own parking lot. It enabled us to do fundraisers, fairs, host rescue groups and festivals that we couldn't do otherwise.

Secret to success: The Lord and His leading, allowing us to do something that we wouldn't have been able to do otherwise. That, and our customer service.

In 5 years... Ronnie hopes to retire in the next five years and come work here. We plan on being here quite some time.

Bella Dog Bakery & Biscuit Company
7220 Madison Village Dr.
Indianapolis, IN 46227
(317) 781-1814
belladogbakeryllc.com

By Nicole Davis

The scent of dog treats drift through the air in Bella Dog Bakery as Tracey and Ron Held create nutritious snacks that appeal to pups and humans alike. From dog biscuits to peanut butter cups or carob-dipped cannolis, more than 20,000 dog treats are baked each week in the shop.

The Helds will celebrate the 10th anniversary of the business on March 5, with cake for people and snacks for dogs from 9:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Through the past decade, the business has grown and evolved, still focusing on serving healthy, holistic treats and food for their furry friends, as well as organic toys, leads, collars and grooming products.

"It's a niche business, of course," Ron said. "We have very loyal customers with a very loyal customer base. We have made a lot of new friends over the years. Tracey does the research on products for the dogs. It's all her vision. She'll work with customers with a dog that needs better nutrition and get them on a road to better health. No one carries their food to their car. That's all part of the customer service."

More than 10 years ago, Tracey and Ron took Hermioni Lokko, a student from Africa, into their home and were looking for a way to pay for her college education; she was attending IUPUI. They then rescued Sam, a Sheltie with a wheat allergy, and an idea was formed to start a business serving healthy dog treats.



Above: Bella Dog Bakery treats.
Photos by Nicole Davis

With no business plan and no experience in the industry, they took a leap of faith and opened Bella Dog Bakery in March 2006 in a 700 square-foot spot in the business complex adjacent to the current store. Bella is Hermioni's nickname.

"I didn't have any expectations," Tracey said. "But I would say it exceeded anything that I thought. Here we are 10 years later and I didn't think it would last a year. In June (Hermioni) will graduate from her fourth year of Harvard residency. She wants to be a psychiatrist. So I say things worked out really well."

The first location of Bella Dog Bakery was hard to spot, so they said they were excited when the building at 7220 Madison Village Dr. became available. They cleaned up the shop and renovated it to fit their needs, including installing an eco-friendly "potty patch" outside for their doggy visitors and their own three dogs that come with them to work every day.

As the years went by, the business evolved. There are no mass-distributed products in the shop. Each brand of dog food or additional treats they sell has its own manufacturing plant.

Tracey continues to bake her own treats and each recipe is licensed by an Indiana State Chemist at Purdue University. She gets her inspiration from popular bakery desserts and customizes it for a dog's needs. Everything is wheat, corn and soy-free. Ron, who works full time as a toolmaker for Allison Transmissions, has built all of the shelving and storage for the increasing number of products available.

"We're now at 1,300 square feet and we're busting at the seams," Tracey said.

The biggest challenge is keeping up with the baking, ordering and making sure customers are well taken care of, which is why Tracey said they now have an assistant in the bakery.

Aside from customer service and quality products, Tracey said their success has been a result of community involvement and friendships.

"We think that it's important to be part of your community, to understand what the workings of your community are," she said. "We did that through the Greater Southside Business Alliance. If you don't know your community, how do you know how to serve them? That has been so important."

Tracey has made everything from cupcakes and birthday cakes to a dog wedding cake. There is always something in the oven;



Tracey and Ron Held with their three dogs that join them at Bella Dog Bakery every day. Photo by Nicole Davis

she bakes from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. every day. Though they started the business to pay for Hermioni's college, they continue it because there is a need in Perry Township.

"This year after my daughter got married I was in a state of flux," Tracey said. "The business served its purpose. I spent a lot of time in prayer trying to figure out what I am supposed to do. Do I do something different? Do I carry on?"

Tracey and Ron said they look forward to when Ron can retire from his full-time job and work in the bakery more – as they plan on being here for the long haul.

"I see there are still people who need help with their fur kids," she said. "I like people and isn't that what it's about? Everyone has a story and everyone wants to tell that story."

BUSINESS LEADER
SOUTHSIDE

March 2016 | Issue 0115
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OPEN 4 BIZ

The shack is smoking!

Johnson's BBQ Shack now has a permanent location in Bargersville after the four-year success of its food trucks

Four years since they began their food truck business, Nathaniel and Keith Johnson have a permanent location where customers can get their smoked barbecue fix. Johnson's BBQ Shack opened Feb. 12, serving smoked meats, sides and drinks on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.

"It's a unique space, a quiet town," Nathaniel said. "It's a nice environment – you can hear the church bells across the street and see a train go by from time to time."

Keith and Nathaniel began selling smoked meats varying from turkey, hog or duck from a food truck in 2012. They say while the food truck still is a successful endeavor, they wanted to add a home base. Renovation began at 82 S. Baldwin St. in Bargersville on Feb. 28, 2015, taking nearly a year to complete. There is seating inside of the restaurant and a patio which will open when the weather is warm.

Keith and Nathaniel both live in the Center Grove area. Keith works full time in law enforcement. Nathaniel teaches for Indianapolis Public Schools. Having grown up in the area, the brothers said they have benefitted a lot from the Center Grove School Corporation, so they look forward to paying it forward by helping with athletic and local schools fundraising efforts.

With room to expand, Nathaniel and Keith said they hope to build a reception facility in the future. They are also working on getting the licensing to serve alcohol in addition to their food.

"We put a lot of heart and soul into this," Nathaniel said. "It's gone well. We're pretty happy with the crowds. We will definitely have different numbers when we have the patio open."

Why did you open this business?

We had success with the food trucks. We figured having a permanent location would allow us to increase our catering. We can provide a good place to each local. With Taxman Brewing across the street, it seemed like a good location.

What did you do to prepare for opening your business?

Three and a half years prior to construction, we had expanded our food truck business and refined our menu. It took us a year to do construction. We did the majority of the work remodeling and a lot of the work. We brought in a new, A. N. Bewley, commercial smoker, a wood fired only smoker from Texas for the restaurant. It cooks differently than the one we had.



Nathaniel Johnson and Keith Johnson opened Johnson's BBQ Shack restaurant after running their food truck business for four years. Photo by Nicole Davis

Johnson's BBQ Shack
82 S. Baldwin St.
Bargersville, IN 46106
smoker@johnsonsbbsqshack.com
johnsonsbbsqshack.com

Compiled by Nicole Davis

Who is your ideal customer/client?

Ultimately someone who loves BBQ, wants to come down and taste some different cooked meats and sides. We have an easy-going, family atmosphere here that's good for family and friends. We've added parking for motorcycles because we imagine in the summertime we'll get a bike crowd in.

How do you plan to be successful?

We plan on continuing to provide great, smoked meats. Getting the food trucks out there will help us get people into the restaurant. People would always ask if we have a regular spot. Now we do, and we can send them here while we're at events. We will continue to increase our catering.

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

We had zero restaurant experience. Pretty much everyone told us don't do it. We hit some snags along the way, but from year one we've been successful. It was all about picking out a new product and finding out which events worked with the truck.



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BIZ HISTORY

Strong team members

By Dan Miller

We want them — the strong team member. You search for the person with the best résumé, recommendations, and potential to add talent and ability to your team.

However, a problem can emerge when you as the leader do, in fact, find that team member who is truly gifted and accomplished. Such a team member will often have his or her own thoughts on getting things done. He may not believe what you believe. He may prefer a different direction on a project or task and, as a strong team member, will have the ability to convince your other followers you are wrong.

This was President Harry Truman's situation in 1948 when he decided to recognize Israel as a nation-state. No other nation had done so yet.

His strongest team member disagreed vehemently. Secretary of State George Marshall, rightly praised as Army Chief of Staff during World War II, was the most outstanding member of Truman's team. He opposed Truman's stance toward Israel and sought to undercut the president's position at every turn. In meetings, newspaper interviews, and more Marshall pushed his view

on Israel. Regardless of how Truman explained his proposed policy, Marshall denied his support.

At the final hour, on May 15, 1948, after five months of wrangling, Marshall told Truman he would not make his opinions publicly known. Later that day, the United States announced to the United Nations its recognition of Israel.

Truman's approach to Marshall offers you lessons for your leadership of strong team members. First, team members are unique and often require different approaches. Second, having the patience to let consensus unfold can prevent many difficulties. Third, knowing and trusting the character of the strong team member is vital.

You should want a team of George Marshalls. But just be ready to emulate the leadership experience of Harry Truman.



Dan Miller is founder and president of Historical Solutions LLC - Ideas and Inspiration Through History. Dan uses history to help people strengthen their leadership. His website is historicalsolutions.com.



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Cost to attend: \$119 per person. Members of the Greater Greenwood Chamber of Commerce, Franklin Chamber of Commerce, Alumni of Franklin College or Leadership Johnson County: \$99 per person. Group discounts available.

For more information: leadershipjohnsoncounty.org
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Phone: 317.738.8264

PERSONNEL MATTERS

To consider when typing

By Mike Heffner

Communication is the key to leading a team at a high level. You see it in sports, business and marriage. When teams are in sync, they are communicating at a high level. They meet face to face or via the phone to discuss the game plan and what they will do as things change.

I know in my business and my marriage, when things are going well, it's when we are talking through our upcoming weeks and letting each other know what's going on in our lives. When things break down, it's because something wasn't said or something was taken out of context.

To me, using Twitter, Facebook and texting to fill the need for face-to-face conversations has become a danger zone. From my perspective, here are some things to think about when using social media or texting so 140 characters or a picture doesn't spiral out of control.

- Keep personal things personal. You never know how the reader will interpret your picture or thoughts.

- Never use social media to send a message that should be spoken. It's easy to take things out of context and the time spent on

the phone or face-to-face could save you lots of heartache and headache.

- Sometimes it's actually worth waiting until you can have a real conversation. It's almost impossible to respond with real passion, excitement or disappointment in 140 characters.

- Realize that not everyone will agree with you on your viewpoint. So rarely is it a good idea to discuss a topic or share opinions you are not willing to be critiqued about in a public forum.

- Don't make assumptions. It's hard to understand the real "why" when you don't know all the facts. Talk with the person before you make up what you think was communicated.

I love Facebook for keeping in touch with old friends and Twitter for my "in-the-moment" news. But let's not forget that a hug or a smile says way more than an emoji, #hashtag or 140 characters.



Mike Heffner is the owner of the Greenwood Express Employment Professionals franchise. Contact Mike at mike.heffner@expresspros.com or visit www.expressindysouth.com.

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PEER TO PEER

Bernie/Hillary's big adventure

By Howard Hubler

If you listen to Bernie and Hillary, you might wonder what world they come from. Has it ever occurred to them that most Americans don't want to live in Denmark or Canada? To hear them go on about the state of our country, you would've thought that their immediate predecessor was George Bush not Barack Obama. After seven years of Obama, they think that this country is in a perpetual state of misery. A friend recently gave me a statistic sheet about life in socialist countries. The sheet starts out by listing 11 states in the US that have more people on welfare than they have in employment roles. It indicates that welfare now pays almost \$30 an hour for a 40 hour week to sit on your butt while hundreds of people in Indiana are thrilled to death to work and make \$20 an hour.

But let's look at the efficiency of the medical industry once it became more socialized. Five-year cancer survivorship in Canada was 42 percent of patients, and in the US it was a whopping 65 percent. If you were diagnosed with diabetes in Canada, 43 percent of patients receive treatment in six months while in the US it was 90 percent. Amongst

the elderly, those who claim to be in excellent health in total: Canada 6 percent; US is double that at 12 percent!

Back to my friend's list of comparisons between socialist countries and the US, it seems that most presidents have anywhere from 40 to 50 percent of their cabinets coming from the corporate sector. In Barack Obama's case, it was reported at 8 percent. The big question is if either of these two Democrats become elected, will the 8 percent number from corporate America go up or will it go down? Conventional wisdom says at 8 percent, that number can only go up. Don't be too sure, these people disdain you just for making a profit. If they could have less than 8 percent on their board, I perceive that they would. Recall that they can only do this if your neighbor puts them in office. Maybe it is time to educate your neighbor.



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

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1.



5.



6.

Kings and queens of the night

Mount Pleasant Christian Church hosts its first Night to Shine

By Nicole Davis

As they entered Mount Pleasant Christian Church in Greenwood for Night to Shine on Feb. 12, guests walked down the red carpet in their best formal attire, being cheered on by paparazzi.

Night to Shine is a prom experience for people age 16 and older with special needs sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation. More than 200 churches host the event worldwide in 48 states and seven countries. Mount Pleasant had approximately 235 guests ages 16 to 74 and 450 volunteers from across Indiana.

"This might be one of the best events I've been a part of here," says Chad Ranson, Mount Pleasant serve pastor. "Just look at how much fun everyone is having. We're all celebrating together. It's good for our church and it's good for our community. We are going to look back at this with great excitement."

The evening included music, dancing, dinner, karaoke, games, photos and more. Guests were treated to free nail and hair services, dinner and party favors including a framed prom picture. Each attendee was paired with a volunteer for the evening, allowing caregivers to have the evening off with a dinner provided at the church. Halfway through the evening, participants were all crowned King and Queen of prom.

1. Guests of Night to Shine.
2. Katie Bedee and Jacob Bayless of Franklin Community High School.
3. Rita Abell with her son, Ryan of Center Grove.
4. Lois Schultz of Whiteland.
5. Night to Shine guest singing in the Karaoke room.
6. Nicholas Myers of New Whiteland and Christopher Kidwell of Center Grove.
7. Party favors were set out for guests as they left Night to Shine.
- 8: J.J. Kubancsek of Center Grove.
9. Meg Speer of Bargersville dances with Meg Cloe.

Photos by Nicole Davis



2.



3.

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8.

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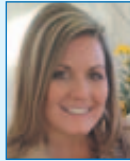


9.

face to face

Q: Easter is March 27. What are your Easter traditions past and present?

We did a big Easter breakfast with my grandfather, grandmother, and my parents and then we did a big Easter egg hunt. We still to this day do the same thing for my children. We have so much land here and the kids really enjoy doing an Easter egg hunt with the woods and all the property that we have. We will be doing our Easter egg hunt on the beach this year.



Amanda Cottingham

We really didn't have any Easter traditions growing up that I remember. It is a huge priority now. We attend church regularly and on Easter we dress nicer than we normally do – just in respect to the meaning of the day. We always go out to eat after church on Easter. One Easter we were on vacation in Florida so that year we didn't dress up. We actually went in sandals and shorts. Easter is an emotional time for our family because we realize the sacrifice that was done for us.



Neal McNalley

Growing up we just went to church and then at home did a big Easter egg hunt. We lived on a farm with a dairy barn that didn't have any cattle. We used it for hiding eggs. We would find eggs that were five years old. We got to the point that we were counting eggs. Now we try to go back home and visit family. We don't have a lot of young kids in the family anymore and so it is just being together with family.



Trent Newport

We have a lot of different ones. Like Christmas cookies, we do Easter cookies along with Easter eggs. We always bake some cookies, make some eggs, decorate the cookies, decorate the eggs. I think that is something my kids look forward to every year. And then we hunt them afterwards. It is something I have always done. My mom and grandma were big bakers.



Stacy Johns

TWEET of the MONTH



Jeff Peterson
@petersonjeffrey
posted on March 1



"Looking good @RedAlert1741 I love what you have done with the place #omgrobots"



BEHIND BARS



Louie's Cosmo



Bartender: Brandon Tomlins

Location: Bar Louie, In the Greenwood Park Mall, 1251 U.S. 31 S., In Greenwood..

Ingredients and directions: 1.5 oz. Absolut Citron, .75 oz. O3 Premium Orange Liqueur, .25 oz. cane syrup, .5 lime juice and 1 oz. cranberry juice. Shake and pour into a martini glass. Garnish with a lemon twist.

WHERE WE DINE

Crystal Canary, manager and groomer at Dogtropolis Boarding Daycare and Grooming, 1012 N. Bluff Road C, in Greenwood



Where do you like to dine? The Lotus Garden

What do you like to eat there? Everything. I love their chicken. The General Tso's Chicken.

What do you like about this place? I go with my best friend and we go there a lot. They give excellent service, have excellent food, and we always want to go back. It is always good.

Lotus Garden of Greenwood is located at 49 Mercator Dr, Greenwood, IN 46143. The phone number (317) 881-5531.

Photos by Brian Ruckle

AN OPTION



Mixed vegetables with tofu

Bamboo Chinese Restaurant

The scoop: Just after the new year, the Center Grove Community gained a really nice Chinese restaurant that residents can reach without fighting the traffic on SR 135. Bamboo Chinese Restaurant opened Jan. 15 in the Sugar Grove Shoppes on West Smith Valley Road. They have 35 lunch specials for \$4.99 including rice and soup. They have 25 combination platters go for \$7.15 including rice and a pork egg roll. You can find most of your Chinese favorites on the menu whether your choice of protein is pork, beef, chicken, seafood, or tofu.

Type of food: Chinese Food

Specialties: General Tso's Chicken, Ting Tong Shrimp, Mongolian Beef, and Dragon & Phoenix.

Recommendation: Seafood combination

Hours: Mon. to Thurs. 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.; Fri. to Sat. 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.; Sunday noon to 9 p.m.

Location: 4800 W. Smith Valley Rd. Suite I, Greenwood, IN 46142

Phone: (317) 893-5600

Website: bambhochinesefood.com

Compiled by Brian Ruckle

Living the dream

2006 Center Grove graduate Marci Hackert says her high school experience helped her transition into life after graduate school

FEATURE

By **Haleigh Inscore**

Though some may not look back on high school with the utmost fondness, 2006 Center Grove High School graduate Marci Hackert says she loved it: "I was the Vice President of my class senior year, so I made a speech at graduation and like, got hysterical, like crying."

One thing that Marci says she learned from attending Center Grove was "you have to put yourself out there or you will get stuck in a certain position." This is something she hopes her children can learn from their schooling, too.

Marci went to Our Lady of Greenwood until third grade, before transferring to the Center Grove district. She describes herself as being "very attached" to her parents when she was a young girl. "I really liked being at home and I had a really great home life," she says. "I wanted to be with them all the time." Because she was attending such a large school, she realized it was easy to allow herself to "sink into the woodwork" and says she learned to get involved by participating in school activities like student government.



Marci with her "true friend" and fellow '06 graduate, Sonja McMahon Shah. **Submitted photo**

Hackert says that she appreciates the education that she received, including specialized class options, like photography and Photoshop, that were offered at her school. "There are so many things that you can do at Center Grove, that they offer, that a lot of schools don't...I know things have changed a lot but, they had a lot of like shop classes and kids could really get into their niche and focus on what they wanted...or to find out that maybe they weren't that good at woodworking, maybe they shouldn't be a carpenter."

After graduating, Marci wanted to "get out in the world and meet new people," so she attended Indiana State University in Terra Haute rather than IU, where many of her peers went. And when she worked as a long-term substitute teacher after college, she says, "I would go into different schools for like eight, 12 weeks at a time and I would have to make new friends and I kind of had to get my surroundings kind of quickly." Marci credits her Center Grove experience for making both of these transitions a little easier.

At Indiana State, Marci joined Delta Gamma sorority and today she remains involved with the organization as president of the house corporation board at IU's campus. "Basically we own the house, so we take care of making sure the house is in working order, we hire all of the employees that work inside the house," she says. "Right now we're doing renovations...it takes a lot of time up but it's something we enjoy. It's a social organization, but we have a lot of business that we have to take care of as well."

Marci eventually returned to her roots in Johnson County and now lives in the area



Marci Hackert (recent photo) **Photo by Nicole Davis**

with her husband, Stephen and her two daughters, ages 9 months and two years, whom she hopes will be able to attend local schools. "Right now we are not in the Center Grove district. My kids aren't old enough to go to school. But I think that I would definitely...once we are really settled into a school district, I would want to be at Center Grove."

As far as the future is concerned, Marci says, "It's so different when you have kids, your goals change so much. Because now my goals are just making sure that they're happy and healthy and, you know, that my husband has a job."



Marci at her high school graduation, 2006.. **Submitted photo**

Getting to know Marci ...

What's some advice you wish someone had given you when you were younger?

You're going to get so much advice throughout all of the years but really taking it in is the important part, making sure that you have listened and you're paying attention...someday you're going to look back and think 'that probably was a really good piece of advice, I should have listened to them a little bit more.'

In your school-age years, is there a person who had a significant impact on you? Who and why?

I had a fourth grade teacher at West Grove Elementary that was amazing. I hated school until fourth grade. When I had her, Mrs. Bland, she was just an amazing teacher. She was warm and loving and I remember wanting to go to school because of her. I loved being in her class...My mom thanked her over and over again...We wouldn't have gotten past fourth grade if it weren't for her, my mom always says that.

What do you do in your free time?

Things we like to do when my husband is off work and we can go out, we like to go to the zoo, we like to take the kids to the park. But free time, real free time, is few and far between, I guess, because with little ones around you never have any free time. We like to get out, we like to travel and kind of see what there is. I like to let the girls be independent at the park.

What are some goals you'd like to accomplish in the coming years?

I have a lot of different goals...I think that we would like to get more involved in the community now that we're back and we're really starting to settle in here...My husband is advancing in his career and I'm kind of glad to be able to stay at home. So I think that getting my girls involved in the community some more and having that time at home is really important to me...I'm really (happy) with the way my life is right now, so having those kind of goals is always great but right now I feel like I'm living the dream.

“You're going to get so much advice throughout all of the years but really taking it in is the important part, making sure that you have listened and you're paying attention...”

~ Marci Hackert



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

Think Spring!

The winter season is almost over... I hope! Spring is right around the corner! The upcoming warm months are busy times for everyone, so if you have a home improvement project in mind or one that is needed, planning ahead is to the homeowners advantage. This month I have simply listed some general projects that are ideal for the spring and summer season. Also, I have included some planning and organizing tips as you plan your next project.

Ideal exterior, spring and summer projects:

- Gutters Replacement: Check gutters that may have been damaged by winter ice accumulation.
- Siding Repair and Replacement: Check for detached siding and rotted areas. Before painting existing siding, determine if it needs to be replaced.
- Painting: Exterior painting is a seasonal activity. If your home is in need of painting, do not wait till the end of the summer to begin getting bids.
- Window Replacement: If during the winter season you noticed icing, condensation or cold drafts around any windows, repair or replacement is most likely necessary.
- Deck Repairs, Staining and Sealing
- Deck/Patio/Paver Construction
- Roofing Replacement
- Sidewalk and Driveway Repairs and Replacement
- Attached or Detached Building Additions



The projects I have listed can range from simple to complex, therefore it is to the homeowners advantage to start the planning process as early in the spring as possible. Selecting products and a contractor can take time. Visiting local home shows is also a smart investment of your time, this type of trade show is a great way for a homeowner to research products and meet local contractors.

Spring will be here soon, my advice this month is to begin planning that spring or summer project before it is to late. As always consult with a local qualified Construction Professional before starting your project. Have a great spring season and I hope this month's tips are helpful, please do not hesitate to call if you have any questions. *TsT*

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It's all about the glass

WINE & DINE

By Charles R. Thomas, M.D.

Containers from which to drink wine and other beverages are not new. In fact, in The National Archeological Museum of Athens, in Greece, there is an earthen (clay) cup that was used to drink wine that has been carbon-dated to 6,000 years B.C.

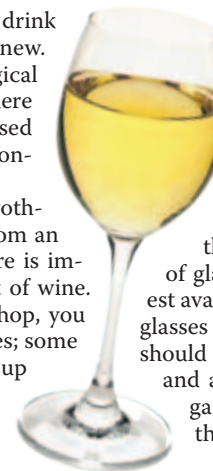
Perhaps a few of us have a brother-in-law who drinks his wine from an old green bean can, but glassware is important to the overall enjoyment of wine. If you visit a winery or a wine shop, you will likely notice all sorts of glasses; some are small and ordinary and range up to large glasses holding an entire bottle of wine, and then on to various decorated glasses made from pottery, various metals, plastic, and so on. In combating the intimidation of all those choices, my best advice for a glass should satisfy three concerns: that it is water tight, that it is transparent so that the true color of the wine can be appreciated, and that it is large enough to accommodate a reasonable amount of wine.

In order to avoid unnecessary drowning,

the glass should be filled to less than half-full. The larger the glass, the more aromas and bouquets are able to rise up from the wine so that they can be appreciated.

The anatomy of a modern wine glass is still fairly simply; a bowl, a stem, and a foot. The glass made from blown glass and the finest glasses are completely blown as one piece. There will be a noticeable joint near the bowl if the glass was made from two pieces of glass. The glass is of necessity the finest available, consistent with price. The best glasses are made of fine crystal. The stem should be as long and elegant as is practical and appropriate. The foot should be elegant, and nearly as wide in diameter as the bowl for stability.

Cheers!



Charles R. Thomas, M.D. owns Chateau Thomas Winery with locations in Plainfield, Fishers, Bloomington and Nashville. Contact him at charlest@chateauthomas.com.

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EVENTS CALENDAR

Kegs 'N Eggs • A traditional breakfast from Four Seasons is available. Enjoy classic favorites, including biscuits and gravy, hashbrowns, scrambled eggs, and bacon – and coffee-infused beers. This month's featured roastery will be Strange Brew. | When: March 20, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. | Where: MashCraft Brewing, 1140 N. State Rd. 135, Suite M. | Info: Visit mashcraft.com.

Kids Cooking • Kids grades K through five can collaborate with us on kid-friendly concoctions. Work together to make one no-bake food item and one drink each month, then taste the results. | When: March 22, 4:30 – 5:15 p.m. | Where: White River Township branch library, 1664 Library Blvd. Greenwood. | Info: Visit pageafterpage.org.

Greater Greenwood Lions Club • Visitors are welcome to join the Greenwood Lions March meeting. | When: March 22, 7 p.m. | Where: Golden Coral, 160 S. Marlin Dr., off State Road 135 in Greenwood. | Info: Call Vickie Gilmore, (812) 603-4440.

Printmaking! • Kids 5 to 11 years can create stamps for a unique print. | When: March 23, 2:30 – 3:15 p.m. | Where: White River Township branch library, 1664 Library Blvd. Greenwood. | Info: Visit pageafterpage.org.

Rock 'N Chow • Join for live, local music and grub. March 24 features Kolo Bell performing and Muay Thai food truck with authentic Thai food. March 31 features McHalow performing with Guacho's Fire serving Brazilian cuisine. | When: March 24 and 31, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. | Where: MashCraft Brewing, 1140 N. State Rd. 135, Suite M. | Info: Visit mashcraft.com.

Take Over Your Teen Space • Teens grades six to 12 can stop by during Spring Break to help create new decorations for the library's Teen Space area. | When: March 24, 3:30 – 5 p.m. | Where: White River Township branch library, 1664 Library Blvd. Greenwood. | Info: Visit pageafterpage.org.

Easter Outreach • Southland is sponsoring the Easter Outreach event at Shepherd Community Center on the near east side. We will serve a meal and provide fun activities for inner-city children and families. Many volunteers are needed and families can serve together. | When: March 26, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. | Where: 5800 W. Smith Valley Rd., Greenwood. | Info: Call (317) 883-8988.

Easter Egg Hunt • The Town of Bargersville will sponsor this Easter Egg Hunt with crafts, games, face painting and a photographer for children age 12 and younger. Everyone wins a prize! | When: March 26, 12 – 2 p.m. | Where: Maple Grove Elementary, 3623 W. Whiteland Rd., Bargersville. | Info: Email lhess@townofbargersville.org or call (317) 422-3126.

Eric Carle Crafts • Discover the style of illustration made famous by Eric Carle. Create a "very hungry caterpillar" with tissue paper and paint. | When: March 29, 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. | Where: White River Township branch library, 1664 Library Blvd. Greenwood. | Info: Visit pageafterpage.org.

Craft Night: Bird's Nest Painting • Attendees between grades eight and adults can paint a spring picture of a bird's nest. All supplies will be provided. | When: April 4, 6:30 – 8 p.m. | Where: White River Township branch library, 1664 Library Blvd. Greenwood. | Info: Visit pageafterpage.org.

Edible Science • Eat yummy food and do science experiments. | When: April 13, 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. | Where: White River Township branch library, 1664 Library Blvd. Greenwood. | Info: Visit pageafterpage.org.

Prom Makeup Tips • Grades eight – 12 can get makeup tips and learn about new makeup trends from local Mary Kay consultant KimberLee Peters. Free swag included! | When: April 13, 6:30 – 8 p.m. | Where: White River Township branch library, 1664 Library Blvd. Greenwood. | Info: Visit pageafterpage.org.

Preschool Science: Colors • Children age 3 to 5 can learn about primary and secondary colors through a story and hands-on activities. | When: April 15, 10:30 – 11:15 a.m. | Where: White River Township branch library, 1664 Library Blvd. Greenwood. | Info: Visit pageafterpage.org.

Poetry in Motion • Children in grades K through five can play, make a craft and do some fun activities to celebrate National Poetry Month. | When: April 15, 4:30 – 5:15 p.m. | Where: White River Township branch library, 1664 Library Blvd. Greenwood. | Info: Visit pageafterpage.org.

Sweet Moments • Mount Pleasant Christian Church will host its father/daughter dance which includes sweet treats, dancing, a candy bar and memories. | When: April 15, 7 – 9 p.m. | Where: MPCC Student Ministries Center, 381 N. Bluff Rd., Greenwood. | Info: Register by April 8. Contact Marcetta Helton, mhelton@mpccministry.com.

Safe Sitter • Safe Sitter is a full day baby-sitting course recognized by the American Academy of Pediatrics. It teaches 11-16 year olds how to be safe caregivers and to handle emergencies. \$25.00 is due the day of class. Bring a sack lunch. Registration forms may be picked up at any branch and must be filled out by a parent or guardian. | When: April 16, all day. | Where: White River Township branch library, 1664 Library Blvd. Greenwood. | Info: Visit pageafterpage.org.

Saints Francis & Clare Open House • All facets of school life at Saints Francis & Clare Catholic School will be on display. Staff will provide information on academic, extracurricular and service programs such as Faith In Action Days, CYO Athletics, Camp & Enrichment Programs, resources, and technology information. | When: April 17, 12:30 – 2 p.m. | Where: 5901 Olive Branch Rd., Greenwood. | Info: Visit ss-fc.org.

Contract Bridge Tournament • Contract Bridge Tournament is sponsored by The Social of Greenwood. Registration begins at noon on Friday and play will begin at 1 p.m. Saturday play begins at 9 a.m. Friday dinner and snacks Saturday continental breakfast and lunch. | When: April 20 and 30. | Where: The Social of Greenwood, 550 Polk St. | Cost: \$120 per two-person team for Social members or \$140 per team for non-members. | Info: Call (317) 882-4810.

Gala for the Grove: Unforgettable Friday • The gala presented by the Center Grove Education Foundation will include a VIP reception, dinner, and silent and live auctions, followed by live music and dancing. WRTV-6 News Anchor Rafael Sanchez will serve as the Emcee, with live music provided by The Company Band. Professional portraits will also be available from About Face Photography. | When: April 22, 6 p.m. – midnight. | Where: JW Marriott, Indianapolis. | Cost: \$100 per person or \$850 per table. | Info: Visit centergrovefoundation.org.

Race for an Orphan 5K • The Boaz Project will hold its 9th Annual Race for an Orphan 5K. It includes family-friendly activities and professional chip timing, all to benefit orphans. Strollers and pets are welcome. | When: April 30, 9:30 – 11 a.m. Registration begins 8:30 a.m. | Where: Craig Park, 20 E. Smith Valley Rd., Greenwood. | Cost: \$15 students, \$35 individuals, \$70 family. | Info: Visit boazproject.org/race.

Waggin' on Main Street • The Town of Bargersville will host this fundraiser for the Humane Society of Johnson County. All pets are welcome and must be on a leash. | When: April 30, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. | Where: 24 N. Main St., Bargersville. | Cost: 5k Dog Walk \$20.00 @ 10am, 1 Mile Dog Walk \$10.00 at 10 a.m. | Info: Pre-register at the Town Hall, 24 N. Main St. Monday – Friday, 7 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Teen Film Festival • The 7th Annual Teen Film Festival will highlight student filmmakers, introduce teens to new technology and award creativity. Students in grades 9-12 are welcome to submit a film of their choice that fits into one of four categories: documentary, feature film, music video, or book trailer. | When: Film Festival is May 5. Entries must be submitted by April 25. | Where: Greenwood Public Library, 310 S. Meridian St. | Info: Visit greenwoodlibrary.us/teenfilmfestival.

Keep your photos safe using a cloud

TECH SAVVY

By Regina Miller

I am looking for an alternative way to back up my photos and my daughter recommended I use cloud storage. What does that mean?

Cloud storage is a broad term that covers the ability to store your data in a manner that allows you to access it from a web browser interface from any internet connection. In other words, "cloud" isn't one specific company.

Most clouds are subscription-based that vary from free to hundreds of dollars a month depending on what features you need, how much storage you want, and how many devices you want connected. In my experience, the most common ones I see people use are between free to about \$10 per month. It's a very competitive field and features and prices change often.

One drive is often overlooked is Amazon Cloud Drive, which includes unlimited photo storage for Prime members. This is one of the most underutilized features of their membership in fact. You can either choose to upload the photos, and in essence, use it

as a locker or choose to sync folders. You can also choose to sync the photos from your mobile devices such as smart phones and tablets.

A couple of caveats: First, garbage in, garbage out. If you have your smart phone set to sync all your photos with your back up solution, just remember to clean it out sometimes. You aren't likely going to want to go through scores of text screenshots and pics of something you saw at the store that you might want to go back to get someday as your trying to glean the best childhood pictures of your graduate for her senior board. Your backups are only as useful as they are accessible. Be sure that the people in your life that you want to have access to those family photo back ups are able to get them. You can do this by letting them know they exist in the first place and then also leaving your credentials with your other important documents such as a will.



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



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Faith and fellowship

Rob and Sandy Bailey find an extended family at Calvary Baptist Church through their active participation

WHERE WE WORSHIP

Part of the responsibility of belonging to a church is being active, participating in its activities and missions, says Rob Bailey.

"It's our responsibility as Christians to be involved and have an outreach to the community and share our faith," Rob says. "It's important for us to be in a church that is active in those areas."

He and his wife Sandy attend Calvary Baptist Church in Greenwood, both serving on the personnel committee. Rob is a deacon and occasionally teaches Sunday school classes. Sandy is involved in a variety of programs and has gone on many mission trips with the church to South America.

"One thing that has always helped us when we've moved to new area, which was the case here, was to find a new church that became our extended family," Rob says. "We started attending Calvary about seven years ago. We were looking for a place that we felt comfortable with what was taught and preached, a biblically-based, sound doctrine and people (with whom) we would enjoy fellowship. We find that to be very true, still. It's a very warm and welcoming church."

Rob and Sandy have been married for going on 38 years. They have four adult children, Rob Bailey II, Jennifer Clegg, Derek Bailey and Cassidy Bailey, and one grandson. They moved to the Center Grove area in 2003 when he took a job as a State Farm agent and Sandy accepted a position teaching second grade at Maple Grove Elementary. Rob has also been a member of the Rotary Club of Greenwood for six years, currently serving as its president until the end of its fiscal year on June 31.



Rob and Sandy Bailey at the Rotary Club of Greenwood's recent 50th anniversary celebration, where Rob serves as the club's president. Submitted Photo

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

At Calvary Baptist the word of God is faithfully taught and preached with passion and conviction. It is exciting to see lives changed by the presence and working of God's love. We enjoy the various Bible Study Groups throughout the week and the tradi-

tional and contemporary services held on Sunday morning. We particularly like the preaching and teaching by our Senior Pastor, Dr. Ernie James.

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

Joining hearts and hands in serving the Lord in evangelism, missions and the making of disciples. It is where we go to get fed spiritually and to make life long connections with other members of God's family.

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

Calvary Baptist offers a variety of spirit-filled worship and instructional programs for people of all ages and backgrounds. One of the most meaningful events is our annual Revival program. Our upcoming Spring Revival is scheduled for April 10-13, 2016 and is titled God's Word for His Church Today!

Why would you recommend your place of worship to someone?

Calvary Baptist Church is a place where God's word is taught in a loving and caring way and is making an impact in our community and in families. Calvary Baptist Church is open to all who come short of the perfection of God, which includes all of us since we are all sinners in need of God's love and redemption through His Son and our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Calvary Baptist Church

200 Sunset Blvd.
Greenwood, IN 46142
(317) 881-5743
cbcgreenwood.com

Compiled by Nicole Davis

DEVOTION

By Pastor Chris Philbeck

"A bend in the road is not the end of the road ... unless you fail to make the turn." I've always loved this quote (author unknown) because it reminds me that so much of the time that the outcome of my life is dependent upon my response to whatever "bend in the road" lies ahead because the "bend" will always come. That's why the Bible says, for example, in James 1:1, "Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds"

James doesn't say "if" you face trials but "when" you face trials. Trials are like a bend in the road and James says that the proper response is "pure joy." But how often do we respond to trials with joy?

There's an old story where a young woman complained to her father about how difficult her life had become. "What can I do about it?" she asked. He said, "I will tell you, but first I need to show you something." He took her into the kitchen and set three pots of water to boiling. He put carrots in the first pan, eggs in the second, and tea bags in the third. After the water had boiled for awhile,

he asked his daughter to examine the contents of each pot. He had her cut the carrots, peel the egg, taste the tea. She asked her father what this meant. He said, "Each of these teach something about facing adversity. The carrot went into the boiling water hard but came out soft and weak. The egg went in fragile but came out hard. The tea turned the water into something better." He then asked his daughter, "When you find yourself in hot water, which will you be? Will it make you weak, will it make you hard or will you allow the adversity to make you into something better than you were before?"

The answer depends on how you respond, whether or not you make the turn. God has demonstrated to us time after time that He has the ability to take something that seems really bad and turn it into something good, if we trust Him.



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

March - April

Teacher of the Month

Mrs. Watters

By: Katelyn Stone and
Julianne McIntire,
3rd Grade, CG Elementary



Julianne McIntire, Mrs. Watters and Katelyn Stone.

Mrs. Watters is an amazing kindergarten teacher! She makes us laugh and is always in a good mood. She makes school fun and a better place to learn. We remember how fun and silly she was when she sang and danced during the ABC zoo song.

We are so happy we met each other and Mrs. Watters in Kindergarten. Even though we are in third grade now, Mrs. Watters still makes us feel special by giving us a hug every morning!

Kids, send your name, address and telephone number along with a 100-word summary of why your teacher should be honored as the Center Grove Icon Teacher of the Month to teacher@myicon.info. The deadline for nominations for the April - May 2016 Teacher of the Month is April 1st. Your teacher will receive special recognition; plus, your class will win a pizza party compliments of Chicago's Pizza. Please take time to nominate a deserving teacher from Center Grove.



Chicago's Pizza
is the official ICON
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Pictured is March-April Teacher of the Month, Mrs. Watters' 3rd grade class at Center Grove Elementary enjoying their pizza party!



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Q&A

Answers from Page 8

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- 5. B



What's going on Center Grove?

email: news@myICON.info to share your news.

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Billy Bemis

As a parent of four children in the Center Grove Community School Corporation, Billy Bemis has dedicated many hours volunteering for causes to improve programs for all school-age youth - from serving as president of the Center Grove Basketball Hardwood Club to helping the school system advocate for the construction of a new activity center last year.

"I've always been involved, always felt a small responsibility to give back in any way I can," Billy says. "I've always felt better in all aspects of my life when I was active. All of us have some sort of civic responsibility to help others, to give in whatever capacity that might be."

Billy, originally from Martinsville, graduated from Indiana University. He and his wife, Mindy moved to Greenwood in 1995, then the Center Grove area in 2000. They have three daughters, Ellie, Evie and Sadie and one son, Charlie. Billy and his brother are partners at Bemis Group, doing development and construction of residential or commercial projects. In the past, he has been a member and president of Youth Connections, member of the Sertoma Club of Greenwood and the chamber of commerce.

The Hardwood Club started in September 2014 after Billy says he and some other parents felt a need for a booster club to raise funds to help the basketball program succeed, from the varsity level down to elementary. The group now has 125 members and 10 board members. The club hosts fundraisers in the fall, to be announced on cghardwoodclub.org.

"So far the Hardwood club has been an overwhelming success," Billy says. "It's more than we imagined when we started it. There is more we plan to do with additional training, gym opportunity and coaching for all levels of boys playing basketball."

Billy played a part in helping get petitions signed in favor of the 59,500 square foot addition to Center Grove High School. He said he saw a need for Center Grove to have a student activity center early on, as it lacked the space for many of its extracurricular activities.

"When the school board finally brought it to the forefront and voted to move forward with it, I thought it was a tremendous opportunity," Billy says. "We had a little pushback, but fortunately the community responded with their support and its moving forward."

Here, learn more about our April Center Grove Icon of the Month, Billy Bemis:

What do you consider your greatest virtue?

Honesty and integrity.

What do you most deplore in others? Arrogance and insincerity.

What do you like most about living in Center Grove? Mostly that our family and friends are here. Also, the Center Grove school system has been terrific for our four kids.

If you had to live anywhere else in the Metro Indianapolis area, where would it be? It wouldn't work now with the ages of our kids, but love the thought of living downtown Indy with all there is to do and the walk ability of that entire area.

If you could begin life over, what would you change? As a teenager, all the times I was hateful and disrespectful to my parents. I would stay at IU as a "career student!"

If money were no issue, how would you spend it? Would create a foundation to help so many underfunded causes mainly with an emphasis on children and families.

What makes you happiest? Being active and involved in all the activities and interests that our kids are engaged and just watching them grow and mature...though the time does seem to go by quickly.

What is your favorite vacation spot? Caribbean Islands without a question.

What do you do with idle time? Usually find ways to be with family and friends.

What is it that makes you angry? When my kids are disrespectful to my wife and me or to each other.

What do you do to escape from reality?

Think about winning the Powerball and how so many would benefit from that newfound fortune.

What or who is the greatest love of your life? My wife, Mindy, who is supportive in everything that I do and is a wonderful mother to our kids.

Which living person in Center Grove do you most admire?

My mom who has always sacrificed for and supported me and my family.

What is the quality you like most in a man?

Humility and ethical.

What is the quality you like most in a woman?

Nurturing yet, self-confident.

What is your greatest extravagance? I have pretty simple tastes so I would say a nice dinner with good drinks.

What are your fears/phobias? Snakes.

What has been the happiest time of your life? Although I wouldn't trade my wife and kids today, I absolutely loved my four years at IU Bloomington.

Which talent would you most like to possess? Since I have zero musical ability, I really appreciate those that are skilled vocally or can play multiple instruments.

What do you most value in your friends?

Trust, support and non-judgmental attitudes.

Which historical figure do you most admire?

I'm not a history buff by any means, but first that comes to mind is Abraham Lincoln due to the adversity he overcame in his younger years to be one of the greatest leaders in our country's history.

What is your greatest regret? I think I learned from my Dad, who I miss every day since Aug. 30, 2007, to not live in the past, rather live today and look to the future. So I don't know that I have any regrets.

What tenet do you live by? I was fortunate to be raised by great parents with a strong family bond. Unfortunately, not everyone experiences that so I try to put the needs of others before my own. I feel strongly about community service and trying to give back.



Compiled by Nicole Davis



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