

# The Southside Times

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# The Southside Times

SERVING THE SOUTHSIDE SINCE 1928

A PRODUCT OF



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**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

Dear Editor:

**Small steps can lead to big progress in mental health.**

Today in America, approximately one out of five Americans is suffering with a mental health issue, and approximately one in 25 adults is experiencing a serious mental illness that substantially interferes with one or more major life activities. In addition, 17% of Americans ages 12 and older have a substance use disorder. Left unaddressed, the negative impact of these disorders will increase.

**The time to act is now.** As CEO of Valle Vista Health System, my staff and I have the privilege of serving many members of our community who are experiencing some of the most challenging times of their lives – mental health or substance use disorders that can be invisible to the casual observer in ways that physical illnesses are not. As a behavioral health organization, we must build capacity to serve the need ... attracting new providers, expanding our workforce, investing in prevention, and reducing barriers to care.

The state of Indiana has a mission to provide outpatient treatment program locations within 60 minutes of every Hoosier. Our team at Valle Vista plays a role in achieving this mission, and we firmly believe convenience of treatment is paramount for patient success.

The good news is that there is **hope and resources for recovery.** Today, positive outcomes are not only possible, they are experienced every day. Like chronic physical illness, mental health and substance use disorders can be diagnosed and effectively managed. Individuals who were once in despair can go on to live their best lives. This is highly rewarding and one of many reasons I chose to work in this field.

In addition, at the end of April 2024, our nation witnessed a historic achievement regarding suicide prevention. The 2024 National Strategy for Suicide Prevention was published

alongside the first-of-its-kind Federal Action Plan which makes the strategy more impactful. The Federal Action Plan directed by the White House places accountability for progress at various departments including the CDC, Department of Defense (DoD), the VA, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA), HHS, and others. We look forward to achieving meaningful advancements in suicide prevention under this strategy.

What else can we do within our communities to recognize the signs of behavioral health challenges and assist those in need of care and treatment?

- **Listen and show understanding:** If you suspect a loved one is struggling, encourage them to seek professional help.
- **Share the crisis response number 988,** a 24/7, free and confidential text, chat, talk support line. Military veterans may press '1' for dedicated support. Learn about implementation of the 988 crisis line in your community this summer.

**In case of an acute emergency, dial 911** or go to the nearest emergency room. Suicide is often preventable when people at risk receive the support that they need.

- Our schools should encourage students to pursue careers in behavioral health fields, whether through nursing, medical, or vocational programs. We need to inspire the next generation of talented professionals.

Working together, we can improve the lives of Americans struggling with mental health concerns, not just during this month, but every month in every community across the country.

**Mental wellness starts here.**

Kristen Primeau  
CEO  
Valle Vista Health System

**Franklin Township Historical Society resumes Open House hours**

The interior reorganization of the Franklin Township Historical Society's 1871 Meeting House was completed in time for Open House on March 2. The museum is open to the public on the first Saturday and third Sunday of the month, March through October, from 2 to 4 p.m. The public is invited to check out the new exhibits.



Check out new exhibits at the Franklin Township Historical Society. (Photo courtesy of FTHS)

**Franciscan Health hosting Mothering Support Groups**

Franciscan Health is offering a free support group for mothers and their newborns who are part of the Haka/Chin communities to talk about any stressors that are causing sadness, anxiety, loneliness or mothers to just not feel like themselves. All of this can happen after having a baby.

Mothering Support Group is a postpartum support group to help connect with those who need a little help and guidance to find balance and is a safe place to share experiences with the help of a trained nurse and care management assistant. Mothering Support Group is held on Tuesdays from 5-6:30 p.m. in the Lactation Support Group Room at the Center for Women & Children at Franciscan Health Indianapolis at 8111 South Emerson Ave. Attendees can enter through Door 2 and proceed to the second floor. This support group is in addition to the postpartum support group that meets on Tuesdays from 3-4:30 p.m. for English speaking mothers.

To register to attend the group, contact Tuan Sung at 317-528-5620.



## Meet YOUR NEIGHBOR

## Elizabeth Choi

Director of Communications  
Perry Township Schools

By Julie Brackemyre

### 1. In what town do you work, and how long have you lived on the Southside of Indy?

I work in Perry Township. I've lived in Center Grove for 10 years. Before that, I lived in Perry Township. I also lived in Beech Grove when I was a teenager. -Fun fact: My first apartment was Buffalo Creek Apartments. I moved out of state for work. But I loved living in Perry Township so much that I moved back to the same apartment community 10 years later.

### 2. Describe your immediate family to us.

I have a HUGE loving family; six sisters, one brother, dad and stepmom, and mom and stepdad. We are all very close. My mom is fun and a sort of rulebreaker. My dad is orderly and routine. So, our personalities run the gamut. But we have great love for one another and because of that, we not only are accepting of differences, we tend to gravitate toward siblings that are polar opposites.

### 3. Does your family identify with a certain faith, and if so, can you tell us more about the traditions in your faith?

Yes, Protestant Christians. Easter is a big holiday in my family. Many of us will go

to church and after, my mom, who is an amazing cook, will make a large meal for everyone. Of course, the kids in the family will have an egg hunt. Generally, we'll have at least two separate egg hunts (big kids and little kids). Sometimes, we even have an egg hunt for the teens. We celebrate Christmas at my sister Chatty's house. My brother-in-law always makes a delicious prime rib and generally we do a fun elephant gift exchange.

### 4. Describe your perfect family outing.

Anything involving a good meal! Ha! And everyone, except for myself, is a great cook. Many of my family members live in Brown County or nearby. I enjoy getting together in the country and just being around my family. We've been doing annual family vacations for a few years now. A couple summers ago, when the Elvis movie came out, we got together for dinner and a large group of us went to see the movie. We are all Elvis fans and have gone to Graceland together on several occasions. We also try to make it to the Metamorph and/or Covered Bridge festivals in the fall time.

### 5. What is your favorite family tradition?

Every year my mom and I go to Beef



Elizabeth Choi, second from right, with her family. (Submitted photo)

and Boards to see "A Christmas Carol." Each year, we invite different people to go with us. This past year, four of my sisters went along with my stepdad and niece. It's festive and really gets me in the Christmas spirit. We started a new tradition a few years ago: a family vacation. We like beaches!

### 6. What are three words to describe the reasons you choose to live on the Southside of Indy?

1. (it's) Home 2. Quiet 3. Familiar

### 7. Ask your youngest child (or spouse or sibling) to describe you.

My sister Kimmy described me as diligent, charismatic, funny, loyal, detail-oriented, analytical, and fiercely independent.

My sister Chatty described me as cheesy, self-starter, self-sufficient, God-fearing Christian, fun, and stylish.

My sister Beck described me as my father's twin, organized, determined, loyal, supportive, bougie, independent, and goal-oriented.

My mom described me as strong, independent, beautiful, smart, granny lifestyle, knows what she wants and never settles for less, and loves her family, especially me.

## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

By Kate Anderson

**"A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawnmower is broken."**

- James Dent

Ahhhhh, summer ... what a lovely season. Some of my most favorite memories are made at this time of the year. What is it about summer that just makes me happy? Is it the food? Delicious cocktails? No, it's so much more than that. It's the sunshine on my face, driving with the windows down, listening to the kids next door playing outside, the smell of cookouts being held around the neighborhood, and bonfires at night. When I was a kid, we were told to go outside first thing in the morning, play out there all day long, and come home

when the streetlights came on. Riding our bikes, roller skating down the street, playing on the swing set, and playing games with our friends. It was a different world then and though some things stay the same, there is nothing like that memory you keep in your mind.

Ahhhhh, summer ... it is chock full of rituals, traditions, and celebrations. For some, it's that family vacation you wait all year to take, weekend trips with friends to the lake, sleeping in a hammock on the porch, pool parties, slip and slides, and running through the sprinkler. The

sounds of laughter, squeals, and music on the radio. Summer holds so many possibilities, so much promise, and whether we know it or not, most of us work overtime to make the most of our off-the-clock time. The trick is to find the time to slow down and soak up every second of our time in the sun.

Ahhhhh, summer ... it is time to sit with a tall, cold glass of iced tea and reminisce on those childhood and family memories. Time to remember what makes you smile. What is it that makes you happy during this sun-drenched

season? What makes you laugh and brings you joy? So today when you are out running errands or driving home from work, put those windows down and let the wind mess up your hair a little bit. We can all use that from time to time. Remember to make the time to walk barefoot in the grass or run through the sprinkler with your kids. It can be amazing how these simple acts can raise your spirits and make you feel like a kid again. After all, that is what this season is all about. Embrace it!

# Southside Times ICON of the Week

## Rachelle Gardner

By Julie Brackemyre

Rachelle Gardner is the executive director and co-founder of Hope Academy, Indiana's only recovery high school. A licensed clinical addiction counselor, Gardner began her career as an addiction counselor and has dedicated over 30 years to helping adolescents affected by substance use disorder. Previously, Gardner served as the director of adolescent services at Fairbanks Addiction Treatment Center and as the board chair for the Association of Recovery Schools.

Gardner holds a Bachelor of Arts in psychology from Indiana University and a master's in organizational management. A lifelong resident of Franklin Township, she and her husband, Scott, have two daughters, Rebecca (27) and Kathryn (20). They love their community and are members of St. John Lutheran Church.

### What do you consider your greatest virtue?

Loyalty. It's the foundation of all meaningful relationships and the glue that holds people together.

### What do you most deplore in others?

Dishonesty. It undermines relationships and trust.

### What do you like most about working on the Southside of Indy?

Being born and raised here, I love the familiarity and the bliss of avoiding the interstate commute.

### If you had to live anywhere else, where would it be?

A beach where the sound of waves can soothe my soul and the sun sets over the horizon each night.

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

I would have traveled more at a young age.

### If money weren't an issue, where would you spend it?

I would travel more and purchase a beautiful house with a lake for my husband to enjoy.

### What makes you happiest?

Nothing makes me happier than spending time with my husband and two daughters.

### What is your favorite vacation spot?

Anywhere I can feel the sand between my toes and watch and listen to the ocean.

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

Spend time with my adorable dogs, Banks and Winnie.



### What is it that makes you angry?

The persistent stigma attached to addiction prevents many from seeking the help they need and others from truly understanding it.

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

Binge-watching Friends!

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

My husband, Scott.

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

Loyalty

### What is your greatest extravagance?

Honestly, I live quite simply and have no significant extravagances.

### What is your favorite restaurant?

Any place that serves delicious Italian food.

### Who is the person most influential in your life?

My dad. He was my greatest source of inspiration and biggest cheerleader.

### What are your fears/phobias?

I am deathly afraid of not being able to breathe.

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

I love to sing, and wish I was naturally gifted at it.

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

Their commitment to me by staying present in my life through the ups and downs.

### Who is your favorite historical figure?

Mother Teresa. She exemplifies selfless compassion and dedication to helping others.

### What is your greatest regret?

Not recording my mom's stories before she died.

### What tenet do you live by?

Philippians 4:6: "Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need and thank him for all he has done." This verse helps me stay grounded and grateful.



# 74-year-old Southside man returns to work, playing pickleball just weeks after receiving pacemaker

By Nancy Hammerstrom

As a healthy, smart, and energetic teenager, Glenn Gee played competitive tennis, received a Bachelor of Science degree in industrial engineering from Purdue, and a master's degree from Indiana State University. He later enjoyed a successful career, which included working for NASA at Edwards Air Force Base in California. Nothing has ever stopped him from living a full life, not even a diagnosis of polio and cancer when he was younger, to recently receiving a transcatheter aortic valve replacement and pacemaker from Franciscan Physician Network Indiana Heart Physicians Indianapolis. Today, the retired Johnson County resident shows no signs of slowing down – he still works part-time as a quality specialist concentrating on statistical analysis and ISO 9001 audits for Mauser Packing Solutions and enjoys spending time with his grandchildren and playing pickleball.

## When were you diagnosed with polio?

It was in 1974 when I was 24 years old. I lived in Terre Haute at the time. My wife's old family doctor made the initial diagnosis, since it was now very rare.

## What were your symptoms?

I thought I was in good health at that time. I played some tennis that morning and was fine. In the later afternoon I had a headache and some fever. I was admitted to the Clay County Hospital in Brazil, Ind. (now Ascension St. Vincent Clay) that night for observation. Later that night I used my left hand to grab a glass of water. Suddenly, I lost my grip on it, and it fell to the floor. The next day, the old family doctor checked me over.

## Where and how were you treated for the symptoms?

I was later transported to IU Medical Center at Indianapolis. The younger doctors were not sure of the problem. Later blood tests revealed it as polio.

## Polio left you with limited use of your left arm/chest with atrophy. How were you still able to play tennis?

I was not sure about playing tennis after polio, but my doubles partner, the tennis coach at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, suggested using the racquet face to toss the ball up. After a bit of practice the service was decent enough.

## You were ranked No. 1 by the Central Indiana Tennis Association in men's doubles.

In 1997 I was ranked No. 1 in the men's 35 doubles with my partner – Mike Rourke. In 2000, I again was ranked No. 1 in men's 45 doubles with another partner – John Caton. (It helps to have a good player as a partner and matching styles.) I have been ranked as high as number five in men's 35 singles.

## How did you achieve this ranking?

With a passion for tennis, patience from my wife, and then playing a lot of play and deliberate practice. The rankings occur through playing well in a lot of tournaments.

## You were also diagnosed with a form of testicular cancer in the upper chest cavity in 1978.

I was given radiation treatment for maybe three to four months, about five days per week with a break. I am married to a very patient and caring wife. Actually,

if I let a medical condition go too long, she will make me go to the doctor. She "saved" my life by making me go to the doctor who uncovered the cancer. We have been married over 50 years and have two children and four grandchildren.

## Up until several years ago, did you have any symptoms that something was wrong with your heart?

No knowledge of problems. The family doctor in Cincinnati detected a heart murmur and sent me to a heart specialist in Cincinnati. I was hesitant to believe that my heart murmur was that serious. It did not seem to affect my tennis or pickleball. I did maintain yearly checkups. Maybe two years ago I noticed that I was not as peppy going up a two-story staircase. This was occurring at my workplace and occasionally at outside activities. My new family doctor referred me to Indiana Heart Physicians. Initially I was referred to Dr. Polly Moore, then to Dr. Richard Shea.

## The doctors verified that you needed a heart valve replacement, and they completed the TAVR (transcatheter aortic valve replacement, which replaces a diseased aortic valve with a synthetic valve) procedure and a pacemaker just one week after that. How long did your recovery period take?

My recovery period was about four weeks. No driving for a week or so, with no competitive activity for about four weeks.

## How were you able to return to playing pickleball again just five weeks after receiving a pacemaker?

I just paced myself and tried to test myself. I do enjoy the game and I try to play it to my potential. I do practice and



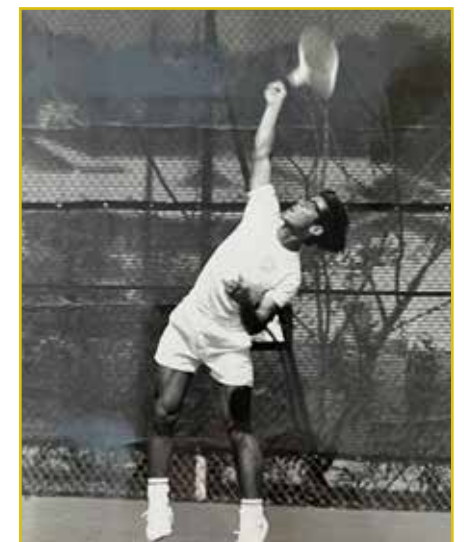
drill shots so that I can hit specific shots as needed. If possible, I try to play four to five times per week.

## What do you attribute for a healthy lifestyle and fast recovery from your procedures?

I might attribute a lot of it to good genes. My grandparents died at the age of 99 and 98. My father died at 99 and my mother at about 92. A recent statistic is that of about 30 relatives that have died, over 54% were over 90 years of age. Now, maybe 50 years of competitive tennis helped a lot, that could have provided plenty of stamina and endurance. I should mention that I lifted weights in my late teens and into my 20s. I also jogged a bit to stay in shape. For a few years I would jog 2.5 miles in the mornings. That really kept me in shape for tennis. I did not allow fatigue to cause me to default (in) any tennis matches. Other activities included coaching Little League Baseball and Babe Ruth League baseball plus coaching youth basketball until my son was past the age.

## What are your future goals?

Playing a good level of pickleball; do some meaningful part-time work as needed; continue teaching a graduate course in statistics; maintain my house and yard work; plus be involved with my grandchildren.



(Submitted photos)

# 2024 Summer Festivals and Farmers Market Guide



## BARGERSVILLE

### Picnic Concert Series

Mallow Run Winery invites lovers of music, food, and wine to come out for a variety of concerts and food offerings. Free admission. All ages. Go to [mallowrun.com/picnic-concert-series](http://mallowrun.com/picnic-concert-series).

- Every weekend beginning Saturday, May 25 through Saturday, Sept. 21
- Concerts held at various times during the weekend
- Location: Mallow Run Winery, 6964 W. Whiteland Road, Bargersville

### Bargersville Farmers Market

Join us every Wednesday from June - September for a vibrant and community-driven farmers market in downtown Bargersville. Discover the finest local produce, handmade crafts, and delectable treats from our dedicated vendors. Live music, food trucks, and entertainment. For more information, visit: [bargersvillemainstreet.org](http://bargersvillemainstreet.org).

- Wednesdays, June through September
- Time: 5-7 p.m.
- Location: Town Hall, 24 N. Main St., Bargersville

### Bargersville Free Summer Concert Series

The Bargersville Parks & Recreation Department has partnered with RD Productions, LLC to bring quality bands to our community in 2024 for a free summer concert series! This partnership promises to elevate your summer experience by bringing top-notch bands to the heart of Bargersville. Mark your calendars and join us for unforgettable nights of music, community, and fun! Visit [bargersvillemainstreet.org/events](http://bargersvillemainstreet.org/events)

- Various Thursdays from June 6 to Sept. 21
- Time: 7:30-9 p.m.
- Location: Bargersville Main Street, 24 N. Main St., Bargersville

### Kephart Park Family Fest

Enjoy a free day of food, games, prizes, and fun for the whole family. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit:

[facebook.com/events/931390745355628](https://facebook.com/events/931390745355628).

- Date: Saturday, June 8
- Time: 11 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Location: Kephart Park, 3926 W. County Road 144, Bargersville

### Mallow Run Red White and Blueberry Festival

Celebrate American summertime with the annual release of Mallow Run Winery's blueberry wine and blueberry hard cider, plus food trucks and great music. Saturday's event is 6-9 p.m. and features live music by The Indigos at 7 p.m. and a fireworks finale. Sunday's music features Living Proof from 2-5 p.m. There is a \$10 per car charge on Saturday after 5 p.m. Visit [mallowrun.com](http://mallowrun.com)

- Saturday, July 6 to Sunday, July 7
- Time: Saturday evening from 12-9 p.m.; Sunday from 12-6 p.m.
- Location: Mallow Run Winery, 6964 W. Whiteland Road, Bargersville

## BEECH GROVE

### City of Beech Grove Summer Concert Series

Want to hear some great music this summer? Join us in Sarah T. Bolton Park for the 2024 Summer Concert Series! Enjoy great music and family fun. For more information go to [hornetparkcommunitycenter.com/summer-concerts](http://hornetparkcommunitycenter.com/summer-concerts).

- Select Thursdays, May 30-Oct. 3
- Time: 6-9 p.m.
- Location: Sarah T. Bolton Park, 1300 Churchman Ave., Beech Grove

### All American Day in the Park

The Beech Grove Promoters Club invites everyone to the unforgettable Beech Grove Fireworks 2024 All American Day in the Park event! Guests can immerse themselves in an exciting atmosphere filled with lively music, delicious food, and entertaining games. As the sun sets, a spectacular fireworks display launched from within the park will dazzle attendees. The event is free to attend. For more information go to [bgpromoters.org/fireworks](http://bgpromoters.org/fireworks).

- Wednesday, July 3
- Time: 5:30-11 p.m.

- Location: Sarah T. Bolton Park, 1300 Churchman Ave., Beech Grove

## CARMEL

### Carmel Fest

Carmel Fest is a beloved annual summer tradition for families and friends throughout Indiana. Enjoy live entertainment, Kidzone, delicious festival food, beer & wine garden, and shopping at the unique marketplace, sitting together under the spectacular fireworks, and celebrating our country's independence at our patriotic parade! Come make some special memories. Fun for all ages. For more information, visit: [carmelfest.net](http://carmelfest.net).

- Dates: Wednesday, July 3-Thursdays, July 4
- Times: July 3: 1-10 p.m. and July 4: 12-10 p.m.
- Location: Carmel Civic Square, 720 S. Rangeline Road, Carmel

### Brews on the Boulevard

The City of Carmel, its Carmel Brews & Barrels Train and Allied Solution presents Brews on the Boulevard, the first official beer festival in Carmel. Breweries from across the state will be serving unlimited samples of beer with the purchase of a tasting ticket. Sample selections from each brewery with the opportunity to purchase items directly from your favorites. Enjoy a variety of food vendors, exclusive Brews & Barrels Trail giveaways, live entertainment, and fun for the whole family! Attendance is free and open to the public. Only those interested in participating in the beer sampling must purchase a tasting ticket. For more information, visit: [carmelbrewsandbarrels.com](http://carmelbrewsandbarrels.com).

- Date: Saturday, Aug. 3
- Time: 5-9 p.m.
- Location: Midtown Carmel, 365 Monon Blvd., Carmel

### Indy Greek Fest 2024

Journey abroad as you enjoy authentic Greek foods, pastries, wines, and local craft beers. Listen and dance to Greek music and tour the Cathedral. One of Central

Indiana's Oldest and Largest Ethnic Festivals. Proceeds will benefit St. Basil Food Pantry, The Lord's Pantry at Anna's House, and Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral. For more information, visit: [indygreekfest.org](http://indygreekfest.org).

- Date: Friday and Saturday, Aug. 23 and 24
- Time: Friday: 4-10 p.m./ Saturday: 11 a.m.-10 p.m.
- Location: 3500 W. 106th St., Carmel

## FISHERS

### Spark!Fishers

Fishers Parks' annual, weeklong Spark!Fishers festival, presented by Meijer, will take over downtown Fishers the last full week of June. Get together with your community for the annual Spark!Fishers 5K race and 1-Mile Walk/Run, Spark!Fishers Car & Art Show, free concerts on Tuesday night and Friday night, with drone and fireworks shows, and Saturday's Spark!Fishers Street Festival – the biggest day of the week – with a parade, multiple stages of live music, food, drink, and artisan vendors, art displays, kids and teen zones, and so much more! For more information, visit: [playfishers.com/621/SparkFishers](http://playfishers.com/621/SparkFishers).

- Date: Monday, June 24 through Saturday, June 29
- Time: See website for schedule
- Location: Nickel Plate District Amphitheater, 6 Municipal Drive, Fishers

## FOUNTAIN SQUARE/FLETCHER DISTRICT

### Meet Me at the Market

You need to be in Fountain Fletcher on the third Saturday of the month, which includes a vendor market at College Ave Plaza, open galleries at The Murphy Arts Center from noon to 6 p.m., and Hot Walk Indy group walk from 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Free RSVP. For more information, visit: [do317.com/events/2024/6/15/meet-me-at-the-market-tickets](http://do317.com/events/2024/6/15/meet-me-at-the-market-tickets).

- Date: Saturday, June 15
- Time: 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
- Location: College Ave Plaza, 630 Virginia Ave., Indianapolis



**First Friday Artist Market**

Celebrate First Friday at both Fountain Square Plaza and College Avenue Plaza with 16 local artisans! Free RSVP. For more information, visit: [do317.com/events/2024/7/5/first-friday-artist-market-tickets](https://www.do317.com/events/2024/7/5/first-friday-artist-market-tickets).

- Date: Friday, July 5
- Time: 6-9 p.m.
- Location: Fountain Square Plaza, 1101 Virginia Ave. and College Ave Plaza, 630 Virginia Ave., Indianapolis

**FRANKLIN****Lavender Harvest Extravaganza**

Enjoy lavender ice cream, lavender mimosas, and lavender popcorn all while enjoying the lavender in bloom. You can also harvest your own fresh lavender out of Dollie's field and get a chair massage in the lavender fields.

For more information visit: [dolliesfarm.com/events](https://dolliesfarm.com/events).

- Date: Saturday, June 8
- Time: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
- Location: Dollie's Farm, 3961 N. 425 E., Franklin

**Hoosier BBQ Classic**

This year the Hoosier BBQ Classic in cooperation with Fold of Honor will be hosting a food trucks festival, family fun zone, beer garden, and live music featuring Tyler Poe and the Volunteer Railroad. For more information, visit: [hoosierbbqclassic.com](https://hoosierbbqclassic.com).

- Date: Friday, June 7 and Saturday, June 8
- Time: 12-6 p.m.
- Location: Johnson County Fairgrounds, 250 Fairground St., Franklin.

**Franklin Firecracker Festival**

Enjoy the Franklin Community Band, beer garden, food vendors, free outdoor concert, and fireworks. Go to [franklinparks.org](https://franklinparks.org).

- Wednesday, July 3
- Time: 5:30-11 p.m.
- Location: Franklin Amphitheater, 237 W. Monroe St., Franklin

**Johnson County Fair**

Enjoy grandstand events, rides, games, and food. Go to [jocofairin.com](https://jocofairin.com).

- Sunday, July 14 through Saturday, July 20
- Time: Events and activities held at various times
- Location: Johnson County Fairgrounds, 250 Fairground St., Franklin

**Hops & Vines Festival**

Come to Franklin for Hops & Vines, a beer and wine festival put on by Discover Downtown Franklin. The event includes local wineries and breweries featuring their best pours, live music, and food. Go to [discoverdowntownfranklin.com](https://discoverdowntownfranklin.com).

- Saturday, Aug. 10
- Time: 2-10 p.m.
- Location: Franklin Amphitheater, 237 W. Monroe St., Franklin

**FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP****Marion County Fair**

Many events and entertainment, including those at the grandstand and park stage, animals, queen, and princess pageant. For more information, visit: [marioncountyfair.org/schedule](https://marioncountyfair.org/schedule).

- Date: Friday, June 28-Sunday, July 7
- Time: Visit the website for daily schedules
- Location: Marion County Fairgrounds, 7300 E. Troy Ave., Indianapolis

**Wanamaker Old Settler's Day Street Fair and Car Show**

We are having the Wanamaker Old Settler's Day Street Fair and Car Show in downtown Wanamaker. For more information, visit:

**Facebook: Old Settlers Day. Down Town Wanamaker.**

- Date: Sunday, June 30
- Time: 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Location: Southeastern Avenue in downtown Wanamaker.

**Augustravaganza**

Rides, catered dinner, food tent, beer/wine tent, Monte Carlo, raffle, live entertainment, kids' games, and free admission! For more information go to [nativityindy.org/augustravaganza](https://nativityindy.org/augustravaganza).

- Friday, Aug. 9 and Saturday, Aug. 10
- Time: 4 p.m.-midnight
- Location: Nativity Catholic Church, 7225 Southeastern Ave., Indianapolis

**GARFIELD PARK****Garfield Park Farmers Market**

Our mission is to support local, sustainable farmers and producers while creating a gathering place for community interactions. A variety of food options are available for customers, including organic produce, grass-fed meats, locally roasted coffee, artisan cheeses, local honey, and more. For more information, visit: [garfieldparkfarmersmarket.com](https://garfieldparkfarmersmarket.com).

- Date: Saturdays from May through October
- Time: 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
- Location: Garfield Park, at the corner of Southern Avenue and Shelby Street, Indianapolis

**GREENWOOD****Greenwood Farmers Market**

Organized by the Old Town Greenwood Association. The organization provides vendors the opportunity to supply area residents and visitors with locally grown food and handcrafted items. For more information, go to the [Greenwood Indiana Farmers Market Facebook page](https://greenwoodindianafarmersmarket.com) or email: [greenwoodfarmersmarket.com](mailto:greenwoodfarmersmarket.com)

- Every Saturday, from the last Saturday in April to the last Saturday in September.
- Time: 8 a.m.-noon
- Location: Greenwood United Methodist

Church parking lot, 525 N. Madison Ave., Greenwood

**Greenwood Summer Concert Series**

Nearly every Saturday evening between June through August hundreds of Greenwood residents, visitors, and their families gather with lawn chairs, blankets, and snack-filled coolers to enjoy live performances spanning a variety of musical genres. For more information, go to [greenwood.in.gov](https://greenwood.in.gov)

- Every Saturday, from June 1 through Aug. 10
- Time: 7 p.m.
- Location: Greenwood Amphitheater in Craig Park, 300 S. Washington St., Greenwood

**Our Lady of Greenwood Summer Festival**

We will have carnival rides, games, Monte Carlo, bingo, cake wheel, grand raffle, quilt raffle, children's games, live music, beer tent, and plenty of food. Admission is free! For more information call the parish office at 317-888-2861 or email [info@olgreenwood.org](mailto:info@olgreenwood.org).

- Thursday, June 6 through Saturday, June 8
- Time: Various times
- Location: Our Lady of the Greenwood School, 399 S. Meridian St., Greenwood

**Greenwood Mall Concert Series**

Head to the outdoor fountain at the Greenwood Park Mall for live concerts from your favorite tribute bands this summer. Don't forget to bring your own chairs, your best dance moves, and the whole family, too! Visit [simon.com/mall/greenwood-park-mall/news-and-events](https://simon.com/mall/greenwood-park-mall/news-and-events).

- Thursdays from June 27 through July 25
- Time: 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- Location: Greenwood Park Mall, outdoor fountain, 1251 N. U.S. 31, Greenwood

**Greater Greenwood Community Band Patriotic Concert**

Enjoy a collection of patriotic favorites from the community band. Bring a lawn chair to enjoy this free event. Visit [greenwoodband.org](https://greenwoodband.org)

- Friday, June 28
- Time: 7-8:30 p.m.
- Location: Greenwood Amphitheater, 100 Surina Way, Greenwood

**Greenwood Freedom Festival**

As Greenwood's marquee community event, Freedom Festival draws more than 50,000 people to Craig Park every summer to celebrate the American Spirit with a parade, food, drinks, music, kid zone, and fireworks. For more information, visit: [greenwood.in.gov/festival](https://greenwood.in.gov/festival).

- Saturday, June 29
- Time: kicks off at 4 p.m. with the parade and ends after the K.O.R.N. Country 100.3 Musical Fireworks Blast Off at 10:15 p.m.
- Location: Craig Park, 10 E. Smith Valley Road, Greenwood

**WAMMfest**

WAMMfest is an annual summer celebration of wine, art, live music, and microbrew, organized by the Sertoma Club of Greenwood. Savor fragrant varieties from Indiana wineries, shop the juried art fair of 40+ artists, enjoy live music on two stages, and taste award-winning craft beer from central Indiana breweries. A variety of local food trucks along with restaurant-quality cuisine. One hundred percent of net ticket proceeds are distributed back to our community to support scholarships and nonprofit organizations! Tickets are available for purchase online or at the gates only. Save \$10 per person by buying tickets early. \$15 early bird; \$20 starting Aug. 1. \$25 day of WAMMfest (online and at the gates). For more information go to [wammfest.com](https://wammfest.com).

- Saturday, Aug. 17
- Time: 12-9 p.m.
- Location: Craig Park, 10 E. Smith Valley Road, Greenwood

**INDIANAPOLIS****Slamology 2024**

Get ready to rev your engines and crank up the tunes because the 21st Annual Slamology Automotive and Music Festival is back and bigger than ever! Presented by Gauge Magazine and Sky High Car Audio, and co-sponsored by Kicker Performance Audio, this year's event promises to be an adrenaline-pumping, bass-thumping extravaganza you won't want to miss. Slamology is the ultimate celebration of all things automotive and music, bringing together car enthusiasts, music lovers and families for a weekend of high-octane fun and live entertainment. Whether you're a fan of custom cars, booming sound systems or simply looking for a great time, Slamology has something for everyone. For more

information, visit: [slamology.com](http://slamology.com).

- Date: Saturday-Sunday, June 8-9
- Time: Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. & Sunday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Location: Lucas Oil Raceway Park, 10399 Cree Circle, Indianapolis

### Indy Pride Festival

Get ready to celebrate love, diversity, and unity at the 2024 Indy Pride Festival! Join in the fun for a vibrant and unforgettable experience filled with music, entertainment, and a rainbow of festivities. From dazzling performances to delicious food, the Indy Pride Festival is a celebration of acceptance and pride. For more information, visit [indypride.org/event/indy-pride-festival](http://indypride.org/event/indy-pride-festival).

- Date: Saturday, June 8, 2024
- Time: 11 a.m.-10 p.m.
- Location: Military Park, 601 W. New York St., Indianapolis

### Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Parish Italian Street Festival

Some people say we Italians have three lives in life: God, our families, God and good food ... and not always in that order! The difficulty comes in finding all three things in the same place ... that is, unless you're in Indianapolis, because here, you always know where to find them! Free admission and parking at Indianapolis' much-loved and most-attended church festival. Join us and enjoy delicious Italian food, wine, and live music! For more information go to [holyrosaryindy.org](http://holyrosaryindy.org).

- Friday, June 14 and Saturday, June 15
- Time: 5-11 p.m. both nights
- Location: Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary, 520 Stevens St., Indianapolis

### Talbot Street Art Fair

As one of the top art shows in the U.S., and Indiana's oldest juried art fair, the Talbot Street Art Fair prides itself on showcasing the best in craftsmanship & artistry. Located on Talbot Street in the picturesque district of the Heron Morton neighborhood, downtown Indy. Come to view the extraordinary art of 220 juried artists from across the country. Free to attend and all ages welcome. For more information, visit: [talbotstreet.org](http://talbotstreet.org).

- Date: Saturday/Sunday, June 15 and 16
- Time: Saturday 10 a.m.-6 p.m. & Sunday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Location: Talbot Street, between 16th and 21st streets, Indianapolis

### Uncork Me Indiana 2024

Indiana's Favorite Wine Festival! Get set for the second annual Uncork Me Indiana 2024. Your hub to try Indiana exclusive wine, cider, and mead. A variety of food trucks will be on hand to compliment your alcohol selections. Enjoy listening to live music and performances, playing yard games, and having fun with friends. VIP, early access, and general admission tickets are on sale now! For more information and to register, visit: [Eventbrite.com](http://Eventbrite.com).

- Date: Saturday, June 22
- Time: 2 p.m.-7 p.m.
- Location: Military Park, 601 W. New York Street, Indianapolis

### 32nd Indian Market & Festival

Experience the vibrant spirit of the Indian Market and Festival! Shop exquisite jewelry, pottery, paintings, beadwork, and beyond from over 140 talented artists spanning the U.S. and Canada. Immerse yourself in rich cultural performances featuring music, dance, and storytelling. Engage in family art-making activities while savoring delectable fry bread and other local delights from food vendors. Join in for a celebration of art, culture, and community like no other! All ages welcome and ages 17 and under are free. For more information on tickets, artists and performance schedule, visit: [eiteljorg.org/IndianMarketandFestival](http://eiteljorg.org/IndianMarketandFestival).

- Date: Saturday, June 22 and Sunday, June 23
- Times: visit website for times
- Location: Eiteljorg Museum, 500 W. Washington St., Indianapolis, IN 46204

### Indianapolis Water Lantern Festival

The Indianapolis Water Lantern Festival is filled with fun, happiness, hope, and great memories that you'll cherish for a lifetime. Experience the magic of thousands of lanterns as the soft lights reflect upon the water. This is a family friendly event that can be shared by all. Enjoy food trucks and live music! Friends, family, neighbors, and many others will come together to create a peaceful, memorable experience. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit: [waterlanternfestival.com](http://waterlanternfestival.com).

- Date: Saturday, July 13
- Time: Gates open at 6:30 p.m. and Lantern Launch starts at 9:30 p.m.
- Location: Military Park, 601 W. New York St., Indianapolis

### Indiana State Fair

The Indiana State Fair is the greatest showcase of education, agriculture, and entertainment in the state. The theme of the 2024 State Fair is "The Art & Nature of Fun," presented by Newfields and will be a true Hoosier Masterpiece. Over 750,000 people visit every year and family fun, rides, and games, barnyard, goat yoga, fabulous fair food, and the Indiana Beer, Wine, and Spirits Expo. The Fair will have fairgoer favorites including carnival rides, fun and wacky fair food, 4-H competitions, free entertainment and much, much more! For more information, visit: [indianastatefair.com](http://indianastatefair.com) or [visitindy.com](http://visitindy.com).

- Dates: Aug. 2 - 18
- Times: Times vary. Visit websites for more information.
- Location: Indiana State Fairgrounds and Event Center, 1202 E. 38th St, Indianapolis

### Feast of Lanterns

Come celebrate at this historic Near Eastside festival. Many local neighborhoods and community organizations will be highlighted. This year, live music will be featured as well as over 80 artisans and vendors selling their work alongside sponsor and community booths, delicious bites from food trucks and the beer garden. Must be 21+ to enter the beer garden. For more information, visit: [indyfol.org](http://indyfol.org).

- Date: Saturday, Aug. 24
- Time: 4-11 p.m.
- Location: 1800 Nowland Ave., Indianapolis

### 15TH Annual St. Joseph Fall Festival

Silent auction, great rides, pull tabs, community barn sale, blackjack/poker, Texas poker, bingo, beer garden. Raffle tickets are available for purchase during the festival. Six tickets for \$20. Saturday night Texas hold 'em on Saturday. Sign up at the big tent starting at 5:30 p.m. The grand prize drawing of \$1,500 will be on Sunday night at 7 p.m. Homemade dinner will be served each night at Elford Hall. For more information go to [stjosephindy.org/Festival](http://stjosephindy.org/Festival)

- Friday, Aug. 25-Sunday, Aug. 27
- Time: Friday and Saturday, 5-11 p.m.; Sunday, 12:30-7:30 p.m.
- Location: St. Joseph Church, 1401 S. Mickley Ave., Indianapolis

### NINEVEH

#### Johnson County Antique Machinery Show

The Johnson County Antique Machinery Show is a show devoted to the restoration and preservation of farm tools and equipment of years gone by. Fun activities for the whole family include tractor pulls, demonstrations, and more. Check the website for the times and schedule of activities since they vary by the day at [jcamach.org](http://jcamach.org).

- Thursday, June 13 through Sunday, June 16
- Time: varies each day
- Location: Johnson County Park, 7399 S. Gatlin St., Nineveh

#### Adult Night at Freedom Springs

Why should kids have all the fun? Come to Freedom Springs for adults-only (21+) fun nights at the aquatic center. Enjoy wine, craft beer, live music, and water fun. Grab your tickets now and get ready for unforgettable summer nights by the pool! Go to [register.greenwood.in.gov](http://register.greenwood.in.gov).

- Fridays on June 21, July 19, and Aug. 9
- Time: 8:15-10:45 p.m.
- Location: Freedom Springs Aquatic Park, 850 W. Stop 18 Road, Greenwood

#### Sparks in the Park

Come to Johnson County Park and enjoy live music at the amphitheater, inflatables, food, beer, wine, and fireworks show. Admission is \$5 for those 13 years old and older. Visit

[jocoparks.com/events](http://jocoparks.com/events).

- Friday, June 28
- Time: 7-10:30 p.m.
- Location: Johnson County Park, 3097 E. 32nd St., Nineveh

### NOBLESVILLE

#### Spencer Farm Wine Run 5K

Mark your calendars for this exciting event that features the scenic views of Spencer Farm Winery and did we mention the great wine? Be sure to check out the locally grown fruits, meats, and products at Spencer Berry Farm before or after the race. This race is timed and scored by J3 Timing. Results will be posted at [www.J3Timing.com](http://www.J3Timing.com). For more information, visit: [www.spencerberryfarm.com](http://www.spencerberryfarm.com). To sign up for the 5K, visit: [runsignup.com](http://runsignup.com).

- Date: Sunday, June 23
- Time: race starts at 9 a.m.
- Location: Spencer Farm Winery, 7015 E. 161st St., Noblesville

### PARKE COUNTY

#### Brick Street Market

Visit downtown Rockville and enjoy shopping for antiques, boutiques and "uniques" for shopping around the historic courthouse square. Local vendors will be showcased as well. Winery, the old-fashioned 5 & 10 store, art gallery, delicious dining, Thirty-Six Saloon, jewelry, antiques, and local artisan shops for all to enjoy. Free to attend and all ages welcome. For more information, call: **765-366-1487**.

- Date: June 22
- Time: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Location: Rockville Historic Courthouse Square, Rockville

### SOUTHPORT

#### Southport Independence Day Celebration & Parade

Southport's annual Independence Day parade and celebration. For more information, visit: [southport.in.gov](http://southport.in.gov).

- Date: Saturday, June 29
- Time: Starts at 10 a.m.
- Location: City of Southport, 6901 Derbyshire Road, Southport

### ZIONSVILLE

#### Zionsville Street Dance

Zionsville's biggest party, drawing up to 6,000 attendees, features a professional concert at the north end of Main Street, beverages from local breweries, wineries, and distilleries, food trucks, and a kid's area. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit: [zionsvillechamber.org](http://zionsvillechamber.org).

- Date: Saturday, Aug. 3
- Time: 6-10 p.m. and entrance gate opens at 5 p.m.
- Location: Main Street, Zionsville



# Holy Rosary Catholic Church hosts annual Italian Street Festival

By Kay Feeney-Caito

Holy Rosary Catholic Church is pleased to announce the ethnic event of the summer, Friday, June 9 and Saturday, June 10 from 5 to 11 p.m. at the historic Catholic Church, 520 Stevens St., and surrounding Lacy Park. During the event, the area will transform into an outdoor Italian festival and celebration. The annual summer event is free and a treat for the senses.

“Every year, we are thrilled to invite the community to this exciting event that brings together the best in local entertainment, fantastic food, and cultural fun,” said Holy Rosary Father C. Ryan McCarthy. “During the Italian Street Festival, everyone is invited to experience our Italian traditions.” New to the festival is a new and bigger Kids and Family Fun Space that includes the most popular inflatable attractions featuring an American Warrior Obstacle Course! Plus, guests can count on an exceptional music lineup, including four of Indianapolis’ most popular acts. Fans of Caruso and Frank Sinatra will also be entertained as classic Italian music favorites are played over the festival public address system.

The Italian Street Festival features over 25 different Italian meats, pastas, salads, and desserts. There is dancing, live music, and interactive fun inflatables for the kids and teens. Twenty-five food stands in a festive, ethnic setting are decorated with strands of lights, a display of Italian-made Ducati bikes and Vespa scooters, Italian music, an old-world style procession with vocal accompaniment provided by the Indianapolis Opera, and Saturday evening Mass add to the ambiance. There is free parking in the Eli Lilly lots on East and New Jersey streets.

On Friday and Saturday afternoon of the festival, the Italian Heritage Society of Indiana will host Bocce demonstrations. All are welcome to play bocce at the courts in Lacy Park or learn how to play the historic Italian game. The Lacy Park Bocce Courts are at McCarty and Greer streets at the



south end of the church.

Additionally, there is a 7 p.m. Mass on Saturday, June 15 at Holy Rosary Catholic Church. Before Mass at 6:45 p.m., a colorful, Italian religious procession, with a blessed virgin statue, along with priests, servers, and members of the

Italian Heritage Society will move through the middle of the food booths. The Italian Street Festival organizers volunteer their expertise to create a fun, family-friendly environment where one can experience Italian American culture by providing the best in Italian cuisine, entertainment, Italian goods, and service while striving for excellence in promoting the Indianapolis Italian American community, the Parish of Holy Rosary Catholic Church, the city of Indianapolis, and the Italian Street Festival. Proceeds from the annual festival support the church operation fund and the community the church serves.



(Submitted photos)

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# LOCAL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

By Julie Brackemyre

## 1. How many years has St. Pierre Family Funeral & Cremation Services been in business, and what inspired you to start/purchase/work with this business?

Founded as J.C. Wilson & Company in 1897, our name has migrated to the “umbrella” brand name of St. Pierre Family Funeral & Cremation Services several years ago. We still operate our independent names on each storefront.

Personally, I was inspired to join the business after working at a shoe store at the Greenwood Park Mall. I was trained on day one the basic marketing approach of feature/benefits in regards to shoes. I went home and told Dad, “Hey, this is what you do for families ... you show them your features (service) and how it benefits them.” He saw it in my eyes that day. I related immediately and wanted to join the family business when I was 16 years old. It was never an afterthought — it’s what I was meant to do.

## 2. Are you the original owner?

I am a sixth-generation funeral director — but not at the same business. While our firm is likely the oldest business in Greenwood, my grandfather purchased the J.C. Wilson Funeral Home a decade after Mr. Wilson died. My family’s heritage extends back to the Flanner family that used to be an owner of many funeral homes in Indianapolis. Our business in Greenwood started in an old store front on Madison Avenue around the location of an existing brewing company.

## 3. Describe your typical workday.

I try to venture to our now 14 funeral homes to visit each family in part of their grieving process — a goal that is very hard to do. You can’t plan a standard day of work. I may meet a family, assist a funeral, or just talk with staff every chance possible. I’m driven by the diversity of the needs of our families. No two families are

the same, so no two days of mine are the same. Fortunately, I have the best staff on the planet. This is how I get to see so many families, and each day is enjoyable.

## 4. What inspires your work, and what sets you apart from everyone else?

Over the past decade, my inspiration and focus is so much on the service our company delivers — and not my competition. My work is so focused on what we do, not others, and subsequently looking forward all the time. I spend time in study groups with peers from other communities around the country and bring to our firm the type of service and offerings not often available to every funeral home locally. While I love working ON the business, working IN the business is still extremely satisfying.

## 5. If you could go back to the beginning knowing what you know now, what would you have done differently?

I think I would’ve worked outside the family business for a few years — at another funeral home or out of the industry all together. Outside experience certainly would’ve ramped me up mentally faster than my start.

## 6. What’s your best advice for someone who wants to start their own business?

Start your business as young as possible. For me, my father didn’t necessarily want to sell the business at age 69. He really didn’t know his exit strategy. I sold another funeral home that my wife and I owned independently to help him retire. I will be the shortest owner of my family business buying it in my mid-40s, and hopefully retiring in my 60s. If you start your own business, find your exit strategy at the same time. Other advice: Don’t be so broken up when a colleague leaves you to start a competitor. This used to matter to me, but no longer. I hold no grudges anymore to anyone. If you let go, forgive, and you will be happier. Worry about the

staff that want to work with you. Your genuineness will shine through.

## Check out the owner: Paul C. St. Pierre Occupation: President, Owner

## 1. How long have you worked with St. Pierre Family Funeral & Cremation Services? Tell me a little about your background and how you developed your skill set.

I’ve been a funeral director now for 30 years. Even though I knew I had a job after college, I still wanted the business degree from Xavier University first, then mortuary college. My skill set was laid down by the example of my father and uncle, and some good old-fashioned principals of scouting as a young man. Today, I still cling to organizations, fraternities, and my church that have foundational-type principles in which I relate.

## 2. What has been your biggest success to date, and what has been your biggest challenge?

Locally, my biggest success has been remaining a family-owned funeral business. Two deaths in the family could have caused this to go either way, and navigating those rocky waters have been difficult. I do believe my faith in God helped me steer the ship the direction the way He wanted it to go. I truly enjoyed the trust of colleagues and staff in leading my profession as president of Selected Independent Funeral Homes — the largest international association of family-owned funeral homes, the Indiana Funeral Directors Association, and the State Board of Funeral and Cemetery for Governor Daniels. These certainly were successful benchmarks of my career. With that behind me at a young age, I’m hopeful the next 15 years of my career will be very enriching.

## 3. What inspires you to hit the ground running each morning?

My sons, Avery and Ryan. Everything I

do, it’s for them. If I get off track, I just have to think about their future, and I’m inspired to keep going 100 mph. I’m prayerful one of them might want to join the family business.

## 4. Tell me some of your hobbies, outside of working for St. Pierre Family Funeral & Cremation Services.

Traveling is by far the most enjoyable to me. I’ll sneak in a trip to Florida or anywhere whenever the itch arises with my family. We’ve tried to hit two major league baseball parks since 2014 and are getting back on track recently since COVID derailed us a little. Most days, finding a way to relax is usually spending it with friends, with attendance at some sort of concert or music venue always remaining high on the list.

## 5. What’s an interesting fact about your business that most people don’t know?

Many don’t realize that while we have three brands of caring for others — and again, this is to serve everyone in the style and budget that is best for them. We have some of the finest facilities at our Wilson St. Pierre and Singleton & St. Pierre funeral homes. But our Simplicity Funeral Care company is more affordable than anywhere else in the area, and it is interesting how we do this. We have grown that business from Southport to Zionsville and now in Avon. It is the fastest growing segment of our companies.

## 6. What’s an interesting fact about you that most people don’t know?

I’m enjoying collecting old currency and other unique treasures. I have coins from over 60 countries, confederate currency, and even collected a cool old medal from a past summer Olympics. I also keep a tremendous amount of the history of our family business and heritage that I feel an obligation to help preserve, and to communicate to younger generations.



## PERSONNEL MATTERS

## Seven ways to make a difference as a leader

By Mike Heffner

If you lead people, you have tremendous influence and the opportunity to help others be successful. Too many leaders fail to invest in what it takes to truly make a difference. They lead for personal success and miss the joy of seeing someone else become something special. On a recent trip, I spent time reflecting on what it takes to experience true joy as a leader.

**Choose optimism** – To be successful as a leader, you must find your way to being optimistic. Now, optimism isn't all roses and butterflies; it's about looking at possibilities for growth and finding solutions even when you're unsure how it will work out. Another word for optimism is hopefulness. Optimism is an attitude, and it is contagious.

**Be gritty** – You will face challenges and failures on the road to success. As the leader, own them. The ability to persist through obstacles allows you to break

through barriers. Know that you can learn from defeat and come back stronger and better. You must drive things forward even when you don't have all the answers. Keep showing up and giving your best.

**Invest in your mind** – You must continue to put positive, encouraging things into your head. Surround yourself with people and content that make you stronger and better. In a world that often looks to beat you down, keep investing every day in where you want to go. Seek feedback, grow your skills, ask questions, and build relationships with like-minded people.

**Collaborate to find common ground** – No one likes someone who only looks out for themselves. Find ways to see others' points of view. Approach situations with integrity, looking for ways to help and benefit others. You won't always agree but show respect and seek ways to move ideas forward that benefit everyone. Show gratitude for others' efforts and work.

**Find your confidence** – To live a joyful life, you must believe in who you are and find enjoyment in what you do. Step up on teams and projects to build confidence and discover what you like. Try new things. Keep fear at bay by focusing on what is true, helpful, and kind.

**Limit distractions** – You've heard the phrase, "less is more." I like to say, "spend time doing the main things well." I'm often guilty of allowing my optimism to create distractions and trying to do too much. I'm learning to slow down, plan things out, and prioritize the most important tasks. You may have to say no to some really good ideas to focus on the basics crucial to success.

**Embrace difficult conversations** – So many people run from controversial things. Tough conversations don't have to be tough, but they do need to happen. I have rarely found that after a well-thought-out civil conversation where both sides

listen and look to understand the other's perspective that something good has not come from it. Most difficulties arise from misunderstandings or unclear expectations.

Leading others isn't for everyone, but if you accept the challenge, my hope is you step into it with the goal of being joyful, helping others succeed, and making a difference.

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



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## PEER TO PEER

## The electric car saga continues

By Howard Hubler

I recently wrote about the weight of electric cars, inspired by David Blackmon, an energy writer and Texas-based consultant who spent 40 years in the oil and gas business, specializing in public policy and communications. His articles are readily available online.

The additional weight of an electric car is between one to 4,000 pounds depending on how much mileage the car can attain. You'll probably only get 10K miles on tires as opposed to 40K due to weight. An automotive lift probably won't lift the car, city parking garages probably can't handle the weight of 25% of the cars in the garage being electric, and guard rails on interstates can no longer contain cars in an accident.

Blackmon's new article that I just read discusses the environmental impact of all you do to accommodate cars with far greater weight. If you have to tear down bridges, parking garages, make more tires, and reconstitute the electrical grid all over America, look at the environmental impact. Mining more electrical grid copper to this magnitude will have an adverse environmental impact. This much steel has a negative environmental impact. This much rubber has a negative environmental impact. Reconfiguring interstates for heavy

duty concrete and thicker guard rails all have an environmental impact. To the ardent environmentalist: at what point are you going to sit back and rethink this issue?

California has outlawed gas-powered automobiles from 2035 forward. If that's where all the greens live, don't you want to reconsider this?

Sometimes when you get large numbers of people, you get a crazy trend that takes over for 10-15 years and everybody tries to satisfy the trend's need. For me there is a whole other environmental side to electric cars. I live in the world of automobiles, and I have seen people get carried away with certain things in my day.

Now that demand is dropping, I think it is a good time to take a deep breath and revise our projections down for electric car sales, and we may think that for the moment that's a good thing. I will close on one word that in my opinion is emerging out of this whole argument: "hybrid."



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

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## SCORE mentors help former athlete in launching 'Save Our Sports' initiative

By Aspire Economic Development + Chamber Alliance

The Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) is a national nonprofit organization that provides counseling services to business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs. SCORE has helped 11 million entrepreneurs start or grow organizations nationwide since 1964. Their local branch, SCORE Indianapolis, recently shared a success story with the nonprofit initiative Save Our Sports, and its founder, former basketball player Kristopher D. Loving, Sr.

Loving's story with Save Our Sports began when he sought to transition from the basketball court to the referee stand in 2014. However, the registration and training fees in addition to the costs of shoes and a uniform were "a big-time wall" for Loving.

Fate intervened when a close friend and mentor, who initially introduced him to

sports officiating, extended a helping hand by providing him with the needed gear. "He invested in me," said Loving.

This generosity led to Loving launching Save Our Sports, a nonprofit organization that recruits, supports, and empowers sport officials. Save Our Sports incorporated into an official nonprofit organization in January with Loving dedicating his career to paving the way for other aspiring sports officials across Indiana and beyond.

"Our focus is local, but we have served and helped people in Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, and Minnesota based on relationships with people I have there," Loving said.

Since launching Save Our Sports, Loving has mentored and supported 25 to 30 people, working to meet their unique needs, which may often include equipment provision, training funding, mentorship connections, or participation in sports camps.

Loving has already had success with several grants for funding equipment, workspaces, consultations, and other resources for his nonprofit to grow.

Reflecting on his move from Minnesota to Noblesville in 2022, Loving realized the important role of mentorship and collaboration, and was thankful for the guidance he received from SCORE Indianapolis volunteer mentors Bill Petrovic and Bob Miramonti.

Loving said that Petrovic and Miramonti are good with motivation and that he regularly checks in with his old mentors to keep them updated on his progress with Save Our Sports.

"Our lightbulb moment was 'you know you're really doing a big service,'" said Petrovic. "You can learn how to be a good person from being good at some occupation, including being a referee. There's a lot of life experience that can come out of this."

For Loving, the journey transcends sports and his work in this nonprofit has uplifted his personal life.

"I look around at my life and noticed some things, behaviors, and my mindset has changed," he said. "Since I've become an official and developed there, it's affected my marriage and my parenting, my involvement in church. It affected every part of my life."

Looking forward, Loving hopes to build a model for his nonprofit organization that can succeed and grow in other communities around the country. But Loving has chosen Indiana to be the home of Save Our Sports: "We want to grow it here first," he said.

For more information about starting or operating a small business, or finding a mentor, visit SCORE Indianapolis at [score.org/indianapolis](http://score.org/indianapolis).

### GRAND RE-OPENING

## Newly remodeled Greenwood Walmart Supercenter re-opens with customer-centric features, new community-focused mural

Recently, Walmart customers in Greenwood were welcomed inside the newly transformed Supercenter at 882 South State Road 135 as the much-anticipated project is now complete. Walmart associates marked the occasion with a ribbon cutting ceremony and community celebration, with national vendors, mascots, giveaways, and the unveiling of a community-inspired mural by artist Rebekah Slusher.

During this morning's celebration, Walmart store manager James Plyley highlighted the store's transformations as well as the new interactive features now available to customers, including:

- Optimized grocery department with expanded selections
- Front-end transformation with an increased number of customer self-checkout lanes
- Expansion of grocery pickup and

delivery which will help reduce customer wait times while improving customer experience

- New apparel lines with a variety of new styles
- New and expanded merchandise
- New pharmacy with new private screening rooms for pharmacist consultations and services and privacy checkout lanes
- New Vision Center: Walmart created a vision center experience designed around the customer that is convenient, comfortable, and affordable that offers an assortment of quality eyeglasses and sunglasses with prescription lenses
- New, modernized restrooms, including a family restroom
- New mother's room for a clean, comfortable, and private option for nursing mothers
- New pet department with expanded offerings and categories

- Improved the layout throughout the store to expand selection and streamline the customer shopping experience
- Added a new grab-and-go section in the grocery area for quick meal and drink options for customers
- New signage, including some digital signage
- Updated vestibules at entrances with rubber flooring
- New paint inside the store

The store's new mural, designed and illustrated by artist Rebekah Slusher, is an eye-catching installation that reflects the beauty and landmarks of Greenwood. The mural is part of Walmart's Community Mural Program, the largest public-facing art installation celebrating communities across America. Walmart's Community Mural Program is an important part of each store transformation and furthers Walmart's commitment to the local community.



Curator: NOW Art @nowart\_la. Artist: Rebekah Slusher. Walmart Community Mural Artwork: Store #5483 Greenwood. (Submitted photos)



# Southport Library celebrates 50th anniversary

Compiled by Nancy Hammerstrom

On Saturday, June 1, the Southport branch of the Indianapolis Public Library officially celebrated their 50th anniversary with the public. Guests were treated to coffee and donuts from Long's Bakery as Barry Browning of the Perry Township Historical Society presented the history of Southport. Afternoon festivities included the annual Summer Reading sign-up, Silly Safaris animals, face painting, Paws to Read, a family story time, and a Burmese cultural dance.

Fiona Duke, Southport Library Branch manager, shared a history of the library's beginning and growth, along with popular programs and events.

## Tell us a little about the history of Southport Branch.

In 1967, due to a growing population in the suburbs of Marion County, the Indianapolis Public Library began adding branches in the townships. The Southport Branch was the fourth township location and opened on Nov. 6, 1967, in the Madison Square Shopping Center (6840 Madison Ave.) with a starting collection of 6,000 books. According to an article in the Perry Township Weekly, the Southport Branch ranked as the fifth busiest branch just three months after opening. For perspective, in 1967 there were 20 library branches in the city-county system.

*(Part of this information may be found in Stacks: A History of the Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library, the rest from Perry Township Weekly, which is now The Southside Times)*

The storefront location was very small. Moving into the larger space (17,600 square feet) made library services more comfortable and accessible for patrons. There was broad community support, especially from the local schools and their PTA groups who cited the need for students to access a larger collection of materials. The new building would have room for a collection of 70,000.

**A small group of Perry Township residents raised more than \$5,000 to provide additional books for the library. How did they do that?**

A group of 11 Perry Township citizens formed the Bucks for Books Committee. The committee was chaired by Mrs. Leland Richards and included Mrs. E.M. Strain who was also serving as secretary of the Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library Board. To raise funds, they asked residents, local businesses, and organizations for donations. On Nov. 17, 1973, a variety show called The Magic Music Book was

presented at Southport High School with proceeds to benefit the library. Over 70 donors were acknowledged in the show's program.

## How has the facility grown through the years?

There have been two renovations. In the original layout of the building, there were separate desks for check-in and check-out. In a small 1996 renovation, the space was redesigned to accommodate a single circulation desk with a few additional cosmetic changes. The renovation in 2016 was completed over a nine-month period with a complete overhaul of the interior, new study rooms, and moved the entrance to the north end of the building for better access to the parking lot. Other changes over the years included new formats for materials (phonograph to cassettes to CDs, VHS to DVDs, and BluRay, eBooks), and the addition of computers that eventually replaced the card catalog. In the mid-80s, Southport was one of the first two branches to open on Sundays.

## How many patrons does the library serve today?

Our 2023 door count was 111,988.

## What are some of the more popular services, programs, and events that the library offers?

Our most popular systemwide program is the annual Summer Reading Program for children, teens, and adults. Locally, our story times, Tot Art, Chair Aerobics, and Stitch Some Support (yarn crafting for a cause) programs offer variety for all ages. With a growing immigrant population on the Southside, we have become a location for Pathway to Literacy classes, English Conversation Circles, and offer interpretation service by phone through Language Line.

## What are some upcoming services, events, and programs?

The annual Summer Reading Program runs from June 1 - July 31. There are two programs, one for children/teens and one for adults. Also, Perry Township Schools will provide children with free lunch through the Summer Servings program. They will be on site June 10 - July 19 from 11:50 a.m.-12:50 p.m.

## What are your goals for the future?

Our goal is to continue offering useful, interesting, educational services and programming. We see ourselves evolving into a "third place."

## What is your favorite part of working at the library?

Connecting with our diverse community and having the opportunity to make a difference, even a small one, in my patrons' lives gives me purpose.

## What else would you like our readers to know?

The Indianapolis Public Library is an amazing community resource and if it's been a while since you've visited, we hope you'll stop by and learn what we have to offer. Everyone is welcome.



(Photos courtesy of Indianapolis Public Library - Southport Branch)

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# Express Employment Professionals earns esteemed Top Workplace recognition

Express Employment Professionals Indy South is proud to announce it's been honored as a Top Workplace in central Indiana by the IndyStar. This marks the 10th consecutive year that Express has been named a Top Workplace. This recognition is a testament to the unwavering commitment of the entire team to cultivate a workplace environment that inspires fulfillment and growth.

The Top Workplace award, a hallmark of excellence in the Indianapolis area, celebrates organizations dedicated to fostering employee satisfaction, development, and engagement. Express Employment Professionals Indy South consistently embodies these principles, earning distinction as a premier employer in South Central Indiana.

Mike Heffner, the proud owner of Express Employment Professionals Indy South and Columbus, shared his appreciation for this recognition, stating, "We are deeply honored to receive the Top Workplace designation for the 10th straight year. This achievement reflects the collective efforts of our exceptional team. At Express, we prioritize our employees as our greatest asset, endeavoring to nurture an environment conducive to growth, career advancement, and a sense of belonging. This award underscores the positive impact we strive to make in not only



our employees' lives, but the impact we strive to make in our local communities with the work we do."

Managing Partner Phill Powell echoed Heffner's sentiments, expressing delight at the acknowledgment. "Being named a Top Workplace by the IndyStar is a testament to our organization's values," Powell remarked. "Our success is a direct result of our team's dedication, professionalism, and commitment to serving both our clients and candidates. We firmly believe that a happy, fulfilled workforce leads to exceptional outcomes. This recognition reaffirms our commitment to fostering an inclusive, supportive workplace that nurtures

personal and professional development."

With a reputation for excellence in the staffing industry, Express Employment Professionals Indy South has become a trusted partner for businesses throughout south central Indiana, delivering unparalleled staffing solutions.

The recognition as a Top Workplace underscores Express Employment Professionals Indy South's dedication to its employees and the community it serves. The company remains steadfast in its mission to cultivate a workplace culture that fosters collaboration, innovation, and a sense of purpose.

## Duke Energy supports economic development in central Indiana with Partnership Program grants

Duke Energy has selected several economic development organizations in central Indiana for inclusion in its 2024 Partnership Program, which funds marketing and strategic efforts to attract new jobs and investment in communities the company serves. Partnership Program grant funds can be used to support a wide array of marketing initiatives, including trade show attendance, website redesign, promotional materials, and presentations or tours to introduce prospective companies and site selectors to a community. To qualify for program consideration, each applicant submitted a plan that would have a direct impact on their community's economic growth. Grant amounts varied depending on the size and scope of the project.

This year, grants were awarded to the following local organizations:

- **Aspire Johnson County – \$5,000**  
In partnership with Life In Indy, Aspire Johnson County and Festival Country Indiana will launch a digital advertising campaign focused on attracting talent to the region. Through Meta (Facebook and Instagram), LinkedIn and Google, the ad campaign will build awareness of livability opportunities in the central Indiana region.
- **Indy Partnership – \$5,000**  
Grant funds will support Indy Partnership's presence at several conferences throughout the year to market and promote the region and network with site consultants and business prospects.

## Chamber Meetings

### JUNE 2024

#### 13-Greater Beech Grove Chamber of Commerce June Member Meeting

Active Shooter Presentation. During this in-person event, we will cover various topics, including recognizing warning signs, developing an emergency plan, and understanding the importance of communication during a crisis. Our expert speaker Rich Witmer, director of security, safety, and telecom at Franciscan Health, will share his knowledge and experiences to help you better understand this critical issue. Attendees will have the opportunity to engage in interactive discussions, ask questions, and gain practical strategies for personal safety and the safety of others. This event is open to all members and is a great chance to connect with like-minded individuals who share a common goal of promoting safety within our

community. Thursday, June 13, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Hornet Park Community Center, 5245 Hornet Ave., Beech Grove. For more information go to [beechgrovechamber.org/networking-and-events](http://beechgrovechamber.org/networking-and-events).

#### 14-W.I.L.D. Women in Leadership Development

Art of Having Hard Conversations. Join us for our first W.I.L.D. Women in Leadership Development peer networking event of 2024! Radical Candor is based on the premise that building strong, trusting relationships with direct reports, peers, and managers is one of the keys to effective leadership. You've got to be able to tell people how they're doing, both the good and the bad, without demoralizing or beating around the bush. The difference between where you are and where you want to be is the ability to manage a hard

conversation strategically – while being both clear and kind. The speaker is Laura Hayes, Ground Rules Coaching. Friday, June 14, 1:30-3:30 p.m., The Sycamore at Mallow Run, 7070 W. Whiteland Road, Bargersville. For more information go to [web.aspirejohnsoncounty.com/events](http://web.aspirejohnsoncounty.com/events).

#### 18-Golf Outing at Back 9 by the Greater Beech Grove Chamber of Commerce.

Come join us for a fun day at Back 9 Golf and Entertainment! Whether you're a seasoned pro or just starting out, this event is perfect for all skill levels. Enjoy a day of golf, friendly competition, and good company. Don't miss out on this opportunity to relax, have fun, and maybe even improve your swing. Mark your calendars and get ready to tee off at Back 9! Thursday, July 18, 1-4 p.m., Back 9 Golf and Entertainment, 1415 Dover St.,

Indianapolis. For more information go to [web.aspirejohnsoncounty.com/events](http://web.aspirejohnsoncounty.com/events).

#### 20-People + Progress Forum.

In response to the workforce challenges facing our member investors and HR professionals, Aspire is excited to host this half-day forum focused on addressing these challenges while providing training and continuing education. The event will include sessions geared toward helping HR professionals and other business leaders in a variety of roles connect with peers, exchange ideas, and collaborate on best ways to sustain and grow the workforce of tomorrow. SHRM and HRCI credits available! Monday, June 20, 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Valle Vista Golf & Conference Center, 755 E. Main St., Greenwood. For more information go to [web.aspirejohnsoncounty.com/events](http://web.aspirejohnsoncounty.com/events).



Puzzle Time

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- 8 Voicemail sound
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- 13 Cause for overtime at a Trojans game
- 14 Aviation prefix
- 15 Folk wisdom
- 16 Wash. neighbor
- 17 The Healthy Food Cafe menu item
- 18 Local daily newspaper
- 21 Mar. 17 honoree
- 22 Exploit
- 23 Speck
- 26 Skirt fold
- 28 Break in relations
- 32 "Ain't happening"
- 34 Back talk
- 36 Service charge
- 37 Roncalli HS math class
- 39 Brought forth
- 41 Butler frat letter
- 42 Gillette razor
- 44 Waiting, in a way
- 45 Murat Theatre concert equipment
- 47 "Fine by me"
- 49 \_\_\_-bitsy
- 50 Sense of self
- 52 Pick up the tab
- 54 Heptagram
- 59 Portent
- 60 Jog on the Monon Trail
- 61 Rich soil

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- 62 Delhi dress
- 63 Beech Grove HS subj.
- 64 Mystical glow
- 65 Curved molding
- 66 Colts stats
- 67 Put one's foot down
- 7 Chick's chirp
- 8 Weeps loudly
- 9 More spine-tingling
- 10 Historical periods
- 11 Taylor Swift, e.g.
- 19 Distribute pro rata
- 20 Very vocal
- 23 Hubler Mazda roadster
- 24 Muslim faith
- 25 Prepare to advance on a fly ball
- 27 Some batteries
- 29 "\_\_\_ now, when?"
- 30 Senses
- 31 A Roosevelt
- 33 Pacers' org.
- 35 \_\_\_ Diego
- 38 Gallery piece
- 40 Blizzard hazard
- 43 Astonish
- 46 Extreme
- 48 Space shuttle gaskets
- 51 Bottled spirit
- 53 Book of maps
- 54 Ho-hum
- 55 Online 'zine
- 56 Quarry
- 57 Challenge
- 58 Astronomer's aid

DOWN

- 1 Shapiro's, e.g.
- 2 Hickory Stick golf club
- 3 Kind of view
- 4 "Now you \_\_\_\_, now you don't"
- 5 Lacking a musical key
- 6 Pittsburgh team Indianapolis Indians players move up to

# Center Grove High School seniors earn college degrees, certificates

Tracy McMahan, CGHS assistant principal and director of Early College, congratulates a graduate during the ceremony on May 20. (Photo courtesy of Center Grove High School)

Center Grove High School seniors earn college degrees, certificates

Center Grove High School (CGHS) honored 115 seniors for earning college degrees or certificates through the school's Early College (EC) program during a ceremony on Monday, May 20. Through the EC program, students can take courses that earn credit toward both high school and college at the same time. Center Grove High School's commencement ceremony was held Sunday, June 2 in the CGHS Vandermeer Gymnasium.

Seventy-two EC seniors will receive an associate of science degree in general

studies from Vincennes University, along with their high school diploma. Sixty-eight of those seniors have earned college honors. Forty-two students will receive a 30-hour Indiana College Core certificate, which means they have met all requirements for general education courses at all state universities in Indiana. Every member of this year's class of 115 earned 34 or more college credits. In total, this year's EC seniors earned 6,542 college credit hours.

"We are so proud of the Early College Class of 2024," said Tracy McMahan, CGHS assistant principal and Early College Program Director. "Academically, they have accomplished so much — whether it is



the 3.5 GPA average in their college classes; the 99% degree completion; or the more than 6,500 college credits they've earned, these students have put in the work the day after day to hit these outstanding benchmarks. More than that, however, we are proud of the people they are. They are kind. They are passionate. They are friends. We will certainly miss them and wish them the best of luck in all they do."

The Early College program is open to all CGHS students. Students are selected for the program based on their reading level, grades, and recommendations. The program admits approximately 115 students per year. Students take all of their core classes with the EC faculty and other EC students in a small learning community. This structure increases collaboration between faculty and leads to increased accountability and attention to students.



Tracy McMahan, CGHS assistant principal and director of Early College, congratulates a graduate during the ceremony on May 20. (Photo courtesy of Center Grove High School)

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<sup>^</sup>APR is Annual Percentage Rate. Offer applies to new home equity lines of credit only. The 3.99% introductory APR is guaranteed for six (6) months from the date of closing. After the introductory rate, the APR will be a variable rate based on the prime rate as published in the Wall Street Journal, plus a margin. The current lowest variable APR available as of 3/18/24 is 8.50% APR, which includes a .25% discount for automatic payment from your IUCU checking account. The maximum APR that can be imposed is 18%. \$50 annual fee waived the first year. Minimum line of credit amount is \$10,000; fee of \$150 applies for approved lines of credit less than \$20,000. Closing cost may apply if title insurance is required. Some restrictions may apply. Contact the Credit Union for membership details. Property insurance is required. Investment mortgages are not eligible for this program. Rates, terms and conditions are subject to change without notice. Loans subject to credit approval.



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## EVENTS calendar

### BEECH GROVE

#### *SongFarmers Hometown Music Jams*

Acoustic singers and musicians at any level are invited to come together to sing and play with each other in a big, happy circle, just like they would on a front porch. Held the second Tuesday of each month. | When: June 11, 6:30 p.m. | Where: Hornet Park Community Center, 5245 Hornet Ave., Beech Grove. | Info: 317-788-4986; hornetparkcommunitycenter.com

#### *Novice to Naturalist*

Learn to identify the native plants in the Prairie of Poetry with landscape designer Kelsey Behl. Help maintain the prairie's natural beauty by clearing out invasive plants. Gloves, tools, and snacks provided. | When: June 29, 9 a.m.-noon. | Where: Sarah T. Bolton Park, 1300 Churchman Ave., Beech Grove. | Info: hornetparkcommunitycenter.com; 317-788-4986

### FOUNTAIN SQUARE

#### *First Friday Artist Market*

Celebrate the First Friday of each month at both Fountain Square Plaza and College Avenue Plaza with 16 local artists! | When: June 7, 6-9 p.m. | Where: 1101 Virginia Ave., Indianapolis. | Info: fountainfletcher.com/events

#### *SubSurface Graffiti Expo*

SubSurface showcases the work of established mural artists from Indianapolis and beyond. | When: on Friday, June 7, 6-10 p.m., SubSurface presents in City Natives Gallery at the Murphy Arts Center. Live painting at the Murphy Arts Center Summer Stage, 6-9 p.m. On Saturday, June 8, noon to 4 p.m., the public is invited to watch as the artists create in the area behind White Rabbit/Turchetti's/Higher Grade. | Where: Friday: Murphy Arts Center, 1043 Virginia Ave., Indianapolis. Saturday, behind White Rabbit, 1116 Prospect St., Indianapolis. | Info: fountainfletcher.com/events

### FRANKLIN

#### *Karen Mills Performs Tickled Teal*

Karen Mills, a nationally recognized

comedian and ovarian cancer survivor, will be part of Franciscan Health Cancer Center's Tickled Teal women's education event. Tina Ayeni, MD, gynecologic oncology surgeon with Franciscan Physician Network Gynecologic Oncology Specialists, and Heidi Pierce, physical therapist with Franciscan Health, will take part in the Q&A panel on ovarian cancer and other gynecologic cancers, as well as women's pelvic health as part of the Tickled Teal event. The event is free to attend, but registration is required, and space is limited. All guests will receive a free Vera Bradley Zip ID case, as well as an entry to win raffle prizes. Free soda or water, popcorn, and candy will be provided, as well as a glass of wine for those 21 and older. (Please note, due to sensitive topics, this event is for women ages 18 and older.) | When: Thursday, June 6, 7-9 p.m.; doors open at 5:30 p.m. | Where: Historic Artcraft Theatre, 57 N. Main St, Franklin. | Info: Go to franciscanhealth.org/community/classes-supportgroups-events

#### *Fourth Annual Cougar Classic*

Golf outing to benefit Greenwood Christian Academy student athletes. Breakfast and lunch provided. Awards ceremony at conclusion. | When: Sept. 12, 8:30 a.m. registration, 10 a.m. shotgun start. | Where: Hillview Country Club, 1800 King St., Franklin. | Info: e.givesmart.com/events/CYT; Courgarclassic24.givesmart.com

### FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP

#### *Franciscan Health Weight Loss Center Weekly Farmers Market*

The Franciscan Health Weight Loss Center's weekly farmers market includes fresh fruits, vegetables, baked goods, arts, crafts, coffee, fresh flowers, and soaps with vendors coming from across central Indiana. | When: Wednesdays starting June 5 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. and runs through Sept. 25. | Where: Parking lot at 5230 E. Stop 11 Road, across the street from Franciscan Health Indianapolis. | Info: For more information on the farmers market or to inquire about vendor opportunities, contact Amy Gillard at 317-528-6711.

#### *Antiques and Rummage Sale*

The annual Antiques and Rummage Sale fundraiser for the Franklin Township Historical Society. Tax deduction receipts will be given for donation items (no clothing accepted) that are brought to the Civic League on June 5 between noon and 6 p.m. Those wishing to donate an item that they can't deliver should send an email to info@fths.org and options can be discussed. | When: June 7, 8 a.m.-6 p.m.; June 8, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. | Where: Franklin Township Civic League, 8822 Southeastern Ave., Indianapolis. | Info: info@fths.org

### GARFIELD PARK

#### *Time-Based Media Crit-Chat*

Artists working in video, sound, performance, zines, or other time-based media are invited to this one-of-a-kind critique group. Participants can expect to show 5-10 minutes of their work and have a discussion about it with fellow group members. Snacks provided! Ages 13 and up. | When: June 10, 6-8 p.m. | Where: Garfield Park Arts Center, second floor dance studio, 2432 Conservatory Drive, Indianapolis. | Info: gpacarts.org/events

#### *Vintage Movie Night - Lights of the City (1928)*

This film from the public domain is a standard gangster story but has the distinction of being the very first feature film that was 100% all talking with sound on shellac discs. Don't miss out on this fun film! | When: July 19, 8-10 p.m. | Where: Garfield Park Arts Center, 2432 Conservatory Drive, Indianapolis. | Info: gpacarts.org/events

### GREENWOOD

#### *Mikel Fruits Reach Out for Help Foundation Purse Bingo*

Enjoy playing bingo for the chance to win designer purses and to support a good cause. | When: June 5, 5:30-9:30 p.m. | Where: Greenwood Moose Lodge, 813 W. Smith Valley Road, Greenwood. | Info: 317-554-7526; facebook.com/gml2079

#### *Saints Francis & Clare of Assisi Men's Club Golf Outing*

The Saints Francis & Clare of Assisi Golf Outing features an 18-hole scramble, golf cart, goodie bag, hole in one contests, closest to the pin, longest putt, longest drive, and a boxed lunch. Click the link to register (the cost is \$100 per golfer) or become a sponsor. | When: June 6, 1-5 p.m. | Where: Hickory Stick Golf Club, 4422 Thompson Road, Greenwood. | Info: ss-fc.org/news

### INDIANAPOLIS

#### *Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Parish Italian Street Festival*

Free admission and parking at Indianapolis' much-loved and most-attended church festival. Join us and enjoy delicious Italian food, wine, and live music! | When: June 14 and 15, 5-11 p.m. | Where: Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary, 520 Stevens St., Indianapolis. | Info: holyrosaryindy.org

### MARTINSVILLE

#### *Military Show*

Military show at the Masonic Lodge. | When: June 15, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. | Where: Masonic Lodge, 8310 Waverly Road, Martinsville. | Info: 317-634-7904

### PERRY TOWNSHIP

#### *Perry Kiwanis Golf Outing*

Perry Township Kiwanis is hosting their ninth golf outing. The day includes lunch, golf with cart, drinks on course including beer, dinner, and a silent auction and 50/50. We also have a golf cannon for fun and other on-course games of chance. Come join Perry Township and help raise funds for the community. | When: Thursday, June 13, check in at 10:30 a.m., lunch and networking at 11 a.m., shotgun at noon, followed by dinner. | Where: Smock Golf Course, 3910 County Line Road, Indianapolis. | Info: Kiwanisgolfouting.org; Scott Splichal at 317-319-9345

### SOUTHPORT

#### *Designer Purse Bingo*

Fundraiser to find a cure for Alzheimer's disease. \$20 per card, \$15 per card table of eight. | When: June 6, 7-8 p.m. | Where: The Wellington at Southport, 7212 US Highway 31 S., Indianapolis. | Info: Contact Kim at 317-409-4981



★★★★ • R • Musical/Drama • 2 hours, 8 minutes

## Blaze

*A biopic on country music's least famous star*

### MOVIE REVIEW

By Bradley Lane

When Ethan Hawke revealed his first directorial project was going to be on outlaw country music artist Blaze Foley, I first rejoiced at the thought of one of my favorite actors helming a feature-length directorial project, and second, I asked myself who the heck was Blaze Foley. Hawke confirms in interviews promoting the film that he expected his audience to not be familiar with his subject, and even uses this lack of expectations to his advantage by casting a first-time actor, Ben Dickey, in the titular role. This, in conjunction with Hawke's clear infatuation with Blaze Foley as a character, makes for a whiskey-soaked, laid-back outlaw country music epic.

That was a lot of descriptors, but the film combines so many elements so seamlessly

that it's hard to boil it down into a succinct genre or categorization. In some ways it's a biopic, in that it follows the life of Foley and his struggles to break into the music industry. In other ways it is a musical, playing Foley's greatest hits in a live setting. However, the most pronounced aspect of the film is a romance. Both in that, for a large portion of the film, it focuses on his relationships and again further as it romanticizes Foley as a persona. For most of the film, Blaze is just as interested in the bottom of his beer glass as he is in writing songs and making it as an artist.

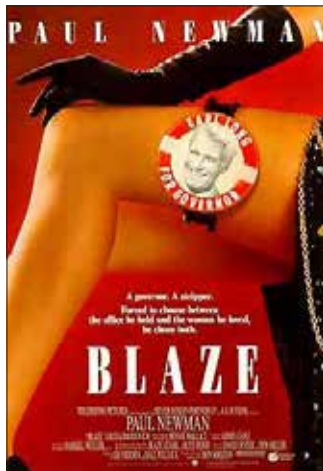
That being mentioned, Ben Dickey's

Blaze Foley is an insanely likable character. He feels like the dive bar regular who sits around all night getting drunk and telling stories until the sun comes up. Despite being constantly inebriated and hot-tempered, you cannot help but be in Blaze's corner for every scene. While Dickey deserves some credit for this, Hawke is equally responsible due to his passion for the story.

In the previously mentioned interview, he talks about how all biopics are made about famous people, and that he resented the implicit message that was sent to audiences. He connected to Foley in the

way that despite not gaining mainstream recognition in his lifetime, his legend went on to inspire some of America's greatest artists and storytellers like Merle Haggard, Willie Nelson, Towns Van Zandt and John Prine. By telling Blaze's story in this fashion, Hawke validates the struggling artist everywhere as someone who is valuable and worth paying attention to.

Ethan Hawke's wild proficiency adapts a story to film that feels as warm and tender as one of Foley's songs. *Blaze* is available to stream on Netflix. – 4/5 stars.



Bradley is a Beech Grove High School alumnus and has been enamored by film for as long as he can remember. He recently graduated from IUPUI, with a degree in Media and Public Affairs with a minor in Film. Bradley can be contacted at blane2214@gmail.com.

## SPOTLIGHT

### ORIGINAL OIL PAINTINGS BY KAREN STANLEY

Original oil paintings by artist Karen Stanley of Zionsville will be for sale and on display at the Southside Art League's Off-Broadway Gallery from Wednesday, June 4 until Saturday, June 29. The gallery is located at 299 E. Broadway St., Greenwood, IN 46143.

Join Karen and friends opening night, Friday, June 7, for a reception at the Southside Art League (SAL) from 6-8 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

Karen Stanley was born and raised in the Chicago suburbs, but has since lived in Ohio, Pennsylvania, Missouri, Kansas, and since 2004, in Indiana. While she loves the Midwest, she loves to travel and has also been inspired by the beauty and scenery found in many other regions of the U.S and the world.

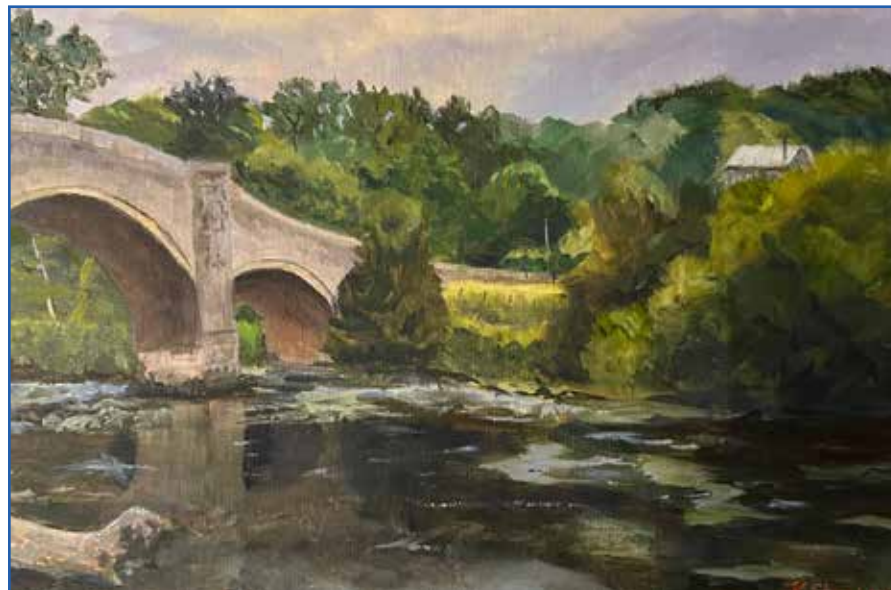
Stanley's love of art was initially inspired by her father's sketching and wood carving. While working in her careers in higher education and in marketing/marketing research, she began to study art through various classes and workshops.

Her initial exposure to painting was in the medium of watercolor, but she has shifted to oil as her primary medium in the past decade.

Artists with whom she has studied and benefited greatly from over the years include Kathy Anderson, Mark Boedges, Ann Blair Brown, Kim Casebeer, Mary Ann Davis, Ken DeWaard, Troy Kilgore, Wyatt LeGrand, Ron Mack, Pam Newell, Lori Putnam, Patrick Saunders, Donna Shortt, and Pat Weaver. "From each of them I've learned valuable lessons," Stanley said.

Stanley is now an avid oil painter and is active with the Indiana Plein Air Painters Association, Sullivan Munce, and Southside Art League. Through these she has found a wonderful group of friends and fellow painters who are fun to paint with and who are generous with their experience and insights.

She is an impressionist painter focusing on various aspects of nature through landscapes, still-life, and animals/pets. "My goal is to capture the spirit, color, and light of a given scene or subject matter that drew me to it in the first place. My art is a way of seeing, recognizing, and capturing



Yorkshire Dales Bridge. (Painting by Karen Stanley)

the beauty of nature and magical moments to be found in both the ordinary and the extraordinary," Stanley said.

Check out more of Stanley's artwork at KarenStanley.com

The Southside Art League Off-Broadway Gallery is open Wednesday through

Saturday, 11 a.m.- 3 p.m. Closed Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday. Please call SALI, or the artist, to arrange for viewing by appointment at any other time. The gallery is located at 299 E. Broadway St., Greenwood, IN 46143.



AN OPTION

THE CAVITY FACTORY

Looking for a unique Father's Day present? Want to reward that recent high school or college grad? Or just be the most popular neighbor at your next Bunco gathering? Bring a sweet smile to anyone's face with a box of assorted cookies from The Cavity Factory in Fountain Square. "These are hands-down the best cookies I have had!" stated an enthusiastic Facebook reviewer. "Not too sweet and not too doughy ... they are just right! You can tell these cookies are made with love, and they literally melt in your mouth! We tried the strawberry shortcake, birthday cake, and snickerdoodle! All of them were divine!" The locally and minority-owned business is run by a woman whose personality is as sweet as her daily baked goods. "Now, I might be a little biased because she has sometimes unbeknownst to me snuck an extra cookie in my baggie, but this young lady is so hardworking, dedicated, and innovative with her business," a Google reviewer wrote. "She also lets first responders and people with disabilities cut the line if they need to," added another. Additional favorite choices, which rotate weekly, include the white chocolate Reece's, s'mores, Oreo Butterfinger, oatmeal apple pie, and the fruity pebble.

**Hours:** Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 11:30 a.m.-5 p.m. closed Monday through Thursday. Address: 1354 Shelby St., B, Indianapolis. For more information, go to cavityfactory.com.



Think you've tried them all? Your new favorite cookie is waiting for you. (Photo courtesy of The Cavity Factory)

LIFESTYLE

Home Alone Four

HUMOR

By Dick Wolfsie

This is the longest time I have ever been home alone. My wife is in Boston with my sister Linda. Before Mary Ellen left, she gave me precise directions on what to do and what not to do. My wife hopes that when she returns from her trip, she will walk into a house that looks somewhat like the one she left.

Mary Ellen's plane gets in this Saturday at 3:45 p.m. She should walk in the door at about 4:30 p.m. Our housekeeper is scheduled to leave that day at 4:15, just before Mary Ellen arrives. After Nettie leaves, I am not allowed to cook anything or open the fridge. I can't walk out the front door and then come back into the house unless I take off my shoes. And if I go outside barefoot, then I'm not allowed to come back in the house at all.

Mary Ellen is particularly concerned with our cat Angel. This cat hates me. Every time she sees me, she snarls, and her hair stands up on her back. She tries to bite me when I come near Mary Ellen. That's why I haven't kissed my wife good night in 14 years.

But Mary Ellen wants me to play with Angel because she doesn't want Angel to

miss her too much, get bored, or wish she had someone to snuggle with. Hey, what about me? That's in the rules, as well. I'm not allowed to have anyone to snuggle with.

After Mary Ellen had been gone about a week, I sent her this note:

Hi Mary Ellen,  
 I just wanted to update you on what's going on here at home. ...

Angel is fine. She did get out once, but she seems very content to be on the roof. I'm sure she'll be okay, even if we have that expected tornado.

I borrowed your Prius one day to save on gas.

Bad news: I hit a guy in the rear.

Good news: No damage to your car. He was a pedestrian.

When I came home the other day I heard this dinging noise in the house. I thought that maybe Angel was playing with her toys. But no, it was the fridge signaling me the freezer door had been left open. But only for 12 hours. Don't worry, I refroze everything that had melted. Then someone told me this wasn't a safe thing to do. You might want to Google every item on the

list attached to see which foods are deadly to refreeze.

I am proud that I ran the dishwasher all by myself. I couldn't find the dishwasher soap you said to use so I just put in some liquid hand soap. Did you know bubbles can stick to the ceiling? The house is so festive now. We should do this next Christmas.

The lawn has not been cut in two weeks. Not my fault. We have no mower. I left the garage door open one night. All my beer is gone, too. I hope whoever took all my winter coats off the garage rack will donate a few to kids who need them. Spring is here, so I'm sure the crook will find good use for all your gardening tools.

Finally, our son is doing great. He just pulled into the driveway. He's going up on the roof to chase Angel.

Well, I hope you are having a great vacation. All is good here.



Dick Wolfsie's weekly humor column is published in more than 30 newspapers. Dick has written 14 books, including *Mornings with Barney* and *Indiana Curiosities*. His newest book, *The Right Fluff*, is a compilation of his most popular humor columns. He lives in Fishers with his wife Mary Ellen and a cat who doesn't like him.

D	I	B	S	A	P	P	B	E	E	P			
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Puzzle Time Answers

SEE PAGE 15

Answers to HOOSIER HODGEPODGE:

**Mayors:** BALLARD, BARTON, GOLDSMITH, HUDNUT, LUGAR, PETERSON;

**Point:** CROWN, MATCH, MOOT, SELLING, WEST;

**Run:** BOLT, DASH, RACE, SPRINT;

**Physicists:** EINSTEIN, HAWKING, OPPENHEIMER;

**Cities:** ELKHART, ELWOOD;

**Host:** PAT McAFFEE

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

## A ghostly beauty for the garden

### GARDENING

By John Chapin

This most unusual ornamental vine has a most unusual backstory dating back almost 150 years. In 2001, while driving down a side street in old Fort Collins, Colo., Scott Skogerboe (Fort Collins Wholesale Nursery) noticed a vine he had never seen before. At first glance, it looked like a silver dollar eucalyptus as it was completely covered with silver-dollar sized whitish-colored disks.

He slammed on his brakes to get a closer look. Curious and excited, he knocked at the door of the home which was answered by an elderly gentleman who told him the tale of this unusual beauty. He said it was a family heirloom

vine dating back to the 1880s. The man's grandfather, William "Ped" Kintzley, had worked in the greenhouses of Iowa State University (then college) and found this unusual form. He propagated it himself, and over the years gave plants as gifts to members of the Kintzley family throughout the area. Ped Kintzley even requested that his beloved vine be planted on his grave. It was never formally introduced into commerce and disappeared at one point until rediscovered by the sharp-eyed Skogerboe.

The vine is a naturally occurring variant of the native non-invasive species. The small, clustered, mildly fragrant flowers cover the vine in June. Each flower cluster is surrounded by a large, perfectly circular bract which has a ghostly silver-blue color, creating a stunning display throughout the summer into fall. The very hardy vine

typically climbs 8-12 feet tall and does best in full sun to partial shade. It supports pollinators, including hummingbirds and butterflies. Songbirds relish the red berries.

Other than to the Kintzleys, this plant is new to the world of horticulture. It was snapped up by Proven Winners in late 2023, and now sold under that brand as 'Kintzley's Ghost' honeysuckle. It's sure to add beauty and interest in the garden!

Happy gardening!



John Chapin is a retired school teacher and sole proprietor of Chapin Landscaping. He has over 30 years' experience in the landscaping business. Contact him at [jchapinlandscaping@gmail.com](mailto:jchapinlandscaping@gmail.com)

## Walt Disney World

### TRAVEL

By Amy Maharas

Considering a trip to the Most Magical Place on Earth? If you haven't visited in a while, there are some exciting new adventures in the four theme parks:



**Magic Kingdom:** This iconic park still has the original Cinderella Castle and classic rides like Space Mountain and it's a small world. TRON Lifecycle/Run in Tomorrowland is the newest ride until Taina's Bayou in Adventureland opens June

28. Character greetings are still available throughout the park, and don't miss the nightly fireworks show, Happily Ever After.

**EPCOT:** Future World is now three parts: World Discovery, World Nature, and World Celebration. Be sure to check out Journey of Water, inspired by Moana, and stop by the new "Walt the Dreamer" statue. Guardians of the Galaxy: Cosmic Rewind is my new favorite ride, and Space 220 is a popular restaurant. In World Showcase, don't miss Remy's Ratatouille Adventure and the Creperie in France, and stick around for Luminous – The Story of Us, the new nighttime spectacular.

**Hollywood Studios:** Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge transports you to the fictional land of Batuu where you can pilot the Millennium Falcon and battle against the First Order on Star Wars: Rise of the Resistance.

Hollywood Studios also has the super fun Toy Story Land with Slinky Dog Dash and the recently updated nighttime show Fantasmic!

**Animal Kingdom:** Ride Banshees on Avatar Flight of Passage in Pandora, view animals on Kilimanjaro Safaris, and face off with the Yeti on Expedition Everest. Tusker House is one of my favorite character meals at Walt Disney World, and Satu'li Canteen is a delicious quick-service restaurant.

Stay tuned for exciting updates to Walt Disney World parks!



Amy Maharas is a travel planner with Hi Ho Vacations. Contact her at [Amy@HiHoVacations.com](mailto:Amy@HiHoVacations.com)

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*Our flag honors those who have fought to protect it, and is a reminder of the sacrifice of our nation's founders and heroes. As the ultimate icon of America's storied history, the Stars and Stripes represents the very best of this nation.*

Joe Barton, American politician

### HUMOR



### Top 10 babysitting rules that have changed since I was a kid

By Torry Stiles

10. Still not allowed to teach the kids "The Rodeo Song."
9. They've got cameras everywhere and that really sucks when the baby really likes being thrown real high.
8. Kids are no longer allowed to ride on the rack under the shopping cart.
7. Just because I never had a car seat doesn't mean a thing. Cops can't see the baby unless they look under the blanket on the floor.
6. There are many cute nicknames one can call a child. Gotno Daddy is not one of them.
5. Prechewing is not allowed, even for steak.
4. It doesn't matter how dirty the outfit is, you still can't use the baby to wipe up spills.
3. Apparently dangling the kid over the stair railing is no longer the approved cure for hiccups.
2. A large German Shepherd is still the best napkin, but you better not let Mom catch you.
1. My mom had brandy. I had Benadryl. Now we have Miss Rachel to put kids to sleep.

### DUMB LAW

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

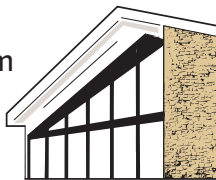
In Tombstone, Ariz., it is illegal for anyone over the age of 18 to have less than one missing tooth visible when smiling.

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



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**J. Henry "Hank" Amt**

J. Henry "Hank" Amt, 104, died May 20, 2024. Predeceased: wife, Janet (Place); and a sister, Georgiana (Jan) Estes. Survivors: a daughter, Sue BeMiller; son, Eric; five grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren. A graveside service was held at Memorial Park Cemetery. Arrangements were handled by G.H. Herrmann Funeral Home.

**Ronald A. Chudada**

Ronald A. Chudada, 81, Greenwood, died May 18, 2024. Survivors: wife, Candace, stepdaughters, Stacey (Scott) Puck and Jenny (Brad) Condon; four grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. A memorial service will be held in his hometown of Evansville, Ind. later this year. Little & Sons, Stop 11 Road.

**Jack Clinton Finney**

Jack Clinton Finney died May 18, 2024. Survivors: children, Michael (Tricia), Erin, Jacqueline, and Timothy (Lucy) Finney; sister, Patricia (Joe) Checkawitz; sisters-in-law, Donna William and Dolores Thie; 10 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; nieces and nephews; dog, Duke. Predeceased: wife, Mary Elizabeth "Beth"; daughter, Megan. O'Riley - Branson Funeral Service & Crematory.

**Mary Lucille Harwood**

Mary Lucille Harwood, 86, died May 10, 2024. Survivors: daughters, Valerie Lynn (William) Chaney; and Barbara Sue (Jose) Ruano; grandchildren, April Calhoun, Brian Joseph Conway, William Joseph Chaney, and Alex Ruano; eight great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren. Services entrusted to Little & Sons, Beech Grove Chapel.

**Rex Hedegard**

Rex Hedegard died May 23, 2024. Survivors: wife, Sharon; children, Collin (Simmi) Hedegard, Maiken (Jérôme) Badouret, and Tyler Hedegard (Lila Dinata); four grandchildren; four brothers, Alan (Betty), Richard (Jane), Mark (Pat); and Kurt; one sister, Arlene; numerous nieces, nephews, students, friends. Arrangements: G. H. Herrmann Funeral Home and Cremation Center.

**Emma June Hites**

Emma June Hites, 79, Indianapolis, died May 24, 2024. Survivors: two daughters, Carolyn and Carrie Hites; grandchildren, Dean Hites (Melissa), Heather (Chris) Price, Jessica (Daniel) Shetler, Joshua York, Zack Schuster, and David Schuster; and six great grandchildren. Arrangements handled by G. H. Herrmann Madison Avenue Funeral Home.

**Avaleen G. Holman**

In loving memory: Avaleen G Holman. With heavy hearts and fond memories, we bid farewell to our beloved mother and grandmother, Avaleen Holman, who embarked on her final journey surrounded by her beloved butterflies. She passed away peacefully on May 18, 2024, leaving behind a legacy of love, kindness, and grace that will forever be cherished by all who had the privilege of knowing her. Avaleen embraced life with an unwavering sense of wonder and joy. Her smile would light up a room and her compassionate heart touched the lives of everyone she met. She was a vision of pure love who blew kisses to everyone she loved. Born on Jan. 15, 1933, Avaleen Gertrude DeWees Beck was born in Baltimore, Maryland to Frank and Adele Beck. Avaleen was a devoted mother to her four children: Ronald Holman (Anita), Karen Sparks, Steve Holman, and Sheryl Lewis (Mike). In addition to her immediate family, Avaleen is survived by her sister, Dolores York, and her beloved East Coast family. She is also deeply loved by her grandchildren: Kari McGowan (John), Kristi Blincoe, Jen Kominsky (John), Jon Holman (Kandace), Caitlyn Lewis, Allison Lewis, and preceded in death by our cherished Emily Loman. She was so proud of her 11 great-grandchildren as well. A celebration of Avaleen's life was held on May 25, 2024 where her friends and family gathered to honor her memory and shared stories of their times with her. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly asks that you consider making a donation to your favorite charity in her honor or take a moment to perform an act of kindness. Avaleen will be deeply missed but never forgotten. May she spread her wings and become a beautiful butterfly to be remembered by her loved ones and welcomed into the loving arms of her parents and grandchild to her heavenly home.



**James F. Ivory, Jr.**

James F. Ivory, Jr., 77, died May 21, 2024. Survivors: sister, Kathy; daughter, Vicky (Jeremy) Downs; two granddaughters; partner, Jeanne. Predeceased: son, C.J.; wife, Diana. Graveside service: June 8, 3 p.m., St. Mary's Cemetery, 2268 IN-227. Richmond, Ind. Arrangements: G. H. Herrmann Funeral Home and Cremation Center.

**Patricia Ann Randall**

Patricia Ann Randall, 51, Indianapolis, died May 15, 2024. She was born Dec. 8, 1972 in Indianapolis. Survivors: husband, Douglas Randall; sons, Jimmy White, Jack Randall, and Noah Randall; father, James White; sister, Jennifer (Jason) Robinson. Predeceased: mother, Susan White. G.H. Herrmann Madison Avenue Funeral Home and Cremation Center.

**William R. Reynolds**

William R Reynolds, 69, Beech Grove, died May 16, 2024. A gathering of friends and family for William was held Friday, May 31 from 4-6 p.m. at Little & Sons Funeral Home, 1301 Main St., Beech Grove.

**Rita Louise Smith**

Rita Louise Smith, 87, Greenwood, died May 26, 2024. Survivors: children, Christopher, Donald G. (Carol), and Anita Smith; three grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; sister, Linda; several nieces and nephews. Predeceased: husband, Donald; four siblings. Arrangements were handled by O'Riley -Branson Funeral Service & Crematory.

**Julia E. Strawn**

Julia E. Strawn, 85, died May 11, 2024. Survivors: daughters, Theresa (Pete) Cole and Paula Meiring, grandchildren, Tyler Meiring and Cody Cole. Arrangements were provided by Little and Sons Beech Grove Chapel.

**Adelaide Thomas**

Adelaide Thomas, 80, Greenwood, died May 26, 2024. Adelaide is survived by her husband, Ben Thomas. She was preceded in death by her mother, Adelaide (Johnson) Francey. Visitation: Monday, June 3, 1:30 p.m. until the service at 2:30 p.m. at G. H. Herrmann Funeral Home and Cremation Center, Greenwood.

**Forrest G. "Frog" Tucker**

Forrest G. "Frog" Tucker, 61, Greenwood, died May 14, 2024. He was born Aug. 7, 1962 in Indianapolis, to the late Sonny and Lura Tucker. Survivors: children, Chad Tucker, Amanda (Adam) Kinman, and Marshall Tucker; grandson, Donovan Tucker; sister, Chris (Doug) Leeper. G.H. Herrmann Greenwood Funeral Home & Cremation Center.

**Michael (Mike) Jay Wiley**

Michael (Mike) Jay Wiley, Beech Grove, died May 20, 2024. Survivors: daughters, Shanna (Jake) Stuckey and Kristin Coyne; grandchildren, Silas and Lincoln Stuckey; siblings, Jeanine (Rom) Doyle, Craig (Sara) Wiley, Ryan (Tammy) Wiley; many nieces and nephews, best friend, Tim (Beth) White. Little & Sons, Beech Grove Chapel.

*Basic death notices (up to 50 words) are printed free of charge. Personalized Obituaries exceeding 50 words will be charged at a rate of \$12 for the first 60 words and 10 cents for each additional word. Full-color photographs may be included for an additional \$10. Families/estates or funeral directors are encouraged to send obituaries and photos to [news@ss-times.com](mailto:news@ss-times.com). Information received by noon Tuesday will be published Thursday, space permitting.*



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\*Copies of The Southside Times are available each week in this church's office or lobby.

✚ **CATHOLIC**

\***Good Shepherd Catholic Church** • 2905 S. Carson Ave., Indpls. | (317) 783-3158 | Rev. Jeffery Moore, Sac. Minister | Sat. Mass: 4:30 p.m. | Sun. Mass: 9 a.m. | Ordinarate Rite 11:00 a.m. | Completely Handicapped Accessible | All Welcome!

**Holy Name of Jesus** • 89 N. 17th Ave., Beech Grove | (317) 784-5454 | Rev. Robert Robeson | Worship Times & Anticipation Sun.: 8:00 & 10:30 a.m. | Sat. Mass: 5 p.m.

**Saints Francis & Clare of Assisi** • 5901 Olive Branch Road, Greenwood | (317) 859-4673 | Fr. Steve Giannini | Sat. Anticipation Mass: 5:30 p.m. | Sun.: 7, 8:45 & 11:30 a.m.

✚ **BAPTIST**

**Southwood Baptist Church** • 501 S. 4th Ave., Beech Grove | 317-786-2719 | Proclaiming Christ because we care | Pastor John C. Jones II | Sunday worship 10:45 a.m. | Sunday school 9:30 a.m.

✚ **DISCIPLES OF CHRIST**

**First Christian Church of Beech Grove** • 405 Main Street, Beech Grove, IN 46107 | (317) 786-8522 | In Person on Sundays at 10:30 or Zoom, same time: 121 813 648

✚ **LUTHERAN**

**Calvary Lutheran Church & School** • 6111 Shelby St. Indianapolis | clcs.org | (317) 783-2000 | email: info@clcs.org | Worship — Traditional: Sat. 5:30 p.m. & Sun. 8:00 a.m.; Contemporary: Sun. 10:45 a.m. | Sunday School & Bible Study: 9:25 a.m. | Engaging People In Christ through Connecting, Learning, Caring and Serving

\***Concordia Lutheran Church and Preschool** • 305 Howard Road, Greenwood | (317) 881-4477 | Worship Sun.: 9:30 a.m. | Mon.: 6:30 p.m. | concordia-lcms.com

**Emmaus Lutheran Church** • 1224 Laurel Street Indianapolis 46203 | Fountain Square 317-632-1486 | elcindy.org emmauschurchindy@gmail.com | Pastor Raymond Smith | Sundays: Bible Study 8:45 a.m., Service 10:00 a.m.

✚ **NON-DENOMINATIONAL**

**Tallwood Chapel Community Church** • 5560 S. Shelby St., Indpls. | (317) 787-5595 | The Gospel is a seed - come grow with us | Worship with us Sundays 10:30 a.m. Wed. 7 p.m. Prayers are with you during this time | BIBLE CHURCH, Ministry of HOLY WORD

✚ **SPIRITUALIST**

**The Spiritualist Church of Indianapolis** • 3020 S. Meridian St. Ste. E & F, Indianapolis 46217 | Sun.: 6:30 p.m. | TSCOI.org

✚ **UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**St. John's United Church of Christ** • 7031 S. East St., Indpls (U.S. 31, Southport Road) | (317) 881-2353 | Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m. | Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.

✚ **UNITED METHODIST**

**Rosedale Hills United Methodist** • 4450 S. Keystone Ave., Indpls. | (317) 786-6474 | Email: officerhumc@att.net | Senior Pastor Amy Lee | Sun.: 9:30 a.m. | Sunday School: 10:45 a.m. | rosedalehillsumc.com



Weekly Devotion



*"Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be."*

PSALM 139:16

As a pastor, people come to me with a reasonable expectation for reasonable answers to life's most complicated questions. I have learned over the years to accept the fact that there are some questions we will never have answered on this side of heaven. And I have learned that if I can't find answers to the questions people ask in the Bible, then the questions they are asking are the wrong questions to answer! God is a god of seasons. Scripture tells us that there is a season for everything. There is a time to laugh and a time to cry, a time to live and a time to die. But God's seasons are not like our seasons, so we should not be so shocked when loved ones leave this world while still in what we consider to be the "spring" or the "summer season" of their lives. We sort of expect for those who are well into the fall, or even the winter sea-

son of their lives, to leave this world behind, but when someone younger leaves this world before "their time" we tend to get angry with God. In order to make sense of this world, we must see things more through God's eyes. We each have a set number of days on this Earth. When our time and purpose here are through, God already knew! We would be wise to thank God for the days we are blessed enough to walk and talk together. Worry not about how many tomorrows we have in front of us together. Focus more on who we will hug in the today we have been given!

**God bless and go and have a great day.**

Pastor Dan Bailey is the chair of the Mayor's Faith Based Round Table for the City of Beech Grove, who believes in its mission statement to "Strengthen the Community with Christ's Love." He is a lifelong resident of Southside with his wife, four children and five grandchildren. He has also been a criminal investigator for the last 30-plus years for the Public Defender Agency.

Legal/Public

Auction

PUBLIC NOTICE AUCTION OF PROPERTY BY Nick's Packing And Storage LLC. Public auction of personal property including household goods, furniture, non-perishables, belonging to the following persons: Victoria Murkison, Nicole Willoughby, John Doe, David Florez, Jane Doe, Tionna Green On Thursday June 13, 2024 at 6:30PM The location for the auction is: Mike Heimel Auction Services 59 N. 2nd Ave, Beech Grove, IN 46107 PURUSANT TO IC 32-31-4-4, IC 32-31-4-5, IC 26-1-7-210(B)(5)

Legal/Public

Auction

PUBLIC NOTICE AUCTION OF PROPERTY BY Nick's Packing And Storage LLC. Public auction of personal property including household goods, furniture, non-perishables, belonging to the following persons: Fred Stokes, Unknow, Brandon Escobar On Thursday June 20, 2024 at 6:30PM The location for the auction is: Mike Heimel Auction Services 59 N. 2nd Ave, Beech Grove, IN 46107 PURUSANT TO IC 32-31-4-4, IC 32-31-4-5, IC 26-1-7-210(B)(5)





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**Center Grove announces 2023-24 CGCSC Teacher of the Year, Legacy Award honorees**

Center Grove awarded Dan Andersen from Center Grove Middle School Central the 2023-24 CGCSC Teacher of the Year during the district's annual Employee Celebration on Wednesday, May 15. The district also honored building Teacher of the Year winners, Support Staff of the Year winners, and Legacy Award honorees. Anderson is the choral music director at Middle School Central. This is his 30th of year teaching in Center Grove. As Teacher of the Year, Andersen will receive \$1,000, courtesy of Wallman Financial, LLC to spend in his classroom. He will represent Center Grove in the Indiana Teacher of the Year competition. Center Grove honored 78 current, former, and retired teachers with Legacy Awards. Center Grove High School seniors nominate the teacher they believe had the greatest impact on them during their time in Center Grove schools.



2024 Teacher of the Year, from left to right: Bill Long, Ed.D., interim superintendent; Dan Andersen, 2024 CGCSC Teacher of the Year; Ron Wallman, Wallman Financial, LLC. (Submitted photo)

**The Indianapolis Public Library's 2024 Summer Reading Program features animal friends**

The Indianapolis Public Library is partnering with IndyHumane for this year's pet-themed Summer Reading Program, taking place June 1 through July 31. The IndyHumane Pet Adoption Wagon will be at select library branches in June and July. The wagon will allow children and parents to meet adoptable pets looking for their forever homes. The Pet Adoption Wagon schedule can be found at [indypl.org/calendar](http://indypl.org/calendar) and inside our Youth Program Guides available at all library locations. The Summer Reading Program will continue to encourage children to fetch some great reads over the summer by offering prizes to children for recording time spent reading and completing activities. This year, The Indianapolis Public Library is introducing an Early Literacy Tracker. Families with children ages 0-5 can count any time spent reading, writing, singing, playing, and talking with their child toward their summer reading goal. This new literacy tracker will integrate early literacy practices from the American Library Association's Every Child Ready to Read program. Registration started May 1, and participants can start logging reading time. Visit [indypl.org/srp](http://indypl.org/srp) for more details.

**Franklin Township 4-H Club tours FTHS**

The Franklin Township Champions 4-H Club recently had a tour of the Franklin Township Historical Society on Friday, May 17, led by Nancy VanArendonk, president of the Franklin Township Historical Society. 4-Hers and their parents met at The Meeting House, the former Big Run Baptist Church built in 1871. Inside the former church, artifacts from Franklin Township are on display museum-style to educate the public of the history of the township schools, home living, and communication items used back in the day. Families enjoyed themselves learning about the "old days." For more information on Franklin Township 4-H, please email [franklintownship4h@gmail.com](mailto:franklintownship4h@gmail.com).



(Submitted photo)

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