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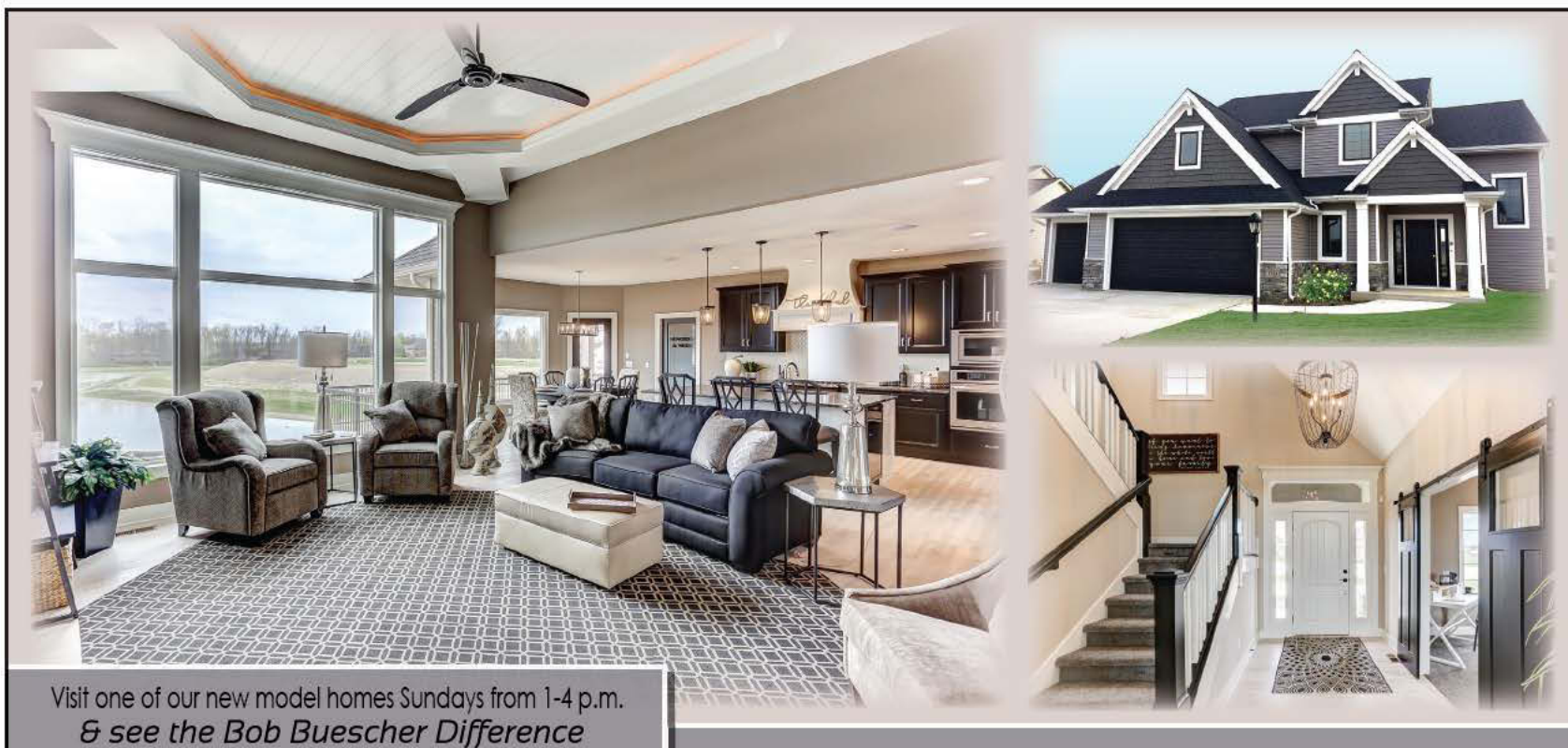
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Thank you for reading and we look forward to hearing from you soon. We warmly welcome you **HOME**.

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# welcome!



Sue Rawlinson

**Red and green plastic tubs are snapped shut.**

**Boxes are taped. Put it all away.**

Yes, it's that time of year. And oh, so refreshing it is.

All the nostalgic and festive twinklin' lights and garland and figurines and ornaments and candy canes and cookie sprinkles and all that GLITTER YOU CAN'T GET RID OF?!

**Yes, that stuff. Buy-bye until next year.**

It's a breath of fresh, non-evergreen air, isn't it? Everything is back in its place. Shelves and mantles are freshly dusted with lemon spray. And everything just feels clean again. Welcomingly empty. Relaxing.

**And that lasts for about a week.**

Then heads tilt and eyes view the home with a more discerning eye. Clean and empty was nice (for a week), but now, what shall be done to the house in this new year? How can we shake it up? Which funky design styles should we incorporate?

These are standard January homeowner questions (oh, I'm not the only one!)—so they are precisely what's explored in this January issue of HOME.

It's a new year—a great time for bold new beginnings. Large, oversized lighting is hot right now, so go big with your fixtures. Plan for a bold facelift to your home's exterior. Our area experts share what's trending now. Consider and plan for the boldest, baddest, best patio paradise for your own enjoyment this year. We share details on how.

Be sure to check out this issue's HOME Room feature. It's a (bold) addition created from transforming what might otherwise be empty space into a kid-size palace for a princess—built by an area grandpa for his granddaughter. Don't miss this one!

And as always happens in the new year, it's time to organize. To plan. To evaluate. To set goals and aspirations. And we wish you much success in your endeavors. We look forward to sharing another year with you. Right here, at HOME.

Thank you for reading...

from the editor





# Be Bold:



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## Refresh & restore interior spaces

By Cathy Shouse

*Colder weather means more time spent inside, which can usher in a welcome stretch of rest and renewal. Ideally, stepping over the threshold at home should bring a warm glow; a sense of calm.*

Yet getting up-close and personal with your home's décor through chilly days sometimes highlights areas that need improvement. Your interior environment may have dulled or, as is often the case in a new year, you are hungry for a change. Whatever the case, local experts say the spark of an idea is the first step toward achieving a bold, new look.

### Paint Color

Denise Le is a color consultant at Maumee Paint and has definitely noticed a trend in paint color this season. "Gray seems to be the very favorite paint color," she said. "There's about three-thousand and fifty shades of gray," Le said with a laugh. "The taupe-y grays seem to be most popular."

With so many variations of paint color, it's important to assess your home's lighting, both natural sun and from indoor fixtures. "I always recommend you take the chips home and look at them in the morning and again at night," Le said. "Lighting makes a huge difference in all colors. Soft white bulbs tend to create a yellow cast, for example."

### Chalk It

If tackling a change in wall color is too much, try some of the new chalk paint and liven up your furniture. "Chalk paint is huge right now,"

Le said. "People do dressers, tables and other furniture. It's more of a rustic, old-fashioned look, simply using flat paint."

### De-clutter

Sometimes the source of dissatisfaction comes from a home's clutter or organizational 'issues' that are screaming for a do-over. Jason Spuller, owner of Better Organized Spaces, said rethinking the use of garages, pantries, closets and laundry rooms can actually elevate at-home time.

"Our first step is to interview customers and find out what they don't like about the space and what extra they're trying to get out of it," Spuller said. "Next, we do a 3D rendering for their review."

Refresh and restore. New year, new look. What a warm idea. 🏠

### Resources:

**Better Organized Spaces**, Fort Wayne, 260.444.2459,  
[betterorganizedspaces.com](http://betterorganizedspaces.com)

**Maumee Paint**, Fort Wayne, 260.490.8656, [maumeepaint.com](http://maumeepaint.com)

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# Lucky Money Tree

**Name:** Crassula ovata (Crassulaceae family)

**Fun Fact:** While the lucky money tree has a definite oriental vibe about it, it is actually native to South Africa, South America and Central America.

**Known for:** Thick, shiny, deep green leaves. The bonsais typically are styled with braided trunks.

**Why We Love It:** Lucky money trees can be as simple or as challenging an endeavor as you wish and will still yield rewarding results (of the non-money type, of course).

## Care Tips

Growing lucky money trees from seed requires expert knowledge. Most of us will purchase them full-grown and already trained into a bonsai form. Care will begin from that point forward.

## Watering

Bonsais love water but should be well drained. Add small pebbles and river rock to create porous spaces for liquid to drain. The pot should include a mesh-covered drain hole. Water or mist once a week. If leaves turn yellow, the plant is receiving too much water. When leaves are withered and dry, it needs a little more.

## Feeding + Fertilization

The lucky money tree only needs to be fertilized once in the spring and once in the fall. A time-release fertilizer is optimal. Bonsai soil should be a mix of peat, vermiculite and perlite.

## Sunlight

Place in an area receiving moderate sunlight, and remove after a few hours. Feel free to put the plant outside in a space, weather permitting. Do not place outdoors if temperatures are below 50 degrees Fahrenheit.

## Pruning

Caretaking will consist primarily of pruning due to how quickly new leaves will grow. Prune leaves to encourage growth and prevent wilting. Remove brown, dead leaves.

## Pest Control

While the lucky money tree is hardy and not usually susceptible to garnering pests, they can sometimes attract whiteflies and aphids. If this occurs, simply spray the leaves with a solution of water mixed with dish soap. Repeat as needed.

*Note: These treatments add to the plant's watering schedule. Take care not to overwater.*

## Repotting

The plant will appear to be thirstier than usual when it is time to repot. This will occur every two to three years during the spring months. Prune roots gently and replant in a larger pot with drainage hole(s). Cover with high-quality soil mixed with pebbles and river rock. 🌱



By Erin Dozois

*Ever hear the phrase "money doesn't grow on trees?" Well, that's still true, but the lucky money tree still makes a pretty cool addition to the home. Otherwise known as the jade plant, this indoor evergreen gets its name from an old story about a poor man who became rich by selling the trees he grew from the first plant's numerous seeds.*

*Today, the lucky money tree is usually given as a gift and is said to bring good luck and prosperity. Feng shui practitioners also believe it imbues a room with positive energy, in particular, rooms that serve a financial purpose (such as an office).*



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# Be Bold in the New Year: Bright 'n Bold Lighting

By Shannon Rooney

*There's nothing like a bold light fixture to add a little "glam" factor to any room. Even when it pushes the boundaries, the right fixture can give a space a finished look, especially when it complements your home's style.*

"Lighting can set the mood for a room," said Kristen Becker, lighting showroom manager with Wabash Lighting. We agree wholeheartedly. Check out these bright ideas to add some oomph to your lighting choices.

## Embrace the Drama

Go big or go home, as the saying goes. Lighting is a convenient way to add emphasis to a particular room or a part of a room. Try your hand by grouping three to five pendants over the dining room table, for example. Play with size in the foyer by featuring a statement pendant. This trend is, well, big right now.

"You can always over-size the pendants over the island," said Becker. "Do one or two larger ones instead of 3-plus mini-pendants. Or over-size the chandelier over a table to add drama." She also recommended crystal to up the glam factor.

## Get Funky

Employ the unexpected to really refine your look. "Starbursts are a fun, funky style to add some excitement to a room," said Becker. Geometrics are also going strong. Hang a pendant with a faceted shade or arrangements of geometrical shapes around a bulb. Pair with an Edison bulb for a vintage flair.

If you prefer a layered style, choose a lamp or pendant with a wicker or macrame shade. These add texture to a room.

## So Shady

And speaking of shades — we're not talking about your granny's pleated beige numbers. The sky's the limit when it comes to shades for pendants and lamps. Oversized drum shades are popular and come in a variety of colors and patterns from preppy chevron to bohemian paisley.

Go bolder with faux cowhide or giraffe print, which will complement a rustic or global feel, respectively.

## Make it Matte

Matte finish metals continue to show up in all home furnishings and lighting with this sleek flat finish is an easy way to introduce it into your decor scheme. Becker said her younger customers especially are gravitating toward this trend. "We also do great with the mixed metals — bronze and gold/chrome and black — or wood and metal combinations — nickel with lighter wood tones/bronze with dark wood tones. The mixed metals allow you to incorporate the finishes on their own or together throughout the home."

## Mid-century for the Win

Mid-century modern design (or MCM in design circles) is going strong, said Becker. If modern Mad Men is your style, you'll have no problem finding options. "We see a lot of it in lighting," said Becker. "It's fun to use these retro pieces over islands or a dining table. Even incorporating it with floor and table lamps — this is another great way for the furniture and lighting to complement each other." 🏠

## Resources:

**Trinity Kitchen, Bath & Lighting**, New Haven, 260.493.2574,  
[trinityhomecenter.com](http://trinityhomecenter.com)

**Wabash Lighting**, Fort Wayne, 260.483.8820, [wabashlighting.com](http://wabashlighting.com)



# Love This Look?

By Sue Rawlinson



As Shipley's granddaughter is now just 5 months old, her play days in the grandpa-made playhouse are just beginning. What an appropriate time to celebrate new beginnings... and a great way to ring in a new year for the new family princess.



The dimensions are in-scale to a mini-house, complete with a mini-sized space for a window and a 4-foot tall door. Shipley designed and hand-built the playhouse. "I had built a similar playhouse in my home when my two girls were very young—30 years ago," Shipley said. "They enjoyed playing in it; it was something of 'their own' as size was not conducive for adult visitors."

Some homes have spatial areas that could be utilized in creative ways. It takes ingenuity, creativity and heart to bring it to fruition.

So is the case in this featured home. What would have otherwise been attic space or an open landing on a second floor was captured and beautifully transformed into a princess playhouse.

The princess being the granddaughter of Jay Shipley, vice president of Bob Buescher Homes, and the playhouse a miniature playroom, sized for little ones only.



How mini is the playhouse? "The ceiling is 5' and the room measures 6' x 10'. The door is only 4' tall," he said.

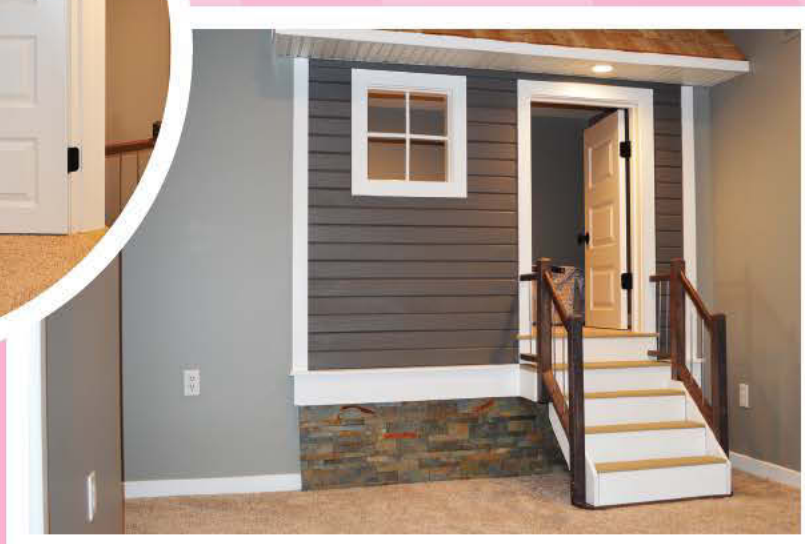
## Suppliers:

**Builder + Designer:** Jay Shipley, vice-president, Bob Buescher Homes, Fort Wayne, 260.490.3355, [bobbuescherhomes.com](http://bobbuescherhomes.com)

**Flooring:** CR Carpet, Fort Wayne, 260.749.2933, [crflooring.com](http://crflooring.com)

**Paint:** Zehr Painting + Decorating, Huntertown, 260.705.2884

**Woodwork:** Home Lumber, New Haven, 260.493.4436, [homelumberinc.com](http://homelumberinc.com)





# Bold Exteriors that 'Wow'



By Lauren Caggiano

*They say to never judge a book by its cover, but for homes, the exterior usually creates the first impression. What does yours say? Local home improvement experts offer some insight into how to curate the perfectly bold exterior, just in time for the spring thaw.*

## Be Bold

Craig Winters with 3 Rivers Remodeling said go bold or go home. "A lot of customers are going to bold new colors available in siding, roofing and even exterior window casings." To that end, he said vinyl siding manufacturers are up with the trend. New colors never seen before (without painting) are now available.

## Or, Natural

Along with bold, homeowners are opting for a natural look. Such as? "Vinyl and composite products that look and feel like real wood or stone," Winters said. Homeowners, he said, should look to stacked stone, brick and cedar in already finished colors. These options are bold and require little to no maintenance.

## Color Your Home

Speaking of colors, Kevin Hunter with Windows Doors & More, said color is the name of the game when it comes to front doors. "There's no rhyme or reason with colored doors," he said. It doesn't even have to match the shutter color, he added. It can even just be a matter of personal preference—which, in his words, is "unique unto themselves." Earth tones for front doors are a bit passé, while a bright red door can speak

volumes. Greens, yellows and even black are trending. Black does not have to be reserved for modern structures. It works on any style house. It actually makes smaller homes look more majestic. Hunter credits this interest in out-of-the-box colors to the resurgence of the arts and crafts style architecture.

## Boldly Lit

What makes a home really pop? It's true that the right lighting allows it to really shine, both literally and figuratively. According to Bill Shewman from Trinity Kitchen, Bath & Lighting, start with the basics. "Consider your objectives, which may revolve around highlighting or accenting landscape and architectural details...or creating pools of light for navigating sidewalks, garden paths or steps...or creating ambiance on your deck or patio, or around the pool for evening entertaining."

From here, it's important to remember that more isn't better when it comes to illumination. "Remember you're not lighting an airport runway," said Shewman. "You're creating visual appeal, and expanding usable living space to the outdoors."

In addition to the form factor, Shewman said there's an added bonus to consider: "One of the benefits of creating attractive outdoor lighting is that it also enhances security. By using methods such as photo cells, timers and other electronic devices, you control when your lighting is on, when it is off, how much light it delivers and even which 'scene' you want to use for general accent lighting, entertaining, security or whatever purpose suits the occasion."

In general, when making any exterior renovations, think about the desired visual effect. What's your home's relationship to the street and the landscape? Is it close to the curb or does it sit back behind large, towering trees? These considerations should help you weed out certain choices. Whatever you do, do it with a bold heart and the rest will follow. 🏠

## Resources:

**3 Rivers Remodeling**, Fort Wayne, 260.482.5558, [3riversremodeling.com](http://3riversremodeling.com)

**Fisher Specialties**, Fort Wayne, 260.657.5751, [fisherspecialties.com](http://fisherspecialties.com)

**Trinity Kitchen, Bath & Lighting**, New Haven, 260.493.2574, [kitchenbathlighting.com](http://kitchenbathlighting.com)

**Windows, Doors & More**, Fort Wayne, 260.399.6037, [wdmfactorystore.com](http://wdmfactorystore.com)





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# Be Bold: Plan for the Perfect-For-You Patio Paradise

By Barb Sieminski

*While January is quietly painting the world in blue-shadowed snows, your dreams turn to summer evenings under the stars, heady fragrances of freshly-mowed lawns and grilled steaks drifting through the warm air and the sounds of children's laughter and happy-yapping dogs . . . all of which you are enjoying from your very own patio-to-be.*

So cozy up to the fireplace with a hot cocoa (don't forget the marshmallow) and your Samsung tablet and begin your wonderful plan of creating an al fresco family room now.

## Location

Location is important. If you want the patio for outside dining, plan for its placement close to the house. Trees can provide pleasant shade or you can go with an awning or a pergola. Decide what shape you'd like your patio to be — larger can accommodate an outdoor cooking space and decorative plants and furniture. The internet has a wealth of information for the do-it-yourselfer and we've, of course, included HOME expert resources in this article to assist.

Stephanie Felger, office manager of Felger's Peat Moss, had some suggestions for laying the groundwork for your paradise patio.

"Consider everything from patio pavers to the vertical features of barbecue and island areas, fireplaces, fire pits and pergolas," she said. "Concrete pavers have become a perfect option for creating your outdoor living space. With many options in style and color there is something to fit everyone's personal style. If one prefers a natural look, then natural flagstone is the way to go. Natural flagstone can create a tranquil area, and this is also available in many sizes, shapes, colors and dimensions.



"It just depends on the look that the customer is seeking. Concrete pavers create a space easy for tables and chairs to sit on, where flagstone can leave a bigger joint so that's used more in areas around fire pits and natural settings. However, both materials can be used in all settings."

Dan Buesching of Buesching's Peat Moss & Mulch Inc. offered some valuable information: "We have ready-made kits for building your own fire pits that make it really easy to do it yourself," said Buesching. "We have round or square so you can decide the shape of the fire pit, and one essential thing to keep in mind is the prevailing winds so you can position your fire pit accordingly."

More thoughts were proposed by Julie Sanborn, owner of Sanborn's for Your Home. "A perfect patio paradise would include comfy yet practical low-maintenance seating," said Sanborn.

"Ideally, a separate seating and dining area complete with outdoor rugs, pillows, lighting and artwork would work very well. Also, there is a major growing trend in our area for fire pits both built-in and free-standing to extend our outdoor season. For sun protection large cantilever umbrellas or retractable awnings are a must. Of course all of the above and covers for protection are available at Sanborn's For Your Home."

So, be bold. Define exactly what you want. Create a plan, reach to the pros — then when spring is upon us, commence the creation of your bold paradise. 🏡

## Resources:

**Buesching's Peat Moss & Mulch**, Fort Wayne, 260.625.3358, [bueschings.com](http://bueschings.com)

**Felger's Peat Moss**, Fort Wayne, 260.693.3134, [felgerspeatmoss.com](http://felgerspeatmoss.com)

**Jim Brubaker Designs**, Fort Wayne, 260.436.3639, [jimbrubakerdesigns.com](http://jimbrubakerdesigns.com)

**NOB Brick**, Fort Wayne, 260.483.2126, [nobbrick.com](http://nobbrick.com)

**Sanborn's For Your Home**, Angola, 260.665.9799, [sanbornsforyourhomeangola.com](http://sanbornsforyourhomeangola.com)



# Fat Tire Chicken Taco Chili

What's better than chili on a blustery cold January day? Why, only this winning chili recipe, courtesy of Jill Sample. This Fat Tire Chicken Taco Chili recipe was the People's Choice Award Winner at the 6th Annual UPSTAR Chili Cook-off (Oct. 24, 2013) and winner of the 2017 People's Choice Award at the HBA Chili Cook-off (Oct. 25, 2017).

## INGREDIENTS

- Large onion, chopped
- 2-3 garlic cloves, minced
- 2 cans black beans, rinsed
- 2 cans Brooks chili hot beans
- 1 or 2 cans whole kernel corn, drained
- 2 cans petite diced tomatoes
- 1 can Rotel diced tomatoes with green chilies
- 2 - 8 oz. cans tomato sauce
- 1 small can chopped green chilies
- 1 small can chopped jalapeños (optional)
- 1 packet fajita seasoning
- 1 bottle Fat Tire Amber beer
- 2 tablespoons ancho chili powder
- 1 tablespoon ground cumin
- 3 large boneless skinless chicken breasts

## DIRECTIONS

- In large crockpot mix all ingredients except chicken. Stir to mix. Add chicken and push down so covered with liquid.
- Cook 5 hours on low. Remove chicken to plate and shred. Return to crockpot and cook for another 2-3 hours. Salt and pepper to taste. 🍲



Photo: left to right:  
Jessica Scheurich,  
HBA president,  
Michelle Smekens,  
Jill Sample



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By Ray Balogh

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**2-3 FORT WAYNE: Winter Break Science Camps**

- Tuesday, Jan. 2, Creepy Crawly Critters
- Wednesday, Jan. 3, STEM Circus

Camps run 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, with check-in 8:30 a.m.-9 a.m. No walk-ins permitted. For ages 5-11. \$30/non-member, \$25/member. Science Central, 1950 N. Clinton St. 260.424.2400, [sciencecentral.org](http://sciencecentral.org).

**2-31 FORT WAYNE: Conservatory Exhibit**

"Fairy Tales" winter garden exhibit, Jan. 13-April 8. Adults \$5, children (3-17) \$3, children (2 and under) free. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday (until 8 p.m. Thursday), noon-4 p.m. Sunday, Botanical Conservatory, 1100 S. Calhoun St. 260.427.6440, [botanicalconservatory.org](http://botanicalconservatory.org).

**2, 9, 16, 23, 30 FORT WAYNE: "Little River Ramblers"**

Hike and explore the interesting plants and wildlife of Eagle Marsh. Sponsored by Little River Wetlands Project. Free admission. 9 a.m.-11 p.m. Tuesday, Eagle Marsh barn, 6801 Engle Road. 260.478.2515 [info@lrwp.org](mailto:info@lrwp.org), [lrwp.org](http://lrwp.org).

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**11 FORT WAYNE: Breakfast on the Marsh: Volunteer Opportunities at LRWP**

A light breakfast will be served. For 50 years and older. Call to preregister. Free admission. 8:30 a.m.-9:45 a.m. Thursday, Indiana Wesleyan Education & Conference Center, Room 102/104, 8211 W. Jefferson Blvd. 260.478.2515 [info@lrwp.org](mailto:info@lrwp.org), [lrwp.org](http://lrwp.org).

**13 DECATUR: Artisan Craft Market**

Craft vendors and direct sellers of handmade crafts, jewelry, candles, soaps, baked goods, home decor, clothing and accessories, wood and metal items. Breakfast and lunch available. Free admission. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Riverside Center, 231 E. Monroe St. 260.223.7828 [facebook.com/adamscountywintermarket](https://facebook.com/adamscountywintermarket).

**14 FORT WAYNE: "Shopkins Live! Shop It Up!"**

First live theatrical production based on the wildly successful brand launched in 2014. \$100/\$42/\$32/\$22. 4 p.m. Sunday, Fort Wayne Embassy Theatre, 125 W. Jefferson Blvd. 800.745.3000 [fwembassytheatre.org](http://fwembassytheatre.org).

**16-18 FORT WAYNE: 29th Annual Farm Show**

More than 1,000 booths featuring the latest technology, equipment and products in the agri-business industry. Includes fundraising auctions for Indiana FFA Scholarship Foundation. Parking \$5 main lot, \$8 preferred lot. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday, 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Wednesday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, 4000 Parnell Ave. 260.482.9502 [memorialcoliseum.com](http://memorialcoliseum.com).

**17 FORT WAYNE: Short Hikes for Short Legs: What Lives Under the Snow?**

Start in the barn with snow boxes to discover and identify which animals winter on the marsh, then hike and identify animal tracks and homes. Boots recommended. Free admission, open to children 3-5 accompanied by responsible adult. 9 a.m.-10 a.m. Wednesday, Eagle Marsh barn, 6801 Engle Road. 260.478.2515 [info@lrwp.org](mailto:info@lrwp.org), [lrwp.org](http://lrwp.org).

**17 FORT WAYNE: "The Sound of Music"**

Brand-new production of the multiple award winning musical. \$65/\$50/\$35. 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Fort Wayne Embassy Theatre, 125 W. Jefferson Blvd. 800.745.3000 [fwembassytheatre.org](http://fwembassytheatre.org).

**20 COLUMBIA CITY: Cabin Fever Day Sale**

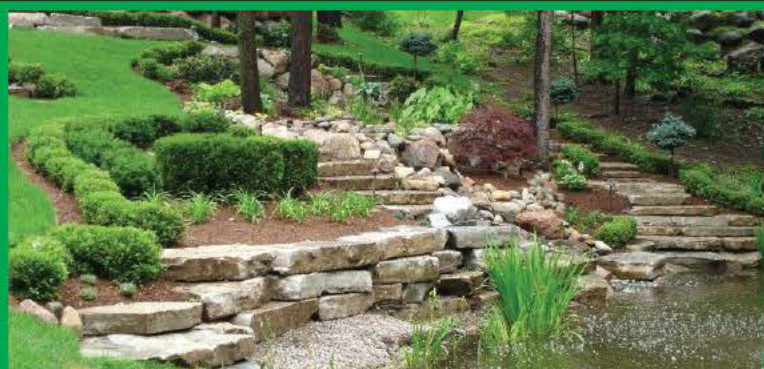
Enjoy a wonderful day shopping for great finds from participating Columbia City businesses, all under one roof. Bee Grapeful Cafe will serve lunch and delicious treats. No admission. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Vintage Antique Marketplace, 202 N. Chauncey St. 260.248.7479 [vintageantiquemarketplace.com](http://vintageantiquemarketplace.com).

**25-28 FORT WAYNE: Mizpah Shrine Circus and Fair**

Includes clowns, elephants, flying trapeze, high wire acts, Arabian horses, daredevil acts and more. \$14/person, tickets may be purchased at Mizpah Shrine office, 1015 Memorial Way, Fort Wayne. Parking \$5 main lot, \$8 preferred lot. Shows at 6:30 p.m. Thursday; 7 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday; 1 p.m. and 5:45 p.m. Sunday, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, 4000 Parnell Ave. 260.422.7122 [mizpahshrinecircus.com](http://mizpahshrinecircus.com).

**27 FORT WAYNE: "Winter Woods"**

Public hike led by John Niemeyer. Stroll through the woods, learning how to identify trees by buds that were set months earlier, the trees' bark and adaptations they make in a wetland environment. Boots recommended. Free admission. Noon-1:30 p.m. Saturday, Eagle Marsh barn, 6801 Engle Road. 260.478.2515 [info@lrwp.org](mailto:info@lrwp.org), [lrwp.org](http://lrwp.org).



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Based on data from research conducted by the Department of Occupational and Environmental Health at the University of Iowa.

books | HOME community

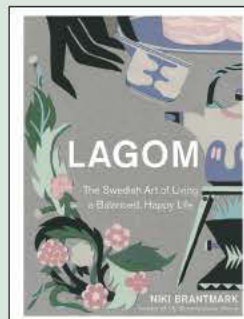
## January Books

By Steve Penhollow

January is a time when people start thinking about the sort of year they want to have.

They make and revise plans, they reconsider those plans and they wonder, perhaps, if they've been making the wrong sorts of plans all along.

Here are two books to help readers set the best goals for 2018 and help them see those goals through.



### Lagom: The Swedish Art of Balanced Living

By Linnea Dunne

Running Press \$16

ISBN-10: 0762463759;

ISBN-13: 978-0762463756

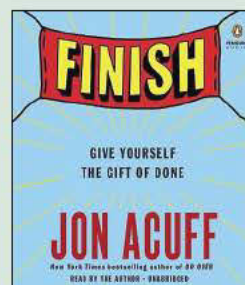
"Lagom is the new hygge," say people who are very dialed in to international cleaning and organization philosophies. Hygge (a Scandinavian word for a state of wellbeing) was all the rage for a while.

Now, it's Lagom's turn to shine. Lagom is a Swedish word meaning "just the right amount." Lagom isn't about denying yourself. It's about understanding how much you really need and being satisfied with that sufficiency.

"Lagom: The Swedish Art of Balanced Living" is both a window into Dunne's life and a window into Swedish culture.

Dunne doesn't just share Swedish housekeeping philosophies. She shows how Swedes spend their downtime.

She backs up the wisdom of lagom with hard research. The book is not preachy. It doesn't stress readers out with harangues about reducing stress. Dunne merely offers suggestions and sets up comparisons between life as it is lived in Scandinavia and life as it is lived in England or the states.



### Finish: Give Yourself the Gift of Done

By Jon Acuff

Portfolio \$27

ISBN-10: 1591847621;

ISBN-13: 978-1591847625

Most of us have multiple projects in various stages of incompleteness. We add new projects before finishing the old projects.

January is the month of "New Year's Resolutions" and Acuff tells us that 92 percent of those fail.

Perfectionism is one thing that keeps people from fulfilling their goals. Self-loathing is another. Fear of failure is yet another.

Jon Acuff's book is filled with common sense, down-to-earth wisdom about addressing these matters. He writes not as a lofty guru but as someone who shares the readers' struggles.

Readers may be surprised by how funny and accessible the book is. Too, there are no rigorous systems to be followed here; just practical advice that can be utilized immediately. 🏠



# Kevin Walsh

## Owner of Trinity Kitchen, Bath & Lighting, New Haven

By Steve Penhollow

Photo by Sue Rawlinson

### When did Trinity Kitchen, Bath & Lighting first open?

Trinity was opened in 1958 by A.D. Delagrange, one of the pioneers of home building in the Fort Wayne area. He was also instrumental in starting Delagrange Homes and Home Lumber Company.

### How and when did you get involved?

I started at Trinity in 2003. One of the last of the original owners of Trinity, Foster Klopfenstein, had recently passed away and I came on board to take his place. I became the owner of Trinity a few years later.

### How has the business evolved over the years?

The business started as a plumbing wholesale business and extended into electrical wholesale. From that, we evolved into lighting and more recently into cabinets and countertops.

### You've been transitioning your business name from Trinity Home Design Center to Trinity Kitchen, Bath and Lighting. Why?

It better tells what we do. We wanted to offer products that would expand our business with current builder and contractor customers and to make it more compelling for retail customers to come and see us. So we went from plumbing fixtures to electrical products, then lighting fixtures. With the addition of cabinets and countertops, we became a one-stop shop for kitchen or bath remodeling. Today, we continue to sell to builders and contractors but we also will provide homeowners with lighting and plumbing fixtures, cabinets and countertops, and we will do a complete remodeling project from start to finish.

### How many employees do you have?

We currently have 25 employees.



### What products and services do you offer?

We offer several products including cabinets, countertops, cabinet hardware, lighting and plumbing fixtures, toilets and showers. Services include complete kitchen and bath remodeling projects. We work with homeowners from concept and design to product selections and installation. Often, this includes painting, drywall and flooring.

### What are your most popular product lines/services right now?

Countertop replacements with a tile backsplash. We have been replacing laminate countertops with granite and quartz. We also have a lot of homeowners updating their dining room lights.

### What are some of the hottest trends in your business and what has fallen out of favor?

Whites, grays and dark stains have been popular with our cabinet installs. The farmhouse and industrial look has been popular with lighting and cabinets.

### From what regions of northeast Indiana do you draw customers?

On a regular basis Trinity draws customers throughout all of northeast Indiana and reaches into parts of northwest Ohio as well. 🏠

#### Kevin Walsh:

##### Trinity Kitchen, Bath & Lighting

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[kitchenbathlighting.com](http://kitchenbathlighting.com)



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### Get Organized in the New Year

Thinking to sell your home 'at some point' in 2018? Great! Now's the time to start the de-cluttering process. (Even if you aren't planning to stake the 'for sale' sign, why not lighten the load around you? You'll thank us later.)

Complete one room at a time, going through all drawers, shelves, cabinets and closets. As you dig in, ask the following questions:

- **Do I use this regularly?**
- **Am I saving this 'just in case'—which never seems to happen?**
- **Am I keeping this out of obligation?**
- **Do I have multiples of the same item?**
- **Has the item been broken for years?**
- **Is this item worth my time to clean or fix it?**
- **Does this item belong here, or in another room?**
- **Could this space be used for something else?**

Before long, you'll breathe a little easier. Less clutter = more breathing space. Happy New Year, readers—and happy de-cluttering.

*\*rates effective as of January 2018 issue publishing deadline date*

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—*unknown*



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