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welcome! from the editor



Amber Bouthot

It is a time to be thankful, and this month, I am extremely thankful that my family is moved into our new home. I am also thankful for my hardworking husband who almost singlehandedly moved all of our earthly possessions and got us settled into our home in record time.

Moving is tough. Buying a home is stressful. I am thankful that my family has the able bodies to complete the physical labor of our move and the means to provide a roof over our heads. There is much to be thankful for this season.

I am also thankful for you—our readers! Without your support, we couldn't do what we do, so thank you for reading. As we head into 2019, you are going to see more reader-centric content, including reader submissions of DIY projects. We know you put a lot of time and effort into your home—whether you own or rent. We want to see your projects and share them within the pages of our magazine. If you've

recently completed a project, we want to hear from you. It can be something as simple as a craft project or as large as a home addition. If you did it yourself, it can be featured.

In 2019, we are also bringing back the HOME Snapshot feature, which highlights reader photos from around your home—whether it's a photo of a beautiful plant you've grown or the addition of a new snazzy appliance. If you are proud of it, we want to see it and share it.

You may submit DIY project photos and information, as well as snapshots to me at ambouthot@the-papers.com.

We are grateful for you this month and every month, and we hope you have a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday. 🍁



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EDITORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS Editorial suggestions are welcomed, and the executive editor is usually in a good mood, so please share! Feel free to send comments directly to her at ambouthot@the-papers.com. Even if she's in a bad mood, hearing from readers brightens her day (sshhh... and we thank you!).

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

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Beth Johnson

Q&A with New HBA Executive Director

By Lauren Caggiano

Beth Johnson is the new face of the Home Builders Association of Fort Wayne. This nonprofit seeks to promote a positive atmosphere for the building industry. Get to know her and the organization's work in the community.



Tell us about your professional background. How did you come to this position?

I graduated with a BS in graphic design and advertising from the University of Southern Indiana. After college, I relocated to Indianapolis where I worked in the promotional product industry for nearly 10 years before becoming the marketing manager for a civil engineering firm. I've always had an interest in engineering, architecture and design, so it was a good fit and helped me expand my knowledge and skills. I worked for that firm for nearly three years, one of which I was working remotely from Fort Wayne. I felt it was time to find a position in the city in which I live that also gave me the opportunity to continue to grow. I came across the executive director position with the HBA and thought, why not? It sounded like a great opportunity for me and you never know what will happen unless you try. Thus far, the transition has been a rewarding one.

How do you fulfill the organization's mission?

Our mission is to work together to build a stronger housing industry for Northeast Indiana. We do so by providing our members' educational opportunities, communicating the latest trade and technical information, working with governmental agencies and providing promotional opportunities, which in turn promote the building industry. We also provide social and networking events for our members to build relationships with one another. The key to all of these things is being engaged and communicating effectively the wants and needs of the local housing industry.

How do you specifically help/advocate for consumers?

We are currently reviewing the 2018 International Residential Code (IRC) that is to be adopted next year. Our code committee meets monthly to review chapters and discuss the changes and how they will affect the housing market. We then send our suggestions and reasoning down to the state to be included in the IRC Review Committee meetings. Our efforts help to keep the cost of housing down as much as possible, while keeping homes safe.

What are some trends you are seeing in terms of residential construction in our area? What areas of town are hot and up and coming?

I can tell you the open concept is still alive and well. Having a space that can be fully utilized where families can be together is definitely on trend right now. With how fast-paced everyone's lives are these days, people crave a sense of togetherness, which the open concept floor plan provides.

The north side of town is where I've noticed the most new building activity going on, but new construction can be found in all areas of town. 🏠

Beth Johnson

Home Builders Association, Fort Wayne, 260.420.2020, hbafortwayne.com

HOMELIVING

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Upcoming Editorial Themes

DECEMBER

Holidays at Home

Deadline: Fri., Nov. 16*

*early deadline

JANUARY

Remodel Resolutions

Deadline: Fri., Dec. 14*

*early deadline

FEBRUARY

Labor of Love

Deadline: Mon., Jan. 14



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Fall Front Door Décor

Whether you are a do-it-yourselfer or prefer to opt for a pre-made wreath or door adornment, the options for sprucing up your front door during the autumn season are endless. From colorful fall leaves to pinecones and gourds, the season offers plenty of variety to match your style. Check out some of these fun ideas for giving your front door a welcoming vibe this season.





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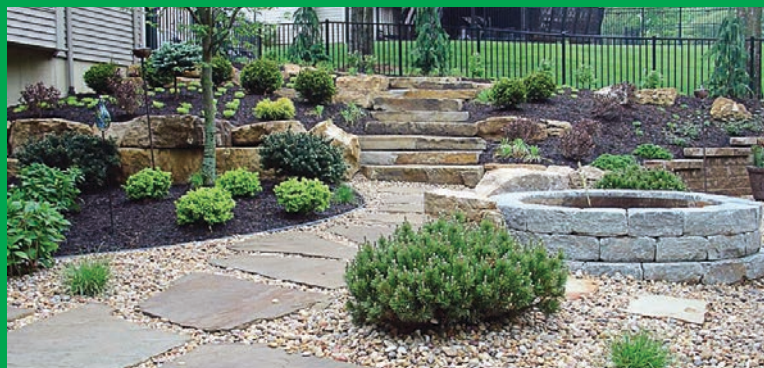
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Mums and Fall Planters



By Haiden Steingass

Grass, leaves, flowers—they're all turning brown this month, so there's no better time to revitalize your landscape with a few gorgeous fall planters. However, this time of the year only welcomes certain kinds of plants that are made to withstand the colder temperatures. Here's a look at seasonal planters to give your yard a festive fall pop of color.

What to Plant:

Mums

You can buy fully bloomed mums for an instant pop of color in your yard. They're low maintenance, only needing to be watered every other day, and they're frost-tolerant.



Snap Dragons

Another cool-weather plant that does great in the fall are snap dragons. They come in all colors and can withstand the first frost before they need to be brought inside.



Kale

Kale—not the health-food kind—but the ornamental kind is one of the most stunning fall-blooming plants, sporting distinct purple leaves. Since they're made for colder temperatures, they last into the winter.



Fountain Grass

Fountain grass is tall and striking, available in different colors. For fall, try Rubrum for red or Moudry for burgundy. The leaves will stay green even when everything else starts to die off.



Sedum

Sedum plants are extremely low maintenance and should be planted in smaller planters. They can withstand the lowest temperatures, so you'll enjoy the sight of them throughout fall and winter.



Asters

Though Asters typically bloom in early fall, this perennial will last through the season and come back after winter. To ensure your Asters make it through the winter, insulate them by covering them with straw or mulch, and remove it when spring comes.



Verbena

Verbena plants need plenty of sunlight, even in the fall and winter. And while these plants can withstand colder weather, you'll want to keep an eye on how the pot is draining excess water, which is crucial to the health of Verbena.



Add your Plants to these Fall Pots.

Bowl Planter

These low-to-the-ground planters are unique and fun, giving you room to showcase several types of fall flowers. Ornamental Kale looks amazing in these, too.



Concrete Fluted Planters

Fluted planters have a wavy texture on the outside and pair great with colorful mums.



Pedestal Planters

These tall, commanding planters look beautiful with mums, Ornamental Kale and Verbena.



Trough Planters

A trough planter is another low-to-the-ground pot, so they look stunning with Fountain Grass to give them some height. 🏡



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Coffee Bars

By Lauren Caggiano

A coffee bar can be the perfect centerpiece of a home, giving you the opportunity to invite friends and family to enjoy a cup of their favorite beverage and your hospitality at the same time.

The beauty of a coffee bar feature is there are no hard rules. "Build it around your lifestyle; don't let someone else tell you what you want," said Rick Green with Country Mill Cabinet Co.

Start with the basics. You simply need mugs, a coffee maker and a surface. Wood pallets, reclaimed furniture and even vintage bar carts all make good options. In general, the design possibilities are endless. You can infuse your sensibilities and personality with anything that fits your needs and space. But you don't have to go it alone. Local experts show you how to translate a concept into reality.

Brittany Miller with Van's Home Center in Auburn said a coffee bar could be a way to get creative with previously unused space. For example, the spot between the fridge and the window framing that didn't allow for a full-size storage area can be used to your advantage. "Likewise, if you have enough space for a stand-alone coffee bar, then you're able to free up counter and/or cabinet space you would've had to dedicate to those items," she added.

The details are up to the individual, but Miller offers a rule of thumb to keep in mind: "You want your coffee bar to fit seamlessly within your home - it should look like it was intended to be there, and has been there all along, no matter when it was added to your home."

Once you have carved out a space, then it's time to make it yours.

"One of the biggest trends we're seeing with in-home coffee bars," Miller said, "is that they often double as wine bars, especially if there is enough space to build a stand-alone coffee/wine bar. This doubles up on efficiency and functionality for a lot of people. We're also seeing a lot of transparency with these in terms of design, meaning exposed, hanging storage racks for mugs, coffee and tea canisters, etc."

Coffee shops are charming but the cost of those lattes can really add up fast. Plus, Midwestern winters can be unpredictable. So as the days grow shorter and temperatures start dropping, why not skip the outdoor excursion and make your own coffee? 🏠



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Resources:

Country Mill Cabinet Co., LaOtto, 260.693.9289, countrymillcabinet.com

Van's Home Center, Auburn, 260.927.8267, vanshomecenter.com

Dining Room



Go Rustic

A rough-hewn wooden table adds a relaxed, more approachable vibe to an otherwise formal space.



Gallery walls

Wall space in the dining room is prime real estate to show off some of your artwork. Consider creating a gallery wall to add interest and color.



Interesting lighting

Forget the opulent chandelier. Think outside the box and have fun with your lighting choices.

Graphic rugs

Get funky! Graphic rugs add interest in any room, but especially an otherwise boring dining room.



By Amber Bouthot

Does your formal dining room collect dust between large family gatherings and holiday celebrations? More and more, separate dining room space becomes wasted space as busy schedules get in the way of sitting down to enjoy a meal.

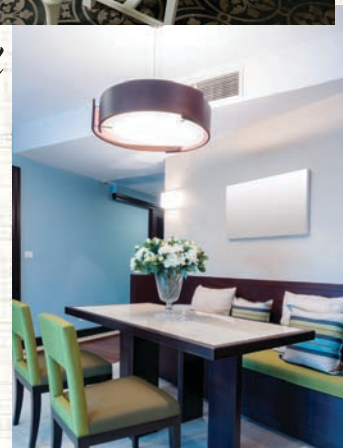
The latest trend is to eliminate the space altogether, instead opting for larger breakfast nooks or countertop eating spaces. But, if you still have a home with a separate dining room, have no fear. Not only have these rooms been trending towards becoming more multi-functional, but formal is out, as well.

Here are some of the latest trends for dining rooms.



Blended seating

Mix it up! Try benches and chairs in various colors, styles and textures. Get playful with it.



Multi function

Your dining room does not need to be limited to dining alone. More and more people are using them as workspaces by day and dining space by night. With versatile furniture and accessory choices, this can be an easy upgrade. 🏠

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Finish up:

By Julie Young

Get the 4-1-1 on paint finishes and colors

When it comes to a quick room redo, homeowners know that nothing makes a bigger impact than a fresh coat of paint. But, with so many colors and options, how can you identify the best choice for your room? Not to worry, we've got the 4-1-1 on paint finishes that will give your space a whole new look!

Meagan Kingery with Menards said that when choosing a color and finish for your room, it is important to take your preference and lifestyle into consideration. People looking for a neutral palette can turn to more than 50 shades of grey to give their room a base color, but it is important to find the color that will complement the rest of the room and pull the whole look together. She suggested testing the shade on several walls so that you can see what it looks like throughout the day.

"There can be undertones that will not be flattering in certain lights," she said. "You may have LED or incandescent bulbs that will affect how the color plays on your wall and you want to make sure it will be flattering no matter what you have."

The type of finish you choose also goes a long way toward creating your overall look. While some of us may be drawn to a certain type of finish because it is what we are used to or the finish our parents used, it may not be the best choice for a specific room.

Denise Le at Maumee Paint & Supply says high gloss is the best choice for trim because it has to stand up to the vacuum, toys and other things hitting it.

"The higher the gloss, the more durable the paint, which is great if you have high traffic rooms that are subject to a lot of moisture or little kids who leave fingerprints," she said. "However shinier paint will highlight the imperfections on your wall as well. It's a question of personal preference, lifestyle and what you need to get out of your paint."

Finish 4-1-1

- **Matte or flat paint:** The most common type of all interior paint. Well suited for ceilings or walls that have defects you do not want highlighted. Will require multiple coats.
- **Satin:** Situated between a matte and a gloss, a satin finish produces a soft sheen that looks great. It is a great option for those areas that require cleaning, but should not be used on walls with obvious flaws.
- **Eggshell:** Offers a subtle shine that lacks the smoothness of a satin finish. It is easy to apply and does not point out imperfections. Better still, it may only require one coat.
- **Semi-gloss:** often used on trim or backsplashes rather than walls, it is one of the more popular interior paints. It offers good coverage and is great for cleaning.
- **High Gloss:** Good for trim, but will point out imperfections on walls. Use sparingly with a flat undercoating to minimize flaws after priming. 🏠



Resources:

Maumee Paint & Supply, Fort Wayne, 260.490.8656, maumeepaint.com

Menards, Fort Wayne, 260.492.8430, menards.com



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How to host a large Thanksgiving meal

By Barb Sieminski

This year, November has special significance for you: You'll host a large Thanksgiving meal for friends and family, and the time to start planning for it is at least two weeks in advance. Use the two-week mark to plan the table and order your turkey, the one-week mark to plan your meal.

Heidi Anderson, owner of Dogwoods Home Décor, brought her expertise to the table and suggested choosing a theme – traditional, formal or casual.

"The theme will help you determine how to set the table," said Anderson. "For instance, if you choose a more formal table, you'll want to set it to proper etiquette. You can easily Google 'how to set a formal table' if you need a guide on how many forks to set, etc. Decorative table runners have taken over in popularity from tablecloths. Simply use placemats and cloth napkins that coordinate with the runner. If you have fall dishes to accent your place settings, even better! A charger set under your dinner plate helps add drama to your table."

A charger is a decorative base placed on a placemat and under the dinner plate. They are made of various materials – ceramic, metal, linen, burlap or woven rattan, etc. A proper place setting from bottom to top: placemat – charger – dinner plate – salad plate – soup bowl, if serving soup.

"On a rectangular table, a centerpiece in the middle, flanked by one matching object on either side, will be a nice touch," said Anderson. A formal theme calls for a low arrangement of fresh florals in fall color with velvet pumpkins scattered on the runner and glass or crystal candlesticks on each side of the centerpiece so your guests can easily see through them.

Dennis Bowman, fresh design manager of Gassafy Wholesale Flowers, recommended not making a Thanksgiving centerpiece too large, as there is often a lot of food on the table.

"Pumpkins, gourds and Indian corn are a pleasant seasonal touch," said Bowman.



"Mums are plentiful in the fall, but be careful – some have a very strong fragrance and that could bother some folks. Roses, carnations and solidago, with fall leaves are nice for a more formal atmosphere."

"If your table is to be more casual," Anderson said, "put together a centerpiece with a long wooden dough bowl and fill it with pumpkins in various fall colors and different shapes. The bowl can then be flanked with wheat grass or candles; adding different textures on your table adds interest and depth."

"Paper table products have really been popular lately, as well as beautiful brown buffalo check table runner with placemats in fall colors and table accent cards where your guests can list what they are most thankful for."

According to Anderson, traditional recipes work best for Thanksgiving, but be sure to include a lot of vegetable side dishes since many guests are now vegetarian or even vegan.

"Since the meal is so elaborate, you don't need to get crafty with the cocktails but be sure to think of the music in advance," said Anderson.

"Music sets the mood for your party and calms your guests. If it's a casual meal, set your Pandora music channel to a popular country music station. If it's more formal, choose a mellow station like Michael Buble or Adele."

Asked what the most important thing to keep in mind when preparing such an important meal, Anderson said to think of your guests first.



ABOVE: From Heidi Anderson's home featuring items for sale at Dogwood's Home Décor. (Photo provided by Dogwood's)

BELOW: This one features a paper table runner Dogwood's Home Décor sells from Hester & Cook. (Photo provided by Dogwood's)



"If kids are invited, set a fun table for them with paper products instead of fine linens and a game for them to do together. If you have allergies or specific diets to consider, plan your meal accordingly," concluded Anderson.

To which we might add, for a successful holiday dinner, don't forget to set your scale back 10 lbs! 🏠

Resources:

Dogwood's Home Décor, Fort Wayne, 260.459.2110, dogwoodsdecor.com

Gassafy Wholesale Florist, Fort Wayne, 260.482.9993, gassafy.com

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November To Do's

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By Haiden Steingass

Monday you're enjoying the first light snow, Tuesday there's rain, and Wednesday it's sunny and in the mid-60s. Is Mother Nature confused? Nope, it's just November. Here's a look at how to handle the wild weather patterns and prep your garden and yard for the winter months:

Plant spring bulbs like daffodils, tulips, crocus and iris if you didn't do so in October. Getting them in the ground before it freezes will ensure they bloom right on schedule come spring.

Weed and clean up. Get rid of any weeds, dead plants, debris and fallen branches or leaves.

Continue raking leaves. Leaving them out in the yard after they fall is unhealthy for your grass, but that doesn't mean they have to go to waste. Keep them and create mulch out of them or add them to a compost pile.

Add compost to your garden. If you haven't created an organic compost pile yet, November is a great time to do so. Use leaves, dead plants, fruits and veggies from your garden, and wood shavings.

Keep watering. Your yard and garden won't go dormant until it gets cold enough for the ground to freeze, so keep up with your normal watering routine until then.

Clean out gutters. November brings a lot of rain (and maybe even snow), so it's important to get rid of any leaves or debris that might be stuck in your gutters to allow rain and melting snow to drain.

Bring in house-plants. If you haven't transferred plants indoors, November is your last chance to do so.

Use a winterizing fertilizer. The formula adds potassium to the grass, which strengthens it and prepares it for the coldest months of the year.

Look into ground cover plants, if necessary. These are plants that essentially fill in spots in the grass that just won't grow. You can choose a green ground cover plant to blend with the existing grass or ones with colorful flowers.

Clear out annuals and veggies. If you have any left in your garden, now is the time to get rid of them and even add them to your compost pile.

Protect your plants. When temperatures drop below 20 degrees at night, the cold air can have an effect on your plants. Use burlap or another insulating material to drape over plants and wrap around trees.

Check water hoses. If there's still water inside your gardening hoses, drain them and bring them inside before they freeze. It's also a good idea to winterize any other outdoor water tools or decorations you have, like fountains or sprinkler systems. 🏠



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Exterior Lighting Trends



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By Steve Penhollow

It is not too early to start thinking about changes you might want to make next year to the exterior of your house. Lighting options are one relatively inexpensive way to effect dramatic and dynamic changes.

Chesney Boyer, a marketing assistant for Wabash Lighting, said landscape lighting is really big right now.

"That could be path lights, step lights, brick lights or fountain lights," she said. "Something to accent a tree, a brick wall or a flag pole. Those are things that can set a lighting plan apart for an exterior."

Wall-mounted lights outside a door or by a garage can add curb appeal. "Especially in larger homes and homes that have more architectural details in them," she said.

LED technology has made landscape lighting easier to install than ever.



Photo provided by Wabash Lighting

One of the bigger outdoor lighting trends has to do with what is being done to and with exterior living spaces. The sorts of lighting fixtures that used to be considered indoor fixtures are being redesigned for outdoor environments.

"People are putting in outdoor chandeliers and pendants," Boyer said. "True decorative hanging fixtures. You can get something that's traditional, super modern or contemporary. Outdoor chandeliers are definitely on the move."

"More and more outdoor-rated fixtures are being developed," she said. "What's crazy too is they look just like indoor fixtures. Manufacturers are very good at designing these fixtures that really can make a statement in the outdoor living space."

The majority of Wabash Lighting's business consists of new home builds. A trend they are seeing in new home designs is a migration of what are traditionally thought of as indoor spaces into the open air.

"We're seeing outdoor dining rooms," she said. "We're also seeing outdoor living rooms and outdoor kitchens."

Yes, these sorts of spaces are being constructed in Indiana, where they are designed to be seasonal or transformable into spaces that can be used in the winter in some form or fashion.

Exterior lighting has to keep up with this trend, Boyer said.

Another trend that has taken over the lighting industry is something Boyer calls "smart lighting control."

"What we are seeing is more and more companies coming out with simple ways to control your lighting from your smart device," she explained.

Thanks to newfangled timers and home automation controls, homeowners can "set scenes," she said.

"Your front porch light might come on before you even get home," Boyer said. "Certain lights might turn off and on at bedtime. You can essentially preprogram all those things." 🏠

Resource:

Wabash Lighting, Fort Wayne, 260.483.8820, wabashelectric.com



Photo provided by Wabash Lighting



Photo provided by Wabash Lighting



Tips and Tricks for Keeping your Holiday Décor Organized

By Cathy Shouse

Few experiences compare to the satisfaction of a home that is well decorated for the holidays. But storing the items off-season often gives pause. Before you give up on that dream look, check out our experts' best solutions for organizing decorations.

Janet Evans is a professional home organizer who owns Tiny 'n' Tidy. She said that whether you're a Baby Boomer scaling back, a Gen Xer ramping up, or at the other ends of the spectrum, the key is planning.

Tiny 'N' Tidy's Top Six Decoration Planning Tips

Tip #1 – Store decorations by areas. Store all the holiday decorations from the mantle in the same clear plastic container, etc.

Tip #2 – Be aware of the temperature! Consider storing all of your candles (holiday and non-holiday) in the same area within the living space of your home to avoid melting if stored in the attic, for example.

Tip #3 – Purge regularly. The time to purge is after your decorating is complete. If you are uncertain, tape on a note with, "Not displayed in 2018," and then reassess next year.

Tip #4 – Use appropriate containers. Except for snow globes, ornaments keep best in a plastic container with adjustable cardboard inserts. Avoid cardboard boxes that critters can get into and prevent you from seeing inside.



Tip #5 – Do your research. Will the item break down to store? Wreaths or lawn decorations may store in parts.

Tip #6 – Be forgiving of yourself - Find storage on the ground floor if you hate getting into the attic.

Clear out a cedar chest. Pare down to favorite items only.

Don't feel you have to decorate every square inch.

Emily Fitzgerald, a certified professional organizer and productivity consultant, owns OLS Organizing, LLC. She advised using the extra large Ziploc bags for unique items because they can be squeezed into tight spaces or hung on the wall.

She said storing your decorations by area has an advantage. "Then you can decorate in chunks or little by little as you have time and energy,"

Fitzgerald said. "You can pull out just what you need and it's all together."

Kelsey Duggan is a designer at Better Organized Spaces, a closet company that provides storage that can be tailored to decorations.

"Our shelves are adjustable height. They're pretty custom and I take each client and see what they're trying to store and what their priorities are, and work around that," Duggan said. "I have a client who has lots of wrapping paper and we designed a tilt-out hamper tall enough for that." 🏠

Resources:

Better Organized Spaces, Fort Wayne, 260.444.2459, www.betterorgspaces.com

OLS Organizing, LLC, Fort Wayne, 260.450.1289, www.olsinfo.com

Tiny N Tidy, Fort Wayne, 260.348.4530, www.tinyntidy.com



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One Pan Sage Chicken and Winter Vegetables

By Amber Bouthot

One-pan meals are a lifesaver. There are so many things you can do with them and they can save so much time. For this one, I used chicken thighs, acorn squash, sweet potatoes, cauliflower, Brussels sprouts and pomegranate, and drizzled everything with sage butter. You could easily substitute your favorite vegetables or chicken breasts if you prefer. It made plenty of leftovers, which is another lifesaver during these busy holiday months.

Ingredients:

- 6 chicken thighs
- 1 lb. Brussels Sprouts, halved
- 1 sweet potato, peeled and chopped into 1-inch cubes
- 1 acorn squash, thinly sliced
- 1/4 cup pomegranate arils
- 2 tablespoons butter or ghee
- 7 sage leaves
- Various spices: garlic powder, rosemary, sage, dill, salt and pepper

Preparation:

Preheat oven to 415 degrees. Place all veggies and the arils on a parchment-lined baking sheet and place chicken thighs on top. In a small saucepan, heat butter on medium high heat. Once heated, add sage leaves and remove from heat. Drizzle sage butter over chicken and veggies. Sprinkle with spices of your choice. Place in oven for 35-40 minutes or until chicken reaches an internal temperature of 165 degrees. 🏠

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November Calendar

By Ray Balogh

1-30 FORT WAYNE: Traveling Exhibitions

- Dale Chihuly: Another Realm (through Nov. 25)
- American Brilliant Cut Glass: New World Innovation from 1876-1917 (ongoing)

Adults \$8, students (pre-K through college) \$6, seniors (65 and older) \$6, families \$20, free general admission 5 p.m.-8 p.m. Thursday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursday; noon-5 p.m. Sunday (closed Mondays), Fort Wayne Museum of Art, 311 E. Main St. 260.422.6467
fwmoa.org.

2 FORT WAYNE: Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony

Academy Award-winning actress Marcia Gay Harden will keynote the Aging & In-Home Services of Northeast Indiana Inc. annual event, "In Celebration of the Family Caregiver." 11:30 a.m. Friday, Parkview Mirro Center for Research, 10622 Parkview Plaza Drive. Mary Wiemann, 260.745.1200, ext. 241
agingihs.org.

2-3 BLUFFTON: Christmas Open House

Free admission. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, A Perfect Blend, 1225 S. Scott St. Natasha Gilgen, 260.824.2695

facebook.com/apperfectblendbluffton.



2-4 PIERCETON: Hometown Christmas Gathering

Amazing Christmas decor, farmhouse, primitive, rustic country, nautical. Refreshments, drawing for \$50 gift certificate. Free admission. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, Beyond the Barn, 105 N. First St. 574.253.3362

facebook.com/beyondthebarn2.

3 WABASH: Moscow Ballet's Great Russian Nutcracker

Features world-class Russian artists, hand-painted sets, Russian snow maidens, and jubilant nesting dolls. Sponsored by Ambassador Enterprises. \$60/\$48/\$30. Gold Circle package \$80 includes hand-crafted wooden nutcracker doll and limited edition souvenir program book. 3 p.m. Saturday, Ford Theater, Honeywell Center, 275 W. Market St. 260.563.1102
honeywellcenter.org.



3-4 FORT WAYNE: Miami Indian Heritage Days

Traditional Miami and regional tribes' crafts, goods and wares for sale; hands-on demonstrations; interactive educational programs. Free admission. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, noon-4 p.m. Sunday, The History Center, 302 E. Berry St. 260.426.2882
fwhistorycenter.com.

4 DECATUR: Flea Market

Nearly 100 indoor vendors, hot food available. Sponsored by the Adams County Coin Club. 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday, Riverside Center, 231 E. Monroe St. (Highway 224 East). Contact Carla at 260.517.8182

facebook.com/decaturingianafleamarket.

4 FORT WAYNE: Mather Sunday Lecture Series

"Hoosier Aviator Paul Baer: America's First Combat Ace" lecture and book-signing by author Tony Garel-Frantzen. Free admission. 2 p.m. Sunday, The History Center, 302 E. Berry St. 260.426.2882
fwhistorycenter.com.

6 FORT WAYNE: Joe Bonamassa

Two-time Grammy-nominated blues-rock guitar icon performs selections from his all-original Studio album, "Redemption." \$89/\$79/\$69. 8 p.m. Tuesday, Fort Wayne Embassy Theatre, 125 W. Jefferson Blvd. 800.745.3000

fwembassytheatre.org.

7 FORT WAYNE: Designer Showcase and Holiday Shop

Be inspired by our talented team of designers for the holidays, while supporting a great local cause. 100 percent of ticket proceeds and 10 percent of all sales donated to Fort Wayne Sexual Assault Center. \$50/\$25. 5:30 p.m.-7 p.m. Wednesday. Regular Holiday Shop hours, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday, begins Friday, Nov. 9, Bruce Ewing Studio, 124 N. Thomas Road. 260.432.2785.

bruceewinglandscaping.com

8-10 FORT WAYNE: Annual Christmas Open House

In-store specials, register to win one of five holiday centerpieces. Free admission. Preview night, 5 p.m.-8 p.m. Thursday, open house 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Lopshire Flowers, 2211 Maplecrest Road. 260.493.1581

lopshireflowers.com.



10-11 PIERCETON: Holiday Open House

Refreshments, register for \$25 gift certificate. Free admission. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, Homespun House, 112 S. First St. 574.594.2774

facebook.com/homespunhouse.

10-Dec. 31 SHIPSHEWANA: Christmas in Shipshewana

Light parade and tree lighting Saturday, Nov. 10; drive-thru light display, chocolate day, kids day, visit from Santa. Free admission. Hours vary, townwide. 866.631.9675

shipshewana.com.

16 COLUMBIA CITY: Black Friday Sale

New promotion: Bank Your Bank; 15 percent discount for preloading Aspire account, 15 percent off gift cards and skincare products. Free admission. Friday, Aspire Plastic Surgery and Medical Spa, 7563 E. Lincolnway Road. 260.205.8770

aspireplasticsurgery.com.

16 WABASH: Holiday Open House

Family-oriented festive open house with holiday decorations, refreshments, live music, photos with Santa. Free admission. 6 p.m.-8 p.m. Friday, Ford Theater, Honeywell Center, 275 W. Market St. 260.563.1102

honeywellcenter.org.



16-17 ROME CITY: Lakeside Holidays

Tree and bison lighting, caroling, cookies, hot chocolate, breakfast, crafts, local art, bake sales, lunch, local business specials, fundraising house walk. \$8/person for house walk, under 12 free. House walk 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday. 402 Kelly St. 260.854.2412

romecitychamber.org.

18 WABASH: Cirque Dreams Holidaze

Features soaring acrobatics, extravagant theatrical production numbers, more than 300 imaginative costumes, 30 world-class acts. \$45/\$35/\$20. 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Ford Theater, Honeywell Center, 275 W. Market St. 260.563.1102

honeywellcenter.org.

18 FORT WAYNE: 33rd Annual Tree Lighting

Join Visiting Nurse for holiday memorial service, tree lighting, reception. Free admission. 5 p.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, Baker Street Station, 221 W. Baker St. 260.435.3222

vnfw.org.

20 WABASH: "Pete the Cat"

Endearing and inspiring tale of a second-grader and his feline friend as they travel an adventure of friendship. \$10 general admission. 10 a.m. and noon Tuesday, Ford Theater, Honeywell Center, 275 W. Market St. 260.563.1102

honeywellcenter.org.

21-28 FORT WAYNE: Festival of Trees

Tickets are \$8/adult, \$4/youth ages 4-12. Children 3 and under are free (ticket required). Embassy Theatre, 125 W. Jefferson Blvd. Purchase tickets at the STAR Bank box office at the Embassy Theatre, 800.745.3000 and ticketmaster.com.

fwembassytheatre.org.



All images shutterstock.com

November Books

By Steve Penhollow

November is a time to be thankful and it is a time to enjoy the fruits of the year's labor. Some of those fruits manifest themselves in improvements that you have lovingly made to your home.

November is also a time when you want to share your home with others.

Here are two new books about family, entertaining and remarkable homes.



Whiskey in a Teacup: What Growing Up in the South Taught Me About Life, Love, and Baking Biscuits

By Reese Witherspoon

Touchstone \$35

ISBN-10: 1501166271;

ISBN-13: 978-1501166273

Actress Reese Witherspoon has released her first coffee table book and it's a delight. Readers expecting a tell-all memoir will be disappointed. True to its title, "Whiskey in a Teacup: What Growing Up in the South Taught Me About Life, Love, and Baking Biscuits" is an affectionate chronicle of growing up Southern and what it means to be Southern. The book works on a number of levels. It is both full of entertaining anecdotes and anecdotes about entertaining. Which is to say, it can be read for the stories and it can be read for the party-throwing advice. There are also etiquette tips, recipes, hairstyling lessons and a Southern pronunciation guide.



May I Come In?: Discovering the World in Other People's Houses

By Wendy Goodman

Harry N. Abrams \$65

ISBN-10: 1419732463; ISBN-13:

978-1419732461

In this book, longtime New York design editor Goodman takes readers on a tour of 75 intriguing homes, many of them owned by well-known celebrities, such as Gloria Vanderbilt, Tina Turner and Donatella Versace. There is much here in this photo-packed tome to inspire both the amateur and professional interior designer. The perspective that Goodman provides in her rich, informed prose can't be beat. 🏠

22 HUNTINGTON: 14th Annual Turkey Trot

5K or 1-mile walk or run to raise money for Pathfinder Kids Kampus. Long-sleeve tech shirts to first 1,000 registrants. Post-event breakfast included. \$100 prizes and awards to top finishers. \$20/person through Nov. 20, \$25 day of event. 8 a.m. Thursday, McDonald's, 60 Home St. Jessica Miller, 260.355.2546 [register at kidskampus.org](http://registeratkidskampus.org).

23 -Dec. 9 FORT WAYNE: Festival of Gingerbread

More than 100 handmade gingerbread houses and designs, made by artists of all ages. \$6 adults; \$4 seniors (65+) and youth (3-17); children 2 and under and History Center members free. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, noon-5 p.m. Sunday, The History Center, 302 E. Berry St. 260.426.2882

fwhistorycenter.com.



24 WABASH: Oak Ridge Boys

Legendary country and gospel vocal quartet on "Shine the Light on Christmas" tour. \$75/\$54/\$45/\$35. 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Ford Theater, Honeywell Center, 275 W. Market St. 260.563.1102

honeywellcenter.org.

24 -25 FORT WAYNE: Christmas in the Park

Fun indoor/outdoor event with horse-drawn wagon rides, entertainment, live nativity with animals, beautiful displays, children's crafts and games. Free admission. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Franke Park, 3411 Sherman Blvd. Judi Hapke, 260.447.9437.

29 FORT WAYNE: Straight No Chaser

10-voice pop ensemble originated at Indiana University. \$56.50/\$46.50/\$36.50. 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Fort Wayne Embassy Theatre, 125 W. Jefferson Blvd. 800.745.3000

fwembassytheatre.org.

30 WABASH: Howl at the Moon Dueling Pianos

Professional dueling pianists and musicians from popular Indianapolis hotspot perform high-energy, live music show. Food and beverages available. \$20 general admission; reserved tables \$160 for 8 seats, \$80 for 4 seats. 7:30 p.m. Friday, Ford Theater, Honeywell Center, 275 W. Market St. 260.563.1102

honeywellcenter.org.

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See “White Christmas” classic on Thanksgiving Day at Festival of Trees

Festival of Trees is one of the region's most anticipated holiday traditions. This year, the festival includes a Thanksgiving Day screening of the classic holiday movie “White Christmas,” starring Bing Crosby and Rosemary Clooney.

Festival of Trees 2018 is November 21 through 28. Lobbies of the Embassy Theatre and Indiana Hotel are transformed into a wonderland of Christmas trees under the theme of “White Christmas.” This year marks the festival's 34th celebration for the weeklong fest.

Guests will tour the theater as they view over 60 decorated trees and animated holiday windows. Admission includes a visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus and festive entertainment on the theater stage, including performances featuring the Grande Page pipe organ.

Visit www.fwembassytheatre.org for a complete lineup of activities.

Founded in 1984, the Festival of Trees supports ongoing operational and restoration efforts for the Embassy Theatre Foundation. The festival is the organization's largest annual fundraising event.

Tickets are \$8/adult, \$4/youth ages 4-12. Children 3 and under are free (ticket required). Purchase tickets at the STAR Bank box office at the Embassy Theatre, 800.745.3000 and ticketmaster.com.

The Embassy's Festival of Trees is a holiday tradition for northeast Indiana. Visit the Embassy Theatre, 125 W. Jefferson Blvd. in downtown Fort Wayne.

Festival of Trees hours:

Wednesday, Nov. 21 (6-9 p.m.): Downtown Fort Wayne's Night of Lights

Thursday, Nov. 22 (4-8 p.m.): Returning Thanksgiving Day Irving Berlin's “White Christmas” movie screening (5 p.m.)

Friday, Nov. 23 (12-8 p.m.)

Saturday, Nov. 24 (12-8 p.m.)

Sunday, Nov. 25 (12-8 p.m.)

Monday, Nov. 26 (9 a.m.-1 p.m. & 5-9 p.m.)

Tuesday, Nov. 27 (9 a.m.-1 p.m.)

Wednesday, Nov. 28 (9 a.m.-1 p.m.)

Special events:

Breakfast with Santa: Nov. 23-25 (starts at 9:30 a.m.)

Separate ticket required. \$20 for all guests.

Fort Wayne Children's Choir Community Sing-along:

Monday, Nov. 26 (festival open 5-9 p.m.) Choir performance at 6 p.m.

Festival of Trees:

Wednesday, Nov. 21: Downtown Fort Wayne's Night of Lights – Festival of Trees open 6-9 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 22: Thanksgiving Day – Festival of Trees open 4-8 p.m. Enjoy the tradition of the Festival after Thanksgiving dinner. What a treat for out of town guests! Tour the theater, view decorated trees and listen to musical performances featuring the Grande Page pipe organ.

RETURNING THANKSGIVING DAY: See Irving Berlin's holiday classic “White Christmas” on the big screen! Movie starts at 5 p.m.

Nov. 23-25: Breakfast with Santa – starts at 9:30 \$20 per person. Sing-along with Santa. Storytime. Paid reservations required. Limited seating.

About the Embassy Theatre:

Built in 1928, the Embassy Theatre is Indiana's largest self-sustaining historic theater. Originally known as the Emboyd, with the adjoining seven-story Indiana hotel, the majestic movie palace and vaudeville theatre introduced Indiana to the biggest stars of stage and screen.

Today, the Embassy is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Combining the beauty and elegance of a bygone era with the excitement of today's performers, the Embassy is the showplace of Northern Indiana. 🏠

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Rose Brick

Todd Hoy

By Barb Sieminski

Todd Hoy's a brick. According to the urban definition of the word, it means someone who is reliable and a good, substantial person. Seems fitting that this enthusiastic self-starter would find himself as the general manager of Rose Brick's Fort Wayne yard.

The Michiana masonry outlet also has offices in Chesterton, Goshen and South Bend, said Hoy, a Fort Wayne native who began his job with Rose Brick in February 2018.

"We basically started from scratch—a new business coming into town having to build up inventory and changing our building footprint to accommodate what we do," said Hoy. "We hired the best people to make it happen and got the Rose Brick name out there to let everyone know where we are.

"One of my aims is to manage and grow the area business while working closely with architects, home builders, contractors, masons and Do-it-yourselfers."

From Arby's Restaurant Group to Rent-a-Center to Nob Brick, Hoy has gotten invaluable supervisory experience throughout his career and currently supervises 12 employees at Rose Brick.

"When I was in elementary school I wanted to be like my father and be a fireman," recalled Hoy, "but my fear of heights squashed that idea. I always enjoyed working with people so that was important to me. My position at Rose Brick enables me to grow with the best people in the business. The employees are what make us successful, and I am blessed with the best."

What are your company's most popular products?

Bricks, of course. Thin veneer stone that DIY'ers can install, and Direct Vent Gas Fireplace inserts are also popular these days with homeowners wanting to convert their old wood-burning fireplaces. Additionally, the vast array of outdoor living products and pavers are gaining popularity every year.



Todd Hoy (Photo provided)

Does Rose Brick belong to any organizations?

Yes, several. Home Builders Association of Fort Wayne, Home Builders Association of Northeast Indiana, Home Builders Association of Kosciusko-Fulton Counties, Midwest Masonry Council, BCA Builders Contractors Association and BIA Brick Institute of America.

What do you find most thought-provoking in your job?

When customers stop in with different, outside-the-box ideas or plans for interior or exterior masonry projects. Getting away from the traditional ways keeps things fresh from the sales standpoint.

What sets Rose Brick apart from its competitors?

We stress great customer service; getting material to the customer when he or she needs it; answering questions promptly and having quality products at competitive prices. Contractors and masons like to hear "Yes, we can!" and it is our goal to always be there when our customers need us.

What do you do in your spare time?

My wife, Julie, and I have a blended family – Chris, Nic, Amanda, Casey and Mitchell. I spend time with my kids, either playing or watching hockey or babysitting our wonderful grandchildren. I get to spoil them and then send them back to Mom and Dad. We have a couple of kids who live out of town and it's always fun catching up with them. Also, I enjoy working at my tree farm. It's hard work but very rewarding at the end of the day.

Are there any words that carry you along your life's journey?

It's all about treating people the way you want to be treated – the Golden Rule, as it were. A smile goes a long way. Be respectful. I'm very self-motivated and it helps when you have a positive work atmosphere.

Also, one thrill is when you have worked for many months trying to gain business from a potential customer and you get the call that you gained their business. It inspires me to work even harder in the future. 🏠

Rose Brick

Todd Hoy, Fort Wayne, 260.414.7292, rosebrick.com

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Moving During The Holidays

November and December are already hectic months. Here are some tips and tricks to help make the process a little easier.

1-Book well in advance. Moving companies and rental truck businesses may have reduced hours during the holidays and you want to make sure you get the support you need.

2-Wait to decorate. Though you may be tempted to get into the holiday spirit, if you're moving, it's just added hassle that you don't need. Skip the decorations this year and go all out next year.

3-Put the holiday party hosting on hold. The last thing you need while preparing for a big move is the added stress of party planning.

4-Get your holiday shopping out of the way early, that way you can focus on your move when it comes to crunch time.

5-Be prepared for all types of weather—from sleet to snow and everything in between, the weather in November and December can be unpredictable and cold.

6-If you're sending holiday cards, consider sharing your new address with family and friends at the same time. It will cut out an additional possible mailing and/or the hassle of notifying everyone at another time.

7-Don't forget to enjoy the reason for the season. Take some time out of the packing and planning to spend time with family and friends. 🏠

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through the screen door

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is a second
spring when
every leaf is
a flower."*

—Albert Camus



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