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# welcome! from the editor



Amber Bouthot

I can feel it. Can you? Spring is almost here, and while I am not a big fan of April showers, I am a HUGE fan of what comes next—our area comes alive in vibrant greens and colorful hues as trees bloom, yards wake up and flowers poke through the thawing ground. We can throw open the windows, let the fresh air in and be reminded once again that winter always ends and warmer days are ahead.

What I like best of all about April, and especially spring, is that the neighborhoods come alive. Kids are out in the streets playing again. Families take walks and ride bikes together. Dogs do laps in their yards. The air is filled with the sounds of life. As much as I LOVE being home, wrapped in a cozy blanket in front of the fire, those first few

weeks of spring weather are a salve for my soul. Of course, warmer weather also means outdoor projects. If you're like me, you've been keeping a "honey do" list of all the things that need done around the exterior of your home during the colder months. Now is the time to act.

This month's issue is aptly named "The Spring Clean" issue and is full of content to help you embrace the season. We've provided you with a guide to spring-cleaning, including a useful sidebar about your spice cabinet—I don't know about you, but I have some work to do in mine. The Plant This feature provides a Spring Planting Guide—now is the time to get outside and get digging so you can reap the rewards later this year.

Whatever spring has in store for you, I hope you find time to enjoy your home.

Happy Spring!

*Amber*

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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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# Adding spring touches ind

**By Lauren Caggiano**

The snow has thawed, and warmer and longer days are on the horizon. As the season changes, so should our homes. It's time to bring the cheeriness of spring inside. Think brighter hues, fresher scents and elements of nature. Following are simple ways to change things up at home and pull in springtime splendor.

## Everything's coming up roses

It's true--Mother Nature produces the best decor. Fresh flowers can do wonders for your home's vibe. Not in the habit of buying flowers for yourself? Think again. It's an inexpensive ritual that can make your home smell great while boosting mood and well-being. Sunflowers, roses and daisies are excellent non-toxic choices for those of us with four-legged friends. You can even use silk flowers for a longer-lasting option.



## Go green

Spring is synonymous with new life. Bring that spirit of renewal into your home with hearty houseplants. Your local greenhouse is a great place to find cacti, succulents, snake plants and other air purifying favorites that pack a double punch.





# Conjure color

If you have a free weekend and a few gallons of paint, you have a recipe for a transformation. While white walls are having a moment, consider adding a splash of color to keep things interesting. Think a bright teal door frame, built-ins or breakfast nook. These will work together with your white walls to liven up the space instantly.



doors

## Go scent-ual

Lighten up your scents inside. Now is the perfect time to say goodbye to savory smells like cinnamon, nutmeg and pumpkin and say hello to clean ones like ginger, lemon and floral bouquets. Whether candles, essential oils or room sprays, you're sure to find a scent that speaks to you.



## Tie-in texture

Trade in your winter fabrics and enjoy a fresh look. Swap out wool and heavier knits for lighter and brighter fabrics in your bedroom and communal spaces. Karl Raupfer, with Jim Brubaker Designs, said spring is the time to go bold. Think brightly-colored throw pillows, rugs, throws and other accessories.



## Go natural

Decor inspired by Mother Nature herself creates a rustic look. For example, a farmhouse style wooden table with a floral centerpiece sets the tone. For art with dimension, hang a twisty, tangly branch on the wall.

With these simple steps your home will look and feel like a breath of fresh air and keep things bright when the rainy days come too. 🏡



### Resource:

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





# Pre-planning your sunroom

By Jaclyn Youhana Garver

*Sunrooms not only add value to a home but a peaceful space to enjoy the yard, as well, whether it's a day so sunny you need to draw the curtain or a day so rainy, the drops beat percussion on the window panes.*



Bill Zimmer has owned Huntington's W.A. Zimmer Company for 43 years. If you're considering adding a sunroom to your home, these are some of the details he said you should consider:

## • How do you want to use the room?

"Some people think it's all glass, and you sit there a few months a year. Some people think you move in heavy duty furniture, a fireplace and triple glass windows and use it every day of the year," Zimmer said.

Four-season rooms have different requirements than a three-season room, such as window type (you need thicker windows if you want to use your Midwestern sunroom in February), and you should know what you want before starting design.

## • Can you build one?

Do you have the space without encroaching on your neighbor's property? Plus some neighborhood associations may restrict sunroom construction.

## • What's your budget?

At minimum, Zimmer estimated a four-season room will run \$20,000 (less for a three-season room). At the highest range, he points to a room he completed a few years ago that ran \$140,000. It was on a lake, made of cedar and included triple-pane glass.

"That's rare," he said, and added that \$60,000 is about the midrange for a year-round room. If you'd like to avoid spending so much up front, Zimmer said, "Sometimes we'll build a foundation and a roof with the idea that we'll add the walls and windows later."

## • Don't make these mistakes.

The cost can scare some customers into saying "Where can we cut?" Then they'll opt to, say, shorten the windows.

"The point of the sunroom is to bring the outdoors in and sit there and look out and see your yard," Zimmer said. "If you go from a 5-foot window to 3 ½-foot windows, you sit and have to crane your neck to look over the sill."

It's also smart to raise the floor—you don't want to have to step down into the sunroom, Zimmer pointed out. "Every time you walk in the room, you don't want to say, 'I wish I'd done such and such.' You want to walk in the room and say, 'Wow, I love it. We did it right.'" 🏠

## Resource:

W.A. Zimmer Company, Huntington,  
260.356.1621, wazimmer.com





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# Splish Splash

## What's new for the bath?

**By Julie Young**

*Some renovations go the distance, and if you are looking to make a few upgrades to your home this year, then the bathroom is a great place to start. Next to the kitchen, it is the one area of the house that can net you the biggest bang for your buck, and although it is primarily a functional space, it can still make a big design impact with a few key elements that are on trend for 2019. We asked area experts to weigh in on some of the most popular fixtures and features, and they were eager to share some of their favorites!*





Carol Booher, with Windows, Doors, and More said homeowners are looking for products that will enhance their lifestyle and improve the overall bath experience.

"Some of the latest trends include dual flush toilets that are more water conscious than those of the past, and more homeowners are including bidets in their bath space," she said. "We are also noticing that bath features like toilets and countertops are taller so that homeowners are more comfortable when they are using them."

Booher said grey has emerged as a hot neutral color for the bath, along with blue quartz stone and dramatic black and white looks. She said homeowners continue to embrace clean lines in terms of their faucets and are incorporating single-handle fixtures to evoke the old farmhouse look that is so popular today.

"Even though they recall the past, they are very modern and easy to clean. We are seeing a lot of black faucets, as well as brushed nickel, champagne bronze and softer satin finishes that offer a rustic look and hide obvious smudges," she said.

With so many Baby Boomers choosing to age in place, those remodeling the bath are ripping out their garden tubs in order to have large, luxurious walk-in showers that include fashionable grab bars, benches and other elements that bely their purpose. Booher said these features look like they belong in a spa rather than a hospital and are a great look for a modern bath.

"There are also some amazing water features and rain shower heads that can add to the overall experience in the bath, not to

mention heated towel racks, temperature controls and other amenities that improve the overall space like outlets inside the cabinetry so that small appliances can stay plugged in all the time," Booher explained.

Hudson Brown, lighting sales consultant at Trinity Kitchen & Bath, said beyond the individual features, homeowners are updating the lighting fixtures in the bath space, as well.

"We are seeing a lot more chandeliers and crystal pendants in the bath space," he said. "Homeowners are embracing a lot of mixed materials like chrome and crystal because they compliment each other and look amazing. For additional lighting they are installing LED mirrors that have lights built in."

Booher said no matter what your personal style, there are plenty of products available for you to choose from.

"It's an exciting time to make updates to this area of the home with those features that inspire you." 🏠

## Resources:

**Trinity Kitchen, Bath, Lighting**, New Haven, 260.493.2574,  
kitchenbathlighting.com

**Wayne Kitchen & Bath Works**, Fort Wayne, 260.423.9577,  
waynepipe.com

**Windows, Doors & More**, Fort Wayne, 260.399.6037,  
wdmfactorystore.com





**By Rod King**

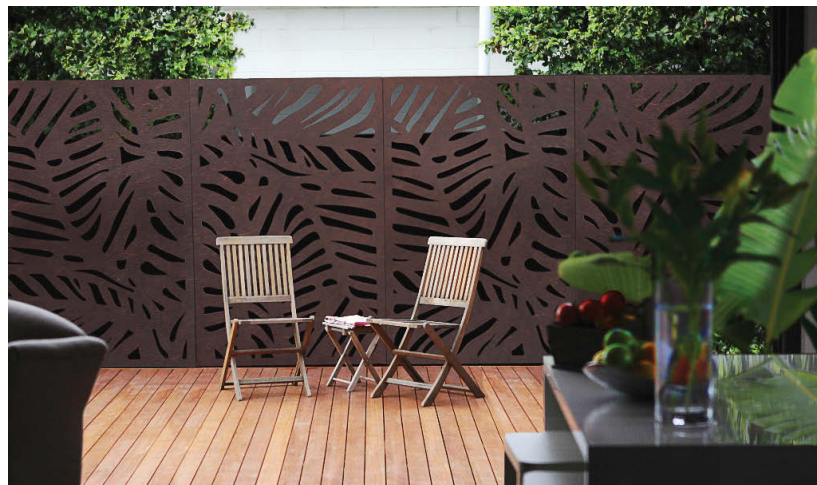
*Now is the time to start thinking about upgrading the patio so that when nice weather returns, it will be ready to enjoy immediately. Outdeco screens along with strategic lighting provided by Firefly Outdoor Supply can turn an ordinary patio slab into a stylish, attractive, functional space.*

Firefly is the only Indiana supplier of Outdeco screens, which are made in Australia of sustainable composite hardwood that easily stands up to Indiana's harsh winters. The modular panels that come in two sizes are lightweight and are easy to carry, cut and fit into a specific space and install. They can be painted to achieve an alternate appearance, as well.

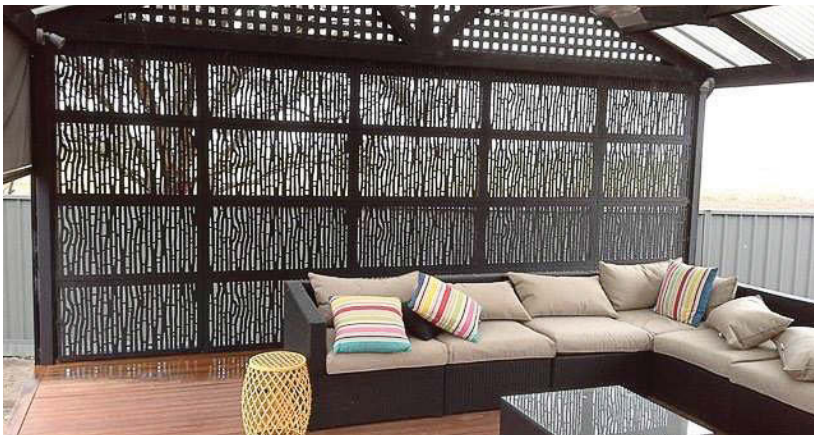
Instead of surrounding the patio with a blank wall, Outdeco comes in more than a dozen architectural designs that can screen out (depending on the pattern) from 60 to 90 percent of the outside world. They give the eye something appealing to view. And to give the space some extra pizzazz, back lighting can be added to bring it to life.

Owner of Firefly Outdoor Supply Jerod Ganczak pointed out that the unique and innovative see-through screens create a sophisticated background that can ensure privacy, muffle sounds and act as a wind buffer without obscuring line-of-sight to the rest of the back yard. They're ideal for placement around hot tubs, and smaller panels can be added on top of existing fences.

"The great thing about Outdeco screens," said Ganczak, "is that the hardwood composite material makes them extremely durable. In fact, that's what drew me to this product three years ago. And that's why





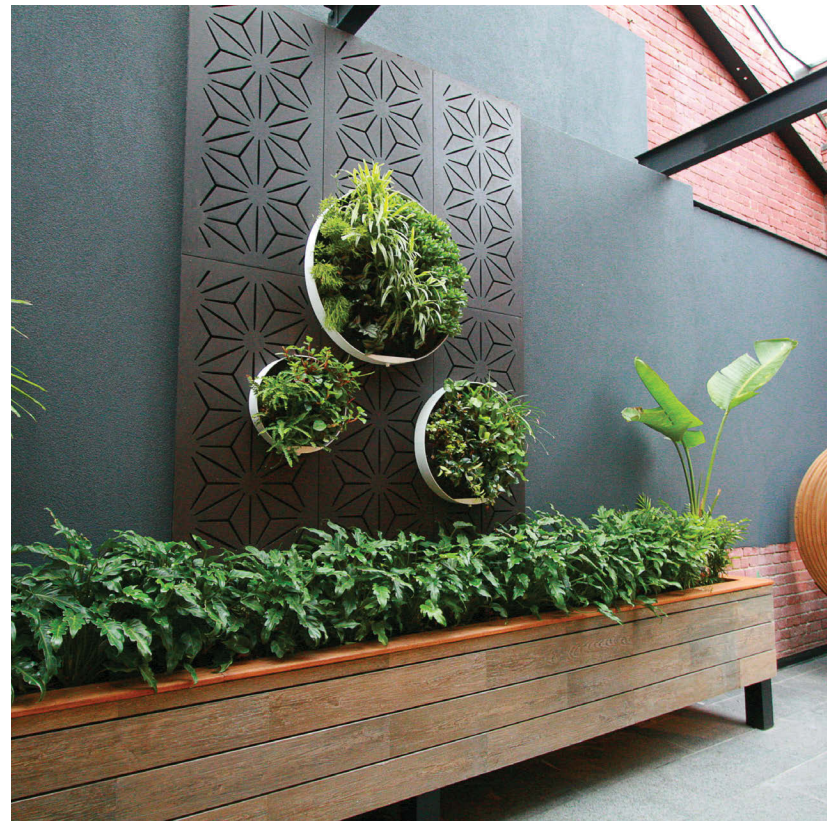


it comes with a 10-year warranty. In addition, they can be erected in neighborhoods with the strictest codes because they are considered a design element and not part of the structure. They also go well as accent panels with greenery and lighting to spark up a backyard by breaking up a long fence line."

Ganczak warned that there are a lot of knock-off products out there that make similar claims, but they're not the same.

"Most of them are constructed of plastic and don't come close to Outdeco's quality," he said. "This product received the Honda Sustainability Award because it leaves such a minute carbon footprint. It's all natural and doesn't add anything to the growing global waste problem."

In addition to Outdeco decorative panels and lighting, Firefly has a full product line that includes, decks, under decking and pergolas. They also offer Exotic Pebbles and Glass products that include fire pit glass and decorative stone. 🏠



#### Resource:

**Firefly Outdoor Supply**, Fort Wayne, 260.416.1301, [fireflyoutdoorsupply.com](http://fireflyoutdoorsupply.com)

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# Spring cleaning: a checklist

By Barb Sieminski

*The sun is shining liquid gold, trees are greening and birds are giving a concert that Carnegie Hall would envy. As Mother Nature freshens the earth, we are invigorated with a great opportunity to renew our homes. Our checklist should put you on the path to spring-cleaning done right, including a mention of items you might overlook.*



Emily Fitzgerald, owner and certified professional organizer of OLS Organizing, offered these useful suggestions:

"Nothing is a better cleaner than a good quality microfiber cloth, dampened with water," she said. "I love the Norwex cloths and the glass-shining one is great for mirrors, glass doors and windows. If you struggle to get motivated to tackle a big job like this, try doing something fun at the same time, like listening to a podcast or book read aloud."

Make a schedule and stick to it room by room before moving on to the next task. Always work from top to bottom. Effectively de-clutter along the way. Gather all your tools together prior to cleaning.

"A gardener's type apron or pants with lots of pockets is helpful to wear so you can have your supplies on you and move quickly without losing your items," said Fitzgerald.

- ☐ Vacuum curtains and blinds and use a telescoping pole to dust high corners, as well.
- ☐ Windowsills need love, too – dust them, and when they're open to let in delightful breezes, swish a cloth over the tracks, too.
- ☐ Clean your microwave by heating lemon juice and rinds in water; after the grime is loosened, wipe the interior clean.
- ☐ Organize fridge and cabinets with turntables.
- ☐ Lay an outdoor garbage can on its side, squirt some dish detergent inside and spray with water.
- ☐ Use disinfectant wipes to sanitize all the doorknobs and locks in the house.
- ☐ Stack your spring and summer clothes for easy access in their drawers after tucking your winter clothes away.
- ☐ Compressed air is your best friend when crumbs and dirt are clogging your computer keyboard.
- ☐ Use a damp toothbrush to clean the grime between the TV remote buttons.
- ☐ Wash dirt and allergens from the vacuum cleaner filter by running it through the dishwasher.
- ☐ Clean behind the fridge, removing the bottom tray and carefully vacuum dust the coils.

And if an unexpected guest arrives when your home is less than pristine (oh, the horror!), there is a saving grace: Just post a little sign in your living room warning, "Testing in progress. Please do not disturb the dust bunnies." 🐰



Lori Berndt of The Olive Twist, Inc. shared tips on pantry cleaning, including when to throw out spices and how to know if your oils have gone rancid.

"Olive oil, which is most stable at 70 degrees in a pantry cupboard, has a shelf life of about 18 months

from the crush date, not the

open date, not the purchase date, but the date that the olives were crushed into olive oil," said Berndt, adding that other oils like vegetable oil, coconut oil, nut oils, avocado oil, canola oil all go bad as well.

"Spices usually have a 1- to 2-year shelf life. Toss spices over 5 years old and get fresh ones. A nice way to keep them fresh is to purchase them by the ounce rather than in a large jar. We get herbs and spices in small batches and teach classes on herb- and spice-blending with some key herbs and spices in your cupboard so you don't have 20 different blends that you only use twice a year."

Also, Berndt recommended periodically cleaning your olive oil spray bottle if it keeps getting refilled, using 2 tablespoons of distilled white vinegar, a squeeze of dish soap and a cup of really hot water.

"Shake together, spray through your bottle and then run hot water through it several times to remove the mixture until it sprays clean. Let it air-dry a day or so. This will keep the sprayer from clogging and will keep the new olive oil from becoming rancid from a drop of the old oil. Use the old oil which smells bad, has an off-taste and can be sticky, for squeaking doors," said Berndt.

"Vinegars are different from olive oil; vinegar is good until it is used up. Remember balsamic vinegar is already 18 years old so it only gets better with age. If you cook dinner with rancid oil you will serve rancid-tasting food. Good fresh quality in, good fresh quality out."



## Resources:

**OLS Organizing**, Fort Wayne, 260.450.1289, [olsinfo.com](http://olsinfo.com)

**The Olive Twist, Inc.**, Fort Wayne, 260.436.3866, [theolivetwist.com](http://theolivetwist.com)





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# Spring Planting Guide

By Haiden Steingass

*After surviving a polar vortex and what seems like an eternity of dreary winter weather, spring has finally arrived. Maybe you're dreaming of lake days and long summer nights, but let's not get ahead of ourselves just yet. While April is a great time to shop for shorts and make summer vacation plans, it's also the best time to prep your garden for the warmer days to come. Follow along with our spring planning guide to ensure your garden and landscape is ready to tackle whatever spring may bring.*

## Get a head start.

Around here, you never know what will be falling from the sky in April, so it's a good idea to get ahead of the game while the weather is still deciding which season it is.

"You can start flower seeds indoors to get a jump start for spring and summer," Lexi Reed from Plant Center said. "Many seed packets recommend starting seeds indoors six to eight weeks before the last estimated frost date in your area. Remember that there is still a chance of frost in April, so to keep your veggies and seedlings happy, cover them with fleece or a sheet to protect them from frost damage."



planting specific veggies. You'll want to wait until after the final frost to plant things like asparagus and bush beans. Early April is a great time to plant broccoli and carrots. You can also plant beets, cabbage, lettuce, peas, potatoes and spinach during this time.

## Add some early spring color to your garden.

Hellebores are a great spring plant. Also keep in mind that at this time, Daffodils should be blooming, but remember to dead head (remove dead flowers) for a longer lasting blooming season.



## Clean up your garden and prepare it for planting.

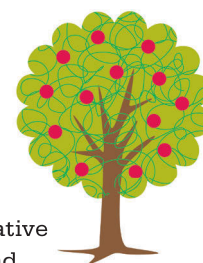
"Fertilize, compost and mulch," Reed said. "Our gardens can be hungry for nutrients from winter, and



feeding the soil before planting can give your plants the extra boost they need. Mulching now will also act as a weed barrier and give you a head start before the weeds are really prolific."

## Use a fungicide.

Spraying fruit trees and berry bushes with a fungicide now will be a preventative measure against fungus and mold.

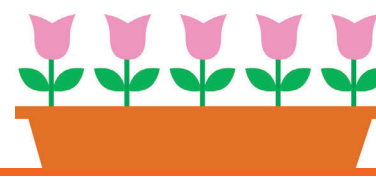


## Pay attention to your soil.

Snow and ice from the winter will often times compact the soil, so raised beds and gardens will need topped off with a layer of soil or organic matter and tilled to help aerate the soil.

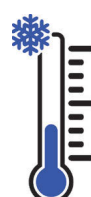


By following these simple steps, your garden will be off to a great start. Happy spring! 🏠



## Plant cold, hardy vegetables.

The best time to revisit your vegetable garden, if you have one, is April. However, the last frost will determine the timing of when you should start



## Resource:

**Plant Center**, Fort Wayne, 260.432.7370, [plantcenterinc.com](http://plantcenterinc.com)



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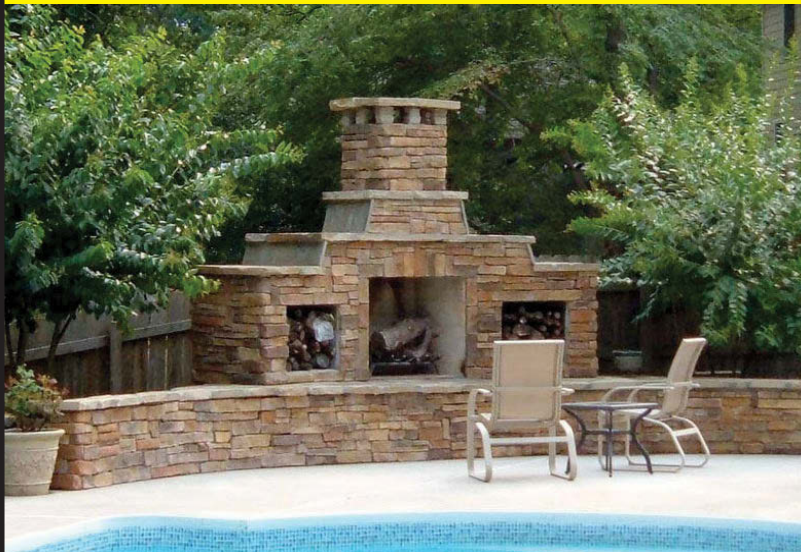
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## Do It Yourself

### Out with the old

By Amber Bouthot

Every month, we highlight reader-submitted photos of projects they've completed. 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.

Email Amber at [ambouthot@the-papers.com](mailto:ambouthot@the-papers.com).

This month's Reader DIY comes from Laura Ehle—she and her husband remodeled a bathroom.

#### 1- What was your inspiration for the project?

We wanted to update our home décor. Our bathroom was pretty outdated.

#### 2- How long did it take from start to finish?

1 week

#### 3- Was it easier or harder than you anticipated?

Much harder.

#### 4- What was the total cost of the project?

Approximately \$900.

#### 5- What did you like best about the undertaking?

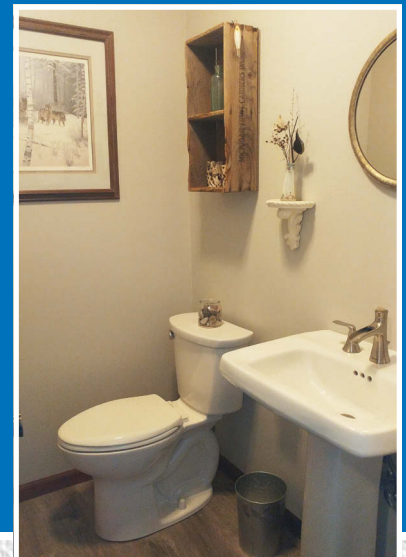
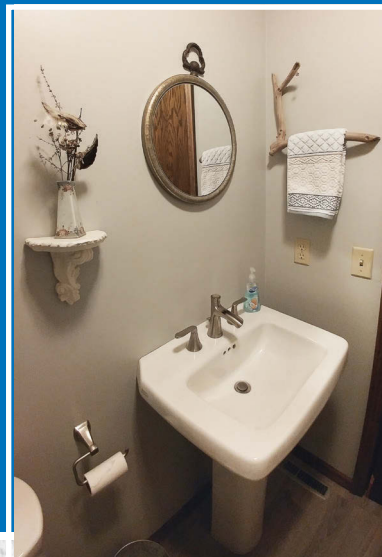
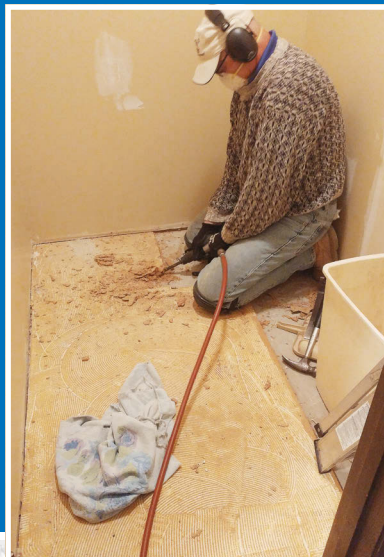
We were able to create a fresh, new personalized look.

#### 6- What was most challenging?

Taking up the 35 year old moldy subflooring and re-cutting the heat duct hole in the concrete floor.

#### 7- Where did you get your supplies?

Wayne Pipe & Supply and Home Depot 🏠







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# Creative Driveways

By Steve Penhollow

*A driveway isn't usually the part of a property where a homeowner thinks he or she can get creative. But New Haven's SupremeCrete is here to disprove that misconception.*

SupremeCrete's Kevin Rutherford said his business offers overlays that can utterly transform an unremarkable concrete driveway.

"We can make the driveway look like slate tile; large, slate tile," he said. "We can make it look like marble if we want it to. We can make it look like wood. A wooden driveway — wooden planks."

Logos are also very popular, Rutherford said.

"You can put a compass in," he said. "Or a family crest. Compasses are a big deal."

Rutherford said almost any design "that is significant to the homeowner" can be overlaid on a concrete driveway.

"Like an Army veteran can put a veteran's logo in," he said. "The same thing with the police."

SupremeCrete has even made a concrete driveway look like a cobblestone road.

"Kind of give it that old elegant look," he said. "Especially on a larger home."

The cost of this process varies from \$3 a square foot to \$12 a square foot depending on what is wanted and what is needed. SupremeCrete offers words of warning to people who are seeking these embellishments: Look to the future.

"If you are looking to resell your home, you don't want to put down something that



is just appealing to you," Rutherford said. "A compass or sundial has universal appeal. If you put down a family crest, the only people who are going to be interested in buying your house are members of your own family."

One homeowner wanted to pay tribute to the University of Notre Dame in the floor of a garage rec room, but he didn't want to hurt the home's resale potential.

"So we just did it in the Notre Dame colors rather than put down the actual logo," he said.

Another popular driveway trend is stamped asphalt. Stamped asphalt offers a lot of variety as it can be made to look like brick or paving stones and is available in many colors. The process begins with heating the asphalt surface, either new or existing. A steel wire rope pattern is then put down and it is stamped with a plate. That is followed by an epoxy surface that includes texture, resulting in a high-end look. 🏠



## Resource:

**SupremeCrete**, Fort Wayne, 260.444.8852, [supremecrete.com](http://supremecrete.com)





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# Corned Beef & Cabbage

By Amber Bouthot

While corned beef is not considered a traditional Easter dish in most households, it certainly was in mine when I was growing up. I think this was due in large part to my affinity for it. In fact, I loved it so much, I usually asked for it for my birthday meal, as well. Here's a simple recipe to get you started if you want to shake things up this year.



## ingredients

- 3 lbs. corned beef brisket with spice packet
- 2 tablespoons brown sugar
- 2 bay leaves
- 10 small red potatoes
- 5 carrots, peeled and cut into 3 inch pieces
- 1 large head of cabbage, cut into small wedges

## directions

Place corned beef in a large pot or Dutch oven and cover with water. Add the spice packet, brown sugar and bay leaves. Cover pot and bring to a boil, then reduce to a simmer. Simmer approximately 50 minutes per pound or until tender. Add whole potatoes and carrots, and cook until the vegetables are almost tender. Add cabbage and cook for 15 more minutes. Remove meat and let rest 15 minutes. Place vegetables in a bowl and cover. Add as much broth (cooking liquid reserved in the Dutch oven or large pot) as you want. Slice meat across the grain.

*Learn how to cook Healthy side dishes this Easter*  
~ Thursday, April 18 ~

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# The Fort Wayne Sexual Assault and Treatment Center



*April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, which serves as a reminder to review all the ways to help victims of sexual assault. As much as we feel that we are aware, situations can arise every day where we may be preoccupied or simply too close to recognize the signs.*



**By Cathy Shouse**

The Fort Wayne Sexual Assault Treatment Center (SATC) is a nonprofit organization that provides programs to assist sexual assault victims at every stage. Established in 1996, its outreach has expanded during 23 years and in October, it moved into a new building.

SATC provides services to men, women and children in 17 Northeast Indiana counties. The center works in conjunction with 56 law enforcement agencies and 22 hospitals, including child services and the morgue. All of the services are provided at no cost to the victims.

Deborah Zehr, executive assistant and public relations coordinator of SATC, explained, "Though we receive partial funding through local and state agencies, grants

and donations from individuals, our main source of funding is through our annual Warm & Cozy fundraiser held each September. This year's event will take place from 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 25, and will mark our seventh year. Guests can enjoy an evening out at a historic home near Foster Park, with comfort food and amazing auction and raffle items, along with featured drinks and lively entertainment. All proceeds support the SATC."

## Following are some of SATC's current statistics:

- To date, the youngest victim was just 35 days old; the oldest was 94 years old.

- In 2018, 57% of the victims were under the age of eight.
- 27% were under the age of four.
- 89% of all cases were female.
- 68% of Allen county female victims never report their assault.
- College students are 3x more likely to experience sexual assault.
- Every 98 seconds an American is sexually assaulted – every 8 minutes that victim is a child.

"The forensic nurses on staff are highly trained at the SATC and they do make a difference," Zehr said. "Every exam opens the door to the possibility of collecting evidence that might assist to convict a child molester or rapist AND, just as important, collect DNA that will exonerate the innocent."

SATC's mission statement: "To be the most respected and trusted resource for superior medical forensic care, education and research in bringing justice to those impacted by sexual assault". 🏠

## Nonprofit:

Fort Wayne Sexual Assault Treatment Center, Fort Wayne, 260.423.2222, [fwsatc.org](http://fwsatc.org)





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# Kickin' It in Kosciusko

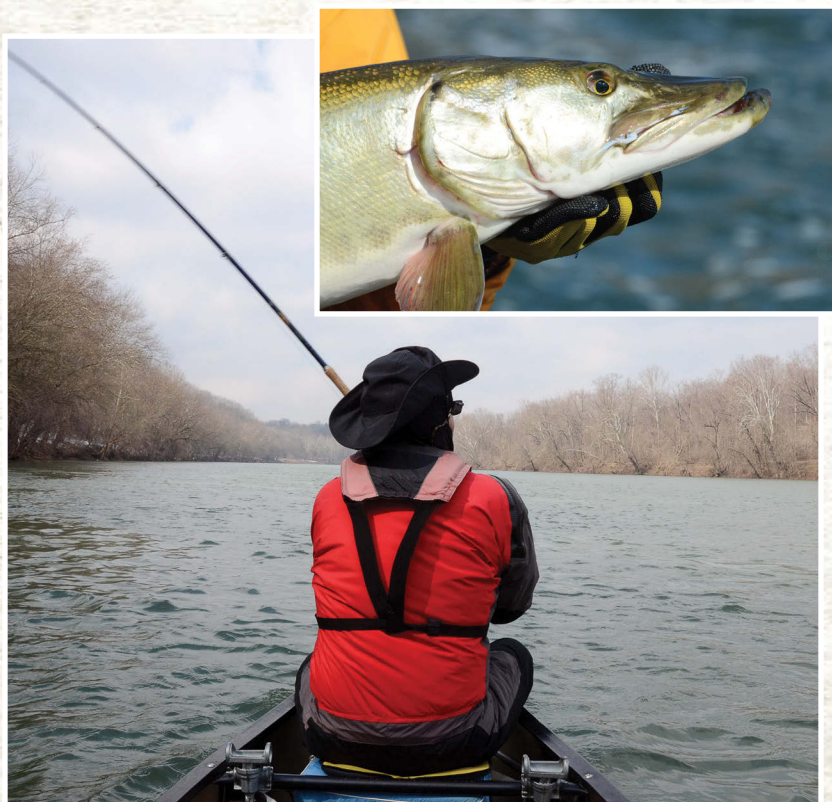
## Outdoors

**By Jaclyn Youhana Garver**

From boat tours to art galleries, fishing excursions to breweries, Kosciusko County has a plethora of things to do to keep even the pickiest day-tripper happy.

The Kosciusko County Convention and Visitors Bureau lists these must-try activities, restaurants and more for anyone looking to spend a day—or a full weekend—in K-County.

**Boat tours:** Kosciusko County boasts more than 100 natural lakes and three boat tours: Spend 75 minutes on the Dixie Sternwheeler (pictured above), which was built in 1929, and learn the history of Webster Lake (401 S. Dixie Drive, North Webster); relax with a drink on the Oakwood Resort Tour Boat along Lake Wawasee, the county's largest natural lake (702 E. Lake View Road, Syracuse); or have brunch, lunch or dinner on the S.S. Lillypad, which also tours Wawasee (1116 S. Harkless Drive, Syracuse.)



### **Fishing:**

The county has nine fishing lakes throughout North Webster, Warsaw, Syracuse, Leesburg and Winona Lake. Fishing services include the Hoosier Heartland Guide Service. Owner Bill Bennett has more than 25 years of experience fishing muskie, and he can teach you all the fine points of making that elusive catch.

(715 W. Portland St., Syracuse)





**Pierceton:** Known as “The Antique Town,” Pierceton is home to 12 vintage and antique shops and specialty boutiques. Duck into Blue Pearl Antiques for a range of affordable, one-of-a-kind finds and books, plus beautiful, high-end estate jewelry pieces.

(Main Street, between Elm and Columbia streets, Pierceton)



Photo by Al Disbro

**The Village at Winona:** This beautiful strip of boutique and specialty shopping is set up along a canal of Winona Lake. Don't miss Spice Merchants for sweet, savory and everything in between spices, plus loose leaf teas; Rocket Fizz, a back-in-the-day-esque candy store; or Belove, a handmade jewelry and pottery store with a smattering of well-chosen and affordable vintage fare. Stop for a drink at the Boathouse Restaurant for a spectacular lake view.

(700 Park Ave., Winona Lake)



Photo by Bill Hays

## Museums & Galleries

**Old Jail Museum:** On the National Register of Historic Places, this Gothic Revival Building is from 1870 and is the Kosciusko County Historical Society's home. Plus, the sheriff's home was upstairs, and it's a suspected paranormal site.

(121 N. Indiana St., Warsaw)

## Eat & Drink

**B-Mac's on Buffalo:** This old time diner has a full breakfast menu and closes after lunch. Have a seat along the counter for the best experience.

(114 N. Buffalo St., Warsaw)

**Cerulean:** Put together your own bento box for a customized lunch. Options range from sushi to duck, seafood to short ribs. Don't miss the French press coffee—they do it right.

(1101 E. Canal St., Winona Lake)

**Huntington Street Bar & Grill:** It's too big to be called a dive bar—and the food's too good. Soak up the music-themed decor, order a burger and don't miss the front portion of the baby blue classic car in the back.

(704 N. Huntington St., Syracuse)

**Tippy Creek Winery:** This gorgeous building sits on a large corn field. Sip indoors or the covered outdoor space to soak up the view.

(5920 N. 200 E., Leesburg)

**HopLore Brewing:** This old mill has a variety of sitting rooms—including an outdoor space—and serves naturally processed craft brews and guest brews.

(100 Old State Road 15, Leesburg)



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By Ray Balogh

## Botanical Observatory

- "Hundred Acre Woods" Winter Exhibit (through April 21), regular admission
- "Migrations" live butterfly exhibit (April 27 through July 7), regular admission Adults \$5, children (3-17) \$3, children (2 and under) free. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursday, noon-4 p.m. Sunday, Botanical Conservatory, 1100 S. Calhoun St., Fort Wayne. 260.427.6440

[botanicalconservatory.org](http://botanicalconservatory.org)



## Embassy Theatre

- April 10-11, "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets" in concert, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, \$68/\$46/\$25
- April 16, "The King and I," 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, \$65/\$50/\$35
- April 27, "The Fantastic Symphony" by the Fort Wayne Philharmonic, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, call for ticket prices

Fort Wayne Embassy Theatre, 125 W. Jefferson Blvd., Fort Wayne. 800.745.3000  
[fwembassytheatre.org](http://fwembassytheatre.org)

## Memorial Coliseum

- April 10-14, Vera Bradley Annual Outlet Sale, 7:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, \$5 per ticketed session Wednesday through Friday
- April 20, Kiddie Kouture Fashion Show, 7 p.m. Saturday, \$21 in advance, \$26 at the door
- April 26, Alan Jackson with special guest William Michael Morgan, 7:30 p.m. Friday, prices range from \$37.99 to \$459
- April 27, MercyMe's "Imagine Nation Tour," 7 p.m. Saturday, \$77/\$41/\$31

Parking \$6 main lot, \$10 preferred lot. Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, 4000 Parnell Ave., Fort Wayne. 260.482.9502

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

## Honeywell Center

- April 5, "Underwater Bubble Show," 7:30 p.m. Friday, \$65/\$30/\$25
- April 10, "Diary of a Worm, a Spider, and a Fly," 10 a.m. and noon Wednesday, \$10
- April 11, Scotty McCreery with special guest Emily Ann Roberts, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, \$75/\$48/\$34
- April 13, Celtic Woman "Ancient Land," 7:30 p.m. Saturday, \$110/\$65/\$45
- April 19, "Howl at the Moon" dueling pianos, 7:30 p.m. Friday, \$20
- April 25, "The Illusionists," 7:30 p.m. Thursday, \$75/\$45/\$35
- April 26, Tim Hawkins, 7:30 p.m. Friday, \$56/\$46/\$36/\$26

Ford Theater, Honeywell Center, 275 W. Market St., Wabash. 260.563.1102

[honeywellcenter.org](http://honeywellcenter.org)



## Niswonger Performing Arts Center

- April 14, Sanctus Real Christian pop-rockers, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, \$35/\$30/\$20
- April 28, Herman's Hermits starring Peter Noone, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, \$50/\$45/\$40/\$35/\$30/\$25

Niswonger Performing Arts Center 10700 SR 118, Van Wert. 419.238.6722

[npacvw.org](http://npacvw.org)

## 2-30 FORT WAYNE: Traveling Exhibitions

- 2019 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards (through April 6)
  - Stone Truths: Lithographs from the Collection (through April 14)
  - Leni Sinclair: An Era of Photographic Journalism (through April 21)
  - Lingering Spirit: Photographs of a Changing Indiana by John Bower (through May 26)
  - 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 admission for veterans and veterans' families, free general admission 5 p.m.-8 p.m. every Thursday. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. 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](http://fwmoa.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 a.m. Tuesday, Eagle Marsh west entrance, 6801 Engle Road. 260.478.2515

[info@lrwp.org](mailto:info@lrwp.org), [lrwp.org](http://lrwp.org)

## 4 FORT WAYNE: Serving Our Seniors Munch and Movie

Theme: Arbor Day/Tree of Life/Easter. Free admission. 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Life Care Center, 1649 Spy Run Ave. RSVP to Diana Mohr at 260.449.6806  
[lifecarecenteroffortwaynein.com](http://lifecarecenteroffortwaynein.com)



## 5 AUBURN: First Friday

Late night shopping, live entertainment, local culinary delights, locally crafted beverages, more. Free admission. 5 p.m.-8 p.m. Friday, downtown. 260.333.0883.

## 5 WABASH: First Friday

Live entertainment, food, kid's activities, shopping, evening specials and more. Free admission. 5 p.m.-8 p.m. Friday, downtown. 260.563.0975

[wabashmarketplace.org](http://wabashmarketplace.org)

## 7 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](https://facebook.com/decaturingianafleamarket)



## 7 FORT WAYNE: Mather Sunday Lecture Series

"Hugh McCulloch & the Origins of Professional Baseball," presented by Mark Souder. Free admission. 2 p.m. Sunday, The History Center, 302 E. Berry St. 260.426.2882  
[fwhistorycenter.com](http://fwhistorycenter.com)

## 12 DECATUR: Artisan Craft Market

Handmade crafts, jewelry, candles, soaps, baked goods, home decor, clothing and accessories, purses, wood and metal items, paintings and prints. Breakfast and lunch available. Free admission. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Riverside Center, 231 E. Monroe St. [chschermy@gmail.com](mailto:chschermy@gmail.com)

## 10 FORT WAYNE: "Short Hikes for Short Legs: Pond Dipping"

Learn about swimmers, wigglers, and things that go hop in the water. 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)



## 10-13 FORT WAYNE: Cinda b spring Outlet Sale

Wednesday-Saturday. Enjoy savings of 50% or more on retail prices for handbags, totes, luggage, cosmetic bags, accessories. Also browse the pet collection. Free admission. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, 1530 Progress Road. 877.692.4632 [cindab.com](http://cindab.com).

## 11 FORT WAYNE: "Breakfast on the Marsh: Dragon Boat Racing/ Kayaking in the Fort"

Eden Lamb of Fort Wayne Parks and Recreation will share outdoor recreational activities to do in Fort Wayne and the history of the Dragon Boat races. For 50 years and older. A light breakfast will be served. 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).

## 11 FORT WAYNE: "Nature's Gift of Fibers"

Hand arts program on flax and cotton; hand-on spindling with wool. \$20/person. 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m., registration and refreshments 9 a.m.-9:30 a.m. Thursday, Historic Sweeney Homestead, 1424 W. Jefferson Blvd. Call 260.432.7314 for reservations [settlersinc.org](http://settlersinc.org).

## 13 FORT WAYNE: "Aquatic Insects & Other Critters of Eagle Marsh"

Learn What actually lives in the waters at Eagle Marsh and how they can be used as indicators of the health of an ecosystem. Free admission. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Saturday, Eagle Marsh barn, 6801 Engle Road. 260.478.2515 [info@lrwp.org](mailto:info@lrwp.org), [lrwp.org](http://lrwp.org).

## 20 FORT WAYNE: "Wine and Whiskers Gala"

Silent and live auctions, cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, live music, VIP gift bags. Proceeds go to Lennox Legacy Rescue. Gala tickets \$70, VIP tickets \$105. 6 p.m.-10 p.m. Saturday, VIP 5 p.m.-10 p.m., Embassy Theater, 125 W. Jefferson Blvd. [lennoxlegacyrescue.org](http://lennoxlegacyrescue.org).

## 25 FORT WAYNE: Aspire's 7th Anniversary Casino Night

Games with prizes and giveaways, hors d'oeuvres and cocktails, free swag bag, customer appreciation pricing. Free admission. 4 p.m.-8 p.m. Thursday, Aspire Plastic Surgery, 7735 W. Jefferson Blvd. 260.205.8770 [aspireplasticsurgery.com](http://aspireplasticsurgery.com).

## 27 FORT WAYNE: "The Sound of Soul Event"

Experience the HU — a sacred word used for inner peace, divine love and expanded awareness — and spiritual conversation with others of like heart. Presented by Eckankar. Free admission. 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Saturday, Globe Room, Allen County Downtown Library, 900 Library Plaza. 260.466.3823 [eckankarblog.org/sound-of-soul](http://eckankarblog.org/sound-of-soul).

## 27 FORT WAYNE: Spring Haute Gathering Market

Three buildings of unique indoor vendors, outdoor boutiques, food trucks, raffle, live entertainment by local favorite artist Sunny Taylor. \$5 adults, free for children 18 and under. Free parking. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Allen County Fairgrounds, 2726 Carroll Road. [facebook.com/hautegatheringmarkets](https://facebook.com/hautegatheringmarkets).

## 27-28, May 4-5 FORT WAYNE: Spring Town & Country New Home Specialty Retail Tour

Tour 35 homes, 8 villas and four featured subdivisions all for free. Presented by the Home Builders Association of Fort Wayne. Noon to 5 pm. [hbafortwayne.com/tour](http://hbafortwayne.com/tour)

## 28 FORT WAYNE: 8th Annual Earth Day Fort Wayne

Family-friendly event including learning stations, speakers, food vendors, market selling native plants, local honey, pressed flower decor, artwork, fudge. Free admission. 1 p.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, Eagle Marsh barn, 6801 Engle Road. 260.478.2515 [info@lrwp.org](mailto:info@lrwp.org), [lrwp.org](http://lrwp.org).

welcome Spring



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27 & 28**

**May  
4 & 5**

**Noon to 5pm**

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[hbafortwayne.com/tour](http://hbafortwayne.com/tour)

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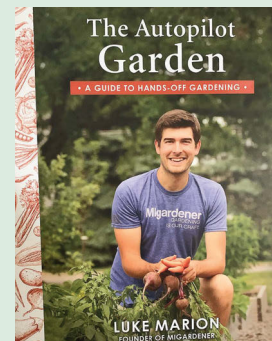




# April Books

By Steve Penhollow

"April showers bring May flowers," said the aphorist. It is, therefore, the perfect month to get serious about your garden. Here are two books that should help you do that.



## The Autopilot Garden: A Guide to Hands-off Gardening

By Luke Marion

Hobble Creek Press \$19.99

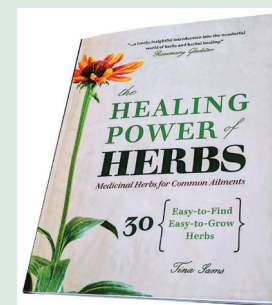
ISBN-10: 1462123171

ISBN-13: 978-1462123179

This is the first book from Luke Marion, the co-creator (with his wife, Cindy) of MIGardener.com.

The website is devoted to helping people grow their own food as simply and inexpensively as possible. The couple sells packets of seeds for 99 cents on the website.

"There are a lot of places where you buy seeds and might spend \$2 to \$5 on one packet of seeds and that can be a lot of money for something that might not even come to fruition," Luke Marion told the Port Huron (Mich.) Times Herald. "We keep every packet of seeds at 99 cents and we sell heirloom seeds with the idea that after you buy one packet, you won't need to come back and buy it again. With heirloom seeds you can collect and save your own seeds." The new book is a distillation of all of the Marion family wisdom. It is perfect for the sort of novice and experienced gardeners who would rather read chapters than watch videos, as rare as that breed seems to be these days.



## The Healing Power of Herbs: Medicinal Herbs for Common Ailments

By Tina Sams

Althea Press \$19.99

ISBN-10: 1641522399

ISBN-13: 978-1641522397

Pennsylvania herbalist Tina Sams learned everything she knows about herbs from her grandfather.

"Through that I developed an interest in herbs myself," she told the LNP, a newspaper in Lancaster (Pa.). "That passing of herbal knowledge to other generations is important." Sams has passed on her herbal knowledge by way of a magazine ("The Essential Herbal") and a half-dozen books, of which "The Healing Power of Herbs: Medicinal Herbs for Common Ailments" is the most comprehensive. In the book, Sams explores 30 herbs, their medicinal effects, and ways to prepare them for consumption or application. 🏡



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# Spring Town & Country Tour

April 27-28 and May 4-5

Your Dream Home is on the Map!



Your dream home can be a reality. It may even already be on the map.

By: Beth Johnson, HBA of Fort Wayne executive director

The Spring Town & Country New Home and Specialty Retail Tour is a FREE scattered site home show being held the weekends of April 27-28 and May 4-5 from noon to five each day. The Fort Wayne area has been noted as one of the most affordable cities in the country and is among the Top 100 Best Places to Live as recorded by Livability.com. There's no better time than now to find your dream home. With various price points and floor plans, the tour

is sure to please. The Town & Country Tour is comprised of 35 homes, eight villas, four featured subdivisions and 11 in-home vendors scattered throughout Fort Wayne, Auburn, Grabill, Leo, Huntertown and New Haven.

The event is absolutely free! Begin searching for your dream home by visiting [www.hbafortwayne.com/tour](http://www.hbafortwayne.com/tour), search the #BuildNowFW on social media outlets, pick up a guide from our sponsor locations, on the racks inside Kroger,

Scott's, Save-A-Lot and Walgreens stores, in Fort Wayne Newspapers on April 21, or call the Home Builders Association of Fort Wayne at (260) 420-2020.

The spring tour is presented by the HBA of Fort Wayne and sponsored by 3 Rivers Federal Credit Union, 97.3WMEE, Fort Wayne Newspapers, Irving Materials, Inc., K105, Miller Heating & Air, ProFed Credit Union and Rabb Water. 🏠

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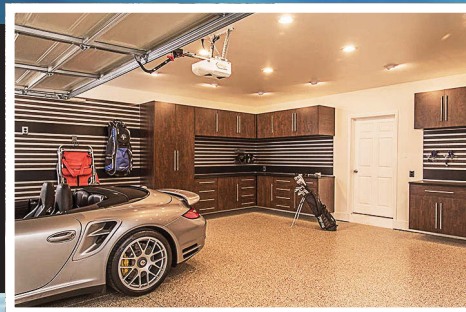
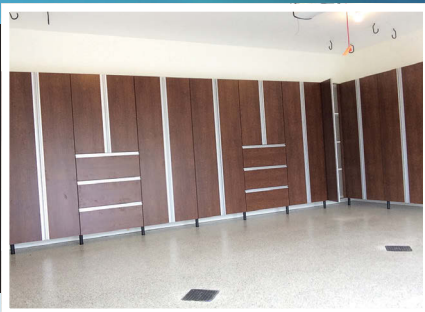
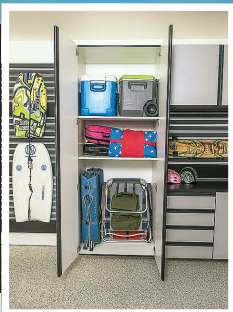
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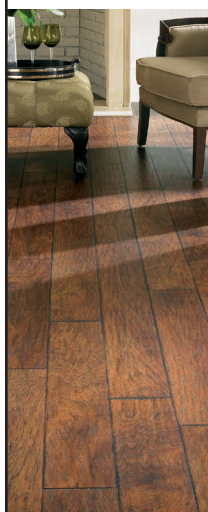
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# Mutton Power Equipment

Joe Mutton

*Keeping It In the Family:  
Joe Mutton,  
Mutton Power Equipment*

***By Deborah C. Gerbers***

Joe Mutton is the Sales and Marketing Manager for his family's company, Mutton Power Equipment. It is the largest independent John Deere Dealer in Northeast Indiana and also carries many other premium brands of lawn and garden equipment. For decades, Mutton's has maintained an outstanding reputation in the local community and now extends its knowledge across the nation.

Mutton Power Equipment was founded in 1976, but most people may be unaware that Joe's grandfather, Ray Mutton, began selling Toro mowers out of his AMOCO filling station at the corner of Getz and US 24 in the 1960's.

"In the early days, the focus was on lawn mowers with brands like Toro and Cub Cadet, as the company grew we became a John Deere Dealer in the early 80's and began selling larger tractors," Mutton explained. "The core of our business is selling and servicing our major lines: John Deere, Toro, Exmark, Honda and Stihl at our two Fort Wayne locations. As the retail landscape has changed in recent years, we are more diverse with product lines like E-Z-GO golf carts, trailers and a growing e-commerce parts business."

In his current role, Mutton wears various hats and each day provides its own unique tasks and challenges, yet he mainly focuses on e-commerce growth and digital marketing.

"In our busy season, I am very active in the day-to-day operations managing our sales staff, making sure we have appropriate inventory levels, and that equipment is being set-up and delivered," he said.

The Mutton family business continues to employ key original members to keep things running smoothly.

"My dad, Jim, is still active in the business, as well," said Mutton. "He enjoys the traditional marketing of print and TV ads, pitching in on sales training and managing our trade-in inventory; however, he spends most of his time managing his real estate projects."



When he's not working, Mutton said he enjoys spending his time with his family.

"My wife is a fitness instructor, so I work out with her at least once a week, and we have a six-month old son, so I try to make it home to see him as much as possible," he said.

## So what's up next for Joe Mutton?

"In the short-term, I plan to develop the business to be more self-sufficiently run by our staff so I can focus on growing additional revenue streams and hopefully spend time coaching my son's basketball teams one day," he said. "Long-term, my goal is to have a sustainable business my children will enjoy operating." 🏠

**Joe Mutton**

Mutton Power Equipment, Fort Wayne, 260.436.6967, [muttonpower.com](http://muttonpower.com)



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- Donate books you've read. If it doesn't have a strong emotional bond with you, consider if you'll really read it again. With moving day approaching, remember this: books are heavy.
- Donate small appliances. If your kitchen is overloaded with gadgets, gizmos and waffle makers you rarely (or never) use, consider donating them to clutter someone else's kitchen.

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## *through the screen door*

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