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HAPPY
Fourth of July



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welcome! from the editor



When I moved to this region in 2002, I was astounded by how deserted Fort Wayne became on weekends during the summer months.

Then I discovered the secret—LAKE

SEASON. While there are lakes in northern Illinois near where I grew up, there isn't a mass migration north like there is here each summer, especially in July. "Heading to the lake," is an oft-exclaimed phrase 'round these parts.

To be honest, I didn't understand the draw until a few years ago when I married someone with a family lake house. My husband's family has a lovely cottage on Big Turkey Lake near Stroh. While we aren't able to go every weekend, many in our family do, and the days are filled with swimming, boating, tubing, napping, grilling out and more. It's a place



Annabelle with her cousins Colton and Channing

to spend time with family and make memories. My three-year-old is just old enough to start enjoying the lake. In fact, I can often use a trip to the lake as added incentive to be a good girl—and stop poking her baby sister.

Lakers, this issue is for you. We have several features focused on enjoying the lake, including storage solutions for lake and pool gear and lake house décor ideas. We also have a feature about two families who have made the move to full-time lake living—living the dream!

Of course, we can't forget about the 4th of July! Our Plant This feature focuses on patriotic planters and fun ways to incorporate red, white and blue into your landscaping and garden. Our How To feature outlines tips and tricks for hosting a festive holiday get together.

Perhaps you prefer the pool to the lake... we have you covered too. Take a look at our HOME Room feature highlighting poolside rooms.

Whatever you have planned for July, we hope you have time to get outside and enjoy the beautiful weather.

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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Lake House décor

By Lauren Caggiano

There's something about time at the lake that restores our soul. All you need is a cold beverage, good company and conversation, and you have an instant recipe for happy memories. Of course, all of this is only enhanced with a backdrop like a well-decorated lake home. If yours could use a face-lift, we have you covered. Local experts weigh in on what's on-trend this year so you can bring your own interpretation to your cozy cottage.



Jenny Sanborn with Sanborn's in Angola said to start with texture. She said navy is popular for upholstery right now.

"Anything blue gives your place that home-away-from home feel," she said.

Don't be afraid to have fun with the details, too. Rugs with natural-looking fibers are in demand. In terms of wall art, she said nautical themed pieces are classic and classy.

For outdoor living, think Adirondack-style chairs and umbrellas and awnings. "The goal is to create a space outside that extends your living and entertaining space," she said.

On that note, Linda Phillabaum, owner of Living Quarters in Syracuse, said there's a lot of room for imagination when deciding the specifics. Patio furniture has come a long way in recent years, in terms of both form and function. She recommends the Polywood line because it's durable and can be used year-round.

And like Sanborn, she recommended embracing the blue motif. Blue and white pair nicely, as do red and tangerine. All of these colors can be combined because they complement each other. The clean look of white, popularized by the farmhouse trend, is still in vogue. And you can achieve that without it looking drab. Just find a few gorgeous accent pieces and let their creamy, sleek designs do the talking.

Along with neutral palettes, orange colors are having a moment right now. Pantone's color of the year is living coral and it's easy to see why designers and homeowners are drawn to it. According to Pantone, living coral has an "animating and life-affirming coral hue with a golden undertone that energizes and enlivens with a softer edge." So, if you need to give your lake home a playful feel, this is it right here.

In general, don't be shy when it comes to experimenting and embracing your whimsical side. Combining patterns is definitely a hot trend for summer 2019. From throw pillows to textured rugs to blankets and tapestries, tastefully mixing patterns will grab attention.

No matter your style, you're sure to bring an air of freshness and sophistication to your space. 🏡



Resources:

Living Quarters, Syracuse, 574.457.2929, livingquartersstore.com

Sanborn's For Your Home, Angola, 260.665.9799, sanbornsfurniture.com

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by Haiden Steingass

There's nothing quite as blissful as spending a July day by the pool. And when the pool happens to be right in your backyard? Even better. As we head into the hottest days of the summer, we're taking a look at poolside rooms – from décor to furnishing and trendy, convenient storage.

Whether it be a space in your garage or basement, or a standalone shed, a poolside room is the ultimate way to complete your backyard paradise. Check out these trends to make your space functional and beautiful.



2 Restrooms

A must for a poolside paradise is a restroom. Giving your family and your guests a comfortable, water-proof place to change clothes, use the restroom and shower is more valuable than any other addition to your space. Whether it is the nearest restroom in your home or a separate one near the pool, it's a must to have one available.



Décor & Furnishing

How you decorate your poolside room depends a lot on where your designated spot is. If you have an actual room dedicated to this purpose, try adding a fun touch like a pool table for entertainment. If your poolside space is part of a walkout basement, add nautical décor to the entry way, as well as a place to put wet towels and slip off shoes.



Cabana

If you don't have a designated spot for your poolside room, create one! "It's always nice when you have a cabana to keep your towels and chemicals, and a rest room is just perfect, as you are not tracking wet into your home. [It's a] good place to store pool toys too," said Chris Hill from Hillside Pools.

A poolside cabana is not only great for practical reasons like storage, but it's a trendy, customizable option that offers your backyard oasis additional shade and seating, as well. After taking a dip in the pool, you and your guests will love lounging around in the secluded privacy.



Practical and Attractive Storage

With all your pool necessities, you'll need some storage, but don't leave it up to any old boxes and bins to do the trick. There are tons of trendy storage options that are made specifically for pools, so they are waterproof and nice-looking. Try a storage bench that doubles as seating. Another fun option for poolside rooms is a towel valet, offering you a designated space for your towels (most include a bin for wet/used towels, too). 🏠

Resource:

Hillside Pools, Fort Wayne, 260.627.5580, hillsidepoolsonline.com

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By Jaclyn Youhana Garver

It's something of a daydream, isn't it? After a fun-filled weekend at the lake, you start to think, "We should live here full-time."

But it sounds impractical, you tell yourself. The commute to work would be too long. The renovations would be overwhelming. The winters would be too dull.

Not for these local Hoosiers.

Why we moved

Lori Helmkamp and her husband, Mike, dated in the late 1970s and broke up—then, in 2009, they reconnected and got married. After the wedding, they asked themselves, "How do we make all of our dreams come true?"

Lori's fondest childhood memories were on a lake, and Mike had a cruiser boat in Cincinnati, so they both love the water. Since Thanksgiving of 2010, the Helmkamp's have lived on Sylvan Lake in Rome City.

"Mike moved up to Fort Wayne, and we knew we needed to be on the water. Weekend boating was not enough," Lori said. "We wanted a place where we could be together as a whole family and create memories like I had."

Tina Roy and her family have called Jimmerson Lake in Angola home for more than a year and a half—and this was after she and her husband had built their "forever home" in LaOtto. But, she said, things change.

"My husband's grandparents lived on Turkey Lake, and I grew up here on the weekends, and his dream was always to live at the lake," Tina said.

The money they made from their previous home went into renovating the lake home.

Renovations

And there were a lot. Roy's lake home had been repossessed, and it sat empty for over two years. Renovations included knocking out walls and making the kitchen bigger. They made closets and a bedroom bigger. They tore out a bathroom. They took up all the carpeting and added new flooring and paint.

"Now when you walk in the front door, you can see all the way back to the lake," Tina said.

Helmkamp's home didn't require quite so much work. The house was built in 1860, and it had undergone renovations over the years. It was move-in ready, and they chose mainly cosmetic renovations: landscaping, painting and flooring. This January, Lori plans to turn a half-bath into a full-bath and update the master bathroom.

5 common renovations

Jeff Deahl not only lives full-time on Lake James, but he has built and remodeled homes around Indiana and southern Michigan lakes for 30-plus years. He is president and owner of Four Seasons Design and Remodeling in Angola, and he names these five changes as the most common updates for full-time lake living:

1. Adding a garage
2. Kitchen updates, especially countertops and dishwashers
3. Installing a proper heating system
4. Adding an additional bathroom
5. Adding an additional bedroom

"I think it comes from the aspect that (homeowners) are probably moving from a nice, upscale home," Deahl wrote in an email. "If their lake cottage was just that—a cottage—the required updating to meet those standards might be a large list."

Upper left: Roy home on Jimmerson Lake

Lower left: Helmkamp home on Sylvan Lake



Interior: Roy home on Jimmerson Lake



Interior: Helmkamp home on Sylvan Lake

Dealing with the cons

The hardest part for Lori is the winters. Right after the holidays, things get super cold and a little lonely, and she and her husband start to wish they had a place in Fort Wayne.

For Roy, the biggest struggle is her husband's job—he works third shift downtown Fort Wayne and has a one-hour drive each way.

But that doesn't outweigh the benefits for either woman.

"Otherwise, it's amazing," Lori said. "We put our new pontoon in this year on May 19, our nine-year anniversary and my birthday, and the day was beautiful, and it made me realize, this is why we live at the lake." 🏠

Resource:

Four Seasons Design and Remodeling, Angola, 260.665.2772, craftsman-design.com



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Host the 4th of July celebration



By Deborah C. Gerbers

It's almost the 4th of July, and people all over the nation will be celebrating our country's independence. With long summer days and warm nights ahead, we've compiled a few easy tips for hosting a fun, festive and patriotic Fourth of July party. Think red, white and blue for everything from the food to the flowers and décor, and fun outdoor games and activities for guests of all ages.

Whether you're celebrating with tons of relatives at the lake, a simple backyard barbecue, an intimate front porch gathering with a few neighbors or a full-blown neighborhood block party for a hundred, there are lots of fun and easy ways to celebrate everyone's favorite summer holiday.

Food: Take advantage of the fresh summer bounty by using seasonal produce.

- ✿ Sheet cake with whipped topping, blueberries and strawberries in flag pattern
- ✿ Festive toothpicks in appetizer bites like stuffed mushrooms and meatballs
- ✿ Bruschetta with heirloom tomatoes and buffalo mozzarella
- ✿ Black and Bleu sliders with tomato slices
- ✿ Panzanella salad (mozzarella balls, cubed bread, tomatoes, olive oil and basil in a decorative blue bowl)
- ✿ Mini sandwiches cut with star-shaped cookie cutter
- ✿ Potato salad made with purple potatoes and red pimentos
- ✿ Spinach salad with red onion, strawberries, blueberries and crumbled goat cheese
- ✿ Blue and white corn tortilla chips with salsa



- ✿ Spiked red punch or colorful sangria with fresh fruit
- ✿ Champagne with strawberries
- ✿ Red and blue jello "jigglers" for the kids
- ✿ Red and blue Kool-Aid
- ✿ Red, white and blue rocket popsicles
- ✿ Cupcakes with white icing and red and blue sprinkles

Décor: Think red, white and blue for everything.

- ✿ Raise the American flag
- ✿ Mini American flags in potted plants and around the yard in the grass
- ✿ Combine white and red geraniums with blue pansies in various pots
- ✿ Patriotic paper plates, vinyl table coverings, bunting, plastic ware, decorative toothpicks
- ✿ Star shaped candles
- ✿ Colorful liquid citronella in clear glass holders
- ✿ Red white and blue seat covers for patio furniture
- ✿ Mini white outdoor lights strung all over



Festivities: Games and fun for all ages.



- ✿ Patriotic trivia, bingo, or Jeopardy-style game about American history
- ✿ Sparklers
- ✿ Corn hole toss (if you're a DIY-er, you can easily make your own set and paint the boards like the American flag or just plain white boards with red and blue fabric covered bags)
- ✿ Mini parade for the little ones carrying flags around the neighborhood
- ✿ Have kids bring their bikes and decorate with red, white and blue streamers

- ✿ Red, white and blue water balloon fight
- ✿ Chalk art contest
- ✿ Frisbee toss
- ✿ Bobbing for red apples
- ✿ Patriotic music playlist
- ✿ Tie-dyeing shirts or decorating them with fabric paint and stencils



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Don't drown in your pool/lake accessories

By Julie Young

Nothing beats the heat quite like a day at the pool or the lake. However, when your dip is done, do you ever feel like you are drowning in your water-related accouterments? If so, then you are not alone, but our experts are ready to help you get your poolside kits and caboodle under control once and for all!



Janet Evans, owner of Tiny 'n Tidy, said most pool/lake accessories are awkwardly shaped, large in size and often wet when stored. The key is to store the larger things first in a ventilated space and then determine what type of solution you need for everything else.

"You will want to focus on having proper ventilated storage to prevent mold growth," she said. "You can purchase a large deck box for rafts and then hang a mesh net on the back of the box for smaller items. Make sure you separate your accessories by size and determine what makes the most sense for the amount of space you have. Organization is never one size fits all."

Emily Fitzgerald, owner of OLS Organizing, said while some homeowners are fortunate enough to have a pool house dedicated to their water-related activities and accessories, others use a large deck box. Like Evans, she believes that these boxes can serve to corral several large items, but may not be practical for smaller things that will invariably slip to the bottom.

"Accessibility is the key to organization," she said. "Find the proper container for the item and make sure you can get to it when you want to use it."

Determine whether you have more room for vertical or horizontal storage and then install it accordingly. Evans says large L-shaped hooks may be a solution for pool noodles and rafts if you have more horizontal storage, whereas plastic caddies work better for vertical areas.

"Ventilated plastic baskets work best if you have shelf space, and if you don't, then use mesh bags hung on hooks," she said.

If you install hooks for lifejackets or towels, make sure every member of the family can use them. Children are never too young to begin learning responsibility and you will have a better chance of them putting their things away when they can easily access the appropriate storage item.

"One thing I have seen online is a poolside organizer that has room to slide rafts into place as well as hooks for towels, suits or lifejackets and cubbies for goggles or games," Fitzgerald said. "These can be made out of molded plastic and while many of them come in white, others are molded to look like wicker and can blend into the rest of your outdoor furniture. They are really cool." 🏡

Resources:

OLS Organizing, Fort Wayne, 260.450.1289, olsinfo.com

Tiny 'n Tidy, Fort Wayne, 260.348.4530, tinyntidy.com

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Maximizing Patriotic Colors

By Haiden Steingass

Fireworks and family get-togethers are some of the best ways to celebrate Independence Day, but one unique way to show off your patriotism is by adding a pop of red, white and blue to your landscaping. From flower beds to planters, there are so many ways to incorporate patriotic colors in your garden this season.



Red, White and Blue Flowers

To help you narrow down your search, we've gathered a few tips from expert Luetta Burlage from Main's Flower Garden.

"Victoria Blue or Mystic Spires Salvia are a terrific tall backdrop or center with Dusty Miller and red petunias," Burlage said. "This would make a beautiful bed or planter with height dimension. Also, you can do red leaf red begonias with white petunias and dark blue Lobelia for something a bit shorter layered. Red, white and blue petunias make a terrific shorter type of planting. The Mystic Spires Salvia with red leaf red begonias and Diamond Frost would also make a great red, white and blue. For shorter vining items you

can use red, white or blue Calibrachoa for edging with the salvia or begonias for the tall backs or centers. I personally plant with all of these items and love every one of them."

Any of these options look gorgeous organized in flower beds, but what about creative and patriotic planters?



Patriotic Planters

Once you've chosen the red, white and blue flowers that you want to showcase in your garden this month, it's time to get even more inventive. Choosing fun, festive planters is a perfect way to channel your creative side and make your landscape truly one of a kind. Some of this year's most popular trends are painted garden boxes and mason jars. Simply purchase the sizes that fit the plants you've chosen, and paint them solid red, white and/

or blue, or accent them with stars and stripes. After the holiday is over, you can always repaint them to use them throughout the rest of the blooming season.

Another adorable idea for a planter is a decorative metal watering can that you can place directly on the floor of your garden or on an outdoor table.

Garden Décor

While your planters and flowers may be all you need to decorate for the holiday, keep in mind that there are plenty of options to decorate your garden if you do not want to plant anything new. Lining pathways and sidewalks with mini American flags is always a nice touch, but they are also an adorable accent when placed inside planters.

Additionally, you can find patriotic pinwheels that are meant to be placed in the ground of your garden. It doesn't get much easier than that! 🏠



Resource:

Main's Flower Garden, Fort Wayne,
260.749.5307

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Choosing the Right Tree for your Property

By Barb Sieminski

You've decided to beautify your yard with a new tree. Do you know what you want and what kind of tree grows best in our climate? Have you checked out how much trees cost and if they're susceptible to disease and other rots?

We've enlisted the expertise of Deb Zumbrun of Arbor Farms Nursery in Fort Wayne to help us answer these questions and more. Before you count your pennies, here are some things to heed:

"Your tree should be chosen based on soil type, climate and microclimates on your property," said Zumbrun. "From there, consider what you want from the tree – shade, flowers, color and so on."

Homeowners especially need to check neighborhood covenants, including size in proportion to the lot and house and the ability to maintain the tree, which involves raking, picking up twigs, pruning, pest treatment and water.

"This involves doing your homework and shopping well before you intend to plant the tree," said Zumbrun, adding that shopping at a reputable nursery is also a good idea.

"Decide how you want to handle installation – do you plant or do you want the seller to plant?" Zumbrun said. "Check reputable online resources and extension offices. We have a resource called plant search on our website. Be sure you know which trees are available at local nurseries."

What kind of budget should homeowners expect? According to Zumbrun, this varies widely, depending on what type of tree is purchased and what planting services are expected.

"Small ornamental trees or shade trees in containers usually cost somewhere between \$125 and \$189," said Zumbrun. "Japanese maples are much more expensive, and the more unusual the tree, the more it costs. Planting prices can be included in the price-tag of the tree or separate depending on the nursery."

"For instance, we price the tree and then give customers the option to plant themselves, have us deliver the tree or have us plant the tree at an additional cost. Planting prices depend on the size of the tree; delivery prices depend on the location of the delivery. We do include instructions for planting."

Some nurseries hesitate to let the homeowner plant dogwoods, redbuds and Japanese maples because of the difficulty in transplanting. Homeowners should budget between \$400 and \$500 for larger trees.

"We consider trees that are hardy to Zone 5 as best for our climate," said Zumbrun, adding that the bulk of customers in the Fort Wayne area will have clay soil, especially if they are in a housing addition.

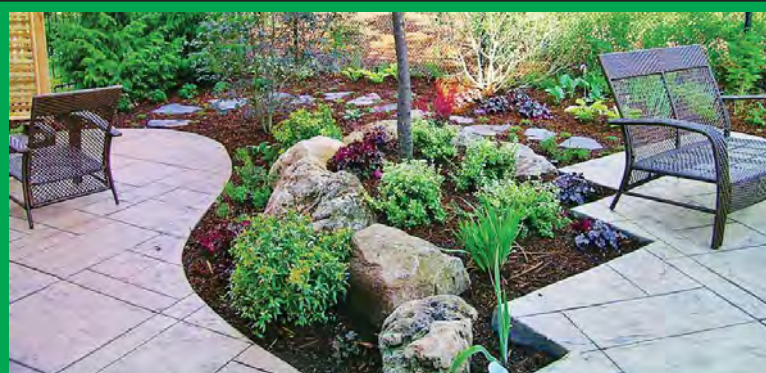
"Customers can kill a tree quickly by digging a hole and replacing the native soil with something completely different," she continued. "Some trees may be hardy to Zone 5 but will not tolerate the soil in this area."

Remember, too, that trees do not stop growing. The projected mature size of the tree is generally at the 10-year range, so customers should plan accordingly.

"If they select a tree for an area that is constrained, they either need to plan to replace the overgrown tree in 10 to 15 years or plan to plant the tree in the appropriately-sized space," concluded Zumbrun. 🏠

Resource:

Arbor Farms Nursery, Fort Wayne, 260.637.5816, arborfarmsnursery.com



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Sparkling Red, White and Blue Sangria

By Amber Bouthot

Sangria is one of my go-to cocktails for entertaining crowds. It's quick and easy to prepare for a large group, it can be made ahead of time, it's fabulous when made with cheap wine, and all of that floating fruit makes for a lovely presentation.

This Sparkling Red, White and Blue Sangria recipe is fun, delicious, easy to make and guaranteed to be the hit of your patriotic party!

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 bottle dry white wine
- 2 cups fresh blueberries
- 1 cup fresh raspberries
- 1 cup apple juice or white grape juice
- 1 pound fresh strawberries, hulled and sliced
- 1 bottle champagne (or any variety of sparkling white wine)
- 3-4 Granny Smith apples
- Ice

DIRECTIONS:

1. Stir together white wine, blueberries, raspberries, strawberries and apple juice in a large pitcher. Cover and refrigerate for one to four hours so the flavors can meld.
2. When you're ready to serve the sangria, gradually stir in the champagne, apples and ice. Serve immediately.
3. If you would like the tiered red, white and blue presentation in individual glasses, just add extra red berries to the bottom of empty serving glasses, followed by a layer of blueberries, then strain out the sangria wine, and add some apple stars on top. 🏠

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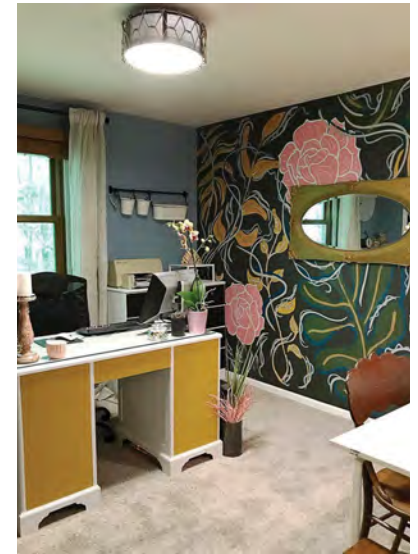
DIY

Do It Yourself

Sewing Room

By Amber Bouthot

Every month, we highlight reader-submitted photos of projects they've completed. We want to see your projects and share them within the pages of our magazine. 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.



What did you like best about the undertaking?

My favorite part of this room is the mural I painted. It's called "Springtime's Song." My friend is a gardener and spring is her favorite season. Also, her late husband was a piano player. I loved being able to personalize this artwork for her.

What was the most challenging aspect?

I would say organization was the most challenging aspect of this room. It's a functioning office and sewing room, and I wanted it to be user friendly. Being an artist myself, I know how important a studio space is. I also wanted the desk in the center of the room and the computer cords posed a problem at first, but I figured that out.

Where did you source the materials?

I painted all her existing furniture so we didn't need to purchase any of that. I got the gorgeous light from Menards, as well as the paint. The scraper was installed by Lowe's. I sourced most of the organizational items from Ikea and decorative items from Marshall's.

See more of Sarah's work at www.bloominbrewtique.weebly.com. 🏠

This month's Reader DIY comes from Sarah Thompson. She redid a room in her friend's house transforming a bedroom into a sewing room.

What was your inspiration for the project?

My inspiration for this project came from my friend. I had already done two rooms for her, so I got a feel for who she was as a person. She is giving and happy despite having lost her husband recently. I wanted to give her a space for her that was cheerful and special.

How long did it take from start to finish?

This room took me two weeks. It was a little harder than anticipated. I usually remodel bedrooms for people, so this was a bit out of my wheelhouse. The organization aspect of this room and functionality required some extra thought to my design process. However, once I did that planning, it came together really easy.

What was the total cost of the project?

The total cost of this project was around \$3,000.



By Ray Balogh



County Fairs

8-13 | Kosciusko, 1400 E. Smith St., Warsaw, 574.269.1823, kcfair.com

12-18 | Whitley, 680 W. Squawbuck Road, Columbia City, 260.244.7615, whitleycounty4h.com

12-20 | Wabash, 221 S. Miami St., Wabash, 260.563.2532, visitwabashcounty.com

13-18 | Wells, 1240 4-H Park Road, Bluffton, 260.824.6412, wells4h.com

13-20 | LaGrange, 1030 E. 075N, LaGrange, 260.463.2862, lagrangecounty4hfair.org

15-20 | Noble, 580 Fair St., Kendallville, 260.318.2127, noblecountyfair.org

18-25 | Huntington, 631 E. Taylor St., Huntington, 260.358.4826, huntingtoncountyfairgrounds.com

19-25 | Steuben, 100 Lane 101 Crooked Lake, Angola, 260.668.1000, extension.purdue.edu/steuben

23-28 | Allen, 9501, 2726 Carroll Road, Fort Wayne, 260.499.4444, allencountyfairgroundsin.com

31-Aug. 4 | Adams, 102 Park St., Monroe, 260.724.5322, extension.purdue.edu/adams

Honeywell Center

Free Movie Mondays, 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.

- July 1, How to Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World
- July 8, A Dog's Way Home
- July 15, Mary Poppins Returns
- July 22, The House With a Clock in Its Walls
- July 29, Goosebumps 2

Other events:

- Alice Cooper, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, July 11, \$54 to \$775
- Killer Queen, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, July 13, \$29 to \$75
- Howl at the Moon: Dueling Pianos, 7:30 p.m. Friday, July 19, \$20 general admission, reserved tables \$80 and \$160

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

honeywellcenter.org.

Niswonger Performing Arts Center

Fountain Park Summer Music Series, 7 p.m. Friday, food vendors open at 5:30 p.m. Free admission.

- July 5, Lima Symphony Pops Orchestra
- July 12, Waylon, Willie, Cash: Outlaws & Highwaymen
- July 19, Satisfaction: The International Rolling Stones Show

Fountain Park, corner of West Main and Jefferson, Van Wert. 419.238.6722

npacvw.org.

June 28–July 7 FREMONT: Satek Winery 18th Anniversary Celebration

Free tastings, free special anniversary glass with two-bottle wine purchase during celebration, while supplies last. Open 10 am to 6 pm. 6208 N. Van Guilder Road; 260-495-9463

Satekwinery.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.

12-14 ANGOLA: "Angola Balloons Aloft"

Hot air balloon pilots compete for prizes over northern Indiana lakes country. Kids' zone, classic car show, petting zoo, nighttime illuminations. Free admission. 5:15 a.m.-10:30 p.m. Friday, 7 a.m.-10:30 p.m. Saturday, 7 a.m.-9 a.m. Sunday, Angola High School, 350 S. John McBride Ave. 800.525.3101 angolaballoonsaloft.com.

12-20 FORT WAYNE: Three Rivers Festival

Live music, food, parade, shopping, art, carnival rides. Free admission. Headwaters Park, 333 S. Clinton St. 260.426.5556

threeriversfestival.org.



18-20 ST. JOE: St. Joe Pickle Festival

Pickle people, pickle pepper poker walk, pickle derby, pickle tastings, fish fry, live music, parades, kids' area, contests, vendors, fireworks. Free admission. Thursday through Saturday, Riverdale Elementary School, 6127 IN 1. 260.337.5461 stjoepicklefestival.org.



25 FORT WAYNE: Ombudsman Training

Have lunch and learn about serving people living in area nursing homes. Free admission. Register by July 19 by calling Aisha R. Arrington at 260.459.3161. 11 a.m. Thursday, Hall's The Deck, 305 E. Superior St. doingthegood-ombudsman.org.

25-27 NORTH MANCHESTER: Fun Fest By the River

Kids' activities; car, truck, motorcycles shows; food and craft vendors; parade; live music. Free admission. Thursday through Saturday, Market Square, downtown. 260.982.7644 northmanchesterchamber.com.

25-28 BERNE: Swiss Days

Food, crafts, competitions, family-friendly rides, quilt show, horse pull, concerts, tours, polka music, parade, games. Free admission. Thursday through Sunday, downtown. 260.589.8080 swissdaysberne.com.

26 FORT WAYNE: "Color to the Classics: Celebrate Christmas in July"

Bring your own materials or buy for \$5 at the door. Refreshments, door prizes, devotions, freebies. Children welcome. 10 a.m.-noon Friday, First Assembly of God, Room 37 (use Door #16), 1400 W. Washington Center Road. 260.227.2716.

26 FORT WAYNE: Serving Our Seniors Munch and Movie

Independence Day — Patriotic Pride. Free admission. 1:30 p.m. Friday, Life Care Center, 1649 Spy Run Ave. RSVP to Diana Mohr at 260.449.6806 lifecarecenteroffortwaynein.com.

27 FORT WAYNE: "Wildflowers"

Public hike to learn about flowers in bloom and the basics of how to identify them. Boots recommended. Free admission. 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Saturday, Eagle Marsh barn, 6801 Engle Road. 260.478.2515 info@lrwp.org, lrwp.org.

July Books

By Steve Penhollow

The phrase "It'll be a cold day in July..." alludes to the rarity of cold days in July. July is a month for entertaining outdoors. And if you're disappointed with how your garden turned out, it's a good month to start planning for next year.

Here are two books that can help you with both endeavors.



Four Seasons of Entertaining

By Shayla Copas

Shiffer \$33.06

ISBN-10: 076435731X

ISBN-13: 978-0764357312

In the new book from interior designer and party planner Shayla Copas, the author gives readers a peek into some of the fabulous soirees she has organized. But this is no mere picture book. It is also a guide to planning parties of your

own. Yes, chances are good that most if not all of Copas' clients have more money than you have. But that doesn't mean there isn't plenty of valuable party tips here for every sort of homeowner, whether you live in a mansion or a duplex. The book is divided into seasons. Each season is represented by four or five appropriately themed parties, including shindigs devoted to Valentine's Day, Easter and the Kentucky Derby.



Gardentopia: Design Basics for Creating Beautiful Outdoor Spaces

By Jan Johnsen

Countryman Press \$29.95

ASIN: B07HVSQMZ8

Landscape designer and author Jan Johnsen doesn't just give advice about growing plants. She wants readers to envision and map out their

gardens before planting a single seed. In this sumptuous book, she encourages gardeners to brainstorm every pocket and corner.

"My philosophy of landscape design begins with the idea that the green world replenishes us," she told a blogger for the New York Botanical Garden. "If we can bring that nourishing into our backyards and city spaces by making them beautiful and inviting to use, then we have succeeded in making our lives a little richer." 🏡



27 NORTH WEBSTER: 11th Annual Dixie Day Festival and Art Fair

Dixie sternwheeler cruises; 5K; arts and crafts fair; open air market; antiques; car, truck, tractor shows; food court; boat dealer and snowmobile shows. Free admission. Saturday, downtown.

574.834.7076

northwebster.com.



27-28 ORLAND: Vermont Settlement Festival

Family fun, primitive village, car show, parade, mud volleyball, arts and crafts, concessions. Free admission. Saturday and Sunday, Town Park. 260.829.6411

orlandchamber.net.

27-Aug. 11 FORT WAYNE: "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang"

Fort Wayne Civic Theatre presents the high-flying musical with a magical car. Rated G. Tickets start at \$20. 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, Art United Center, 303 E. Main St. 260.424.5220

fwcivic.org. 🏠



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Steuben County

By Cathy Shouse

Many counties have a major showcase destination and Steuben County's can be summed up in three words: Pokagon State Park. There are many other must-see activities, eateries, breweries and outdoor offerings, as well. With more than 101 lakes, water-lovers have multiple options. Better set aside three days to properly indulge in all the well-known spots, as well as the hidden gems awaiting you in Steuben County. You won't be alone as about two million hotel nights are reserved in the county annually.

Outdoors

Pokagon State Park: Hiking trails. Horseback riding. Boat rentals. Public beaches. Saddle barn. Nature center. These are some of our favorite things at Pokagon State Park, which was the fifth designated state park in the United States in 1925. Come and frolic in every way imaginable within its original 1,260 acres. Pack a picnic lunch or eat at one of two restaurants.

450 Lane 100 Lake James, Angola

Wild Winds Buffalo Preserve: If your trip combines multiple generations, Wild Winds Buffalo Preserve is an exceptionally wise choice. Bouncing around a prairie field while riding in an open-air vehicle can take on the excitement of a Jurassic Park vibe, except buffalo are docile creatures. You'll have fairly close-up views of the 250-member herd, and kids of all ages will get schooled in the ins and outs of buffalo and bison. Or, opt for a tour on horseback.

6975 N. Ray Road, Fremont

closed Monday and Tuesday, season: May-October

Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park Camp-Resort at Barton Lake: Camping, swimming, water slides, paddle boats, mini golf and more.

140 Lane 201 Barton Lake, Fremont



Potawatomi Inn Historic Dining Room By Chris Light - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=68555109>

Eat & Drink

Potawatomi Inn Historic Dining Room: Tucked inside Pokagon State Park, it's casual dining but the attitude toward food preparation and tastiness is anything but. It features a lodge-styled dining room with the décor of a big old rustic cabin with antique canoes and motors on display. The menu includes old-fashioned cooking like mom used to make, including "Mom's Meatloaf," and Mac-n-Cheese, as well as fish selections and many other food staples you're craving and yummy desserts.

6 Lane 100A Lake James, Angola

Tom's Donuts: On many mornings during lake season, you will have to get in line—literally. Try the caramel, the glazed and the tiger tails.

300 Lane 101 Jimmerson Lake, Angola

Wine Tastings:

Satek Winery

6208 N Van Guilder Road, Fremont

Briali Vineyards and Winery.

102 IN-120, Fremont

Divine Wine and Brewery

1006 S West, Angola

Highly Recommended: Take a journey on one of the food trails the county is known for. Get a sneak peek of details on the visit Steuben County website.

Shopping

The Outlet Shoppes at Fremont

Whether you're looking for good deals or going for the convenience of several name brand stores, all in one location, The Outlet Shoppes at Fremont fits the bill. With stores like Under Armour, Levi's Outlet Store, American Eagle Outfitters, Tommy Hilfiger, GAP Factory and more, shoppers will be able to make wardrobe updates while enjoying this contemporary, upscale retail setting that is a one-stop, boutique-styled venue.

6245 N. Old 27, Fremont

A Wild Hare Antique Mall: Described as having more unique items, owner Kim Border's grandpa's barn includes 10 vendors and everything dates to 1970 or older.

401 W Maumee St., Angola



photo: visitindiana.com

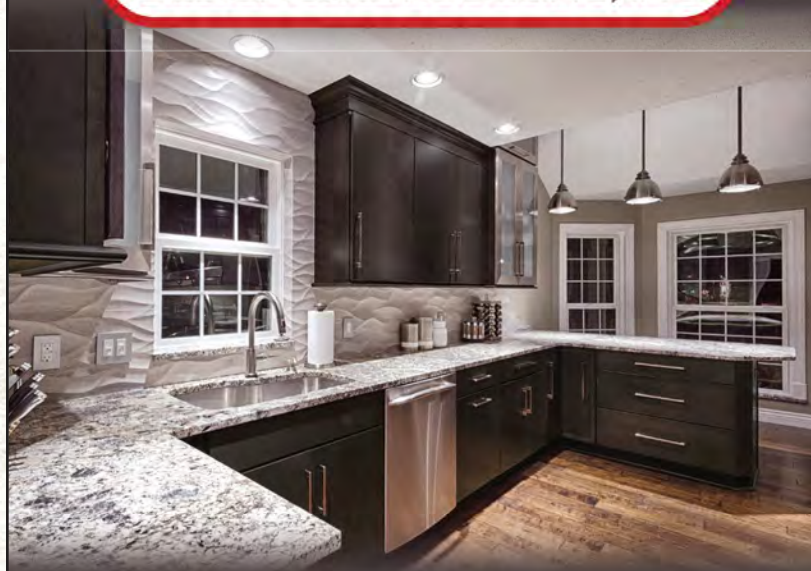


Continued on page 22

Resource:

Visit Steuben County, visitssteubencounty.com

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The Shepherd's House

By Lauren Caggiano

The road to recovery from substance abuse isn't always a straight trajectory for veterans, especially when you add homelessness to the mix.

The Shepherd's House represents a beacon of hope for men who are in this position. The faith-based organization operates a long-term, residential/transitional housing center for alcohol and chemically addicted men, 18 years or older. The average stay is six to eight months, although they can stay up to two years. The facility is centrally located on the northeast side of Fort Wayne. The program offers education and therapy regarding alcoholism and/or chemical dependency and recovery.

Just as the lives of the residents are transformed so are those of the staff behind The Shepherd's House. Tracey Barr and her husband are both residential house managers. They have lived on site for seven years and serve the day-to-day needs of the men.

"We really felt like it was a calling, because we were both in different occupations prior to coming here—volunteering first, and then being offered jobs," she said. "So, it was really a life change for us. We view the residents as our extended family. It's rewarding to see men come here and turn their life around and leave better than they came."

For Barr, the cause is personal. Her father was a Navy veteran and her husband's brother was in the Army. In her words, "we've always had a sense of patriotism and commitment to that in our family."

To her, that means honoring veterans in their darkest hours. There's a great need for addressing the stigma surrounding addiction and homelessness in the veteran community. Each situation and circumstance is unique. Staff at The Shepherd's House honor that truth in a non-judgmental way. According to Barr, they take residents at face value and meet them where they are.

"I think that for some of them, they struggled with chemical dependency prior to the military, and maybe they were able to manage that while they served," she said. "And sometimes they self-medicate instead of seeking out legitimate help through mental health services, because men and women in the military are trained to be self-sufficient. So, to ask for help to begin with is huge, because it goes against what they were trained to be and do."

In the event they do seek treatment at The Shepherd's House, they are met with a multidisciplinary approach. Barr said their treatment is cutting edge. For example, they have yoga therapy and a case worker trained in PTSD trauma therapy.



Tracey Barr



"It's not one-size-fits-all," said Barr. "Different things work for different men."

The public can aid residents' recovery indirectly through gifts of time, treasure and talent.

"Of course, it takes money to pay the bills and run this place," Barr explained. "But people can donate things. There's a donation list on our website. Or people make a gift and donate in memory of their grandpa, because he was a veteran. Some people prefer to bring a meal. It doesn't have to cost you a fortune, and our men really appreciate these gestures." 🏠

Nonprofit:

The Shepherd's House, Fort Wayne, 260.424.2500, shepherdshouse.org

Crescent Avenue Gardens

Gayle Schuster

By Barb Sieminski

Gayle Schuster has been with Crescent Avenue Gardens for 48 years.



"Only owner Gary Karst has been here longer, since the family business opened in 1959," said general manager Schuster, who marvels at the technological changes through the years.

"When I first came to work here, we used a rotary phone without the hold buttons," recalled Schuster. "Our cash register had the old-fashioned push-down key. For example, for \$25.12 you had to push the two then the five and then the one and finally the two. You also had to know how to count the change back to the customer. Now we have a cash register that does everything for us. Our typewriter was not electric – I would get cramps in my finger from pushing the keys down. Now that everything is computerized, life is much easier."

Schuster and Karst supervise 10 employees, both full and part time, at the Fort Wayne outdoor power equipment store.

"Our shop carries new equipment as well as parts and service for TORO products, Stihl products, Billy Goat leaf blowers and outdoor vacuums," said Schuster. "We are 100% sales and service driven. Gary's dad, Ray Karst, taught us that being honest and helpful with customers will keep them coming back, and that is the way we have always operated."

"The company's most common services are tune-ups consisting of oil and air filter changes, blade sharpening, wheel greasing, and cables and unit cleaning," said Schuster, adding that her duties include making sure all the employees are happy and doing their jobs. She also takes care of ordering equipment and the financial end of the business.

"We are open year round, and customers should not wait until spring to bring their power equipment in for repair," said Schuster.

When she is not at the shop, Schuster takes joy in her "many flower beds and a lot of pots full of all different kinds of annual and perennial flowers."

"A perfect summer's day off work involves planting new flowers and mulching the beds to make sure they stay nice," she said. "I also enjoy taking time out to be with family and friends, especially at Lake James' sand bar where we swim and go boating. Every August, Spencerville Bridge has a benefit and OUR FRIENDS group all come together and has dinner on the bridge." 🏠

Gayle Schuster

Crescent Avenue Gardens, Fort Wayne, (260) 483-0911, crescentavenue.com

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