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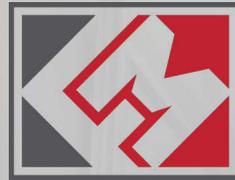
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Greetings!

It's September! How is that possible? Time seems to be moving at warp speed—just when I was getting the hang of summer, fall is right around the corner. I plan to spend a lot of time this month soaking up the last of our region's warm weather.



Amber Bouthot

September marks one year in our new home—and what an eventful year it has been!

We welcomed our second daughter in March, which means one of our first projects after we moved in was transforming a bedroom into a nursery for her. We completed several other home improvement and remodeling projects, including building out a mother-in-law suite in the basement for my parents, installing a back patio, updating our landscaping with a large decorative

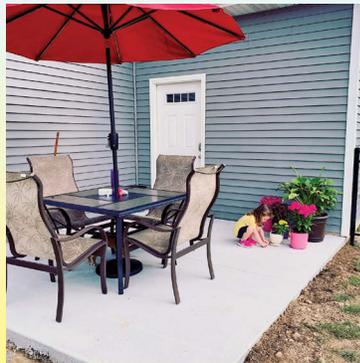


rock and new slate landscaping rocks and fencing in our backyard for the dogs.

Up next, we plan to build a deck, so we can really take advantage of our view, and plant some tulip bulbs so we can enjoy them next spring—maybe then we will be done. It seems like the projects are never ending.

I'd love to hear about some of your home improvement or remodeling projects. Please email me at ambouthot@the-papers.com.

As always, we prepared this issue for you,



and it is full of useful information and design ideas. Have a story idea for us? Let us know. We would love to hear it.

I hope you have a chance to enjoy the outdoors this month.

Amber

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Publisher Ron Baumgartner
rbaumgartner@the-papers.com

Publications Manager Bill Hays
bhays@the-papers.com

Executive Editor Amber Bouthot
ambouthot@the-papers.com

Editor-in-Chief Jeri Seely
jseely@the-papers.com

Director of Marketing Kip Schumm
kschumm@the-papers.com

Account Executive Rebecca Boone
rboone@the-papers.com

Business Manager Carrie Hurd
churd@the-papers.com

Director of Circulation Jerry Long
jlong@the-papers.com

Graphic Designer Mary Lester
mlester@the-papers.com

Marketing Assistants

Darlene Eichelberger, Trina Hoy

Contributing Writers

Stacie Ball, Ray Balogh, Lauren Caggiano, Jaclyn Youhana Garver, Deborah C. Gerbers, Rod King, Cathy Shouse, Barb Sieminski

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

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

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Editorial, Ext. 2491 • Advertising, Ext. 2362

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Floral Wallpaper



By Amber Bouthot

Those who have ever had to remove wallpaper, may be reluctant to jump on board with its resurgent popularity—but it is back with a vengeance.

While many of us remember the hideous floral designs of the '70s and '80s, the floral wallpapers available today are sophisticated and classy—and even funky and fun. And best of all, there are many removable options, making your design decision a little less permanent, which is a good thing since trends come and go so quickly.

Another trend is to wallpaper just one wall as an accent, allowing homeowners to choose busier and brighter patterns without overwhelming the space.

Check out some of our favorite floral patterns for wallpaper and find our list on the next page of online retailers offering removable options.

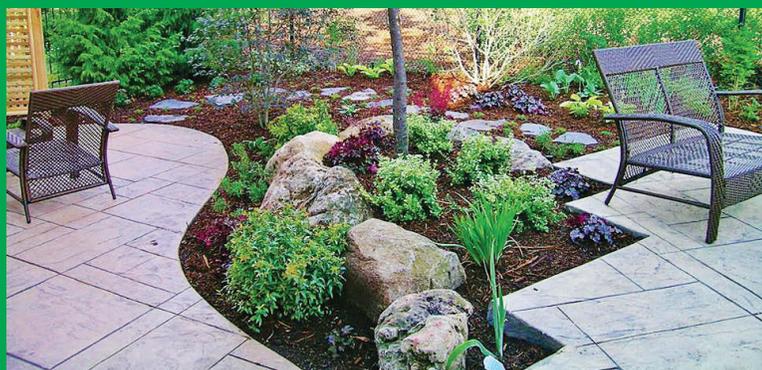


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1. Hygge and West – a collection of clean, modern designs by artists such as Julia Rothman, Oh Joy!, Justina Blakeney and Lisa Rennell, hyggeandwest.com
2. Chasing Paper – a mix of playful patterns, sophisticated florals and modern graphics, chasingpaper.com
3. Graham and Brown – tons of options in the classic patterns that you'd expect from a British company that's been around since 1946, grahambrown.com
4. Walls Need Love – edgy, unique options by artists such as Zenina Anastasia, Alpha-Tone and Alexandra Dzh, <https://wallsneedlove.com>
5. Home Depot – a great opportunity to see some in person if you're not quite sold, homedepot.com
6. Wayfair – this online home décor giant has a wide variety of tiled peel and stick wallpaper options, wayfair.com 🏠



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Smart Home Appliances

By Deborah C. Gerbers

Home appliances have come a long way in the past 100 years. The last century has brought us electric refrigeration to replace iceboxes (which actually used blocks of ice and snow to keep food cold), pop-up toasters, microwave ovens and electric washers and dryers. But even more recently, modern technology has edged its way into home appliances—making the daily tasks and cooking and cleaning even easier. While electric refrigerators were cutting edge in the '50s, today's models fall under the category of "smart appliances" and utilize the latest technology to improve their functionality, making them even more user friendly for today's world.



Samsung ActiveWash Washer with Built-In sink

Samsung's ActiveWash top-loading washer—allows for larger loads to reduce time spent on laundry. The built-in sink provides space to pre-treat and pre-soak clothes with ease, and Super Speed technology improves cleaning efficiency by making it 35% faster—without sacrificing performance. Vibration Reduction Technology ensures wash loads stay balanced and quiet even at high speeds.

Whirlpool Smart All-in-One Washer and Dryer

This 24-inch compact two-in-one combination is great for smaller spaces in place of an apartment washer and dryer, and its vent-less design makes it easy to install just about anywhere. Another bonus? Laundry can be done from your smartphone, and the Load and Go™ Plus dispenser lets you skip detergent and fabric softener refills for up to 20 loads.

Samsung Family Hub Refrigerator

Once again, the kitchen is the center of the home. With the Family Hub, you can shop for food, organize your family schedules, entertain and even see who is at the door—all right from your refrigerator.



Samsung Flex Duo with dual-door slide-in range

Home chefs can cook two different dishes at different temperatures simultaneously. The blue LED illuminated knobs show if the stovetop is on, even at a distance. Wi-Fi connectivity lets you remotely monitor your cooktop and control your oven.

Whirlpool Smart Combination Wall Oven with Touchscreen

Get the right settings every time with this smart self-cleaning combination wall oven. Send Yummly® Guided Cooking instructions directly to the connected oven or use 'Scan-to-Cook technology' to start cooking frozen foods in the built-in wall oven or microwave using a smartphone or tablet. You can also easily access most-used settings with ease.

Resources:

Wayne Kitchen and Bath Works, Fort Wayne,
260.423.9577, shopwkbw.waynepipe.com

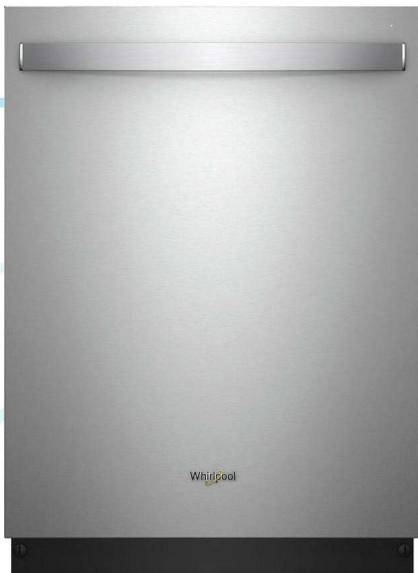


**Samsung
POWERbot
robot vacuum**

Tired of traditional vacuum cleaners? Cut the cord with a robotic version. Powerful suction on this robot vacuum delivers optimal cleaning on all floor types. It effortlessly cleans pet hair, dirt, dust and more.

**Whirlpool Smart
Dishwasher with
Stainless Steel Tub**

Clean your dishes from just about anywhere with this stainless steel smart dishwasher, with a third-level rack offering 35% more rack space. You can even access unique settings from your app, or choose the Sensor cycle and let your smart dishwasher pick the right cycle for you. Finish up with dry dishes thanks to the stainless steel tub.



**Kohler Sensate
Faucet**

This smart faucet brings voice command to the kitchen sink.

Ask your faucet to turn on the water, fill one cup of water for tea or enough to brew a whole pot of coffee. The faucet pairs with Google Assistant, Amazon Alexa and Apple's Siri for voice control. 🏠



References:
Whirlpool.com
Bestbuy.com



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Home Energy Saving *ideas* for Every Budget

By Stacie Ball

There are many reasons to conserve energy. Protecting the environment, increasing property value and saving money are just a few. Whatever your reasons, here are some tips for saving a great deal of energy in your home this year.



Use Smart Power Strips and Programmable Thermostats

Did you know that electronics are still using energy even when they are turned off? Smart power strips will shut off the power that goes into electronics when they are not in use. Programmable Thermostats can be programmed to turn down the heating or cooling when you are out of the house or sleeping. Programming your thermostat can save you up to \$180 a year.

Not in your budget? Simply unplug electronics that are not in use, and don't let electronics charge all night. Charge them and then unplug the charger. Manually turn down the heating or cooling before you go to bed and before you leave the house. Just remember to turn them back up.

Use LED Lighting

"LED is one of today's most energy-efficient and rapidly-developing lighting technologies," explained Chesney Boyer of Kendall Lighting. "According to Energy.gov, Residential LED, especially ENERGY STAR rated products, use

at least 75% less energy and last 25 times longer than incandescent lighting."

Not in your budget? Boyer added, "Turn lights off when you leave the room and start small. Switch out old bulbs for LED bulbs as they burn out."



Insulate and Weatherize Your Home

Insulation makes a big difference regulating the temperature of your home throughout the year. Make sure the attic, walls, floors, basement and crawlspace are insulated to save the most energy.

Weatherize your home by sealing any air leaks found around vents, windows and doors. Check for any cracks or openings in these areas and seal them with caulk. Apply weather stripping to doors.

Buy Energy Efficient Appliances

Despite the fact that most ENERGY STAR appliances are more expensive up-front, their yearly operating cost is less than traditional models. For example, an ENERGY STAR

washer uses 25% less energy and 45% less water. You can even buy energy efficient water heaters, which can be up to 300% more efficient than a conventional water heater.

Update Your HVAC System

Since heating can use around 40% of your home energy, ENERGY STAR furnaces are up to 16% more energy efficient now and can save you about \$94 a year. Check to make sure all ducts are sealed or insulated sufficiently. Clean ducts and change filters regularly. This can also cut your heating and cooling expenses by up to 20%.



photos: shutterstock.com

Update Windows

A great deal of heat is lost or gained through single-pane windows. Installing ENERGY STAR windows can save you between \$20 and \$95 each year in utilities. 🏠

Resources:

Kendall Lighting Center, Fort Wayne,
260.483.8820, kendalllightingcenter.com

Sources:

<https://www.energysage.com/energy-efficiency/101/ways-to-save-energy/>
<https://www.directenergy.com/learning-center/energy-efficiency/25-energy-efficiency-tips>

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Home Design Apps and Websites



By Lauren Caggiano

Do you have big plans for a remodel? When it comes to interior design, sometimes our well-intentioned ideas don't translate well in reality. What if there was a better way? (Hint, you've come to the right place.) There's no need to invest in expensive software when you can have access to free resources for planning and designing your home.

Following are 5 design-centric apps on the market sure to make envisioning and bringing your dream home to life a breeze:

1. Planner 5D

Planner 5D's three easy steps allow you to design rooms with the smallest architectural details in mind. The final product is a realistic image that allows your design to come to life. Visit <https://planner5d.com> to download via the AppStore or GooglePlay.

2. Roomstyler 3D Home Planner

This app is for the serious home remodeler. The intuitive interface allows you to see your concept come alive in 3D. See something you like in the app? Click on the "Available for purchase" button to get more details. You can use the software without joining or join and share your designs via Facebook for feedback. A free version is available, too. Visit <https://roomstyler.com/3dplanner> for more information.

3. Design a Room

Forget going to the store to get dozens of samples. Instead, this app allows users to see how elements like flooring, cabinetry, ceilings, walls and even countertops play off each other. This free design tool is for those of you who want to see the result before redesigning a room. The in-app product education can come in handy for first-time homeowners or those new to home improvement. For example, when designing a bathroom, you might see a note advising against installing carpet. In this way, you can learn how form impacts function. Visit armstrongflooring.com for details.

4. HomeByMe

This one's for all the DIY'ers out there. HomeByMe lets you start with the basics, finishing with furniture and accessories in a 2D format. Once you're ready, convert it to a 3D version to evaluate the interior design. Visit <https://home.by.me> for details.

5. Sweet Home 3D

This program's value proposition is customization and space planning. You'll find four main features. First, the furniture catalogue allows you to select pieces and see how they work in terms of size, shape and colors. The 2D format presents a bird's eye view of the placement of walls, windows, doors and furniture. The 3D view provides an added dimension, so you can visualize the plan in real time. Note: This program can be simple, but it has advanced features for those who want more functionality. Visit www.sweethome3d.com for more information.

Today's technology means it's easier than ever to plan, design, draw and view your dream space with the click of a mouse. Save time and money on trips to the home improvement store and play around with these programs in your PJs. 🏠



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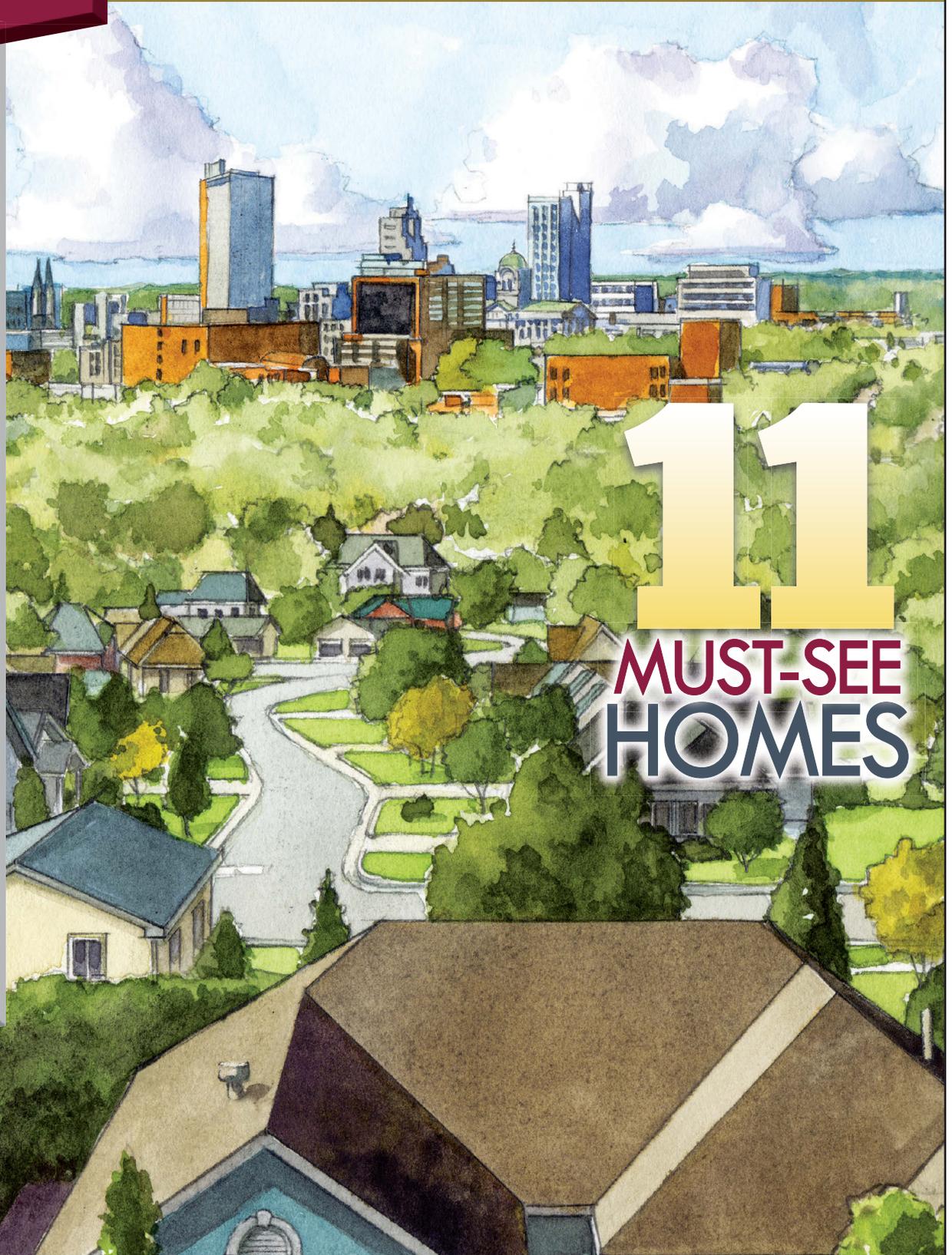
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magazine for the
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Guidebook.



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MUST-SEE HOMES

hbafortwayne.com/showcase

If you can't buy it,

Build It!

With a tight real estate market, it may be easier to build than buy.

By: *Beth Johnson, HBA of Fort Wayne Executive Director*

Fort Wayne, Indiana, has been voted one of the hottest real estate markets in the country¹, which is no big surprise seeing that the city is also in the 2019 Top 100 Best Places to Live.² Some of the things that make the community so great include:

- Affordable home prices;
- An ever-growing parks and trails system;
- Local sports and attractions; and
- An unemployment rate under 3%³.

With these admirable qualities, there are also some challenges, including low housing inventory. It's not unheard of for a house to come on the market and 36 hours later, it's sold. If you're tired of waiting for your dream home to hit the market, why not build it?

The Home Builders Association of Fort Wayne, Inc. is presenting the inaugural Builders' Showcase September 26-29, 2019 to help inspire you. View 11 fantastic homes from some of our builder members at this free event from 3:00-6:00 p.m.

on Thursday and Friday or 12:00-4:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. These premier homes showcase the latest features and design ideas, and may just motivate your decision to stop shopping and build.

All the details of the HBA's Builders' Showcase can be found by visiting www.hbafortwayne.com/showcase, including a showcase home location map, as well as builder and home information. Our printed guidebook can be found at sponsor locations and all other distribution points of Fort Wayne Spaces magazine throughout September or any of the showcase homes during the event.

Be sure to follow the Home Builders Association of Fort Wayne on Facebook to stay up to date on all things Builders' Showcase.

The Builders' Showcase is presented by the Home Builders Association of Fort Wayne, Inc. and would not be possible without these sponsors:

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1- Realtor.com

2- Livability.com

3- Bureau of Labor Statistics

Guarding Against Home Allergens

By Stacie Ball

It's hard to be comfortable in your own home with a constant runny nose, itchy and watery eyes, frequent sneezing and a scratchy throat. These symptoms, as well as others, are often caused by home allergens like dust, pet dander, mold and pollen. One of the best ways to decrease allergy symptoms is to limit your exposure to these allergens. Here are some of the best ways to do so.



Cover Your Bedding

Dust mites make their homes in pillows, mattresses and box springs. Spending several hours each night close to these little critters will definitely ramp up your allergies. Use zippered, allergen-resistant or plastic covers to keep them out. Wash your bedding (and stuffed animals) once a week in hot water to kill any remaining mites.



Prevent Pet Dander

Even with frequent vacuuming, pet dander can spread rapidly and become trapped in many places. Keep pets out of bedrooms and keep the doors closed. Cover vents with cheesecloth to prevent dander from spreading throughout the house. Bathe and brush your pet, and wash their bedding and toys often. Make sure to wear a mask while doing this if you are allergic.

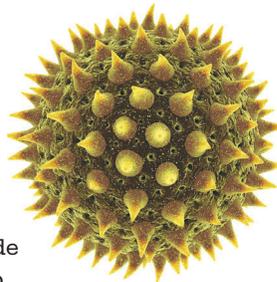


Vacuum Often

Carpets and curtains can be teeming with dust mites as well as pet dander. Vacuum once a week using an allergy and asthma friendly vacuum with a HEPA filter, and do maintenance on it often to ensure it is working properly. It can even be beneficial to replace carpeting with hardwood flooring, since it is possible a vacuum will not pick up all the pet dander from the carpet.

Keep Pollen Out

Pollen and other allergens are often dragged in on the bottoms of shoes. Use two doormats, one inside and one outside, to help trap pollen and/or have guests remove their shoes. Make sure windows and doors are closed, and change air filters often to keep pollen from recirculating within the house.



Reduce Mold Growth

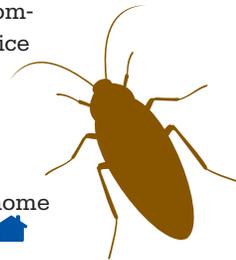
Mold thrives in a moist and humid environment. Keep showers short and use bathroom vents to decrease moisture and humidity in the bathroom. Check for leaks often and repair them immediately. Use a dehumidifier and clean any visible mold right away.

Control Cockroaches

The saliva, feces and shedding body parts of cockroaches can also make allergies flare. It is important to keep all food and garbage covered. If there are cockroaches present, avoid using chemicals. Instead, use poison baits, boric acid or traps.

Remember to wear a mask and perhaps gloves if you are allergic and completing these tasks. With practice and routine, keeping allergens out of your home will become second nature. It may be some hard work, but doing these things will pay off when your home becomes a comfortable place. 🏠

photos: shutterstock.com



Sources:

<https://www.aafa.org/control-indoor-allergens/>

<https://www.thisoldhouse.com/ideas/13-ways-to-allergy-proof-your-home>



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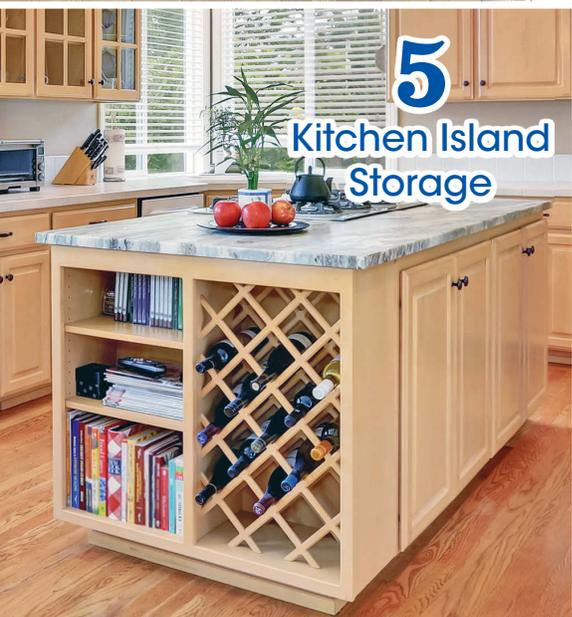
2
Built-in Shelves



3
Drawer Organizers



4
Murphy Bed



5
Kitchen Island Storage

Space Saving Projects + Ideas

By Amber Bouthot

Running low on storage space? If you have a nook or cranny that is not being used, you have untapped storage potential right under your nose. Get creative and maximize your storage options by making the most of your home's existing space. Check out our top 10 favorite space-saving solutions.

photos: shutterstock.com



6
Drawer Pull Jewelry Holder



10
Ottoman Storage



9
Pull-out Pantry



7
Closet Storage



8
Mudroom Cubbies

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By Cathy Shouse

Spring and summer may seem like the ideal times for outdoor activities. But like the lyrics of September, the '70s-era song by Earth, Wind and Fire, this month's cooler weather may still entice you toward dancing under the stars and making other fun plans in nature. Whatever develops, you'll want well-tended plants and grounds so we have gathered tips.

Deb Zumbrun of Arbor Farms Nursery:

Continue to monitor moisture, and water newly planted items until the ground freezes in November or December. Newly planted evergreens are specifically susceptible to problems later if they do not receive consistent moisture even into early winter. So ... don't put your hoses away in September for sure.

For that matter, September is a great time to plant. The weather isn't generally as warm, and rain is more likely with fall weather. Start to take stock of plants that are having problems or may need to be replaced. You might find that nurseries will have seasonal sales on plants at this time of year.

Stephanie Felger of Felger's Peat Moss:

Start trimming and consider whether to re-mulch in September. People are getting

ready for fire pits, cook outs and enjoying the fall weather. Fall plants should be heartier ones. Mulching helps prepare insulation for bulbs and fall clean-up. We have people mulching all year round, whether for new installs or to freshen up. You might want to add organic worm castings that will naturally feed the soil.

Curt Blanton of Buesching's Peat Moss and Mulch:

Fall's the best time to plant trees and also grass seed. You want to plant grass before *October 10. Any time from September to next spring is a great time to plant trees. The time when you plant trees and how much water you give them is what's crucial. The more root structure the tree has, the easier for it to take hold.

Clean up any dead vegetables, flowers and other plants from the garden so bugs and bacteria or fungal diseases are removed from the area for next year. Be careful not to prune existing landscaping too much at this time of year. Bagged cow manure can be a good addition.

**Note:* Don't get too hung up on guidelines, and consult an expert when in doubt. "There's an exception to every rule," Blanton said with a laugh.

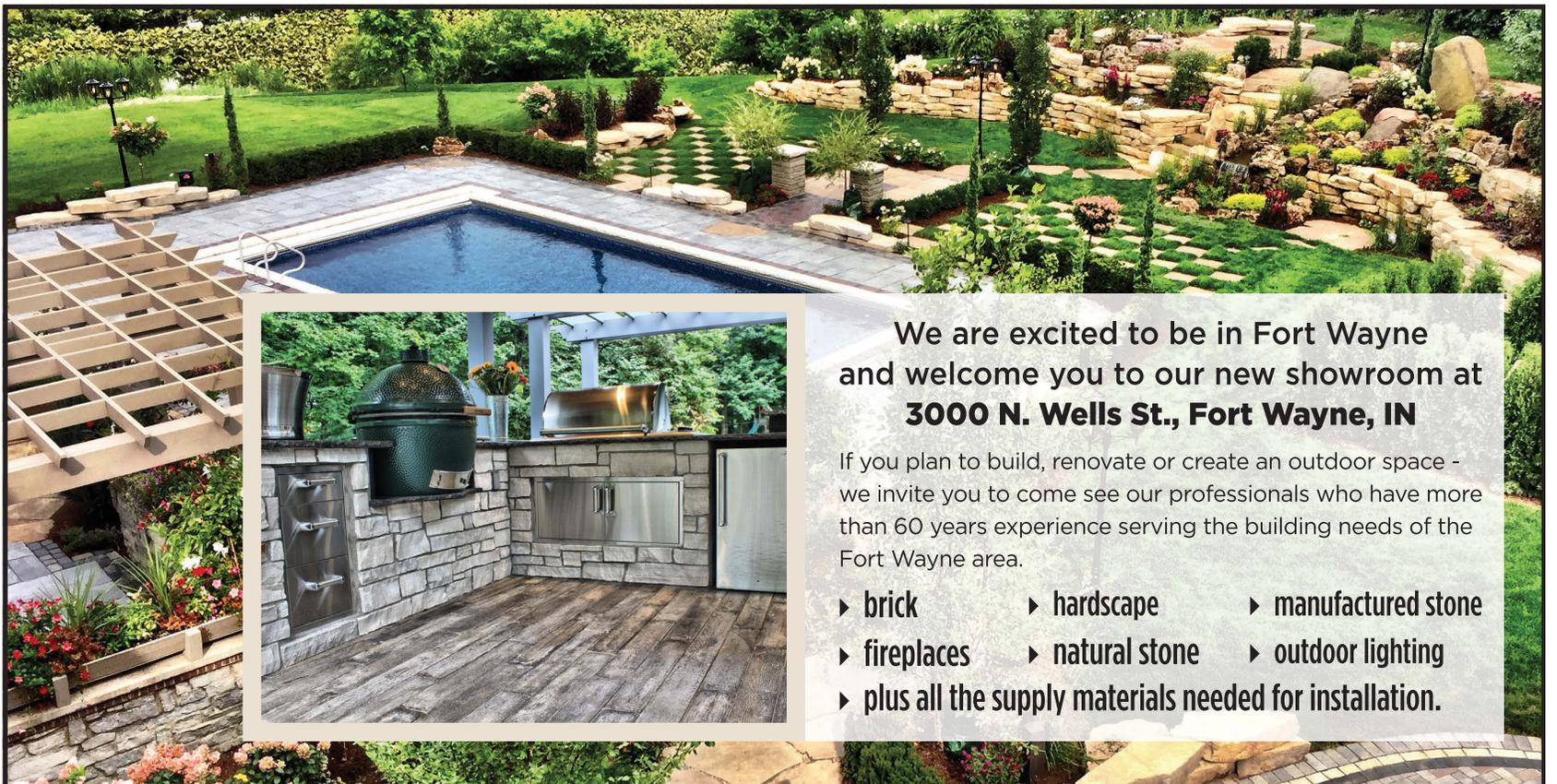
Bonus: Remember to dream about next year's plantings. "We are seeing a continuing trend of customers who are interested in planting native plants or are looking for plants that attract pollinators and wildlife," Zumbrun said. 🏠

Resources:

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

Buesching's Peat Moss and Mulch, Fort Wayne, 260.749.9487, bueschings.com

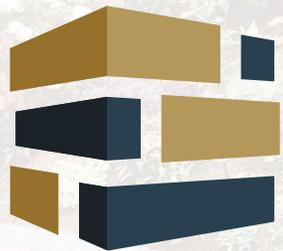
Felger's Peat Moss, Fort Wayne, 260.693.3134, felgerspeatmoss.com



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Fire Pits + Fireplaces

Enhance Back Yard Living

by Rod King

Fire pits and fire places are at the forefront of a trend that started about five years ago that is enhancing back yard living beyond the patio and deck.

According to Bob Benhower, owner of NOB Brick and Fireplaces, "We're not talking about a hand-dug hole in the ground. Fire pits today come in square and round shapes and can be purchased in an easy-to-assemble kit. Some are complete when the assembly is finished, while others can have decorative stone applied to them. The decorative stone façade is available in a wide variety of textures and colors, which are on display at NOB. No mortar is required on many kits. They're not exactly Legos, but they fit together nicely and are held in place with landscape adhesive."

Benhower said the majority of the fire pits sold by NOB are specifically for burning wood, but can easily be changed to gas burning. Both give heat and lots of atmosphere.

"Gas, however," he pointed out, "eliminates lugging wood, laying the fire and

waiting for it to light. With gas, just push the button and presto, the pit's aglow. Push it again to shut it down. Of course there's no clean-up and no ash to dispose of.

On the other hand, he added, wood fires give more heat and are great for roasting over the open fire.

"Many people are taking the next step up to a full-fledged fireplace," he continued. "They come in 36- and 42-inch-wide kits that a handyman can assemble. We're happy to assist do-it-yourselfers on every step of the installation. Most customers, however, prefer to hire a professional to prepare the area, construct the fireplace and put down the surrounding concrete or stone work."

The exterior look of a fireplace is a matter of personal taste and there are hundreds of exterior lick-n-stick stone and brick options



Fireplaces start from this kit shown by Bob Benhower, owner of NOB Brick and Fireplaces. Customers choose the light weight lick-n-stick stone or brick exterior.

available to choose from. Many look like stone but are actually concrete and light-weight aggregate that are available in many colors and textures of stone or brick to compliment the exterior of the customer's home.

In his 60 years at NOB, Benhower said there have been a lot of changes in the industry. "Right now, stone has become very popular, but brick seems to be making a comeback. If brick is chosen, we stock 1.5 million of them in 200 colors. In addition, we have more than 25 indoor fireplaces burning in our showroom in every size and shape imaginable.

"After customers get over the initial enormity of the choices available to them here," says Benhower, "we discuss what they're looking for and help guide them in making a decision that works best for them. That's what keeps our customers coming back," he added. 🏠



Resources:

NOB Brick and Fireplaces, Fort Wayne,
260.483.2126, nobbrick.com



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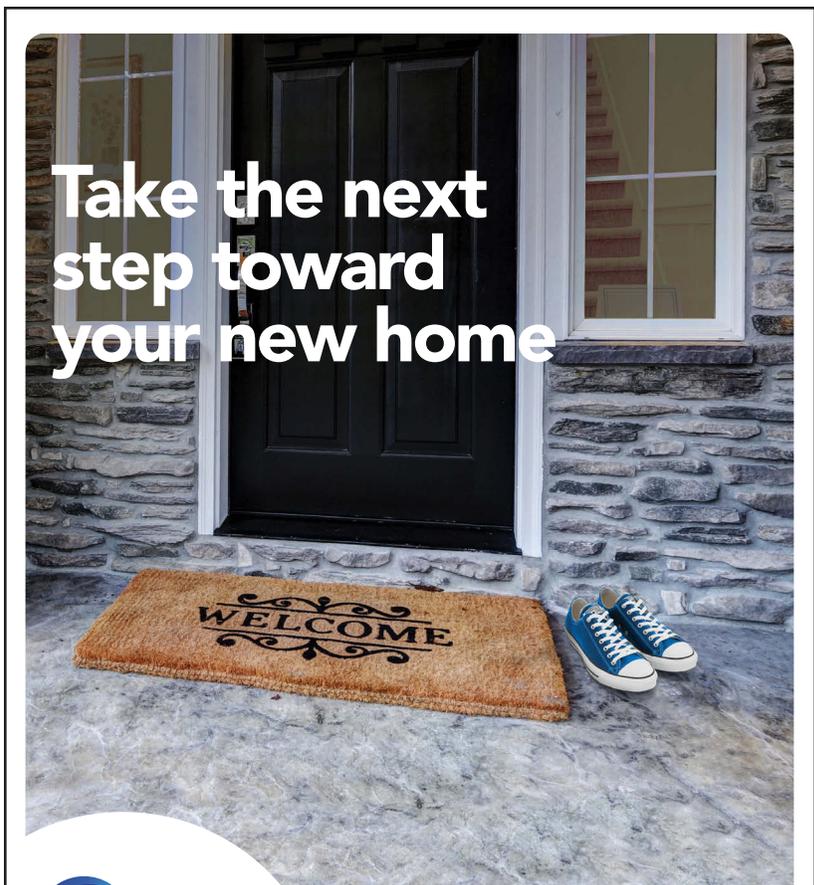
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Instant Pot Spaghetti

By Amber Bouthot

The kids are back to school and schedules are likely a little overwhelming. The last thing you want to do when you get home from work is cook — there's homework to contend with, laundry to do, a yard to maintain — the list is never ending. This easy Instant Pot spaghetti recipe makes a large portion (good for leftovers) and takes just a few minutes to make.

Ingredients

- 1 lb. ground turkey
- 14 oz. spaghetti noodles uncooked and broken in half
- 2 cups of your favorite marinara sauce
- 1 tbsp Worcestershire Sauce
- 1-1/2 tsp garlic powder
- 1-1/2 tsp onion powder
- 2 tsp Italian seasoning
- a few dashes of your favorite hot sauce
- 4 cups chicken broth/stock low sodium, if available
- 15 oz. can fire roasted diced tomatoes
- salt and pepper to taste

Instructions

1. Turn the Instant Pot on to sauté mode. Add ground turkey and season with salt, pepper, onion powder, garlic powder and Italian seasoning. Continue to cook until browned.
2. Break spaghetti noodles in half and layer on top of the ground turkey, followed by the sauce, diced tomatoes, Worcestershire sauce, hot sauce and chicken broth. Push spaghetti pieces down if they aren't covered by the liquid. Do not stir together.
3. Seal Instant Pot and set to manual high pressure for 8 minutes. When the timer goes off do a quick release. The spaghetti will have a lot of liquid on top, but just stir it real good. Serve and enjoy. 🍴



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and Covington Plaza, Fort Wayne - 260-436-2000 (3866)

Showroom model

CLEARANCE

Collier's Fireplace Shoppe is gearing up for our move to our new location later this fall, and we've put showroom models on clearance.

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574-269-3393
Find details at TrustColliers.com
2499 E. Winona Ave., Warsaw

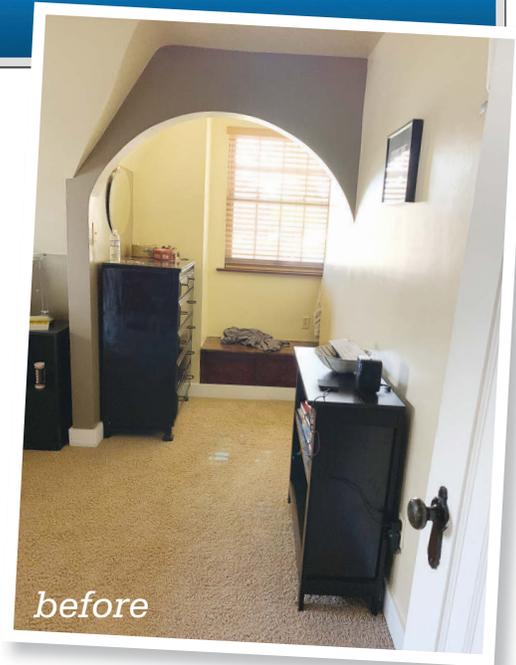
DIY Do It Yourself

Cozy Nook

By Amber Bouthot

Every month, we highlight projects our readers have 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.

This month's Reader DIY comes from Nicole Funk. She transformed a tiny nook in her new historic home from drab to fab.



What was the inspiration for your project?

Bright and happy spaces! We love the light and open feeling that a white space provides with pops of color throughout.

How long did it take from start to finish?

It only took us about a week to wrap up the entire room, including this nook.

Was it easier or harder than you anticipated?

It had been a long time since we had hand painted a bedroom in an older home with heavy colors, so it definitely took longer than we thought. Decorating the space only took me about an hour. I go into every home project with a vision or look I want to achieve, pull all the pieces together and knock it out. I love the instant gratification a little paint and a few plants can bring a space.

What was the total cost of the project?

\$160. The only things I had to purchase for this project were paint, light switch covers and pillows for the chest. Yes, that little seat is a chest that opens up.

What did you like best about this undertaking?

How much more open and happy this space feels. It was also a very simple and easy project with a big reward.

What was the most challenging aspect?

Painting by far! There were several dark colors and dark wood we had to paint over, so it was very time consuming.

Where did you source materials?

The paint is from Home Depot, the hats I've collected over the years, the planter and vase are from Ikea, the mirror and rug are from Target, and the pillows I ordered off of Amazon.

Where is this located in your home?

This little space is in our bedroom, and it's perfect for reading a book or checking out a good outfit. 🏠



2019

builders parade

Sept. 13, 14 and 15 - 12pm-5pm

BA-NI Home Tour Showcases Builders' Best

By Lauren Caggiano

There's nothing quite like a home with a view. If you're looking to see some lake home gems, the Builders Association of Northeast Indiana (BA-NI)'s 2019 Builder's Parade Tour is the place to be!

BA-NI is gearing up for the annual event, set to take place Sept. 13 through 15, from noon to 5 p.m. BA-NI Builders enter their best projects to show off their most creative homes in design, space planning, innovation, interiors, technology and so much more. Consider it the best in show for homes.

People from around the region look forward to the lineup every year. So, what's on tap for 2019? Visitors will be able to get a taste of three new homes, one remodel project (open only on Saturday) and one Feature Stop.

"The three houses are all lake

homes; Lake George, Lake James and Herron Preserve—all beautiful custom homes," said BA-NI's Chris Evans.

"The remodel is a country home that was completely remodeled and updated. Anyone who is interested in remodeling his or her home will want to come on Saturday. The custom lake homes each offer widely different designs and architectural features. Each one is well worth the short drive around."

Although not a home, the Feature Stop will showcase the newly completed Gays Hops-n-Schnapps in Angola. According to Evans, the

interior was renovated and reflects an industrial modern design. and for a liquor store, it's quite impressive. Pop in to take in the cool new vibes or stay for a while and enjoy a tasting.

Beyond the aesthetic value, Evans said tour-goers will have another incentive to make all the stops.

"This year we are again offering the "Complete the Tour" Contest," she said. "For every attendee who visits every entry on the tour, they can submit their completed and stamped ticket for a chance to win \$500. The drawing will be at the conclusion of the tour."

Passbooks will be distributed at hundreds of locations throughout Northeast Indiana and will also be available at each entry. Tickets are purchased at the entries. Tickets are \$10. For additional details, visit www.ba-ni.com. 🏠



Mike Gepfert Homes
“Country Charm” Lake George
20 Lane 301C, Lake George
Fremont, IN

Bob Buescher Homes
“Heron’s Nest” Heron Lake
5709 Cascina Lane, Heron Lake
Auburn, IN



Windows, Doors and More
“Le Cupole” Lake James
500 Lane 440, Lake James
Angola, IN



Saturday Only 12-5



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“Charming Country Homestead”
2115 CR 4
Ashley, IN

Feature Stop



JICI Construction
“Gay’s Tasting Room”
101 Growth Parkway
Angola, IN



By Ray Balogh

Botanical Observatory

• “Botanica Jones: Scientist, Merchant or Thief?” (through Nov. 17), 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.

Embassy Theatre

• Sept. 13, Ron White, 8 p.m. Friday, \$133/\$54/\$39
 • Sept. 28, Bill Engvall, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, \$55.50/\$45.50/\$35.50
 Fort Wayne Embassy Theatre, 125 W. Jefferson Blvd., Fort Wayne. 800.745.3000 fwembassytheatre.org.

Memorial Coliseum

• Sept. 14-15, RV and Boat Show Super Sale, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, free admission
 • Sept. 21-22, Johnny Appleseed Festival, 10 a.m. Saturday and Sunday, in the parking lot, free admission
 • Sept. 28, Hip to Snip Fur Ball Bash fundraiser for H.O.P.E. for Animals, 6 p.m.-10 p.m. Saturday, \$125/\$75
 Parking \$6 main lot, \$10 preferred lot. Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, 4000 Parnell Ave., Fort Wayne. 260.482.9502 memorialcoliseum.com.

Honeywell Center

• Sept. 4, Foreigner, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, \$250/\$150/\$69/\$49
 • Sept. 10, Air Force Shades of Blue Jazz Band, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, free admission, general seating
 • Sept. 14, Rodney Carrington, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, \$100/\$49/\$39
 • Sept. 27-29, Mamma Mia, 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, \$17/adults, \$10/youth through high school
 Ford Theater, Honeywell Center, 275 W. Market St., Wabash. 260.563.1102 honeywellcenter.org.

Niswonger Performing Arts Center

• Sept. 15, Wynonna and The Big Noise, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, \$75/\$65/\$55/\$45
 • Sept. 22, The Guess Who, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, \$55/\$45/\$35
 • Sept. 28, A Night with Janis Joplin, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, \$65/\$55/\$45
 Niswonger Performing Arts Center, 10700 SR 118, Van Wert. 419.238.6722, npacvw.org.

Fort Wayne Museum of Art

Traveling Exhibitions
 • Seen and Unseen: Photographs by Imogen Cunningham (through Sept. 8)
 • Full Spectrum: Paintings, Drawings and Prints of Julian Stanczak; Wood and Stone Sculptures of Barbara Stanczak (through Nov. 24)
 • American Brilliant Cut Glass: New World Innovation from 1876-1917 (ongoing)
 • Planes, Trains and Automobiles: Classic Toys and Americana (ongoing)
 • Repose in Amber (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., Fort Wayne. 260.422.6467 fwmoa.org.

1 AUBURN: Auburn Cord Duesenberg Festival

Car cruise-ins, fast and fabulous car show, parade of classics, concerts, fireworks, food, kids' area, collector car auctions. Free admission. Sunday, downtown and communitywide. 260.925.3600 acdfestival.org.

1-2 LIGONIER: Marshmallow Festival

Rides, entertainment, games, contests, food, merchandise. Free admission. Sunday and Monday, Downtown Square, Ligonier. 260.302.2052 marshmallowfestival.com.

3, 10, 17, 24 FORT WAYNE: "Little River Ramblers"

Hike and explore the interesting plants and wildlife of Eagle Marsh. Bring binoculars for a close-up view. Sponsored by Little River Wetlands Project. Free admission. 9 a.m.-11 p.m. Tuesday, Eagle Marsh west entrance, Aboite Road. 260.478.2515 info@lrwp.org, lrwp.org.

5-7 GRABILL: Country Fair

Handmade crafts, food vendors, monster truck rides, nightly entertainment, parade, children's games, contests. Free admission. Thursday through Saturday, downtown. 260.627.5227 grabillcountryfair.com.

5-8 ROANN: Covered Bridge Festival

Concerts, games, rides, vendors, hot-farm and modified tractor/truck pulls, car/truck cruise-in, parade, corn hole contest. Free admission. Thursday through Sunday, downtown. 765.833.2136 roanncoveredbridgefestival.com.

6 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.

6 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.

7 DECATUR: Flea Market

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

7 FORT WAYNE: Miami Indian Heritage Days

"Miami Harvest: Edible and Usable Plants and Materials" with Dani Tippmann. Free admission. 1 p.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Chief Richardville House, 570 Bluffton Road. 260.426.2882 fwhistorycenter.com.

7 BERNE: Heritage Festival

Transport to the 1800s with artisan demonstrations, live entertainment, world's largest cider press. \$6/adults (12 and older), \$5 seniors (55 and older), \$3/ children (6-11). Saturday, Swiss Heritage Village and Museum. 260.589.8007 swissheritage.org.

7-8 LIGONIER: Stone's Trace Pioneer Festival

Period entertainment, trades and crafts demonstrations, black powder skills, kids' activities, Civil War encampment. \$7/age 12 and older. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, Stone's Trace Settlement, 5111 Lincolnway S. 260.856.2666
stonetrace.com.

7-8 FORT WAYNE: Swinney Homestead Open House

Fort Wayne's Historic 1844 Swinney Homestead in Swinney Park will be open for walk-through tours. Members of Settlers Inc. will share the history of the Homestead and the Swinney family. Free admission. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, 1424 W. Jefferson Blvd. 260.424.7212
settlersinc.org.

7, 14, 21, 28 FORT WAYNE: South Side Farmers Market

100 stands featuring produce, hand-crafted items, antiques, fresh baked goods, eggs, local honey, hormone-free pork and chicken. Master gardeners on hand to answer questions. Free admission. 7 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, 3300 Warsaw St. 260.456.8255 or 260.456.1228
southsidefarmersmarket.com.

12 FORT WAYNE: "Breakfast on the Marsh: The 411 on Native Plants" with Laura Stine

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 and Conference Center, Room 102/104, 8211 W. Jefferson Blvd. 260.478.2515
info@lrwp.org, lrwp.org.

14 FORT WAYNE: "Public Hike: Butterfly Diversity"

Russ Voorhees tells about the many colorful butterflies on the preserves. Free admission. 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Saturday, Eagle Marsh, 6801 Engle Road. 260.478.2515
info@lrwp.org, lrwp.org.

17-21 BLUFFTON: Street Fair

Vendor booths, games, parades, idol contest, free entertainment, horse show, horse and pony pull. Free admission. Tuesday through Saturday, downtown. 260.824.4351
blufftonstreetfair.com.

21 WABASH: Founder's Day Festival

Nationally known entertainment, food trucks, vendors, children's games, parade. Free admission. Saturday, downtown and Paradise Spring Historical Park. 260.563.4171
wabashmuseum.com/foundersday.

21-22 FORT WAYNE: Johnny Appleseed Festival

Celebrate the life of Johnny Appleseed with traditional mid-1800s crafts and food, entertainment, children's games, demonstrators, pioneer encampment, antiques. Free admission. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, Johnny Appleseed and Archer parks. 260.427.6003
johnnyappleseedfest.com.

21-22 FORT WAYNE: Weekend of Wellness

Skin analysis, PCA Skin products, demos, raffles, more. Free 60-minute session upon joining. Free admission. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, 4302 Coldwater Road, 6409 W. Jefferson Blvd., 1125 E. Dupont Road.
massageenvy.com.

21-22 FORT WAYNE: Settlers Pioneer Demonstrations

Experience black pot cooking and historic hand arts demonstrations. Proceeds go to maintain the Historic Swinney Homestead. Free admission, but charge for parking. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Settlers' Pioneer Village, Johnny Appleseed/Archer Park, 1502 Harry W. Baals Drive. 260.424.7212
settlersinc.org.

23-28 AUBURN: DeKalb County Free Fall Fair

National main stage entertainment, midway, merchant's tent, 4-H competition, parades, pageants, live performances, fair food. Free admission. Monday through Saturday, downtown Square and Fairgrounds. 260.925.1834
dekalbcountyfair.org.

26 COLUMBIA CITY: 5th Annual Night to Aspire

Aspire's biggest customer appreciation sale with 20+ local vendors featuring trendy clothing, jewelry, home delights. Door prizes, live music, complimentary food and beverages, Bank Your Botox, more. Free admission. 3 p.m.-8 p.m. Thursday, Union 12, 7563 E. Lincolnway Road. RSVP to 260.205.8770
nighttoaspire.com.

28 FORT WAYNE: Vendor Market

Indoor/outdoor upscale vendor market, raffle. Hubie Ashcroft Band performing noon-2 p.m. Sponsored by Haute Gathering Markets. \$5/person, free 12 and under, free parking. 10 a.m.-4p.m. Saturday, Allen County Fairgrounds, 2726 Carroll Road.
www.facebook.com/hautegatheringmarkets. 🏠



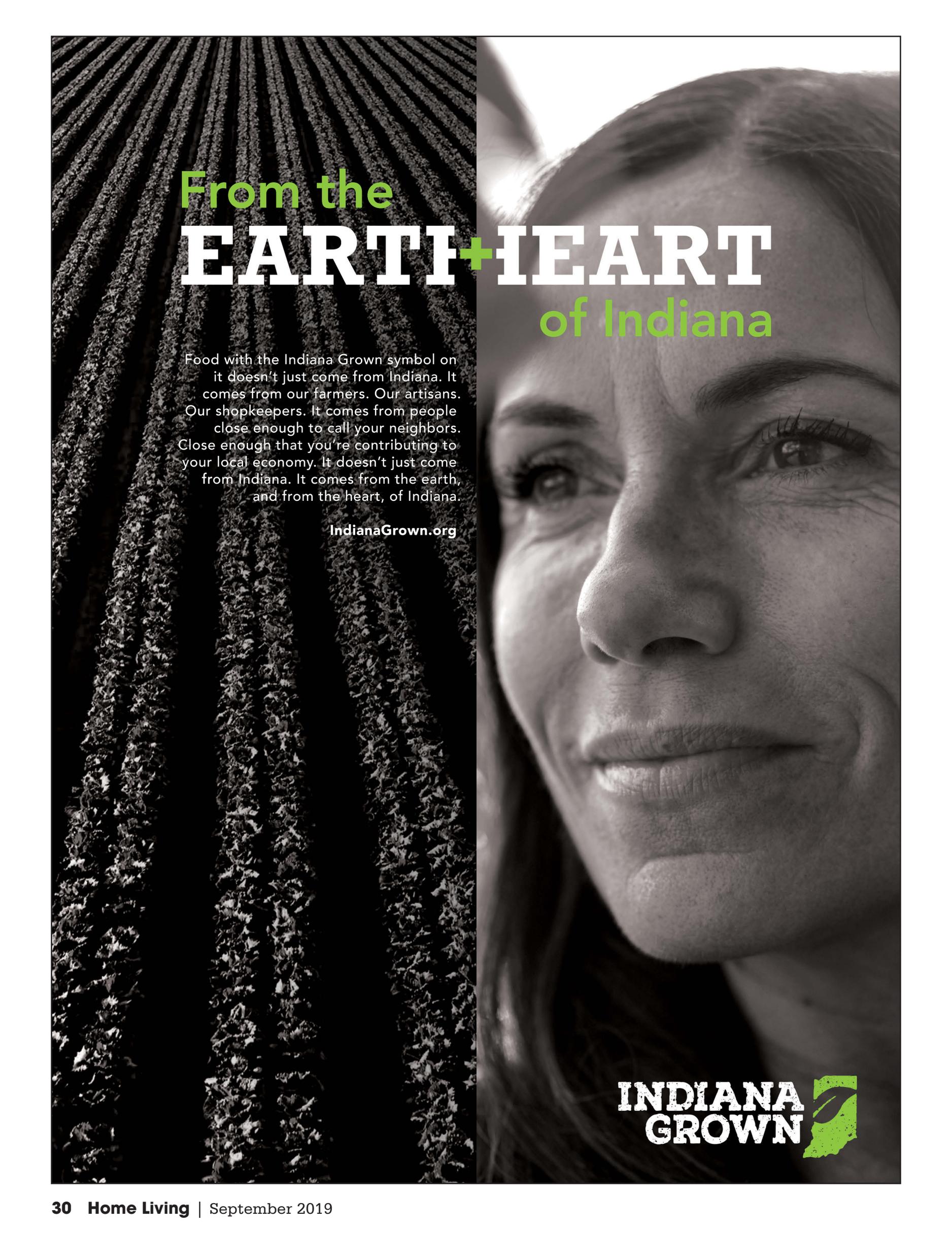
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September Books

By Steve Penhollow

September is the month when the school year revs back up for most families. There are still plenty of ways to enjoy your garden and the last of the summer's warmth. But you may also want to turn your attention to indoor endeavors: organizing spaces and launching projects.

Here are two books that can help you with those inside tasks.

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Making Space, Clutter Free: The Last Book on Decluttering You'll Ever Need

By Tracy McCubbin
Sourcebooks \$16.90

ISBN-10: 1492675199

ISBN-13: 978-1492675198

The subtitle of this book is "The Last Book on Decluttering That You Will Ever Need." Each reader will have to decide the truthfulness of that



subtitle for him- or herself. After all, there are a lot of books on decluttering out there and more will come. But many reviewers seem to think that McCubbin has written the definitive work on this topic.

What makes this book different? McCubbin delves into the emotional reasons for clutter. She writes of 7 Emotional Clutter Blocks and gives readers strategies for overcoming them. McCubbin is a professional organizer so she has true tales to tell. Readers will see themselves in McCubbin's anecdotes. McCubbin's strategies for overcoming clutter are more flexible than might be found in other decluttering books.

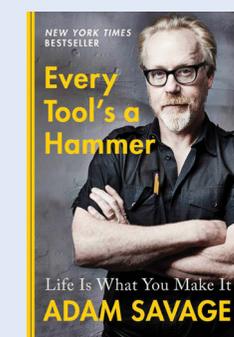
Every Tool's a Hammer: Life Is What You Make It

By Adam Savage
Atria Books \$27

ISBN-10: 1982113472

ISBN-13: 978-1982113476

Savage, a Hollywood special effects man and former host of the cable show "Mythbusters," has written a guide to creativity that is designed to appeal to anyone who does anything



imaginative. In other words, you don't have to be a woodworker to find inspiration and encouragement here.

Savage delves into the process of making anything and seeing any project through to its conclusion. Savage encourages readers to freely and righteously follow their interests wherever those interests take them. 🏠

Day trip to Wells County

By Jaclyn Youhana Garver

For a county so small that it doesn't even have a visitors' bureau, Wells County offers a variety of outdoor, small-town fun for families. The next time you decide to go exploring in your own backyard, here are some day-tripping tips.



Ouabache State Park

OUTDOORS

Ouabache State Park: We know you want to call that “oo-ba-chee,” but it’s a lot easier to pronounce than that: Just say “Wabash.” This state park gets its name from the French spelling of a native American word. At Ouabache, you can picnic, hike, camp, bike and swim. It offers courts for tennis, volleyball and basketball, plus a playground.

4930 E. SR 201, Bluffton

Minion silo: On your day trip through Wells County’s beautiful country roads, don’t forget to drive past the silo painted to look just like a minion from the “Despicable Me” movies.

9841 N. 750 E., Ossian



Minion Silo

MUSEUMS and GALLERIES

Wells County Historical Society and Museum: Located at the Stewart-Studabaker house, the Wells County museum is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The building was constructed in 1882, and its 14 rooms are home to more than 20,000 items honoring Wells County's culture, history and genealogy. Don't miss the Everett Scott exhibit. Scott was a Bluffton native who played for the Boston Red Sox and the New York Yankees in the 1920s. The museum displays both his first paycheck from the Yankees and a baseball autographed by himself and his friend, Babe Ruth.

420 W. Market St., Bluffton

Balentine Gallery: Exhibits in the gallery located at the Creative Arts Council of Wells County change often. Visit wellsco-creativearts.com and click on "gallery" for the schedule, and mark your calendars for the upcoming Festival of Wreaths from Dec. 2, to Jan. 10, 2020.

211 Water St., Bluffton



Markle Exit 286
Antique Mall

SHOPPING

Boutique 415: Located inside Polished Nail and Body Salon, Boutique 415 carries shoes, jewelry, purses and clothing in sizes ranging from extra small to 3X.

415 N Main St., Bluffton

Markle Exit 286 Antique Mall: Markle boasts the uncommon trait of straddling two counties: Huntington and Wells. The town's antique mall has more than 30,000 square feet of space, housing 100-plus dealers.

250 E. South St., Markle

EAT and DRINK

County Line Pizza: This tiny pizza parlor, which used to be more of a convenience store, has recently transitioned into a sit-down restaurant. Its menu boasts sausage rolls, buffalo wings, grinders and, of course, pizza.

10914 S. County Line Road, Zanesville

El Camino Real: Fans of this Mexican restaurant love its taco salad, chips and salsa and steak fajitas.

2185 Commerce Drive, Bluffton 🏠



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Alzheimer's Association of Greater Indiana



By Lauren Caggiano



World Alzheimer's Day is Sept. 21, and chances are you know someone directly or indirectly affected by the disease.

Alzheimer's disease is an irreversible, progressive brain disorder that slowly destroys memory and thinking skills, which means many patients lose their independence as their condition worsens. In most people, symptoms first appear in their mid-60s.

An Alzheimer's diagnosis can be devastating for the patient and their family members. But thanks to one organization, no one has to walk that journey alone. Abby Geha, walk manager with the Alzheimer's Association of Greater Indiana, said they are often the first resource for families when facing the news. Their services are free of charge and can mean a major difference in helping individuals and families navigate such a challenging time.

To understand the size and scope of the disease's impact, consider the fact that an estimated 1 in 10 people over 65 is affected by Alzheimer's and that amounts to about 330,000 caregivers. In other words, the

need is great and that's why the work of the Alzheimer's Association is so critical.

"What we do is provide resources for care," Geha said. "For example, if someone calls us and they say they've just been diagnosed with Alzheimer's, they will speak to our care consultant and she walks them through some education and resources."

The help is not limited to the ones directly affected by the disease. Geha said families may need information about the types of facilities available and the best course of

action to take if the patient needs a higher level of care. In her words, "We help them look at the future and help them make those decisions that are tough to make, but better to make them now, while the person who is diagnosed is able to help in those decisions. That often means involving medical and financial powers of attorneys."

Speaking of education, Geha said there's opportunity to connect with another audience: medical providers. Many times, doctors don't explain to patients what the diagnosis means, so patients are left in the dark in a way when it comes to their health and prognosis. The disease, which has no cure, worsens with time.

Despite this reality, Geha said her organization is optimistic and members want to get out the message that a cure may be possible. To that end, they speak in the community to businesses and community organizations. The annual Walk to End Alzheimer's is another means to reach people in a different way. This family-friendly event is a major fundraiser and Geha invites the community to step up and show its support.

"Every dollar raised from the walk pays for all the services we offer in the community," she said.

The Michiana walk is planned for September 15 and will take place at Central Park — Mishawaka Riverwalk. Fort Wayne area supporters are invited to join the walk scheduled for October 5 at Parkview Field.

Geha has high hopes for the fundraiser, sharing their goal. "The 2018 Fort Wayne walk raised about \$260,000 and this year our goal is \$290,000," she said.

Visit <https://act.alz.org> to register for one or both events. 🏠

Nonprofit

Alzheimer's Association of Greater Indiana, Indianapolis, 317.575.9620, alz.org/Indiana





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Southern Choice Properties

Brian Pitre

By Barb Sieminski

Meet Brian Pitre of Southern Choice Properties, a division of Fort Wayne Mobile Home Communities. Pitre is a Lake Charles, Louisiana, native who is the project coordinator for the redevelopment of the housing community on the south side of town. Pitre had a varied work life before coming to work at SCP.

"I was Sales Leader for Toys R Us, a PetsMart dog trainer, marketing agent, marketing manager, bartender, restaurant floor manager and I finally started here as a property manager and worked my way up to my current title, marketing director/project coordinator," said Pitre, a graduate of McNeese State University with an emphasis on Mass Communications, Radio/Television Broadcast.

Although Pitre has been in Fort Wayne just since the end of last May, he has already established himself with his company, explaining why it stands out from the rest.

"We are not your ordinary park," said Pitre. "We pride ourselves in not fitting in a stereotype and hold ourselves to a degree of professionalism and resident care that many communities fall short on providing. Every one of our communities maintains a strict HOA structure that not only gives the residents the freedom to enjoy and customize their living space, but also maintains the balance of community rules and regulations. Our community is not a 'complex' or a 'project' — it's your home, and it is our mission to make sure you feel comfortable at home."

The most challenging part of his job, said Pitre, who supervises 12, is the ability to manage time in an environment where everything is a rushed order with complicated consequences if job tasks are not done accurately. He oversees everything from the construction and demo of the project, to staff training, lease management, resident retention, marketing/design and much more.

Dog lovers, Pitre and his wife, Britney Marie Pitre, own two — a Lab/pit bull mix named Sage and an American Pit Bull Terrier named Gunther (aka G). Britney is a certified



professional dog trainer (CPDT-KA) and owns her own dog training facility and in-home training business in Louisiana called Bons Chiens Dog Training, LLC.

In his spare time, Pitre is a master gardener who likes growing all plants, especially those that are edible or brightly colored. He is also an avid photographer and a stand-up comedian who has performed at the Fort Wayne Comedy Club, the Tiger Room at Welch's Ale House and open mic at Wrigley Field Bar and Grill.

Pitre is also an author.

"I love history and anthropology, and I have written a number of graphic novels that are historical fictions," he said, adding that he had one comic currently in development and 12 more that he is in the process of writing.

Finally, what Pitre likes best about his career is the respect and freedom he has.

"I've worked for a number of companies that suppress the creative strengths their employees possess," said Pitre. "Southern Choice Properties LLC encourages its employees to pursue their interest and talents because the more skills your employees can possess, the more resourceful your company will be."

"Also, anytime you are faced with moving in life you are surrounded by a multitude of stress factors. I strive to reduce that stress with every resident, and some of them appreciate it so much they bring you gifts — cookies, cakes, T-shirts and key chains are some of the most common thank-you gifts, but the one that stood out most was a soccer jersey I received from the coliseum in Spain." 🏠

Brian Pitre

Southern Choice Properties, Fort Wayne, 260.747.3535, southernchoicepropertiesllc.cpm



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A home equity loan generally allows you to borrow around 80-85% of your home's value, minus what you owe on your mortgage. This money can be used for home improvement projects or even pay off a high-interest credit card.

Home equity loan vs. home equity line of credit

The first step to tapping into your home equity involves understanding your options. There are two major ones: a home equity loan (HEL) or a home equity line of credit (HELOC).

A home equity loan is a second mortgage. You receive a lump sum at a fixed rate of interest that's locked in when you procure the loan. You're expected to pay it back in fixed monthly payments for a fixed amount of time — typically 10 to 15 years.

A home equity line of credit functions more like a credit card — using your home as collateral. You ask for a line of credit, and the lender assigns a maximum amount you can borrow — a credit limit. 🏠



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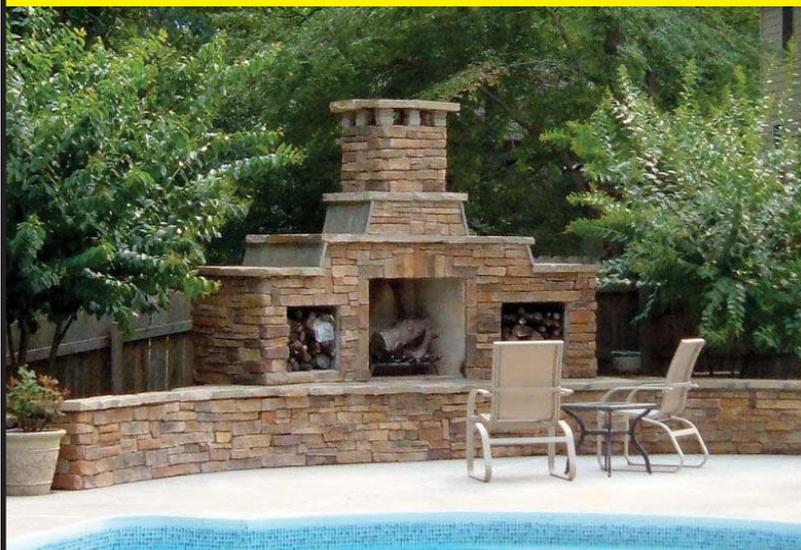
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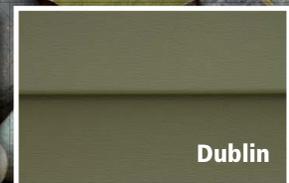
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