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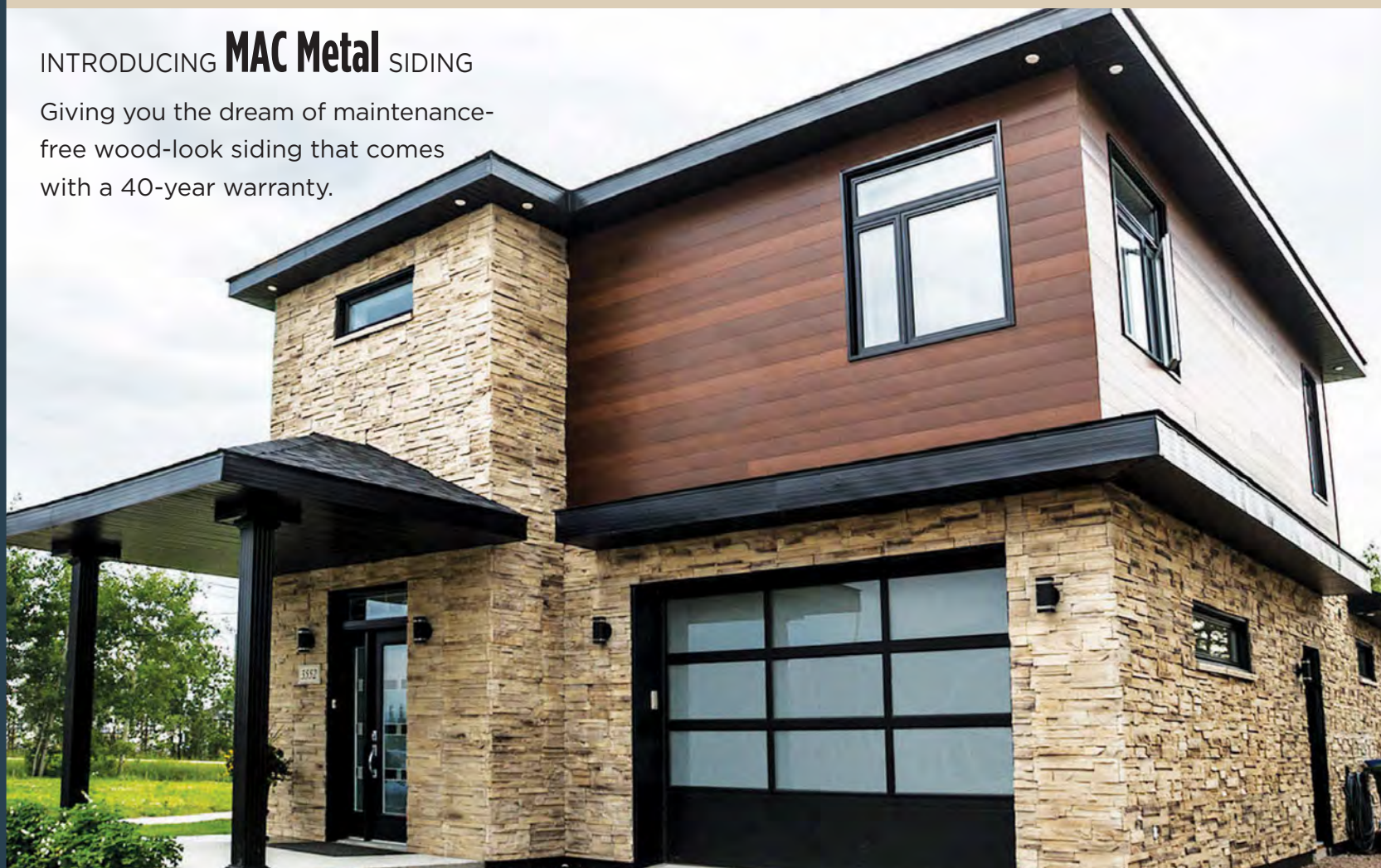
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**The Papers**  
INCORPORATED

Milford, Indiana

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# welcome!

from the editor

August is my birthday month, which means it's typically one of my favorites of the year. But 2020 has thrown us a lot of curveballs. With so much uncertainty due to COVID-19, it's hard to remain positive and look ahead.

To combat feeling overwhelmed and dismayed, I started making a list of things for which I am grateful. Here's a sampling:

- The appearance of my homegrown tomatoes. There's something really special about growing your own food.
- The family lake house and the refuge it provides on weekends.
- The endless amount of fun our backyard kiddie pool provides.
- Top Chef seasons on Hulu (sometimes it's the small things).
- Puppy dog snuggles.
- Lightning bugs.
- Members-only hours at the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo.

What are you grateful for during these strange times? What are you looking forward to for the remainder of 2020? I'd love to hear from you. Email me anytime at ambouthot@the-papers.com.



Amber Bouthot



Happy August,  
Amber

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**By Amber Bouthot**

# Bringing in Botanicals

If you spend much time on Pinterest looking for design inspiration, you may have noticed a surge in botanical-inspired interior décor. Ever since Pantone named Greenery as its Color of the Year in 2017, there has been a steady rise in the popularity of bringing the beauty of the great outdoors into the home.

The botanical trend allows you to use the refreshing and revitalizing shades of the natural world to create a sense of calm in your home. Whether you decorate with live plants, floral pillows and bedding, botanical artwork or wall paper, the possibilities are endless.

Here, we've compiled a few of our favorite looks to help inspire you.



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# In-Law Suites



**By Lauren Caggiano**

*Multigenerational living is becoming more common, and recent college graduates and their parents aren't the only groups who see value in this setup. Findings from Pew Research indicate that one-fourth of those ages 55-64 currently live with their children, and about 20 percent of those ages 65 and older report living in such a household. One takeaway? Housing has to evolve with the times. One means to that end is through the addition of in-law suites.*



Photo provided by Quality Crafted Homes



Photo provided by Quality Crafted Homes

What exactly is an in-law suite? It's the most common name for a separate living space on the same property as a single-family home, where another family member can live, while enjoying some sense of privacy and independence.

Jhonelle Kees, with Quality Crafted Homes, said there are a few ways to go about this renovation or expansion project. It's a matter of preference, but she offers a few ideas.

"We have done two master suites on the first floor, mini apartments complete with kitchenette and sitting room, and also guest house-style quarters on the same property," she offered as examples, adding that they have also done a floor plan with an upper level bedroom, bath, sitting room and kitchenette.

Whatever the particulars, one guiding rule to consider is how to plan for aging in place. What elements can help people navigate their living space safely as their physical limitations or abilities change?

To that end, "first-floor considerations are typically for aging parents, or someone with physical disabilities," Kees said. "These spaces are usually complete with roll-in showers and full handicap accessibility – wider doorways, lower countertops, etc."

Structures like guest homes (i.e. tiny houses) on the same property are equally popular for the same reasons mentioned above. Such additions can be a great way to address privacy while also maintaining a sense of family cohesion. Call it the best of both worlds.

According to Kees, "guest homes on the same property can be for aging parents or college students living at home who want some separation of space."

If you choose to go this route, Kees suggests homeowners think ahead — beyond their current reality. For instance, they should consider how long the space will be used for this purpose and whether or not it can be converted to full family use should the property be sold — making it buyer friendly.

Speaking of money, you probably want to know how much you should expect to shell out for such an enhancement. According to Realtor.com, this addition can initially cost anywhere from \$32,700 to \$63,000 on average — nothing to sneeze at. However, you should know that adding an in-law suite to your property may increase its value by a great extent. A survey by the National Association of Realtors indicated that about a third of buyers would pay nearly \$3,000 more for this feature.

Ultimately, the decision to add an in-law suite to the mix is personal and depends on a number of factors, including family size/dynamics, budget and the current housing market. Here's to a smooth transition. 🏠

## Resource:

**Quality Crafted Homes**, Fort Wayne, 260.493.1655, [qualitycraftedhomes.com](http://qualitycraftedhomes.com)



# RAISING BEES AT HOME

by *Jaclyn Youhana Garver*

*It started as a way for Cyndi Niezer to connect with her dad. He was looking for a retirement hobby, and at first, Niezer said, "I think I'll get some cows to raise with him."*

But a friend talked her out of it: "I'm getting bees," said the friend. "Be a beekeeper with me."

Fast forward eight years and Niezer now has two hives—about 150,000 bees total—in her Fort Wayne backyard.

The number of at-home beekeepers in the United States has declined dramatically since its heyday. At beekeeping's most popular, in 1947, beekeepers managed nearly 6 million honey-producing colonies, according to the Journal of Invertebrate Pathology, run out of Pennsylvania State University. By 2008, it was down to 2.3 million colonies—a 61% drop.

The decline affects world food sources because food production relies on pollinators like bees, bats, moths and hummingbirds for food growth.

"Lack of land, the increased use of pesticides and how the U.S. agricultural



*Meg Ryan and Alex Cornwell, photo provided*

system is set up all contribute to the decline in bee numbers," explained Meg Ryan, the education director and co-lead beekeeper at Southwest Honey Co., founded to protect and conserve Fort Wayne's bee population.

"People are making that connection: The food we put on our plate came from somewhere, and pollination is vital to our food source," she said.

According to Greenpeace, bee pollination is responsible for one in every three bites of food for humans.

"It's not just about honey," Niezer said. "It's about strawberries and watermelon and almonds. There's a huge conglomerate that transport their bees down to Georgia for the citrus and up and down the West Coast for the almond plantations."

When Niezer and her father decided to become beekeepers, she didn't know the first thing about getting started. At the time, they lived in Kansas, so she signed up for adult education classes at the nearby community college while her father connected with a long-time beekeeper, a ninety-something year old man who at one time had 100 hives. He sold Niezer's father his equipment and acted as his beekeeping Sherpa.

Over the last eight years, Niezer has moved from Kansas to Ohio to Indiana, always keeping her bees at her father's or a friend's property. This spring, she moved them to her Fort Wayne property, a 1-acre wooded lot. Her colonies are on a small cinder-block stand in the sunniest spot she could find.

The hobby is pretty low-maintenance, with a spring-to-September busy season, when Niezer assures the bees have enough room to ramp up their egg production by adding

more wooden boxes to their hives. She also keeps an eye on pests; robbers like ants, hive beetles and hornets can kill a hive, and varroa mites will feed off bees' fat stores and kill them.

During a good year, Niezer gets 150 pounds of honey per hive, though she's gotten as much as 500, depending on how many hives she has.

"Until about the 1980s, neighborhood beekeepers like Niezer were pretty common," Ryan said, "and it's where neighbors would get their honey."

In fact, Niezer only has to mention that she keeps bees, and the honey sells itself.

"Literally, all I have to do is say 'I'm a bee keeper,' and people go, '(Gasp!) Do you sell your honey?' and they buy it right out of my hand," she said. 🏠



*Cyndi Niezer, photo provided*

## By the numbers:



- 300 million:** Number of flowers a single bee colony can pollinate in one day
- 80:** Percent of worldwide pollination performed by bees
- 70:** Percent of top 100 human food crops pollinated by bees
- 5-10:** Normal percent decline in a bee colony during the winter
- 30-50:** Current percent decline in a bee colony during the winter

Source: Greenpeace





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# Pet Products

By Stacie Ball

*"Pets are humanizing. They remind us we have an obligation and responsibility to preserve and nurture and care for all life."*

*-James Cromwell*

With the myriad of available pet products, how do we know which ones are the best?

## Food and Treats

When shopping for food, try to look for meat ingredients and not a lot of fillers or by-products. Kate Everly of Copp Farm Supply explained, "Usually the first 5 to 6 items listed are what you want to look at."

Treats are not a necessity, but certainly make things easier. Everly said, "Rawhide treats have always been popular, but we carry Smartbones, which are a healthy alternative."

Adrianna Hensley of Pink Poodle said, "Treats typically are offered as soft or crunchy." Her shop carries the Fruitables treat line that includes flavors like pumpkin-berry, pumpkin-banana, bison jerky and apple-bacon.

## Toys and Other Necessities

Both experts agree you should choose a toy that matches the size of your pet. Large pets can choke on small toys, and small pets can't benefit from a toy that is too large. For those aggressive chewers, Hensley mentioned, "Companies like Goughnuts and West Paw will stand by their products and if the dog is able to get a tooth hole in, they will replace them."

In addition to toys, Everly said, "Pet beds, mats, pillows and crates are always a must because your pet needs their own space."

## The Latest and Greatest

Hensley said that there are three new and amazing products for pets. First is the Wunderball.

"It is an all latex ball that can be bounced but guaranteed to never go in the same direction twice," she explained, "It also cleans teeth!"

Second is the Heavenly Hounds peanut butter relaxation brownie, great for decreasing anxiety.

Third is a lick mat. "The mat can have cheese, yogurt, banana, ice cream and peanut butter spread on it," Hensley instructed, "It keeps your dog occupied while you are away."

Everly's favorites include durable and robust toys. "Kong always has great toys and has come out with several new ones," she said. "Many pets enjoy Outward Hound Invincible Toys, Jolly Pet Balls and Tug Toys."



## Allergies/Sensitive Skin

All these things sound amazing, but what if your poor fur baby can't use them because of allergies or sensitive skin?

"We carry grain free and legume free American Natural Premium food," said Everly. "We also carry Skout's Honor, NaturVet & NutriVet Pre & Probiotics, Stella & Chewy's Stress & Anxiety with Hemp Oil and Greenies Pill Pockets for taking allergy medicine."

Hensley said, "We sell Tropiclean OxyMed medicated shampoos and sprays for a variety of pets' sensitive skin issues."

## Words of Wisdom

Regardless of what kind of pet you own, Hensley had some great advice for choosing products.

"Always try new things. You don't know how well a product will work for an ailment until you try it on your pet. A toy that one pet likes doesn't mean they all will. Pay attention to colors, textures, size and sounds of a toy your pet likes and try to stick with those when making new purchases."

Armed with this knowledge, go forth! Shop, preserve, nurture and care for your pets. 🏠

## Resources:

**Copp Farm Supply**, Columbia City, 260.244.6465, [coppfarmssupply.com](http://coppfarmssupply.com)

**The Pink Poodle**, Fort Wayne, 260.459.7465, [pinkpoodlepetboutique.com](http://pinkpoodlepetboutique.com)

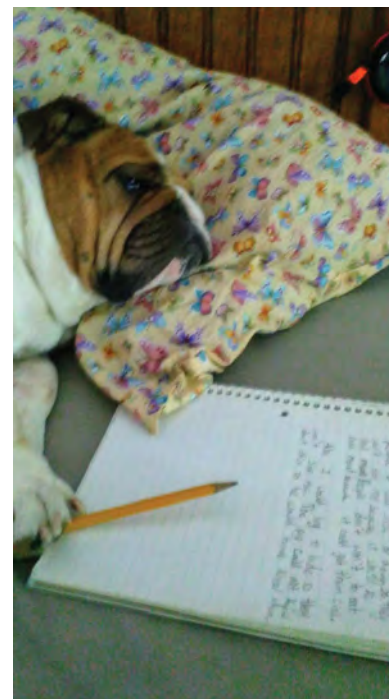


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# Empty Nesting

By Deborah C. Gerbers

*The time has come—the kids are all off on their own and you’ve found yourself in charge of an empty nest! So now what? We have several tips to help you get organized and decide which items to keep or not.*

Emily Fitzgerald, Certified Professional Organizer and owner of OLS Organizing, LLC, has a wide range of experience in helping people get organized both at work and at home. She suggests people get into a downsizing mindset when starting to clear clutter from your life and home. She utilizes the “Pareto” Principle, which states we use 20% of our belongings 80% of the time.

“Define what your essential 20% (things you use on a daily or weekly basis) and it will be easier to part with the 80%,” she wrote.

For empty nesters, it is important to look forward and work on letting go of things that serve only to tie you to the past. This can be tricky when dealing with sentimental things from your children’s childhoods, so look closely at what is really essential and what can be sacrificed. Fitzgerald advises people to work up the courage to let go of things that are not directly benefiting or serving you in your life.

That being said, it is important to keep the memory even when the item is no longer useful; she suggests taking photos of items to remember the memory. When organizing and downsizing your older children’s rooms, Fitzgerald has some tips that apply: set a time limit, minimize distractions to keep focus, start with the big stuff, and sort/categorize/deal as you go.

Instead of being overwhelmed by an entire houseful of clutter, start small with one room at a time. For example, while your kids are past college and (hopefully!) old enough to be on their own permanently, all of their childhood belongings may still be in their bedroom. Consider FaceTiming your child while walking around the room to see which items they still want to hang onto for sentimental reasons and which ones can be tossed. If they can’t decide now, that’s ok. Odds are, those old sports ribbons and trophies might not mean anything now but later on they might. Start a “special box” (i.e. labeled plastic tote with lid) for each child and pack up old papers, posters, high school memorabilia, etc. for them to look through at a later date. Store the box in a garage, basement or just the closet until they want it.

For photo collages and bulletin boards, take a photo with your phone and either send it or print it while the compilation is still intact.

Then you can disassemble the collages and put photos into labeled file folders or manila envelopes that will fit right into their special box.

For old sports jerseys and uniforms, consider having them all made into one large quilt; if you’re not handy with a sewing machine, there are websites that provide this service for a reasonable price. Stuffed animals and toys that don’t hold much sentimental value can be given to the Salvation Army or thrift center, or maybe a children’s hospital or pediatrician’s office. Very special items can be packed away, but try to limit yourself to one or two large totes to avoid keeping everything. Again, check with your kids to see what they still want saved.

Once you’ve gone through the kids’ bedrooms, move on to the garage and closets. Old sporting equipment, roller blades, outgrown cleats and deflated basketballs are all great items for a yard sale or a neighbor with younger kids. Having a “kids are gone” sale in your neighborhood will make you a little extra cash, free up space in your newly empty nest, and provide other kids with new-to-them items. You might also consider holding on to a few “future grandma” items that might come in handy in a few years. Consider another large lidded tote for baseball bats, footballs and other items you might want for grand-kids down the road.

If it’s hard deciding what to keep, that’s normal. As long as everything is labeled and organized (and if you have the storage space) there’s nothing wrong with keeping old report cards and term papers until your kids want them. Art projects can be either filed or scanned into a digital format, which takes up much less space. And again, check with your kids to see what they really can’t part with and what they won’t mind being given away. Old clothing can be left on hangers and protected with a garment bag, then hung in a spare closet or a storage trunk.

With a little thoughtfulness and organization, empty nesting can be easy when your little chickadees have finally flown the nest. 🏠



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## Resource:

Organized Living Solutions, LLC, Fort Wayne, 260.450.1289, [olsinfo.com](http://olsinfo.com)



# Five Reasons Music Makes You Feel Better

*If you've ever turned on the radio with a heavy heart, listened to a sad song and found yourself feeling better, you've just experienced one of the benefits of music as therapy—perhaps without even knowing it. According to Allison Thomas, owner of Mainstay Music Therapy, Inc., “we all use music in a therapeutic way.”*

“We use music to energize us and motivate us to exercise,” said Thomas. “We also use music to help us relax. We all use music purposefully throughout the day.”

**1. Music Makes Chemistry.** Literally. According to Shauna Rupert, owner of Gentle Rhythms Music Therapy, LLC, “listening to music actually releases endorphins in the brain. That positive release is increased if you make music.” So go ahead and sing in the shower. Learn to play the guitar. Take up cardio drumming. (Yes, that’s a thing.) We could all use some extra endorphins, right?

“When feelings are unexpressed, that can result in anxiety,” said Thomas. “Music is a great outlet for that. It guides and shapes those expressions in a purpose-driven way.”

A close-up photograph of a woman with long brown hair, wearing large red and black over-ear headphones. She is lying down with her eyes closed and a slight smile, suggesting she is relaxed or listening to music. Her hands are clasped together near her chin. The background is a soft, out-of-focus white, likely a bedsheet.

**Mainstay Music Therapy.** Fort Wayne, 260.494.1624, [mainstaymusictherapy.com](http://mainstaymusictherapy.com)



# Dividing Perennials

**By Cathy Shouse**

*While planting season is diminishing, this month still offers gardening tasks. We've rounded up expert advice on the subject.*

Check out your perennial flowers that may need divided in cooler temperatures this fall so the clumps don't grow thick, which limits the blooms. According to Amy Henry, landscape designer at Arbor Farms Nursery, common perennials are iris, daylily, hosta, peony, Shasta daisy, coneflowers, Black-Eyed Susan and ornamental grasses.

"The right time to divide perennials is when they have outgrown their space or are crowding other plants in the landscape bed," Henry said. "They usually don't need divided every year but maybe every two to three years. Typically, early spring/summer is the best time, as well as early fall. There needs to be adequate moisture before and after the dividing occurs."

## Divide plants in the following steps:

1. Dig up the root ball with a shovel or spade, keeping as many roots intact as possible.
2. Pull root ball apart or cut with your shovel.
3. Replant the divided sections.
4. Water the divisions regularly until they become established.

Another gardening task to consider is the use of cover crops. Kate Everly, office manager for Copp Farm Supply, shared some information and strategies.

"Cover crops are seeds that you plant to help protect the soil from erosion and improve water infiltration," Everly said. "Gardens are a great place for cover crops. I sell two mixes especially for gardens: Winter Blanket Mix and Spring Green Garden Mix. Both come in five-pound bags and cover up to 3000 sq. ft."

Cover crops are attractive and provide ground protection. They also help suppress weeds, raise soil organic matter, reduce compaction, and enhance your soil biological activity and health.

"You can plant your cover crop from August through October," Everly said. "The Spring Green Mix has Winter Rye, Scav-N-Ger Radish

& Dixie Crimson Clover. The clover and rye will live through the winter, keeping the soil healthy, alive, and ready for spring garden planting. The Winter Blanket Mix has Oats & Scav-N-Ger Radish that increases nutrients, smothers weeds, reduces compaction, and stabilizes the soil. It will die out over winter, leaving the ground clean and ready to plant in the spring."

Master Gardener Lourae Rumble said not to get discouraged if you haven't done things correctly.

"Unless it's brown and dead, it's not a lost cause," Rumble said. "A lot of people are busy and unless they are avid gardeners, they don't start paying attention until their children are grown. Not all plants are easily divided. The biggest thing is, know what you have and read about it. With the internet, you can look up your plants and find out what to do, or call your local county extension office. 🏠"



## Resources:

Arbor Farms Nursery, Fort Wayne, 260.637.5816, [arborfarmsnursery.com](http://arborfarmsnursery.com)  
Copp Farm Supply, Columbia City, 260.244.6465, [coppfarmsupply.com](http://coppfarmsupply.com)

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# Adding fall color to a home's exterior



dried or fresh. It's ultra-fast drying, also, and adds a nice seasonal touch to your blooms.

Another way to update your home for the new season is to add gaily-hued mulches and landscaping rocks to your front yard. Vibrant pine nuggets or inspiring color-leaved plants also add texture to your acreage.

Artfully place pumpkins, gourds, corn husks and other Halloween items on your porch –and while you're at it, why not spray-paint the veranda and stair railings a gleaming white or sunset gold? Add bright- or neutral-hued carpeting to your portico for another attention-getting glance.

This isn't strictly for autumn, but a great power-washed exterior highlights your sparkling clean abode.

Use tints such as hunter green, red and deep brown as pops of color on your window frames. And bring the kids into it – they can make big drawings of turkeys or Halloween monsters in fall colors and display them in your front windows so folks passing by can admire your child's artwork.

Another fun, kid-inspired idea: construct a small stand in the front yard or in the grassy strip between the sidewalk and the street, and let the kids make some money by selling cups of cold (or hot) apple cider – after all, what sells autumn better than the heady tang of apple cider?

And of course top it off with an inviting display of various varieties of shiny, blushing apples and cinnamon sticks. 🍎

Shutterstock.com



By Barb Sieminski

*This summer has flown by, leaving us feeling as if we didn't really experience America's vacationing season like we usually do. And maybe we didn't, thanks to the pandemic.*

But a new season is upon us, and it's time to dress for fall, with lots of home décor ideas on the outside of your home.

Begin by adding a variety of saplings, such as the brilliant Sugar Maple (red, orange or yellow), Washington Hawthorn, Red Oak, Quaking Aspen or Dogwood, for starters. These trees will blaze with glory come autumn.

You can install a vibrant autumn-hued front door complete with a door wreath of fake flowers, dried corn husks, buckeyes or pinecones. Or go with matching shutters, change your siding, or even paint your house. Consider planting small, brightly-colored fall foliage around the exterior but especially in the front yard where curb appeal shouts, "Look at me!"

Jazz up your outdoor flowers with a transparent flower dye spray application, such as Just For Flowers® which colors any flower – silk,



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# August

By Ray Balogh

*Due to CDC recommendations to stop the spread of the coronavirus, many August events have been postponed or cancelled. Please check the websites of our community partners for details specific to their venues and events.*

## Botanical Conservatory

- "Present Tense, Future Calm" garden exhibit (through Nov. 14), regular admission
  - Saturday, Aug. 1, Mini Macrame Air Plant Hanger, 9:30 a.m.-11 a.m., \$19/person
  - Thursday, Aug. 6, Meditative Garden Sketches, 6 p.m.-7 p.m., \$1/person
  - Tuesday, Aug. 18, Tai Chi: Skill Building, 9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m. or 5 p.m.-6 p.m., \$7/person
  - Tuesday, Aug. 18, Garden Preschool: "Harvesting Vegetables," 10 a.m.-11 a.m., \$6/child
  - Thursday, Aug. 20, Forest Bathing Walk, 9:30 a.m.-noon, \$17/person
- Adults \$5, children (3-17) \$3, children (2 and under) free. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursday; noon-4 p.m. Sunday; closed Monday. 1100 S. Calhoun St., Fort Wayne. 260.427.6440, botanicalconservatory.org.

## Embassy Theatre

- Sunday, Aug. 2, Cody Jinks, 7 p.m., \$20 to \$200
  - Wednesday, Aug. 12, "Summer Nights at the Embassy: Fatima Washington," 5 p.m., \$5 general admission
  - Sunday, Aug. 19, "Summer Nights at the Embassy: Q & The Coldfusion," 5 p.m., \$5 general admission
  - Sunday, Aug. 26, "Summer Nights at the Embassy: West Central Quartet," 5 p.m., \$5 general admission
- 125 W. Jefferson Blvd., Fort Wayne. 800.745.3000, fwembassytheatre.org.

## Memorial Coliseum

- Thursday, Aug. 13, Casting Crowns Drive-In Theater Tour, 7:30 p.m., all tickets sold per car, limit six people per vehicle, and will be parked in order of arrival, regular parking \$102, Gold Parking \$177
- Parking \$6 main lot, \$10 preferred lot. Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, 4000 Parnell Ave., Fort Wayne. 260.482.9502, memorialcoliseum.com.

## Honeywell Center

- Saturday, Aug. 8, "A Grand Time: Through the Years," 7:30 p.m. \$12 adults, \$8 students advance purchase; \$16 day of show
  - Saturday, Aug. 15, The British Invasion Years, 7:30 p.m. \$19/\$29/\$49
  - Friday, Aug. 28, Big Bad Voodoo Daddy, 7:30 p.m. \$29/\$39/\$100
  - Saturday, Aug. 29, The Australian Pink Floyd Show: All That You Feel World Tour 2020, 7:30 p.m. \$45/\$59/\$125
- All shows add \$21.19 for optional dinner at Eugenia's Restaurant, served 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Ford Theater, 275 E. Market St., Wabash. 260.563.1102, honeywellcenter.org.

## Fort Wayne Museum of Art

### Exhibitions:

- Planes, Trains & Automobiles: Classic Toys and Americana (ongoing)
- Glass Sculpture from the Collection (ongoing)
- Art Starts Here (ongoing)
- Salvador Dali's Stairway to Heaven: Illustrations for Les Chants de Maldoror and the Divine Comedy (through Aug. 16)
- Hidden Truths: New Paintings by Francisco Valverde (through Aug. 30)
- Here and Now: A Survey on New Contemporary Art (through Aug. 30)
- By Women: A Selection From the Permanent Collection (through Sept. 13)
- Hope Dies Last: The New Armenia — Photographs by Michelle Andonian (through Sept. 27)
- Posing Beauty in African American Culture (Aug. 22 through Oct. 18)

### Traveling exhibitions (through Dec. 31, 2021):

- AFROS: A Celebration of Natural Hair by Michael Joly
- Graphicanos: Contemporary Latino Prints from the Serie Project
- Donald Martiny: Freeing the Gesture
- Geoffrey Hillier: Daybreak in Myanmar

### Events:

- Thursday, Aug. 6, Curator's Tour: Salvador Dali's Stairway to Heaven, 12:15 p.m., free with admission
  - Thursday, Aug. 13, 2nd Thursday in the Paradigm Gallery: Plein Air Paint In/ Paint Out, 5 p.m.-7:30 p.m., free with admission
- 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), 311 E. Main St., Fort Wayne. 260.422.6467, fwmoa.org.

## Niswonger Performing Arts Center

Summer Concert Series, 7 p.m., food vendors 5:30 p.m., Fountain Park (unless otherwise indicated), free admission, bring your own lawn chair.

- Friday, Aug. 7, Sanctus Real  
10700 SR 118, Van Wert. 419.238.6722, npacvw.org.
- Saturday, Aug. 8, Cinema at the Stroede: "The Awful Truth," 7:30 p.m., free admission, concessions available  
319 Wade Ave., Defiance. 419.784.3401, defiancearts.org.

## 1 SHIPSEWANA: Antique Festival

Dealers sell antiques, vintage, collectibles, furniture, primitives, toys, signs, jewelry. Free admission, free parking. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Farmstead Event Pavilion, 368 S. Van Buren St. 260.768.4129, shipshewanatradingplace.com.

## 1 ANGOLA: Angola Art Festival

Artists, artisans, crafters, makers, and buskers display and sell hand-fashioned items. Free admission. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, downtown square. 260.319.5411, downtown-angola-in.org.

## 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 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 (through mid-December), 3300 Warsaw St. 260.456.8255 or 260.456.1228, southsidefarmersmarket.com.

## 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 FORT WAYNE: YLNI Farmers Market

Fresh and unique local produce, plants, meats, baked goods, and homemade crafts in producer-only market. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday (through Sept. 26), 302 E. Berry St. 260.527.0060, ylmi.org/farmers-market.

## 2 DECATUR: Flea Market

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

## 4, 11, 18, 25 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 barn, 6801 Engle Road. 260.478.2515, info@lrwp.org, lrwp.org.



#### 4-5, 11-12, 18-19, 25-26 SHIPSHEWANA: Flea Market

Midwest's largest flea market with more than 700 open-air booths on 40 acres. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday. Also open noon-8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 14, and 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 15. Free admission. 260.768.4129, [shipshewanatradingplace.com/flea-market](http://shipshewanatradingplace.com/flea-market).

#### 6 FORT WAYNE: Volun-beer

Help Little River Wetlands Project in an evening of stewardship and volunteering. 6 p.m.-8 p.m. Thursday, Hop River Brewing Company, 1515 N. Harrison St. RSVP at least 24 hours in advance at 260.918.7119, [lrwp.org](http://lrwp.org).

#### 7 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, [washingtonmarketplace.org](http://washingtonmarketplace.org).

#### 15 WABASH: Garden Fest

Annual festival featuring herbs, plants, garden items, art, crafts, charity auction, free adult seminars, make-n-takes for kids. Free admission. Saturday, Paradise Spring Historical Park. 574.253.7229, [visitwabashcounty.com](http://visitwabashcounty.com).



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# Drive-in Theater Road Trip Perfect Summer Get-Away

By Rod King

*So, you've been cooped up through the quarantine and you're tired of Netflix. What you'd really like to do is go to a real movie theater and catch a new release, maybe a sappy romance or the latest sci-fi flick. And wouldn't it be great to enjoy it with a big bucket of popcorn and a huge soft drink?*



There's a great way to get your movie fix and have a fun road trip in the process.

Grab a bag of popcorn, fill a cooler with beverages, load up the family and head for a drive-in theater. There aren't as many as there used to be, but there are still some operating. Here are some located in northern Indiana.

## Auburn-Garrett Drive-In Theater

1014 State Road 8, Garrett  
auburngarrettdrivin.com  
260.359.6703

The Auburn-Garrett Drive-In Theater (left) bills itself as an old-fashioned, simple venue drive-in, offering double features and an occasional triple feature. It opened in 1951 as Tri-Hi Drive-in Theater, changed to Garrett Drive-in Theater in 1959, and changed again in 1960 to its present name.

## Huntington Twin Drive-in Theater

1291 Condit St., Huntington  
gqtmovies.com  
260.356.5445

The Huntington Twin Drive-In Theater (left) is one of America's oldest drive-in theaters, according to its website. It shows double features on two screens, with the brightest 4K digital projection under the stars. They've got a concession stand, too.







### 13-24 Drive-In Theater

890 N. State Road 13, Wabash  
1324drivein.com  
260.563.5745

Just a little farther away is the 13-24 Drive-in Theater in Wabash. It boasts the largest outdoor screen in Indiana. The theater, which has been operating for 64 years, shows mainstream and family features on summer weekends. Food is available at their concession stand.

### Lake Shore Drive-In Theater

100 Ricky Road, Monticello  
lakeshoredrivein.com  
574.583.0311

Lake Shore Drive-in Theater has been screening double features since 1949 and added a second screen in 2003. Sound comes to cars on FM 99.1 and 89.1. Pets welcome.

### Tri-Way Drive-In Theater

4400 Michigan Road, Plymouth  
triwaydrivein.com  
574.936.7936

Tri-Way Drive-in Theater is the only 4-screen drive-in in northern Indiana. They have concessions and are pet-friendly. Show your same day admission ticket to get \$1 off a round of miniature golf at their mini-golf course.

### Hummel Drive-In Theater

2870 State Road 32, Winchester  
hummeldrivein.com  
765.546.8223

Hummel Drive-in Theater is an old school drive-in that shows new releases on two screens. Its concession stand features popcorn, burgers and ice cream. They accept cash only. Patrons are encouraged to sit outside their vehicle and bring a radio.

You'll find that the theaters are adhering to the Covid-19 guidelines, which means that concession workers will be wearing masks and gloves and practicing social distancing.

If you haven't been to a drive-in theater in a while, give it try. 🏠



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# GRABER LUMBER

*By Jaclyn Youhana Garver*

*When Neil Graber was a boy, his dad kept a small sawmill in the corner of the farm. The mill moved back and forth, back and forth on a 60-foot track, and to the young boy, it seemed just like a train.*

It's what first made him like sawmills, Graber said, "the idea that his dad cut wood with a little railroad track and train car."

Today, Graber owns Graber Lumber LP in Spencerville. It started as a three-person company—Graber, his wife and one employee, whose list of duties included driving Graber where he needed to go. Graber is a member of the Old Order Amish, which means he drives buggies, not motor vehicles.

"I am 56 years old, and I have never driven in my life," he said.

It hasn't hindered anything—34 years later, Graber Lumber employs 94 people and cuts 12 or 13 semitruck loads of logs a day.

## A family affair

When Graber's father was 24 years old, he lost his left arm to a saw blade. As the oldest son, Graber then became his dad's left arm.

"Anywhere he went, anything he had to do, I had to be beside him," he said, and by 13 years old, he was able to run the sawmill.

He worked with his father for years, until his dad suggested, "Neil, why don't you go down the road a mile and go start another sawmill down there, and me and your younger brothers will continue with the home business?"

His three brothers still work with his dad, who is 78, at Campbell Road Sawmill—just 1.2 miles northeast of Graber Lumber.

"We are competitors," Graber said, but they sometimes operate as cousin companies, too. "If they get a big order and they can't get it all, I will help them. Sometimes they help me."



## 'We were never wasteful'

The largest aspect of Graber Lumber's business is steel mill skids, producing about five semitruck loads a day for customers, including companies like Nucor and Paragon Steel.

Graber Lumber also cuts lumber for furniture, railroad ties and timber mats, which are often used along highways to provide a stable roadway for machinery.

In addition to its lumber products, Graber Lumber has made mulch for 24 years. Graber saw how much wood his company wasted—extra parts and bits like log ends, saw dust, bark and knotty boards. Now, that material goes into a large woodchipper. It's ground, aged, heat processed and dyed. Once spring hits, Graber Lumber has about 1,500 semitruck loads of mulch, which the company sells to individuals and local nurseries, hospitals and airports.

Using all parts of a log is an extension of how Graber was raised.

"As a little boy growing up, if we had table scraps or old food in the fridge, we were never allowed to put it in dumpsters," he said. "It had to go to cats and dogs. We were never wasteful. That (value) was carried on through (to adulthood)." 🏠



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# I am HOME

Michelle Chambers

**By Jaclyn Youhana Garver**

*Sometimes, Michelle Chambers complains about the traffic in Fort Wayne.*

Then she takes a step back and says, "Wait a minute ..."

Sure, it used to take 15 minutes to get across town, and now it takes 25. But when she was in the third grade, Chambers moved with her father from Fort Wayne to Los Angeles, where she lived for 35 years.

"It'd take me an hour to get to work, and my job was only 15 minutes from my house," she says. "[Fort Wayne is] a budding city. We're getting traffic."

Chambers is a Fort Wayne city councilperson-at-large. She won her position last year, knowing that her 20 years in public service in California was preparing her to serve her hometown.

"I was intentional when I moved home," said Chambers, who has been a Hoosier again for nearly a decade. "I knew I would run for local office. I knew I wanted to share my experience."

During her time on the West Coast, she would visit the Summit City, where her mother, stepfather and siblings still lived. As she explored over the years, she saw growth in Fort Wayne: beautiful parks, a vibrant downtown, theater options.

Plus, citizens can make a living wage and own a home, and Fort Wayne is ideal for families.



"Is it a perfect city?" she asked. "No, but it's perfect for me and where I am in my life."

Take her wedding. Chambers, who has been married for nearly two years, and her husband said their I-do's at the Lakeside Park & Rose Garden on a summer Sunday, with a reception at the History Center.

"In California, a comparable wedding would have run a hundred thousand dollars," she said. Not so in Fort Wayne.

## Council life

One of Chambers's primary goals on the Fort Wayne City Council is to diversify local boards and commissions. Often, group leaders are the same people over and over.

Other goals include building partnerships with corporations to see that businesses pay above minimum wage; forming a clergy council made up of faith leaders and non-believers; and getting hazard pay for essential workers, especially during the coronavirus pandemic.

In response to this summer's protests, Chambers is working with 6th District Councilperson Sharon Tucker to mandate that all police officers wear body cameras. Currently, the Board of Public Safety deals with police disciplinary issues, but she'd like to see more diversity on that board, perhaps with a citizen review board, assuring board makeup is not only retired public servants, like firefighters, police officers and business owners.

"Being an African-American woman living in the Midwest, I would just love for us to chip away those old processes and make sure we are being the melting pot we are," she said.

Chambers and Tucker are the first two Black women on city council.

"Maybe in a decade, we'll have a couple white guys, a couple white women, a couple women of color, a couple men of color," she said. "Inclusiveness (assures) we're all benefiting from the growth and quality of life in our community." 🏠





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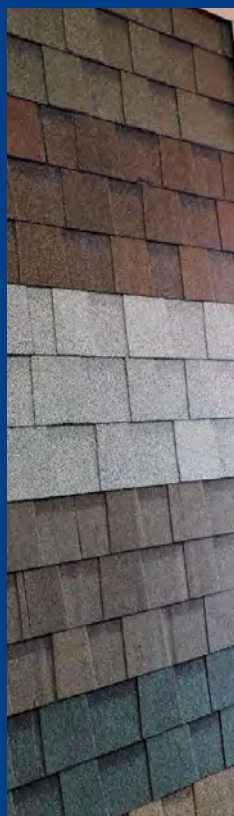
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