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Home Builders Association of Fort Wayne, Inc.

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welcome! from the editor

Two years ago this month, my family and I moved into our home. It happened so quickly—we weren't even looking, as we had just moved into our home a year earlier. But, my parents retired to Florida in 2010 and when they come to visit, they like to stay for an extended period. Our current home offers a separate living space, just perfect for their stays, so when it came on the market, we pounced.

I am so thankful we did. Not only has it been a great home for visits with my parents, but it has provided a safe and comfortable place for us to shelter at home the past several months due to COVID-19, as well. We have spent a lot of time here—more than usual. No one predicted what 2020 had in store for us. And now, after several months, a new subject has emerged amidst the pandemic to further divide us all: to continue social distancing or not. And there's a lot of judgement on both sides.

My family and I are still social distancing. The pandemic is worse now than it was in March when we were ALL sheltering in place. We did not make that sacrifice for nothing. I know not everyone agrees. That's ok. You get to make your own decisions, but I hope you stay safe and healthy.

In the meantime, I am welcoming September with open arms—and perhaps some optimism for more normal times ahead. The weather cools down. We start to think of autumn and all that comes with it—apple cider, bon fires, pumpkins, cozy sweaters and more.

This month also includes two fun events: The Home Builders Association of Fort Wayne's 2020 Builders' Showcase (September 24-27) and the Builders Association of Northeast Indiana's 2020 Builder's Parade (September 11-13). You can find out more about each tour within the pages of this magazine. We are proud to partner with both organizations. 🏠



Amber Bouthot

Amber

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5 Ceiling Trends

that will make you want to look up

By Amber Bouthot

Inspiring home interior design isn't limited to your eye level décor. These surprising ceiling design trends will have you, and your guests, looking up!



Wood

Sustainable and natural looks have been on-trend lately, and wooden ceilings perfectly reflect this. Natural materials will be at the peak of fashion for a long time, so it's okay to splurge here.

Tile

No, not the typical drop ceiling tiles you are thinking of. Playful seems to be a consistent theme, so have fun with different patterns and textures.



Playful patterns

Whether achieved with colorful paints, elaborate mouldings or a combination of the two, playful patterns on ceilings is a hot trend this year.

Wallpaper

Yes, wallpaper. There are so many peel and stick wallpaper tiles available today, you can make your ceiling anything you'd like it to be. We recommend bold botanical patterns.



Full Color

Giving personality to a room via color on the ceiling is an easy (and inexpensive) way to pack some punch to your décor, turning a simple room into something special. 🏠

Study Nooks

By Lauren Caggiano

The past few months have transformed our homes into workplaces, classrooms and even gyms. As we learn to navigate the new normal, we also must adapt with the changing times in terms of form and function, in order to foster some semblance of normalcy.

Children are especially susceptible to changes in their environment and their grades can suffer without a strategic approach. A dedicated workspace, study nooks are one way to help create an environment conducive to learning. Anita Martin with Country Mill Cabinet Company said such a space can pack a mean punch, even if on the smaller side.

"A study nook doesn't need to take up a lot of space," she said. "Some of the most interesting spaces use an existing area. An example would be to revamp a closet with a desk below, with a bar stool that tucks under, and open shelves above, and you can close the door when not in use! Some other ideas are to create a space in a pantry closet off of the kitchen, laundry room or that odd space under the stairs."



If you're lacking these options, don't fret. Instead, look for other small areas in your home that could be amenable to such an addition. For example, often there is an unassuming space at the top of a staircase that may be perfect for the creation of a study area. You just need some imagination and the right tools.

If you're up for the challenge, a bookshelf and table can be reimagined into a double-sided workspace. Saw the table in half and attach the table to the bookcase using L-brackets. The back of the bookshelf can be covered in corkboard, chalkboard paint or pegboard to create a de facto wall. Hang baskets on the side of the bookcase for storage.

But don't stop here. Think about details such as lighting, which is known to affect focus and productivity. Natural sunlight is ideal, but desk lamps and other fixtures will get the job done. The idea is to avoid a study space that's too dim.

The same can be said of ergonomics. This refers to the overall comfort and design of the desk and chair and how the child interacts with the elements. For example, if your child complains of discomfort in their back, shoulders or arms while studying, it's likely a sign that the furniture's positioning is off. Adjusting the height of the chair's seat, back or even the computer monitor could make all the difference.

A study nook should take into account both aesthetics and practicality. Beyond that, there's no right or wrong way to go about it. The specifics will depend on the features and elements of the room. Martin, however, does offer one rule to embrace: "Have fun with it, Learning should be fun!" 🏠



Resource:

Country Mill Cabinet Company, Laotta, 260.693.9289,
countrymillcabinets.com

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Set the Stage to Sell

House Staging Tips



What is the most important aspect of staging a home for selling?

Make sure that you showcase the best way a room can be laid out by properly space-planning. Allow the room to feel as spacious as possible. Matching furniture styles to the house itself and keeping those styles that you're staging with neutral so that all personalities viewing the home can imagine the space with their own furniture are both key factors, as well.

What area or areas of the home do you recommend paying the most attention to when staging?

We always try to stage as much as possible, but the three main areas of focus are the kitchen/nook, great room and master bedroom.

By Kristin King

Selling your home can be stressful enough without the added weight of wondering if your furniture and décor will distract potential buyers. Maybe you've already made the move and your previous home is empty, waiting for the right person to come along. Whether you're looking for a spruce up before selling or trying to move an unoccupied home, the process of staging your property with the help of a professional designer can dramatically change your outcome. To shed a little light on this process, we checked in with interior designer Erin Green of Choice Designs.





Do you include the homeowner's belongings in your staging or prefer to have a clean slate?

If the homeowner's furniture pieces work well in the space and flow with the style of the home, then we would consider using those.

Do you stage exteriors as well? How much does curb appeal play into staging?

Yes! Outdoor living has taken over and we always suggest staging this space. Patio furniture and some TLC within your landscaping goes a long way for those potential buyers who are doing a quick drive by before booking a showing.

What are some of your favorite items to use when staging?

Besides your major pieces, must-haves are art and botanicals. Succulents, sprigs or faux florals are a great way to bring in a neutral flair that most all enjoy. A great art piece can really bring a room together.

In what ways do you feel staging helps improve the homeowner's chances of selling quickly?

Staging helps those potential buyers get a feel of what the house would be like to live in. This aspect speeds up the decision-making process.

Is there anything you would recommend a homeowner do before reaching the staging process to help with cosmetic improvements?

Always seek a professional's advice on major improvements before putting more money into your home. You may find that you're putting too much or too little into the house for the most potential profit. Once you have done this step, start to declutter by removing any personal photos or extra items that make the home feel smaller. Your final step would be to hire a designer for the best advice on space planning or renting furniture needed for the listing of your home. 🏠

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Resource:

Choice Designs, Fort Wayne, 260.490.6393, choicedesigns.com

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Popular Midwest Home Styles

By Amber Bouthot

We all want to find our perfect home. You may know exactly what you want—down to the interior and exterior design details. Whatever style of home you decide on, it needs to match not only your personal style, but the regional style, as well.

Here are the most popular home styles in our area.



Craftsman

Focusing on traditional design, Craftsman homes are widely known for their bungalow feel. Born out of the Arts and Crafts Movement, the emphasis is on natural materials. Low-pitched roofs, overhanging eaves and hand-crafted stone or woodwork are all features of this style. Wide front porches, open floor plans, built-in furniture, big fireplaces and exposed beams are also typical.



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Farmhouse

Our region is rooted in agriculture, so it's no surprise that a popular home style is the farmhouse, which can range from large and spacious to gaudy and extravagant. These homes usually feature a large porch and tend to embrace old-fashioned charm.

Cape Cod

This style of home was first built in the 1600s in the north-eastern region of our country and was inspired by Britain's thatched cottages. Today's Cape Cod homes are built with steeper roofs and larger chimneys than their British-inspired counterparts. Windows flanking the front door, dormer windows up top and cedar shingles are also typical of this style.



Modern

The modern home style embraces an open floor plan, clean geometric lines and function over form. This type of architecture was inspired by the historical art movement of modernism — making most of it more than 50 years old.

Don't see your style reflected here? Don't worry — whether you're looking for an historical home, an existing contemporary home, or a new-build, our region offers options for everyone. 🏡

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How To Build A Mudroom Bench

By Cathy Shouse

Stepping into your home can be one of the nicest feelings of the day. Putting items down, removing shoes and getting a chance to relax feels like heaven sometimes. A mudroom can be useful for making the transition, but the space can become cluttered. Enter a practical mudroom bench with storage solutions.



Keith Jewel of Auburn Hardwood Mouldings typically works with professional builders but the concepts are the same. “A lot of times, people go to Pinterest for ideas,” Jewel said. “The hobbyists may need to do research and determine what works for them.”

In general, he listed four steps:

1. Measure for what size you’ll need: length, width and height.
2. Decide on the type of wood, from many options: poplar, red oak, maple, hickory, cherry.
3. Analyze materials, such as one board for the seat or several, and will there be a back rest?
4. Will you finish with paint, staining or opt for a rough sawn look?

David Deckard is the cabinet specialist and lead project estimator for Morsches Builders Mart, partnering with professional builders as well as homeowners. He said Pinterest is great for ideas. However, coming up with a workable plan to bring a concept to reality is the next step.

“Some factors to consider are time, money and ability,” Deckard said. “I think sometimes people have been misinformed. They see a picture and they can be misled into thinking the projects are fairly simple.”

Sometimes hiring a contractor is the best final step, but arm yourself with knowledge. “It can be challenging to get a qualified contractor for small projects,” Deckard said. “The demand has increased. The lead time to hire someone is growing. If you have a project, start calling. Don’t wait. If someone calls you to get right to a project, that, in my opinion, is a red flag. There’s also price gouging going on.”

There are still projects for the do-it-yourselfer though. Deckard said you might consider a clear pine wood that can be sanded or finished and could be beautiful. Sometimes just having someone walk you through the process can be a huge help.

“People need assistance,” Deckard said. “That’s what we’re here for.”

Check out “This Old House,” which gives detailed instructions and has a mudroom bench drawing, estimated cost of \$275 and takes six hours a day over three days. Take satisfaction in working with your hands, not perfection.

<https://www.thisoldhouse.com/entryways-mudrooms/21016487/how-to-build-a-mudroom-bench> 🏠

Resources:

Auburn Hardware Mouldings, Auburn, 260.837.8841, auburnhardwood.com

Morsches Builders Mart, Columbia City, 260.244.6145, morschesbuildersmart.com

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Boost your health with superfoods

By Lauren Caggiano

Superfoods have been a darling of the nutritional community for several years now, but what exactly constitutes them as superior, and which foods make the list?



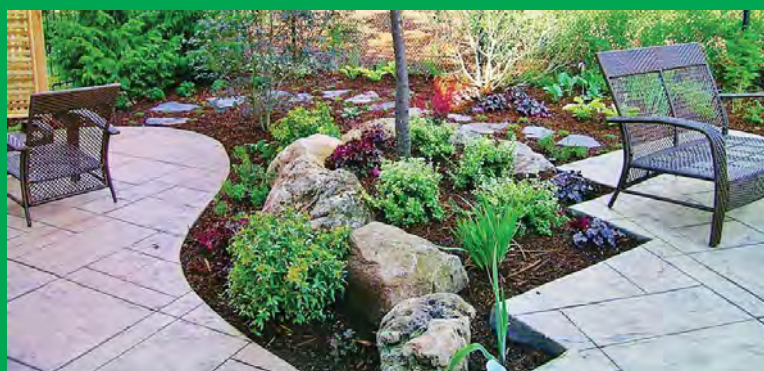
According to Kelley Marvin with Inspired Nutrition by Kelley, this class of foods is embraced by the experts for its myriad of health benefits. The term is fairly broad but refers to the nutritional prowess of certain whole foods.

"Superfoods are a diverse group of nutrient-rich natural foods, which can have a positive effect on your body," she said. "They are extraordinary because they contain a large percentage of vitamins, minerals, enzymes, amino acids and antioxidants to fuel your body with extra energy and healing. Superfoods don't need to be exotic and can be relatively affordable."

For instance, berries, leafy greens, olive oil, nuts, yogurt and whole grains make the list of benevolent edibles. But don't be afraid to break out of the box — and your comfort zone at the same time — to nourish your body with these powerhouse foods.

Marvin offers some inspiration: "Try combining cacao and stevia into a chocolate smoothie to give your skin a boost by making a drink with acai or spirulina to aid your body in releasing heavy metals and toxins. Consider adding chia seeds or flax seeds to oatmeal or bread to get more omega 3's and fiber."

Lori Berndt with the Olive Twist — which is known for its selection of heart-healthy artisan olive oils and vinegars — agrees. She said success hinges on having a game plan.



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"When prepping dinners for the week, I try to think where I would use some of the same ingredients," she said. "For instance, I use a lot of garlic, onions, peppers and mushrooms. If I cut up all my onions at the beginning of the week, I store what is left in the refrigerator in a sealed container to use later in the week."

Sheet pan dinners are another way to eat more mindfully during the week, without a lot of fuss or time commitment.

Her recommendations? "We love to switch it up. One week we do veggies and chicken with olive oil and an Italian herb blend; the next week we do it with a Spanish inspired blend; and the following week with an Asian inspired blend," she said. "It keeps it more interesting, so it doesn't feel like we are eating the same thing over and over again."

Speaking of variety, Berndt is a fan of thinking beyond the grocery store for ingredients. You can't beat the freshness of items sourced from local farmers markets and food hubs. (By the time produce is shipped to most grocery stores from halfway around the world or country, it's not as fresh and has lost some flavor and nutritional value.)

And whether superfood or not, research shows that eating a diet rich in fruits, vegetables, whole grains and lean proteins can reduce risk of high blood pressure, heart disease, diabetes and certain cancers. Here's to super-charging your health with superfoods! 🌱



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Resources:

Inspired Nutrition by Kelley, Fort Wayne, 260.438.0203, inspirednutritionbykelley.com

The Olive Twist, Fort Wayne, 260.436.3866, theolivetwist.com

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Cover crops and spring bulbs

Buckwheat cover crop, flickr.com

By Barb Sieminski

It doesn't seem like summer is over – and yet, we are looking toward spring again with the use of cover crops and spring bulbs.

Essentially, cover crops are planted in a fallow garden space and held there till they are removed when planting edible crops. This cover holds the place for edible crops while keeping the soil vigorous between the growing seasons.

These cover crops also prevent weeds, fertilize the soil and protect it from harsh winter winds, while simultaneously keeping it loose by preventing compaction. There are three kinds of cover crops: legumes (clover, alfalfa, peas, and vetch), grasses (oats, rye, wheat) and non-legume broadleaves (mustard, radish, buckwheat), and each category benefits the soil in a different way.

To prepare your garden for cover crops right after fall vegetable plants are removed, also remove any existing weeds. Loosen the soil with a tiller or shovel. It is recommended that the space be fertilized with Lilly Miller All-Purpose Lawn & Garden Food 16-16-16 or Lilly Miller Morcrop Tomato & Vegetable Food 5-10-10 before seeding cover crops.

Follow the directions on the package for correct seed depth and spacing, as they vary greatly depending on which crop is being planted. Fastest-growing cover crops include sudangrass and buckwheat and are used mostly to suppress weeds and add organic matter.

If a no-till cover crop is desired, just allow them to grow until shortly before planting a cash crop. By managing the cover crop without tilling it, they will be winter-killed, leaving mulch for spring no-till planting.

As for planting bulbs, where to plant depends on when they bloom. For example, if you want tulips and daffodils, those spring-blooming bulbs should be planted in September or October when the soil temperatures have cooled. Summer bulbs, such as dahlia and gladiolus, do best when planted in the spring after frost danger has passed.



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Newly-planted spring-blooming bulbs should be fed with a balanced phosphorous fertilizer, such as bonemeal, for optimum results. Some of the best spring-planted bulbs include crocus, begonias, caladium, calla lilies, canna lilies, crocosmia, rain lily, shamrock bulbs, nerine lilies, and mojito elephant ears. These fall-planted, no-staking delights of bright color are simple to grow – just dig a hole, drop in your daffodils, tulips and allium – and look forward to spring and a rainbow of color in your garden.

For powerful fragrance, treat your garden to varieties of oriental lily, Peruvian daffodils, Belladonna Lilies, Naked Ladies or baboon flowers. These blooms will not only tantalize your nose with heavenly scents, they are stunning show-stoppers in their own right.

Do you know what you want to use your bulbs for? Some uses include dried flower arrangements; container blooms; fragrant flower / foliage; cut flowers; and mass plantings. You may want to attract butterflies and bees, while keeping the blooms deer-resistant and rabbit-resistant. Perhaps the biggest plus is that many of these fall flowers are low maintenance. 🏡



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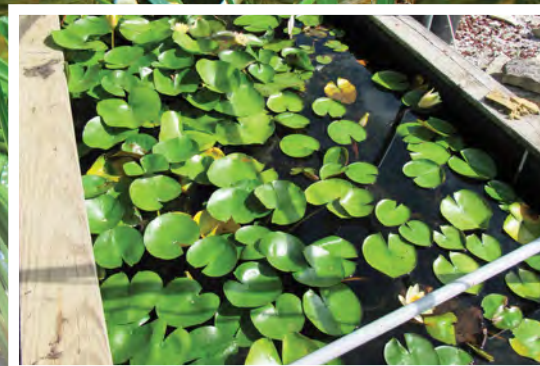
Decorative Ponds Enhance Landscaping



Lynsey's Water Garden has a wide variety of decorative pond shapes and sizes. Owner, Michael Toscos, has been installing ponds since 1997. (Photo provided)



Floating water hyacinths take nitrogen from fish waste and provide oxygen to the fish. (Photo provided)



Water lilies are a favorite decorative pond addition. (Photo provided)

by Rod King

Decorative ponds greatly enhance landscaping. A pond with flowing water either with a fountain or waterfall is even more appealing.

According to Michael Toscos, owner of Lynsey's Water Garden, having a decorative pond requires a certain amount of work and constant monitoring. As he puts it, "ponds, no matter how big, are not self-sustaining. They are a micro-cosm of our planet; an eco-system within themselves and therefore require constant maintenance.

"Persons considering having one installed should do a little research about how ponds work," Toscos said. "The first thing to consider is where to locate it. It should be where it can

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get six to eight hours of sunlight for the water plants to grow. They should not be placed under a tree because leaves get in the water, decompose and turn it brown.”

He also pointed out that a pond with a fountain needs a designated electric source, not an extension cord. A pump needs a continuous supply of electricity to avoid overheating the pump. Pumps cost between \$100 and \$300. To keep the pond looking fresh, aeration and filtering is very important.

“Approximately 90 percent of people with ponds want fish. Over-feeding them can present problems,” he said. “If they don’t eat the food within five minutes, it should be scooped out in order to avoid polluting the pond. People seem to love Koi. They’re not only expensive, but they can grow to be three feet long, as well. We sell them, but my advice is gold fish. And don’t let frogs get in because they’ll eat the fish.

“Algae is the number one source of oxygen, but controlling its growth is one of the biggest problems facing pond owners. If left to its own, it will take over and choke out everything else. There are chemicals that will keep it in check,” he said.

Plants, according to Toscos, give a pond its character. There are three varieties of plants that work well in decorative ponds. Bog plants like pickerel rush and lizard’s tail, and floating plants like water lilies and water hyacinths oxygenate the water. Underwater plants like hornwort and cabamba control algae. The plants feed off of the nitrogen produced in the fish waste and they produce oxygen that the fish need.

A starter pond kit that includes a round plastic tank and a small pump runs around \$125. Toscos says the sky’s the limit on ponds and they can go as high as \$15,000. Lynsey’s has a wide selection of pre-formed tanks. They also sell pumps, fountains, tubing, lighting, filter media, decorative stone, algae control chemicals, fish food, water plants and friendly bacteria to convert fish waste into nitrogen for the plants. 🏠



Pond supplies at Lynsey’s Water Garden cover the gamut from algae-control chemicals and fish food to friendly bacteria to help convert ammonia from fish waste to nitrogen for plants. (Photo provided)

Resource:

Lynsey’s Water Garden, Fort Wayne, 260.436.8843

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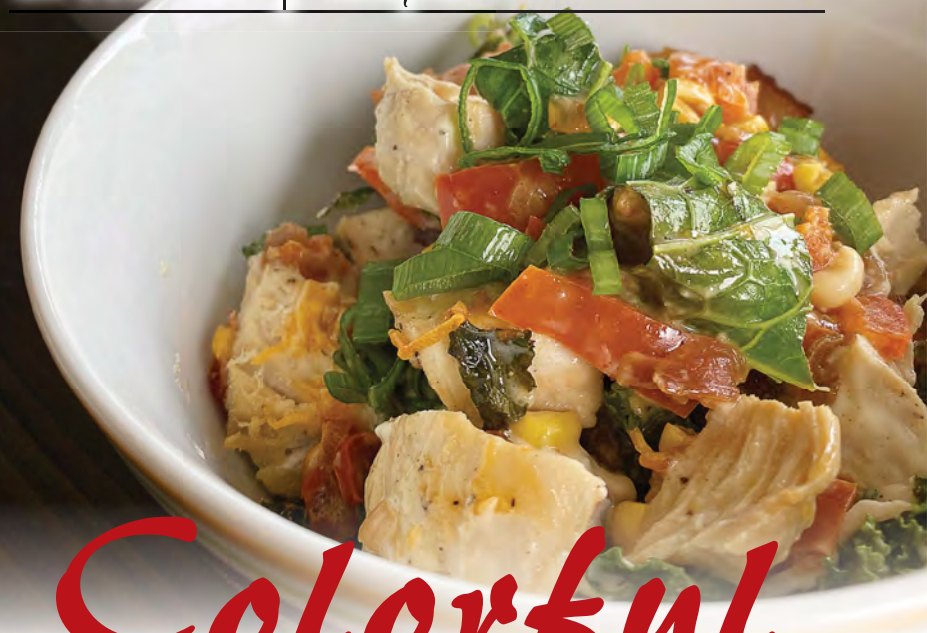
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at HOME | *recipe*



Colorful Chicken Casserole

By Amber Bouthot

As the kids head back to school (whether in person or virtually) and the weather turns colder, we long for simple comfort food. This recipe is a family-favorite at our house. Rich, savory flavors melt together to create a dish that not only comes together quickly, but is nutritious, as well. This dish is gluten free and can be made dairy free by omitting the cheese.

Ingredients:

- 1 red onion, diced
- 2 red bell peppers, chopped
- 3 cloves garlic
- 1 teaspoon extra-virgin olive oil
- 2 cups fresh corn kernels
- 2 cups sliced kale
- 1 ½ lbs chicken breast
- ½ cup avocado oil mayonnaise
- 2 teaspoons coarse salt
- ½ teaspoon ground black pepper
- ½ cup shredded cheddar cheese
- 6 strips bacon, cooked and crumbled
- 1 large green onion

Preparation:

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Line a rimmed baking sheet with parchment paper. Place the chicken on the lined baking sheet. Brush with olive oil and sprinkle with salt and pepper. Bake for 40 mins until the chicken reaches an internal temp of 165 degrees. When cool enough to handle, cut chicken into ½ inch cubes.

Heat olive oil in large sauté pan over medium-high heat. When hot, add the onion, peppers and garlic. Cook, stirring occasionally for 5 to 6 minutes, until veggies are wilted and browned slightly.

In a large bowl, stir together the onion and bell pepper mixture, corn, kale, chicken, mayonnaise, salt and pepper. Transfer mixture to a 3-quart casserole dish, then top with cheese and bacon. Bake for 20 minutes, until cheese is browned and bubbling.

Slice the green onions and use for garnish. 🏠

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DIY Do It Yourself

Painted Flower Pots

By Amber Bouthot

Every month, we highlight Reader DIY Projects. 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 project comes from Candace Shuler who was looking for something creative to do while she was sheltering at home the past few months.



Acrylic Paint Pen set: \$25-40

Rust-Oleum Clear Triple Thick Spray: \$11

I have enough painting supplies for at least two dozen (or more) other projects—some of which I've already started working on.

What was your inspiration for the project?

I was cruising Pinterest and YouTube, looking for ideas for something creative to do. I ended up watching several videos on dot painting, and I thought it would look really cool on a flower pot. I chose a butterfly for one of the pots because my sister and I were going to get matching butterfly tattoos on my next visit to Oregon, and since that has been postponed for the foreseeable future, incorporating butterflies into my craft project made perfect sense.

It was very relaxing, almost meditative. And, since I was painting the pots for myself, I felt no pressure to make them perfect.

What did you like best about the undertaking?

The need for patience. Paint takes as long as it takes to dry and if you jump the gun and add a second layer before the first is truly dry, you end up with smeared paint. But, as my sister always tells me, "It's just paint, Can. If it doesn't turn out the way you want it to, you can just paint over it."

Where did you source the materials?

I bought the pots and exterior house paint from Menards, and everything else came from Amazon. 🏠

How long did it take from start to finish?

If you don't count the hours spent watching YouTube how-to videos, each pot probably took two or three hours of actual painting time. You need to let each coat of paint or design element dry thoroughly before you do the next one or you risk smearing the whole thing. The final step – after the finished design has dried for a couple of days – is to give it one final coat of clear spray gloss. The process for each pot can take a few days, so I ended up with multiple pots in production at any one time, adding another design element to one pot while another pot was drying.

Was it easier or harder than you anticipated?

Easier. Dot painting is very forgiving and doesn't need to be precise to be attractive. As an example, on the pot with the aqua geometric shapes on the purple background, I originally wasn't going to add dots—I was just playing with shapes—but the blue paint bled a bit under the edge of the painters' tape I used to section off the shapes, making some fuzzy edges. I added the yellow dots to disguise that.

What was the total cost of the project?

Clay Pots: \$5-20

Sample Size House Paint: \$5 each

Paint Brushes: \$12 each

DecoArt Americana Acrylic Paint: \$8 each





By Ray Balogh

Botanical Conservatory

- "Present Tense, Future Calm" garden exhibit (through Nov. 14), regular admission
 - Thursday, Sept. 3, Something About Basil, 6 p.m.-7 p.m., \$1/person
 - Tuesday, Sept. 15, Garden Preschool, 10 a.m.-11 a.m., \$6/child, register by Tuesday, Sept. 8
 - Tuesdays, Sept. 15 through Oct. 27, Tai Chi Series, 9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m. or 5 p.m.-6 p.m., \$69/person for eight sessions, register by Tuesday, Sept. 8
 - Thursday, Sept. 17, Forest Bathing Walk, 9:30 a.m.-noon, \$17/person
 - Saturday, Sept. 19, Fall Bonsai Display, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., \$3/adult, \$2/child, free for age 2 and under
 - Sunday, Sept. 27, Pinecone Floral Wreath, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., \$24/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

- Wednesday, Sept. 2, Mason Dixon Line Band, 5 p.m., \$5 general admission
 - Wednesday, Sept. 9, "Summer Nights: Salsa Dancing Ft. Melisa's Latin Beat," 5 p.m., \$5 general admission
 - Wednesday, Sept. 23, Momix Master Class, 6:30 p.m., \$22/participant, \$5/observer
 - Thursday, Sept. 24, Momix, 7:30 p.m., \$32/person
 - Monday, Sept. 28, "Theresa Caputo Live! The Experience," 7:30 p.m., \$39.75/\$59.75/\$89.75
- 125 W. Jefferson Blvd., Fort Wayne. 800.745.3000, fwembassytheatre.org.

Memorial Coliseum

- Thursday, Sept. 17, for King & Country "burn the ships' North America: The 2020 Encore," 7:30 p.m., \$20/\$40/\$70/\$140
 - Friday, Sept. 25, "Country Night @ The Drive-In" with Chris Janson, Jordan Davis and Mitchell Tenpenny, 7 p.m., \$99.99 general admission car ticket, \$149.99 Gold Circle car ticket. Will be held in the parking lot of the Allen County War Memorial Museum.
- Parking \$6 main lot, \$10 preferred lot. Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, 4000 Parnell Ave., Fort Wayne. 260.482.9502, memorialcoliseum.com.

Honeywell Center

- Wednesday, Sept. 16, Virtual Leadership Development Programs presented by Jones Loflin. "Time Management" 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m., "Are You a Bankrupt Leader?" 1 p.m.-3:30 p.m. \$50 per session
- 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.

Niswonger Performing Arts Center

- Saturday, Sept. 5, John Michael Montgomery and David Nail, 7:30 p.m., \$25 to \$65
- 10700 SR 118, Van Wert. 419.238.6722, npacvw.org.
- Stroede Center for the Arts
- Friday, Sept. 18, "Big Bang Boom," 7 p.m. Call for ticket prices.
 - Friday, Sept. 25, Kyshona Armstrong, 7:30 p.m. Call for ticket prices.
 - Sunday, Sept. 27, Duo Kalysta, 7 p.m. Call for ticket prices.
- 319 Wade Ave., Defiance. 419.784.3401, defiancearts.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)
- 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 (through Oct. 18)
- Static Energy: Sculpture by Dale Enochs (Sept. 5 through Dec. 6)
- American Impressionism: Treasures From the Daywood Collection (Sept. 19 through Dec. 13)

Traveling exhibitions (through Dec. 31, 2021):

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

Events:

- Thursday, Sept. 3, Curator's Tour: Posing Beauty, 12:15 p.m., free with admission
 - Thursday, Sept. 10, 2nd Thursday in the Paradigm Gallery: Dawn England-Harless fused glass demonstration, 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.

Shipshewana Blue Gate Theatre

- Selected days and times through Sept. 5, "Salute to the Stars: Presley, Parton & Cash," Music Hall, \$24.95
 - Selected days and times through Sept. 5, "The Gut Life! with the Yoders," Music Hall, \$24.95
 - Selected days and times through Oct. 31, "Josiah for President: The Musical," Music Hall, \$38.95
 - Friday, Sept. 11, Jimmy Fortune, 7 p.m., \$49.95
 - Friday, Sept. 11, Blackhawk, 8 p.m., \$19.95 to \$64.95
 - Tuesday, Sept. 15, Jeanne Robertson, 8 p.m., \$19.95 to \$59.95
 - Wednesday, Sept. 16, The Texas Tenors, 2 p.m., \$19.95 to \$64.95
 - Thursday, Sept. 17, Joseph Habedank, 7 p.m., Music Hall, \$19.95
 - Friday, Sept. 18, Postmodern Jukebox 2.0, 8 p.m., \$29.95 to \$99.95
 - Saturday, Sept. 19, Gary Allan, 8 p.m., \$39.95 to \$119.95
 - Tuesday, Sept. 22, Soul'd Out Quartet, 7 p.m., Music Hall, \$19.95
 - Thursday, Sept. 24, Triumphant Quartet, 8 p.m., \$14.95 to \$49.95
 - Friday, Sept. 25, "Let's Hang On" Frankie Valli Tribute, 8 p.m., \$19.95 to \$49.95
 - Friday, Sept. 25, Rhonda Vincent, 7 p.m., Music Hall, \$49.95
 - Saturday, Sept. 26, 38 Special, 8 p.m., \$29.95 to \$99.95
 - Tuesday, Sept. 29, The Bontrager Family, 7 p.m., Music Hall, \$19.95
- All shows add \$18 for dinner theater. All performances held in Performing Arts Center unless otherwise indicated. Performing Arts Center address is 760 S. Van Buren St., Shipshewana. Music Hall address is 195 N. Van Buren, Shipshewana. 888.447.4725, thebluegate.com.

Stroede Center for the Arts

- Friday, Sept. 18, "Big Bang Boom," 7 p.m. Call for ticket prices.
 - Friday, Sept. 25, Kyshona Armstrong, 7:30 p.m. Call for ticket prices.
 - Sunday, Sept. 27, Duo Kalysta, 7 p.m. Call for ticket prices.
- 319 Wade Ave., Defiance. 419.784.3401, defiancearts.org.

1-2, 7-9, 15-16, 22-23, 29-30 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 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday, Sept. 7. Free admission. 260.768.4129, shipshewanatradingplace.com/flea-market.

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 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 a.m. Tuesday, Arrowhead Prairie, 6801 Engle Road. 260.478.2515, info@lrwp.org, lrwp.org.

3 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.

4 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.

5, 12, 19, 26 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.

5, 12, 19, 26 WABASH: Downtown Farmers' Market

Features an array of free entertainment while marketgoers shop a plethora of fresh produce, artist wares, handmade soaps, honey, baked goods, handmade furniture and so much more. Free admission. 8 a.m.-noon Saturday (through Sept. 26), Honeywell Center/Wabash Elks parking lot, 275 W. Market St. 260.563.7171, www.visitwabashcounty.com.

5, 12, 19, 26 FORT WAYNE: Barr Street 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, ylni.org/farmers-market.

6 DECATUR: Flea Market

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

10-12 ROANN: Roann Covered Bridge Festival

Music, family games, parade, Culver Military Mounted Color Guard. Free admission. No pets allowed. 5 p.m.-9:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 7 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Saturday, parade 2 p.m. Saturday, downtown. 765.833.2136, roanncoveredbridgefestival.com. 🏠

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Northeast Wineries

By Jaclyn Youhana Garver

A decade ago, northeast Indiana had just two wineries—and one of them was only a year old. Fast-forward to 2020, and the region boasts more than a half dozen wineries within driving distance. It might take an hour or more to get to some, but it's worth it. You'll get to sample some of the flavors from northeast Indiana soil, AND enjoy these beautiful spaces for an afternoon or night out.

We grouped these by location, into easy-to-take day trips. Happy sipping!

Please note: Due to the coronavirus, many hours of operation are in flux. We recommend checking open hours of any locations before visiting.



Photo provided by Hartland Winery

The Way North Trip

Hartland Winery

425 County Road 23, Ashley; 260-587-3301

Owner Alan Lockhart started making wine at home, without ever considering opening a winery. When he started entering—and winning—wine competitions, though, plans changed. Hartland Winery opened just four years ago; and two years later, it won the Indiana Winery of the Year prize at the Indy International Wine Competition.

Satek Winery

6208 N. Van Guilder Road, Fremont; 260-495-9463

The oldest winery in the region, Satek Winery has been serving northeast Indiana for 19 years. At its grand opening, Satek offered four wine options; today, it boasts 28, including three of the four original varieties.

Briali Vineyards & Winery

102 W. State Road 120, Fremont; 260-495-1919

Wineries can have a bad rep for being a little stuffy—a step inside Briali is enough to completely change that perception. The walls are papered with concert posters and fliers, and tasting with owner Brian Moeller feels more like saddling up to your favorite dive bar than pinkies-up wine tasting. And, oh yes, there's a stained-glass window of a fisherman. Just because.



Photo provided by Hartland Winery

The Northern Trip

Byler Lane Winery

5858 County Road 35, Auburn; 260-920-4377

Seemingly located in the middle of a cornfield, Byler Lane has a rustic-ski-lodge meets downhome-farm vibe, thanks in large part to the structure: The building is made of salvaged wood from four local barns.

Country Heritage

185 County Road 68, LaOtto; 260-637-2980

Since opening 11 years ago, Country Heritage has undergone an impressive expansion. Its bar rail has doubled in size, and its seating room has spread to include concert space and a huge outdoor seating area. Its outdoor seating area is massive and centers around a custom-built entertainment stage.

Sylvan Cellars' Tasting Room

2725 E. Northport Road, Rome City;
260-760-1421

Sylvan Cellars is a joint event center/tasting room, and the latter half boasts a menu of cocktails, craft beer and, yes, wine from all over the world—including 18 beers on tap and specialty cocktails like Lavender Lane and Sylvan's twist on the Moscow Mule.



Photo provided by Byler Lane Winery



Photo provided by Byler Lane Winery

The South Trip

Chop's Wine Bar

6417 W. Jefferson Blvd., Fort Wayne; 260-436-9115

This dim, cozy neighbor to Chop's Steaks & Seafood is known for its 12-ounce pour (aka nearly half a bottle) and custom cocktails. Stop for a glass or flight—and a bite—before heading out to your next stop.

Two-EE's Winery

6808 US Highway 24 East, Huntington; 260-672-2000

Arguably the region's most popular winery (44,000 Facebook fans and counting), Two-EE's Winery was named the country's best tasting room by USA Today in 2017. It has a small, modern inside space with a beautiful deck facing its fields. 🏡

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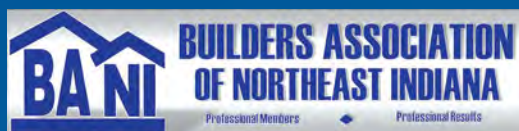


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2020 builders parade

Sept. 11, 12 and 13 - 12pm-5pm

BA-NI Home Tour Showcases Builders' Best

By Amber Bouthot

Who doesn't love to spend some time on the water? What if you could take that experience from occasionally to every day? The Builders Association of Northeast Indiana (BANI)'s 2020 Builder's Parade Tour includes waterfront lake homes, as well as some lake region gems that will make you feel like you're living vacation life full time.

The 2020 event will take place September 11th through the 13th, from noon to 5 p.m. each day. BA-NI builders put their best foot forward to show off their most creative homes in design, space planning, innovation, interiors, technology and more. Consider it the best in show for homes.

People from around the region look forward to the lineup every year. So, what can we expect this year? There are 4 stops, featuring lake homes, a fabulous barn-turned-home remodel, and more that you won't want to miss.

"All of the homes this year have a contemporary flair," said BA-NI's Chris Evans.


The Bob Buescher Home featured on the tour is very modern and boasts impressive lake frontage on Oliver Lake. JICI's home sits on one of the highest points of Hamilton Lake offering spectacular views, which you can enjoy from one of five terraces. Tourgoers won't want to miss the Wagon Shed Homestead, designed by Four Seasons Design and Remodeling—which is literally a barn turned modern home. And finally, UrNest Construction designed a small home that focuses on well-thought out spaces, high quality materials and a smaller carbon footprint.

It's also important to note how COVID-19 has impacted this year's tour.

"We are taking some extra precautions this year to be mindful of social distancing and safety," Evans said. "Visitors will be asked to wear masks, and we will have hand washing stations or hand sanitizer at all of the stops. We are also limiting the number of people in one house at a time."

Beyond the aesthetic value, Evans said tourgoers will have another incentive to visit all the stops.

"This year we are again offering the 'Complete the Tour' Contest," she said. "Every attendee who visits every home on the tour, 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 featured home. Tickets may be purchased at each home, as well. Tickets are \$10. For additional details, visit www.ba-ni.com. 



Bob Buescher Homes
"Sandy Shores"
 4840 S 150 E, LaGrange, IN 46761



Homes by JICI
"Penn Park Panoramic" Hamilton Lake
 200 LN 221 BA, Hamilton, IN 46742



Four Seasons Design & Remodeling
"Wagon Shed Homestead"
 2285 CR 6, Ashley, IN 46705



UrNest Construction
"Woodland Pine"
 415 Wood Street, Kendallville, IN 46755

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Homes by **JICI**

www.ba-ni.com/events



Company of Fire and Ice Heating/Cooling

Fire and Ice Heating/Cooling

Michael R. Coe

By Stacie Ball

From the dog days of summer to the bitter chill of winter nights, people need heating and cooling specialists to make sure their homes are safe, cozy and energy efficient. Not only is it necessary to be knowledgeable and professional, it's imperative to be caring and courteous, as well. Michael R. Coe, president and owner of Fire and Ice Heating/Cooling, is all of that and more.

Mike has been working in the heating and cooling business for 50 years.

"Very interesting, very enjoyable," he said to describe his job. "I like to be involved as much as possible."

He has been working at Fire and Ice Heating/Cooling for over 12 years. Not only is he the president, he also goes on many service calls, just like the rest of the staff.

"Since starting in 2008 when the economy fell apart, it has been challenging and rewarding to see how well Fire and Ice has grown," Mike explained. "There's more to running a business than making money."

Like any great leader, Mike believes communication and relationship-building are extremely important. He views these as his greatest accomplishments.

"The relationships with employees and customers are always number one," he explained, "I cannot enjoy work without them."

A quick look at the company's website shows they are dedicated to staying knowledgeable and up to date on the newest technology and training. Their reviews page is filled with many 5-star reviews where they often mention the technician's name. It doesn't matter who the technician was, there was always a glowing review. Quite a testament to the relationships Mike builds within and outside of his company. Many of the reviews mentioned employees who were prompt, friendly, professional, thorough and wonderful to work with. The company's tagline even states, "Heating and cooling with us ... it's a comfort thing!" In a world where the hustle and bustle of life make it difficult to maintain relationships, it's comforting to know that Mike and his employees at Fire and Ice still value and practice this skill regularly.

Mike not only shows an excellent work ethic, but models a delicate work/life balance, as well. He lives at home with his beautiful wife, Pam. Between them, they have raised 5 children, who have blessed them with "soon to be" 12 grandchildren. He enjoys bowling and golf, though he identifies more with Phil Mickelson (golf) than he does with Walter Ray Williams Jr. (bowling). When he is not golfing or bowling, you might catch him supporting local sports heroes at a Komets Hockey game or a Tin Caps baseball game.

Fire and Ice Heating/Cooling provides many services, including installation of new products, maintenance, repair service, air duct sealing, plumbing, bathroom remodeling and more. Their website boasts 24-hour service, plus information about their company, qualifications, products and services. The website states, "Helping Fort Wayne businesses and homeowners to be as energy efficient as possible with their heating and cooling systems is the role of Fire & Ice Heating/Cooling." 🏠

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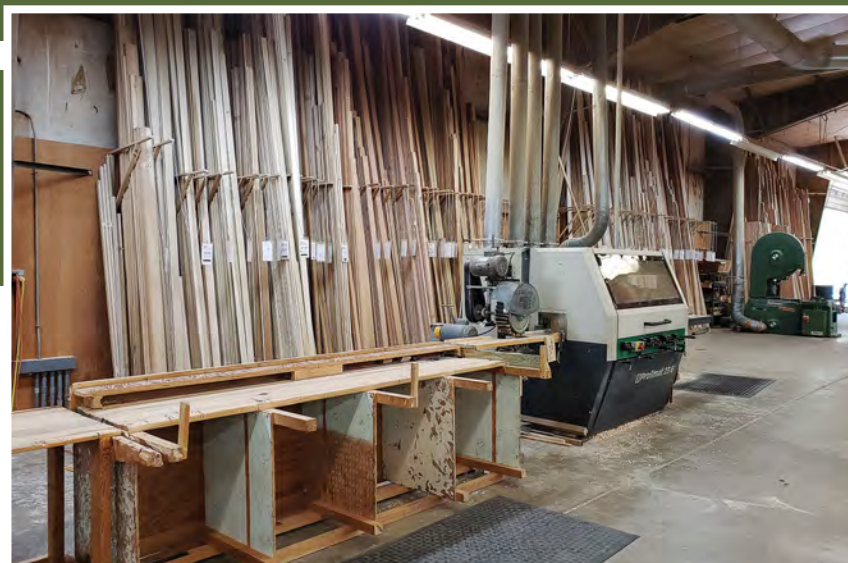
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2020 Builders' Showcase

By: Beth Johnson, HBA of Fort Wayne Executive Director

The Fort Wayne area is home to continuous growth and economic development, especially downtown and along the riverfront. There are beautiful parks, unique restaurants, plenty of shopping and new homes popping up left and right throughout Fort Wayne and the surrounding area.

Take the chance to peek inside 17 of these beautiful homes at the Home Builders Association of Fort Wayne's second annual Builders' Showcase. It's the perfect event for anyone planning to buy a new home or build one in the near future. Owning a home is a substantial investment, so take advantage of the builders, sales representatives and vendors on-site at each property to answer questions.

The Builders' Showcase is a free, self-guided tour for people to enjoy at their own pace. One of the things that makes the

Builders' Showcase a great event is the chance to access multiple home styles and neighborhoods. Knowing these homes will all be open Thursday, September 24 through Sunday, September 27 allows you to figure out your schedule without spending hours planning.

Full event details can be found by visiting www.hbafortwayne.com/showcase, including where to pick up a printed guidebook and a map of all the showcase homes, as well as builder and home information. If you can't pick up a guidebook beforehand, you can grab one at any of the showcase homes.

The Builders' Showcase is presented by the Home Builders Association of Fort Wayne, Inc. The Association would like to thank 3 Rivers Federal Credit Union and Rabb Water Systems for proudly sponsoring this event. Also, many thanks to the builders and associate members who see the value in participating in this event. Most of all, thanks to the community for coming out to tour these beautiful homes. 🏠

Homes and Villas by participating builders:

- Bob Buescher Homes, Inc.
- Carriage Place Homes
- Delagrang Homes, LLC
- Granite Ridge Builders, Inc.
- Legacy Homes by Delagrang
- Majestic Homes
- MBN Properties
- Olthof Homes

- Quality Crafted Homes, Inc.
- Star Homes by Delagrang & Richhart, Inc.
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