



FREE! TAKE ONE!

The Whitewater Valley

# EXPLORER

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2024

ALL NEW  
LOOK...  
*Same Great  
Content!*

LOCAL  
EVENTS

FAMILY  
FUN

PLACES TO  
EXPLORE

HOOSIER  
HYSTERIA

*Discover a Whitewater*

## WINTER WONDERLAND!

INSIDE



FOOD AND COFFEE...



PEOPLE AND CULTURE...



WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO...



IN THE WHTEWATER VALLEY!

# WOLF CREEK HABITAT & RESCUE



**BROOKVILLE, IN  
(765)-647-4735**

**WOLFCREEKHABITAT.ORG**

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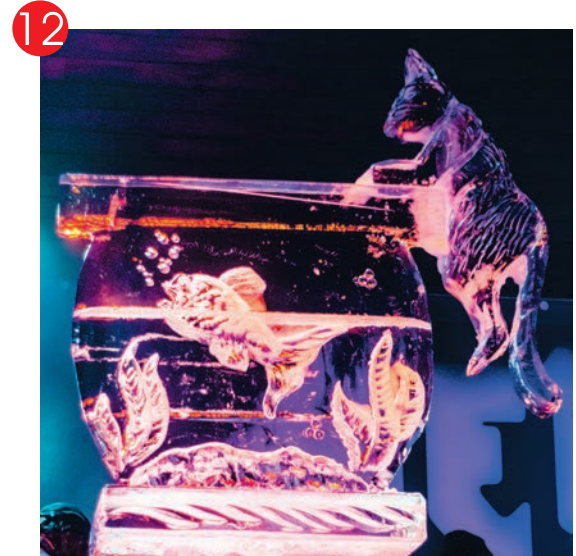
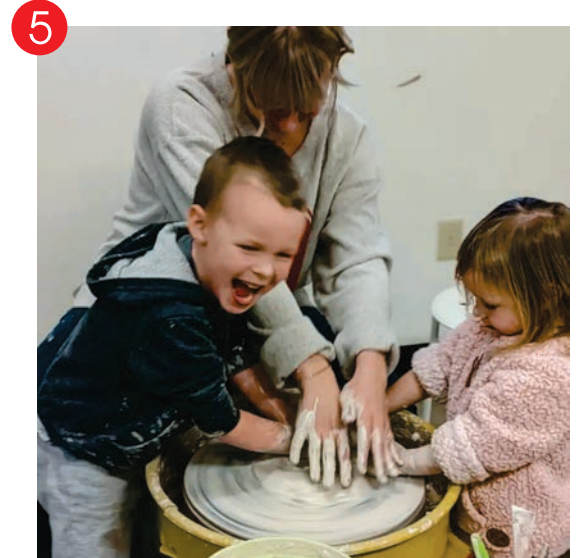
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SCAN TO DONATE

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JOURNALISM

# *Fabulous* FAYETTE COUNTY *A Great Place To Be!*



*Visit Fayette County ~ Just for the Fun of It!*

**Whitewater Valley Arts Association**  
402 Central Avenue (765)343-9822 Visit them on Facebook!



**Fayette County Historical Museum** 200 W 5th Connersville. [www.historicconnersville.org](http://www.historicconnersville.org)  
Saturday & Sunday 10 a.m. til 3 p.m. Group tours at other times by request. (765) 825-0946  
Featuring history of Fayette County and the beautiful Whitewater Valley!

**Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary**  
Gem of the Indiana Audubon Society  
Visit their Facebook page!

## *Remember us in Spring of 2024!*

*Plan to visit the Whitewater Valley for the Eclipse, April 6th - 8th.*

*Historic Connersville, Inc., Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary, and Tourism will be joining to offer you three days of fun with a little history and education in the mix.*

*American Indian and pioneer folklore and presentations.*

*Information on the effects of an eclipse on migratory birds and wildlife.*

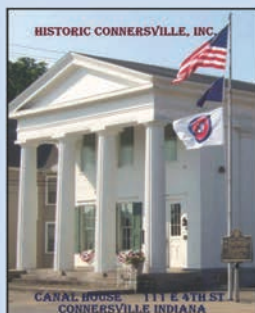
*Food, vendors, historic tours, and lots of old fashion family fun!*

***We won't keep you in the dark!***

*Activity updates will be posted at [www.tourconnersville.org](http://www.tourconnersville.org)*

*The Whitewater Valley Railroad will resume excursions in the Spring of 2024!*

*Celebration in the Ville returns in May. Plan to attend the April grand re-opening of Canal House!*



# Express your artistic expression at Act 3 Pottery

-BY CHEYENNE LANCE

Act 3 Pottery, located in Connersville, is a small but popular business that provides the utmost welcoming and supportive atmosphere, all while assisting customers in having an amazing experience. Act 3 is a Ceramics, Studio, and Supply shop run by Denise Dubois and Sierra Adams.

Here at Act 3, they believe that artistry is about experimenting, growing, making mistakes, and having fun. There is no shortage of creativity, and everyone is welcome to attend. Now, for those who are new to pottery, Act 3 has some pretty good deals:

- "Try It" Wheel Class - \$40
- 5-Week Wheel Class - \$175
- Private Class - \$50/1.5hr
- Hand Building Class - Cost varies depending on hours or membership.

Studio time allows you to come in and work on your own once you have completed your classes. It costs \$15/day and available during working hours.

Act 3 has a Clay Studio as well with all necessary equipment:

- 7 Pottery Wheels
- Slab Roller
- Wedging Table
- Work Tables (Hand Building/Place to sit)
- Hand Extruder
- Giffen Grip
- Large Pug Mill
- 2 Skutt Kilns
- Dipping Glazes
- Work area for mixing glazes
- A N A W E S O M E C l a y Community!

Also available are 3 Membership Tiers for choosing:

- \$75 All Access Membership
- 24/7 access to studio after 3-month trial period. Otherwise, access available during open hours.

All kiln firings.

Access to pottery wheels slab rollers, templates, and a variety of tools.

Shelf to store all your tools and projects.

Class Discounts

- \$50 Potter Kit Package
- Includes 12lbs of clay.
- Choice of 1 Mayco Glaze.
- 4 studio sessions per month
- 10 pieces fired per month.

•\$45 Student Membership  
 Must show High School or College ID.

Access to the studio during open hours.

Includes all kiln firings.

Access to pottery wheels, slab rollers, templates, and a variety of tools.

Shelf to store all your tools and projects.

If you are interested in a membership, simply email your name and phone number to [act3pottery@gmail.com](mailto:act3pottery@gmail.com) or stop by the studio.

Act 3 Pottery provides "Paint Your Own Pottery," a service where customers may choose any pre-created piece available. Afterwards, you are given free range to paint and decorate this piece however you want.

Lack artistic value? Don't worry, the staff is ready and willing to help you create your masterpiece.

All that's left is pick up your finished piece in 2 weeks! Cost is dependent on the piece chosen and an \$8 studio fee per piece.

Lastly, Act 3 Pottery's Supply shop offers Mayco Glazes and Accessories. They stock seven different types of Laguna Clay and four different pottery tools.

Stop in and visit Act 3 Pottery any time during the following business hours:

Wednesday: 12 - 7 p.m.

Thursday: 12 - 7 p.m.

Friday: 12 - 7 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Act 3 Pottery is located at 1224 N Grand Avenue in Connersville

They can be found on Facebook, Instagram, and their official



# Mary Gray Bird S

-BY MADDIE KLEIN



When it comes to the best of birdwatching and beautiful scenery, it's hard to beat the Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary. In addition to being a beautiful, year-round destination of choice for social gatherings, camping trips, and nature-lovers, the sanctuary itself serves as the headquarters for the Indiana Audubon Society. The organization is dedicated to educating and engaging communities in the

enjoyment of all things to do with birds, and a full itinerary of events hosted by the Indiana Audubon Society lies in store for the year of 2024.

Although many of these events will take place outside of the state of Indiana, and a few being international trips, the first of the year will be the First Day Hike. At 10 a.m. on January First, Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary will be hosting a brand new tradition to give the new year a healthy, nature-focused beginning.

Sanctuary hikers can meet and mingle while enjoying the 1.5 miles of trails covered. Following the event, participants will be able to partake in an assortment of healthy snacks and drinks offered, not the least of which being coffee and cocoa by the Brooks Hall fireplace.

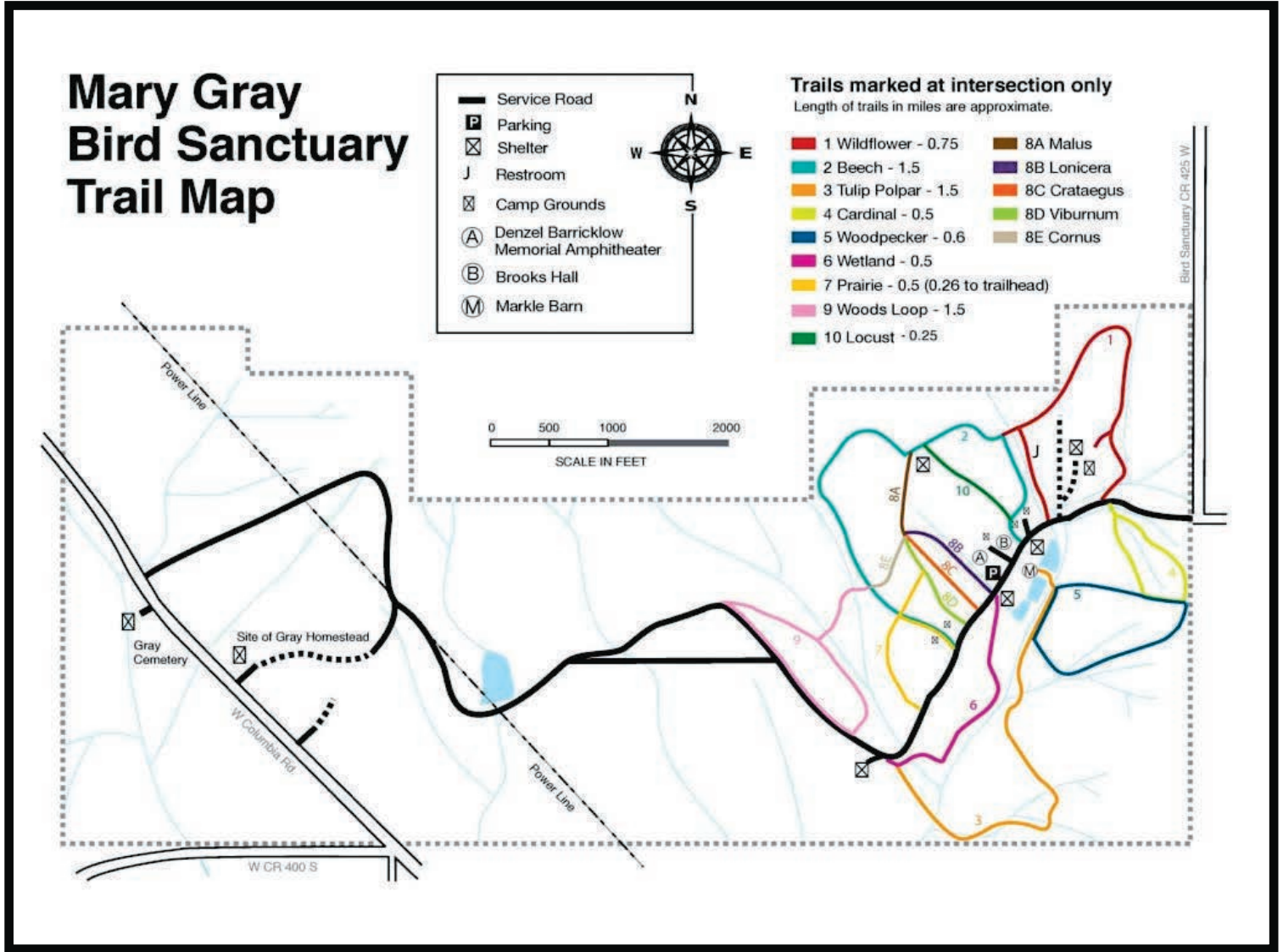
This event is only the first of many in store put together by the Indiana Audubon Society. On the 27th of January and the 3rd of February, both at 2 p.m. ET, enthusiastic birders will be congregating at Salamonie Reservoir to observe the wintering bald eagle population along the floodplains. Further into the year, the

2024 Winter Snowy Owl UP Tour will take participants to the Upper Peninsula of Michigan on Feb. 2nd. The three-day caravanning trip to search for snowy owls in the UP area will be nothing short of brisk, but it's all worth it to see those majestic creatures.

On Feb. 16th, avid birders can register to participate in a virtual birding event which tours through the Mashpi-Amagusa Reserve in the Western Andes foothills, led by expert birder Nelson Apolo. Participants can expect to see all manner fascinating and tropical birds, such as hummingbirds, tanagers, flycatchers, parrots, toucans - as they say on their site, 'you



# Sanctuary



never know what will visit the feeders or nearby trees'. For a \$15 ticket (ISA member price; non-members pay \$20), that's quite a deal to see a wide variety of some of the most beautiful birds in the world.

Also on the 16th of

February, and going through the 19th, is the 2024 Winter Sax-Zim Bog Owl Tour in Minnesota. Similar to the Snowy Owl trip, participants will be led through the northern landscapes by experienced guides Shari McCollough and Sam Warren to observe many species of owls in their natural habitat.

As can be expected from any trip up north in winter, it will be a cold one, with some hiking involved, but we know it'll be worth it.

The details of all of these events, as well as the events for the rest of the year, are listed on the IAS website at <https://indianaudub>

[org/events/](https://indianaudub.org/events/) for any and all interested parties to consider and plan for. And hey - while you're there, please consider making a donation to the Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary to keep their good work going in the years to come. The birds and visitors of the future will thank you!







# HOME

## *Is Where the Hearth Is*

### RECIPE COLUMN



Coffee Crumb Cake | story and recipe by **Mary Rippe**

The kitchen table is a haven of nostalgia, a place where people reminisce about time-honored recipes. You know the ones that conjure up the sweet feeling of home whenever you happen upon that certain scent like the one that means Grandma's coffee cake. That brings back the wistfulness of those Christmas mornings spent tearing through wrapped gifts, then savoring a slice of heaven in the form of a moist piece of coffee cake with the rich, aromatic smell of mom and Dad's morning coffee filling the air.

Coffee cake stems from the German tradition of kaffeezeit (coffee time) - a time for taking a break in the afternoon to enjoy a cup of coffee with a slice of cake. With Batesville's rich German ancestry, dating to the 1850s, it's no wonder that many cherish Grandma's coffee cake recipes. The ones that the early settlers of Batesville brought with them, over the thousands of miles they traveled, to settle in the rolling hills of southeastern Indiana.

#### INGREDIENTS

*Batter:*

- ½ cup butter (softened)
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 large eggs
- ¾ cup whole milk
- 2 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 2 cups flour

*Topping:*

- ½ cup butter (softened)
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 cups Bisquick mix
- 2 tsp cinnamon

#### INSTRUCTIONS

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

To make the batter, cream together butter, sugar, and eggs. Mix in the milk, baking powder and vanilla. Mix in flour just until blended. Pour batter into a greased 9" x 13" pan.

To make the topping, combine butter, sugar, cinnamon, and Bisquick. Sprinkle over the batter.

Bake for 30 minutes. When cool, sprinkle ¼ - ½ cup of powdered sugar over the top.

Most of today's "settlers" can trace family roots to three areas in northern Germany which were not very far from each other: Batesville/Huntersville to Venne, Engter, Bramsche and surrounding communities just north of Osnabrueck in the Kingdom of Hannover; Oldenburg to Damme Parish about ten miles further north in the Grand Duchy of Oldenburg; and many German settlers in Adams and Laughery townships to Heiligenfelde Parish, about 45 miles further northeast in the Kingdom of Hannover, just south of Bremen.

Here is just one of those time-honored recipes, a cherished Christmas gift that evokes memories of a dear friend every time it's baked. It's best served with family and friends gathered around the kitchen table. Look for other treasured recipes all month long to help create Christmas magic in your home this holiday season.

# The greatest basketball story ever told...

BY RON YURCAK

Many things get measured, recorded, and entered into history books. But in the state of Indiana, one of the things we measure and that's become a part of our state history is basketball. Over the years, it has created rivalries, arguments, competition, and even hard feelings. It can have an effect that will last a lifetime. It is measured in fouls, steals, rebounds, points, free throws, and, most of all, wins.

There have been many great stories about Indiana high school basketball over the years.

The most outstanding season in Indiana basketball was nearly 70 years ago.

It was 1954 when the tiny town of Milan, home of the Milan Indians, won the state championship at Butler Fieldhouse on the campus of Butler University. It was an era when radio broadcasts provided a vision into the game, as though you were sitting courtside. Families gathered around the Victrola to listen as the Milan Indians became the "Milan Miracle."

The tiny school of 161 students unexpectedly made it all the way to the big show. In the final game, they defeated Muncie Central. Led by Coach Marvin Wood, the Milan Indians topped Muncie Central 30-32.

The leading scorer in the game was Ray Craft, who led

the team with 14 points. Player Bobby Plump, who was voted

arrange a visit. Check out their website at [milan54.org](http://milan54.org).



Mr. Basketball in 1954, led the Indians along the way. Plump, portrayed in the movie as Jimmy Chitwood, still resides in Indiana.

A win so awe-inspiring that the movie starring Gene Hackman, "Hoosiers," was made based on the tiny school with a lot of heart.

The 1954 team known as the Milan Miracle lives on infamously in the Milan 54 Museum. This Museum tells the whole story and will celebrate its team's 70th anniversary in March. In the meantime, you can learn all about this incredible feat at the Milan 54 Museum. The Museum is open Wednesday through Saturday but will be closed in January. You can still possibly visit in January by contacting the Museum to

How about the tiny school with an enrollment of 271? The Argos Dragons defeated the Marion Giants in the Coliseum in Ft. Wayne. With just eight seconds to go and down by one, Argos rushed up the floor with a missed shot and a tip-in for the win. The big school of Marion had won eight state championships. Before that 1997-98 season started, Indiana had but one winner in basketball overall. The glory of being number one in the state is taken away forever. The chance of a small school with so much talent ever being able to beat number one over every big school is just a memory.

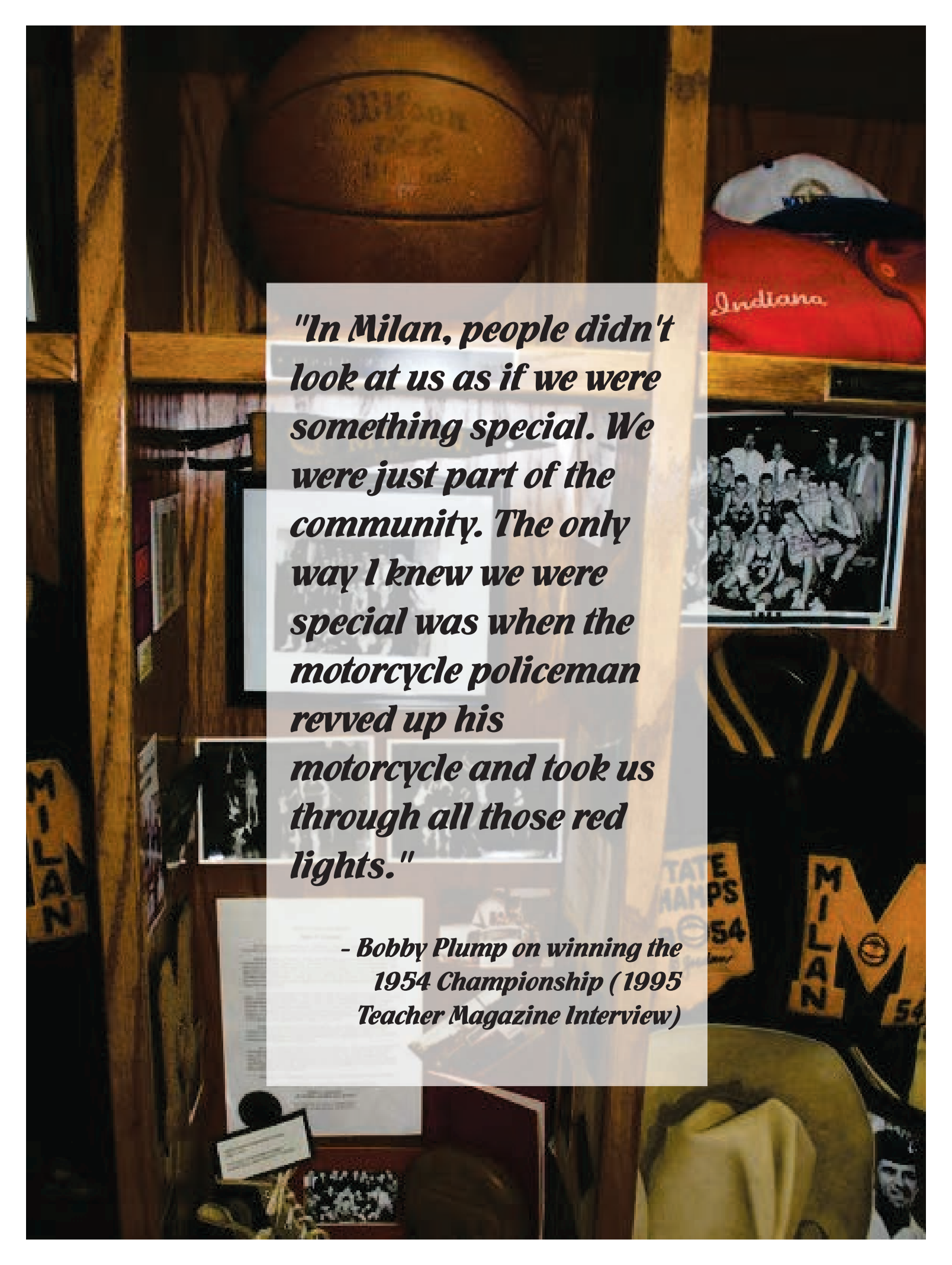
However, the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame is a great way to relive the biggest moments in Indiana basketball and the players who made them. The Hall of Fame is located in New Castle and is open all winter, allowing visitors to reflect and be inspired by the many dreams that came true over the years through Indiana basketball.

In the historic town of Knightstown, is a gym that was also used in the movie Hoosiers. The tiny gym of yesteryear, home of the fictional Hickory Huskers. The feeling in this gym just takes you back to the day, you can imagine the players, coaches, and the fans from 1954. This little historic gym is open the public where you can walk the lower level locker rooms and get a feel for the magic of the season. During the winter months you can tour the gym free of charge though they do appreciate donations. The gym does schedule as many as 65 games in the gym, so you should call for game schedules as some parts of the gym may be off limits on game days. The Museum is open most days except Sunday. You can find out much more information by visiting [thehoosiergym.com](http://thehoosiergym.com) with lots of info on their site.



**The Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame has called New Castle and Henry County home for the past 15 years. This 14,000 square foot facility is home to the history of Indiana High School Basketball and preserves Indiana's game for years to come.**

**No other state in the US has a facility like ours to honor High School Basketball. But this is Indiana!**



*"In Milan, people didn't look at us as if we were something special. We were just part of the community. The only way I knew we were special was when the motorcycle policeman revved up his motorcycle and took us through all those red lights."*

*- Bobby Plump on winning the 1954 Championship (1995 Teacher Magazine Interview)*

# MELTDOWN WINT



Richmond Meltdown 2023 | Stephanie Harrison Photography

On Jan 26 and 27, the annual "Meltdown Winter Ice Festival" in Richmond will return, bringing professional ice carvers and artists to town to transform over 20,000 pounds of ice into artistic masterpieces for an experience that won't soon be forgotten.

### Meltdown Throwdown

Watch as two teams of skilled ice carvers battle it out on stage and create sculptures right before your eyes! These professional competitors with years of experience will transform literally tons of ice into an artistic masterpiece.

"The newest and youngest carver we have is Sammy Moore. She is from Northern Indiana. Ice carving is mostly men, so it's exciting to see her work! She does awesome!"  
-Stephanie Harrison



# WINTER ICE FESTIVAL

Richmond • Wayne County

-BY CASSIE GARRETT

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### When is the Meltdown?

The Meltdown Winter Ice Festival is held on the last weekend of January and includes events the week leading up to the weekend. The next Meltdown will be held Jan 26-27, 2024.

### How long do the ice sculptures last?

Depending on the weather, the ice sculptures can last a day to up to weeks after the festival.

### Where can I eat during the Meltdown?

There are many restaurants, cafes, and bakeries located in Richmond. See Visit Richmond's listing of eateries to find a restaurant that appeals to you.

There will be food trucks at Jack Elstro Plaza on Friday from 6 pm to 10 pm and Saturday noon to 10 pm.

### How do they make the ice blocks?

A Clinebell machine makes the ice blocks used for carving. The machine freezes water slowly from the bottom up so that impurities and air bubbles aren't trapped in the ice. This creates crystal-clear blocks of ice that our carvers use to turn into works of art.

### Does it cost money to look at the ice sculptures?

No, there is no fee to walk around and view the sculptures. You can take photos or videos of these magnificent works of art so long as you don't block traffic flow or impede others from enjoying the artwork themselves. There may be a charge for individual Meltdown events.

### How did the carvers learn to carve these giant ice sculptures?

Most of the ice carvers learned to carve ice in culinary school! That means they're fantastic chefs, too!

### Where can I park to see the Meltdown?

There are a number of public parking lots throughout the downtown area and the Richmond Depot District. You may park in any spots that are not marked reserved. In addition, most streets in the area are available for on-street parking. There are no parking meters in Richmond.

The city has developed an online map detailing the available places to park. Since most of the Meltdown Winter Ice Festival events take place in and around Jack Elstro Plaza, the closest parking lots are the North 6th Street Lot (The Legion Lot), the Downtown Parking Garage, and the South 6th Street Lot (The Elder-Beerman Lot).



Richmond Meltdown 2019 | Stephanie Harrison Photography



Richmond Meltdown 2023 | Stephanie Harrison Photography

# Meet the Carvers

**Andrew Thistlethwaite**  
San Antonio



Hobby turned into obsession as Chef Andrew discovered the unique art of ice sculpting in 1996 as a culinary apprentice at the University of Notre Dame. Since then he has traveled tirelessly throughout the country honing his skills with a chainsaw creating awe-inspiring crystalline spectacles for winter festivals, parties, and demonstrations. Andrew is a Certified Ice Carver by the National Ice Carving Association, and is the Owner of Signature Ice Sculptures, LLC in San Antonio.

Distinctions and Awards:

NICA Professional Division National Champion 2007, 2008

3rd Place 2016 World Ice Art Championships, Fairbanks

Awarded numerous Bronze, silver, and Gold Medals in NICA Competitions

Certified Ice Carver

Ivy Tech Instructor in Ice Carving

Founded Hunter Ice Festival, Niles, Michigan

**Aaric Kendall**  
Argenta, Illinois

When Aaric Kendall was



in high school, working part time in the kitchen of a private dining club, he got the chance to carve a swan out of ice at a Springfield, Illinois charity event. Kendall was able to hone his skills when he later attended the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, N.Y. There, he was president of the school's ice carving club, which set up competitions so chefs-in-training could practice. Argenta, Illinois resident Kendall has since gone on to win the U.S. Ice Carving Nationals and earned the right to compete in ice carving events held in conjunction with two winter Olympics – Turin, Italy, in 2006 and Vancouver, British Columbia, in 2010. He was the Bronze Medalist in Turin and won Gold in Vancouver.

He placed 2nd at the World Ice Art Championships in 2015. Kendall worked as a chef at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in St. Louis, where he did all of the hotel's ice carving. After more than a year, he took a job in the same city with Ice Visions, a full-service ice carving company. There, he sculpted everything from turkeys and

cornucopias for Thanksgiving to corporate logos for business functions and monograms for weddings. Kendall also started Double A Carving Company, a full-service ice carving company. His shop, which includes a 13-by-10-foot freezer where he carves, is on the property of his parents' home, where he grew up.

**Dean DeMaris**  
Fate, Texas



It was the summer of 1988, I was in garde manger class at El Centro, a community college in downtown Dallas, when I carved my first block of ice. By October I was full time, at Bifulcos Vanishing Sculptures working for Robert Bifulco, doing a little bit of everything, sales calls, deliveries, maintaining equipment and even a bit of sculpting.

After going back to school to work on my art degree in 1992, I kept my hands on my chainsaw working anything I could find. By 1997 I was running full steam ahead and by February 1998 I officially started Dallas Ice FX.

I only competed in a few local competitions,

winning some and DQ'ing in others. I competed nationally for the first time in 2003, again in 04, '07 and '08, finishing in the top 10, 3 silver medals and a bunch of bronze.

My first experience with international competition was in 2007 at the World Ice Art Championship in Fairbanks. with team Fear No Ice.

2007 2nd place abstract multi-block "Sweet Motion of the Northern Lights"

2013 10th place realistic single block "Fallen"

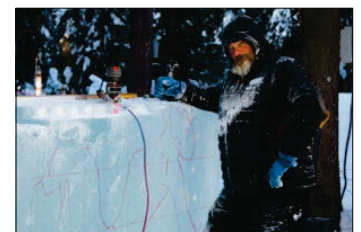
2013 DQ multi-block Team Texas "STRIKE"

2015 2nd place realistic Team Texas "Octopussy" peoples choice, governor's award,

2016 7th place abstract, single block Team Texas "H2" peoples choice.

2016 3rd place realistic, multi-block Team Texas "How to Train Your Dragons"

**Jeff Kaiser**  
Youngstown



Jeff started carving ice at the age of 19 at Mastro Ice in Pittsburgh. He worked as a contract sculptor for over 20 years with Mastro. Jeff and his wife then started Sub Zero



Richmond Meltdown 2021 | Stephanie Harrison Photography

hand crafted ice sculptures in Youngstown where they both sculpt. Jeff served on the board of the National Ice Carving Association while competing on the national circuit winning several medals and awards.

He first competed in the World Ice Art Championships in 2011 with Team California, taking fifth place. In subsequent world competitions Jeff has won 2 peoples choice awards, 2 third place awards and recently has won 1st place in the multi block competition and 2 block competitions. He says he will continue to carve ice as long as his body will hold up, but will always be part of the Ice World!

### Danny Bloss II

### Niles, Michigan



Danny Bloss II started carving ice at the first Hunter Ice Festival in Niles after taking an ice carving class with the executive chef at the University of Notre Dame's Morris Inn. As he works as a chef at the University of Notre Dame in the Food Services Department, he continues to further his passion for ice carving.

He is a frequent participant at almost all Northern Indiana and

Southern Michigan winter festivals, having won numerous Silver and Bronze medals in National Ice Carving Association sanctioned competitions. He reached the pinnacle of his ice carving career in 2017 when he won the Professional Division National Championship. Danny works with ice carvers from every corner of the country to hone his skills but always works with his wife Becky at the St. Joseph, Michigan Magical Ice Festival every year.

He also does all the ice sculptures for the University of Notre Dame events as well as other events in the South Bend area. Danny's ambition is to someday own his own ice shop. When the weather is warm, Danny also is a wood carver and

does chalk art at several festivals throughout the country. Danny lives in Niles, Michigan.

### Samantha (Sammy) Moore



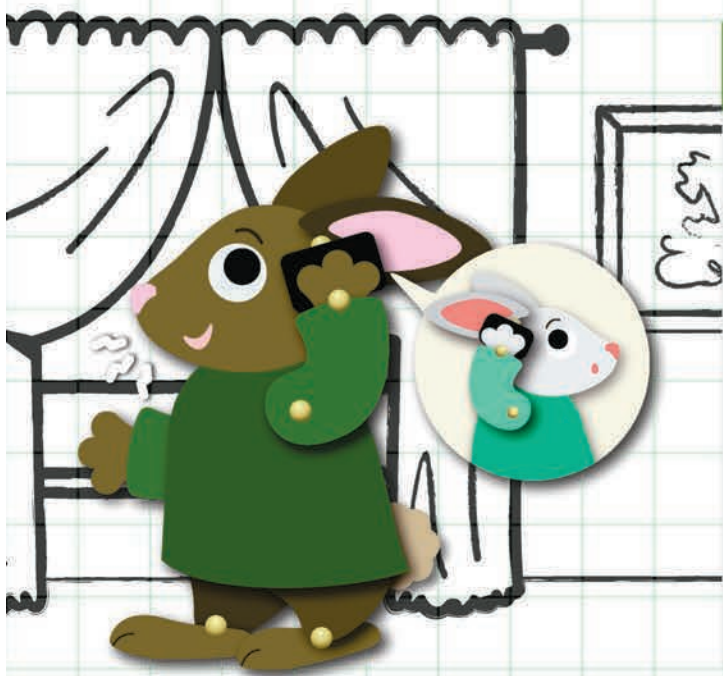
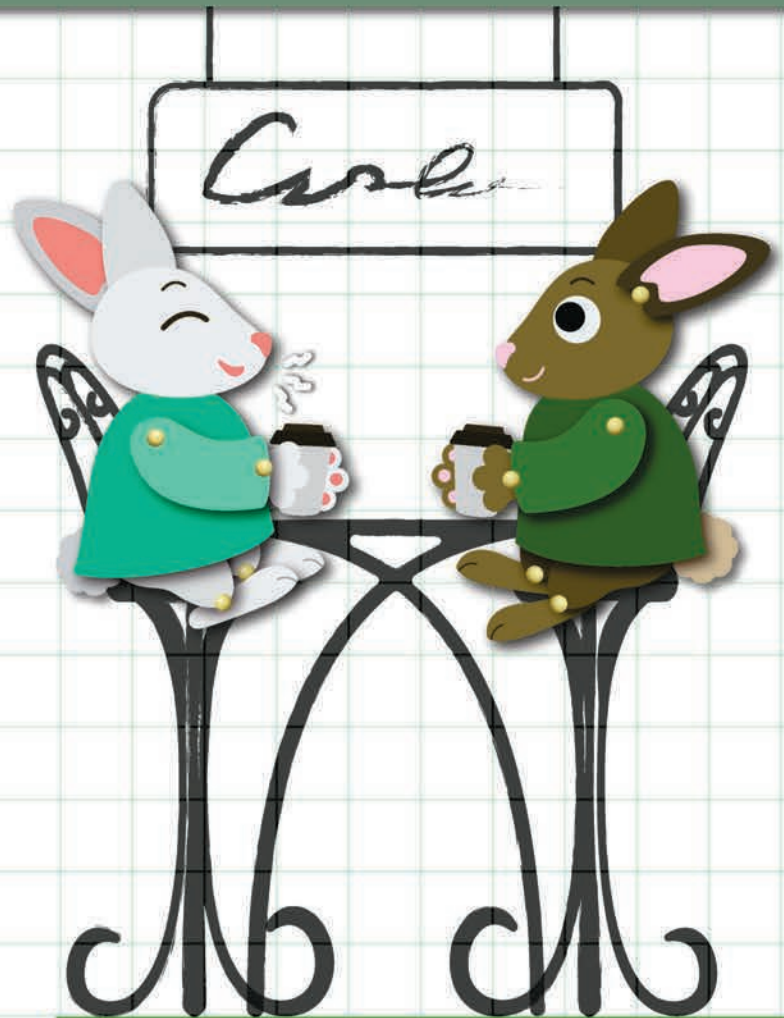
### Elkhart, Indiana

Samantha Moore is from Elkhart. She started carving ice in 2017 with the Michiana Ice Carvers Association. She is the chef for Goshen Health Hospital in Goshen. Sammy's hobbies outside of ice carving are training jujitsu, hiking, and camping. Sammy also competed at Ice Alaska in 2020.

# How to Beat the Winter Blues

## 1. Stay Social

In a time of the year where so many of us would rather bundle up in bed and stay cozy, it can be very easy to get too accustomed to our own company, leading to loneliness and an overall gloomy feeling. Every once in a while, make sure to get out of the house and enjoy some company. For our more introverted readers, simply being in a space around others can be good, too.



## 2. Stay in Touch

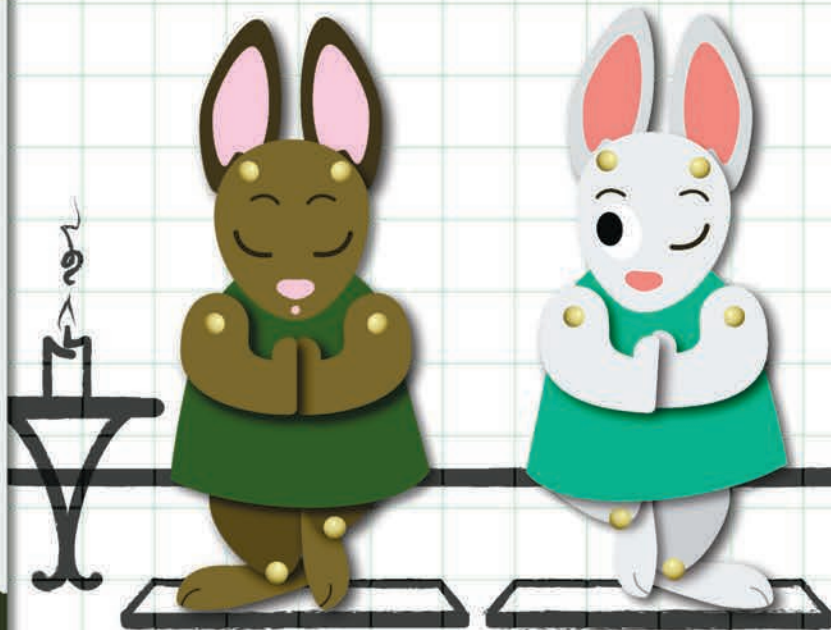
Are you feeling down, as though you're the only one suffering through the grey of winter? Take some time in your day to reach out to family or friends. College buddies, coworkers, that one guy from high school you used to skip class with – chances are that they could be feeling just as low as you are, or they might have just been thinking of you. Give yourself and your loved ones a little pick-me-up by reaching out and just hearing each other's voices for a bit. It'll work wonders you never thought possible.



# Winter Blues

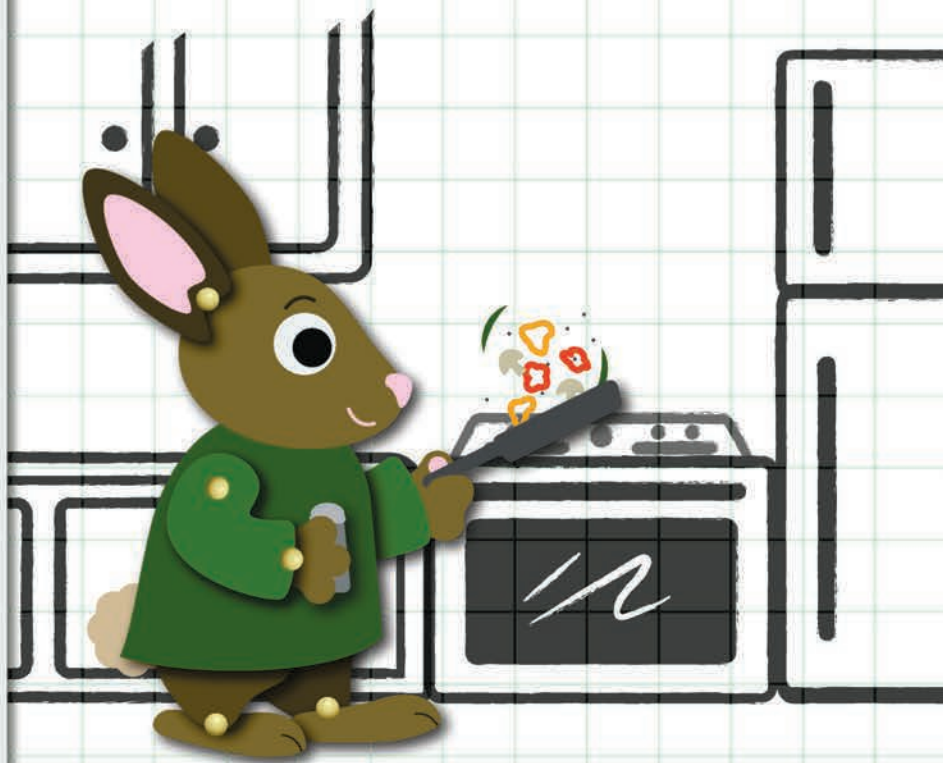
## 3. Stay Active

Even if the last thing you want to do in the dead of winter is get up and move (we totally get it, too), it's important to remember to get your blood flowing just a little bit. Simple stretches can go a long way and provide a bit of structure when the days start blending together. Pull up that yoga tutorial you always say you'll try one day and get your Zen on!



## 4. Eat Healthy

One of the best ways to keep spirits high is with a good meal. What's more, good eating doesn't have to break the budget. A little oil, some fresh vegetables, and meat with some seasoning in a skillet gets you a delicious and versatile stir-fry. In addition to that, the act of creating something new and enjoying that process can break you out of a funk you might not have even known you were in. Try to be present and think about what you're doing as you make your food. The sounds, the smells, the tastes of your culinary creation – being mindful brings a whole new level of satisfaction to even the most mundane activities.



# A treasure trove of history: The Rush County Historical Society

-BY CASSIE GARRETT

## Discover our past, enrich our future

The Rush County Historical Society Museum is home to a treasure trove of history. It is a great place to get cozy on a cold winter day while stepping back in time.

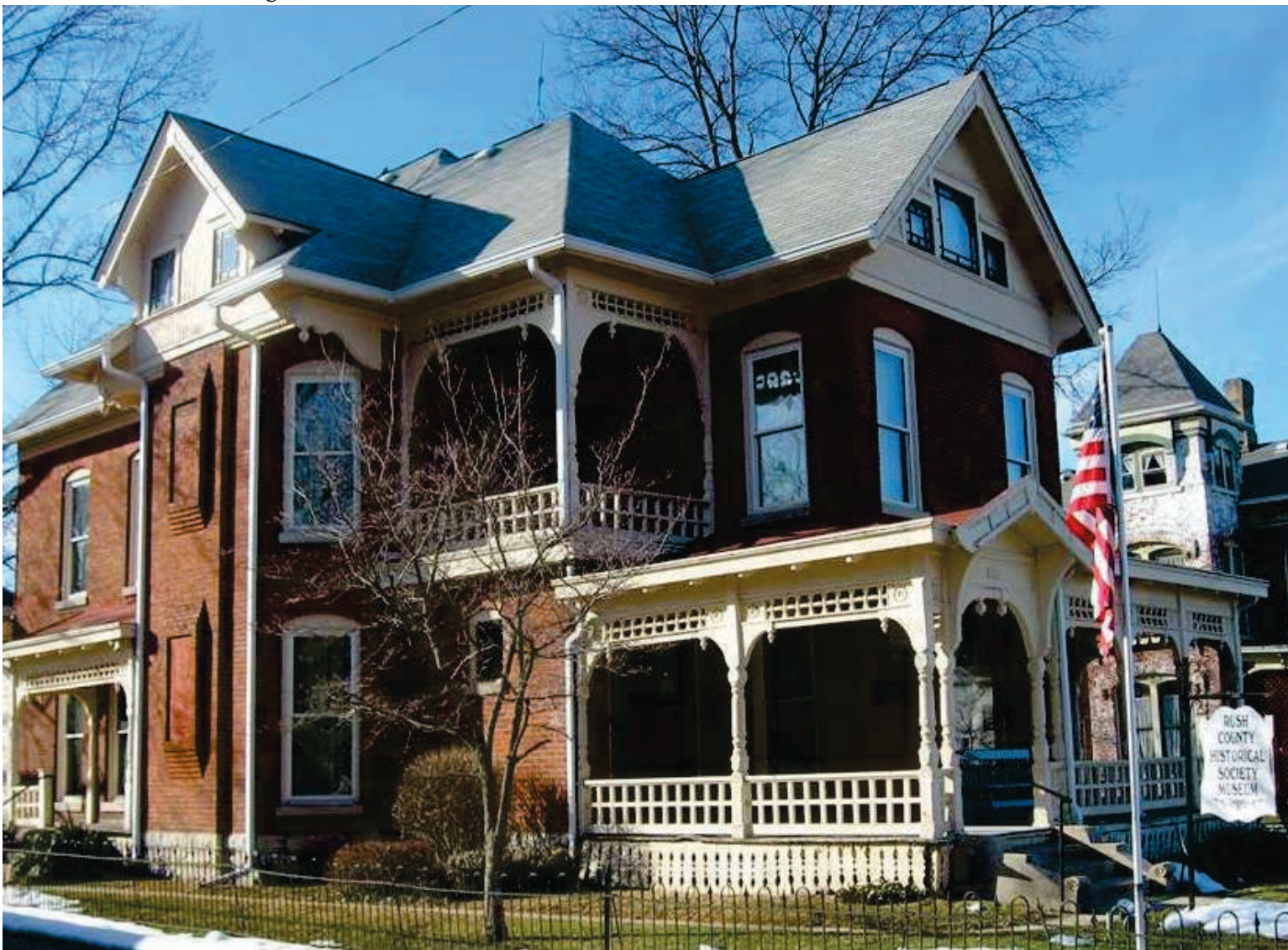
The numerous exhibits and artifacts allow visitors to immerse themselves in the stories of Rush County's past and discover a newfound appreciation for the past and a desire to continue exploring the history of Rush County. In addition to a display of various artifacts, the Society has promoted reprints of several past histories of Rush County and the compilation of a new history, titled Rush County Retrospect 1980-1920. The Society also houses an Oral History Library.

## The Oral History Library

A voice from the past can tell a story like no other! The inflection in the voice and the fact that "they were there" is a unique way to learn about & witness history.

Your Rush County Historical Society has an extensive Oral History Library at your fingertips. To view the full collection, visit <https://www.rushcountyhistory.org>

The Rush County Historical Society Museum is located at 619 N. Perkins St. in Rushville and is open year-round on Mondays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Admission is free. To make an appointment, call (765)932-2492 or email [rushhistorical@gmail.com](mailto:rushhistorical@gmail.com)



# The story of the Tyson Temple

BY RON YURCAK

James H Tyson was born in Versailles. He learned the trade of printing in his local newspaper and became a printer. He later moved to Chicago where he spent a lot of time traveling the world.

At a boarding house where he lived he became close friends with Mr. Walgreen who at the time owned one drug store. Mr. Walgreen was wanting to expand his drug store business, so Mr. Tyson invested \$1500 to expand the business to two stores. This was the beginning of Walgreens Drug Stores.

In 1926 Jim made a trust of 18,000 shares to be managed by Versailles United Methodist Church. The church was organized in 1834 where his mother Eliza was a charter member of the trust.

After her passing it was stipulated that they build a new church dedicated to the glory of God and his late mother.

Jim made several trips around the world before he designed the churches architecture of Tyson Temple. Mr. Tyson died at the age of 85 in 1941 and was laid to rest in Cliff Hill Cemetery in Versailles.

The church is a work of art from all over the world. This monument stands in downtown Versailles and is a spectacle to see. In 1937 the church was dedicated and has undergone a renovation in 2006 by Historic Landmarks.

The church design flows flawlessly through rounded corners and arches. The original cost of the building was \$150,000 in 1937. There are

no nails in the structure, it is called a temple as the sound of hammers were never heard in its construction. Built like the temple in Israel, it is constructed of stone, concrete, steel, terra cotta, brick, glazed and glass brick. The spire of the church stands 65 feet tall and the cross is 100 feet above the ground. The base is 8 feet in diameter and it is made of polished aluminum. Jim enjoyed traveling by ship so the doors are bronze, patterned similar to those on a ship, while the roof is of copper.

The glass block windows were imported from England, and the terra cotta imported from Italy. The ceiling is painted blue of a cloudless sky, with stars placed to resemble the constellation from the

heavens. The stars are placed as they were in the sky the night Jim's mother died. The ceiling above the choir is gold leaf and imported from Germany. It is to resemble the streets of gold in Heaven.

The pews made of fallen timber in Ripley County were built in Batesville. The basement floor is marble and there is a tunnel connecting the church and the parsonage. There are seven levels in the church starting in the basement.

This is a very unique structure with so much detail throughout the building. You can schedule a tour or to get more information, you can visit [tysonumc.org](http://tysonumc.org) or you can contact them at 812-689-6976 or [tyson temple mc@gmail.com](mailto:tyson temple mc@gmail.com).



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**SUDOKU**

	9		8			3		
				2	9	8		
	4							
	5	2		3				
8					4	5		
		9					6	1
1				5			2	
							3	8
	6	7					1	

# 1

**ANSWERS**

3	6	7	9	8	2	4	1	5
6	2	5	4	1	6	7	3	8
1	8	4	7	5	3	6	2	9
4	3	9	5	7	8	2	6	1
8	1	6	2	9	4	5	7	3
7	5	2	6	3	1	8	4	9
2	4	8	3	6	5	1	9	7
5	7	3	1	2	9	8	4	6
6	9	1	8	4	7	3	5	2

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**SUDOKU**

6			1					
				5		2		
	9			2	7	8		
				6		4	2	
		4	3					
		3		1				5
5							6	
					3		8	
		8				5		1

# 2

**ANSWERS**

3	2	8	9	7	6	5	4	1
7	1	6	5	4	3	9	8	2
5	4	9	2	8	1	3	6	7
8	7	3	4	1	2	6	5	9
2	6	4	3	9	5	1	7	8
9	5	1	7	6	8	4	2	3
1	9	5	6	2	7	8	3	4
4	3	7	8	5	9	2	1	6
6	8	2	1	3	4	7	5	9

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# Local Winter Bucket List



- GRAB A WINTER SWEATER AT ARROWS BOUTIQUE IN LIBERTY
- VISIT THE KIDS DISCOVERY FACTORY IN BATESVILLE
- GO SLEDDING AT PEFFER PARK IN OXFORD
- A NIGHT OF FAMILY BOWLING AT RUSHVILLE BOWL
- VISIT THE WAYNE CO. HISTORICAL MUSEUM
- GRAB A WINTER BERRY LATTE AT CEDAR COFFEE IN RICHMOND
- CATCH A MOVIE AT THE BROOKVILLE THEATRE
- VISIT THE INDIANA BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME IN NEW CASTLE
- DONATE TO A LOCAL FOOD DRIVE
- TAKE A HIKE AT MARY GRAY BIRD SANCTUARY
- CHECKOUT A BOOK AT THE LOCAL LIBRARY
- BAKE A FAMILY FAVORITE DESSERT FOR SOMEONE
- STAY OVERNIGHT AT THE SHERMAN HOUSE IN BATESVILLE
- HIT THE SLOPES AT PERFECT NORTH



# Gettin Cozy with a Winter Favorite

-BY CASSIE GARRETT

The snowflakes danced gracefully in the crisp winter air as I made my way from the newspaper office to the local cozy coffee shop, "Coffee on Main."

The warm aroma of freshly brewed coffee greeted me as I stepped inside, instantly thawing my chilled fingers. The coffee shop was filled with a mix of community members seeking refuge from the cold. Some were engrossed in their laptops, working away, while others chatted and laughed with friends on the large, comfy couches.

I ordered my favorite seasonal drink, a steaming hot Winter Apple coffee, and found a spot by the window. As I sipped on my delicious beverage, I watched the snowflakes gently blanket Main Street, slowing down time and creating a winter wonderland.

The baristas and owners, Audra Steiner and Phoebe Holloway, friendly souls with bright smiles, seemed to know everyone's name and order by heart, making it feel like you are stepping into a community where strangers become friends over a shared love for caffeine and conversation.

As I sat there, enjoying my drink and the company of my thoughts, I felt a sense of peace and contentment. The coffee shop had become a haven, a place where I could escape the chilly winter and find warmth not just in the drinks but in the connections made with others.

And so, I found solace and inspiration in that little coffee shop surrounded by the magic of winter and the comforting embrace of a hot cup of joe. It was a reminder that even in the coldest of seasons, there's always a place where warmth, both in the atmosphere and in human connections, can be found.



## Hit the "Coffee Trail"

Some of the coziest coffee shops with the best brews in the state. With so many to choose from, we have compiled a list of some local favorites to visit in Franklin, Union, Ripley, Henry, Rush and Fayette counties this winter to warm up, catch up with a friend and discover your new winter favorite.

### Batesville

Amack's Well Community Coffee House, 103 E. George St.

### Metamora

The Village Smith Coffee Shop & Apothecary, 19068 Main St.,

### Liberty

Kehila Coffee, 23 W. Union St.

### New Castle

The Press Coffee, 201 S. 14th St.

### Richmond

Roscoe's Coffee Bar & Tap Room, 416. N. 10th St.

### Brookville

Coffee on Main, 606 Main St.

### Connersville

Brian's Bistro & More, 408 N. Central Ave.

### Rushville

The Mocha Moose, 245 N. Main Street.



*“Like a scene from a snow globe...”*



*"A person should have wings to carry them where their dreams go, but sometimes a pair of skis makes a good substitute."*

*-Hans Gmoser*



# You don't have to go to Colorado to hit the slopes

-BY CASSIE GARRETT



Perfect North Slopes is located in Lawrenceburg, making skiing, snowboarding, and tubing readily available to residents of southeastern Indiana. It offers 100 skiable acres with a peak elevation of 800' and a vertical drop of 400'. The average snowfall is 10", and the longest run is one mile.

On any given day through the season, you'll see skiers weaving through the trees, marveling at the breathtaking beauty of the snowy landscape as they carve their way down the powdery slopes as if dancing on the snow. Although it's a breathtaking and inspiring sight, for a first timer, the slopes, can seem daunting. So, if it's your first time skiing or visiting Perfect North Slopes, here is everything you need to know.

## Buy Your Lift Ticket

Lift tickets can be conveniently purchased online before arriving at Perfect North. Upon arrival visit the kiosks outside the West Lodge to redeem the QR code received in the ticket purchase confirmation e-mail. After the code is scanned guests will receive a RFID card. The card should be placed (alone) in your left jacket sleeve or pocket before heading to the access gates at the bottoms of each lift. The gates will recognize your card and open. If you do not pre-purchase your ticket online, you can purchase a lift ticket at the inside information windows located in the West Lodge.

If you have never been skiing or riding before, ask about the first time lessons which

can be purchased inside the West Lodge at the Snow Sports School Desk. This 50-minute group lesson is great for first time skiers/riders and is available for ages four and older.

## Discover Snow Sports Self-Guided Area

Available for FREE with every valid lift ticket purchase.

A self-guided, self-paced beginner area designed to help get you moving in the right direction - downhill and in control.

Work through the different stations as many times as you want. They'll even have a few instructors available for questions and learning tips.

The Discovery Area is available to anyone with a valid lift ticket purchase. Please make sure you have proper ski/board equipment when in the Discovery Area.

## Pick-Up Rental Equipment

The Rental Shop is located on the lower level of the lodge. Once inside, fill out your rental form completely. Then, pick out boots at the Rental Shop. Ski boots are located in the front, and snowboard boots are in the back. Lockers are available to rent throughout the facilities.

Once you have your boots, head over to the ski or snowboard pick-up. You will be asked questions such as height, weight, and ability. This lets the technicians adjust the equipment to fit you.

If you are skiing and want poles, pick those up on the way out and you are ready to go.

# When in doubt, DON'T GO OUT

-IDNR

Every winter, thousands of Hoosiers enjoy fishing, skating, hiking or just sliding around on frozen ponds and lakes. And every year, people drown after falling through ice. Like driving on snow, Hoosiers need to re-learn how to have safe fun on ice.

### If you are fishing:

Drill your own test hole near shore. Your test hole should show at least a four-inch thickness of clear ice like you get from your freezer.

Wear a life jacket for extra warmth and safety.

Be aware of various ice strengths and qualities. One area of a pond may be a foot thick while another spot of ice may only be an inch thick.

Ice strength can also change. Thick ice is rotten after rain. Old honey-combed ice, slush ice or ice with current under it is also dangerous. New ice is almost always stronger than old ice. Wind, waterfowl and beavers can also keep areas of ice thin.

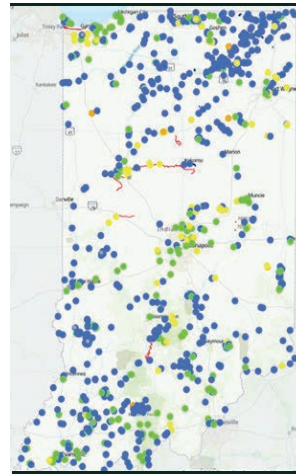
Indiana law limits ice fishing holes to a diameter of twelve inches.

Fishing shanties must have reflectors on each side so snowmobiles won't crash into them at dusk or during snowstorms.

**INSIDER TIP:**  
**ICE FISHING AT BROOKVILLE LAKE**

THE MAIN BODY OF BROOKVILLE LAKE DOESN'T TYPICALLY OFFER SAFE ICE IN WINTER. BUT THE COVES USUALLY DO. COVES WITH DEEPER WATER, LIKE TEMPLETON AND WOLF CREEK, OFFER THE BEST ICE FISHING FOR CRAPPIES.

PROVIDED BY: BESTFISHINGINAMERICA.COM



## WHERE TO FISH in Indiana

The IDNR offers an interactive map that includes information on public access sites, fish consumption advisories and low-head dam locations in rivers and streams.

All access site locations are approximate; please ensure that these sites are open to the public before launching.

To view the interactive map visit, <https://www.in.gov/dnr/fish-and-wildlife/fishing/where-to-fish-interactive-map/>

## Ice depth guidelines



### Four inches

Needed for safe ice fishing.



### Five inches

Needed for snowmobiling.



### Eight inches

Needed to support the weight of a car or light truck.



### Ten inches

Needed to support a medium-weight truck.



# HUNTING & TRAPPING

FURBEARERS	HUNTING DATES	TRAPPING DATES
Red & Gray Fox	Oct. 15, 2023 - Feb. 28, 2024	Oct. 15, 2023 - Jan 31, 2024
Coyote & Striped Skunk	Oct. 15, 2023 - Mar. 15, 2024	Oct. 15, 2023 - Mar. 15, 2024
Raccoon & Opossum	Nov. 8, 2023 - Jan 31, 2024	Nov. 8, 2023 - Jan 31, 2024
Beaver	Nov. 15, 2023 - Mar. 15, 2024	Nov. 15, 2023 - March 15, 2024
Mink, Muskrat & Long tailed weasel	Nov. 15, 2023 - Jan. 31, 2024	Nov. 15, 2023 - Jan 31, 2024
River Otter	NO HUNTING	Nov. 15, 2023 - Mar. 15, 2024
WOODLAND BIG GAME	HUNTING TYPE	HUNTING DATES
Wild Turkey	Archery	Oct. 1, 2023 - Jan 7, 2024
Deer	Reduction Zone	Sept. 15, 2023 - Jan. 31, 2024
WOODLAND SMALL GAME	HUNTING DATES	DAILY LIMIT
Gray & Fox Squirrel	Aug. 15, 2023 - Jan 31, 2024	5
MISCELLANEOUS GAME	HUNTING DATES	DAILY LIMIT
Green Frog & Bullfrog	June 15, 2023 - April 30, 2024	25
Eastern Snapping Turtle & Smooth & Spiny Softshell Turtles	July 1, 2023 - April 31, 2024	4



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 (765) 698-8316

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Duck Creek Crossing  
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22134 Main St.  
812-932-4571
  - Michaela Farm (Greenacres)  
3127 State Road 229  
812-933-0661
  - Schwestern Gallery of Arts  
22169 Main St.  
812-933-036
  - The Village Store  
22182 Main St.  
812-934-3011
  - The Village Workshop  
3047 Washington St.  
812-933-1527
  - **New Trenton**
  - Red Bear Reclaimed
- 812-637-0180
- Sacksteder's Interiors  
4101 US Hwy 52  
812-637-1422
  - Old Tavern Antiques  
4080 US 52  
513-400-5902
  - **Batesville**
  - Bird in a Tree Boutique  
29 N. Main St  
812-932-2413
  - The Bookshelf  
101 N Walnut St.  
812-934-5800
  - Jaynebugs Giftique  
24 Saratoga Dr.  
812-932-4438
  - Keeper's Attic  
215 n Walnut St  
812-212-5369
  - The Old Schubox  
213 N Walnut St  
812-363-4230
  - RomWeber MarketPlace  
4 S Park Ave, Suite 204  
812-932-2606
  - The Stitch in Time  
19 E George St
  - Sunshine Sisters  
120 S Depot Rd
  - Weberding Carving Shop  
1230 State Road 46 E  
812-934-3710

## SHOPS

# Orienteering: Experience the beauty of nature

If you and your family or a group of friends love adventure, orienteering is the perfect activity to embark upon.

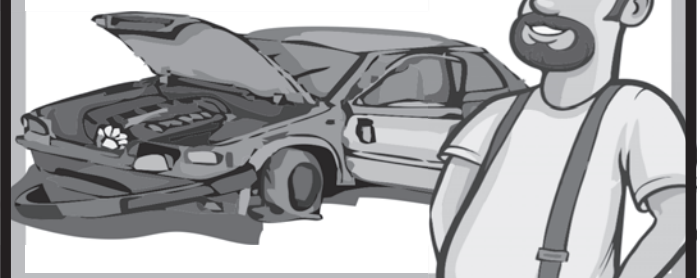
Orienteering is a thrilling outdoor activity that involves navigating the wilderness using only a map and compass. It is an experience that teaches the importance of teamwork, perseverance, and the beauty of nature.

Indiana Crossroads Orienteering (ICO) is an orienteering club serving the central Indiana area. ICO promotes the sport of map and compass by hosting orienteering meets yearly. A complete list of events for 2024 will be released soon on the ICO website at [www.indyo.org](http://www.indyo.org).



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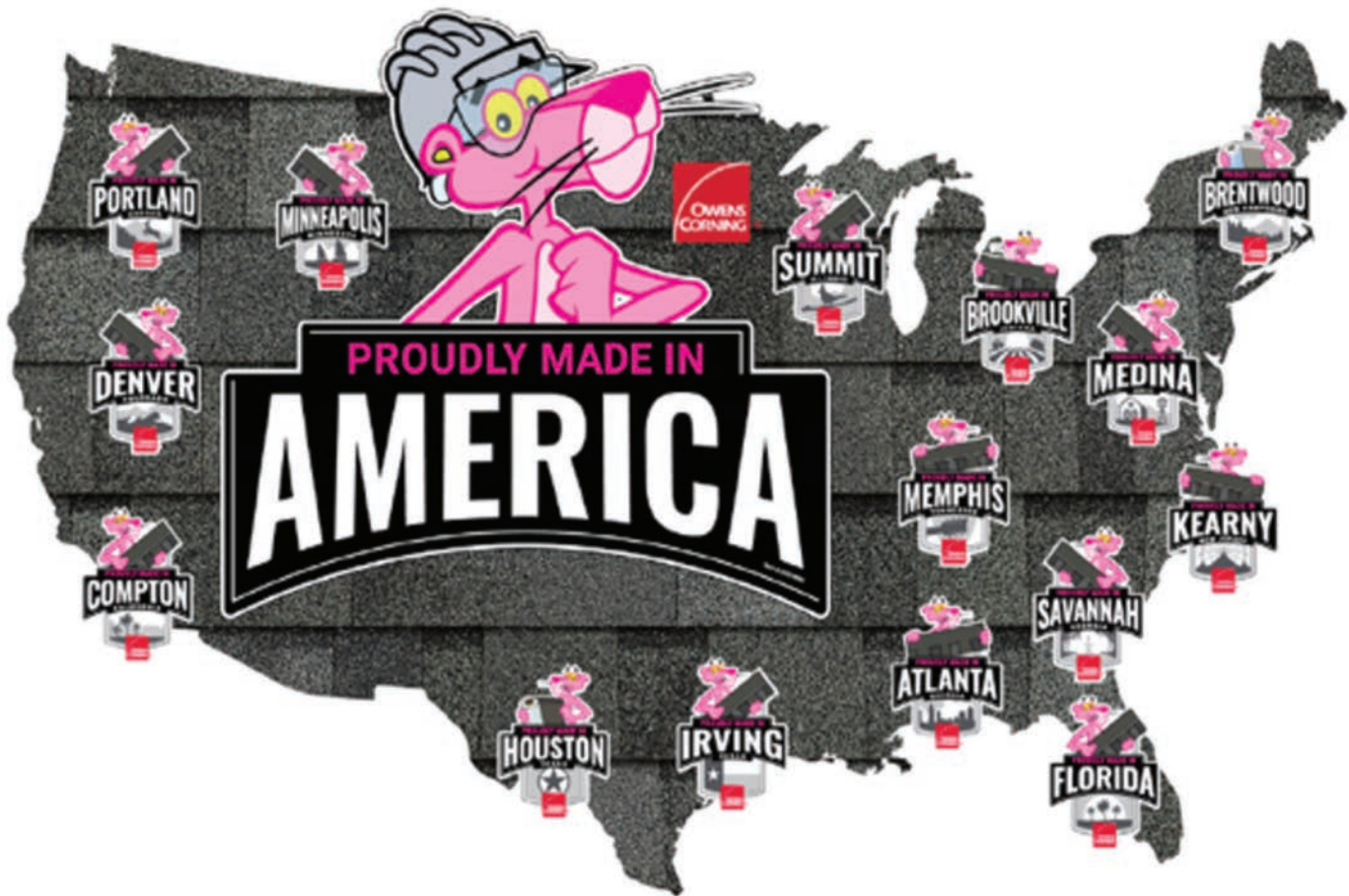


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SHINGLE  
COLOR OF  
THE YEAR

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GRAY**



# Union County Transit

**Servicing Our Community For Over 30 Years!!**



## **SERVICE AREA**

Union County Transit provides demand response, curb-to-curb, advance reservation transportation service within Union County and rural Wayne County. Door-to-door service is also available upon request for those needing reasonable assistance beyond the curb.

Union County Transit is public transportation so anyone can ride! Riders must share the bus with others who are traveling at the same time and in the same direction.

## **SERVICE HOURS**

Weekdays: 6:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

## **UC TRANSIT IS ACCESSIBLE**

Individuals with mobility disabilities are welcome to use wheelchairs and manually powered mobility aids, i.e., walkers, crutches, canes, braces, or other similar devices designed for use by individuals with mobility disabilities.

## **TRANSPORTATION OF CHILDREN**

An adult must accompany all children younger than 9-years old unless the child's parent or guardian has made prior arrangements.

## **FARE INFORMATION**

Our service area is divided into "Zone Areas". Each

"Zone Area" is approximately 2-4 square miles.

## **Fare Structure within Union County**

Zone 1	Within Liberty city limits	\$1.00
Zone 2	City Limits to 2 mile radius	\$2.25
Zone 3	2-4 mile radius	\$3.00
Zone 4	4-6 mile radius	\$3.50
Zone 5	6 mile to county lines	\$4.50

To find out the exact cost of a trip between two points in the service area call the UC Transit office at (765)458-7277.

## **REDUCED FARES**

Union County residents ride for free within Union County on Fridays- Call to schedule.

## **Mission Statement:**

**It is our mission to provide safe, reliable, affordable and efficient public transportation in the Union County and rural Wayne County area.**

**"Meeting Needs & Providing Choices"**



**Come Ride With Us!**

**Union County Transit**

**Phone 765-458-7277**

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