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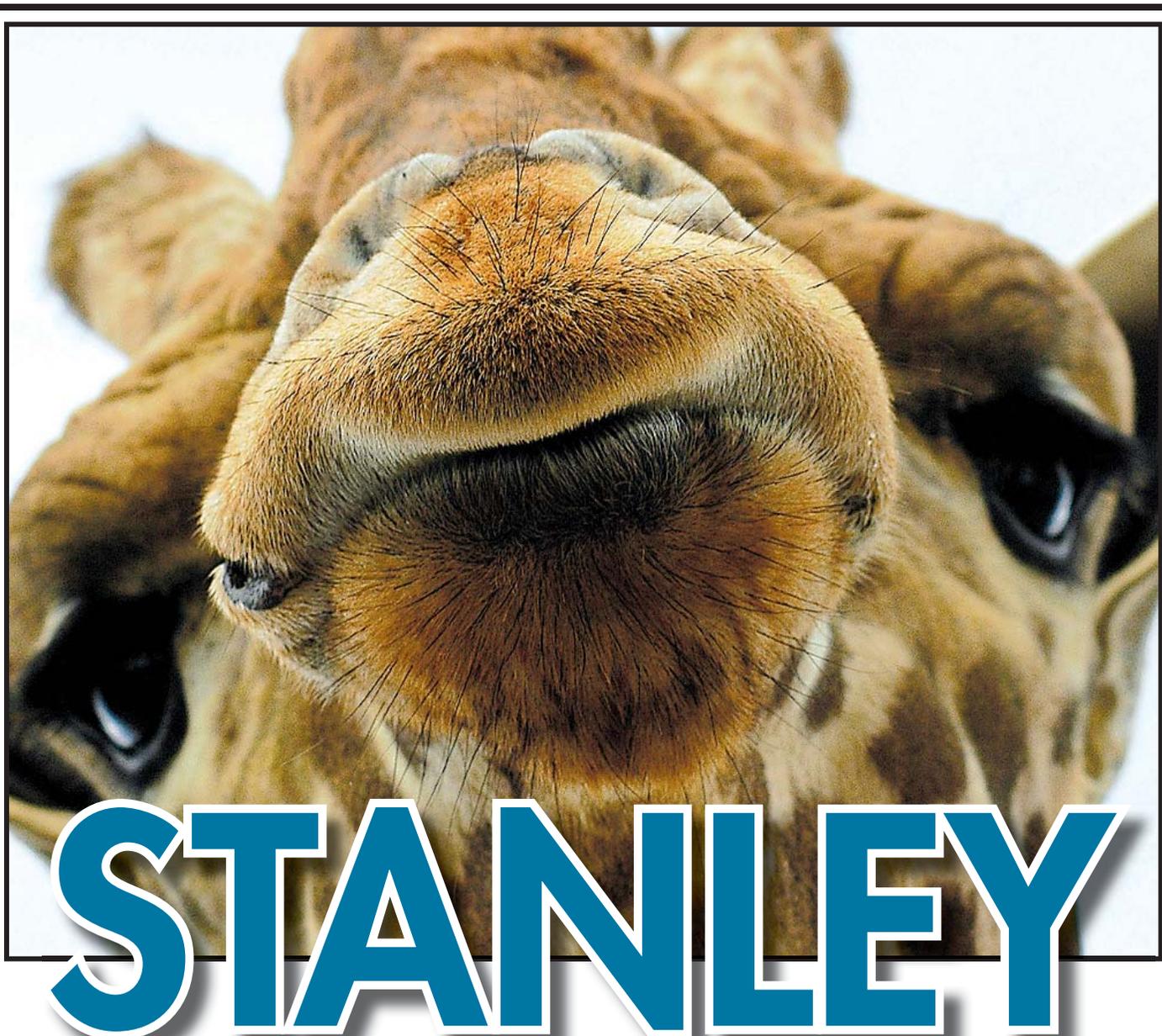
# A GOOD NEIGHBOR NEWS

"STRENGTHENING OUR LOCAL ECONOMY"

MARCH 2011

www.agoodneighbornews.com

2ND YEAR • NO. 9



# STANLEY

by Brenda Dwyer

I love giraffes. What's not to love? Once upon a time there was a giraffe named Stanley. (I named him as soon as he stuck his head into my car window ... he was definitely a Stanley.) I met him at an enormous animal park in Missouri. He came lumbering across a field of tall grass to meet me. He had a great curiosity about the inhabitants in our car. We couldn't stop laughing at his insistence to investigate everything and everyone. I never knew it could be so hard to try to get a giraffe to move his head this way or that. He was amazing. He was quite courteous

though. I was surprised that he was so gentle. His tongue was at least a foot long and he could slurp up treats from the back seat with it. As I happened to be sitting in the front passenger seat, and that is where he decided to make his entrance I found myself having to maneuver my seat to accommodate him (or risk being accidentally choked or squished). He smelled wonderful. Isn't that funny that I can remember that? Keep in mind here that I think horses smell wonderful too ... let that be your gauge. He was soft and clean (I recall looking at my hand to see if giraffes shed - just in case I was considering one for a pet) and was quite surprised that he was cleaner than my neighbor's dog who was owned by my neighbor; the neighborhood pet groomer. Okay ... bear with me now because it is going to seem like I am off on a random tangent

but I assure you this will all tie together eventually. I love TV commercials. I can rarely recall the product they are representing but I can remember everything else in detail; wait, no ... I can probably give you "type" of product ... just not "brand" of product. Most TV commercials are not effective in their marketing for that very reason ... not because of me, per se, but because most of the public has a similar recall. Now, I was only teasing (a little bit) earlier when I said I was checking the giraffe

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# ICE HURTS

by Brenda Dwyer

Isn't it just uncanny: life? There can be days, weeks even, that you feel like you are just sailing along and everything is good and then POW ... the old slogan "when it rains, it pours" comes to mind. Take ice ... wow, is that stuff ever slippery! Here is an example: I have a great friend who we will refer to with a fictitious name (Ann) to preserve her right to anonymity. Things in Ann's life were just fine. In fact, they were pretty good. Ann had just moved to our area from the West Coast (where she has lived all of her life). Because of her "POW" moment Ann has a newly acquired and very intense respect for ice. Prior to this year Ann always thought of ice as an ally of sorts. Ice was good. Ice kept your frozen foods frozen, your drinks cold and your boo boos soothed. This past week Ann found out that there are two kinds of ice (and between you and me) I am just a bit puzzled that Ann never realized this before. There is good ice and there is bad ice. Don't laugh ... it's true! Okay then, go ahead and laugh ... I just hope you never meet up with bad ice face to face as she did. She called me shortly after her introduction to bad ice. It was late afternoon and she had just finished the day's errands and returned home. Instead of parking in the garage as she usually would have, she decided to park in the drive and enjoy the sun's soft rays as she headed from the car to the front door. (Sounds harmless enough, right?) Seems she opened her door, put her hand on the top of the door as she stepped out of the car to balance herself and then SWOOP under the car she went ... suddenly and completely. She wasn't quite sure how long she was under there ... wasn't quite sure if she was knocked out or just knocked loopy by the unexpected turn of events. Once she collected herself and managed to get out from under the car she then used (don't ask me how she ended up back there ...) the rear



Continued to Page 5

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# SALISBURY'S STAKE

by Stephanie J. Salisbury

## Facing Our Storms

More than once during a massive thunderstorm, I have been awakened from a deep sleep. Not by the crashes coming from the sky or the intense thump of rain on the roof, but by a very small and very frightened black and tan dog - our miniature pinscher, Doobie.

During his bouts of anxiety, he has a very clear process he goes through to emotionally comfort himself. First, Doobie burrows under the covers, slinks his way up towards my head, and sits as close as possible to my face, shivering. If this does not alert me to the impending storm, he will then walk across my face to the other side of my head. I can't see it, of course, because it is dark, but since there is something about warm dog breath three inches from your nose in the middle of the night, I am aware of his presence. By the time the lightning flashes twice, Doobie has migrated to a standing position atop my chest cavity, and has put his nose as close to mine as possible without actually touching.

Sometimes I am compassionate and make every futile attempt to assure him. Other times I am irritated at being shaken from my comfortable rest by smelly dog feet on my face. Either way, I try to explain to him that there is no danger, he is safe, and I will not let any harm come to him. Still, he is inconsolable. He hides beneath the bed, the night stand, whining and scraping at me with his paw.

Yet, because I have wiser reasoning than a dog who still barks at our kids as though they are strangers every time he sees them walking home from the school bus, I know that this storm will pass and Doobie won't even remember it tomorrow. Therefore, I try to be as gentle as possible because I know that his anxiety is very real to him, that the rumbles of the storm force him into gale-force trembling until he sees the sunshine once again.

At some point, though, I get a bit frustrated that he won't just listen to me when I try to soothe him. In my estimation, there are much more horrific things going on in the world than his little anxiety, but he is so fixated it consumes him. He can't just let go and enjoy the warm, dry home, and companionship of his family. No matter how often he comes to me for consolation, he ignores and rejects it when I give it to him, only to lean on his own understanding that the world is going to end and I won't do anything about it.

I wonder if I am experiencing just a fraction of what God must feel each time we bring our anxieties to Him. We lay them at His feet to be sure He is aware of them, ask for His help, then continue to dwell on them, wondering why He won't make everything better. We lean on our own understanding, and ignore His Word, which tells us, "God is my refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble!" (Ps. 46:1), and "Fear not, for I Am with you!" (Jer. 46:28). We continue to try to make things better our own way. We weakly scrape at our problem, not allowing ourselves to be consoled even when He says, "Cast all your cares upon [Me], for [I care] for you!" (1 Peter 5:7)

What must God think when we bring our problems to Him and then don't trust that He is big enough to take care of them Himself? Perhaps our present circumstances seem as overwhelming to us as a thunderstorm is to a 14-pound dog. Perhaps we think we know better and have more control over our lives than He does. Or perhaps we are so consumed by our current fear that we have disabled ourselves in the trust department and haven't yet realized that, from God's omniscient point of view, we won't even remember this particular storm tomorrow.

Yet, He is there, faithfully, to listen and help us through our problems. If I can have compassion on my little dog, how much more can our God have compassion on us when we are in fear? If I can speak words of comfort to this shivering, anxious animal and hold him close, how much closer is the Lord in every situation of our lives?

God has control of our storms, no matter how big they might seem to us, and He is there with us, too. When we are screaming and sobbing, when we think we can't take any more and we are going to drown, He is there to make our storm subside. (Luke 8:22-25) He knows how our problems began and how they will end. He is there to console us, protect us, and guide us through whatever we are facing and lead us to the other side. When God promises us that everything will be all right in the morning, He is never wrong!

# Inside the Tearoom

- Green tea needs to steep for about 2 to 3 minutes •
- Black tea needs to steep for about 3 to 5 minutes •
- White tea needs to steep for about 1 to 3 minutes •
- Herbal (tisanes) need to steep for about 5 to 8 minutes •
- Oolong (wu-long) tea needs to steep for about 3 to 5 minutes •



by Brenda Dwyer

Were you aware that the amount of time steeping a tea is vital to the taste and benefit of the tea? Did you know that if you don't steep a tea for its recommended steeping time that you may end up with a bitter result?

Did you know that alternative teas are not really teas at

all? These "teas" are known as herbal teas and are great pretenders.

I love a good, robust, exotic tea. I also enjoy a soothing, relaxing tea. Teas are almost medicinal in their nature (and there are many people who believe in them wholeheartedly). I am inclined to enjoy my hot teas every bit as much as I do my iced teas.

*Now ... let's do something*

## A GOOD NEIGHBOR NEWS

Owners:  
**BOB AND BRENDA DWYER**

Senior Editor & Writer:  
**BRENDA DWYER**

55320 CR 8  
Middlebury, IN 46540

PH: 574-825-1677  
FAX: 574-825-1368

Please email all inquiries to  
[editor@agoodneighbornews.com](mailto:editor@agoodneighbornews.com)

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# CHILD'S PLAY







# From Our Kitchen

## CHICKEN BREASTS WITH PLUM SALSA AND BASMATI RICE

Prep Time: 30 Min • Cook Time: 20 Min • Ready In: 50 Min • Servings: 2

### INGREDIENTS

- 1 1/2 cups water
- 1 cup uncooked basmati rice, rinsed and drained
- 3/4 pound plums, pitted and chopped
- 1/2 medium red onion, minced
- 3 habanero peppers, seeded and minced

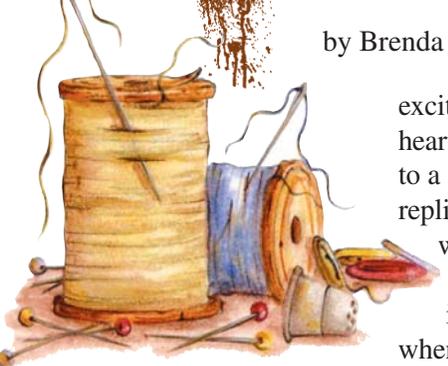
- 3 tablespoons minced fresh cilantro
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 3/4 pound boneless, skinless chicken breasts
- 2 teaspoons fresh rosemary, minced
- salt and pepper to taste
- 2 teaspoons vegetable oil

### DIRECTIONS

1. Place water in a medium saucepan, and stir in the rice. Bring to a boil. Cover, reduce heat, and simmer 20 minutes. Remove from heat, cool slightly, and fluff with a fork.
2. In a medium bowl, mix until well combined the plums, onion, habanero peppers, cilantro, and sugar. Cover, and refrigerate about 30 minutes.
3. Meanwhile, season chicken with fresh rosemary, salt, and pepper.
4. Heat vegetable oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Place chicken breasts in hot oil, and brown about 1 minute per side. Reduce heat to medium, and cook chicken about 5 more minutes per side. Serve over rice with plum salsa.

# Grandmas

by Brenda Dwyer



“Mom I called because I need you to pray for Jason”, Jasmin declared in a very rushed &

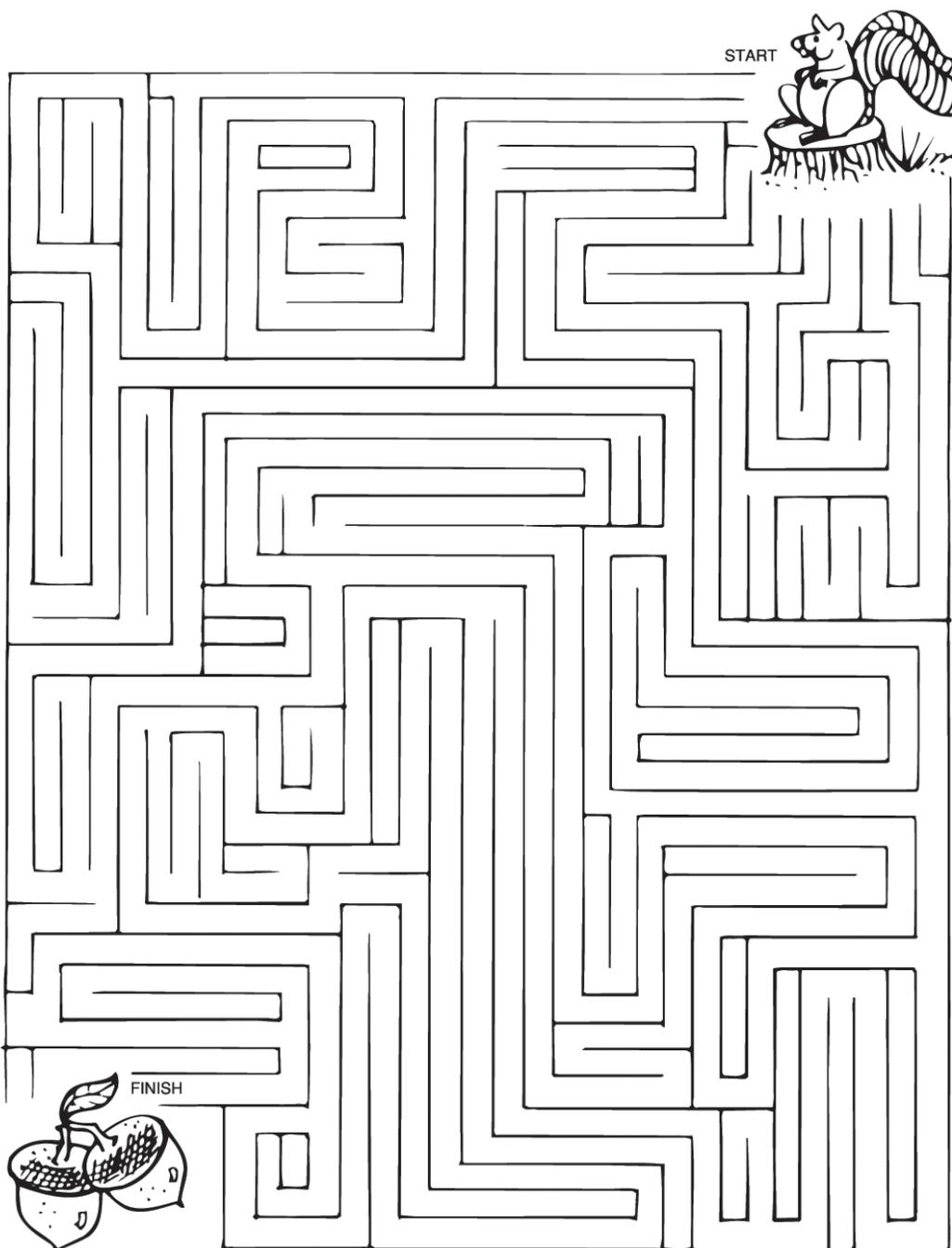
excited voice. (I could feel my heart lurch and my mind come to a very abrupt halt.) Jasmin (I replied calmly) ... what’s wrong with Jason? What’s going on? (I have learned not to imagine the possibilities when I get calls such as this ... I know to just be still and wait for the answer.) “We are at the hospital and they are doing an

x-ray”. “Mom he was jumped while he was walking home from school”. Jason is my oldest grandchild. He is 14. He is at an age that for most parents causes a bit of angst and anxiety; Jasmin and Scott are no exceptions to the rule. Once I had heard that he had a broken leg, was a bit scuffed up otherwise and had a bruised ego I could exhale, soothe my daughter and let my mind wander down memory lane. Jasmin, too, was a handful at 14. Her son is just as strong-willed as she was and just as stubborn. I smile to think

of it. I went a little further down that lane and remembered myself at that age. Oh, I wanted to be so many things I wasn’t but I was too shy and too disciplined to even think of making an attempt at being strong-willed or stubborn. I knew better. It wouldn’t have gotten me any further than an undesirable audience with my father. I used art; sculpting and painting as a release for my (for lack of a better term) season of discontent. I believe it is hard for most of us to transition from childhood to adulthood and I can’t think of even one of us that has managed to do it gracefully. Jason will survive this and will hopefully gain some wisdom from it. Jasmin will survive it and will also take something noteworthy from it (I pray) and as for myself ... I will keep my “I told you so” to myself and watch as my daughter traverses this unpredictable ground known as “parenting a teenager” and I will keep her at the top of my prayer list. I pray that this time will be interspersed with lots of great times and huge doses of patience, lots of hugs and laughter as well as love and understanding (seasoned with a healthy dose of discipline and divine guidance). Parenting a teen is somewhat of a rite of passage that we all (if we are so blessed) travel down and become all the wiser for. It is good to keep in mind that we were once teenagers ourselves. We tested ourselves and our parents with our decisions but we grew in the process. We all found ways to try to define ourselves which was particu-

larly trying considering that we were walking around hormonally imbalanced and unsure. It is unfortunate when teenagers stumble into difficult situations due to irresponsibility in their actions or their words and yet consequence is a strong teacher. I am sure that Jason will have a lot of time to think as the pain of his wounds will have him laid up for a while ... I pray he learns from this experience and something good will come from it. I know that he is very young and although he thinks he knows it all ... truth is, he a 14 year old boy with a 14 year old mind and about 11 or so good years of memorable experiences to pull from. In his youthful ignorance he will make mistakes and he will have encounters that will shape and mold him for life. Just as sure as the days turn into weeks and weeks into months and then years ... so too will be the progression of his learning experience. From this 52 year old to my 14 year old grandson ... I will offer up these words of wisdom: Tread lightly, enjoy your youth, set goals and challenge yourself to achieve them. Be kind, generous and caring. Do for others more than you do for yourself – this one action will bless you immeasurably. Love with your whole heart, and trust your parents’ advice; honor them. One day you will become a man people will be drawn to if you do these things. I know you have it in you ... and I will be your biggest cheerleader. Oh ... and about that broken leg ... it’s time to visit your nana (so I can sign that cast)! xoxox

# KIDZ KORNER



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

# ICE HURTS



bumper of the car to leverage herself and stand back up but no sooner did she stand up then WHACK ... SWOOSH back under the car she went. Now I had to ask myself (just for a second) ... what are the odds?! But instead of continuing with my calculations I was brought back to the conversation by her next pitiful explanation. She stayed under the car for 5 minutes or so, first checking for broken bones and then trying to formulate a plan on how to cover the area between the driveway (under the car) and her front door. Just about the time she was brave enough to attempt it the "brown" delivery truck pulled into the driveway and she found herself covering into a ball so as not to be seen. She went undetected by the man in brown but not by a certain intrigued animal that must have been watching her for a while. A raccoon had decided to come sniffing to see what the lump under the car was. Ann is terrified of raccoons and just started screaming hysterically, all the while trying to slide her way out from under the car. The poor little raccoon didn't know what to think but obviously didn't want any part of a screaming lump so it darted off. Well, she (Ann) belly crawled her way to her front door and has been hesitant to venture out since. I asked her if I could write about her escapade in the paper and she assured me that it would be fine as long as I didn't mention her real name or give reference to the location of her home ... not even by town. I feel there is a valuable lesson to be learned here but I'm not quite sure what it is. Ann asked that I make sure to mention the following: know this ... do not mess around with bad ice or think that you can come out unscathed when dealing with it ... you can't. Bad ice is sneaky. Really??!! Well, there you have it then ... there's the lesson ... bad ice is not to be messed with. Now let me go buy some ice salt and take it over to her ... the least I can do for my friend is make the bad ice go away. (I wonder if I should buy her some ice cleats for her shoes too.)

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### BRISTOL:

- 7 Eleven - 102 W. Vistula
- Brass Eagle Sport Bar & Café - 909 S. Division (SR 15)
- Bristol Automotive Parts, Inc. - 403 E. Vistula
- Bristol Community Food Pantry - 101 W. Vistula Street
- Bristol O'Hair Port - 102 N. Chaptoula Street
- Chocolate Sensations - 110 Division Street
- Curves - 118 E. Vistula
- Eby's Family Fun - 14583 State Road 120
- Fluid Fun Canoe & Kayak Sales - 609 N. Division Street
- J & J Lawn & Garden - 19976 CR 6
- Kruse Farm Supply - 19904 CR 6
- Rob's Barber Shop - 120 W. Vistula
- Rodgers Auto LLC - 302 Chestnut Street
- Spectrum Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning Co. - (574) 848-5804 (Mobil Merchant)

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- Awnings Unlimited 825-9768 "We've got you covered!"
- Backroad Crafts - 11262 CR 116
- Bill's Collision Service - 13024 US 20
- Cargo Plus Sales - 304 N. Main
- Cell Phones Plus / Verizon Wireless - 851 US 20 Suite 5
- Classee Vinyl Window LLC - 59323 CR 35
- Country Wood Creations - 11565 CR 116
- Crystal Valley Computers - 830 S. Main Street Suite A
- Crystal Valley Furniture & Floor Covering - 201 S. Main
- Crystal Valley Power Equipment - 11720W 250N
- Dairy Queen - 416 N. Main
- Dirk's Quality Automotive - 108 W. Wayne Street
- Fay Schwartz Attorney - 103 N Brown Street
- Fox RV, Inc. - 13431 CR 22
- Grand Rental Station - 131 Orpha Drive
- Healthy Pets - 851 US 20
- Hochstetler Roofing - 56781 CR 43
- Hoosier Tae Kwon Do, Inc. - 106 Wayne Street
- Indiana RV Connection - 503 N. Main
- Irongate Self Storage - 53070 SR 13
- Jenkins Automotive (NAPA Auto Parts) - 132 Orpha Drive
- Jerry's Standard Service - 101 N. Main Street
- Justrite Nails - 851 US 20
- Long's Convenience Marathon - 995 US 20
- Middlebury Hills Restaurant - 104 US 20 (Corner of SR13 & US20)
- Middlebury K.O.A. - 52867 SR 13
- Montieth Tire - 132 Orpha Drive Suite B
- Mr. Appliance of Elkhart County - 53855 SR 13
- Old Creamery Antiques - 333 N. Main
- Rullis Italian Restaurant - 851 US 20 Suite 2
- Shady Lane Welding - 56322 County Road 35
- The Cinnamon Stick - 102 S. Main Street
- The Getaway Tanning & Hair Salon - 426-1 N. Main Street
- The Market Place - 511 S. Main
- The Out Post RV - 57756 CR 37
- Unique Finds Resale Shop - 304 N. Main
- Varns & Hoover - 101 S. Main Street
- Village Inn Restaurant - 107 S. Main Street

### GOSHEN:

- 7 Eleven - 1000 S. Main Street
- Balloon Express - 125 S. Main Street
- BetterWorld Books - 118 E. Washington Street
- DQ Grill & Chill - 723 W. Pike Street
- Erv's Vac Shop - 906 Linway Drive
- From Scratch Pet Bakery - 107 W. Washington Street
- Goshen Antique Mall - 107 S. Main Street
- Goshen Farm & Lawn Center, Inc. - 2413 Lincolnway East
- Hoogies Sports House - 119 E. Lincoln Ave.
- Jenkins Automotive (NAPA Auto Parts) - 1028 Lincolnway E.
- Joselena Fashions & Alterations - 125 East Lincoln Ave
- Maple City Hobbies - 102 S. Main
- Merle Norman - 125 S. Main Street
- Montieth Tire - 1021 N. Greene Rd

- Montieth Tire & Auto Service Center - 2613 Caragana Ct.
- North Side Appliance Inc. - 1920 Elkhart Road
- Once Upon A Child - 4024 Elkhart Road
- Rain Drain Seamless Guttering, Inc. - 57273 SR 15
- Schrock Mobile Power Wash - 574-312-1113 (Business is mobile)
- Snider's Leading Jewelers - 128 S. Main Street
- SRP Custom Graphics - 119 E. Lincoln Ave.
- Terri's Flower Basket - 617 W. Pike Street
- Town & Country Appliance - 215 S. Main Street
- Video Visions - 508 W. Lincoln Ave.

### SYRACUSE:

- Dairy Queen - 700S. Huntington



The following is a list of area merchants that are dedicated to you, our local residents. These merchants have come together to offer A Good Neighbor Club Members special pricing, discounts, or sales. Let's all get involved and support our local communities!

### SHIPSHEWANA:

- Along the Pumpkinvine - 145 Harrison Street
- Alpha Building Center - 0855 N. SR 5
- Bread Box Bakery & Café - 120 Morton St.
- Classic Auto Detailing - 7020W 200N
- Classic Jewelers - 350 S. Van Buren Suite G
- Country Yard Outlet - 400 N. Van Buren
- Daily Bread Café - 255 E. Main Street
- Dutchman Hunting Supplies - 8435 W. US 20

- Hostetler's Health & Wellness - 260 N. Morton Street
- Hostetler's Hudson Auto Museum - 760 S. VanBuren St
- Hostetler's Main Street Shoppe - 275 E. Main Street
- Indiana Auto Connection - 805 N. SR 5
- J. Farvers Book & Gift Shoppe - 455 S. VanBuren Street
- Jolo's Pretzels - 205 N. Harrison Street 1st Floor (Mercantile)
- L & R Marine - 8435 W. US 20
- L.A. Enterprises - 8275W 050N
- Lasting Impressions Gift Shoppe - 165 Harrison Street
- Lighthouse Christian Bookstore - 225 N. Harrison Street
- Morton Street Coffee - 260N. Morton Street
- Pampered Pet Boutique - 230 N. Morton Street
- R&S Floor to Wall - 9551W 750N
- Red Wagon Toys - 225 Harrison Street
- Shipshe General Store - 420 N. Van Buren Street
- Shipshevana Harness & Supplies - 815 N. Van Buren Street
- Shipshe Pizza - 145 N. Village Drive
- Shipshe Rental Center - 0900 N. SR 5
- Shipshevana Fitness Center, LLC - 505 E. North Village Drive
- Simple Sounds, Inc. - 225 N. Harrison Street
- Splash Waterpark Resort - 800 S. VanBuren
- Wellspring Components LLC - 1085N 850W

### ELKHART:

- Bueters Sewing Center - 205 S. Main Street
- CD's Pool & Scuba - 23672 Old US Suite P
- Dapper Dog & Fancy Feline - 54595 CR 17
- Dumor Water Specialists - 4405 Wyland Dr.
- Hickory Meats & More, Inc. - 54595 CR 17
- Ink Cartridge Solutions - 1808 E. Bristol Street Suite G
- Insignia Promotions - 135 Easy Shopping Place
- Jenkins Automotive (NAPA Auto Parts) - 59045 CR 13
- Joshica's Planet Canine - 4411 Wyland Drive
- Martin's Pet & Garden Center - 116 W. Jackson Blvd.
- Paradise Pools - 655 CR 17 (Next to Lucchese's)
- Sautter's Floral & Greenhouse, Inc. - 1725 Toledo Road
- Sassi Tan - 56199 Parkway Ave Suite 10
- Shear Artist, Inc. - 655 CR 17 Suite 3 (Behind Bullard's Market)
- Signature Lanes - 1180 Fremont Ct.
- S-N-J's Heavenly Hair Salon - 23737 US 33 Suite F
- Spectrum Eyewear Gallery - Dr. David Britzke, O.D. - 56028 Parkway Ave., Suite E
- Tip-n-Toe Nail Spa Parkway - 17 Plaza 56199 Parkway Ave. Suite 10
- Tru Colors Hair Salon - 54595 CR 17 Suite 5
- Video Visions - 655 CR 17

### HOWE:

- Laura's Bakery - 1255 W. SR 120
- Laura's Country Store - 1255 W. SR 120
- R & S Carpet Cleaning - 7030N 575E
- The Gathering Place Restaurant - 407 3rd Street
- Twin Mills Camping Resort - 1675 W. SR 120

### LAGRANGE:

- Dale's Dependable Handyman Service - 2420S 250W

### LIGONIER:

- Dairy Queen - 909 Lincolnway S.

### MISHAWAKA:

- Once Upon A Child - 5936 Grape Road



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# Garden Gab

by Brenda Dwyer

It's time to sharpen the shovels, the trowels and the other garden implements that lay (as if forgotten) in their places in the shed. It's time to clean away all of the leaves that lay brown and gray along the pathways and in the gutters. Time too, to take fingers to keyboard and peruse the wondrous array of online seed and bulb catalogs. We will clear, till, plant and cultivate and all the while our eyes will harvest the beauty that springs forth from the earth and surrounds us. And ... we

will do it all with dirt smudges on our face, new rips in our clothes, thorn pricks and insect bites and love every minute of it. Others will pass by and be blessed by the fruits of our labor just as we, ourselves, will be. The smell of the dirt the very first time we pierce it with our shovel will fill our nostrils and send our thanks heavenward. Sore muscles in our hands, feet and back will put us to bed every night and greet us every morning and we will be thankful. Blisters will burn and callouses will be formed.

We will design a plan and then challenge ourselves and mother earth to see it through. The crocuses are already popping up here and there as frosted icy residue surrenders to the sun. Is it just my eyes or do the trees seem to be much taller than last year? You know me ... you know I love this stuff ... this time of recognizing something so much bigger than myself. Spring is upon us, hope is renewed and new life abounds. God is good.

# Talk Across The Fence

by Brenda Dwyer

Rain check, please. My dogs love me. I have no idea why they love me but they do. Sure, I feed them, I clean up after them, I play with them, I give them attention but it never seems like it's enough to warrant such devotion, such loyalty as what they give in return. I don't know how to say this without verging on ridiculous but I have had my one little dog enough years now that I can almost understand her barks/yelps/whimpers, etc. without even glancing her way. The only thing I can liken it to is the ability for a mother to understand her baby before he or she is even talking clearly. Take the other day for example. I was sitting on the floor playing with my two little girls. Toys were tossed and retrieved, treats were given as reward, and I thought we were all having fun. We were but it was to be short-lived. It never dawned on me until then that over the past few years I have acquired two of this puppy blanket, two of that puppy toy, enough of the same treats for two ... etc. I was shopping as

though I had identical twins that I wanted to dress identically ... why? Well, I will tell you why. I am so busy most of the time that I do a lot of things on "auto pilot". Shopping for my two divas was no different. My subconscious knew why it was necessary to buy identical things for these two even if my conscience was clueless. So, as we were playing I would throw (off to the left) a little white sock with pink hearts on it for one to bring back and the other white sock with pink hearts on it was thrown off to the right for the other dog to retrieve and then somehow in the mix and the silliness in playing I threw one white sock with pink hearts and one tiny brown bunny and BAM! (The snarl that emitted from my cutie pootie little sweetie was unmistakable! She meant business!) All sorts of chaos and ruckus broke out! They both went after the brown bunny and one

thing led to another and there was a lot of growling and tug-a-war and it all happened so fast that I was just stunned which led immediately into the next faux pas. I decided that we would take a break from playtime and instead get dressed up to go for a buggy ride. Once again, absentmindedly, I put a black dress with pink and silver hearts on one and a black dress with pink, purple and silver metallic splotches on the other and BAM! (Once again that snarl let loose and ...) They were immediately entrenched in what looked like a cat fight. There was fur and fluff flying everywhere! Keep in mind that these dainty little girls weigh 5 lbs. and 2 lbs. respectfully. I grabbed up the one wearing the dress with purple splotches and got her out of that dress and into a dress that matched the other one with hearts as quick as I could. Peace ... instant bliss (I thought dogs were color and pattern blind)! The thing that worries me now is that my dogs need a reality check and all that my time will afford them is a rain check. ((sigh))



# Church News

At St. John of the Cross in Bristol thirty three families accepted the Epiphany "Pay It Forward" challenge. Rev. Corrine gave these families \$25 in cash with instructions to give the cash to a person in need – not a member of St. John of the Cross or member of their own family. Some of the stories were very moving and all reports will be printed in the March issue of the church newsletter, "Crossings".

About twenty five women from St. John of the Cross attended the annual ladies luncheon at Olive Garden last month. Those present found out who their 2010 Secret Angels was and drew names for "angels" in 2011. This is an enjoyable exchange of small gifts or cards to the lady whose name you have drawn.

The evening before Ash Wednesday services, and back by popular demand, will be the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on March 8 from 5 pm to 7 pm. This year the supper will be held in memory of Dave Barnaby who was usually the person in charge. Dave, and his wonderful sense of humor, is truly missed, but the St. John's Men's Group will carry on the tradition of fluffy pancakes, warm syrup and sausages.

In addition to Evening Prayer being said every Wednesday at 6 pm by a lay minister, Morning Prayer is now being held at St. John of the Cross on occasional Sundays – with both priest and lay ministers conducting the service. Morning Prayer gives the congregation of St. John of the Cross one more way to praise God.

Andrew Martin PH: (574) 862-4457

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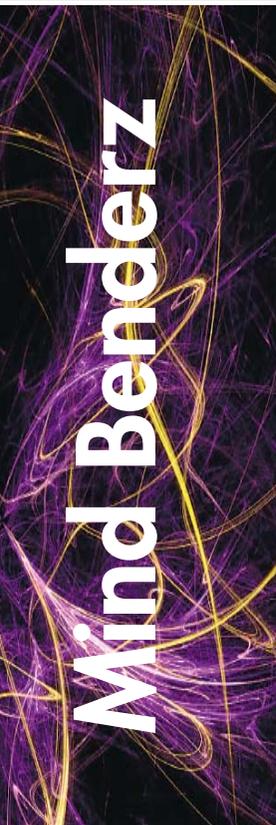
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## PUBLIC LIBRARY WORD SEARCH

Find and circle all of the words that are hidden in the grid.

The remaining letters spell a secret message - a Henry Ward Beecher quotation.

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- BIOGRAPHY
- BOOKS
- BORROW
- BRANCH
- CATALOG
- CHAIRS
- CHECKOUT
- COMPUTERS
- DICTIONARY
- DUE DATE
- ENCYCLOPEDIA
- FICTION
- FINES
- GEOGRAPHY
- HARDCOVER
- HISTORY
- INFORMATION
- INTERNET
- LANGUAGES
- LIBRARIAN
- LIBRARY CARD
- LITERATURE

- MAGAZINES
- MATHEMATICS
- MOVIES
- MUSIC
- NEWSPAPERS
- NOVELS
- OVERDUE
- PAPERBACK
- PERIODICALS
- PHILOSOPHY
- PHOTOCOPIER
- PSYCHOLOGY
- QUIET
- READ
- RECREATION
- RELIGION
- RENEW
- RESEARCH
- RESERVE
- SHELVES
- SOCIAL SCIENCES
- TABLES
- TECHNOLOGY

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

### ACROSS

1. French wine region
6. A rounded earthenware pot (pl.)
11. Toward the side the wind is blowing
13. Edited out from a broadcast
15. Earache
16. Perfectly
17. Nod, maybe
18. Paint removal tool
20. "A rat!"
21. Cheese on crackers
23. Canton neighbor
24. "\_\_\_ bitten, twice shy"
25. "Fiddler on the Roof" role
27. Free from, with "of"
28. Hands, in slang
29. Discharged from the body
31. Nonmalignant growth
32. Coat
33. Figurehead's place
34. A village in Argyll and Brute, Scotland
36. Photo shot very near the subject
39. Fresh from the shower
40. Former French coin
41. Little people
43. Cart
44. Parallelogram, e.g. diamond
46. Onion relative
47. Crumb
48. Mediterranean evergreen tree whose bark is commercially stripped
50. "\_\_\_ fallen ..."
51. Style of writing with letters joined together
53. Babe
55. Hurt
56. Poet who laments the dead
57. More artful
58. Watery mud and snow

### DOWN

1. Many a Floridian
2. The direction a ship is moving
3. Hooter
4. Badgers
5. "All My Children" vixen
6. Ancient
7. Bad look
8. Grassland
9. Galore
10. Culls
11. A hall near a hotel entrance
12. Wine-colored (2 wds)
13. A two-legged support
14. Embankment to prevent floods (var. sp., pl.)
19. Bone-dry
22. God, with "the"
24. A hole drilled to find petroleum
26. \_\_\_ flu
28. Bullwinkle, e.g.
30. Atlanta-based station
31. Ace
33. Feathery
34. A call to arms (pl.)
35. On the fence
36. Prepare
37. Inflammation of the eye
38. Fractious
39. A type of candy (British, abbrev., pl.)
40. Bit
42. \_\_\_ shooting
44. Vagabond
45. Sobs loudly
48. Commend
49. Fall (over)
52. Mr., abroad
54. "I" problem

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# A WORLD OF WONDERS

by Monica Clark

When Brenda gave me my own byline I was thrilled, excited--and terrified! What had I gotten myself into? Writing is all about sharing, sharing ideas, hopes and dreams, sharing experiences and observations, putting everything that is "You" out there for the whole world to see. Kind of like stepping out of the bathtub, realizing all the windows are open and the neighbors have company! Okay--deep breath--here goes...

"A World of Wonders", hmmm, let's see... I could write about magnificent wonders like the Rocky Mountains or the Giant Redwoods of California. Or, maybe, manmade wonders--the San Francisco Bridge, St. Peter's Basilica, the glass walkway jutting out over the edge of the Grand Canyon. But, wait..what about simple wonders, the wonders you see with your heart? The smell of fresh-cut hay when the day is done and the air turns chill and damp. The excitement of a child playing in the shimmering beauty of the first snowfall. The sparkle in a handful of beach sand. The stillness of a pond after a summer storm. Wonders abound!

March is a wonder. No more December, January or February! We made it through a Groundhog Day blizzard, through snow storms and ice, sub-zero temperatures, snow days, cabin fever, and the torture of the spring seed catalogs. I know, I

know, "It's still cold!" you say. "It could still snow!" Yes, it could, but it's March! There will be daffodil! And kites! There will be mud and buds and strong sunlight. March is possibility. We stand on the cusp of spring. The rigid, frigid cold of winter is broken. Lakes and ponds thaw. The ice, once smooth and glasslike, turns dark and forbidding. Watch any body of water as the edges melt and the ice pack becomes smaller and smaller. A dull, slushy sheet of ice floats and threatens but has lost its power. On windy days, the ice sheets shatter, fragmenting into ice birds that chime and tinkle like little bells, creating the first notes in the music of spring.

Oh, and the geese are back, noisy and messy, searching for mates or showing off for their lifelong partners. Squawking, strutting, honking hoarsely, and sharing their stories of the hazards of migration. Imagine what they see crossing this great continent--lush, green swamps and tall, grassy marshes stretching for miles, silver moon-lit ponds that mirror the stars as they leave the warmer climes, cutting through the sky in sharp V's, wings thrumming. For some, this area is home. They huddle in empty, snow-strewn fields and land on half-frozen ponds, greeted by the spring peepers, a tiny chorus of frogs singing forlornly in the evening mists. Another treasure in a world of wonders.

## TO THE EDITOR

Gradually over the last 50 years the Bible and God has been removed from our public schools. Well, think about this.

Political Science professors at the University of Houston, curious about who influenced our Founding Fathers, gathered 15,000 quotes made by them. The effort took over ten years. They determined that the Bible was quoted far more than any other source. 34% of all quotes were from the Bible, and another 60% of the quotes were from men who were using the Bible to make their point.

Also, Dr. Benjamin Rush was the first Founding Father to propose nationwide public schools and is considered the Father of Public Schools. He was a signer of the Declaration of Independence, served under three presidents, helped found five colleges, and was a university professor. In one of his educational policy papers, 'A Defense of the Use of the Bible as a School Book', he had listed 12 reasons why the Bible should remain as the principle school book and in conclusion he stated:

"In contemplating the political institutions of the United States I lament that if we remove the Bible from schools we waste

so much time and money punishing crime and it would take so little pain to prevent them. This divine book above all others favors that equality among mankind that respects just laws and those sober and frugal virtues which constitutes the soul of our government."

His point that if we take the Bible out of the schools we will spend much in time and money in trying to stop crime. Look at our society today and see if that was not a prophetic statement.

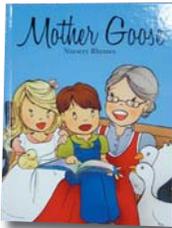
If the Bible was important and had so much of an influence on the Founding Fathers then it should be important to America's public education.

Ken Blinco

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## From the Pulpit

Have you ever experienced a moment in your life where you felt like you had just had all of the life sucked out of you? Have you ever given so much of yourself that you didn't recognize yourself anymore only to find out that your devotion wasn't appreciated? Have you ever suffered a loss so great and of such magnitude that you couldn't fathom how it was that you were still standing or how you would ever be able to take that "first" step afterwards? I know it all sounds overwhelming and there are many of us that can identify with one of these things or another ... but by God's grace we make it through, we endure, we continue. Sickness, death, divorce, betrayal, and all of the other horrible things that happen can really knock us off of our feet sometimes and yet God has, by design, instilled in us a strength that we sometimes don't even realize we possess until circumstance calls on us to use it. I know the bible instructs us to "count it all joy": [James 1:2-4 "My brethren count it all joy when you fall into various temptations, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing"] and so we should. Life isn't all good ... it is an imbalance of imperfect situations and circumstances and, for me, that brings great com-

fort. I know the difference between easy and difficult, good and bad, right and wrong. Life is a gift, a huge adventure with trails that will sometimes be

smooth, sometimes rough. We should embrace every day, be thankful for it - regardless of what it brings and count it all joy.

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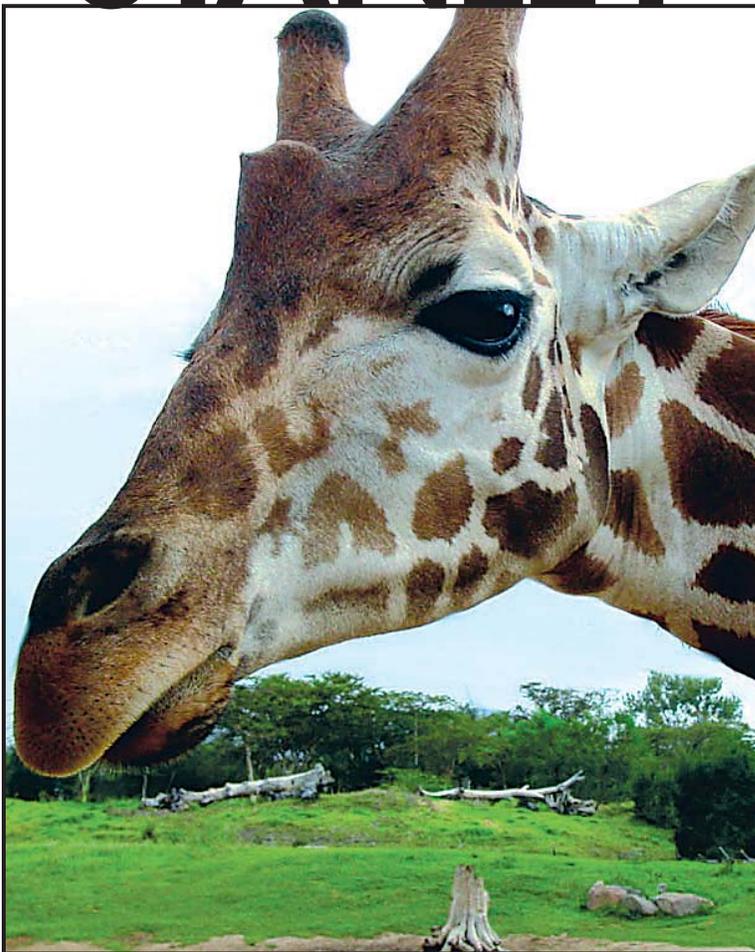
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Continued from Page 1

# STANLEY



for shedding just in case I wanted one in my house (to say, clean my ceiling fans or retrieve whipped cream off of the ceiling) NOTE: trying to be funny here! I was NOT considering one for a pet ... until I saw the commercial with the tiny little giraffe in it. (There is a very distinguished looking man in a very posh living room with a young lady that appears to be suffering from boredom on one side of him and a very tiny little giraffe on the other side.) I have no idea what the product "type" or brand is but I fell in love with the giraffe and am riveted to him every time the commercial appears. Now, if there really were giraffes that small, I would be first in line to get one. In the meantime, I will love them from a far. I thank God for giraffes ... what's not to love?

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15	O	T	A	L	G	I	A	16		16	I	D	E	A	L	L	Y			
17	B	I	D		18	S	C	R	A	P	E	R		20	E	E	K			
21	B	R	I	E		22	A	K	R	O	N		24	O	N	C	E			
25	Y	E	N	T	A	26		27	R	I	D		28	M	I	T	T	S		
29	E	G	E	S	T	E	D		31	P	O	L	Y	S						
						32	R	I	N	D		33	P	R	O	W				
						34	A	N	N	A	T		36	C	L	O	S	E	U	P
39	C	L	E	A	N		40	S	O	U		41	E	L	V	E		42	S	
43	H	A	U	L		44	R	H	O	M	B		46	L	E	E	K			
47	O	R	T		48	C	O	R	K	O	A	K		50	I	V	E			
51	C	U	R	S	I	V	E		53	S	W	E	E	T	I	E				
55	S	M	A	R	T	E	D		56	E	L	E	G	I	S	T				
57	S	L	I	E	R				58	S	L	O	S	H						

## Community Events

#### Adopt-A-Pet Adoption Event - "March Mutt Madness and Feline Frenzy"

Sponsored by: The Humane Society of Elkhart County. Date/Time: Saturday, March 19, 11 am - 2 pm. Location: Humane Society of Elkhart County, 54687 County Road 19, Bristol. A special adoption event (March Mutt Madness and Feline Frenzy) will be held at the Humane Shelter. Select a "Paw from the Wall" for a discount of 10% - 50% on the adoption fee (with an approved adoption application). For more information call: The Humane Shelter at 848-4225. Shelter Website: [www.elkharthumanesociety.org](http://www.elkharthumanesociety.org)

#### Adopt-A-Pet Adoption Event (CATS ONLY)

Sponsored by: The Humane Society of Elkhart County. Date/Time: Saturday, March 12, 11 am - 2 pm. Location: Pet Supplies Plus, 4024 Elkhart Road, Goshen. For more information call: The Humane Shelter at 848-4225. Shelter Website: [www.elkharthumanesociety.org](http://www.elkharthumanesociety.org)

#### Event: Adopt-A-Pet Adoption Event (DOGS ONLY)

Sponsored by: The Humane Society of Elkhart County. Date/Time: Saturday, March 12, 11 am - 2 pm. Location: Martin's Pet & Garden, 116 W. Jackson Street, Elkhart. For more information call: The Humane Shelter at 848-4225. Shelter Website: [www.elkharthumanesociety.org](http://www.elkharthumanesociety.org)

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Our customers are the most important thing to our business and you will be the direct link between the two of us. This position will have paid training but will lead into a 100% commission. The reason this is a commission position, frankly, is to keep the sales person from becoming lazy. If you don't work you wont get paid or keep this position. However, if you do work hard this is a position that will earn the right person an attractive wage that they can raise a family on and build a great future by. This should be looked at as a lifelong career position.

This is a newly created position at our small company: you will be taking over duties I carried out as the owner of this company. As our business grows and expands it's necessary for me to find someone to fill this position.

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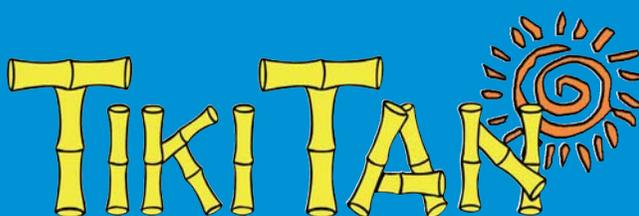
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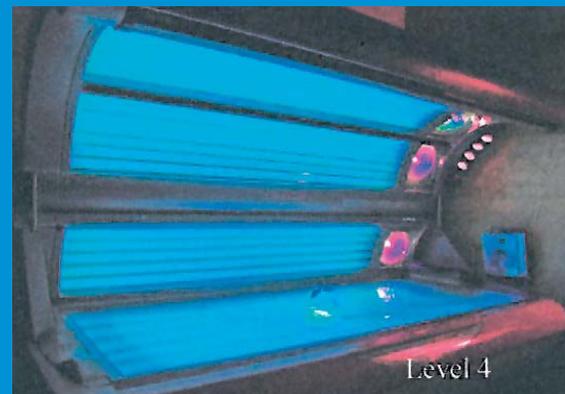
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- 11th - Groove Inc. @ 9:30pm
- 18th - Johnny Sprockett @ 9:30pm
- 25th - Blammo @ 9:30pm

### SATURDAY NIGHTS

- 5th - The Recents @ 9:30pm
- 12th - Partymouth @ 9:30pm
- 19th - Banana Jones @ 9:30pm
- 26th - Comedy Night @ 8:00pm  
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