

Springfield

SCENE MAGAZINE

2016 Issue No. 6 Vol. 12



Profiles

DR. PHIL WHEELER
SHELLEY VAUGHN

Homescene

AN AMAZING
LANDMARK HOME
ON WIGGINS

ArtScene

PHIL FUNKENBUSCH

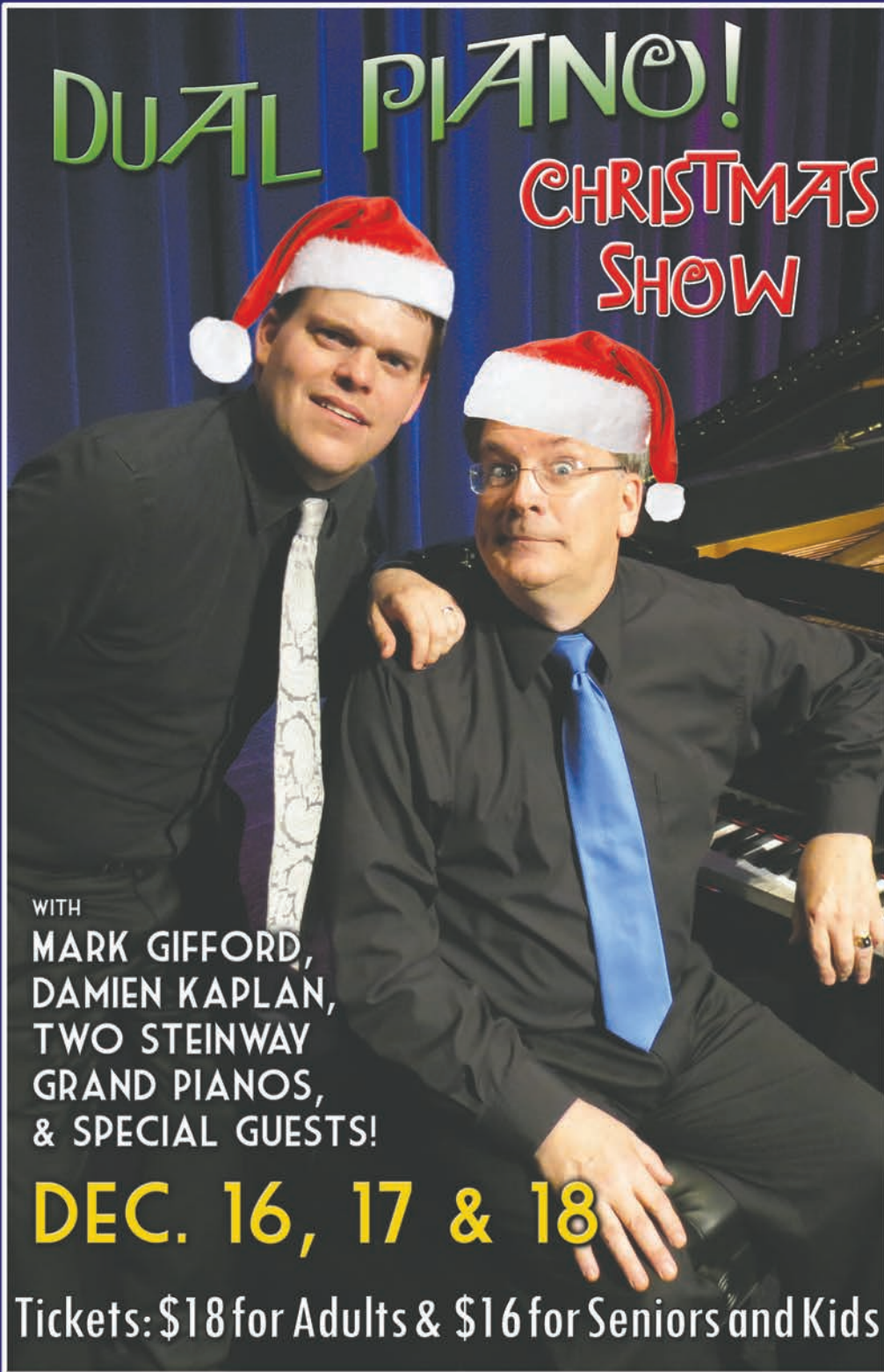
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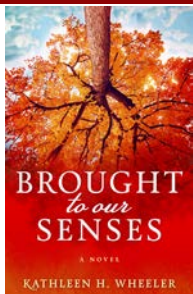
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Denim & Diamonds Appreciation Party

An Appreciation Celebration party was held in honor of donors, sponsors and volunteers of the Denim and Diamonds event was held at the home of Sue and Kelly Stacy of Springfield on September 15.



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Don Torry, Andy Wilber, Cindy Davidsmeyer and Susan Helm



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Denim & Diamonds Gala

The 16th annual Denims and Diamonds event was held October 15 at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield. The elegant affair packed of silent and live auctions, benefits the Simmons Cancer Institute at SIU School of Medicine.



Julia McClure, Geoff Isringhausen, Jr., Anies and Jodi Humaideh, Abby and Luke Isringhausen



Lori Keeney, Karen Trimberger, Lezlie Hearn, Karen Siddens and Deb Sarsany



Don Waldon, Steve Miller, David Senger, Beth and Mark Hendersen



Dr. Swati Pathak, Dr. Himanshu Pathak, Giridhar Rao and Dr. Meghna Desai



Dr. Don and Lisa Torry, Amanda and Gary Newbauer



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This issue's cover model is **Janet Cook**. You can find her on Facebook under **Vivacious Wellness Personal Coaching**.

The stunning black cocktail dress and accessories were provided by **IRIS & IVY**, 926 S 7th St. Search for them on Facebook.



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Machu Picchu is an Incan citadel set high in the Andes Mountains in Peru (7,970 ft above sea level). It was built in the 15th century using a dry-stone walls technique that fuse huge blocks without mortar. Aligned astronomically and presenting panoramic views this site is listed on the New Seven Wonders of the World as voted by a world wide internet poll. The photo is from pexels.com.

DR. WHEELER'S PHOTO BY BILL STOKES

DR. PHIL WHEELER

Climbs Machu Picchu

STORY BY JULIE CELLINI

“Dr. Wheeler,” said a young Peruvian guide, “do you mind if I ask you an awkward question?”

“Exactly how old ARE you?”

Awkward indeed, considering Phil Wheeler, age 74, and a recently retired Springfield dentist, was climbing high up into Peru’s Andes Mountain range in western South America, more than eight thousand feet above sea level.

Scaling heights without the aid of guard rails or oxygen tanks, and sometimes with steep drop-offs between the trail’s edge and the valley far below, even younger climbers could find the Andes daunting. Not so with Wheeler, who did the trek several months ago.

Or as one of Wheeler’s much younger fellow hikers put it: “I’m all out of breath, but that guy is still climbing!”

Wheeler has been an avid bicycle racer and distance runner most of his adult life. He still rides about 150 miles per week, works out almost every day, and runs 25 to 30 miles weekly. In between, he does push-ups and sit-ups for muscle tone. He says age was not a factor when he decided the time was right for him to fly 6,000 miles to Peru to climb to a world heritage site called Machu Picchu.

For him, he says, it was more a spiritual experience than mere mountain climbing.

Recently retired from dental practice after nearly four decades of seeing patients within the confines of a small private office on Springfield’s west side, he admits that if he ever had the proverbial “bucket list,” Machu Picchu would have been on it.

“I’d heard about it from Springfield people—I guess about a dozen from around here may have climbed it at one time or another. But I gotta admit, you won’t meet many senior citizens on the trail to Machu Picchu,” Wheeler laughs.

Wheeler says neither the height nor the exertion frightened him. But occasionally the professional guides who oversaw the hike would need to work with hikers, even showing them where to place their feet on the steeper ascents.

“At times,” he said, “it’s kind of one step back from tighrope walking.” “But a lot of the time it’s easy hiking. Even



Peruvians in native dress posing with Dr. Wheeler.

when I chose to walk on the edge, I always tempered it with common sense. I was obviously the oldest person on the hike. But age was never a factor when I decided to see Machu Picchu. It’s something I had wanted to do for a long time.”

Built in the 15th century by Incan Indians, Machu Picchu resembles a citadel although its exact use remains a mystery. A World Heritage site, it is renowned for its sophisticated cut stone walls that fuse huge blocks without the use of mortar. With no written Inca language, there is little evidence of why Machu Picchu was built or why the Incas abandoned it in the 16th century. Yet it draws millions of curious visitors a year, most traveling by bus up a network of steep roadways. Only a few hundred daily get the coveted permits necessary to make the climb on foot. Those who do undertake the roughly four-day adventure Wheeler took on foot get to see up close a network of walls, buildings, ramps, plazas, and temples, once they reach Machu Picchu.

Since single person hiking is not allowed, Wheeler signed on with an adventure tourism group composed of ten international hikers. They assembled in the city of Cusco and acclimated to the change in altitude for two days before the hike began. Wheeler filled his time visiting churches and sampling local food.

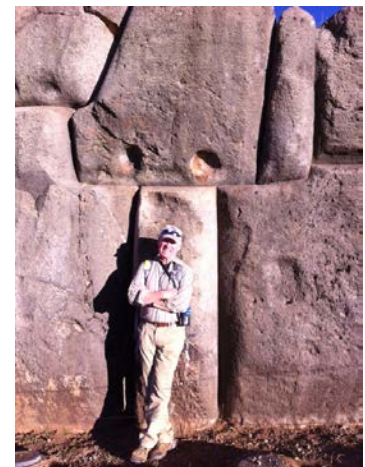
“Even before we began the hike, I knew my light color skin was a problem,” he said. “I got lucky and hit optimal weather, but the sun is so intense at that altitude, sun screen was a necessity for me. Dehydration is always a problem with exertion, but I’ve been running marathons since 1975 so I knew to bring a supply of electrolyte tablets to combat dizziness and fatigue,” he added.

“I ended up sharing them with the rest of the hikers.”

He says even the professional guides took his advice about supplementing with electrolytes—something none of them had ever tried before.

Although some of the thousands of hikers who make the climb each year sleep under the stars at stringently regulated camp sites on the mountainside, Wheeler opted out of that part of the adventure in favor of a few little hotels and inns along the route. It was probably the only concession to comfort he made during the entire adventure.

No stranger to rugged tourism, Wheeler’s many previous adventures include riding a bicycle across the entire northern tier of the United States a decade ago, with his wife Sandy driving



This shows the amazing things the Incas built with simple tools and no modern hydraulics.

behind as his only emergency backup. Married for 52 years, the Wheelers now split their time between Springfield and frequent trips to see their grandchildren in California.

“I don’t know what I’ll do next,” he says, “once I finally hang up my latest set of running shoes. But I hope I’ve still got a lot of miles left.”

~SSM~

Julie Cellini is a Springfield freelance writer making her first appearance as a Springfield Scene contributor. She has written for local and national publications and was named last year’s “First Citizen” by the State Journal Register newspaper.

Out of the Darkness Walk

BY JULI PENNELL

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention held their annual Out of the Darkness Walk on September 10 at Southwind Park in Springfield. Hundreds of similar walks happened around the country. Proceeds benefit the AFSP suicide prevention programs, uniting those affected by suicide and creating mental-health-aware communities.



Team Rambo walking for Andrew Estill



Photographs of the walk and registration area



Robin Ray, Matt Shinn, Alisha Waugh, Olivia, Alexis, Howard, Jessica and Ethane Hamblin



Kacie Meisenheimer, Alex Danner, Alexa Frank and Haley Bollman



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Kayla and Jayla McMurray, Tammy McLaughlin and Amber Klein



Nick and Dawn Edwards



Susan and Eli Denecke



Scot Benson, Jillian Sporrer, Brady Hamende, Cayden and Todd Sporrer and Geoff Currie

The 11th annual Art Spectacular festival was held at the Rees Carillon in Washington Park on September 10-11. The festival is a multi-experience of arts and crafts, museum-quality works, music and children's programs.



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Kris Myszka and Jan Perone



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Customer Appreciation Party

BY JULI PENNELL

Danenberger Family Vineyards was the venue for the Skinner, Copper & Ehmen customer appreciation party on September 16th. Springfield Scene Magazine was invited so while we were there we just had to take some pictures and share the wonderful venue of the Danenberger Winery. Thanks to Doug, Jim and Ryan for inviting us.



Bobbie Hahn, Doug and Kari Skinner



Jim Copper, Lauri and Bill Bates



Mary Selvaggio and Angelynn Newman



Tom Darso, Mark Cherry and Ryan Ehmen



Roger and Sue Hurst



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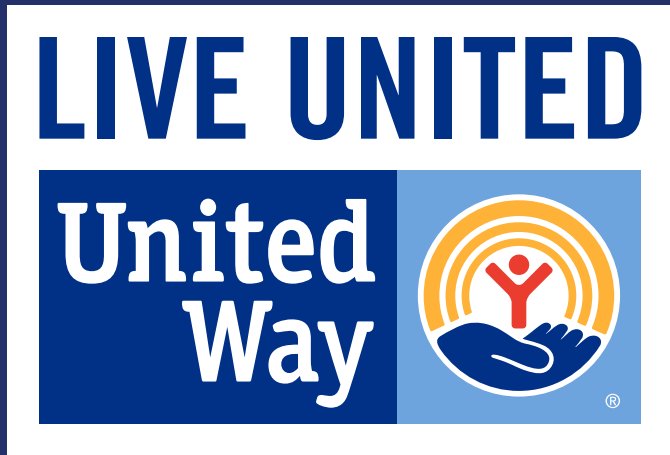
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PRAIRIE CENTER Against Sexual Assault

ADVOCATING FOR JUSTICE

BY LISA RIGONI



SHELLEY VAUGHAN
EXEC. DIRECTOR

It's a subject people don't want to discuss. It does not discriminate against age or background, male or female. It doesn't matter the color of one's skin, socio-economic standing or religion. Sexual assault is a national problem. Shelley Vaughan, Executive Director of the Prairie Center Against Sexual Assault (PCASA), says it hits all walks of life, and tackles it on the local and regional levels.

The statistics are eye-opening. "Since July 1, we have served victims as young as 8 and as old as 65. In that time, 426 calls requesting information were received," Vaughan said. "Of those requests, nearly 200 followed up and requested services."

Prairie Center serves three different client populations through the local organization, including: Recent victims of rape, adults who were sexually assaulted as children and child and teen victims of sexual assault and abuse. Averages show that 112 clients account for recent victims per year or nine calls per month. Adults who were sexually assaulted as children average 463 clients per year

or 38 per month. Children and teen victims of sexual assault and abuse number 350 clients on average or 29 per month. These are the numbers representing victims in the 11 counties PCASA serves from its Springfield office: Christian, Logan, Menard, Montgomery and Sangamon and the satellite office in Jacksonville: Cass, Greene, Macoupin, Mason, Morgan and Scott.

Funding and services

The services are free to victims, but that doesn't mean there isn't a value. It takes roughly \$294 per year to serve one client. The funding for PCASA comes from several sources. The General Revenue from the state of Illinois is 15 percent; Federal Victim of Crime Funds covers 65 percent and 20 percent is from grants and fundraising efforts. The FY17 budget is \$468,974, reduced by \$130,000, unless the legislature passes a new budget, Vaughan said. All medical costs for victims are covered by SACETA, which allows them to receive the appropriate care. For that, Vaughan is grateful.

"We are blessed to have supportive people in our area," Vaughan said. "The 'Walk a Mile in Her Shoes' fundraiser has been a huge success over the years. "We started it in April of 2011, and it has been remarkable. We began with 50 people the first year, and now have 500 to 800 join in each April. It's a celebration of the survivors. Victims speak, share their survivor stories." That, Vaughan said, is incredible. The stories may include the battles of the overcomers. Often, in order to keep their feelings of shame and perceived guilt at bay, they self-medicate, struggle to maintain a job, to keep relationships going, turn to crime, have had a decrease in their physical health and suffer mental health issues. It is a dark place. There is often numbness, resentment, anger. The funding helps provide for the needs to get them through it.

It's about them

It is a widespread problem. According to RAINN.org (Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network) three out of four rapes are committed by someone the victim knows – including a family member or friend. Every two minutes, another American is sexually assaulted. One in every six women has experienced an attempted or complete rape, and one in every 10 men. On college campuses, the number continues to climb. The mission of Vaughn and PCASA team is to bring an end to the problem.

Until that happens there is a need for the services offered. They assist men, women and children and families by providing crisis intervention, medical advocacy and trauma counseling. What exactly do they assist with? "The first thing people need to hear is that someone believes them. Then need someone to listen and to advocate for them," Vaughan said. "We do that – for victim rights in both the law enforcement and criminal justice systems." The prevention education programs have been developed and used to focus on reducing the likelihood of sexual victimization, especially in the lives of children and adolescents. Trained staff and volunteers help victims understand the legal processes, the medical testing and any possible results. They provide counseling for the emotional and mental wounds. "We work closely with them and the police. They may need an order of protection or help following up on legal issues. It's a safe place, and they can continue to come back for as long as they need to, and there is no charge for the services, even if they come back years later. We work closely with the hospitals, especially the ERs. Counseling is also available to victims' significant other and family members, as needed. It's a tough time for all involved," Vaughan emphasized. "It affects everyone.

"We want those we serve to move from that victim mentality to one of survivor. We want them to get to a place and

time they can confidently speak the actual words, "I. Am. A.Survivor." She said as she smiled, "That is amazing to experience, and we have heard the words. It's never easy for someone to get to that place!"

Vaughan said she and her team, along with the many partnering organizations in the 11-counties it serves, must demand justice for the victims of sexual. The legal advocates are in close contact with police and the State's Attorney's office, because it can be a long process, Vaughan explained. "Some cases go two to four years. We go to court with them. We work closely with the victim advocates at the court. If they can't go to a hearing due to work conflict or something, we will make sure we are there on their behalf. We are often the communication and supportive piece. We see them through the trial and hopefully, through a sentencing."

Not simply a current event

The not-for-profit was initially formed 41 years ago, then known as RICS – The Rape Information and Counseling Service. It was built on the 24-hour hotline concept in 1975 when a group of eight to 10 women in Springfield realized there was a need. "It was all volunteer-based and those women felt they had to do something," Vaughan said. They started in their homes and rotated the call-line from one week to the next, using their respective home phone numbers each week as the hotline.

As the need for services continued to grow so did the organization. The mission today, is the same as it was 41 years ago: "Alleviate the suffering of sexual assault victims, prevent sexual violence and promote social justice for women and children. Prairie Center is a 24-hour rape crisis center doing crisis intervention with a 24-hour hotline: 217-753-8081. "If someone needs help or has questions they can call that number. We always have someone on call to patch it through to the



advocate that is on duty. “It is a difficult challenge.” Vaughan paused to think, and then painted a picture with a quick analogy: “If you were mugged or the victim of a break-in, or if you witnessed such crimes, you would likely report it. Sadly, there is a stigma associated with sexual assault, including rape. And

often, the victims themselves will not report the offense, and bystanders look the other way. There is so much fear. We can’t continue to look the other way.” That is why PCASA continues to work at the education and awareness, as well as in prevention. They want more programs in the community, on college



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campuses, in schools and churches, in businesses. While there is a great deal of collaboration already, there is always room for more. Awareness is the beginning – believing and listening to the cries of those going through it is imperative.

The thing is, they are not simply numbers. They are sons and daughters, moms and dads, sisters and brothers. They are classmates and colleagues. That’s why Vaughan does what she does – for the victims. She didn’t start there. She was called to it.

Vaughan – how she got to PCASA

Shelley Vaughan is originally from Decatur. She received her degree in Therapeutic Recreation from Eastern Illinois University. When I got my degree, it was to go into work with special populations, intervening in therapeutic ways in recreational activities. Vaughan began her career working with teen girls at an Outward Bound Program in Fla. “They had those who had emotional and behavior disorders. It was a residential setting where we would take them on wilderness outings to better prepare them in their self-esteem, confidence and team-building. We went on sailing and hiking trips. We went canoeing, doing interventions in the wilderness. From there she went to Shands Hospital in Gainesville, Fla., working as a Recreational Therapist on the psychiatric ward. There, she worked with the psychiatric patients, again using that module to help them know how to thrive out in the community once released, how to balance work and play and how to relax. In the late ‘80s she moved back to Illinois and worked for St. John’s in similar role, where she spent 10 years of her career. Her goals changed direction, and she decided she wanted to focus more on community organizations.

A turn to not-for-profits

At this juncture, Vaughan stepped into the not-for-profit world, and led the Special Olympics of Central

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Illinois for five years as the Area Director for Special Olympics. It was a training ground of sorts. "That was a position where I got the full experience of everything; coordinating events, volunteer management and fundraising. In fact, it was the first place I got the taste of fundraising, and I liked it," she said. "It was a remarkable experience, and it's a remarkable organization. The athletes bring so much joy.

"I liked the fundraising aspect and program development, and had been serving on the board of the Prairie Center Against Sexual Assault for two years. At the time, they had an anti-bullying campaign they wanted someone to lead, and I had fundraising experience. At the time they didn't have that expertise. So, in 2006, I decided to give it a try and was hired on for program development, prevention and fund development." She pursued the anti-bullying campaign. "It was a whole-school approach with good

outcomes, great educational resources and then funding fizzled away. I was then put in the Assistant Director position at PCASA, in charge of prevention, which is my passion. And I was still doing the fund development and serving as the right-hand person for the director."

In 2015, Vaughan took on the role of Executive Director of PCASA where she continues to oversee all operations, as well as work in prevention and fund development. In addition to herself, she quickly credits her strong team. We have two full-time and two part-time legal medical advocates; a full and part-time counselor; a part-time prevention person and our fiscal manager. We have a lot to do. We need help!"

Ways to help

Prairie Center Against Sexual Abuse offers a variety of opportunities to get involved including, the annual April event "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes," and the newer event, "Dare to be Different

Vintage Fair and Fashion Show" held each November. There is a need for volunteers and financial gifts.

For additional information on how to help and to learn more about the organization, visit: prairiecasa.org. PCASA belongs to the Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault. Procedures are set up to be the same statewide with compassionate counselors and legal advocates. Vaughan said, "I have to dare to be different. I have to talk about what is difficult to talk about. Someone has to speak up for the victims of sexual assault. Someone has to educate and tell people that this problem is real. Never hesitate to be a good leader. It can change a life. We have to rely on each other more and more in this day and time. It takes all of us." Whether you need help or want to offer help, call 217-753-8081.

~SSM~

Take Flight in the Fight Against Crime

BY JULI PENNELL

1st Annual "Take Flight in the Fight Against Crime" fundraiser was Sunday, September 4th in the LRS Hangar at Abraham Lincoln Capitol Airport. Entertainment was Dick Levi's classic car collection and the music of The Deep Hollow and the Shenanigans. Food was catered by HyVee.



Lynn and Dave Chapman, Cindy Grady, Mark Alstott, Ann Holmes and Amy K. Schmidt



Liesl Smith and Sue Rempfer



Lyndee Fein, Angela Speedie and Monica Magruder



Jim Donelan, Rick Hill, Chuck Redpath and Jim Orun



Veronica, Tara and Jeremy Walk



Joe Pisarek and Rick Dhabalt



Jim and Jeannie Donelan



Joe and Marla Pisarek



Craig McDonald, Deanna Boyer, Jim and Robin Watts



Darla Richno, Harmony Breazeale and Liz Livingston



Roger Goeddey and Dana Johnson



Carol and Dale Krumwiede and Dave and Patti Austin



Michael Landgrebe, Brandi Moore, Mari Landrebe and Cathy West



Theresa Clancy and Deanna Boyer



Eric and Ann Oswald and Lynn and Dave Chapman



Sandi and Lynn Lair



Cathy and Dennis Bringuet



Lyndee Fein and Michael Landgrebe

Springfield HOPE Fiesta

This event was held September 9 at Island Bay Yacht Club in Springfield. The event includes a dinner buffet, entertainment by Gino Serra, and silent auction. Helping Other People Excel (HOPE), a local yet broad-based effort assisting women and young girls in Nicaragua to achieve self-sufficiency by empowering them through good healthcare and education, announces HOPE Fiesta, a fundraiser to support clinic needs.



Karen Paisley, Kim Lawrence, Lynn Scott, Carla Kopec



Sherry Simmons, Bob Egizii, Maggie Poteau



Ken & Pam Murphy



Jim & Jeannie Serra, Clara O'Rourke



Kathy Lamsargis, Tammie Klein, Carlos Avila



Dr. Beth Strow, Linda Snodsmith, Susan Worley



Dr. Ivan Blandon, Wills Ramirez, Dr. Imiro Sandoval

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Clara & Rory O'Rourke



Jerry & Marilyn Hoppe



Kathryn Stelling & Pat Kelley



Luz Lopez & Rick Thompson



Karen and Tom Paisley



Linda & John Snodsmith

Rock the Runway

Celebrating and benefitting students of Hope School, Rock The Runway 2016 was held September 22, at the Prairie Capital Convention Center. Featuring many of the locally owned retail boutiques as well as the Springfield Ballet Company with Mylas Copeland as emcee.



Michelle Hupp and Maria Sigle



Dr. Korine Vlahos-vanFleet and Sammi Mander



Allison MCCue and Kristen Wilbern



Tara Long and Andrea Rupnik



Amy Wallner, Christin Richards and Kim Hulligan Arvidson



Emily Boehme, Olivia Pennell and Tiffany Riech



Brett Peak and Laurel Figgins



Katie Armbruster and Elizabeth Watson



Dave Littrell, Liz Eckert and Micah Walk



Susan DeFrain, Joan Berman and Liz Brooks



Ann Piper, Maggie Jordan and Terry Jordan



Ryan Cour, Abigail Buoy and Peter Naylor



Robyn Wrigley and Andy Watkins



Susie Rice, Crista Gebhardt, Kate Mayernick and Gail Wilson Hudson



Colleen O'Sullivan and Lynsey Monroe



Leigh Renken, Elizabeth Watson, Brian Oaks and Dr. Josh Renken



Essence and Corley Lee



Mylas Copeland and Shannon Mathis



Karen Elsasser and Susie Fox Wonder

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The Ties That Bind Us

The Museum's 5th Annual Fundraising Gala was held on Thursday October 27th at the Wyndham City Center. The program celebrated and honored five Central Illinoisans for their work in making their communities a better place to live. The honorees were Mary Alexander, Evelyn Hood, Judith Johnson, Archie Lawrence and Edna Shanklin. The Museum moved into a new home this year at 1440 Monument ave just outside Oak Ridge Cemetary. With expanded exhibit areas and place for community groups to meet they invite the public come see the stories the Museum tells about the African American heritage in Central Illinois.



Bill Ingersoll, Letitia Davith-Anderson, Jarrett Gary



Edna Walden, Doug King, Brittainie Nicole Brooks, Nell Clay



Levon Richmond, Aaron Pearl, Dennis Miner



Kamau Kemayo, David and Sandy Rosenberger, Kevin Corbin



DeAnn Joseph, Delinda Chapman, Jan Droeghcamp, Meg Evans, Debby Hagan, Kitty Wrigley



Gwendolyn Lackland, Pamela King, Tom Dineen, Donna Morris, Gary & Evelyn Lazar



Carolyn & Curtis Farrar



Annie Brooks and Aaron Pearl

9th Anniversary Social

September 2016 marked the 9th year anniversary of Springfield Social Club, a non-profit organization-bringing social, cultural, philanthropic and career opportunities together for area business professionals of all ages. Both Dave Martin and Jennifer Cuasay Waldinger founded the organization. This year's celebration highlighted and benefitted the Mary Bryant Home. The anniversary celebration was held September 28 at Coz's Pizza in Springfield.



Gina Clouser, Pam and Scott Tiskos



Jenny Waldinger, Tim Londrigan and Jaylene Thickson



Todd and Lisa Schroeder



Richard Chaput and Cheryl Castle



Peggy Ross-Jones and Pam Hinckley



Scott Stalman, Debra McGee and Danielle Hart



Lisa Pinkerton, MT Dold and Chip Grimm



Rebecca Lipscomb and John Bavetta



Jenny Waldinger and Doug Kinley



Julie and Jay Naposchlan

Maine Event

The annual “Maine Event Live Lobster Bake”, presented by Levi, Ray and Shoup, Inc. was held at the Bunn Headquarters on Stevenson Drive on September 19. The event was co-sponsored along with Robert’s Seafood and Green Hyundai. Proceeds benefit Sparc to continue its mission of enriching the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the Springfield area.



Mike Babiak, Robin Gill, Tim Rigby, Sandy Figurski, Marita Zuraitis, Jennifer Gill, Courtney Babiak and Jared Owen



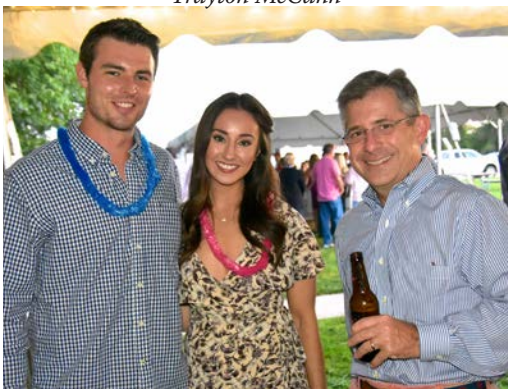
Cathi Inendino, Senator Sam and Trayton McCann



Chris Ryan, Hope Gooding Bob Trask, Kathy and Bob Mosley



Darrin and Tammy Jenkins, Michelle and Rick Petermeyer



Dayton Burnett, Kyleigh Kirbach and Harvey M. Stephens



Denise Schainker and Jen Hughes



Kurt and Beth Wilke, Pam and Tim Rigby



Sue Hunt, Michelle Petermeyer, Mary Trask



Mary Beth Stephens and Jennifer Dill



Lara and Mark Donovan, Linda and Tim Reiser

Burpees and Brews

Vivacious Wellness and Personal Coaching (VWPC) hosted the premiere Burpees and Brews event September 24 at the VWPC Studios on the 500 block of North Street. The event was a fundraising event for Breast and Prostate Cancer.



Julie Ponder, Lori Ruppel, Janet Cook, Rep. Sara Wojciski Jimenez, Tony Boston, Nichole Pacheco and Greg Lenaghan



Bea Jaye Cross and Lisa GoldbergBelle



Nicole Pacheco, Julie Ponder and Janet Cook



Mike and Emily Burnett and Mindy Himes



Beth Simler, Tony Boston and Lori Ruppel



Emily Burnett, Kim Collins and Mike Burnett



Julie Ponder and Janet Cook



Vince Salvo and Joe Reinders



Greg Lenaghan and Stu Thompson



Black & White Exhibit

BY LAUREN STEAD

Trutter: Black and White” is a pictorial celebration of Springfield landmarks designed by Philip Trutter as seen through the eyes of seven talented photographers from the Springfield Camera Club. The opening reception of the new exhibit was on display at the LLCC Trutter Museum on September 30th.



Bill Callm, Norm Lanhoffm, and Charlotte Warren



Sally & Karl Vogl and Cynthia Gallo Callan



Sam & Ezadie Nance, Jenni Hunt, and Janet Semanik



Betsy, Tim & Jack Schroeder



Sam & Ezadie Nance, Jenni Hunt, Janet Semanik



Christine & Larry Kennedy



Les Eastep & Elizabeth Simpson



Carrie & Larry Bussard



Dakota Cartwright & Chris Camp

Signature Chefs Auction

As part of the evening, Chefs presented their dish to a panel of celebrity judges who evaluated it on presentation, taste, and creativity. The evening celebrated the important work of the March of Dimes: giving every baby a fighting chance. The event was held at the DoubleTree by Hilton on Thursday, October 27th.



Chris Guzzardo, Cheryl Davis, Sally Hamilton



Erin & William Greer



Katie Cavanagh, Alena Morzowsky



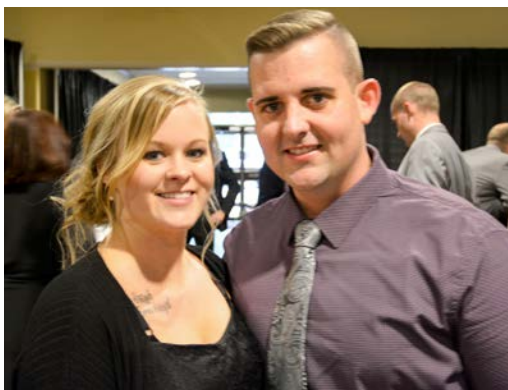
John Moore, Deb Sarsany



Kip and Andrea Leverton



Matt Cassidy, Fabio Hollenstein



Sheri Miller, Travis Buck



Zach Stead and Jake Saladino



Brad and Becky Leonard



Heather and Karl Barnhart



Kayla and Jordan Schaver

Good Beats Perfect

We just went through a presidential election where the choice was between the lesser of evils or no vote at all. I won't share how I voted (sure to annoy half of the readers of this column), but I have never voted for the perfect candidate. After all, I wasn't on the ballot and likely neither were you!

As I have sought progress, I constantly advise myself and others: "Don't let perfect be the enemy of good."

In an age of seemingly limitless access to information, we often think that we can come up with the perfect answer to our questions. We sometimes research so deeply and ask so many questions that we become victims of "paralysis by analysis."

We never get ALL the information and we certainly cannot predict future events. We make the best decisions possible with the information reasonably available at the time. When it comes to medical treatment, we pick someone we trust based on their knowledge and their integrity to act and advise in our best interest.

Though I grew up working with my dad in his garage, I overcome my temptation to tell the service manager what my car needs and generally follow their advice. Same with my attorney and financial adviser.

Claims can be made for anything to be beneficial. Many "snake oil" salesman provide useless remedies that attain success through the placebo effect

without real evidence of benefit.

But there is a downside to the demand for treatment to be "evidence based" when that evidence results in guidelines.

Physicians are increasingly measured by adherence to a set of guidelines, generally looking at aggregate data to

When it comes to medical treatment, we pick someone we trust based on their knowledge and their integrity to act and advise in our best interest.

judge if a physician is treating all or most of their patients in accordance with the guidelines. There are 2 major concerns with this approach:

Guidelines take a long time to develop, and they are a product of negotiation over conflicting data and opinions to come to a consensus.

Guidelines may be outdated by the time they are approved, and they are best applied to an average version of a disease or condition. Most of us are not average, nor are we mostly "above average."

Most of us are some deviation from average in one or many ways. What if everyone got the average size clothes? How many of us would be properly clothed?



Dr. Craig Backs, M.D.

Internal medicine

2921 Greenbriar Dr., Springfield, IL.
Past President Ill. State Medical Society

So, implement the imperfect plan. Base it upon the best information you can obtain at the time, long before you will come up with the perfect plan. This applies to diet, exercise or trusting which medicine or procedure will best serve your needs. Get going in the right general direction and adjust once underway. But don't let the pursuit of perfection (or worse waiting for it) deny you the good that will come from proceeding now. Don't settle for average, but don't let "perfect" be the enemy of "good."

~SSM~

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Surviving The Holidays In An Election Year



Linda K. Castor, RN, LCPC

2663 Farragut Dr., Ste A, Springfield, IL.

Linda has taught health and wellness for 30 years and treats mental health issues in children, adolescents and adults. She specializes in all areas of eating disorders and helps clients heal from emotional abuse. Linda can be reached at 217-652-8040. For more information, visit LindaCastor.com

Oh, it's coming, the divisional firestorm after the actual elections. Everyone knows that the current state of our political system has polarized this country for too long. Unfortunately, our emotional states will be like a lidded pot on the stove bubbling up and foaming over. It's the subject we feel the need to address, yet we don't want it to ruin our meal or precious time with family and friends. This year, gatherings will be unpredictable. Hurt feelings, angry expressions—all

kinds of disruptions could occur around the dinner table. It's the one subject we don't want to bring up, yet it's something we all want to vent about, so we can release ourselves from almost two years of being emotionally hijacked.

And yet, we have common ground: We all have endured election fatigue, and now we are hoping to find solace within our families during this much-needed, post-election downtime. Whether you are a guest or the host, it is important to implement some extra tact and care to address these stressful dynamics. Here are some ideas that will help create a more harmonious and joyful celebration

Remember to focus on what matters the most: Being with your family, friends and returning to a mindset of gratitude.

in your home this fall and winter:

1. Validate and redirect. When attending to those who did not get the elected president they desired, be kind and understanding about their deep

disappointment. I always tell my clients that the one way to keep most people's anger at bay is to validate what they are saying, even if you don't agree with them. For instance, if Aunt Edna says, "I am devastated that this country will now be run by an idiot for the next four years," offer up a gentle phrase that attends to her emotional state yet hopefully doesn't encourage further discussion, such as, "It's been a hard year for all of us, and I understand you're extremely disappointed." She will feel like you heard her, but she may wish to elaborate (because that's what we do when we realize someone understands us). So, tactfully follow up with a redirection statement, such as, "I'm glad a happy family event can cheer us up, like the recent birth of Jeremy's new baby." The main key is to make sure the person knows you "get" his or her feelings; otherwise, the conversation will most likely continue to have an angry or hostile tone. A word of caution: Offering a meet-in-the-middle political solution would be tempting, at best, but no country's problem has ever been solved in four hours, especially over a few glasses of wine, so it might be best to let it go.

2. Redirect again, this time with food. Why not use the very thing in front of you as a way to introduce a new topic to the gathering? Distract everyone from politics by bringing a tempting dish to the table. I don't know if you've noticed, but plant-based meals are becoming more popular. Last year, my husband and I encountered a friend who had been making recipes and eating meals based on the forksoverknives.com website. In eight months, our friend had successfully lost 60



pounds at a steady pace that his body could handle, and he reported that his weight loss felt so good, he began exercising while regulating alcohol intake. I'm not saying that a vegan diet is for everyone, but meatless Mondays and venturing into new, culinary territory now and then can be a very fun experience. Quite frankly, some of the nut-based sauces are out-of-this-world delicious. So be adventurous, and try some new recipes. You will certainly have a new theme for discussion!

3. Take care of what you need by taking care of yourself. If a political discussion gets out of hand, and nobody likes your meatless dish, (seriously DOUBTFUL, by the way) the next best thing is to take a few moments for yourself. It's an action you have control over, and it's something you can do to regroup and reset your psychological state. I often find that retreating to a quiet place, such as a bedroom, a bathroom, or going outside for some fresh air, will give me enough time to take in three, good, deep, big breaths. You can even say the words: "Peace, tranquility, calm" or whatever works for you. And you can do what I often refer to as "returning back to who you are": decontaminating yourself from all the negativity that feels like it has accumulated and attached itself to your brain. It only takes a few moments, but you can return to a family gathering feeling refreshed, and you can let go of whatever was bothering you just moments prior to that time.

Remember to focus on what matters the most: Being with your family, friends and returning to a mindset of gratitude. Developing protective ways to insulate yourself from negativity, without insulting someone else's opinion, is ideal. Decide to take the high road if someone doesn't see your point-of-view. People can be set in their ways, and they will certainly test your fortitude. So, be mindful the day of your holiday gathering by preparing yourself to validate and redirect. Enjoy your newfound skill of focusing on positive conversations as a lovely way to deter negativity.

~SSM~

Phil Funkenbusch



Phil Funkenbusch director with the cast of ALPM's The Heavens Are Hung In Black - 2012



Phil directing actor Corey Michael Morrison during rehearsals of the ALPM presentation of The Heavens are Hung In Black - 2012



It's a big responsibility to be one of the best-loved directors in central Illinois, but it's a responsibility that Phil Funkenbusch carries with grace. His work has been applauded at many local theatres, including the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, where he has been the Theater Director since the doors opened in 2005.

"I've had the pleasure of working with him as a director many times," says local actor Mary Young. "I've considered myself lucky every time. He inspires people...actors and audiences."

"Phil is a dream to work with," agrees Reggie Guyton, an actor at the Museum who recently played the lead in Phil's production of "A Raisin in the Sun" at the Hoogland Center for the Arts. "It's very rare to have a director who is willing to trust you to find your own conclusions and your inner voice within a character. I think that's why so many actors are willing to put themselves out there for him."

Phil reacts to this praise in a typically humble fashion. "I don't really direct," he says. "I sit there and ask questions and make them think. Casting is my talent."



Dave Shaw turning Phil into Gus the Theatre Cat in the musical Cats (HCFTA 2006)

Phil has loved theatre his whole life. His family moved to Havana, Illinois from Missouri when he was in high school, and he was shocked to learn that Havana High School didn't have a drama department at the time. "I was so upset that I went to my English teacher and said 'I can't go to a school with no theatre.' It turns out that she minored in theatre in college," he remembers, "So she directed the first all-school play, 'Arsenic and Old Lace.' I had a ball!"

Phil's youthful enthusiasm for theatre led him to an apprenticeship at Sullivan's Little Theatre On The Square during the summer break between his junior and senior years in high school. "It was non-stop action. I worked all day in different departments, performed in shows at night, and then after the show, rehearsed the children's theatre productions."

That summer changed Phil's life, and helped him realize that he wanted to pursue a career in theatre.

After graduating from Lincoln Christian College in 1979, Phil traveled to Philadelphia to assist some family members. While there, he decided to visit New York City, even though he only had \$75 in his pocket. His first

night in town he bought a \$5 student ticket to see "The Elephant Man," and after that performance, he was hooked. "I decided after a couple of days that I'd have to get a job or go home, since I was going through my money so fast."

He quickly found temp jobs, working at places like The New York Times, International Paper Company, the TKTS half-price ticket booth, and even as an assistant to the Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Edward Albee. His "visit" lasted well over a decade.

In the late 80's and early 90's Phil kept his small town connection alive by frequently flying back and forth between New York and central Illinois to present plays at his Store Front Theatre in Havana. During one of those trips to Illinois, he was offered a job with the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency and the opportunity to come back home. "They hired me on a temporary basis to work in the Lincoln village at New Salem to help coach the interpreters," Phil remembers. "Somehow, it turned into a full-time position to do that same kind of work at historic parks throughout the state."

After several productive years with the Agency, a new opportunity was presented to Phil when the Abraham

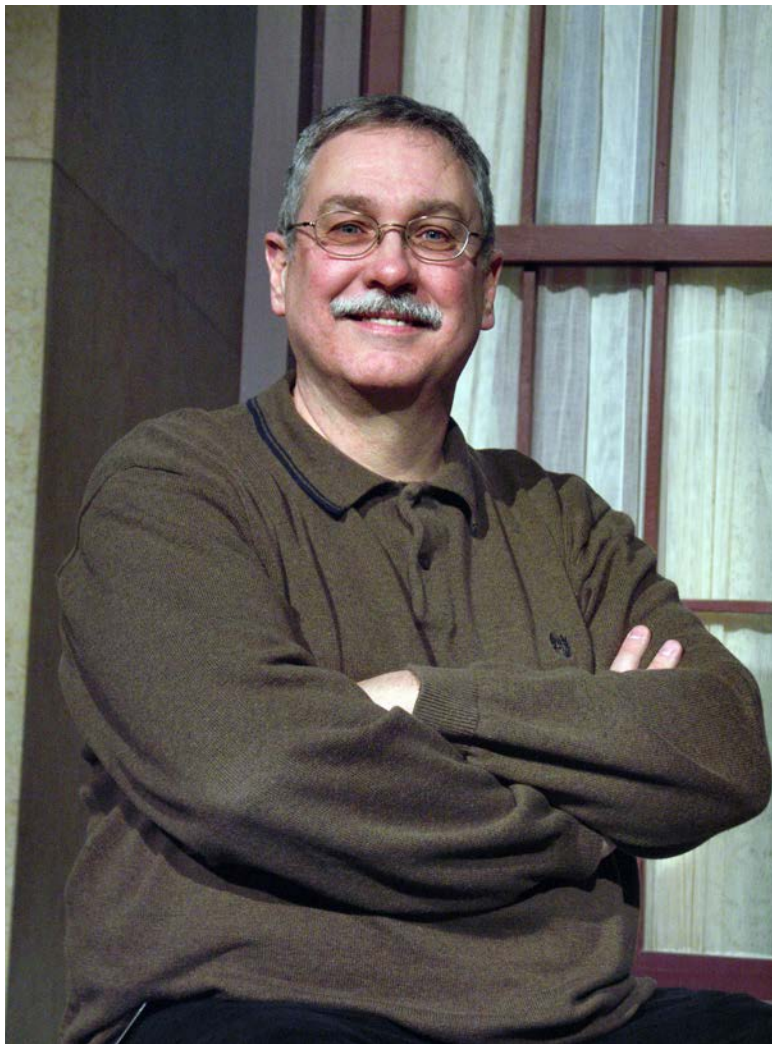
Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum opened.

"Richard Norton Smith came into town to run the Museum, and he invited me to come in and see it," Phil explains. "He said to me, 'Just think of this whole place as your theatre.' So, I took the job. Well, how could I not? I'm really glad that I did. I still get goosebumps when I walk in."

His creative sensibility helped make the Museum one of the biggest tourist attractions in the city. "Phil's theatrical programming engages audiences of all ages," explains Ed MacMurdo, his friend and co-worker at the ALPLM. "His instinct for what resonates with visitors is impeccable."

In addition to his programming skills, one of Phil's main talents as a director is to inspire strong performances from both seasoned and novice actors.

"Phil has the ability to cast people who naturally have the qualities the characters in the play need to tell the story - whether or not they have any onstage experience," says Nancy Cole, a local performer who has appeared in several shows for Phil. "He constantly encourages actors to try different ways of playing a scene."



Kathryn Harris, who has collaborated with Phil on multiple occasions, agrees. "He has a unique ability to make you do on stage what you never thought you'd be able to do! He manages, in the nicest way, to get the very best from his actors!"

In addition to his encyclopedic knowledge of theatre, he is also well-known throughout the area as a very enthusiastic audience member. Local playwright Ken Bradbury remarks that "more than once I've sat beside him during a live performance and he'll start murmuring, 'Yes. Oh yes! Nice. Oh my!'"

"If you're ever in a show and have Phil in the audience, well, you can't help but smile and feel special knowing he's there," explains Mary Young. "It's impossible to not notice his laugh, his audible expressions, his tears."

His genial nature and positive personality have made Phil an extremely popular person in the local arts community. These traits, in addition to his unique understanding of the human condition, have greatly contributed to his ability to tell compelling stories that resonate with actors and audience members alike.

"The theatrical experience is more than just a show," says Phil. "It is a spiritual experience. That's what I go for. The heart."

~SSM~

Below: Phil giving notes to his cast in A Raisin In The Sun (HCFTA 2016)



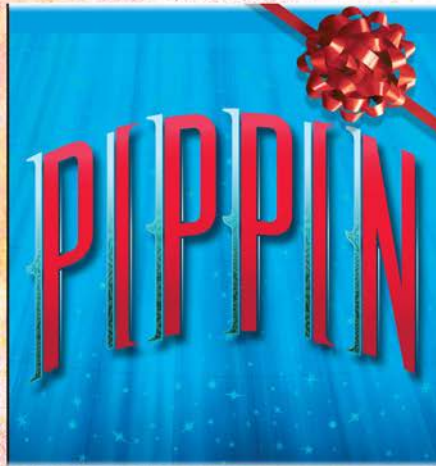


Phil Funkenbusch, Pam Brown as Mary Todd Lincoln, and Ed McMurdo during ALPLM celebration of the 150th anniversary of The Gettysburg Address 2013



Phil working his magic in a rehearsal

GIFTS FOR EVERYONE ON YOUR LIST



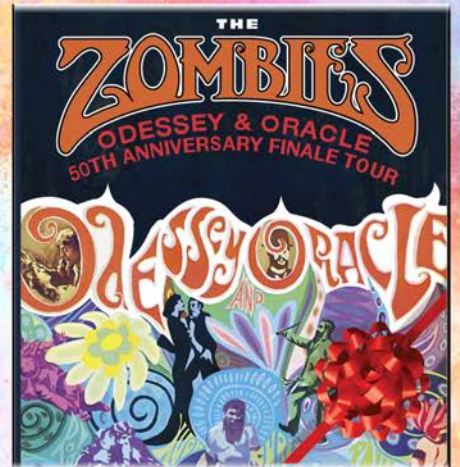
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Pease's at Bunn Gourmet: Springfield's Holiday Destination



Is it possible to find a countless number of irresistible gift selections under one roof this holiday season? If you stop by Pease's at Bunn Gourmet in the Gables, you will quickly determine that it is! The shelves are filled with a wide variety of wonderful hand crafted chocolates, gift baskets, gourmet food items, interesting popcorn flavors and roasted nuts. Don't stress over

The chocolate and pastry teams can be seen in the production theater daily creating signature items. Unique truffle varieties include pumpkin pie, passion fruit, molten caramel, key lime, Irish cream, Matcha green tea, Mexicali, banana rum and more.

If you're a bark fan, Pease's has you covered. Try milk, dark or white chocolate mixed with a wide variety of nut and dried fruit inclusions. For something special, select Pease's commemorative holiday tin filled with delicious peppermint bark.

of the state of IL filled with Pease's specialty products to send to friends around the country to represent your home town. Pair your favorite bottle of wine with our artisan chocolates in a decorative box. Choose an assortment of gourmet food items and a sales associate will custom build your basket on-the-spot right in the store.



Specialty chocolate bars are available in a variety of cocoa contents and countries of origin. Dark chocolate lovers will enjoy the Belgian chocolate with pleasant citrus notes and a 70% cocoa content or the Peruvian bar with aromas of raisins and dried figs and 64% cocoa. Milk chocolate fanatics might try the Venezuelan bar with flavors of caramel, hazelnut, butter and 43% cocoa or the milk chocolate Belgian bar with a perfect balance of sweet, milky and cocoa taste with 35% cocoa. Traditionalist should seek out the Pease's 1917 bar. The dark bar contains 55% cocoa and the milk contains 32% cocoa. White chocolate lovers don't dismay. The white Belgium chocolate bar is well-balanced with a vanilla flavor and 28% cocoa butter.



all the options. If you simply can't decide what gift is right, purchase a gift certificate or the Pease's Gift of the Month Collection.

Gift baskets are available in all shapes and sizes. Select the basket in the shape

If you are looking for customization, inquire about Pease's ability to add your logo to a chocolate enrobed Oreo cookie or a hand-made artisan



truffle. Custom molds can be designed to recreate your logo in milk, dark or white chocolate. Plan ahead as the process takes a few weeks.

Hanging the stockings by the chimney



with care? Fill them with great stocking stuffers from Pease's. There are countless varieties of candy and nuts decoratively packaged and ready

to grab and go.

New this year, Pease's at Bunn Gourmet will have a pop-up store in the Central IL Boutique area in White Oaks Mall located on the lower level between Macy's and Michael Kors. If you're not shopping on the west side, don't forget the original Pease's location at State & Laurel. The store offers all the traditional Pease's chocolate and nuts as well as the new artisan line, Bunn Gourmet pastries and coffee and espresso drinks.

You can only shop for so long. Eventually you have to put your feet up. Make Pease's at Bunn Gourmet your relaxation destination. Enjoy Sunday brunch featuring gourmet egg sandwiches and homemade biscuits and gravy before you head out on your shopping spree. Shop all day Thursday and end your night by coming to the Gables for live music with local artists playing from 6:00-8:30 pm. Fuel up before shopping with a hot espresso, cappuccino or latte and a slice of fresh butter cake or unwind after shopping with a glass of wine or cold craft beer in front of the fireplace. Drink specials are featured weekly.

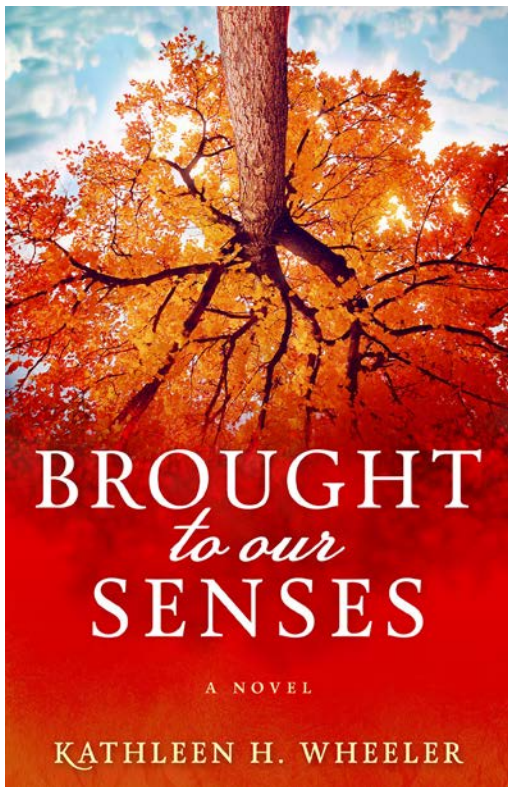
If you don't want to miss what is going

on this holiday season at Pease's at Bunn Gourmet, follow us on facebook.com/bunnngourmet and instagram.com/bunnngourmet or stop by our retail locations and sign up to receive



our weekly email blasts on events, in-store specials and exciting new items.

By Desiree Logsdon



Brought To Our Senses, the debut novel by Springfield writer Kathleen H. Wheeler, tells the story of a family dealing with their mother's frightening descent into Alzheimer's disease. The well-crafted story draws on Wheeler's first-hand experience both as a child of divorce and the cruel disease that claimed her mother's life.



Author Kathy Wheeler

The novel revolves around Janice Kraus, a long-time divorcee whose four grown children begin noticing her increasing bouts of forgetfulness and often bizarre behavior. When her escapades prove dangerous to herself and others, they are forced to take legal and medical action to insure Janice's safety. As they try to cope with the complexities of the disease, along with navigating the labyrinth of the legal and medical systems that are designed to protect the rights of patients while also becoming obstructive at times, the severely dysfunctional siblings struggle to form a cohesive unit. Unfortunately, childhood resentments and unresolved conflicts frequently flare up, threatening to torpedo their fragile alliance.

The story takes place primarily in Springfield and central Illinois, with the exception of flashbacks that relate Janice's difficult childhood in Nebraska. Springfield readers will enjoy the shout-outs to local favorites such as Gabatoni's pizza and Mel-O-Cream Donuts.

The third-person narrative is mostly told from the viewpoint of the youngest—and favorite—child, Elizabeth. The family's eldest and only son, Tom, fled Springfield after high school graduation and never looks back until Janice's illness, when he comes to regret what he sees as abandonment of his mother

"An exceptional read and powerful crystal ball showing the life-changing impact one extraordinary woman with a cognitive impairment can have on an entire family. I couldn't put this book down." -Ann Jirmasek, Clinical Gerontology Specialist, SIU School of Medicine, Center for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders

and sisters. Jessica, the oldest daughter, was forced to be a substitute mother to her younger sisters while their mother worked long hours at her office job.

Resentful, she moves out as soon as she is able, leaving middle sister Teri in charge of Elizabeth. Never feeling loved by their mother, she is openly hostile, even abusive at times, to Elizabeth. Teri acts out her unhappiness with outrageous behavior and winds up a single mother like her own mother, struggling to make ends meet.

Elizabeth, of course, seems to live a perfect life, with a doting husband, two beautiful children, a college degree, and a lavish home – all the more reason for the other girls to resent the golden girl. Because of her favored status with their mother, the bulk of the caregiver role and decision making falls on her shoulders, though all four siblings eventually share the responsibilities, albeit often grudgingly.

Their father, Ron, is largely absent throughout the book, though he makes a reappearance in the latter chapters. Elizabeth lives her life blaming her

father for the demise of her parents' marriage, realizing only late in Janice's illness that there was another side to her parents' divorce.

Wheeler approaches the serious subject of Alzheimer's soberly, rarely resorting to humor. Among the few exceptions are scenes dealing with Janice's early days in the retirement home when she gleefully conspires with another resident, Bruce, to wreak havoc and make unsuccessful escape attempts.

Wheeler's writing is heavy on dialogue, an area where the writer shines. Conversations flow naturally, keeping the story moving forward at a fast clip. It's a useful technique when describing such a debilitating disease. In another's hands, the book could have been depressing.

In an unusual treatment, Wheeler has labeled each book chapter with a song title of one of British musician Sting's iconic compositions, followed by a few poignant lines from the songs.

Those who are intimately acquainted with Alzheimer's in their family may at times find the book emotionally trying to read. Familiar rites of passages such as taking away car keys, obtaining guardianship, signing DNR papers, and visiting nursing care facilities are described in excruciating detail. Particularly wrenching are the descriptions of Janice's decline and death. The book ends on a positive note as the siblings finally make peace with their pasts and each other—a phenomenon they attribute to their mother's strong will to live until this feat was accomplished.

The author is a graduate of the University of Illinois and has worked as a marketing communications professional for ad agencies and corporations. She lives in Springfield with her husband and two children. Visit BroughtToOurSenses.com or contact her at Kathy@AuthorKathleenHWheeler.com.

Brought To Our Senses was released on November 1, 2016, by Attunement Publishing, ISBN 9780996555531, paperback \$16, available from all major online booksellers. Portions of the proceeds of each book sale will be donated to organizations that support dementia patients, family caregivers, and research to find a cure.

Reviewed by Robyn A. Bouillon

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PHOTOS BY WILL BEST
BILL STOKES (OUTSIDE)



Step into the truly iconic, one of a kind, English Tudor Home of the late Dr. David Hoelzer and his wife Dr. Karen Hoelzer. This most admired and meticulously maintained home is situated on an acre that overlooks Washington Park. The backyard and patio areas provide warm weather gathering spots and both the front and back views are post-card perfect. The 5,500 square foot home was originally

built in 1918 by Helmsly & Helmsly Architects and has been extensively updated while every effort has been made to maintain its authenticity. None of the original architecture has been compromised and the entire original footprint maintained which is what makes the unique home eligible for the National Register of Historic Homes.

CAPTIONS BY LEEANNE ATTERBERRY







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The updated eat-in kitchen was remodeled by Michael Von Behren Builders in 2005. Some of the modern amenities include a Dacor range, Sub-Zero refrigeration and custom oak Wood Mode cabinetry. So much attention was paid to retaining the original charm of the home by selecting house-appropriate materials such as the hexagon-tile floor

pattern, sub-way backsplash tile, leaded glass front doors and crown molding. The custom appliance panels soften what would otherwise be very cold and industrial stainless steel appliances, the stunning granite featured on the island is Norwegian Granite. The hexagon floor tile carries into the spacious pantry located directly off the kitchen for easy access





and convenience. Built-in shelving provides plenty of additional storage space with more windows providing natural light to the open, airy utility room...truly a butler's "dream" pantry.



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The second level continues to amaze with more original architectural details such as the stain glass topping the glass front built-in bookcases, leaded glass pocket doors leading you into the library area and more of the glorious hardwood flooring and trims. The fabulous owner's suite features a walk-in closet that would thrill anyone with its island and storage galore. More tile details that were lovingly selected to be in keeping with the era of the home grace the master bathroom including a luxurious walk-in steam shower.

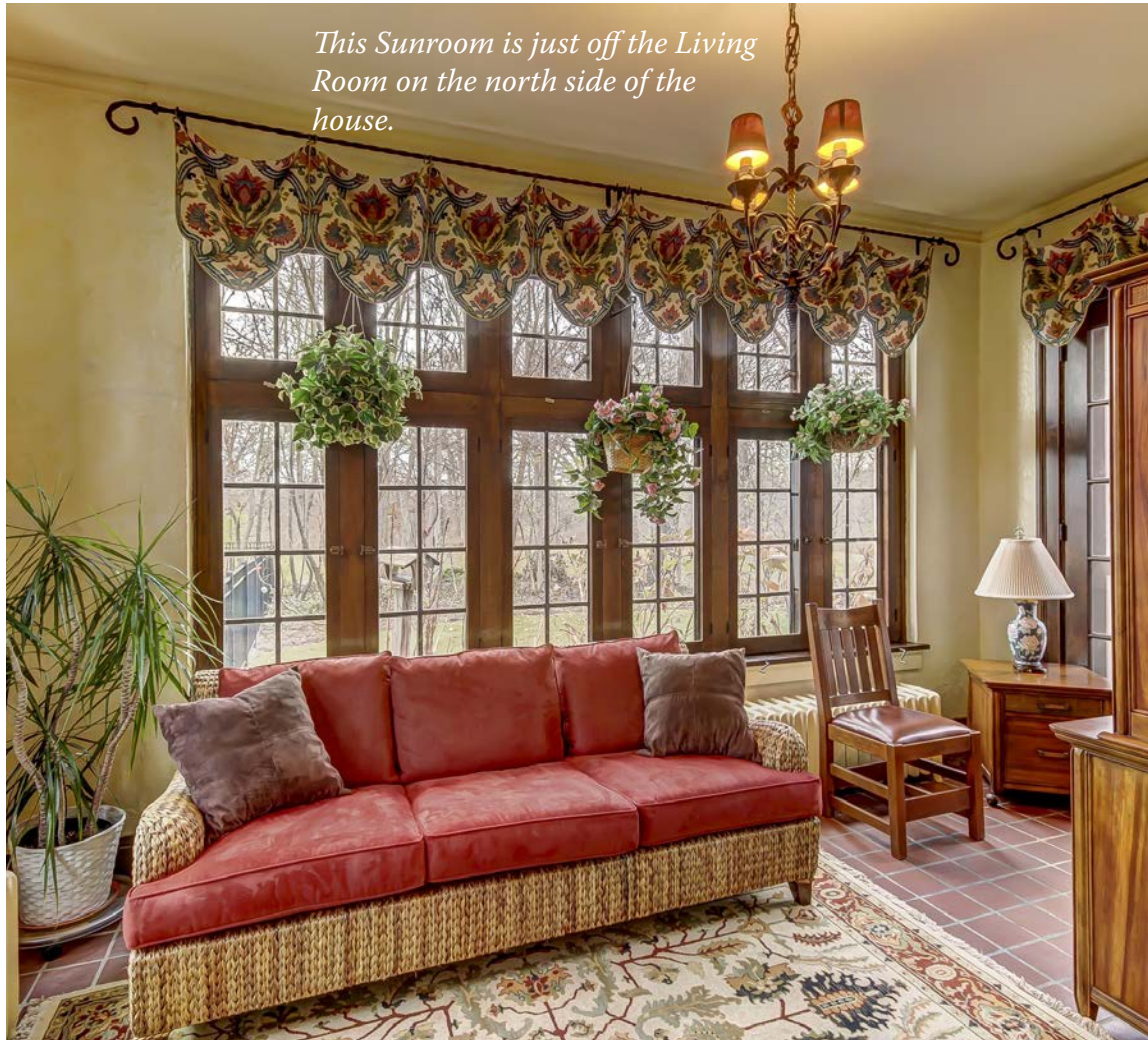




The Office & Library on the first floor can be seen through the foyer as you enter the home.



This Sunroom is just off the Living Room on the north side of the house.





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In addition to the Master Suite on the south side there are 3 additional bedrooms on the 2nd Floor.




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The completely finished third floor recreation room floor is a spacious informal spot to watch football on the pull-down projection screen television, play pool & entertain. This wonderful Media room features its very own guest quarters that includes a full bath. More house appropriate details are carried into the attic space with the addition of the pine that wraps you in warmth and comfort.



Fair Trade Impacts Human Lives

BY LAURA CAMP

Nearly a decade ago, my daughter Lillian Rose committed to sponsoring the education of a young girl in the Philippines. Sierra is now a bright young lady with a strong GPA and a future that includes college, also to be paid for by Lillian Rose. This future, however, was placed in jeopardy just a few years back by a school of thought that I now call “charity based survival”. Charity based survival in doctrines that when we give just a little each month we can help another survive. It is a true that our little sacrifices do provide survival; but the same money could also be invested just a little differently to allow that same person, as well as others around her, to not only survive but to also thrive.

In March of 2011, Lillian received a letter from Sierra sharing that her time in the educational program would be ending as of the fall semester 2011. She explained that the financial burdens of a family of 6 were too great to be managed by her father’s income, and that her mother would be returning to work. Sierra would then be in charge of her family’s home, as well as, her younger siblings during the day. Sierra’s formal education would end with her 8th grade graduation, and her 6 year relationship with my daughter would end with that letter.

Lillian’s tears flowed quickly, her questions just as rapidly as a phone call was placed by me to the program



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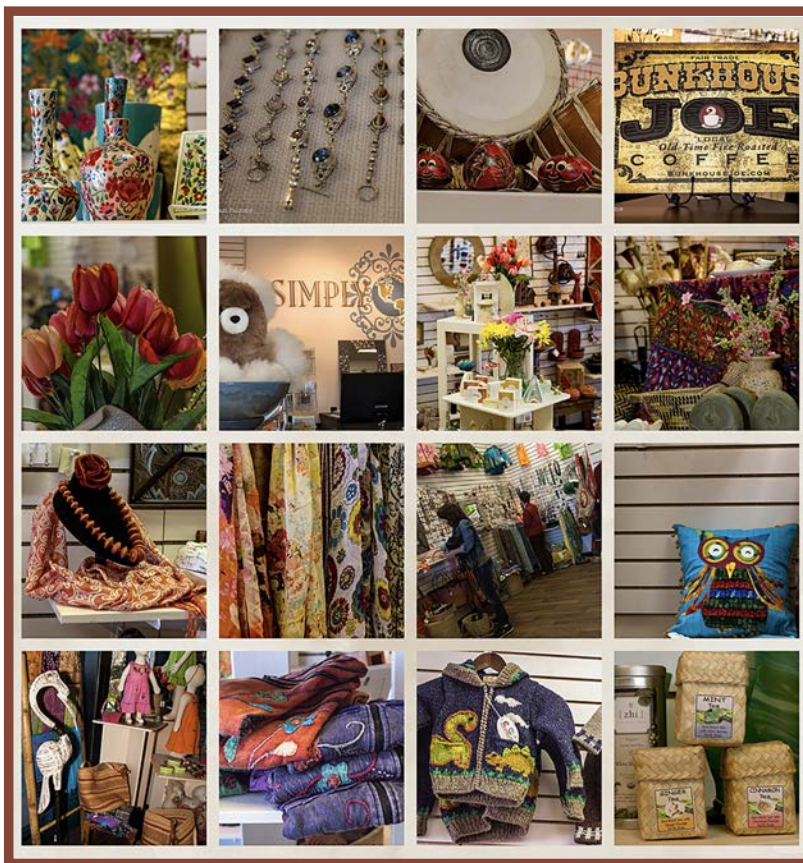
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coordinator. “What little thing should we give up monthly to keep this from happening?” I queried. This question came from the deeply ingrained part of my “little sacrifices means her survival” mentality. Three weeks later the answer returned. Sierra’s father is a fisherman, and at the time was without

The answer returned, “\$250”

I was stunned! Lillian had been sending over \$360 annually out of her own earnings as a performer to Sierra just to keep her family surviving.....but what was needed was just \$250 in one chunk to really move her family forward.

Lily started a fundraiser by creating 25 little pew babies (rag dolls) from donated bed sheets and sold each for \$10. \$250 was sent to Sierra’s father, nets were purchased, and within just 6 months, not only was Sierra back in school; but her family could now afford a boat.



nets. He borrowed the neighbor’s nets anytime the neighbor was not fishing. This meant that Sierra’s father was not fishing during the prime catch times of the day or season. “Fishing nets?” With a bit of hesitation, unsure of the financially insurmountable amount they might cost, I asked, “How much are fishing nets?”

over 40 countries are blessed with the opportunity to thrive within their own culture, villages, and homes. Some are rescued sex workers, some are war widows, and some are fathers who dream of educating their daughters by the honorable work of their own hands. All are thriving!

~SSM~

A Night on Broadway

Hoogland's annual fundraising gala presented a performance by legendary Broadway performer Ken Page, the star of "Cats", "The Wiz" and "Aint Misbehavin". Mr. Page entertained the audience with songs from his long professional career, including his rousing rendition of *Sit Down You're Rocking the Boat* from the 1971 revival of "Guys and Dolls", and *Memory* from the blockbuster musical "Cats". Gus Gordon said, "We had a very successful night and raised money to help support both monthly operations and our upcoming Hoogland education production of "The Wizard of Oz".



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Tom and Peggy Ryder (photo by Chuck McCue)

Broadway Star Ken Page



Ken Page poses with Vanessa Ferguson and Oogie Boogie



Hoogland Teen student, Molly Thornberry (accompanied by Karen Ferguson)



Gus Gordon, Julie Staley, Ken Page, Vanessa Ferguson, Stacy Kolaz, Charlie Germann and Jensine Williams



"Elata"



"Mocha"



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