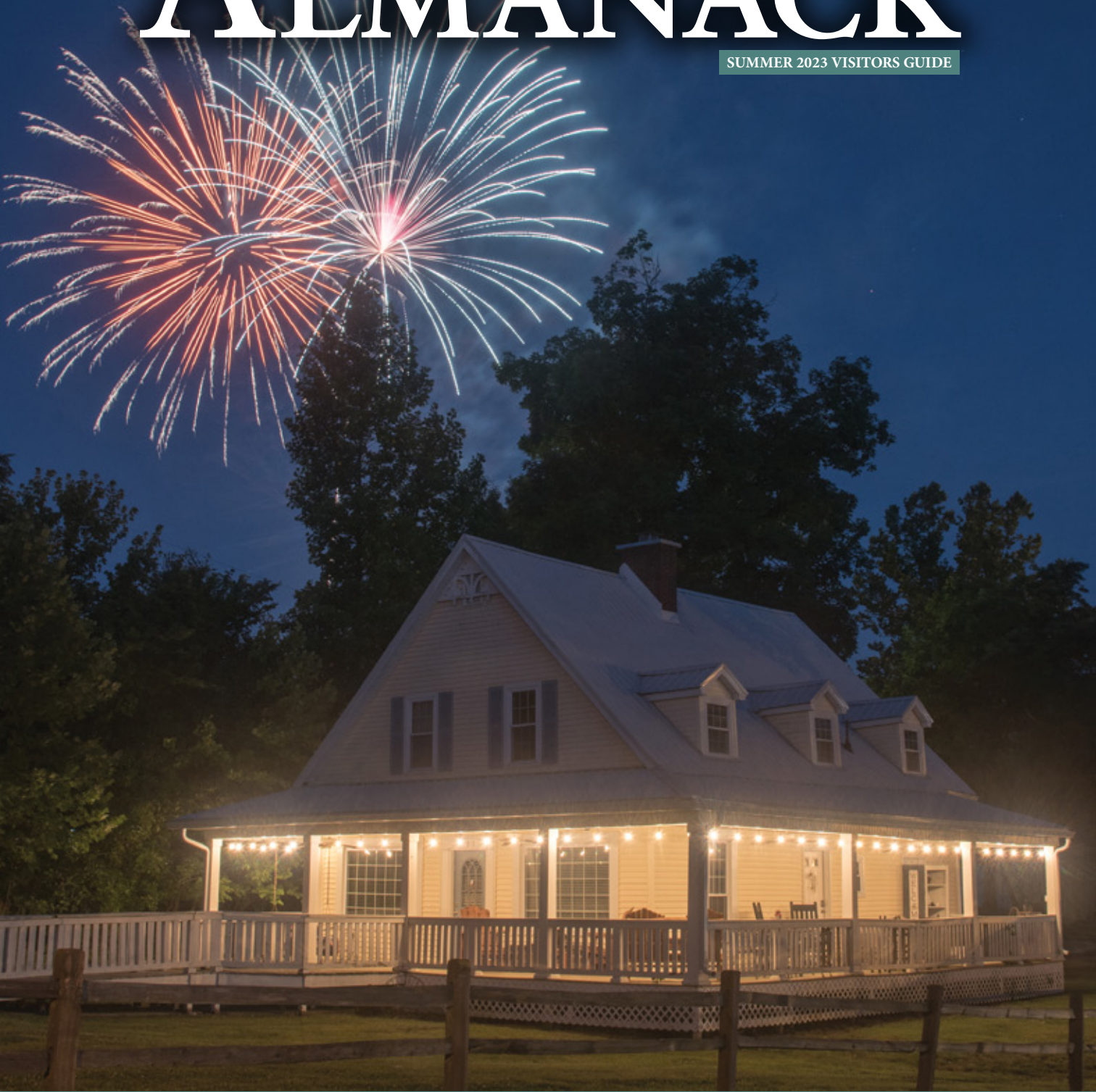


BROWN COUNTY ALMANACK

SUMMER 2023 VISITORS GUIDE



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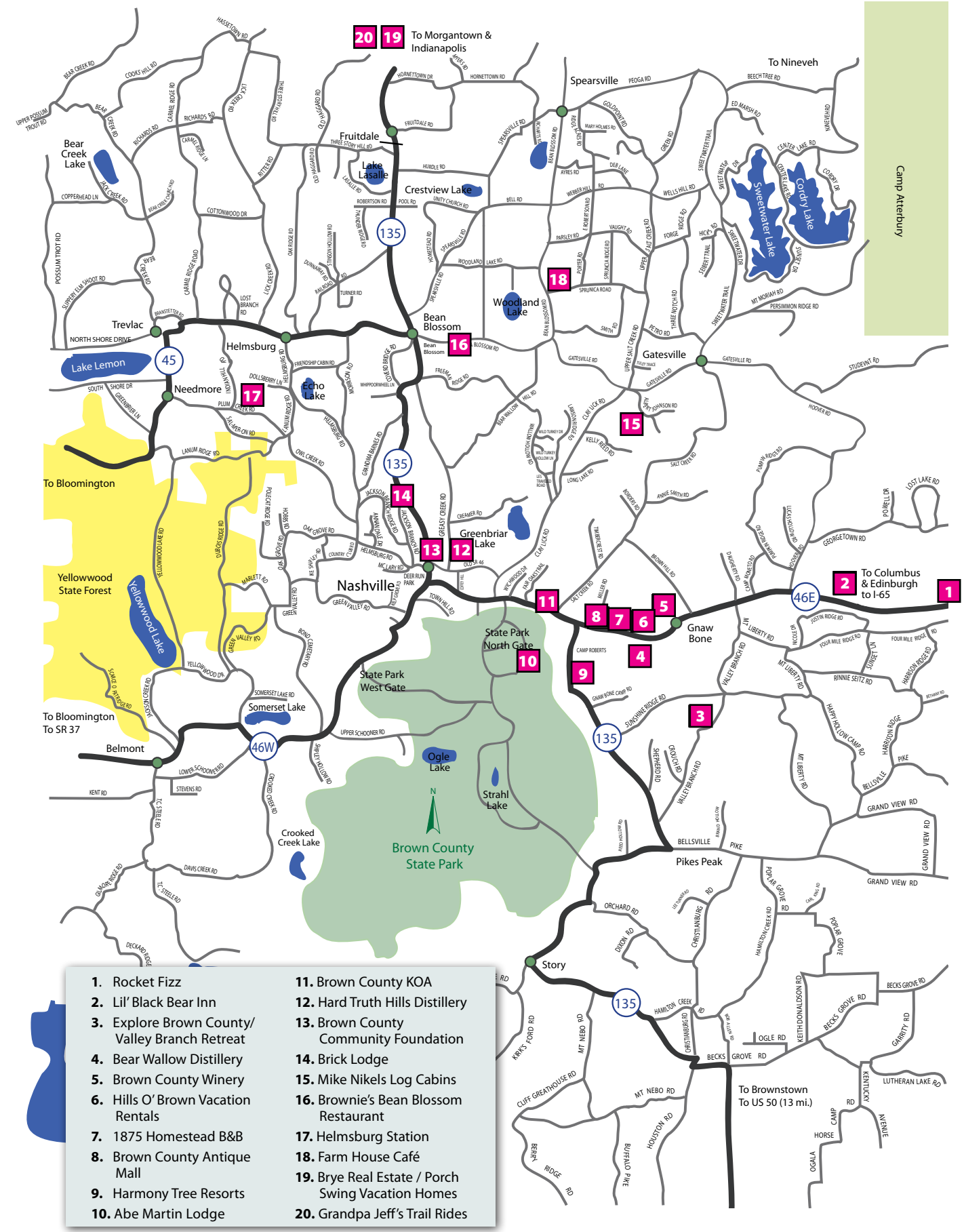
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David and Kathleen Chilcote stand in front of their business Ooey Gooey Cinnamon Rolls and So Much More on Main Street. The couple is selling the business after five years of success and impact in Brown County. Abigail Youmans | The Democrat

'LOVED EVERY MINUTE'

CHILCOTES SELLING OOHEY GOOEY - WHAT'S NEXT FOR THEM AND THE BUSINESS?

BY ABIGAIL YOUNANS | THE DEMOCRAT

A line flows out the door of Ooey Gooey Cinnamon Rolls and So Much More into snowy March air.

Patrons gather around a tall space heater on the patio, eagerly waiting their turn to get their hands on a delicious pastry.

When finally inside, the physical warmth is no match for the warmth that David and Kathleen Chilcote offer their customers.

If they don't yet know your name, they'll know it by the time you pay and well before a delicious cinnamon roll is set before you. You may even leave with a hug from the owners.

This is what the Chilcotes have offered every day they've

been in business since 2018.

After nearly one year in a new and larger space filled with even more love, they're looking to their next chapter: retirement.

Both David and Kathleen have lost parents in recent years; David's mother and father passed away two years ago at 86, and a mother figure of Kathleen's passed away recently at the same age.

Kathleen's mother and father are now approaching that age.

"We've lost a lot of parents, and we're not getting any younger," she said on March 23.

"We kind of want to kick back and enjoy the last 20



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Photo by Abigail Youmans | The Democrat

years of our life. ... We're just following our hearts like we have been from day one."

"My parents' deaths and her mom's setbacks have impacted us a lot about how much time we have left," David said.

"Life is short and we still have things that we want to do."

Four months ago, the Chilcotes didn't know that they were going to make the decision to sell their business.

What started as a dream they've seen turn into a destination, with customers often visiting from hours away for an Ooey Gooey cinnamon roll.

The vision to make cinnamon rolls for a living came to Kathleen in a dream in 2016.

At the time, the couple lived in Naples, Fla. Kathleen was an automotive manufacturing recruiter. David was a children's counselor and director of a home health company.

Over the next couple of months, Kathleen perfected a cinnamon roll recipe.

The couple decided to quit their jobs, sell their house, put their belongings in storage and go on a journey to find a new town that would support a cinnamon roll business.

They traveled for 60 days throughout the United States, from the Carolinas to Georgia to Kentucky.

Nashville was their last stop.

They began selling their cinnamon rolls out of their vehicle in parking lots and at local farmers markets, then they'd share their leftovers with the employees at the former Pine Room Tavern. Owner Betsy Oblack allowed them to sell the rolls there, too.

After the Pine Room closed, the couple took the opportunity to

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The first location of Ooey Goey Cinnamon Rolls and So Much More was in their Jeep in the Foxfire parking lot on Van Buren Street. Abigail Youmans | The Democrat

start their own shop in the Camelot Building at Van Buren and Washington streets.

The Chilcotes sell made-from-scratch lunches and breakfasts, along with other baked goods, like brownies and pies.

The caramelized apple ooey gooey cinnamon roll is the overall bestselling product. But they also offer 19 other different flavors of cinnamon rolls, from cherry chocolate to peach cobbler.

Kathleen has a degree in gourmet cooking and had experience with catering, but never had the opportunity to do a lot of baking before opening Ooey Goey.

“Following your dream is important. This one shocked us,” David said.

“It really has been wonderful,” Kathleen said.

Sometimes you have to take a leap of faith, she added.

“When we decided to build this (space) out and move here —

that was a big jump for us,” she said.

“We always said at the other little place, ‘We’re not going to expand, we’re going to stay small.’ Then all of the sudden, we opened the floodgates.”

With a small kitchen space in their first shop and a high demand in business, they found themselves needing a bigger space.

The previous owner of the Redbud Shops came to Ooey Goey’s old location on Washington Street and watched the Chilcotes and their customers — especially those who left because they couldn’t get a seat.

He told the Chilcotes that he had a spot for them on Main Street.

“He made an offer we couldn’t refuse,” David said.

They agreed and at the end of 2021 they closed temporarily as they began the process of moving to a new location and making the renovations necessary to convert it into a café.

Complete with ample seating and two kitchens, the Chilcotes are now looking to sell both their business and the building, which they purchased last year from Robinson.

The very first week they opened in their new location, Kathleen tore her rotator cuff and has dealt with the pain every day since.

The combination of an injury, aging parents and limited time spent with family influenced the Chilcotes’ decision to sell.

“We’ve got five kids and grandkids we never see,” Kathleen said.

It wasn’t an easy decision to make, and it’s come with many tears, the couple said.

“This has been my dream, to build this out,” Kathleen said.

“We’re very proud of what we’ve built here,” David said.

PASSING THE TORCH

From their small storefront on Washington Street to their



The Chilcotes in their original location on Washington Street. The couple is selling the business and its building, moving into retirement later this spring. Abigail Youmans | The Democrat



The ordering counter at Ooey Goopy Cinnamon Rolls. Abigail Youmans | The Democrat

expanded location on Main Street, they put their own money into the building before they even owned it.

Kathleen said that it made sense for them to own the building, and that they had every intent of being the “full throttle people,” and staying in the business.

Now they’re looking for someone younger to take over.

“We thought it’d be nice if a younger couple could come in and go full throttle with this because it’s such a great thing for the community,” Kathleen said.

The couple has a passion to pass the torch to someone that wants to carry on the business as it is.

“They could walk right in,” Kathleen said.

“We’ve built the client base, it’s already profitable, we did the build-out — there’s nothing you need. It’s turnkey. Walk in next Sunday and you’ve got the line to the street, and you’re profitable. All you’ve got to do is for us train you and we’ll give you the recipes.”

There are things to take into consideration, too, such as training that will need to happen for new owners ahead of the busy season.

Carrying on the business of Ooey Goopy isn’t just learning how to craft a perfect cinnamon roll — there’s a bit more to it than that.

David said they hope to find a younger version of themselves willing to treat customers with genuine care — or “Ooey Goopy Love” as they call it — and make them feel like family.

The way they do what they do, the Chilcotes said, they will teach the new owners.

It’s a passion and a truth to the Chilcotes.

“We genuinely care about you, we do,” David said.

“We’re willing to teach people that ability to care. ... We care about people. We just happened to bring a restaurant along.”

He said since it’s a profitable business, they



A drawing by Sophia, a young customer, shared with the Chilcotes. The creation has a special place in a frame at Ooey Gooley Cinnamon Rolls and So Much More, a business that has made an impact on customers of all ages. Abigail Youmans | The Democrat

hope somebody younger will come in and take the reins.

“It’s my hope that somebody sees the value and the impact (the business has),” David said.

“And the economic (value) for them. It’s a good value for somebody. If they don’t, it will be a lost value.”

“And we’re so proud of this place. And we’ve enjoyed all the people,” Kathleen said.

“It’s kind of bittersweet, but it’s time for us to move on and someone else to do it.”

Even if Ooey Gooley doesn’t sell as a business — which the Chilcotes said would be disappointing — it does mean that the rarity of restaurant space would be available for lease.

Regardless whether or not the business or building sell, the Chilcotes are planning to be done the middle of May. If it’s not sold, it will close. When all is said and done, they will sell their home and move to Florida to be closer to family there.

“It’s what we need to move on,” David said.

MAKING AN IMPACT

Since it opened, they’ve called their business “Ooey Gooley Church,” customers coming in and sharing stories of loss and victory.

Someone coming in for lunch by themselves following divorce proceedings, little kids coming in unable to talk to servers then opening up as time goes on — it’s not just been a business, but a place of healing and growth, the owners said.

“It’s been a blessing for us,” David said.

“It’s filled our hearts for sure,” Kathleen said.

A family of four who frequented the café moved to Colorado, the Chilcotes said, and the kids had a hard time adjusting.

When they were out west, the father of the two young kids asked if David and Kathleen would write them letters.

David said the father said, “They love you and they will listen to you. They’re having a hard time.”

“We sat down and penned letters to them that helped them out there,” David said. “And they wrote us back — it was an amazing moment. That’s what happens at Ooey Gooley.”

Another young customer came in and brought a picture she had drawn for David, depicting the two standing close to one another in a sunny field.

“It’s been fun and it’s a part of (Kathleen’s) dream, I think. To impact people’s lives and use food as the medium,” David said.

“(We had) never baked a roll in our life — I thought she was nuts.”

“He did! But I said, ‘David, this is a vision, we’re supposed to do this,’” she said.

Kathleen often found herself asking why this was a vision given to them, but she knows now it has been to help, serve and love people.

They’ve been blessed by their employees over the years too, and the crew has become a family.

“All of our employees have been spectacular. We’ve been really blessed with that,” David said.

“Customers ask all the time if it’s family run.”

They’ve captured all the comments online, good and bad. There were only two negative comments, though, David said.

All notes from customers have been shared with the staff for encouragement.

“We have loved every single minute.”



Kathleen said her style is “eclectic,” gathering items that speak to her, even some given by customers. One such item, the “Gnaw Bone Food and Fuel” sign, was given to them by local realtor Bob Kirlin. Abigail Youmans | The Democrat

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“It’s teaching them,” Kathleen said.

“Sometimes students come to (work with) us, they can hardly speak they’re so timid, like 14 or 15 years old, never worked a job. By the time they leave we’re all family.

Requirements to work at Ooey Gooley have been to love music, and love listening to Kathleen sing music off-key, she said, and to hug everyone before they leave at the end of their shift.

They also need to tolerate the couple’s differences at times.

All new hires are told, “If David says one way and Kathleen says one way, go with Kathy’s way.”

Before they open, Kathleen walks into the dining room and says to the staff, “Is everybody ready?”

“Everybody just puts on the Ooey Gooley, no matter what they dealt with the night before,” Kathleen said, which can help them in their own lives, she added.

The local community has impacted the business, too, supporting them however they’ve needed over the last five years.

“We’re thankful for the love and support of this community,” David said.

“It’s overwhelming for us to be accepted. We’re not always easy to be accepted. The acceptance in this community has been unbelievable. ... It’s beautiful.”

They’ve been accepted by other businesses in town, who have often helped in times of need too.

Brown County Inn, Out of the Ordinary — they’ve given Ooey Gooley supplies when they couldn’t get them, out of their own kitchens. Ooey Gooley’s whole crew has also worked as extra help at other restaurants that needed the help.

When Ooey Gooley was short staffed, customers even came and washed dishes for six hours.

“That’s Brown County,” David said.

The impact of Ooey Gooley on the community and its customers is something the Chilcotes say they will carry with them for the rest of their lives.

“Every single person, from here to Chicago, to Kentucky, Virginia, Tennessee,” David said.

“Thank you.”

“Their love, their love has meant so much to us,” Kathleen said.

“We have loved every single minute.”



The newly renovated dining area of Ooey Gooley Cinnamon Roll's new location in the Redbud Shoppes complex on Main Street. Abigail Youmans | The Democrat



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SWEET HISTORY

Candy store celebrates 50 years of business, owners have deep roots in county

BY ABIGAIL YOUMANS | THE DEMOCRAT



From left: Tim Percifield, Lacy Martin (Percifield) and Greg Percifield stand behind the counter of Heritage Candy Store, a business they purchased in 2015. The store is the anchor of the Heritage Mall, which has been in the Percifield family for more than 50 years. Abigail Youmans | The Democrat

A shop on Van Buren Street is living up to its name as it celebrates 50 years of business in 2023.

That business is Heritage Candy Store, the anchoring shop in the Heritage Mall, which is owned by brothers Greg and Tim Percifield.

The Percifields' ancestors have been property owners and entrepreneurs in Nashville since at least the 1880s. The Heritage Mall started as a furniture store, The Heritage Shop, in the mid 1950s and was owned by Charlie and Eva May, grand and great-grandparents to the Percifields.

After Charlie's passing in the early 1970s, Eva decided to convert the building to its current configuration as a shopping mall by old friends of the family, Joe Rafferty and Lee Howery. Soon thereafter, Howery and Rafferty opened Nashville Candy Store in the mall.

Rafferty would often make the gourmet fudge at his home, bringing it into the store. When the shop ran out, he would run home and get cooking.

Years later, Margaret Allender purchased the Nashville Candy Store and with her guidance the shop expanded its product offering and prospered through the next 35 years. The store is the only one original to the mall's inception.

In 2015, Margaret decided to sell the candy store and retire. The new owner partnered with the Percifield brothers to remodel and expand the shop and in 2017 the Percifields took over the candy store, buying the assets of Nashville Candy Store

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in February of 2018.

Greg's daughter, Lacy took over management of the store, which they renamed Heritage Candy Store.

Heritage Candy Store still makes all fudge and brittle products in-house and offers numerous chocolates and candies purchased from a very select list of vendors.

The original fudge recipes are in use, as well as the addition of many new flavors like cookie dough and dark chocolate with caramel and sea salt.

Fresh fudge flavors are rotated on a regular basis and usually feature 15 to 20 selections, as well as peanut, cashew and pecan brittle.

When Greg was in college at Indiana University, he advised his mother to sell the mall. She never would do it, then she got older and her sons took over running it.

"I can't sell this!"

After she passed away, the brothers found a real estate abstract that was inches thick, Greg said, with a history of the property dating back to the 1800s.

"It became clear to me, 'I can't sell this!'" he said in March.

After researching the store's history, they found that it's in its 50th year of business, and they wanted to commemorate that milestone.

Greg contacted local artist Amanda Mathis, because he knew her art style would be a conversation starter for visitors to the shop.

Though the people in her paintings are faceless, their personalities shine through their clothing, pets and activities



Bold and bright colors greet visitors to Heritage Candy Store on Van Buren Street, in Heritage Mall. Abigail Youmans | The Democrat

that are depicted in the work.

The final product includes the Percifields and their family, as well as the shop's previous owners looking down on the street scene from hot air balloons.

"I think she did an astounding job on it," Greg said.

"We want to put our mark on (the business). We're pretty proud of the fact that the business is here, not just the candy shop but the mall as well."

HITTING A STRIDE

Lacy said their first year of business with the candy store, they didn't really know what they were doing, but once they got the hang of things became excited for their second year.

The second year, there was a flood in the building and they were shut down for two months.



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Following the flood and subsequent repairs, they reopened, but without a full and consistent year of sales.

Then in 2020 they shut down for two months due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Lacy said that last year she was finally able to hit her stride as manager, with ordering, avoiding crises and working around supply chain shortages.

What came was a monumental fall season in 2022.

“I feel like, every single year, no matter what, sales have increased,” she said.

“I don’t think that’s an accident; I like to think we have a little something to do with that.”



Heritage Candy Store celebrates 50 years of business in 2023, and commemorated the anniversary by adding mural to the wall behind the counter. Visitors to the shop can search for hidden birds, squirrels and see the Percifield family and their legacy depicted in the family members in the piece by artist Amanda Mathis. Abigail Youmans | The Democrat

Lacy served customers last month who had waited an entire year for buckeyes from Heritage Candy Store, after they sampled the peanut butter and chocolate treat on a visit to Brown County.

You don’t have to wait, she said, as the store does have a website where orders can be made.

Coming into a stride has not only been with sales and products, but procedures as well. The store has been able to have another person on staff learn the fudge-making product, so Lacy is not the sole chef.

After the flood, flooring was change, display cabinets were replaced and new products were brought in, including sugar-free candy.

One of their sales representatives got the business Food and Drug Administration information about differences between sugar-free and no-added sugar.

Once they added the option, it tripled the store’s chocolate sales.

The walls were also painted bright and friendly colors.

Baking was always something Lacy loved to do, but had never been into making chocolates or candy. Through college she worked in a restaurant that she ended up managing, then was in a property management role before her father and uncle brought her on board the business.

Lacy would often take fudge to Allender to taste and seek out candy guidance from the previous owner before her passing last year.

“That’s been a game changer for us, completely,” Lacy said.

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"I think we couldn't have done as well as we've done without having that knowledge."

Now, she's become the fudge expert and has branched out with fudge flavors too, adding unique picks like pancakes and bacon — a maple fudge topped with bacon bits — and strawberry shortcake.

Lacy would often take fudge to Allender to taste and seek out candy guidance from the previous owner before her passing last year.

"That's been a game changer for us, completely," Lacy said.

"I think we couldn't have done as well as we've done without having that knowledge."

'IT'S HOME'

Tim said after the stock market crash of 2008, he has seen less stores carrying imported merchandise and instead offering high quality products.

Greg said while the town's niche is tourism, he'd like to see the area not forget its roots as an artist colony.

With the additions of public art pieces, galleries and stores offering handmade items, he thinks the town is going in the right direction.

He also said he is "all for" the addition of the Brown County Music Center and believes it will bring an opportunity for more business and more people in Brown County.

The store's future intentions are to grow the website and create fundraising opportunities for local organizations.

Learning how much history is not only in the store, but in

their family has kept the Percifields invested in their business, both as shop and property owners in Nashville.

"It's home," Greg said.

"Growing up I had a lot of friends that said, 'Oh I can't wait to get out.' For me, I never did want to do that."

Greg remembers being in the Heritage Mall as an "itty bitty kid," he said, not much longer after his family opened the furniture store, and spending after school hours at Miller's Drug Store (now The Hob Nob Corner Restaurant) sampling Cokes from the old fashioned soda fountain.

Their family lived behind the Nashville United Methodist Church, so he was at the store constantly.

The brothers' great-grandparents were Dennis and Clara Calvin, who lived in a blue house that once stood on East Main Street.

"There's a lot of history," Tim said.

Having that kind of history, the brothers have seen the business and physical landscape of the town change over the years.

Looking back, the Calvins were forces in Nashville for a very long time, Greg said, owning two or three different hardware stores. One can be seen in the background of Frank Hohenberger's "Liar's Bench" photo.

The history being realized, the Percifields knew that was another reason to acquire the candy store.

"Now it's here and it's not going anywhere," Greg said.

"There's a lot of History."

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Lumi Boutique owner, Mari Hendricks, poses for a photo in front of her soaps and candles wearing her custom t shirt. Corbin Parmer | The Democrat

‘IN THE SPOTLIGHT’:

Local shop owner has item featured in Grammy gift bag

BY CORBIN PARMER | THE DEMOCRAT
CPARMER@BCDEMOCRAT.COM

A local storeowner had a unique opportunity that resulted in global exposure for her store when shirts featuring a design she created and pressed herself were included in the 2023 GRAMMY Awards.

Each shirt was one of many other items contained in a gift bag that audience members of the Feb. 5 event received before they saw their favorite artists get recognized.

Mari Hendricks is the owner of LumibyMari and creator of the “Let’s be better humans” © design, which features the phrase in a groovy font and two doves surrounding a peace sign, described herself earlier this year as a business woman first, maker second.”

She was born and raised in Finland, then began working in the global travel industry, which took her all across Europe over the course of her nearly 30-year career.

Hendricks said she lived and worked for some time in England and then Germany, where she eventually met her husband, a native Hoosier who was stationed there while serving in the U.S. military.

Military service brought the two to Utah in 2014, where they lived for three years before settling in Indiana.

Hendricks said her husband is originally from Indianapolis. Over their years together and the visits they made to the state, they developed an appreciation for the Brown County area.

The two settled near Lake Lemon in 2017, where they have been living since.

Through the course of her career in the travel industry, Hendricks said she filled many roles, ending up at the director level as a head of strategic partnerships.

Hendricks said earlier this month that she enjoyed her corporate career for many years, but the constant travelling that the job required was starting to wear on her.

“(30 years) is a long time to travel, constantly unpacking one suitcase and packing another,” she said.

“And flying when you’re 50 is not nearly as fun as flying when you’re 20, let me tell you.”

Spending long stretches of time away from home in varying countries became “brutal” for Hendricks.

“I was literally waking up at home thinking, ‘Where am I? Which language are people going to be speaking today? Where do I have to go? Oh, I’m home,’” she said.

Searching for a break from the constant flying, Hendricks decided to temporarily leave the industry in the fall of 2019.

“I was going nowhere and neither was anyone else,”

“It was kind of like, ‘I’m going to take a break after the new year, I’m going to decide what I want to do again,’” she said.

“Then, of course, COVID happened.”

The first industry to “grind to a halt,” as Hendricks put it, was the travel industry.

“I was going nowhere and neither was anyone else,” she said.

Like everyone else in that time, Hendricks said she was stuck at home, twiddling her thumbs and thinking about what to do. Before too long, she came to the realization that she had not had that kind of time to herself in years.

“So, I kind I kind of rekindled my old hobbies and started making things again,” she said.

She began with making soaps and cosmetic items. Eventually, Hendricks’ husband, who thought they were running low on space, mentioned the idea of selling some of her creations to make some extra money.



Handpoured candles on display at Lumi Boutique.
Corbin Parmer | The Democrat

Hendricks successfully started her business, LumibyMari, in March 2020 and began looking for ways to sell what she had made.

She said she originally had some spots at farmer’s markets and other in-person venues to sell her merchandise, but all of the events were canceled or postponed due to the pandemic.

Because it was the only option, Hendricks shifted her business towards online sales.

She said that, because of the unique situation everyone was in around that time, her online business went better than she thought it would.

Everyone was stuck at home and shopping online, and Hendricks wagered they weren’t buying regular items like clothing — instead, they were seeking comfort items, like the soaps and candles that were her specialty.

What was at first going to be a short break away from work ended up being a permanent decision.

‘COME ON IN’

Hendricks said she never made the conscious decision to turn her new business into her livelihood, the events just happened to transpire that way.

If not for the COVID-19 pandemic and the time it granted her to put towards build-

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Lumi Boutique, located off Franklin Street in downtown Nashville, offers local, hand-crafted soaps, candles, cosmetic items and decor. Corbin Parmer | The Democrat

ing a business, she would not be where she is now, she said.

Over time, since business was going well, Hendricks said she completely filled up the basement at her house with her merchandise. She found and used a storage location, but it eventually flooded.

She had to remove everything that was left from there and put it back in her house, which ended up filling every open space.

Hendricks said she knew she had to search for a space to open

up a physical store, but she never expected to find a place in Nashville.

“I got very lucky and I found this place,” Hendricks said.

The LumibyMari storefront in Franklin Square, called Lumi Boutique, opened doors on Labor Day in 2021. A selection of locally-sourced, handmade items can be found there, most of which made is by Hendricks, but she also offers items made by her neighbors and friends.

“Everything that I don’t make, I try to keep as local as possible,” she said.

Hendricks said she values the distinctive quality of handmade items. Almost everything offered at the store is made by someone she knows personally, and her goal is to offer things that potential customers have not seen before.

The current location has served Hendricks well and granted her the things she wished for — space for production and a storefront, all in one package — but she said she is now outgrowing the space and is beginning to search for something bigger.

Her rapid growth is no doubt thanks to her background. As a business-savvy individual, Hendricks decided early on to research the best options for marketing her products and her brand.

In her search, she said she came upon a public relations agency in Los Angeles, and quickly became a client. Her connection with the agency granted her the opportunity to feature her product at the GRAMMYS.

“I was in corporate business for so long that I know how much of a difference good PR can make,” Hendricks said.

“There’s good PR opportunities out there, you just have to know where to look for them.”

Hendricks said she had to apply to be included in the event. She looked through all the available options for what to provide

Mari Hendricks’ custom t shirt design. Corbin Parmer | The Democrat



for the bags, and decided sending a shirt might be more impactful and helpful to her brand than a bar of soap.

The design on the shirts, which she created just before the GRAMMYs and has since copyrighted, is meant to spread a positive message with universal imagery.

The inspiration for the design came from becoming fed up with the hate and negativity Hendricks had been seeing online.

“I was getting a little tired of reading things on social media where people are just really nasty,” Hendricks said.

The positive message seems to be appreciated — Hendricks said ever since her GRAMMYs shirts went public, she has had orders placed from all over the world.

Orders have been shipped to France, England, New Zealand and, of course, to friends and family in Finland.

Looking forward, Hendricks wishes to continue to grow her business. She said she is always looking for more local artists or makers to collaborate with and invited locals to reach out to her or visit the store.

Lumi Boutique is open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. almost every day. Hendricks said that even if Nashville is quiet, she can be found in the back of her store making more products.

“The way I see it, if I’m here, I might as well open doors,” she said.

“It’s basically, if the lights are on, come on in.”



Local items available at Lumi Boutique.
Corbin Parmer | The Democrat

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MORE TO EXPLORE

BY CORBIN PARMER | THE DEMOCRAT
CPARMER@BCDEMOCRAT.COM



Above: Ziplining through the woods is one of the adventurous activities offered at eXplore Brown County.
Below: A cabin at eXplore Brown County, ready for guests to visit the property in the southern part of Brown County.
Corbin Parmer | The Democrat



VAN BUREN TWP. — Roughly 25 years ago, the Bartels family inherited a 500-acre property southeast of Nashville.

In the years since, the family's business, eXplore Brown County (XBC), has operated on that land, offering experiences both thrilling and serene alike amidst the nature of the Brown County area.

Thrill seekers may be interested in the several ziplines, miles of mountain biking trails or large, ever-evolving paintball fields available there.

Cabins are also there to rent for overnight stays, as well as a large, newly renovated building on the property, designed to hold weddings or other similar events.

Last week, the Bartels — Gary, Patricia and their sons Lance and Chris — said they had a tough decision to make about what to do with the large chunk of land when they first inherited it.

Two main paths stood out to them: either subdivide the area and sell it, or build something on it that would allow people to enjoy the space.

Gary and Patricia originally liked the idea of using the area for a children's camp, which then evolved into a concept of an adventure camp.

This was because the terrain of the property stood out to Gary, an enthusiastic mountain biker.

At the time, Chris was 8 and Lance was 12. Gary said last week that they sat the boys down at the dinner table and asked them what they wanted to do.

"Basically, I gave them the choice," he said.

"I said, 'I've got this idea to build this thing. If you help me, and it's successful, then you'll inherit it someday.'"

Gary gave the family two weeks to think about their options.

He said then-eight-year-old Chris was the one to step forward with demands — including a two-hour lunch to go swimming, free ice cream and the help of his friends.

From there, XBC was born. Building began in 1996 and the facility officially opened two years later.

WORK HARD, PLAY HARDER

The family used the funds from a few selective timber sales on the property to start the facility, leaving polar and oak behind for the structures.

All the primary work was done by the

family when they had the time to focus on it — on top of school and work.

“I explained they had to sacrifice their summers and their weekends to do this, and they did,” Gary said.

Lance and Chris helped their parents with nearly every stage of the building process. For instance, according to Gary, Lance was skilled at operating a chain-saw and Chris was known to haul equipment around the property in a truck.

“I strongly believe that even if it had failed, they gained skill sets, and the desire to learn and to build and be successful, and they both have done that,” Gary said about his sons’ time building the facility.

“They both pursued things that they loved,” Patricia said.

Chris was a Lilly Endowment Fund scholar who became a dentist. His went on to practice dentistry at his own office, Tipton Lakes Family Dentistry, on the westside of Columbus. He sold the practice in September.

He and his family live in Columbus and remain active in the community there. Chris serves as vice president for parks foundation and he is running for the Dist. 1 seat on Columbus’ city council.

Lance earned a full ride scholarship to Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and became a pilot for UPS. He is now a broker, buying and selling aircraft, as well as running a plane restoration and repair business in Seymour.

“... refocus on faith, family, and community,”

“This was my childhood,” Chris said.

“And growing up here, I thought this was everyone’s childhood. Then, going to school, and talking to friends, bringing friends here, I quickly realized that this wasn’t the normal childhood, and that it is a pretty amazing one.”

He said it was a lot of hard work, but it was also a lot of fun, and great memories were made on the facility.

“Now, as an adult with my own children, it is very noticeable how important this type of atmosphere is for kids and for families,” Chris said.



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A newly remodeled event space at eXplore Brown County is ready to welcome guests to the 500-acre property in Van Buren Township. Corbin Parmer | The Democrat

According to Chris, that is one of many reasons why, starting late last year, the family has decided to refocus on the business, putting their time and funds towards revitalizing the space.

“We as a family decided to make some changes and refocus on faith, family and community,” he said.

“We have a lot of talent in the family, and all our paths have reconnected, and now we’re taking our talents to give XBC the next stage of growth.”

Patricia is a well-known local artist. Her paintings of poppy fields can be found in mosaic form in the newly built IU Health Bloomington Hospital.

Her work also covers the walls in the event center on the XBC property, which is the main upgrade that has taken place in the revitalization process.

The center offers ample space for weddings, including spaces for the wedding party to get ready and a suite for the newlyweds to stay after.

Paintball is another big part of XBC’s changes. Chris described expanded and upgraded fields that will reflect the layout of a number of historical battles or scenarios.

“We have a junkyard, we have a castle we are building, we have a crashed aircraft site,” he said.

“If you think of it like Call of Duty or Fortnite, where you have missions and objectives, the paintball field will play like that.”

More information for paintball updates and events, including test runs on new fields and scenarios, can be found on the XBC Paintball Players group on Facebook.

XBC is also on its 12th season for ziplining. The main driver for that side of the business is Gary, who spent his career as an engineer.

He said he was involved in a big zipline build in Hawaii in 2011, which originally planted the seed for including the activity at XBC.

Now, Gary proudly claims the title of Chief Adventurist at XBC.

“Brown County is going through a renaissance,” Chris said last week.

“With the Music Center, refocusing on the artistry downtown. There has been a great revitalization of Brown County...and we want to be a part of that, as far as the adventure and the exploration part of Brown County.”

“Being 72, and seeing both my sons be getting involved,” Gary said.

“(It) makes everything worthwhile.”



A cabin at eXplore Brown County, ready for guests to visit the property in the southern part of Brown County. Corbin Parmer | The Democrat

Ziplining through the woods is one of the exciting activities offered at eXplore Brown County. Corbin Parmer | The Democrat



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eXplore Brown County

**Location: 2620 Valley Branch
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Phone: 812-988-7750

Website:

explorebrowncounty.com

**Facebook: eXplore Brown
County**



Rivers and Roads offers local, handcrafted goods including pottery, beeswax candles and jewelry. Corbin Parmer | The Democrat

‘COULDN’T BE HAPPIER’

BY CORBIN PARMER | THE DEMOCRAT
CPARMER@BCDEMOCRAT.COM

A new local business featuring a variety of handmade goods is now open in the Old State Bank building, next door to Naughty Dog Books, on Main Street.

The store is called Rivers and Roads, which is inspired by the song by The Head and The Heart as well as its use during a love story in the TV show *New Girl*.

Owners Adam and Gracie Dillon-Moore love the song and the show’s use of it. The name is also an homage to the physical connections that rivers and roads make.

River and Roads opened on April 1 and offers an array locally-sourced, handmade home goods, which Adam said are things that would go into their own home.

Starting next month, the store will also feature a pottery studio, where customers can either throw their own clay or glaze pre-made ceramic pieces.

Adam specializes in making his own beeswax candles in many shapes and sizes, using beeswax from a local apiary.

Gracie is the potter, and all kind of her creations, such as mugs, bowls and candle plates, can be found lining the store.

They also offer other goods made by local artisans, including jewelry and blankets, as well as locally-produced honey, and chocolates and coffee from Equal Exchange, a fair trade company with ethical values.

The Dillon-Moore’s have their own set of values for their store. Adam said they try to be as eco-friendly and sustainable as possible, by offering handmade and handcrafted goods only.

They also have no plastic packaging, and limit the distance their goods have to travel before they reach one of Rivers and Roads’ shelves.

“We have local artists from Indianap-

olis to the Nashville and Belmont area,” Adam said.

“We just focus on trying to leave a good carbon footprint.”

The couple began their business around the beginning of 2022 as small endeavor, limited to community markets and an online store.

They started out with the Nashville farmer’s market, and Adam said they did “extremely” well. Their success led them to think about upping their production and selections.

According to Adam, they were mainly selling beeswax candles at the time.

“So (Gracie) started slowly adding her pottery pieces in to it, and it started doing really well. So we just kind of kept going with it, and we did some big markets in Bloomington — the winter market and the handmade market.”

Adam said those markets went well too, especially the handmade market —

it helped their business “blow up,” he said.

“We did a crazy amount of revenue from just that two day event,” he said.

“Which led us to believe, ‘Okay, maybe we should try a storefront.’”

DREAM COME TRUE

The couple is originally from Knoxville, Tenn. They met as coworkers at a grocery store in Chattanooga, and they quickly became friends.

Before long, they began dating and then got married.

“Her grandfather owned his own produce and natural foods market store a long time ago,” Adam said.

And my dad has 45 years of grocery retail management, so I guess it’s just in our nature to be in a grocery store.”

Adam followed in his father’s footsteps and entered the grocery retail business for around 20 years, working at natural, organic health-food stores like Whole Foods and Earth Fair.

Adam said Gracie’s family is from the Brown County area. Her father used to own Brown County Leather Shop in Nashville around 30 years ago.

Gracie’s father passed away around two years ago, which led the couple to move to Bloomington to be with her family.

In Bloomington, Adam worked at Lucky’s Market, before it closed in 2020.

The Dillon-Moores have property in Brown County, though, and are building a small cabin on five acres backed up to Yellowwood State Forest.

Adam and Gracie have an 11-year-old daughter named Alice, a 9-year-old son named Julien and a 3-year-old son named Loic.

“We just focus on trying to leave a good carbon footprint.”

The family always celebrates the summer and winter solstice, so last winter, they went into the woods and found their own yule log.

“We drilled some holes and made some beeswax candles and put them in there and did a big winter solstice event with family,” he said.

“We really enjoyed making the candles

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A collage of images for Ironweed Gifts and Floral. The top left shows a green plant in a white pot. The top right shows a bouquet of colorful flowers. The center features the brand name 'ironweed Gifts and Floral' in a stylized font. Below the name, it lists services: 'houseplants | accessories', 'gifts | full-service florist'. At the bottom, it provides the address '188 S Jefferson St. Nashville' and phone number '812.200.3151', along with the website 'ironweedgifts.com'. Social media icons for Facebook and Instagram are in the bottom right. A small ID number 'IN-35137022' is visible in the bottom left corner of the collage.



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SHOW DATE	ARTIST
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June 6	Kenny Wayne Shepherd Band
June 9	Rodney Carrington
June 11	KC and The Sunshine Band
June 19	Jackson Browne
June 20	Lyle Lovett and His Large Band
June 24	Brown County Touch-A-Truck
June 24	The Drifters, The Platters and The Cornell Gunter Coasters
June 25	Elvis Costello & The Imposters
June 29	Trace Adkins: Somewhere In America Tour
June 30	Here Come the Mummies
July 22.....	The Music of Randy Travis
July 25.....	Melissa Etheridge
July 30.....	Ann Wilson of Heart & Tripsetter
August 2	Boz Scaggs
August 18	Steve Earle
August 19	Don McLean
August 20	Jimmie Vaughan and the Tilt-A-Whirl Band

om & BrownCountyMusicCenter.com



Above: Rivers and Roads' pottery is made in the studio at the back of the store.

Below: Rivers and Roads' candles are made from locally sourced beeswax and come in many shapes, including morel and toadstool mushrooms. Corbin Parmer | The Democrat



Rivers and Roads' might be the perfect match to those looking to take a spin on their artistic talents. Corbin Parmer | The Democrat

— our kids loved it, we did too. We loved how they burned.”

Adam said they are sensitive to fragrances and chemicals, which can be found in most mass-produced candles.

“What we made was just a pure, beeswax candle. And we loved the bright-burning flame it puts off,” Adam said.

“And it is a clean-burning candle, so it produces no black smoke or soot, and it burned forever.”

He said he thought the candle creation process was very satisfying and interesting.

“But, they weren’t very pretty looking,” he said.

“So I then I wondered if we could make some more and try to make it pretty.”

Adam said he quickly became “obsessed” with trying perfect his beeswax candles.

“It took several months to find the right science, the right temperature, the right pouring methods, all the things,” he

said.

“Then, we started having people want to buy them”

When Gracie was in high school, she spent a lot of time in Nashville, with her father in his leather shop. At the time, Gracie’s best friend’s father was John Mills, owner of Mills Pottery.

“Gracie used to watch John throw pottery all day long,” Adam said.

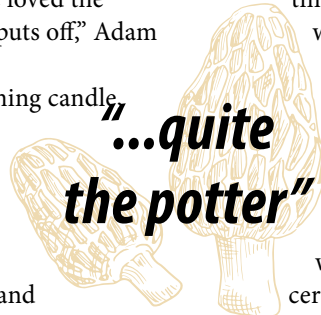
“And she just became fascinated with it when she was in high school, then took a ceramics course at the University of Tennessee.”

Gracie signed up for a six-week pottery class, while Adam was working in the candle formula. He said the class renewed her love for pottery.

“She’s just gone full-steam since then and has become quite the potter,” he said.

Adam said he and Gracie are very thankful for the opportunity to open their store in Nashville.

“It really does mean the world to us both. I just think, for us to get to the





Rivers and Roads opened doors in the old State Bank building on Main Street on April 1. Corbin Parmer | The Democrat

point where we're at right now, with our own store, is a dream we've always wanted, since we got married 12 years ago," he said.

"We always envisioned having a store, and we couldn't be happier we're at the location we're at. It's such a cool, unique building, and we have a great neighbor."

He said they are also looking forward to the future that store can offer them, especially raising their children to learn the value of the place.

"Just to have a store, so we can show our kids — that we fought really hard for what we believe in, then to have it, and then we'll take care of it — so when they get older they have the same opportunity, or have the store themselves to carry on if they wish to."

Rivers and Roads

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IN 32134661

'A NEW AND UNIQUE EXPERIENCE

Cedar Creek opens on Locust Lane

CORBIN PARMER | THE DEMOCRAT
CPARMER@BCDEMOCRAT.COM

Cedar Creek Brewing Co. Nashville Taproom and food truck, settled on Locust Lane, is one of the newest additions to the local food scene.

The first business to carry the Cedar Creek name is the family owned and operated Cedar Creek Winery, which was opened in Martinsville in 2010 by Larry and Donell Elsner.

The winery features an array of both sweet and dry wines, and is one of the few wineries left that offers free wine tastings.

In the 13 years since the winery opened, the Cedar Creek name has grown in several different directions, now offering a brewery, distillery, eatery and even cigar company, all under the same name, and run by the same family.

Operations for the business originally expanded into the town of Nashville in 2013, in the form of Cedar Creek's wine tasting room located at 38 E. Franklin St.

Cedar Creek Brewing Co. was originally opened in 2015 by Bryce Elsner, son of Larry and Donell, and his wife, Jamie Elsner.

Bryce is the brewery owner and operator, as well as the owner of the new food truck.

Alyssa Sims, daughter of Larry and Donell, opened Cedar Creek Distillery on the same property in Martinsville, making Cedar Creek Winery, Brewery and Distillery the first and only to have all three entities on one property, selling wine, beer and spirits.

In May of 2022, Cedar Creek Eatery opened on the property, providing a variety of food options, which helps make a well-rounded experience for all who come to visit.

"Cedar Creek is truly a destination location," Kelsy Groover, Operations Manager for Cedar Creek Winery, Brewery and Food Truck at both Martinsville and Nashville locations, said via email in April.

Groover said that she and her husband frequented Cedar Creek since it was just a winery in Martinsville.



Cedar Creek's new food truck and porch area will offer food and drinks to Nashville residents and visitors.
Corbin Parmer | The Democrat

"We became very close to the Elsner family and have watched it grow every step of the way," she said.

"I've been in management for over 15 years, and have been in the craft beer industry/hospitality industry for 10 years now. Not only am I passionate about what I do, but I am passionate about Cedar Creek and everything it has to offer, I truly couldn't have asked for a better opportunity."

Groover started as a bartender at Cedar Creek for both the wine and beer bars at both locations in 2021, in 2022 she became the General Manager, and has since moved into the Operations Manager role in January 2023.

In her new role, Groover oversees the operations of both wine and beer locations, as well as the food truck.

After the opening of the Eatery in 2022, Bryce and Groover began discussions regarding the potential for growth, and recognized that location was going to be of the utmost importance.

"With the town of Nashville already being a second home to us with our wine tasting room, as well as our patrons frequently asking if we could bring our craft beer to Nashville, it was easy to determine that this gorgeous and unique town is where we wanted to be," Groover said.

"Within a blink of an eye, we found ourselves at 124 Locust Lane, Nashville and began demo work to bring our Cedar Creek Brewing Co. Taproom to life."

It's located in a building most recently occupied by The Back Porch.

While working through demo work and construction at the Cedar Creek Brewing Co. Taproom in Nashville, Groover said there was a choice to be made regarding food options.



Left to right: Operations Manager for Cedar Creek Winery, Brewery and Food Truck Kelsy Groover, Cedar Creek Brewing Co. and Cedar Creek B's & G's owner, Bryce Elsner and food truck manager, Karen Schoolcraft, pose with Cedar Creek's new food truck. Corbin Parmer | The Democrat

“After tossing a few ideas around, we decided that acquiring a food truck would be a fantastic route, and create a new and unique experience in town,” she said.

The Cedar Creek B’s & G’s — meaning Beers and Grub — food truck will be parked alongside the Cedar Creek Brewing Co. Nashville Taproom, with a new deck built for ease of access.

Groover added that, occasionally, they may take the truck to an off-site event, but for the majority of the time, it will be providing food to the town and to the taproom patrons.

“On the days that Cedar Creek B’s & G’s is off-site, we will have a replacement truck located at the taproom for the day, bringing in other food experiences,” she said.

Groover said the truck offers unique creations, such as their take on brussels sprouts, French fries, smash burgers, grilled cheeses, and thick sliced fried bologna sandwiches, as well as vegan friendly options.

“In the future you’ll see a soup of the week, served in sourdough bread bowls, as well as house made chips using local seasonings from the Nashville Spice Shop,” she said.

“With the food truck being parked next to our Nashville Taproom, our Cedar Creek Brewing Co. beers will be available to purchase in the taproom, as well as bottled water and sodas.”

According to Groover, the food truck hours will mimic the hours of operation of the taproom, and they plan to be open each season, as well as offering breakfast to Brown County visitors during peak season in the fall.

The Taproom is family-friendly and pets are welcome on the patio, on a leash.

Cedar Creek Brewing Co. Nashville Taproom is nearing completion inside, according to Groover.

“In the meantime, we are serving beer to our patrons throughout the week, and have the food truck on site and serving Thursday-Sunday unless noted otherwise, and will be having the food truck there daily once we kick off our taproom grand opening,” she said.

“We also have live music scheduled for the weekends, and will be hosting a variety of fun events!”

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Facebook: Cedar Creek Brewery



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ROOM TO GROW

Redhead Apothecary moves spaces to Van Buren Street

ABIGAIL YOUMANS | THE DEMOCRAT

Shops on South Van Buren Street have a new neighbor in the old Sweetwater Gallery building, as Redhead Apothecary moved into a new space in March.

Owner Anna Schram said shortly after the move that she had been looking for a new space in order to allow her business to grow.

“We didn’t have room to expand, that was the biggest factor,” Schram said in March.

“I was looking around town, trying to find something, but everywhere I called that had an open space was already under contract. When this one came up, I jumped on it immediately.”

Schram’s business previously shared a space on Washington Street with Haven Lee Boutique, owned by Susan Wagler.

Schram is a Brown County transplant, moving from Greenfield with her husband eight years ago.

She’s also an United States Army veteran and worked in the IT department for Community Hospital in Indianapolis, where she retired four years ago.

After her retirement, she and her husband planned on traveling, then COVID hit. She instead found herself wanting to do something for other female veterans and entrepreneurs.

Her daughters work in the health care industry, and called her asking for sanitizer and face masks, so she started producing sanitizers to send to other nurses.

Schram has always created her own skin products, coming from a family that has always been in the soap-making game because of their own skin issues like eczema or psoriasis.

Family members found that many popular products from larger brand names would irritate their skin, so Schram decided to enter into the business professionally.

She decided they needed a business — Redhead Apothecary (named after her and her daughter’s hair color) — to vend her

skincare line as well as help other women, whether they were veterans or not.

Her business became a way to help give back, she said last year.

Schram and Wagler joined forces one year ago to bring confidence and empowerment to shoppers in Brown County.

Wagler has been the owner of Haven Lee Boutique since January of 2021, after taking it over for a friend, selling clothing, accessories and more.

The shop was originally in Loogottee, southwest of Brown County, so Wagler was commuting more than an hour from her home in Morgantown.

Wagler was working as a server at Out of the Ordinary when she met Schram.

Schram said in October the two hit it off and decided to open a storefront together, which opened in March of last year.

Up until this month, the two separate businesses shared a space on Washington Street, in the old location of Ooey Goey

Cinnamon Rolls and So Much More on Washington Street, in the Brown County Visitor’s Center building.

The two began their joint business with a common goal to empower and bring confidence to their shoppers.

Shoppers can still visit Haven Lee Boutique at the original location.

In addition to soaps, bath bombs and beard oil, the shop carries items like intention jars and sage sticks, the latter of which Schram always tells customers make great bug repellent when thrown into a fire.

With her own lines expanding and finding more female veteran vendors, Schram found that she needed a place to grow.

Schram’s new location is a square building nestled next to the Artist Colony Shops and features a panoramic view of the area.

Its unique features will be leaned into when Halloween rolls

“...a common goal to empower and bring confidence to their shoppers”

Top: Redhead Apothecary’s new location on South Van Buren Street, where Anna Schram is open for business supporting female veteran entrepreneurs. Abigail Youmans | The Democrat

around, Schram said, working with other businesses to present a Hocus Pocus theme.

For the next few weeks, Schram is bringing in more female veteran suppliers, vending things like lip gloss, pens, badge reels, yarn and more.

Schram said she did welcome one male veteran to vend in Redhead Apothecary — her father, who served in Vietnam and does wildlife photography.

Redhead Apothecary moved within three weeks of acquiring the space, Schram said.

“I had to open the doors as quickly as I could, because I don’t want the girls bringing their products in to go without money too,” she said.

“I wanted to make sure we keep that going.”

While there is open space in the store right now, it won’t stay that way for too long. A veteran jeweler will be coming soon and Schram’s own skincare and tea lines will be expanding too.

Veteran shoppers also get a 10% discount.

For Schram, the most important thing is to help other women, whether they’re offering support to customers or other businesswomen.

She said last year that too many people forget to “stop and help the next person in line.” At this point in her life that’s all she has time to do, she said.

“We’re trying to build those relationships in town, with our suppliers,” Schram said last week.

“We’re slowly getting there. . . . We are expanding so we can offer more to our veteran suppliers. That’s the whole goal!”

Soaps on display at Redhead Apothecary’s new location on South Van Buren Street.
Abigail Youmans | The Democrat



Redhead Apothecary

Where: 145 S. Van Buren St.

Phone: 812-720-7018

Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday. Closed Wednesday.

Website: RedheadApothecary.com

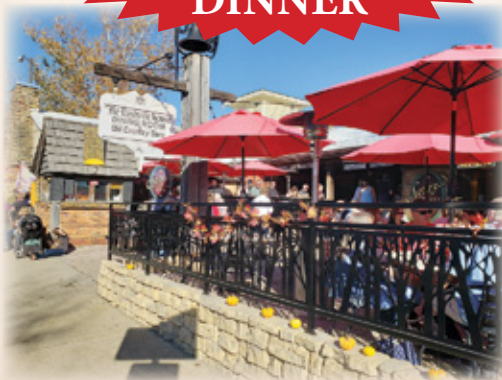
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Our Little World owners, Mary and Brian Burkhart, pose outside of their new location off Van Buren Street with their dog Percy. Corbin Parmer | The Democrat

NOT SO LITTLE ANYMORE

Our Little World opens on Van Buren Street

CORBIN PARMER | THE DEMOCRAT
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At the beginning of the year, a local art studio moved to a new location on Van Buren Street, which most recently housed local store Pitbull Leather for around 30 years, before it closed in the fall.

Now filling the space is Our Little World Studio, a combination art store and maker-space where customers can either browse a selection of locally made art or create something of their own to take with them the same day.

Our Little World first opened in 2021, in the old state bank building on Main Street.

The store originally only filled half of the bank building. Around a year after opening, it expanded and took over the other half, which granted access to the

street-facing part of the space.

Only nine months after that expansion, Our Little World doubled in size once more when doors opened at its Van Buren location on Jan. 1.

In February, the owners Mary and Brian Burkhart, said the expansion into the new location transformed their business from a store into a space.

The space provides visitors a place to sit for a while and do something, in the form of Our Little World's "make and take" projects.

The make and take projects offer customers with any artistic skill level to craft something of their choice, usually in an hour or two, then leave the store with their very own creation.

A variety of make and take projects

are available to customers of almost any age. Guidance is offered throughout the crafting process and all the materials are provided.

"It's accessible to anyone," Mary said.

Same-day make and take projects available at Our Little World include things like pouring candles and making a candle holder, leather stamping and dyeing to create things like custom key-chains or printing a custom image onto a cup or reusable shopping bag.

More involved projects can be also scheduled to work on ahead of time and some options available at the store, such as pottery decoration, may take extra time to prepare due to the kiln firing process required to finish it.

Customers are able to walk in during

regular store hours for make and take projects or reserve spots for a specific time they had in mind. Customizable make and take projects are also available for reservation for those who have a certain vision for their craft.

Art lessons and workshops for adults and children are regularly offered at the studio as well.

'ON A WHIM'

Last summer, around the same time they first grew in size, the Burkharths moved from Greenfield, where they had been born and raised, to Brown County.

They said they moved because they enjoy the Brown County area and they wished to be able to keep Our Little World open on the weekends.

Mary said she visited Brown County often as a child, when she came to see her grandparents. Her parents, Jim and M.K. Watkins, have also lived in the area for years.

Mary has long been an artist. She and her mother were featured in the Brown County art tour for around five years, until it was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Both Mary and her mother have art for sale at Our Little World.

Brian is a firefighter and a woodworker. What began as a hobby around 25 years ago, when he primarily focused on repairs or making things for his house, has turned into a business of its own.

Some of Brian's pieces are on display



Above: A custom table on display at Our Little World. Corbin Parmer | The Democrat

Below: Heather Cook and Jeremy Cook work on a make and take project together. Corbin Parmer | The Democrat



From left: Cheryl McDermott, Michelle Flick, Lori Owings and Heidi Masten pose with their make and take creations. Corbin Parmer | The Democrat



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at the studio, and he said he also offers customized work for potential customers to choose what they want and what species of wood is used to make it.

The Burkharths said that because they and their family members are creators, they had the idea of opening their own store for years.

“We had always wanted to do a shop,” Mary said.

“We were in town a couple years ago and saw that the old bank building had a ‘for rent’ sign, and kind of on a whim, just stopped and asked.”

Our Little World always offered locally-made art, but since Mary has a background as an artist and an art educator, they wanted to add an avenue for customers to learn and make on their own as well.

When they first tried make and take projects in their old space, the Burkharths found the type of hands-on crafting business to be a hit.

“It seemed like it had potential,” Mary said.

Before too long, they ran out of space for customers to work on projects. Their first expansion helped them, but they said they quickly found that they were going to need even more space.

“We noticed in the fall that people would be waiting, because it was so full,” Brian said.

Waiting for too long would cause them to leave, so they hope the new-

found space keeps that from happening in the upcoming busy season.

Contrast to the benefits the move grants them, the Burkharths also said the small window of time in which they grew also offered some challenges for them.

“More than making some ‘thing’ they are making memories.”

“We were weighing what to do right up to the minute we signed the lease, to be honest,” Mary said.

“It was a little overwhelming, there were a lot of deep breaths taken this year.”

However, they decided moving into the Van Buren Street was their best course of action, given the success they saw in their make and take projects.

Mary described Our Little World as a place that brings an art experience to town, in an art colony.

She added that their goal is to give customers the opportunity to make something special in a certain amount of time, and then leave happy, carrying a creation they would be proud to put out.

“More than making some ‘thing,’ they are making memories,” she said.



Our Little World offers materials and guidance for “make and take” projects for customers. Corbin Parmer | The Democrat



Our Little World opened doors at a new location off Van Buren Street on Jan. 1. Corbin Parmer | The Democrat



A custom cabinet on display at Our Little World, made by owners Mary and Brian Burkhart. Corbin Parmer | The Democrat



Brian Burkart, co-owner of Our Little World, has his own woodworking creations on display at Our Little World. Corbin Parmer | The Democrat



Locally made art on display at Our Little World. Corbin Parmer | The Democrat

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Lauren Dunbar and Paul Galloway sit near the stone fireplace at the Apple Works in Trafalgar. Dunbar is the new owner of the popular orchard and agritourism attraction, and with Galloway, they plan to carry on the traditions that have been built over more than 30 years. Ryan Trares| Daily Journal

GROWING TRADITION

Apple Works under new ownership

BY RYAN TRARES | DAILY JOURNAL
RTRARES@DAILYJOURNAL.NET

TRAFALGAR — For more than 30 years, people have been making their way to the hills outside Trafalgar to visit the Apple Works.

They browse inside their orchard's shop for more than 50 varieties of fresh apples, picked from the business' own trees. Shoppers load up delectable baked goods, locally made products and country-charm home decor.

In the fall, people trek to the pumpkin patch to pick out the perfect gourd. During warmer months, they picnic around waterfalls and ponds on the grounds.

Lauren Dunbar wants to be sure it all continues on.

"It means a lot to me to be able to carry on the traditions," she said.

"It's a very wholesome, rewarding feeling to be able to provide food for the community."

The next chapter in the history of the Apple Works started late last year, when Dunbar transitioned into her role as the new owner of one of the county's most popular agritourism sites. She takes over from Rick and Sarah Brown, who founded the orchard in 1989.

Dunbar brings with her a history of running successful small businesses, and though she and her partner, Paul Galloway, have a vision for the Apple Works, her main focus is keeping the

heart that has made it such a special place.

"We want it to be known that it's Paul and Lauren now, and carrying on the agriculture business in Johnson County," Dunbar said.

The Apple Works' first trees were planted by hand by the Browns, and the first apple crop was harvested two years later. They had no farm store yet, so the Browns bought two refrigerators to place in their apple field. Their daughters Alison and Maggie would take orders from cars passing by on the roadway, then they'd run to the refrigerators to get the fresh apples.

Over the years, the Apple Works or-



Applesauce and apple butter for sale inside the country store at the Apple Works in Trafalgar. Lauren Dunbar is the new owner of the orchard, and with her partner Paul Galloway, they want to continue the traditions established over the past three decades.
Ryan Trares | Daily Journal

chard grew, as did the business with the construction of the barn and farm store. The 25-acre orchard produces 12,000 bushels of apples per year, and offers a wide variety of activities year-round.

Though people visit the farm throughout the year, the fall is their busiest time, bringing hundreds of people to pick pumpkins, pick up apple cider and listen to live music.

But as the Browns grew older, they started looking for someone who could carry on their work.

"It's awfully hard to get off the farm. While we're still in good health, we want to spend some time with family that we don't get to see often," said Sarah Brown in 2020, after they announced their plans to sell the orchard.

"But we're very devoted to helping whoever takes over with the transition."

"It's a very wholesome, rewarding feeling to be able to provide food for the community."

The Apple Works remained on the market for two years, until Dunbar and Galloway stepped into the picture. Dunbar has been a business owner in Indianapolis for more than 25 years, and was looking for a new opportunity two years ago. Several of her friends had

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mentioned that the Apple Works was for sale.

She had been to the orchard before, so knew a little bit of what it was about. As she investigated it, she had support from Galloway, who is a sixth-generation apple grower.

The purchase didn't resonate with them, though. But in 2022, the idea of buying the orchard bubbled back up. The situation seemed right this time around.

"I'm a mother of five. The community is important to me, I've lived in Johnson County about 17 years, my kids go to school for the most part here in the county. I love the community feel, and being a part of Johnson County," she said.

"It was the right time."

The Browns accepted their offer, and as the deal was being finalized, invited Dunbar and Galloway to come out and get a feel for the orchard. They came

at the start of the Apple Works' busiest season, and was able to get a feel for the madness that autumn weekends bring.

"Sarah just took me under her wing," Dunbar said.

"It's been a great process, and we're still in constant communication. She's helping educate me, and it's been an easy transition."

Dunbar sees the aspects of the orchard that make it special, and wants



Salsa, sauces and other products on display inside the country store at the Apple Works in Trafalgar.
Ryan Trares| Daily Journal



Items from 1803 Candles for sale inside the country store at the Apple Works in Trafalgar.
Ryan Trares| Daily Journal



The Apple Works in Trafalgar has been a popular agritourism attraction in the county for more than 30 years. Lauren Dunbar is the new owner of the orchard, and with her partner Paul Galloway.
Ryan Trares| Daily Journal

to retain those traditions. She has some ideas she wants to try, to make different processes more efficient, so it is easier to accommodate field trips and other customers.

More trees are on order for planting. New events could be added throughout the year, as well as additional products to sell at the orchard store, she said.

“We’re already putting our stamp on things and changing from processes. We have great staff who have been there for several years who we are happy to have on the team,” she said.

“It’s a lot of work, and takes a lot of people to bring good apples to the community for sale.”

Flavored candy sticks on display inside the farm market at the Apple Works in Trafalgar. Ryan Trares| Daily Journal



The Apple Works

Where: 8157 S. CR 250 W.,
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Winter hours: The country store, featuring baked goods, sauces, salsa, apples and other items, is open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Closed the rest of the week.

Information: apple-works.com

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B3 GALLERY is at 61 W. Main St., on the second floor of the Village Green Building. It sells fine art and crafts made by local artists. Stop in to see the selection of jewelry, photography, glass, pottery, wood, painting, lithophanes, fiber arts and more. The gallery is open Sunday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

CATHY'S CORNER, 39 E. Franklin St., offers a unique mix of antiques, jewelry, art and hard-to-find items. Take a look at the wide variety of items and paintings. Painting classes are available by appointment. (812) 988-4091 or email cathyscornerbc@gmail.com.

THE CHEEKY OWL, 71 W. Franklin St. in downtown Nashville, sells a little bit of everything, from Peace Frog clothing and stickers, essential oils, skincare and fragrances by Indigo Wild (ZUM), and Bridgewater soy candles infused with organic and natural scents. Owners Shelly and Ross Benson moved from the Chicago suburbs to Brown County in September 2017 and decided to open their shop in 2018.

They strive to find fun and original products not offered elsewhere in other Nashville shops. Handcrafted straw and wool hats from Conner Hats give the men something to shop for while their wives shop the ladies jewelry and handcrafted bags and purses made from re-purposed military tents. CBD products from Medterra, Extract Labs and Green Roads can be purchased, and The Cheeky Owl prides itself in quality of these products and knowledge of their benefits.

JOHANNA LEE BATHOLOGY allows you to transform your home into a spa. It offers all-natural cold press and glycerin soaps, luxury bath salts, bath bombs, candles, lotion bars, sugar scrubs, gift baskets and more, all handmade in the shop. Find it at 58 W. Main St. (812) 988-6898, bathologyjohannalee.com.

Since 1992, **MOONSHINE LEATHER CO.** has offered high-quality handmade leather goods. All products are made in the U.S.A. by staff. Solid leather belts, work aprons, cellphone cases, wallets, handbags and briefcases are but a few of the items. They use only luxurious, high-quality beautiful leathers for their goods and guarantee the workmanship. Moonshine Leather Co., 38 S. Van Buren St., is open daily, 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. Winter hours are 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. (812) 988-1326.

THE TOTEM POST, 78 S. Van Buren St., was opened in 1952 by Bill and Marielle Jockey. At the time, they did custom leatherwork and carried handmade American Indian jewelry and foreign crafts. Today, their merchandise has expanded, but the atmosphere is much the same. Many people bring their grandchildren to visit the shop they remember from childhood. Open daily, except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day. (812) 988-2511, www.thetotempost.com.

Albert Drake Jr. creates contemporary jewelry and buys and sells estate, antique silver and gold jewelry at **TOUCH OF SILVER, GOLD & OLD**, 87 E. Main St., (812) 988-6990.

TULIP TREE JEWELRY is inside B3 Gallery on the second floor of the Village Green Building. Local jeweler Heather Bussert creates and sells her beaded pieces on site. Stop in and treat yourself to a local souvenir, or commission something special. Open Sunday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

ABE MARTIN LODGE, in Brown County State Park, has a 12,000-square-foot indoor water park, available to hotel guests first and to the public as space allows. (812) 988-4418.

BILL MONROE MEMORIAL MUSIC PARK & CAMPGROUND, 5163 State Road 135 North, is home to the oldest, continuous running bluegrass festival in the world. Visit the Bluegrass Hall of Fame & Country Star Museum and, on weekends, shop at the Bean Blossom Flea Market.

BROWN COUNTY PLAYHOUSE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, 70 S. Van Buren St., is a 426-seat venue committed to bringing the best in a variety of local and national entertainment offerings. You'll find the latest news on upcoming performances by visiting www.BrownCountyPlayhouse.org which frequently lists special offers. Join the chat about what is happening behind the scenes by liking the venue on Facebook. (812) 988-6555.

BROWN COUNTY MUSIC CENTER, 200 Maple Leaf Blvd., is a 2,000-seat music venue featuring regional and national acts performing every month. To learn more about the music center, see their schedule of shows and purchase tickets visit www.browncountymusiccenter.com. Find the music center on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. (812) 988-5323.

BROWN COUNTY STATE PARK, Indiana's largest state park, offers camping, hiking trails, mountain bike trails, horse trails, a saddle barn and nature center, picnicking, a swimming pool, fishing, tennis and playgrounds. Open year-round. (812) 988-6406, www.IN.gov/dnr/parklake.

BROWN COUNTY WINERY has been making award-winning wines for more than 30 years. The tasting room is at the corner of Main Street and Old School Way. Don't forget to stop by the winery and tasting room in downtown Gnaw Bone, 4520 State Road 46 East. Open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, year-round. (812) 988-6144 or (888) 298-2984, www.browncountywinery.com.

CEDAR CREEK WINERY & BREW CO., 38 E. Franklin St., features free tasting of locally made wines. The selection varies from bold dry reds to refreshing whites and sweet fruit wines. Open seven days a week from noon to 5 p.m.

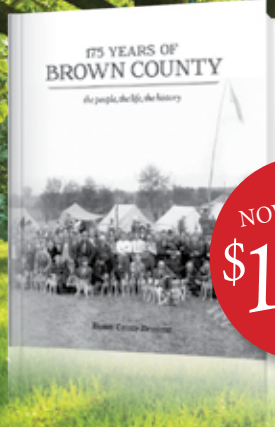
COUNTRY HERITAGE WINERY, 225 S. Van Buren St. in Coachlight Square, provides award-winning vinifera wines, and well-known musicians — local and otherwise — perform all styles of music from 7 to 10 p.m. every Friday and Saturday night. Visitors will find gourmet foods, cheese plates and gift items, as well as a friendly, knowledgeable staff. Step upstairs to the loft and enjoy wine amid the Native American art in the John Elmore Gallery or, weather-permitting, grab a spot on the covered patio near the fireplace. Group tastings can be arranged in advance. (812) 988-8500, toll free at (888)-761-9463, www.countryheritagewinery.com.

EXPLORE BROWN COUNTY at Valley Branch Retreat is voted the No. 1 activity in Brown County by TripAdvisor. It offers 15 zip lines over 1 mile long; a treetop canopy adventure suspended 90 feet with speeds up to 45 mph; and the tallest, fastest and longest zips in Brown County. Visitors also can experience Night Flight zip lines with tiki torches and headlamps. Enjoy 30 miles of ATV, mountain biking and hiking trails, bike rentals, as well as paintball games and Arrow Tag archery games. The events hall accommodates 250 with a stage. Camping cabins accommodate 80. The property also offers camping, a fishing lake, canoes and paddle boats. Two-seater, four-wheel-drive hill buggy rides and an ATV training challenge tour are available, too. 2620 Valley Branch Road, (812) 988-7750, www.explorebrowncounty.com.

GRANDPA JEFF'S TRAIL RIDES. Relax on a journey with Grandpa Jeff at Grandpa Jeff's Trail Rides, 5889 S. Skinner Road, Morgantown. Take in the scenery and wildlife. No two rides are ever the same: sunny summer days, fall colors, winter snowfalls, spring blossoms, trail rides, pony rides, hayrides, cattle drives, custom excursions. Please give at least one hour notice. Reservations can be made using any of the following: 812-597-4630, cell 812-272-0702, www.GrandpaJeffsTrailRides.com, info@GrandpaJeffsTrailRides.com.

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KIDSCOMMONS, a children's museum in downtown Columbus, 309 Washington St., offers families with toddlers to early teens a vibrant, safe setting where they can explore three floors of hands-on learning and fun. Spend time in the Childhood Garden, scamper up the 17-foot-tall climbing wall or hang out in the bubble room, where you can stand inside a body bubble. Don't miss museum favorites ExploraHouse, home of the world-famous giant toilet, and Kids on the Move, a healthy lifestyles exhibit. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday. Open Mondays mid-June through mid-August. (812) 378-3046, www.kidscommons.org.

MIKE'S MUSIC & DANCE BARN (seasonal), 2277 State Road 46 West, offers country music and dancing. Beer, wine and food are available in this non-smoking facility. Friday and Saturday shows are from 7 to 11 p.m. (812) 988-8636, www.thedancebarn.com.

SCHOONER VALLEY STABLES (seasonal), 2282 State Road 46 West, offers more than the usual horseback ride, with the option to walk, trot or canter. With no age limit, the whole family is welcome. Hear some brief history of Brown County while meandering through the hills and hollers of Yellowwood State Forest. Reservations are appreciated. (812) 988-2859, www.schoonervalleystables.com.

WONDERLAB MUSEUM OF SCIENCE, HEALTH AND TECHNOLOGY, 308 W. Fourth St., Bloomington, puts visitors in touch with the wonder and excitement of science through popular experiences like the two-story grapevine maze, the kinetic contraption, the Bubble-Airium and close encounters with live animals. A special area provides science adventures for very young children. WonderLab is on the B-Line Trail in the downtown arts district. It's open 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday to Saturday and 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday. (812) 337-1337, www.wonderlab.org.

YELLOWWOOD STATE FOREST, 772 YELLOWWOOD Lake Road, has a 133-acre lake, primitive campgrounds, rowboat rental, hiking, hunting, fishing and bridle trails. (812) 988-7945, www.in.gov/dnr/forestry.

ANNE RYAN MILLER GLASS STUDIO, 425 N. Johnson St., features handmade stained glass and metal overlay, lamps and sculpture. Specializing in custom-designed stained glass for the home or office since 1976, Anne Ryan Miller Glass Studio is a member of Hoosier Artist Gallery, 45 S. Jefferson St., and is also

represented at Ferrer Gallery, 61 W. Main St., on the second floor of the Village Green Building. Open most days from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call for directions. (812) 988-9766, www.AnneRyanMillerGlassStudio.com.

BROWN COUNTY ART GALLERY, three blocks east of the courthouse on Main Street, Brown County's original art gallery established in 1926, offers works for sale by Gallery Association members, plus consigned old Indiana art. The remodeled exhibition space now includes the Indiana Heritage Arts Gallery, featuring many of Indiana's professional artists. Browse the museum and enjoy works by the early art colony masters. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday; noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. There's ample parking and free admission. (812) 988-4609, www.browncountyartgallery.org, brncagal@att.net

ART ASSOCIATES OF BROWN COUNTY, networking and social organization promoting each other as local artists and encourage creative output. Anyone who wishes to join is welcome. A permanent gallery is open at the Brown County Playhouse, 70 S. Van Buren St. from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Facebook: [artistassociatesofBrownCountyIndiana](https://www.facebook.com/artistassociatesofBrownCountyIndiana); Email: aabc47448@gmail.com.

BROWN COUNTY ART GUILD, 48 S. Van Buren St., showcases fine art and the Marie Goth collection. Open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday; noon to 5 p.m. Sunday; January and February, weekends only; closed Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas. (812) 988-6185, www.browncounty.org.

BROWN COUNTY CRAFT GALLERY, a unique, cooperative gallery featuring the work of more than 30 local and area artisans, is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, except major holidays. It can be found at 62 E. Washington St. (812) 988-7058, www.browncountycraftgallery.com.

BROWN COUNTY POTTERY, 58 W. Franklin St., in the historic Antique Alley complex, is the working studio of Beth Mills. Pottery is made right on the premises and only sold here.

BUSSERT IMAGES is on the second floor of the Village Green Building.

CATHY HAGGERTY at Franklin Shoppes, 39 E. Franklin St., offers a unique mix of antiques, jewelry, art and hard-to-find items. Painting classes are offered. (812) 988-4091.

CHRIS GUSTIN — HOMESTEAD WEAVING STUDIO, 6285 Hamilton Creek Road, is two miles south of Crouch's Market near Hilltop Christian Camp. Gustin, an Indiana Artisan, offers hand-woven "recycled rugs," shawls, throws, clothing and scarves. Also, find equipment and supplies for weaving, knitting and

spinning. Commissions are accepted. Visitors are welcome, and "day weaving" classes are available. Homestead Weaving Studio is open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. most days from March through December and other times by appointment. www.homesteadweaver.com, (812) 988-8622, chris@homesteadweaver.com.

CHARLENE MARSH STUDIO & GALLERY, 4013 Lanam Ridge Road, features beautiful, plein air and studio oil paintings of the Brown County landscape by Charlene Marsh. The artist hikes deep into the forest to create the paintings using palette knives. Her award-winning paintings in collections throughout the United States and Europe are exhibited in the studio and gallery at the northern edge of Yellowwood State Forest, just five miles from town. Visitors are welcome. Open daily, but call first. (812) 988-4497, www.CharleneMarsh.com, Char@CharleneMarsh.com.

DIXIE FERRER, Ferrer Studio on Yellowwood Road, is the fine art gallery and studio of Dixie Ferrer. Dixie creates her paintings using a variety of techniques including mixed media collage and oil paints combined with cold wax. Her traditional and ethereal paintings are inspired by the nature that surrounds her. Open by appointment or special events. (812) 988-1245, ddferrer@att.net, www.dixieferrer.com.

HOOSIER ARTIST GALLERY, 45 S. Jefferson St., features the work of more than 25 local and Indiana artists. Visit for contemporary fine art, fine crafts and gifts. Open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (812) 988-6888, www.HoosierArtist.net.

The work of Patricia Rhoden Bartels can be seen at the **RHODEN GALLERY** at eXplore Brown County, 2620 Valley Branch Road. Rhoden Bartels captures the beauty of nature in oil and acrylic paintings. Her work hangs in major corporations, private collections and museums across the country.

SPEARS GALLERY, 5110 State Road 135 South, 10 miles from downtown Nashville, is the working studio of Larry Spears. Here, find traditional pottery, finely crafted, and displays of decorative and functional pottery. Spears Gallery also has opened a downtown location: 15 S. Van Buren next to the Nashville House. There, find pottery by Larry Spears, fine art photography by Kyle Spears and jewelry by Tyler Spears. Studio gallery (812) 988-1287, downtown gallery (812) 988-1286, www.spearspottery.com.

T. C. STEELE STATE HISTORIC SITE, 4220 T.C. Steele Road off State Road 46 West, is open from early spring to late fall. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday; closed Mondays and most holidays but open July 4 and Labor Day. (812) 988-2785

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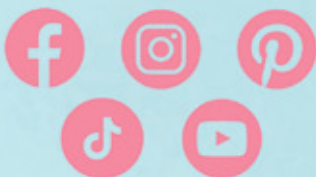
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LODGING

1875 HOMESTEAD BED & BREAKFAST, 3766 State Road 46 East, is a charming country Victorian home built in the late 1800s. It invites you to step back in time and relax from the hustle-bustle and crowds of the village. Enjoy a scrumptious home-cooked country breakfast with richly brewed coffee or select teas. Complimentary soft drinks and homemade cookies are available each afternoon and evening. (812) 988-0853, homestead1875@aol.com.

ABE MARTIN LODGE & CABINS, Brown County State Park, offer 160 rooms/cabins, a 12,000-square-foot indoor aquatic center, a full-service restaurant, game room, cable, hiking trails and beautiful vistas. The lodge was built in 1932 of hand-hewn native stone and oak timbers cut in the park. The main lodge has two spacious and comfortable lobbies with two fireplaces. (812) 988-4418, abemartinlodge@dnr.state.in.us.

THE ALLISON HOUSE INN, South Jefferson Street, is a charming whole-house rental in downtown Nashville featuring seven guest rooms with private baths. (812) 365-0690, theallisonhouseinn.com.

THE BRICK LODGE is just a mile north of Nashville on State Road 135. Enjoy two bedrooms with two baths, a game room with a pool table, cable TV, gas fireplace, outdoor hot tub, gas grill and a fully equipped kitchen. The lodge accommodates eight people. (812) 988-6429, www.bricklodge.com.

The newly remodeled **BROWN COUNTY INN** is just three blocks south of downtown Nashville on the corner of state roads 135 and 46. The inn has 99 guest rooms with two suites, a restaurant and bar serving three meals daily, conference and meeting spaces, and a large year-round pool. Enjoy the beautifully landscaped grounds, including a new walkable edible garden, miniature golf, volleyball court and children's play area. The Salt Creek Trail runs along the back of property for easy walks into town. Each guest room features a walk-out covered porch or balcony, coffee maker, hair dryer, phone, flat-screen TV and complimentary high-speed WiFi. Call for availability and rates. 51 State Road 46 East, Nashville, (812) 988-2291, www.browncountyinn.com.

CAMP PALAWOPEC LODGE & RETREAT AREA, 3497 Clay Lick Road, offers a lodge that sleeps 30 guests and outdoor cabins that can accommodate 70 guests. Enjoy 300 acres of woods, trails, a 4-acre lake, canoes, kayaks, beach, campfire areas, basketball court, ultimate frisbee, soccer field, horseshoes, volleyball area, mountain bike trails, and an indoor meeting and dining area. Kitchen

facilities are available. Open year-round. (812) 988-2689, www.camppalawopec.com.

QUALITY INN, 75 W. Chestnut St., is a quarter-mile from downtown Nashville. A Platinum and Gold Award winner, the hotel has spacious, clean, comfortable rooms with HD flat screens in every room, complimentary hot and cold breakfast, an indoor pool, fitness room and high-speed Internet. Zip line and trail ride packages are available as well as other special package rates. (812) 988-6118, www.choicehotels.com.

CORNERSTONE INN AND THE LODGE, downtown Nashville at 54 E. Franklin St., has proudly served from a "Foundation of Excellence" since 1993. The downtown campus includes 23 exemplary guest rooms, 12 cottage suites, a three-bedroom cottage, a lofty studio apartment and their newest addition, a three-bedroom two-story lodge. Some accommodations feature balconies, whirlpool tubs and fireplaces. Enjoy beautiful gardens, front porch rocking chairs, firepit, porch swings and community balcony, free on-site parking, and WiFi. Great for couples, girlfriend getaways, corporate meetings, church groups, craft and writing retreats and more! Cornerstone Inn is more than just quaint and cozy, it's a place for relaxation and rejuvenation. www.cornerstoneinn.com or 812-988-0300.

COZY BEAR LOG CABIN, State Road 46 West, can accommodate six guests with three bedrooms in queen beds. The upper level of this cabin has two bedrooms, a full bath with whirlpool tub and a pool table. The living room has a gas log fireplace. The television has a full satellite package and VCR/DVD player. The screened porch offers a relaxing hot tub. (765) 532-7454, www.browncountygetaways.com.

EXPLORE BROWN COUNTY provides affordable yet comfortable, rustic camping cabins grouped to accommodate 80 guests. Cabins have air-conditioning and heat and are equipped with a microwave and refrigerator. Some have cold-water sinks. Fire rings and picnic tables are provided outside each cabin. A public restroom with shower facilities is open year-round. After a full day of rigorous, exciting zip line, paintball and ATV activities, gather around the campfire to share adventure stories. Free WiFi available on front porch of cabins and front porch of Harvest Hall. 2620 Valley Branch Road, (812) 988-7750, www.explorebrowncounty.com.

FONDULAC FARM CABIN RENTALS, 5 miles west of Nashville on Lanam Ridge Road, offers three unique, fully-equipped cabins on

47 scenic acres with views, ponds, fishing, canoeing, hiking, fireplaces, outdoor fire pits, a hot tub and Internet. Cabins accommodate up to six people. (812) 988-4796, www.fondulacfarm.com.

GREEN VALLEY LODGE, 692 State Road 46 West, offers individually appointed rooms and grounds in a safe, quiet setting. The lodge offers king-size beds in the Royal Spa Hot Tub Suites and two double beds or one queen in the cozy overnight rooms. Ask about weeknight discounts. Wireless Internet is available. (812) 988-0231, www.greenvalleylodge.com.

HARMONY TREE RESORTS/SYCAMORE SALOON, 1292 SR 135 S, Nashville IN 47448. Newest resort in Brown County! . Overnight stays, Event Center, Festivals and more! Sycamore Saloon Family friendly restaurant and full bar. OPEN LATE! Live music and entertainment. (812-200-5650) Harmonyresorts.com

HILLS O' BROWN VACATION RENTALS, 4118 State Road 46 East near Gnaw Bone, is one of the largest full-service rental management companies in southern Indiana, managing more than 100 vacation homes, log cabins, guest suites and cottages in Brown, Bartholomew and Monroe counties. All vacation homes are fully furnished; most offer hot tubs, seasonal fireplaces and game rooms. They can accommodate from two to 24 guests, ideal for a romantic retreat, family gathering or celebrating a special occasion. The homes are located in various areas throughout the county: on private, wooded acreage, in the heart of Nashville, near Indiana University or with a scenic view. Reservations and information about all homes are available online at www.browncountylogcabins.com. Office hours are Mondays through Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (812) 988-6429.

HIDDEN VALLEY INN, 201 N. Van Buren St., is a charming hotel just a short walk to shops, restaurants, theaters, galleries and activities. Each suite features a kitchen, dining area and living room. (812) 988-9000, (877) 988-9099, www.hiddenvalleynn.net.

HILLTOP CABIN & LUXURY SUITES, 3.5 miles from downtown Nashville, offers a range of options, from a one-bedroom cabin with fireplace to suites with full kitchens, seasonal gas log fireplaces, whirlpool tubs, pool table, big screen TV and private decks. Every suite and cabin has a VCR and DVD player, as well as VHS movies. Charcoal grills, a picnic table and fire pit are available for use by all guests. (812) 988-0984, www.browncountycabins.com.

HOTEL NASHVILLE, 245 N. Jefferson St., offers 45 rooms with an indoor pool, hot tub, restaurant and lounge. The hotel features one- and two-bed suites with kitchenettes, dining/living room, two baths, balcony, cable TV and WiFi. Whirlpool suites and hot tub rooms available. Great for weddings, banquets and off-site catering. (812) 988-8400, www.hotelnashville.com.

The **IRIS GARDEN COTTAGES & SUITES** are quaint, cute and comfortable. The Iris Garden rests in the heart of the village of Nashville across the street from Big Woods restaurant and brewery. Our wonderful location allows you to walk out of your door and begin exploring the shops, restaurants, wineries and breweries without having to drive anywhere. A two-minute stroll will take you to six different restaurants (and four more within a five-minute walk from us). We offer comfortable accommodations of varying sizes that sleep from two to eight guests, some with kitchens, but all with a coffee maker, microwave and refrigerator. All have wonderful decks to sit on in the evenings and take in the fresh Brown County air. Open year-round. 812-988-2422, VisitBrownCounty.com.

LIL BLACK BEAR INN, 8072 State Road 46 East, is a six-room bed and breakfast serving a delicious homemade breakfast every morning. All rooms have private bathrooms, flat-screen TVs, satellite, mini refrigerators and free WIFI. Three rooms have two-person spa tubs and two have single-person spa tubs. Enjoy three acres of land which include a pond, grill, firepit and large patio. Pets and children are allowed. Lil Black Bear is close enough to downtown to enjoy all Nashville has to offer while still enjoying beautiful Brown County. (812) 988-2233, www.lilblackbearinn.com

NICKELS VACATION CABINS, 3497 Clay Lick Road, offers four cabins to choose from: the Cabin in the Pines, the Antique Cabin, the Garden Cabin and the Kelly Reed Cabin. Each cabin is located with easy access to Brown County State Park and the Village of Nashville. The cabins accommodate four to eight people and feature authentic Brown County stone fireplaces, unique cabin furnishings and lovely wooded settings. The Cabin in the Pines is pet friendly. All cabins have free WiFi. (812) 318-6559, www.nickelsvacationcabins.com.

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THE NORTH HOUSE, 194 N. Van Buren St., offers three bedrooms featuring two king-sized beds, one queen-sized bed and a queen sleeper sofa, as well as private parking, a privacy fence around the rear deck, a grill and hot tub. (812) 988-6429, www.northhousegetaway.com.

OLD MAGNOLIA HOUSE INN, 213 S. Jefferson St. (behind the BP gas station, above 4th Sister Vintage) has overnight rooms filled with antique and vintage chairs, dressers and tables. Each room includes the modern amenities of Smart Cable TVs, pod coffee makers and wireless Internet. Three large, private rooms offer big comfy beds, lots of blankets, quilts, pillows, books and board games. The porch and common areas are great places for conversation in the overstuffed chairs or an old-fashioned game at the table. The inn accommodates up to 10 guests. Online reservations are available via the Old Magnolia House Facebook page.

RUSTIC ELEGANCE, State Road 46 West, is a newly-constructed four-bedroom log home on four acres with a panoramic view to the south and beautiful wooded views in every other direction. Decks and/or porches surround the cabin. It comes with a fully-equipped kitchen, a master bedroom with a king bed and master bath with a Jacuzzi tub large enough for two. The cabin also has a half-bath for guests, a sunroom overlooking the woods and two bedrooms with king beds upstairs. (765) 783-3003, www.browncountygetaways.com.

THE SEASONS LODGE AND CONFERENCE CENTER, 560 State Road 46 East, is perched on top of one of Brown County's softly rolling hills. This full-service hotel features recently remodeled guest rooms, restaurant and lobby area. (812) 988-2284, (800) 365-7327, www.seasonsloodge.com.

THE ANTIQUE CABIN, THE GARDEN CABIN, THE KELLY REED CABIN AND THE PINES CABIN, on Clay Lick Road, are individual, fully-furnished log cabins that sleep two to eight guests each. They have complete kitchens, vintage claw-foot tubs and antique décor on the inside; and secluded, woodsy settings outside. Some cabins feature fireplaces, lofts or decks. They all include access to a 4-acre lake, hiking trails, canoes and kayaks, and are 10 minutes from Nashville. (812) 988-2689, www.logcabinsofbrowncounty.com.

ABE MARTIN LODGE, Brown County State Park, offers meeting rooms, conference facilities and private dining areas for conferences, meetings, weddings or retreats. Seating capacity ranges from 10 to 400. The banquet department caters private meals, snacks and breaks and can also prepare a barbecue or meal function at one of the park shelter houses for groups of 50 or more. For smaller picnic groups, the lodge can prepare box lunches. (812) 988-4418, www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/inna/abe/index.html.

ARTISTS COLONY INN, corner of Franklin and Van Buren streets, is a romantic, 19th-century-style inn offering an elegant banquet room for bridal showers, rehearsal dinners or wedding receptions with 20 charming guest rooms and three executive whirlpool suites. Special menu selections are served plated or buffet-style. The inn also offers meeting space for up to 80 people. The Artists Colony specializes in small meetings with two meeting rooms that accommodate 10 to 50 people. Complete audiovisual equipment and high-speed Internet access are available. (812) 988-0600, www.artistscolonyinn.com.

THE BROWN COUNTY HISTORY CENTER, 90 E. Gould St., is a centrally located venue in Nashville for receptions, reunions or meetings. It features a spacious Grand Hall, small rooms and a catering kitchen. 812-988-2899, browncountyhistorycenter.org.

THE BROWN COUNTY INN is conveniently located just three blocks south of beautiful downtown Nashville on the corner of state roads 135 and 46. With the hills of Brown County as its backdrop, the recently remodeled, 99-room inn sits on 10 beautifully landscaped acres, with a restaurant and bar on site. Amenities include a large, covered indoor pool, playground, miniature golf, volleyball, complimentary high-speed WiFi and more. The Brown County Inn has both indoor and outdoor event spaces perfect for your wedding, retreat, conference, or reunion of up to 200 people. Please call (812) 988-2291 or email sales@browncountyinn.com for more information. 51 State Road 46 East, Nashville, www.browncountyinn.com.

CAMP PALAWOPEC LODGE & RETREAT AREA, 3497 Clay Lick Road, has a camp log cabin lodge that sleeps 30 guests, and outdoor cabins can accommodate 70 guests. Guests can enjoy 300 acres of woods, trails, a 4-acre lake, canoes, kayaks, beach, campfire areas, basketball court, ultimate Frisbee, soccer field, horseshoes, volleyball area, mountain bike trails, and an indoor meeting and dining area. Kitchen facilities are available. The property is open year-round. (812) 988-2689, www.camppalawopec.com.

QUALITY INN, 75 W. Chestnut St., is perfect for retreats. Guests can enjoy the lodge-like atmosphere with a cozy lobby and spacious guest rooms, and the indoor pool and fitness center. (812) 988-6118, www.choicehotels.com.

CORNERSTONE INN AND THE LODGE, 54 E. Franklin St., is in the heart of Nashville. The campus consists of 40 guest rooms, some with balconies, whirlpool tubs and fireplaces. Meeting facilities can hold up to 50 guests. View all rooms, rates and specials at www.CornerstoneInn.com. To contact our group sales office, call 1-812-988-0300 or 1-888-383-0300.

THE HARVEST HALL at eXplore Brown County Retreat Center and outdoor stage offer the perfect setting for weddings, conferences or parties. Plan an outdoor ceremony on the stage, but should it rain, move into the heated or air-conditioned hall. Cater the event yourself using the prep kitchen and save big money. The hall comfortably seats 200 and is furnished with tables and chairs and a small bar area, stage and decorated with rustic antiques and original paintings. The covered porches accommodate 50 additional guests. Restrooms with showers and changing rooms for the bride are provided. The fireplace and beautiful wooden staircase create the perfect spot for a wedding. eXplore Brown County at Valley Branch Retreat, 2620 Valley Branch Road, (812) 988-7750, www.explorebrowncounty.com.

HOTEL NASHVILLE, 245 N. Jefferson St., offers 45 rooms with an indoor pool, hot tub, restaurant and bar. Perfect for small meetings, weddings, rehearsal dinners, receptions and banquets. Off-site catering at local venues also available. (812) 988-8400, www.hotelnashville.com.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: Events on the calendar are subject to change. Contact the hosting venue for the latest information.

Floral Inspirations – Historic Collection

Feb. 24 – June 26

Spring has arrived early at the Brown County Art Guild with beautiful florals on display. Historic artwork by celebrated revered artists line the gallery walls. A color study at its best. Brown County Art Guild, 48 South Van Buren St.

Guild Artist Spring Exhibition & Fine Art Sale

March 10-July 7

A fresh new collection of fine art for display and sale. Stop in to tour the galleries and immerse yourself in the striking talent of our award-winning member artists. Brown County Art Guild, 48 South Van Buren St.

Guild Artist Collective I

March 10–July 7

The first in a series featuring a select group of Guild artist members. Take time to see paintings by Lynn Dunbar Bayus, Rena Brouwer, Mark Burkett, Judy Burst, Kathryn Clark, Dixie Ferrer, Charlene George, Judith Lewis, Maureen O'Hara Pesta, Mary Riley, Tom Robinson, Jerry Smith, Arlyne Springer, and Curt Stanfield. The gallery walls are beautifully arranged with their incomparable artwork for sale. Brown County Art Guild, 48 South Van Buren St.

Movie: Super Mario Brothers

May 26-29

With help from Princess Peach, Mario gets ready to square off against the all-powerful Bowser to stop his plans from conquering the world. 6:30 p.m., Brown County Playhouse, 70 S. Van Buren St., \$7; 2:30 p.m. on May 29. Information: browncountyplyhouse.org

Boeing-Boeing

June 2, 3 and 4.

Boeing-Boeing is a farce written by the French playwright Marc Camoletti. The English-language adaptation, translated by Beverley Cross, was first staged in London at the Apollo Theatre in 1962 and transferred to the Duchess Theatre in 1965, running for seven years.[1] In 1991, the play was listed in the Guinness Book of Records as the most performed French play throughout the world. Boeing-Boeing is set in the 1960s, and centers on bachelor Bernard, who has a flat in Paris and three airline stewardesses all engaged to him without knowing about each other. Bernard's life gets bumpy, though, when his friend Robert comes to stay, and complications such as weather and a new, speedier Boeing jet disrupt his careful planning. Soon, all three stewardesses are in the city simultaneously and catastrophe looms. 7:30 p.m., Brown County Playhouse, 70 S. Van Buren St., \$25, 2:30 p.m. on

June 4 Information: browncountyplyhouse.org

Marty Stuart And His Fabulous Superlatives

June 3

Born and raised in Philadelphia, Miss., Stuart got his start in bluegrass legend Lester Flatts' band at the tender age of 13, and by 21, he was working in the studio and on the road with Johnny Cash. Though Stuart built his early reputation backing up royalty, it wasn't long before Nashville recognized him as a star in his own right, and over the course of more than 40 years as a solo artist, he would go on to release more than 20 major label albums, scoring platinum sales, hit singles, and just about every honor the industry could bestow along the way. 8 p.m., Brown County Music Center, 200 Maple Leaf Blvd. Information: browncountymusiccenter.com

Kenny Wayne Shepherd Band with Special Guest Ally Venable

June 6

Twenty five years into his recording career, Kenny Wayne Shepherd continues to create genre-defining blues-infused rock n' roll. Shepherd has built an enviable resume as an accomplished recording artist, a riveting live performer and one of the most talented and distinctive guitarists of his generation. Shepherd has sold millions of albums worldwide, received five GRAMMY® nominations, two Billboard Music Awards, as well as a pair of Orville H. Gibson awards, the Blues Foundation's Keeping The Blues Alive award and two Blues Music awards. He's had seven No. 1 blues albums and a string of No. 1 mainstream rock singles. 8 p.m., Brown County Music Center, 200 Maple Leaf Blvd. Information: browncountymusiccenter.com

Rodney Carrington

June 9

Multi-talented comedian, actor, singer and writer Rodney Carrington has played sold-out shows around the world as one of the top 10 highest-grossing touring comedians for the past two decades. A platinum-recording artist, Rodney's recorded eight major record label comedy albums, followed by three albums on his own record label, Laughter's Good Records. Rodney is fresh off the release of his latest album, "Get Em Out," (released 2019) which hit No. 1 on iTunes. His album "Here Comes the Truth" (released 2017) climbed to #3 on the comedy charts, accruing tens of millions of streams on Spotify and even spawned a Netflix special. 8 p.m., Brown County Music Center, 200 Maple Leaf Blvd. Information: browncountymusiccenter.com

Boeing-Boeing

June 10 and 11

Boeing-Boeing is a farce written by the French playwright Marc Camoletti. The English-language adaptation, translated by Beverley Cross, was first staged in London at the Apollo Theatre in 1962 and transferred to the Duchess Theatre in 1965, running

for seven years.[1] In 1991, the play was listed in the Guinness Book of Records as the most performed French play throughout the world. Boeing-Boeing is set in the 1960s, and centers on bachelor Bernard, who has a flat in Paris and three airline stewardesses all engaged to him without knowing about each other. Bernard's life gets bumpy, though, when his friend Robert comes to stay, and complications such as weather and a new, speedier Boeing jet disrupt his careful planning. Soon, all three stewardesses are in the city simultaneously and catastrophe looms. 7:30 p.m., Brown County Playhouse, 70 S. Van Buren St., \$25; 2:30 p.m. on June 11 Information: browncountyplyhouse.org

KC and The Sunshine Band – 50th Anniversary Tour

June 11

KC and The Sunshine Band celebrates 50 years of making booties shake. They gave a voice to a generation, helped define an entire culture and continue to make an impact today. With over four decades of success, the group, led by Harry Wayne "KC" Casey, has been in a state of constant renewal in their niche of cultural relevance – thanks in part to their music being featured in numerous motion picture soundtracks, television shows and national advertising campaigns. KC and The Sunshine Band formed in 1973 with one single purpose: to create instant happiness through music - and the group has done just that, topping the charts with singles including "That's the Way (I Like It)," "Get Down Tonight," and "(Shake, Shake, Shake) Shake Your Booty," tallying worldwide sales of over 100 million, and receiving numerous awards. 7:30 p.m., Brown County Music Center, 200 Maple Leaf Blvd. Information: browncountymusiccenter.com

Brown County 4-H Fair

June 12-7

Have some summertime fun at the Brown County 4-H Fair. Carnival starts at 6 p.m. Monday, June 12 and ends Saturday, June 17 at 9 p.m. Grandstand events also happen each night beginning at 7 p.m. Parking is \$2 per car. Brown County Fairgrounds, 802 Memorial Drive.

The Why Store

June 16

The Why Store is an American rock band, formed in the late 1980s in Muncie, Indiana, United States, when bassist Greg Gardner and guitarist Michael David Smith, both Ball State University students, met up with Indianapolis drummer Omar Adams. One of Indianapolis' busiest bands, The Why Store shows incredible versatility when it comes to the places they play. From venues that hold thousands to bars that may accommodate just a few hundred, The Why Store "brings it" every single show. The band enjoys playing live. Regardless of city or stage, they have a mindset of giving the crowd their all every single time they take the stage. What makes The Why Store so fun to watch and engage with is the energy they give every venue.

You are going to feed off their energy if you are one of 10,000 at the show or you're lucky enough to be the only person in the room ... not that that would ever happen. 7:30 p.m., Brown County Playhouse, 70 S. Van Buren St., \$15. Information: browncountyplyhouse.org

“Don't Ask” : America's Rock-N-Roll Soundtrack

June 17

Don't Ask brings a party atmosphere wherever they perform providing a soundtrack straight from the era of classic rock FM radio. Based out of Northwest Indiana, the band first picked up instruments in the late 70's and early 80's playing in various bands before coming together in the early 1990's. The boys have rocked bars, backyard parties, and even opened for national acts including the Guess Who and Mitch Ryder. Built on friendship and good times, Don't Ask invites you to sit back, stand up, sing along, and enjoy an evening with a legend in their own zip code – Don't Ask. 7:30 p.m., Brown County Playhouse, 70 S. Van Buren St., \$10. Information: browncountyplyhouse.org

Jackson Browne

June 19

Jackson Browne has written and performed some of the most literate and moving songs in popular music and has defined a genre of songwriting charged with honesty, emotion and personal politics. He was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2004 and the Songwriters Hall of Fame in 2007. Except for a brief period in NYC in the late 1960s, Jackson has always lived in Southern California. His debut album came out on David Geffen's Asylum Records in 1972. Since then, he has released fourteen studio albums, four collections of live performances, two “best of” compilations, two DVDs and several single recordings. Jackson's newest studio album, “Downhill From Everywhere” was released in July 2021 and GRAMMY nominated for Best Americana Album. 7:30 p.m., Brown County Music Center, 200 Maple Leaf Blvd. Information: browncountymusiccenter.com

Lyle Lovett and his Large Band

June 20

Lyle Lovett has broadened the definition of American music in a career that spans 14 albums. Whether touring with his Acoustic Group or his Large Band, Lovett's live performances show not only the breadth of this Texas legend's deep talents, but also the diversity of his influences, making him one of the most compelling and captivating musicians in popular music. Since his self-titled debut in 1986, Lovett has evolved into one of music's most vibrant and iconic performers. Among his many accolades, besides four Grammy Awards, he was given the Americana Music Association's inaugural Trailblazer Award, was named Texas State Musician and is a member of both the Texas Heritage Songwriters' Association Hall of Fame and the Texas Cowboy Hall of Fame. 7:30 p.m.,

Brown County Music Center, 200 Maple Leaf Blvd. Information: browncountymusiccenter.com

The PettyBreakers: A Tom Petty Tribute

June 23

“The World's Greatest Tribute to Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers!” So say Katie Daryl, Mark Cuban and Ryan Seacrest of AXS-TV as they selected the PettyBreakers to perform on their hit TV show in 2014.

What started out in 2010 as a regional band is now the Nations' No. 1 touring tribute to Tom Petty. The PettyBreakers have played in 22 states and Washington D.C. with more being added constantly. Having performed at many cool clubs, theaters and festivals, one of the highlights so far was performing at the Naval Yard in Washington D.C. in 2018 for Major League Baseball's Allstars Pregame Celebration. Another highlight was performing a four and half month residency in the Sammy Davis Showroom at Harrah's Casino in Reno in 2017. And, yet another, was being selected in 2014 as “The World's Greatest Tribute to Tom Petty” by AXS-TV. We performed a live show at the Whisky a Go Go in Hollywood to a capacity crowd, which was cablecast on AXS-TV.

Band includes: Ozzie Mancinelli (Lead Vocals, Guitars); John McAllister (Lead Guitar); David Zeman (Keyboards, Vocals, Acoustic Guitar, Harmonica); Danny Leoni (Bass, Vocals); Rafael Gayol (Drums, Vocals). 7:30 p.m., Brown County Playhouse, 70 S. Van Buren St., \$20 . Information: browncountymusiccenter.com

Brown County Touch-A-Truck Event

June 24

The Brown County Touch-A-Truck event is a free, hands-on event that provides kids with the opportunity to see, touch and explore their favorite big trucks, heavy equipment and emergency vehicles as well as interact with community support leaders including police officers, firemen, construction workers and more! Bring the entire family to get up close with these vehicles, learn about what they do, how they work and how they benefit our community!

Event opens at 10 a.m., with a quiet hour between 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. Beginning at 11 a.m., truck sirens and horns will begin until the event ends at 1 p.m. The Cat In The Hat will arrive at 10:30 a.m. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Brown County Music Center, 200 Maple Leaf Blvd.

The Drifters, The Platters and The Cornell Gunter Coasters

June 24

Cornell Gunter's Coasters (“Charlie Brown,” “Yakety Yak,” “Poison Ivy”); The Platters featuring four of America's premier singers performing their greatest hits (“Only You,” “Smoke Gets In Your Eyes,” “The Great Pretender”); and The Drifters, one of

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SUMMER EVENTS

Rock & Roll's founding vocal groups touring the U.S. again under the auspices of their original management team with their 50 year catalog of hits ("Under the Boardwalk," "Up on the Roof," "This Magic Moment," and "On Broadway"). Combined, these three Rock & Roll Hall of Fame groups have been associated with well over 40 of the top classic songs in Rock & Roll history. From "Under the Boardwalk" to "Only You" to "Yakety Yak", very few artists can boast of a richer musical resume. With such incredible musical diversity, from the comedy of Cornell Gunter's Coasters to the romance of The Platters to the Motown Magic of The Drifters, this show has songs to please every palate, delivered just the way you remember them, when you first heard them on the radio. 7:30 p.m., Brown County Music Center, 200 Maple Leaf Blvd. Information: browncountymusiccenter.com

Josh Kaufman

June 24

Josh Kaufman is an American soul singer and singer-songwriter. A native of the Tampa Bay area in Florida, Kaufman is based out of and resides in Indianapolis, Indiana. He is best known for winning season 6 of NBC's *The Voice* as a member of Usher's team and previously Adam Levine's team. 7:30 p.m., Brown County Playhouse, 70 S. Van Buren St. \$15. Information: browncountyplyhouse.org

Art In The Garden

June 24

Now in its third year, save the date for a special, not to be missed evening amidst beautiful gardens and art at the farmstead of Teresa and Edward Waltz, long-time Trafalgar area residents. Enjoy live music, heavy hors d'oeuvres, drinks as well as plein air painting and fine artisan demonstrations. A tour of the family's farmhouse and antique collection rounds out the evening. A true feast for all of the senses. All proceeds benefit the Brown County Art Guild's ongoing mission to preserve Brown County art colony culture.

The cost is \$100 per person, and includes music, hors d'oeuvres, light dinner offerings, cash bar, Guild artist paintings available to purchase, artisan wares and antiques for sale. The event is rain or shine. 5 to 8 p.m. For directions & more information call the Brown County Art Guild at 812-988-6185. Registration link: <https://browncountyplyhouse.org/product/art-in-the-garden-registration/>

Late Night Catechism

June 30, July 1

Call it Loretta Young meets Carol Burnett. This is part catechism class, part stand-up routine. It's an interactive comedy, one of the longest running shows in Chicago and U.S. theater history. The *New York Times* calls it, "hilarious, well-written and inspired." Jeffrey Lyons from TV's *Sneak Previews* calls *Late Nite Catechism* "something to savor and enjoy ... one of the most intimate, rewarding shows in town." You, the audience member, are part of Sister's class. She'll take you back to the days of

the Latin Mass, meatless Fridays, and remind you about that good old ruler across the knuckles! 7:30 p.m., Brown County Playhouse, 70 S. Van Buren St. Information: browncountyplyhouse.org

Fireworks Celebration

July 1

The Brown County Lions have put on the display to honor America each year for the last 50 years, and as always, the best views of the fireworks are on the hill west of the high school football field at dark. In the event of rain, fireworks will be rescheduled at a date to be determined. The Scouts of Troop 190 will sell food and glow bracelets to earn money to pay for camp. The fireworks are paid for by small business donations and with money collected by Lions members wandering through the crowd. Starts at 10 p.m. Brown County High School, 357 E. Main St. Information: 812-988-6865.

Kings and Associates

July 12

Kings & Associates is an Australian neo-blues band fronted by the dynamic Angela Portolesi. They are one of the top five finalists for Album of the Year in the 2019 Blues Foundations Awards. They have won three Chain awards and were nominated in every category at the 2018 Australian Blues Music Awards on the back of their second album "Tales of a Rich Girl" 7:30 p.m., Brown County Playhouse, 70 S. Van Buren St., \$10. Information: browncountyplyhouse.org

The Roundups

July 14

The RoundUps, Indianapolis' premier vintage western swing, hillbilly/rockabilly and honky-tonk band. 7:30 p.m., Brown County Playhouse, 70 S. Van Buren St., \$10. Information: browncountyplyhouse.org

Dave "The King" Wilson with Mike Armstrong "Bob and Tom's favorite Cop"

July 15

Dave "The King" Wilson, a world renowned stand-up comedian of 11 years, has been an Indianapolis radio listeners' companion for longer than that. First in 1983 to 1995 with Bob & Tom on Q-95 and then as the longtime host of the WIBC afternoon show, Dave has become part of the Indy landscape. A native of Speedway, Wilson grew up less than a mile from the Brickyard and spent a great deal of time at the track during May as a youth, just as he now does as an adult. Described by those who know him as the real life version of the Southern Gentleman, Mike Armstrong can best be described as the perfect best friend that you just met. Because of his unique talent for improvisational comedy, he became a regular on *The Bob & Tom Radio Show* and will forever be known as the Ex-Cop on *The Bob & Tom Show*. (Mike will forever sing the praises of Bob Kevoian and Tom Griswold as a huge reason for his success in the comedy world.) Mike has

appeared on HBO, Comedy Central, Fox and CNT as well as opening for major musical acts such as Michael Buble, Alan Jackson, Tracy Lawrence and David Allan Coe (just to name a few.) In addition, Mike was a consultant and actor on the hit show, "American Dumbest Criminals," and has made cameo appearances in shows such as "Zena, Warrior Princess," and "Vice." The list of all that Mike has done and appeared in could go on for days. Mike has a knack of being in the right place at the right time, and that coupled with his natural comedic talent in improv and observational comedy, he has been very blessed in his entertainment career. 7:30 p.m., Brown County Playhouse, 70 S. Van Buren St., \$15. Information: browncountyplyhouse.org

Meet Loaf: A Tribute to MeatLoaf

July 27

Considering himself an actor before a singer, Meat Loaf was pictured in the 1975 cult classic film, *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, and is featured on several songs in the film, such as "Hot Patootie" and "Time Warp". At any given Meet Loaf tribute show, expect these smash hits to be performed flawlessly. Aside from evoking the heartfelt nostalgia of the 1977 *Bat Out of Hell* album as well as various other Meat Loaf Hits, Meet Loaf also tributes the genius of Jim Steinman, known for his superior songwriting and outstanding composition. Steinman hits performed in this spectacular concert, include but are not limited to, "It's All Coming Back to Me Now" by Celine Dion, "Total Eclipse of the Heart" and "Holding Out for a Hero" by Bonnie Tyler, "Dead Ringer for Love" featuring Cher, and "Making Love Out of Nothing At All" by Air Supply. The "Meet Loaf" tribute show epitomizes the Meat Loaf experience in a look-a-like and sound-a-like event, that leaves audiences awestruck. A world-class show that delivers the powerful wide-ranging male and female operatic lead vocals, along with the epic theatrical elements that Meat Loaf fans have come to love, in an unforgettable evening of smash hits. If you love the music of Meat Loaf, get revved up, because Meet Loaf really ignites! For crying out loud, and in the words of the Meat Loaf legend himself, "Keep Rockin'!" 7:30 p.m., Brown County Playhouse, 70 S. Van Buren St., \$20. Information: browncountyplyhouse.org

Indiana State Fingerstyle Guitar Festival at the Brown County Playhouse

July 29

Information: browncountyplyhouse.org

On Golden Pond

Aug. 4 and 5

Ethel and Norman Thayer, who spend each summer at their home on a lake called Golden Pond. During the year the story takes place, they are visited by their daughter Chelsea with her fiancé Billy Ray and his son Billy Ray Jr. The play explores the often turbulent relationship the

young woman shared with her father growing up, and the difficulties faced by a couple in the twilight years of a long marriage. 7:30 p.m., Brown County Playhouse, 70 S. Van Buren St., \$25. Information: browncountyplyhouse.org

ChamberFest Brown County

Aug. 13-19

ChamberFest Brown County is a week-long chamber music festival held each August that seeks to inspire audiences in rural Indiana through classical music performance of the highest caliber. Most concerts will be free of charge to ensure there are no financial barriers to access. Seats are available to reserve ahead of time by purchasing a \$20 ticket. For more information visit www.chamberfestbrowncounty.com or follow @chamberfestbrowncounty on Instagram and Facebook.

On **Sunday, Aug. 13** vocalists Rachel Doehring and Katie Weber will perform alongside pianists Dan Sato and Andreas Ioannides "Love After 1950: An American Song Recital" at Nashville United Methodist Church, 36 S. Jefferson St.

On **Monday, Aug. 14** Heartland Baroque will present an evening of Alpine Flowers, featuring an evening of virtuoso 17th-century German and Italian music at Parkview Church of the Nazarene, 1750 State Road 46 East.

On **Tuesday, Aug 15** Lincoln String Quartet,

Jennifer Gunn, Julia Coronelli and Jim Campbell will perform "A Slice of Heaven" on flute, strings and harp at St. Agnes Catholic Church, 1008 McLary Road.

On **Wednesday, Aug. 16** violinist Mark Kaplan clarinetist Jim Campbell, cellist John Sharp and pianist Futaba Niekawa will perform "Quartet for the End of Time" at Nashville United Methodist Church, 36 S. Jefferson St.

On **Thursday, Aug. 17** Jose Moreno on voice and cajon, dancer Samantha Micklewright, guitarist David Chiriboga and Olya Prohorova on the fiddle will perform "La Noche Flamenca" at the Brown

County Playhouse, 70 S. Van Buren St. Tickets are available for purchase at the ChamberFest website.

On **Friday, Aug. 18** Verona Quartet, Lincoln String Quartet and Jim Campbell will perform "Youthful Exuberance: The Mendelssohn Octet" at St. Agnes Catholic Church.

On **Saturday, Aug. 19** violinist Kevin Lin, cellist Austin Huntington and pianist Andreas Ioannides will perform "Heavenly Length: Schubert's Piano Trio in E-flat" at Nashville United Methodist Church.

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Boeing Boeing
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June 4 & 11 2:30pm



The Why Store
June 16 7:30pm



Don't Ask
June 17 7:30pm
LOW DOUGH SHOW



The Petty Breakers
A Tom Petty Tribute
June 23 7:30pm



Josh Kaufman
June 24 7:30pm



Late Night Catechism
June 30 7:30pm
July 1 7:30pm



Kings and Associates
July 12 7:30pm
LOW DOUGH SHOW



The Roundups
July 14 7:30pm
LOW DOUGH SHOW



Meet Loaf:
A tribute to Meatloaf
July 27 7:30pm



812.988.6555 | BrownCountyPlayhouse.org

Showtimes, tickets & schedule online

Box Office: Thursday-Saturday | 70 S. Van Buren St. Nashville, IN

