

A feature publication of The Courier and Review Times

Making Your Christmas Merry and Bright

By BRENNA GRITEMAN LIFE EDITOR

> UPPER SANDUSKY — If you've got 20 minutes and a Thermos full of hot chocolate, you've got the makings of the Christmas spirit. Just add a nice, slow drive through Upper's Winter Fantasy of

A Very Merry

Christmas

Lights.

The cheerful, twinkling display of Christmas-themed light displays has been an Upper Sandusky tradition since 1997. Its explosion in size and scope from an original 10 displays and 2,700 vehicles driving through to today's 85 displays and upwards of 15,000 vehicles — is a testament to the volunteerdriven team behind the Fantasy, and the surrounding area's embrace of the display.

"On the weekends, if you're not here by 7 (p.m.), you're going to be waiting in line for some time," says committee chairwoman Pat Eyestone, noting that the display dazzles locals, while also attracting families from as far away as Columbus, Toledo and Mansfield. For a suggested \$5 per car donation, the Fantasy offers a 15- to 20-minute jaunt through the 33-acre Harrison Smith Park, just east of downtown Upper Sandusky.

Displays range from the traditional Manger scene, snowflakes, angels, snowmen and reindeer; to a brightly painted Grinch, Minions driving a sleigh, and Dorothy and friends making their way to the Emerald City. Most of the displays were lovingly made and donated by local 4-H groups, churches and businesses. This year, a local egg manufacturer has contributed a combine for the existing "Christmas on the Farm" portion of the park.

Eyestone says all of the displays, strands Continued on pg. 3

SPONSORED BY National Lime & Stone Company and Reineke Family Dealerships

> Dec. 19, 2019 @ 7:30 PM

MARATHON

TICKETS ON SALE AT MCPA.ORG, 419.423.2787 & VENUE BOX OFFICE!

December 2019

"Comfort Guaranteed"

30 years of quality service and affordable pricing for Plumbing and Heating and Cooling in the Findlay Area. www.allstarplumbinghvac.com

CALL US TODAY AT 419-423-5723



PLUMBING,

FINDLAY. OHIO

HEATING & COOLING

Continued from pg. 1

of lights and extension cords are stored in five semi trailers, the unloading of which is "quite an operation."

Setup typically begins the last week of October, and the entire process of unloading and erecting displays, stringing lights, and manning the park during business hours is powered by volunteers. This massive volunteer effort allows the committee to use each year's proceeds to support local charitable causes.

If all goes according to plan, based on the successes of the past few years, the committee estimates it will donate about \$100,000 from this year's Fantasy.

"We upped our ante this year," Eyestone says, adding proceeds will be split among four worthy causes: Wyandot County 4-H, Wyandot County EMS, the Frank Shuleski for Youth organization and the City of Upper Sandusky parks system.

The Upper Winter Fantasy of Lights is open through Dec. 30. Hours are 6-9:30 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays; and 6-10 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.

00

More information is available on Facebook and at

www.uppersfantasyoflights.org.



Discover 419







Humans of Findlay is a documentary project based on the blog "Humans of New York." The project was created to introduce many of the unique people of Findlay, Ohio. The man behind the lens and the project is Dave Morrow. Morrow has interviewed over 700 people of Findlay, ranging from age 5 to 102 years old, with a wide range of diversity and backgrounds. Jenna Wilkins has joined Dave in continuing the Humans of Findlay project.

On April 4, 2018, a proclamation was signed by Mayor Lydia Mihalik designating the day as "Humans of Findlay Day." Each of the stories have been read up to 30,000 times, and can be located on humansoffindlay.com, Humans of Findlay Facebook page, as well as in this monthly magazine. Know someone that you feel should be featured? Send a nomination on the Facebook page.

JOANNE REINHART

Cancer. Just the word strikes fear in the hearts of people. It is merciless, invasive, does not discriminate against age, gender, race or socioeconomic status and even if one survives the treatment, often they bear long term effects of treatment.

When the diagnosis is announced it is like a blow to the stomach. What now? What do we do? What treatment options are available? How do we afford this? And many more questions race through our mind as we search for answers.

This is where our next Human of Findlay steps in. Joanne Reinhart, is the face of Cancer Patient Services, located here in Findlay, serving all patients and family members of those cancer stricken here in Hancock County. She is a human angel, who has the official title of Patient Advocate, but her actions mean so much more to those she assists.

For many years she has been the calming influence to patients who come to CPS for answers, guidance and assistance. She has amazing compassion and keen listening skills. She also speaks with life experience as both her parents have battled cancer, her father with kidney cancer and her mother with cervical cancer.

"These are people coming to terms with their mortality", Joanne explains. "I try to offer comfort, and also unravel the maze of finances and the healthcare systems. We provide direction, answers, financial aid, nutritional supplements. durable medical supplies and emotional support for as long as the patient and family desires our help." The agency assists over 2000 patients

annually, with approximately 160 new patients added every year.

It is an emotional position and it is because of Joanne's faith and support of her family that she is able to listen to the stories of her clients. She also exercises and runs to let the stress and emotion slip away.



She gets great strength from her family. She has been married to her high school sweetheart, Tom for 28 years. They have four children, Vanessa, Brandon, Austin and Anthony.

Joanne lives by the mantra, "We are never promised tomorrow. Live your best life now!"



WINDOW TREATMENTS • AREA RUGS SOLID WOOD FURNITURE



419-422-4451 **1100 CROY DRIVE, FINDLAY** www.brindlesfurniture.com

Make your Christmas Festive with Backage



Jan Brindle Interior Designer

tore Hours

Assisted Living For Women.... As It Should Be!



Providing round the clock nursing care in a warm home-like atmosphere.

- Private Rooms
- Prepared Meals
- Laundry Services
- Housekeeping
- Personal Care
- Planned Activities
- Regular Outings
- On-site Beauty Shop



For more information 419-422-9656 2911 N. MAIN ST. FINDLAY, OH www.judsonpalmer.com



COUPONS

REDEEMABLE

VERSION ON

WITH ORIGINAL-Jack

Not valid with any other offers or discounts. Offer valid December 3rd-9th-2019 only. Discover419

Limit 1 coupon per customer. Not valid with any other offers or discounts.

Offer valid December 10th-16th 2019 only. Discover419

Spiral Sliced Ham Meat, Cheese & Veggie Trays **Over 20 Varieties of Pies** Brinkman's Gift Certificates

(419) 422-3936 1800 East Sandusky St. Findlay www.brinkmansmarket.com

December 2019

Page 6



Discover 419

Mark Your Calendars! DECEMBER

DECEMBER 1-31 - TOLEDO TOLEDO ZOO'S LIGHTS BEFORE CHRISTMAS

With over one million lights, the award-winning Big Tree and 200+ illuminated animal images spread out across the Zoo, the 2019 edition of the electrical spectacle is sure to be both merry and bright! Now open for lights Monday - Thursday 3-8PM, Friday and Saturday 3-9PM. On New Year's Eve - open all day 10AM-8PM, with lights on at 3PM, park closes at 9PM. More information available at <u>https://www.toledozoo.org/lights</u>.

DECEMBER 6-7 - FINDLAY LIVE NATIVITY



"The Light of Christmas" Live Nativity will take place at St. Mark's United Methodist Church on South Main Street both evenings from 6-9PM. Enjoy crafts, food, live nativity and more. Free event.



DECEMBER 6, 13 & 20 - FINDLAY KIWANIS SANTA'S HOUSE

A favorite family tradition, WinterFest and Santa's House, brought to our community by Findlay Kiwanis Club. Take a horse-drawn wagon ride around downtown, meet Santa, and enjoy hot chocolate and sweet treats and more.

DECEMBER 7 SENSITIVE SANTA

No lines, no stress! Participants can create holiday inspired crafts, while they wait for their visit with Santa! Alcohol ink tile ornaments, holiday crafts, letters to Santa, and even a special sensory gift from Santa, is all made possible by a generous donation from Elks National Foundation. Event held at Awakening Minds Art, 317 South Main Street, Findlay 1-4PM. Free event

Visit www.awakeningmindsart.org/findlayspecials for all the details.

DECEMBER 7 - TIFFIN DOWNTOWN TIFFIN CHRISTMAS WALK

Enjoy the sites, sounds, smells and tastes of the season in beautiful downtown Tiffin. Spend the day strolling from business to business gathering holiday themed treats. The Christmas parade starts at 11am.

VIP brunch (includes walk and brunch) at The Empire 9:30-11am. (Registration at 9:15am) \$35

Walk registration begins at 9:30am.

Christmas walk 10am-4pm \$20

You can start prior to the parade or after or join us at the VIP event (ticket required) at The Empire.

Starting locations will be JT's Bagels and Burns Electric. All walkers receive a Christmas Walk t-shirt. Visit<u>www.downtownTiffinevents.com</u> for tickets and

more information.



DECEMBER 7 & 8 - FOSTORIA

HOLIDAY SIP & SHOP

Sip, shop and be merry! Enjoy a drink and shop with friends at the Holiday Sip & Shop at the Fostoria Learning Center, 342 Perry Street. Admisison is free. Wine will be sold by the glass, to those over 21 years old with ID. December 7th, 3-9PM December 8th. 1-5PM



DECEMBER 13 & 14 - JENERA

HANCOCK COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS

Create an unforgettable holiday memory by attending this authentic Victorian experience with a country twist! Each year, a unique historic home is selected by the Victorian Christmas Dinner committee for this special event. This year's selection is the Glick-Etler House located in Jenera.

The Glick-Etler home dates to 1853. Nathan and Lauren Etler have transformed this beautiful property since acquiring it just six years ago. The farm was settled by Lauren's great-great-great grandfather, Anthony Glick, who traveled to America from Germany on the Famous Dove in 1831. Because of the location and history of the house, this year's dinner will have a country Christmas theme, with a nod to German tradition.

Guests to the dinner will enjoy a magical experience along with a delicious meal. They will be greeted at the Glick-Etler home by coachmen and a butler. Guests may tour the home prior to dinner while enjoying old-fashioned "wassail" and appetizers. A four-course meal will follow. Each guest will enjoy a variety of traditional homemade "savories" following dinner, including sugarplums and pulled taffy. Christmas carolers and instrumentalists will provide entertainment throughout the evening.

Come experience this favorite annual event! The Victorian Christmas Dinner has become a treasured holiday memory for many. Limited space available. Cost: \$95 for members, \$110 for nonmembers. The dinner is hosted on two separate evenings starting at 6:30PM.

DECEMBER 14 - FINDLAY NATIONAL WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

Wreaths Across America will be at Maple Grove Cemetery, 1120 W. Main Cross Street, to remember and honor our veterans through the laying of Remembrance wreaths on the graves of our country's fallen heroes and the act of saying the name of each and every veteran aloud. December 14th, 10AM.



Please help our location lay wreaths at as many graves as possible by sponsoring a wreath. If you would like to volunteer to participate in the wreath laying ceremony, visit <u>https://www.wreathsacrossamerica.org/</u> for sign up or to sponsor a wreath.

DECEMBER 14 - MT. BLANCHARD CHRISTMAS TEA at the HAMLIN HOUSE

Enjoy a special event in a spectacular historic home in the quaint village of Mt. Blanchard. The Hamlin House, 509 South Main Street, will be decoratd for the holidays. Serving times are 11am-12:30pm; 1:30-3pm and 4-5:30pm. Sponsored by the Mt. Blanchard Beautification Committee. Please call or text 330-283-7111 for ticket information. \$25 admission.

*At press time, the information was pulled from community websites and was considered current. We apologize for any information that may have been changed/updated after the Discover 419 edition was printed.







Discover 419

Page 9



Visit your VEIN CARE CENTER for vein & cosmetic procedures to help you feel and look your best at any stage of life.



Findlay www.YourVeinCareCenter.com

Upper's Winter Fantasy of Lights Wyandot County's Light Extravaganza

a non profit charitable event established 1997

December 1^{st} - 30^{th}

Friday, Saturday & Sunday • 6 p.m. - 10 p.m. Monday - Thursday • 6 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Donation of \$5.00 per car

Proceeds benefit: Wyandot Co. 4-H • Wyandot Co. EMS City of Upper Sandusky Parks Frank Shuleski for Youth Organization

> Come Join Us for an Old Fashioned Celebration of the Kolidays!

Harrison Smith Park 525 East Wyandot Ave. Upper Sandusky, Ohio

For information call 419-294-3556 or Email fantasyoflights@gmail.com www.UppersFantasyofLights.org

Upper's Winter

Fantasy of Lights



Discover 419

419-427-0320

FREE DELIVERY

f





CHRIS MYERS

True heroes rarely seek the spotlight as they humbly serve others. Chris Myers is just such a man and superhero.

Chris grew up in both Van Buren and Findlay, while always attending Van Buren schools where he graduated in 2001. He is the oldest brother to Justin and his late sister Shanda, who passed away of a drug overdose in 2016. During his teenage years, life at home took a turn for the worse as his parents divorced. Chris and his siblings would end up in the custody of their father who was a verbally abusive alcoholic.

He met his wife Mandy at church. She was a lovely outgoing young lady who blended well with his very reserved personality. "Our differences fill in what's missing in each other's lives and we are definitely more whole together." They have now been married for over twelve years and have a sweet nine-yearold daughter, Tenley. (and three cats)

Two key events touched Chris's heart which led to his lifelong desire to lift the spirits of seriously sick children and their parents. When the infant son of close friends passed away due to a medical error in surgery, close friends and family were invited to the hospital to say goodbye to baby Tressel. "When Mandy and I went back, I walked into a scene that I could never imagine. While I'm sure there was anger and rage and devastating sadness, it was muted by love, grace, and faith of the parents."

Chris also began following the story of a young child known as "Kathrine the Brave," who would succumb to the inoperable and incurable pediatric cancer called DIPG. Chris was deeply moved watching Kathrine's mother blog about her fear, grief, desperate hope, her pain, moments of joy, and eventual devastation when Kathrine passed away. There is a DIPG research funding organization called The Cure Starts Now. Chris decided to use his Captain America persona and costume making appearances at parties and private events to raise donations for this cause. (The superhero side of Chris first emerged at Tenley's fifth birthday party when he dressed up in a cheap Captain America costume. "I saw how her eyes lit up. She loved it. There was such joy on her face.")

Chris was introduced to a group called Heroes 4 Hope based in Lima. The members dress up in various replica superhero costumes attending a wide variety of events benefiting children with various special needs or illnesses. Three years ago, Chris was invited "as Captain America" to participate in the Dayton Children's Hospital Superhero Day held every January. "Serving as Captain America in Heroes 4 Hope allows me to bring joy to a lot of children every month. Through this my desire to bring joy to children has grown."

"Some children at Dayton Children's have been there a few days, some a few months. There are a wide range of reasons children are there. Cancer, heart defects, various diseases; I've even visited burn victims there." "Superhero Day is all about letting kids be kids for a day and help them forget about their illness for a little while. These kids and parents really light up when they see a small group of their favorite heroes walk in."

Chris doesn't stop serving children when the costume comes off. He volunteers weekly at Jacobs Primary as a lunch buddy. "It is has become a favorite hour of mine every week. Last Christmas he started "Shop with a Superhero" where Captain America and Spiderman took six children (selected by the staff at Jacobs) shopping. This year he has raised enough funds to take eight children shopping with a larger dollar amount allocated for each one. (Scheduled for December 14th this year.)

Even without a costume, Chris Myers is a superhero in my eyes. Dave

Happy Holidays! Skate with Santa



Saturday, December 7th 1-2:50 pm \$5 public skate \$3 skate rental

Additional arts, crafts & cookie decorating activities with Santa's elves at no additional cost.

Join us for a special Holiday Learn-to-Skate!

Friday, Saturday & Sunday: Dec. 27, 28 & 29

Tots & Beginners (ages 5-16) 9:00-9:25am Intermediate & Adults (ages 17 & up) 9:25-9:50am

Go online at http://cityoffindlay.maxgalaxy.net to register. Registration is \$25

FALL/WINTER PUBLIC SKATE

Please check the ice skating schedule before planning your trip. Schedules are subject to change without advanced notice.

MON-THURS	8am-12pm	\$5 admission includes skate rental
FRIDAY NIGHT	Varies	\$5 admission, \$3 skate rental
SATURDAY	1pm-2:50pm	\$5 admission, \$3 skate rental
SATURDAY NIGHT	Varies	\$5 admission, \$3 skate rental
SUNDAY	2pm-3:50pm	\$5 admission, \$3 skate rental



"Exceptional Furniture at Extraordinary Prices"

Special Financing Available

URNITURE Since 1900 Corner of SR 100 and US 224 South of Tiffin 419-447-1828

ADAM & RACHEL LEIGHTEY

Deck

the Halls!

SIMPLY FLOORING

419.294.4125

115 E. FAIRVIEW UPPER SANDUSKY, OH 43351

SEE WHAT'S NEW IN TIFFIN





IFFIN FARMERS Cooperative, Inc.

 FEED & GRAIN SEED. FERTILIZER & CHEMICALS INDUSTRIAL

> 585 South Co. Rd. 13, Tiffin (between Greenfield & St. Rt. 18) Phone 419-447-0366 Mon.-Fri. 8-5: Sat. 8-Noon



IRE & OIL

Brake Special Most vehicles.

Includes: pads or shoes, turn drums or rotors and labor. *Rotors are additional. Expires 12/1/19

Includes: 5 gts. of Filter Change oil, filter, lubrication, check & fill fluids, on most vehicles.

230 E. Market St., Tiffin 419-447-6644

WELLYS MONUMENT COMPANY

LARGE INDOOR SHOWROOM **OVER 50 MONUMENTS ON DISPLAY**

419-447-9299 SR 100 & US 224 • TIFFIN



Discover 419

CABINETS APPLIANCES

COUNTER TOPS

OORING & LIGHTING

& Baths

116 E. Market St.

Downtown Tiffin 419-447-8695

www.burnselectric.com





EN-READ

LARGE PEPPERONI

IOT-N-READ

CRAZY BREAD® & **CRAZY SAUCE®**

HOT N READ

I FMON PEPPER, GABLIC PARMESAN

BACON HONEY MUSTARD, OVEN-ROASTED SPICY BBQ, TERIYAKI, BBQ & BUFFALO

n



AVAILABLE ALL DAY

HOT-N-READY® 4-8PM

89

8-PIECE ORDER **HOT-N-READY®**

ALL DAY, EVERY DAY!

8-PIECE ORDER

HOT-N-READY® ALL DAY, EVERY DAY!



730 S. MAIN ST. (419) 423-1114

WE ACCEPT:



PLEASE CALL AHEAD FOR GROUP ORDERS!

001

CAESARS



""Highest Rated Chain - Value For The Money" based on a nationwide survey of quickringites national chain varies of the matery based of a hardware party of update service restauron consumers conducted by Sandelman & Associates, 2007-2013. Plus tax where applicable. Available at participating locations. ©2014 LCE, i.e., 47413 PEPSI, PEPSI-COLA, and the Pepsi Globe are registered trademarks of PepsiCo, Inc.



11AM-2PM EVERY DAY **HOT-N-READY®** WEEKDAYS



PIZZA WITH PEPPERONI & PEPSI® 20oz

Discover 419

December 2019

Page 15

HANDCRAFTED COLDSTONE MADE FRESH FUDGE Mint Cookie ICE CREAM

CHILLY CHOCOLATE MINT

Fudge Mint Cookie Ice Cream with Fudge Mint Cookies, Sprinkled Chocolate Drops & Fudge

FUDGE MERRI-MINT

Layers of moist Red Velvet Cake, Sweet Cream Ice Cream with Fudge Mint Cookies & Fudge Mint Cookie Ice Cream with Sprinkled Chocolate Drops wrapped in rich Fudge Ganache



16.7112_© 2019 Kahala Franc sing, L.L.C. All rights

1050 Interstate Ct. • Findlay, OH 45840 • (419) 424-5995

Two Like It® Size Create Your Own

RIEU

(Ice Cream or Yogurt + 1 Mix-in) for \$6



Served in a cup. Waffe products and extra mix-ins available for additional charge. Price excludes tax. Limit one per customer per visit. Valid only at participating U.S. locations from rul viaid i dorations in Havaii and Guann and all Cold Store Yourts Ba^w locations No cash value. Not valid with other offers or fundraisers or if oppied, sold, automed, exchanged for payment or prohibited by lew. 16.7112_© 2019 Kahala Franchising, L.L.C. COLD STONE CREAMERY and the MEDALLION design are registered trademarks of Kahala Franchising, L.L.C.

Expires 12/31/19 PLU # 153

Buy One Like It®, Love It® or Gotta Have It® and Get One FREE (of equal or lesser value)



Findlay, OH 45840 • (419) 424-5995

Viaid for Like "W Smil, Love II" where day of Smith sheet II" of Lipst sec only. Limit nor per contomer per visit. Nield only at participating US. Sociations: Offer only and paid Lottons in Hermit and Lamma rad Li GOS Sheet Werght Ba²th Bocher Engess not analysis at 1 mi Honome Cod Shee Conserved to short bocher No cash value. Net value that with other offers or hundraises or it cogied, social, auctioned, exchanged for payment or prohibited by law. 16.7 112, or 2019 Schalar Hranchistopi, LLC. 2010 STONE CREMENT' and the other short and the short and

December 2019

LOVE IT CYO 121 CY0 12F SIG 131 SIG 14 SIG 164 SHAKE 162



Expires DIPPED WAFFLE 246 12/31/19 Cookie Butter Ice Cream with Cinnamon & double the Graham Cracker Pie Crust

COOKIE BUTTER OBSESSION"

ด

Any Cake

(excludes Pies, Petite Cakes, Cupcakes & Cookie Sandwiches)



one per customer per visit. Excludes pies, petite cakes, cupcakes & cookie sandw Vaid only at participating US. Iscations. Vaid in store only. Not vaid for online purchases. No can value, Not via timi ofthe offers or individenses or if copied, soid, auctioned, exchanged for payment or where prohibited by law. 16.7112, © 2019 Valual Franchisory, LLC. COLD STORE CREMENT and the MEDALLION design are registered trademarks of Kahala Franchising, LLC.

Expires 12/31/19 PLU # 211

Discover 419