

# OurCommunity

## Local veteran celebrates 90th birthday

By Kelsey Schapker

World War II, 19 cruises and seven trips to Hawaii are just some of the life events that Albert Qualls has experienced in his 90 years of existence.

Qualls currently resides at Mount Vernon Nursing and Rehabilitation, and he turned 90-years-old on Sat., June 18. His family held a small gathering and surprised him with the gospel singing group, Trinity Three, as southern gospel is his favorite kind of music. When asked the reason why he enjoys southern gospel, Qualls said because he was in a male gospel quartet in 1943 for a number of years.

Qualls retired from Whirlpool in 1988 after being employed for 33 years. Before that, he served in the United States Air Force and

his retiring rank was Corporal.

"After World War II ended, some of the men from my base visited Hong Kong, Japan and the Philippines."

Because he is a veteran, his grandson signed him up for the first Indianapolis Honor Flight in October 2014. The honor flight is a non-profit organization created to honor America's veterans for their sacrifices by transporting the men and women heroes to Washington D.C. to visit memorials.

"My grandson was my escort. We saw the changing of the guard and shook hands with a Medal of Honor recipient. I enjoyed being with other veterans, and visiting the memorial of World War II and the monuments. Then the citizens of Evansville gath-

ered at the airport to welcome us home; that place was mobbed, it was full of people welcoming us home."

Qualls favorite color is blue, he likes to work crossword puzzles and he is an enormous football fan of the Denver Broncos and Evansville Reitz Panthers. He enjoyed working on his Honda motorcycles and enjoyed repairing cars and piddling around in his garage.

"I have so many good memories, but some of my favorites are the first man landing on the moon in 1969; my grandson, Seth, playing football at Franklin College; and the trips to Hawaii with my wife. My wife was a good cook, and I never drank or smoke," Qualls explained on his secret to living to age 90.

Qualls married his wife,

Dorothy, in November 1944. The two raised their three children, Patti, Larry and Ken, in Evansville. Qualls is originally from Arizona but his parents moved to the Tri-State area when he was a child.

Qualls and Dorothy were married for 71 years before Dorothy passed away.

"For our 70th wedding anniversary party I was in the hospital, but my grandson set up Skype and my family was able to come talk to me through a computer. That was really something. My favorite memories with Dorothy are our travels. We traveled to Hawaii seven times, as well as Spain, England and Germany. She hated being on an airplane."

Qualls has one sister, Sharon Odell, six grandkids and five great-grandkids.



Photo submitted

Albert Qualls, a World War II and United States Air Force veteran, celebrated his 90th birthday over the weekend.

## Engagement

Jessica Reuter and Mark Miller



Jessica Reuter and Mark Miller would like to announce their engagement.

The bride is the daughter of Joe Reuter of Evansville and Pam Haskins of Louisville and is a 2011 graduate of North High School and a 2015 graduate of USI. She is employed at The Children's

Learning Center in Mount Vernon.

The groom is the son of Steve and Stefani Miller of Mount Vernon and is a 2010 graduate of Mount Vernon High School and attended Ivy Tech. He is employed at Miller Farms in Mount Vernon.

## Tourism Commission ready to establish CVB

By Kelsey Schapker

The Posey County Tourism Commission is ready to take the next step in the tourism process by formally establishing a Convention and Visitor's Bureau (CVB) for Posey County.

President of the Tourism Commission, Jim Spann, spoke to the Posey County Council last week and requested their support to form a CVB as a legal non-for profit organization. The tourism commission took its first step in putting Posey County on the map as a tourism destination

by launching its website in May.

"We believe we will be able to create the convention and visitor's bureau during this year," Spann said.

The county council gave consent for their support and approved for their attorney, Beth McFadin Higgins, to act as the CVB's legal attorney. One of the first steps is the tourism commission committee forming a board of directors that will consist of seven members to operate the bureau.

Spann said the innkeeper's tax will support the

creation of the CVB, and he believes approximately \$110,000 will be collected in innkeeper's tax funds in 2017. Spann also said he is estimating by the end of 2017, a total amount of \$175,000 will have been collected since the tax was established in 2015.

"We want to utilize only 20 percent of the \$175,000, leaving 85 percent untouched, which leads to approximately \$145,000 to be approved for the creation of the convention and visitor's bureau," Spann said.

However, Spann sought approval from the council

to fund the final six months of 2016 in order to begin establishing the CVB, meaning approximately \$47,855 of the \$145,000 budget would be spent this year.

In order to spend that amount, the tourism commission will need to pay their \$21,600 bill from the creation of the website, as well as advertise appropriation amounts of the \$21,600 and \$47,855.

The budget discussion for the convention and visitor's bureau was tabled until the council's July 12 meeting in order for Spann to advertise the two amounts.

## West students visit local author



Photo submitted

Fifth grade West Elementary teacher Dan Koch took his class to visit Emmet Edwards at the Ford Home in New Harmony before school let out in late May. Edwards is the author of *Time in the Prop Blast*. After Koch was given a copy of the book as a gift by Edwards's grandson, Tyler Roos, Koch said he felt intrigued by Edwards and wanted his students to meet him in order for Edwards to offer words of wisdom and encouragement.

## Anniversary

Ritzert 50th Anniversary



David & Ruth (Gries) Ritzert of Mount Vernon, Ind. will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on June 25, 2016. They were married at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Evansville on June 25, 1966. They are the parents of sons: Michael (Jenny) Ritzert, Rodney (Jennifer) Ritzert and Bryan Ritzert, all of Mount

Vernon; daughters: Kristine (Roger) Deig and Rachel (Ben) Deno, both of Mount Vernon, and Melissa (Kent) Rexing, of Haubstadt, Ind. They have 16 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. David & Ruth are semi-retired dairy farmers. They will celebrate with an Anniversary Mass and a family dinner.



**PC POUND PUPPIES**  
Posey County, Indiana

### Benefit Sale

**Friday, June 24 & Saturday, June 25**  
**9am - 3pm**  
**109 W. Water Street**

baby clothing, children's clothing, adult clothing, Christmas/Seasonal decor, furniture, household items, pet care items, movies, books, lots of misc.

## REAL ESTATE AUCTION

**Nice 3 Bedroom Country Home on 0.78 Acre**  
**6195 Conrey Road, New Harmony, In 47631**  
**Thursday, June 23, 2016 ~ 5:30 p.m. (CT)**


Auction Location: On-site

- 0.78 Acre Lot
- 3-Bedroom, 3.5-Baths
- Built in 1992
- 2,067 SF
- 2-Car Attached Garage & Utility Shed
- Fireplace
- Large Walk-Out Basement
- Sun Porch w/Wrap-Around Deck
- Updated Heat & Air Systems
- German Township Water & Well/Septic System
- Possession at Closing
- Taxes: \$1192/year
- Nice Posey County Location!

Call for a Bidders Packet or Visit our Website  
6% Buyer's Premium  
10% Down on Auction Day

**INSPECTIONS:**  
June 9 • 5-6 pm  
June 12 • 2-3 pm  
June 21 • 5-6 pm  
or 1 Hour prior to Auction  
All times CT

OWNER: The Estate of Jacqueline Schutz



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