# **Our Community**

## 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.

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

his retiring rank was Corpo- ered at the airport to wel-

"After World War II endmy base visited Hong Kong, Japan and the Philippines.'

his grandson signed him word puzzles and he is an up for the first Indianapolis Honor Flight in October Denver Broncos and Evans-2014. The honor flight is ville Reitz Panthers. He ena non-profit organization created to honor America's motorcycles and enjoyed fices by transporting the around in his garage. men and women heroes memorials.

monuments. Then the citing to age 90. izens of Evansville gath-

come us home; that place was mobbed, it was full ed, some of the men from of people welcoming us home.

Qualls favorite color is Because he is a veteran, blue, he likes to works crossenormous football fan of the joyed working on his Honda veterans for their sacri- repairing cars and piddling

"I have so many good to Washington D.C. to visit memories, but some of my favorites are the first man "My grandson was my landing on the moon in escort. We saw the chang- 1969; my grandson, Seth, ing of the guard and shook playing football at Franklin hands with a Medal of College; and the trips to Ha-Honor recipient. I enjoyed waii with my wife. My wife being with other veterans, was a good cook, and I never and visiting the memori- drank or smoke," Qualls exal of World War II and the plained on his secret to liv-

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, and five great-grandkids.



Sharon Odell, six grandkids 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 an-

nounce their engagement. The bride is the daughter of Joe Reuter of Evansville and Pam Haskins of Louisemployed at The Children's Vernon.

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 ville and is a 2011 graduate High School and attended of North High School and a Ivy Tech. He is employed 2015 graduate of USI. She i at Miller Farms in Mount

#### Anniversary

#### Ritzert 50th Anniversary



David & Ruth (Gries) Ritzert of Mount Vernon, Ind. will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on June 25, 2016. They were Rexing, of Haubstadt, Ind. married at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Evansville dren and two great-grandon June 25, 1966. They are the parents of sons: Mi- semi-retired dairy farmers. chael (Jenny) Ritzert, Rod- They will celebrate with ney (Jennifer) Ritzert and an Anniversary Mass and a

Vernon; daughters: Kristine (Roger) Deig and Rachel (Ben) Deno, both of Mount Vernon, and Melissa (Kent) They have 16 grandchilchildren. David & Ruth are Bryan Ritzert, all of Mount family dinner.

## **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

tion and visitor's bureau 2017. Spann also said he of the \$145,000 budget during this year," Spann is estimating by the end would be spent this year.

consent for their support collected since the tax was and approved for their attor- established in 2015. ney, Beth McFadin Higgins, torney. One of the first steps leaving 85 percent unis the tourism commission touched, which leads to apcommittee forming a board proximately \$145,000 to be of seven members to operate the bureau.

Spann said the innkeep-

he believes approximately We believe we will be \$110,000 will be collected of 2017, a total amount of The county council gave \$175,000 will have been amount, the tourism com-

"We want to utilize only to act as the CVB's legal at- 20 percent of the \$175,000, the convention and visitor's bureau," Spann said.

er's tax will support the approval from the council advertise the two amounts.

by launching its website in creation of the CVB, and to fund the final six months of 2016 in order to begin establishing the CVB, meanable to create the conven- in innkeeper's tax funds in ing approximately \$47,855

> In order to spend that mission 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.

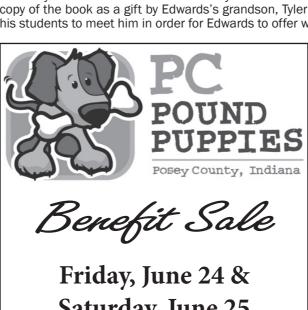
The budget discussion of directors that will consist approved for the creation of for the convention and visitor's bureau was tabled until the council's July 12 meet-However, Spann sought ing in order for Spann to

#### 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.



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.



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- 2-Car Attached Garage & **Utility Shed** Fireplace
- Large Walk-Out Basement Sun Porch w/Wrap-Around
- Updated Heat & Air Systems • German Township Water &
- Well/Septic System
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June 21 • 5-6 pm

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