

# STRAIGHT FORWARD & ON TARGET

## Local Business News You Can Use



VOLUME 7, ISSUE 2

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FEBRUARY 2016

## Business Spotlight: H.D. Bean Jewelers

Main Street's youngest business owner is right where he always knew he'd be.

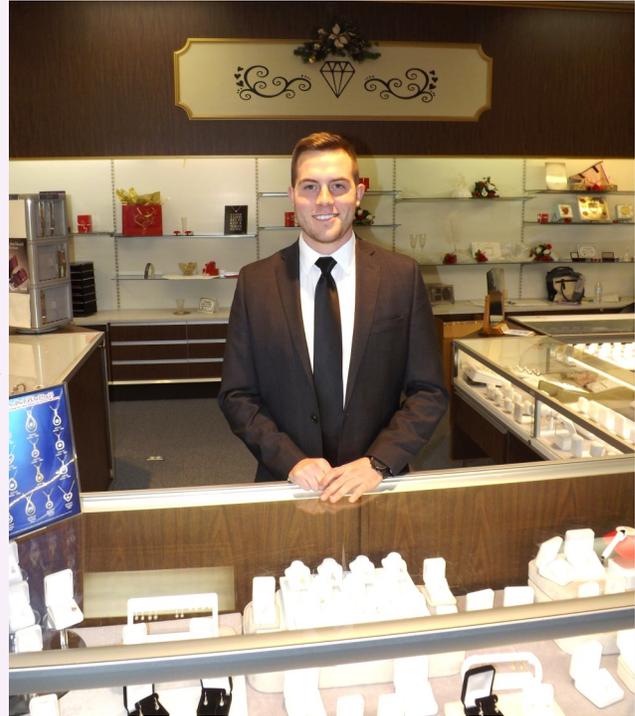
"I've known I wanted to own my own business since I was in high school," said Cody Gottman, 24, who is starting his third year as owner of H.D. Bean's Jewelry Store on Main Street in Carmi.

The store has been a Carmi mainstay for nearly 70 years. Barbara Kearny had run it for 36 years before retiring in late 2013. Gottman took it over in early 2014.

"We are a professional jewelry store that offers repair and jewelry services, just like any jewelry store in Evansville," said Gottman, who grew up in Owensville, Ind. and graduated from Gibson Southern High School in 2011. "We sell anything from bridal to timepieces, a lot of giftware and of course we do jewelry repair, which is a huge part of our business."

The store can also accommodate requests for engraving, clock repair and watch repair, and buys scrap gold, sterling silver or some loose diamonds.

The fact that Gottman's profession is jewelry is anything but a coincidence. His uncle, Darin Gottman, runs Gottman Jewelry in Mt. Carmel, and his cousin, Danny Rainbolt, owns The Goldsmith in Princeton, Ind.



Cody Gottman. (Photo credit Toby Brown.)

"They were both big influences on me and are pretty much the reason I'm here in Carmi today," said Gottman. "I worked for Danny when I was in high school and I did an internship with my uncle in Mt. Carmel for a couple of months before I went to Gem City [College]." (continued on page 2...)



Cody helping customer Robin Nichols. (Photo credit Toby Brown.)

### Next Board

#### Meeting

4:30 p.m.

#### February 11

City Council  
Chambers

## *H.D. Bean Continued...*

It was during that internship that Gottman decided this was the career for him. After completing the internship, he enrolled in Gem City College in Quincy, Ill. and graduated in early 2012 with a degree in jewelry repair and design. Before he had even graduated from the trade school, he already had a job waiting on him at Droste's Jewelry Store in Evansville, Ind., where he worked from early 2012 until December of 2013.

"I had every intention of working for them for a good, long time," said Gottman. "... Maybe ten years and then try to open my own place. But I was in the parking lot coming off lunch one day in late 2013 and my uncle called me. He asked me, 'How would you like to make more money?' And I was like, 'Hey, what do I have to do? Who doesn't want to make more money?'"

"He told me how Barb was going out of business and this jewelry store had been in Carmi for a really long time, and was well-established.

"I took the next day off and came here to look around, and I just thought I liked the town and liked the feeling of it, so Barb and I struck a deal. I quit at Droste's two weeks later and started doing all the work I needed to take over the business.

"I had a goal in mind of being ready for business by Valentine's Day and my first business day was February 8 of 2014. We did really well that very first day and it's been good ever since."

According to Gottman, there wasn't really much debate in his mind about whether or not to keep the name "H.D. Bean Jewelers."

"It was hard for me to think of a name and I couldn't use Gottman's in any shape or form because of Uncle Darin, so that was out," said Gottman. "The business already had a good name in the community and it had a really cool heritage that Barb had told me about and I did some homework on. I just thought there's really no point to throw away 70 years of name recognition and customer base."

Gottman said the Chamber of Commerce website was one of the resources he used to get information on Carmi when considering the move. He joined the Chamber immediately upon opening the business and now serves as a Director on the Chamber Board. A firm believer in community involvement, Gottman also joined the Lion's Club shortly after moving to Carmi.

"I like the aspect of a small town that if you are involved in the community, the community will support you back," he said. "You just don't get that in Evansville.

"Owensville also has a population of around 6,000, so Carmi has a very similar feel for me. I like the slower pace and the feel of knowing more people in a small town. Living in Evansville was fun for a while, but I just didn't feel like I knew anyone. I had my close friends and that was about it."

Adding to the family nature of the business, Gottman gets a lot of help from his mother, Missy Gottman.

"She is my bookkeeper and my life-saver," said Gottman. "She keeps me organized. That's not my strongest suit. She helps me most Saturdays.

"I also have Ronna Eyman as my salesperson right now and she does a fantastic job. I also have seasonal help with Amanda Neibel, and she's done a fantastic job, as well. I'm lucky to have people who care about the business and want to make sales."

February is always a big month for Gottman, due to Valentine's Day.

"You don't want to make your wife or girlfriend mad on Valentine's Day," he added. "And women love diamonds, so if you're looking for something last minute, come in and say 'Hi' and I'll treat you right."

## *From the Desk of the Executive Director...*



*Holly  
Healy  
Executive  
Director*

As many of you know, Carmi celebrates her Bicentennial this year. A Bicentennial Winter Gala was held in January with Rob Endicott providing entertainment. It was an enjoyable evening. Thank you to those that attended and helped with the event in any way.

The Bicentennial Committee is working toward planning some family friendly events. Keep an eye out for details about Memorial Day Weekend and July 4th!

As you may have noticed in last month's newsletter, the White County CEO Program is searching for a facilitator for the class. A job announcement appears later in this newsletter. The website, [www.whitecountyceo.com](http://www.whitecountyceo.com), is up and running. There is also a White County CEO Facebook page. Student applications are available at both CWC and NCOE High Schools. I believe this program will be of great benefit to our area. If you would like more information on the program, please do not hesitate to contact the Chamber office.

On a final note, as you shop for your sweetheart this Valentine's Day, please keep our Carmi merchants in mind. I know you will receive friendly hometown service with help picking out the perfect gift! Please remember many of our local businesses also offer gift certificates as well.

As always, the Chamber door is always open if we may be of assistance in any way!

*-Holly*

The Carmi Recreational Summer League is in the process of building a new concession stand building that will include equipment storage and handicap bathrooms. To help fund this project we are asking local businesses and individuals to help with donations for the building and finishing of the interior of the building. Many of the current buildings at Bradshaw Park are older block buildings that either leak or are not accessible for those with disabilities. We want this to be a community project as it will serve the many children of our community for years to come. If you have any questions regarding this project please feel free to contact, Randy Knight, Club President, 618-375-1975, Jeremy Jordan 618-382-5222, Jeremy Courson, 618-384-6784 or Pete Fulkerson, 618-382-4118. All donors' names will be mentioned in press releases and on a plaque outside the building. Donations may also be made in Honor of or in Memory of someone.

## Carmi Chamber of Commerce to Offer Scholarship

The Carmi Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce that Carmi White County High School seniors, as well as church and home schooled students living in the Carmi White County School District, can obtain applications for a \$4,000 scholarship from the high school guidance office or by contacting the Chamber office at 382-7606.

The scholarship is for \$1,000 to be paid each year the student is enrolled in college, with a maximum of \$4,000 to be paid over a four-year period. The scholarship recipient will receive a \$500 payment each semester and will be required to maintain at least a 3.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale.

Deadline to apply for the scholarship is March 23. Those seeking further information should contact the Chamber office.

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## Peoples National Bank offers educational scholarships

Peoples National Bank has provided financial services to Southern Illinois since 1909. In keeping with our history and tradition of community service and commitment to the education of future civic and business leaders, Peoples National Bank has established an educational scholarship that assists high school graduates in continuing their education at a university, college, trade or vocational school. Each recipient of the Peoples National Bank scholarship receives a \$500 scholarship. Scholarships are awarded to students exhibiting positive leadership and character in academic, community and extra-curricular activities.

High school seniors that would like to apply for a Peoples National Bank scholarship should contact their High School Guidance Office or stop by their local Peoples National Bank to pick up an application. The deadline for completed applications is March 1, 2016.

## What the Chamber is doing for you. . .

### *We all win during Radio Auction*

Everyone enjoys a good deal, and your Carmi Chamber of Commerce is working to bring you several during this year's Radio Auction set for 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 19 on 97.3 FM WRUL.

#### *How can you be involved?*

**Donate items**—local businesses or individuals may donate any item from their stores to the Chamber to be auctioned ON AIR at 97.3 FM. Your name will be promoted with your item throughout the three-hour broadcast as well as promotions prior to the big event. If a Chamber director doesn't contact you, feel free to call the Chamber office to have your item included.

**Sponsor broadcast**—local businesses or individuals may purchase a \$75 sponsorship of the auction. Sponsors will be mentioned no less than 70 times in commercial promotions and day of event live credits. The deadline to become a sponsor and receive the full impact of the radio advertising is March 4.

**Buy an item**—Chamber "auctioneers" will set an opening bid level for each item, and people may call in to the station at bid on any item they want.

**Check us out on Facebook**— We will be posting all of the items on Facebook for you to see in advance.

**Listen in**—Even if you don't buy an item, we ask you to turn your radio dial to 97.3 FM to listen. In addition to the auction, we'll share important information about the Chamber of Commerce and the community in which we live and work.

If you are a Carmi business, please tune your dial to 97.3FM and let have your customers listen in while they shop!

All 100 percent of your sponsorship and revenue from the sale of items goes to the Chamber for use in its worthwhile programs. **All advertisement and air time is being donated by WRUL.**

## RADIO AUCTION

Saturday, March 19

10 am—1 pm

Hosted by Withers  
Broadcasting

### *Valentine's Day at The Social House*

Create a unique Valentine's Day memory right here in the heart of Carmi on February 13. Enjoy a romantic four course dinner in the elegant surroundings of The Social House. You and your Valentine can savor a delightful meal without an hour drive or the noise of a busy restaurant . Availability for single or group tables is limited, so call and make reservations today. Choose to make a night of it and stay in one of our romantic suites complete with chocolate covered strawberries, chilled beverage, and fresh flowers. For complete information, call Pat at The Social House (618) 380-2232.



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓Utilities</li> <li>✓Cable TV</li> <li>✓Sewer</li> <li>✓Water</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀Social activities</li> <li>◀On-site podiatrist</li> <li>◀Must be 62 years of age and meet income requirements.</li> </ul>
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**CALL US TODAY 618-382-2902**





wabash heritage apartments

210 Franklin Drive • Carmi, IL 62821



### ***FREE Bus & Rail Travel Workshop***

Join Michelle Winters of Escapes Travel & Cruises & Larry Dunphy of Presley Tours for a free informative presentation on group bus and rail travel in the United States at SIC in Carmi on Feb. 22, 2016 - 6 pm - 7:30 pm. We will feature an exclusive May 2016 Canyon Lands By Rail Tour from Carmi. If interested, please call Michelle Winters at 618-382-2465 or call the SIC Carmi campus at 618-382-8869 to register and reserve your seat. Space is limited.

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## WHITE COUNTY CEO FACILITATOR

### Description

Part-time position with the White County CEO program, beginning in the fall of 2016. The CEO facilitator creates a learning environment for students to explore, discover and experience learning through real-life activities and experiences. The facilitator will model a passion for learning, connect with students and community, collaborate with the White County CEO Board, and provide guidance to high school students. This is a 9-month position, with some preparatory work required during summer months.

### Qualifications

*Candidates must meet the following requirements:*

- Bachelor's in Education, Business, or related field preferred; Associate's degree required
- Previous teaching and/or training experience
- Previous business experience and/or background with entrepreneurial or start-up business experience preferred
- Excellent communication and organizational skills
- Excellent computer skills using word processing, spreadsheet and database management software
- Must have a valid driver's license

### How to apply

Send cover letter, resume with three references, and copies of transcripts to: Carmi Chamber of Commerce Office, 225 E Main Street, Carmi, IL 62821 ATTN White County CEO Program.

Deadline: March 5, 2016

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**The White County CEO Program has a website!**  
**Please be sure to visit [www.whitecountyceo.com](http://www.whitecountyceo.com)!**

## Escapes Travel and Cruises Offering Escorted Alaskan Cruise

JOIN US! Join Michelle Winters & Escapes Travel & Cruises on an ESCORTED group cruise on a 7 Night Alaska Inside Passage with Glacier Bay Cruise from June 11-18, 2016 on the Crown Princess.

Itinerary:

June 11 - Seattle, WA

June 12 - At Sea

June 13 – Juneau

June 14 – Skagway

June 15 - Cruising through Glacier Bay National Park

June 16 – Ketchikan

June 17 - Victoria, BC

June 18 - Seattle, WA

We will fly into Seattle on June 10 to do some sightseeing and spend the night. We will fly home on June 18. You can extend your stay before or after your cruise if you like.

Passports are NOT required but recommended. Payment plans are available through March 28, 2016!

Sample prices based on double occupancy: As of Oct. 16, 2016 - For 2 people per cabin, the inside rooms (no windows) prices start at \$999 per person, obstructed ocean view rooms start at \$1049 per person, unobstructed ocean view rooms start at \$1349 per person, balconies start at \$1799 per person and suites with balconies start at \$2149 per person.

Sample prices: As of Oct. 16, 2016 – For 4 people per cabin, the inside rooms (no windows) prices start at \$3922, obstructed ocean view rooms start at \$4348, unobstructed ocean view rooms start at \$5364, balconies start at \$6528 and suites with balconies start at \$7418. The prices for 4 are total for 4 people with tax.

Taxes and port charges are approximately \$219 per person. Gratuities, optional travel insurance, shore excursions and flights are additional.

Contact Michelle Winters at 618-382-2465 at Escapes Travel & Cruises for pricing and availability.

## Concealed carry course scheduled for late March

The White County Farm Bureau is pleased to offer our members an opportunity to obtain their certification to conceal and carry a firearm in Illinois.

The training will be held on Saturday, March 12 and Saturday, March 19. Both training days will be held in the meeting room of the White County Farm Bureau, with range testing held at the Carmi Rifle Club. Those who need the full 16 hours of training will sign up for both days. Individuals who have already obtained qualified training, will only need to sign up for the second Saturday of training/testing. Training will begin at 8:30 a.m. and conclude at 6:00 p.m. each day.

Training will include firearms safety, basic principles of marksmanship, care of your firearm, review of applicable state and federal laws, weapons handling, and a live fire exercise. Applicants must attend the required hours and meet the minimum live fire standards in order to be certified.

Participants are welcome to train and test with their own .22 caliber handgun. However, they do not need to bring their own gun, nor do they need to qualify on the range with their own gun. Pistols will be provided to use at the range upon request. Mike and Valinda Rowe with IllinoisCarry.com and the Carmi Rifle Club will be the instructors.

There are extensive pre-qualifications in order to participate in this certification course. The applicant must be a current member of the White County Farm Bureau, be over the age of 21, have a valid FOID card, have not been convicted or found guilty of a violent misdemeanor, must not have had 2 or more DUI violations in the last 5 years, and must not have been in an alcohol or drug treatment program in the last 5 years.

The fee for the course is \$115 per day (\$230 for both days). If the participant donates 150 rounds of .22 ammunition, they will receive a \$15 discount per day (300 rounds for \$30 discount). **All fees must be paid and ammunition delivered to the White County Farm Bureau when you sign up for the course.** The registration fee is refundable if cancelled at least 1 week prior to the course. Lunch and drinks will be provided by the White County Farm Bureau at no additional charge.

There are limitations on the class size for both courses. **Pre-registration is required, no walk-ins.** Applicants above the maximum capacity will be placed on a waiting list, and will be contacted if a slot becomes available. We are anticipating a full class, so please register early.

Stop by the White County Farm Bureau office at 304 E Robinson Street in Carmi or call us at 618-382-8512 to register.

## Walt Disney World Special Available through Escapes Travel & Cruises

Receive a Walt Disney World FREE MEAL at Quick-Service locations, per person, per night when you buy a non-discounted 4-night/5-day room & ticket package at select Disney Value Resort hotels this summer!



This offer is for arrivals most nights May 29 - Jun. 30, 2016 and Jul. 5 - Aug. 13, 2016. Book by Feb. 29, 2016. 3 Night Minimum Length of Stay / Minimum 2-day Magic Your Way® Base

Ticket. Contact Michelle Winters at 618-382-2465 at Escapes Travel & Cruises for pricing and availability.

Redeeming the quick-service meal is convenient and flexible. Each member of your party is entitled to one meal per night of your stay. Choose from breakfast, lunch or dinner at a wide array of Quick-Service locations throughout Walt Disney World® Resort.

## *Karger Collectibles Christmas Shopping Stroll Winner*



Thelma Sheperd, Carmi, pictured here was the winner of the gift certificate from Karger Collectibles during the White County Christmas Stroll. Congratulations, Thelma!

(Photo credit Barbara Karger.)

## MIKE DAVENPORT, FNP CLINIC BECOMES HAMILTON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL DOWNTOWN FAMILY CLINIC FEBRUARY 1

Hamilton Memorial Hospital District is pleased to welcome long-time local family nurse practitioner, Mike Davenport and his staff to the Hamilton Memorial Hospital family beginning February 1<sup>st</sup>.

The clinic will be called the Hamilton Memorial Hospital Downtown Family Clinic and will remain at its current location.

“Since coming to the community, Mike has been dedicated to providing exemplary care to our area with hometown compassion. We’re thrilled to welcome him and his staff to our family,” said Greg Sims, Hamilton Memorial Hospital CEO.

His office will remain at 208 South Washington Street in McLeansboro and will continue to offer a full-range of primary care. Office hours will remain Monday through Thursday, 8am to 5:30pm. Appointments can be made by calling 618.643.2835.

“Operating at the same location, we will be able to offer more services and expanded clinic coverage for our patients, but with a new name and partner,” stated Mike Davenport, FNP.

Since beginning his Hamilton County practice in 2007, Mike has become a proven leader in the medical community caring for over 5,000 patients from children to seniors. He and his wife Lynnette live near Dahlgren with their children, Seth and Ava.

For more information about Hamilton Memorial Hospital and Family Clinics, visit [hmhospital.org](http://hmhospital.org).



Mike Davenport, FNP. (Photo provided.)

# OPERATION W·E·T

WATER EXPRESS TRANSPORT



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## **Bottled Water Drive** for the citizens of Flint, Michigan **February 1 - 12, 2016**

The citizens of Flint, Michigan have a water crisis. They need clean water for drinking and cooking. Join Elastec employees in Carmi & Fairfield, Illinois and Cocoa, Florida to donate water for our friends in Flint during Operation W.E.T. (Water Express Transport).

Norris Trucking will donate transportation of the water to Flint.

Cases of bottled water will be accepted  
between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday at:

**ELASTEC / CARMI**  
1309 W. Main Street  
Carmi, Illinois

**ELASTEC / FAIRFIELD**  
211 N. Market Street  
Fairfield, Illinois

Monetary donations will also be accepted.  
Contact Ruthie McAllister, Elastec Shipping Manager, at 618-384-2760 for donation details.

### **Help our Flint Friends Drink Clean Water!**



[www.elastec.com/operation-wet](http://www.elastec.com/operation-wet)

[www.norristrucking.com](http://www.norristrucking.com)

# Introducing "" the GIFT Garden project



- Who:** University of Illinois Extension is partnering with Master Gardeners; 4-H clubs and 4-H members; and community partners such as cities and municipalities, park districts, chambers of commerce, boy and girl scout troops, churches, and service and government agencies to provide a youth-led gardening experience.
- What:** The name of this unique youth led-adult assisted program is Growing Illinois Food Together or the GIFT Garden Project.
- When:** White County 4-H GIFT Garden will start to sprout in the spring of 2016, with production in the summer of '16.
- Where:** All across Southern Illinois – from Cairo to Salem to Edwardsville to Mt. Carmel – gardens are being identified with a GIFT Garden sign. Each county is featuring at least one GIFT garden that is youth led-adult assisted in 2015. Produce raised may be shared with the participants, given to food pantries, or sold at farmer's markets. Each garden uniquely meets the needs of their local community.
- Why:** Youth and adults have fun learning together how to raise local produce that improves their own nutrition while helping the local economy.

**For more information on how you can be part of this exciting gardening experience, contact your local Extension Office.**



University of Illinois Extension – White County  
1715 College Ave  
Carmi, IL 62821  
618-382-2662



United States Department of Agriculture/Local Extension Councils Cooperating  
University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### February 2016

February 11– Chamber Board of Director’s Meeting, 4:30 pm

February 13– Valentine’s Day Dinner at The Social House (advance reservations required)

February 14– Happy Valentine’s Day!

February 19– White County Soil and Water Conservation District Annual Dinner

February 27– Kiwanis Pancake Day

March 2– March Newsletter Deadline



225 East Main Street

Carmi IL 62821

Phone:

618-382-7606

Email:

chamber@cityofcarmi.com

Website:

www.cityofcarmi.com

### **2015-2016 Chamber Officers**

Andy Acord

President

Caleb Hughes

Vice President

Toby Brown

Secretary

Bryan Colwing

Treasurer

Debbie Hoskins

Past President

Holly Healy

Executive Director

### **2015 - 2016 Board of Directors**

Kara Kessler .....	2013-2016
Megan Goff .....	2013-2016
Kendall Dale .....	2013-2016
Jeremy Jordan.....	2013-2016
Whitney Barbre.....	2014-2017
Cody Gottman .....	2014-2017
Nikki Roser.....	2014-2017
Heather Smith.....	2014-2017
Brock Bolerjack.....	2015-2019
Keith Botsch.....	2015-2019
Chris Cantrell.....	2015-2019
Ryan Mitchell.....	2015-2019
Dr. Jonah Rice.....	Ex-Officio
Mayor Jeff Pollard .....	Ex-Officio
Madison Botsch.....	Ex-Officio