

Mayor's Office

David A. Wood, Mayor

Lou Ann Hazen, Administrative Assistant

Debra Gregg, Secretary

This year was an election year, and after an unopposed Mayoral race, Mayor Wood will continue serving the City of Mishawaka for another four-year term beginning 1/1/2020. Mayor Wood promises to continue to lead the Princess City by focusing on strong economic growth, sound fiscal responsibility, efficient city services and promoting clean and safe neighborhoods.

Mishawaka continues to thrive under Mayor Wood's leadership in many areas due to a strong and dedicated team of employees and department managers who carry on his strong ethic of providing world-class service to the citizens of Mishawaka. Following is a short recap of the highlights that the Mayor's office experienced in 2019.

Drum Major Award Recipients for 2019

Each year Mayor Wood has the honor and privilege to present Drum Major Awards at the Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast. This year, as always, the three awards were given to very deserving Mishawaka recipients who have made a significant impact in our community. Following are the Drum Major Award Recipients for 2019:

Janice and Murray Winn

Janice and Murray Winn began their life together on November 25, 1972 after meeting at the University of North Dakota. Both were brought up to work hard, keep smiling, and thank God for what you have. This upbringing has helped them through their years of employment, service in the community, and 46 years of marriage.

Janice and Murray Winn began their life together on November 25, 1972 after meeting at the University of North Dakota. Both were brought up to work hard, keep smiling, and thank God for what you have. This upbringing has helped them through their years of employment, service in the community, and 46 years of marriage.

In 1972, Janice and Murray moved to the City of Mishawaka which has become their home and extended family. Janice has served on many boards and worked for the City of Mishawaka since 1986, retiring in 2018. She recently received the John Hurty Award for her service in the Water Industry and received the distinguished Sagamore of the Wabash Award from the Governor upon her retirement for the exemplary service she has given to others. Jan served as a Board Member of the Salvation Army and as past President of the Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary. She was an active member of Mishawaka Business & Professional Women's Organization, served as Republican Vice-Chairman for St. Joseph County, Secretary for the



*(l-r): Murray and Jan Winn, Mayor Wood,
Janet Hines-Norris, Jim Williams*

Congressional District, and District Chairman for 34 years. Jan is currently a member of the Portage Manor Board, American Water Works Association, St. Joseph County Water Resource and Indiana Water Resource Advisory Boards and is the Mishawaka Republican City Chairperson.

Murray served in the US Army and was a design engineer for Laidig Inc. from 1973 to 2013. He has been a past member of the Mishawaka Breakfast Optimist Club, Mishawaka Salvation Army Advisory Board, St. Joseph County Voting Machine Technician, Mishawaka Republican City Chairman, St. Joseph County Republican Chairman and currently serves on the Mishawaka City Plan Commission since joining in 1984. Murray has also served our voters with integrity and honesty on the St. Joseph County Election Board since 2008.

Jan and Murray Winn have spent their entire lives serving others and knowing that you treat others like family and that the good of the community always comes first.

Janet Hines-Norris

Janet Hines-Norris was born in South Bend to a family of twelve children. Janet began her singing career at the early age of seven singing in church and school choirs. Later, Janet became a popular vocalist and began singing with community and regional groups.

In 1980, Janet traveled to Los Angeles performing lead and background vocals in several theaters and venues. Janet returned to South Bend to be with her family while continuing to use her vocals in the church congregation and at corporate events and conferences.

In 2014, Janet was among 300 contestants to participate in WNIT's Michiana Rising Star where she was crowned the winner. In 2015, she got to showcase her talent for the AARP Life at 50 competitions in Miami, Florida. Competing against 1,300 contestants, she was crowned the winner and named AARP's Superstar.

The past several years Janet regularly gives her time as a Big Sister through the Big Sister Program. She shares her time at outings, educational events, travel and music with her little sister, Jarrah Reid. Janet's desire is to continue giving back to others and to express her love through music. "It is a gift to bring others into a place of happiness, joy and peace, which only flows from the heart".

Jim Williams, CEO Habitat for Humanity, St. Joseph County

Jim Williams has been the President and CEO of Habitat for Humanity of St. Joseph County, Indiana since 2009. Under his leadership, Habitat for Humanity of St. Joseph County has received Indiana's Affiliate of the Year Award, the Community Foundation of St. Joseph County's Leighton Award for Nonprofit Excellence, and Habitat International's Affiliate of Distinction Award. In 2018, Jim was elected to Habitat's National Advisory Board, called the U.S. Council.

Last year, Jim and his team led the effort to bring the world-renowned Jimmy & Rosalyn Carter Work Project to the City of Mishawaka. Leading up the event, 17 housing projects were completed in South Bend; and then from August 26-31, two thousand volunteers joined President and Mrs. Carter, Garth Brooks and Trisha Yearwood in building 23 homes in Mishawaka. The week kicked off with an opening ceremony at the University of Notre Dame's Purcell Pavilion and concluded with the highest compliment from President Carter, "This has been the best organized, most

pleasant and well-prepared build that we have ever experienced—and we have had some good ones!”

Jim and his wife Shauna have three adult children and one 10-month old granddaughter.

South Bend Regional Chamber Salute to Business Luncheon Awards

In February 2019, the South Bend Regional Chamber held their Annual Salute to Business Luncheon celebrating top individual and business achievements. Following are the Mishawaka business and individuals honored by the Chamber.

Small Business of the Year

Lehman & Lehman

Lehman & Lehman are landscape architects, planners and place makers. According to Chuck Lehman, President & CEO, “Lehman & Lehman assists clients and communities in seeking and defining their desired future. We refer to this process as transforming horizons.”

Now entering its 31st year, Lehman & Lehman practices with an emphasis on social economic and purposeful design strategies. It crafts sustainable landscapes, sites and places that create positive change through cross-disciplinary collaborations.

Lehman & Lehman is more than a landscape architecture firm; rather, the company is a visionary of the land, present and future. Their approach is holistic, shaping human perspectives to encourage richer thinking that is deeper and more meaningful in both scope and magnitude. Their project involvement includes the planning and design of Mishawaka’s Central Park.

With the economic downturn in 2008-2009, the company reinvented itself, making the decision to stay small to offer enhanced focus. While the company reinvented itself, so did Chuck, building relationships and investing time in the community. This engagement means participation on various boards and committees, including serving on two regional cities advisory committees and serving on the board of the South Bend-Elkhart Regional Partnership. He is also board chair of the South Bend Heritage Foundation and member of the Mishawaka Education Foundation.

Athena Award

Amy Gillin

Amy Gillin is one of those unassuming leaders that simply goes about her work, yet not recognizing the impact she is making not only with her job performance but also with the people she interacts with. It’s those people who laud her tireless commitment to collaboration and talent development.

Amy has worked for nearly 12 years at the Mishawaka company, Bayer, in various capacities focusing on organizational effectiveness. Amy is an influential role model and driver of diversity and inclusion at the Bayer Edison Lakes site and is the executive sponsor for the Women’s Leadership Initiative and the Customer Logistics Service Center Diversity & Inclusion team.

In her first two years of executive sponsorship, Amy has not only provided development opportunities for the members but has doubled membership and extended the company's footprint within the community by growing the partnerships with the American Cancer Society, Food Bank of Northern Indiana and local food trucks. Within the Customer Logistics organization, Amy mentors more than 10 women.

Distinguished Business Leader

Craig Kapson

Craig Kapson joined his father, Jordan Kapson, at his Mishawaka Ford Dealership in 1972 after graduating from Olivet College with a degree in economics. Craig proved his business prowess by expanding the business to include seven additional franchises in the Mishawaka and Elkhart areas. Craig was also responsible for adding the commercial fleet business to the company's footprint. For 17 years, the fleet service was the largest-volume Ford Fleet Dealership in the U.S., and for two years, Jordan Automotive's Toyota Fleet business was the largest-volume Toyota Fleet in the nation.

Among his business achievements, Craig helped develop the Toyota Customer Satisfaction experience for the U.S., which continues to be implemented throughout all Toyota dealerships today. In 1990, under Craig's leadership as president, Jordan Automotive was named the Automotive Dealer of the Year by Automotive News. Craig is a recipient of the President's Award for both Toyota and Ford. The State of Indiana also recognized him with The Herman R. Goodin Civic Service Award.

Community is very important to Craig. Over the years, locally, he gave of his time serving on the boards of the South Bend Mishawaka Automotive Dealer Association, South Bend Temple Beth-El, South Bend Symphony, WNIT Public Television, Notre Dame Library, Memorial Hospital and 1st Source Corporation.

After selling the business in 2018, Craig and his wife established several scholarships: Cultural and Performing Art Fund for Jewish Federation of St. Joseph Valley, College Scholarship for Jewish Federation of St. Joseph Valley, Bicentennial Scholarships in Music as well as Business and Economics at IU South Bend..

Mishawaka Business Association Annual Dinner and Meeting

The Mishawaka Business Association held its annual Dinner on March 7, 2019. The Mishawaka Business Association is dedicated to the promotion and growth of the Mishawaka community and business environment. They are a committed advocate for the success of their members and a facilitator for the continued development of the business community.

This year's event was fashioned with a 1920's theme titled "The Juice Joint will be Jumpin". Special thanks were given to Amanda and Brian Rutherford, owners of Burns Special Events, for graciously offering their showroom to host the event. Amanda, Brian, and their staff transformed The Burns Special Events



Wayne Ryan with Mayor Wood

showroom into a 1920's prohibition style dance club and amid business members dressed as "gents" and "flappers", the 2019 Business Awards were presented.

MBA Persons of the Year

David Nufer

David Nufer was born and raised in South Bend. He graduated from LaSalle High School. David's wife, Susan, was born in Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, and moved to South Bend in 1998. They have four children and eight grandchildren. Recently David and Susan moved from Granger to Barrington Estates in Mishawaka.

In 1961, Burton's Laundry began with David's grandparents, Burton and Lottie Cebulski. Their first Laundromat was on Lincolnway West in South Bend. Burton and Lottie's daughter and son-in-law, Louise and Don Nufer, took over the operations in 1972. One of their children, David, enjoyed working with his father and grandfather. In 1972, David purchased his first laundromat at 305 E. Jefferson in Mishawaka.

Following the Nufer tradition, David and Susan are passing down the operations of the businesses to their children; teaching them the knowledge he obtained from his grandparents and parents. With eight grandchildren, David and Susan can see the long-range future and know the tradition of passing down the business will continue for another generation.

Currently, their business ventures include thirteen laundromats, two car washes, two Fastsigns, a dry cleaner, furniture store, and the Goodson Event Center. David and Susan are proudly involved in their community: Kamm Island Fest, Mishawaka Food Pantry, Nuner Primary Center, Mishawaka Lions Club, St. Jude Catholic Church, Salvation Army, Suits for Vets, Boy Scouts Pack 364, Get Wet for a Vet, Potawatomi Zoo, and Meals on Wheels. David and Susan have served on several local boards: Mishawaka Food Pantry, River Park Business Association, South Bend Alumni Association, Chiara Home, and the Potawatomi Zoo.

Mishawaka is a great place to do business and live and David and Susan are happy to call Mishawaka home.

MBA Business of the Year

Hazen Enterprises LLC

Tony and Lou Ann Hazen started their business, Hazen Enterprises LLC, in August of 2005 after a unique opportunity was presented to them. A convenience store that they had owned 20 years earlier became available and they decided to purchase the business at Capital and 12th Street, a convenience store with gasoline known as Hazen's since 1985. They saw an opportunity to operate a convenience store in a neighborhood they loved and serve the neighborhood with the great customer service that they have always believed in. This was their first location and is no longer in operation due to the State of Indiana expanding Capital Avenue and needing this property.

Since that time, Tony and Lou Ann began taking over convenience stores in good locations that were struggling. They ran the businesses with their simple motto of "providing a clean store with

quality products and great customer service.” These are the qualities that they believed would make a good store great!

Over the years, Tony and Lou Ann have turned around seven locations with the help of their children and grandchildren. They have provided full and part-time jobs to many people in our community, young and old alike, and support local schools and charities. They are most proud of their latest venture, a brand new (from the ground up) location in Mishawaka which provides Marathon gasoline along with a Subway restaurant and a Broaster chicken deli. This location is a “labor of love” from the entire family and many days you can see even the youngest grandchildren helping out.

Tony and Lou Ann contribute their success to good employees and a loyal customer base that they have served for over 30 years. They have always believed in service to others and giving back to the Mishawaka community which has given them so much support over the years.

Optimist Club Student Honorees

The Mishawaka Optimist Club held its annual breakfast to honor the achievements of Mishawaka seniors from each of the Mishawaka local high schools. These awards are given yearly to a select few students based not only on their accomplishments in their studies but also on their non-classroom activities.

Mayor Wood was honored to attend the breakfast and present these exemplary students with the Optimist Award.

2019 Optimist Club Student Honorees	
Marian High School	Kathryn (Kath) Verslype and Armel Iradukunda
Mishawaka High School	Morgan Hardy and Richard (Ricky) King
Penn High School	Elisabeth (Elly) McKinney and Collin Mott

Mayor’s Youth Advisory Council

The 2018-2019 Mayor’s Youth Advisory Council (MYAC) is proud to have completed another successful year of community service, local government studies, education opportunities with area businesses and volunteer work for many events. This year’s group consisted of 30 members including a Senior Advisor, Celine Wang, a Penn High School Senior. Celine helped organize the group and was a Senior Advisor that gave great advice to the students. She encouraged them to “get out of their comfort zone” and get involved with the volunteer projects that were offered to them. She helped organize the Thanksgiving Food Drive, attended all meetings and field trips and was instrumental in the success of this group.

The MYAC started their year on September 9th with a family invited cook-out and approximately 100 people attended to meet fellow members, Mayor Wood and their Adult Coordinators. On September 17th, an official Swearing-In-Ceremony was held in the Council Chambers during the Mishawaka Common Council Meeting and their first meeting took place shortly after. Officers were elected: Karen Wang-President, John Tordi-Vice President, Libby Voor-Secretary and Abraham Cannon-Treasurer. These students would be responsible for leading the MYAC business meetings, field trips and events.

In October, the students were visited by Mary Nucciarone, Director of Financial Aid from the University of Notre Dame, and were given insight on applying for college. This process is daunting for most students and families, and Ms. Nucciarone brought her expertise on this topic to share with these students. One of their largest community service projects, the Annual MYAC Thanksgiving Food Drive, took several months to organize and complete and in November, the students collected, packed and delivered 80 full Thanksgiving dinners to Mishawaka families.



(l-r): A. Katzelis, D. Fox, J. Wood, N. Majewski, N. Winters, A. Horvath, J. Wood, Mayor Wood, G. Sandefur

Representatives from each high school led the initiative and not only extra food collected for the Mishawaka Food Pantry, but money was donated to help purchase the 80 turkeys. With the leftover money from the Thanksgiving Food Drive, the group decided to adopt three families for Christmas, and students from each high school shopped for their “adopted” family. They not only provided gifts of toys and clothes, but they also provided a Christmas dinner and extra food for the families. This year the students learned about the Engineering Department, Code Enforcement and Building, Mishawaka Parks, the Mishawaka Police and Fire Department, and were presented with unique community service and volunteer opportunities throughout the year.

In March, the students visited the Indiana Statehouse with other Youth Council members from across the State. They met with their local State Representatives, Dale Devon and Ross Deal and met State Senator, Ryan Mishler and Linda Rogers. At this meeting, My Community, My Vision recipients from around the state presented winning projects of how to engage Youth in Their Community.



(l-r): Mayor Wood, Abraham Cannon, Alicia Katzelis, Joshua Lange

There were five recipients in the state of Indiana and each group was presented with a \$5,000 check to further their project in their hometown. This youth planning partnership between the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority and IUPUI School of Public and Environmental Affairs Graduate Program was one that the students felt they would like to participate in next year. It would be a unique opportunity for them to organize a project that would leave a lasting impact on their community.

To finalize the year, a Mock Council Meeting took place in the Council Chambers on June 10th. With coaching from Mayor Wood, Councilman, Mike Bellovich and City Clerk, Deb Block, the students flawlessly conducted a council meeting. Roles were chosen randomly and the students played the parts of Mayor, City Clerk, Council Members, attorneys, citizens and business owners. They were given scenarios of situations similar to what the Mishawaka Council deals with in the Princess City and these students took their roles seriously. One issue that was sure to be voted down actually passed unanimously due to the presentation by one of the students. It was a lesson in Local Government that these students will never forget.



Mayor's Youth Council – Mock Council Meeting

2018-2019 Mayor's Youth Council	
Adams High School	Joey Grabill
Marian High School	Emily Clark, Joe Griesinger, Anna Gruber, Hannah Hopson, Gracie Molnar, Jasmine Rodriguez, Joseph Tordi, John Tordi, Rosa Trippel, Elizabeth Voor, Joseph Wood
Mishawaka High School	Eric Arseneau, Jozalyn Bryce, Abraham Cannon, Anna Carpenter, Tyler Colborn, Logan DeSchepper, C.J. Fisher, Alicia Katzelis, Kaylee Kern, Joshua Lange, Kendall Miller, Courtney Pelletier, Adrianna Pickens, Taylor Stanton
Penn High School	Max Bender, Noah Cocquyt, Luke Schuster, Karen Wang and Student Mentor/Advisor, Celine Wang



2018-2019 Mayor's Youth Council

Santa Claus is Comin' to Town

In support of Small Business Saturday, the City of Mishawaka welcomed the arrival of Mayor Wood and Santa on a decorated firetruck into downtown Mishawaka on Small Business Saturday, November 30th.

The festivities began around 5:00pm on the northwest lawn of the Mishawaka Police Station with live music, the Rulli's Pizza food truck, and special appearances by Frozen's Anna and Elsa. The Mayor's Youth Advisory Council served hot chocolate, donated by Hazen's Marathon, and cookies, donated by Martin's Supermarkets, while the children waited for Santa's arrival. With sirens, flashing lights and Santa's ho-ho-ho, the procession traveled along Main Street and arrived around 6:00pm.

This year's tree (the largest ever) was donated by the new owners of Village Green mobile home park, Meritus Communities, and the VIP family, the Mathis family, had the honor of "flipping the switch" to light the tree. Santa met with the hundreds of youngsters in attendance to hear what they wanted for Christmas while parents took pictures. It was another successful start of the Christmas season in the City of Mishawaka.

Proclamations

Each year Mayor Wood is called upon to honor notable events and occasions with Proclamations. Following are the 2019 Mayoral Proclamations.

City of Mishawaka Retirements

- Don McCampbell, Plan Commission, 19 years 02/12/19
- Yolanda Hahn, Mishawaka Utility Business Office, 8 years 04/10/19
- Paul Gleissner, Mishawaka Fire Department, 33 years 04/25/19
- Keith Cooper, Mishawaka Water Department, 40 years 08/15/19
- Dale Francis, Mishawaka Fire Department, 20 years 09/13/19

Other Notable Proclamations

- Mary Ann Weber, 91st Birthday 01/04/19
- Maureen McFadden, retirement from WNDU, 40 years 03/14/19
- Farmworkers Awareness Week 03/25/19
- Arbor Day 2019 04/23/19
- Worker's Memorial Day 04/26/19
- National Day of Prayer 05/02/19
- Pam Newman, retirement from Leadership, 27 years 06/12/19
- Dave Weber, retirement from School City, 40 years 06/25/19
- National Rail Safety Week 09/22/19
- Mike Lane, 50 years at Mishawaka Barnaby's 10/02/19
- Manufacturing Day 10/04/19
- Coach Tony Natali, 34 years of coaching 10/25/19
- Peter J. DeKeever, Historian Laureate of Mishawaka 11/11/19
- Coach Tony Violi, retirement, 36 years 11/27/19