Fort Wayne = Home Sweet Home

Even in these tough economic times, Fort Wayne is a great place to be a homeowner, according to Beth Goldsmith, owner of Sold by the Gold. A specialist in corporate and medical relocation, Goldsmith has spent 18 years in the residential marketplace and is an accomplished tri-athlete as well.

"Understanding our market with statistics is a matter of perspective," Goldsmith says. "The fundamental things about the housing market are community identity and service, making Fort Wayne a desirable place to live."

So, how does Fort Wayne stack up?

- The average sales price for a home in our seven-county region is $112,000, up 6.9 percent last year and with no change this year.
- The percentage of original list price received is at 93.8 percent, meaning houses are going to sell for only 6.2 percent below their list price.
- Houses are on the market for 90 to 120 days, "not horrible news."
- Fort Wayne is a stable market, with no significant highs or lows.
- The Wall Street Journal has twice listed Fort Wayne as an affordable city.
Next Meeting: September 12, 2011
(No meeting on Sept. 5, Labor Day)

“OPENING DOORS THROUGH SERVICE”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Greeters</th>
<th>Rick Maples &amp; Denny Williamson</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cashier</td>
<td>Mike Carpenter</td>
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<td>Invocation</td>
<td>Linda Skaggs</td>
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<td>House</td>
<td>Allen Shoup, John Hoffman</td>
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<td>Song Leader</td>
<td>Tim Gibson</td>
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<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Louise Jackson &amp; Holli Seabury</td>
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<td>Spin Editor</td>
<td>Kelly Updike</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program</td>
<td>Rob Staley, Executive Director, “The Crossing Educational Center“</td>
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Upcoming Program

Sept 19  Nancy Lorraine, Executive Director, Turnstone
“Turnstone - A New Look”

Proposed New Members
Please call President Mike with any comments

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lori Stinson</th>
<th>Realtor, NorthEastern Group Realty</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sponsors</td>
<td>Mark Westerhausen, Mike Kelly, Dave Borgen</td>
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<tr>
<th>Frank Weaver</th>
<th>General Manager, Home Comfort Experts</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sponsors</td>
<td>Bill Raftree, Mike Kelly, Hope Sheehan</td>
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Where is Bobbi Albert Grill?
Bobbi (Albert) Grill
1340 Lane 150, Hamilton, IN 46742
Home: (260) 488-2629
Cell: (260) 417-6306
Email: bobbikalb@gmail.com
Bobbi Grill
Executive Director
Steuben County United Way
317 S. Wayne St., Ste. 3D
Angola, IN 46703
Office: (260) 665-6196
Fax: (260) 665-6196
Email: Bobbi@unitedwaysteuben.org

Neighboring Club Meetings

Tuesday
Angola: 12pm, Sunset Grill, Orland Road
Auburn: 12pm, Italian Grill
Bluffton: 12pm, River Terrace Estates Chapel
Churubusco: 12pm, St. John Fusco Church
Columbia City: 12pm, Parkview Memorial Hospital
Garrett: 12pm, Railroad Inn
Huntington: 12pm, LaFontaine Center
Kendallville: 6:15pm, Four County Vocational Co-op Building
Ligonier: 7am, UMC Church, Townline

Wednesday
Anthony Wayne: 12pm, Hall’s Guesthouse

Thursday
Albion: 12pm, Albion Public Library
Berne: 12pm, Parkway Chalet
Butler: 12pm, American Legion
Decatur: 12pm, Back Forty
North Manchester: 12pm, Manchester College

Friday
Warsaw: 12pm, Ramada Plaza Hotel

Complete list at www.rotary6540.org
Hey, he won’t bite

We respectfully request that club members sit at the front table, near the screen and podium. Lots of room up front! Great views! No biting!

ROTA, won’t ya!

Through a Rotary Simplified Grant, our club provided playground equipment and school supplies to a school, jep central glei kindergarten, in Atakpame, Toga, West Africa. This project, completed in conjunction with the Atakpame, Toga Rotary Club, was selected after Rotarian Jason Daenens traveled to Ghana in 2010 and attended a service-project fair there.

This Reach Out To Africa (ROTA) project was deeply appreciated by the school, whose leader wrote in a thank-you letter to our club, “You have made a difference in the lives of our children.”

Mark your calendar

Sept. 7 is the Back to School Picnic at Washington Elementary. At least 12 Rotarians are needed to help staff this fun event, which requires your attendance by 5:15 p.m. for a 6:15 p.m. event start time. One Rotarian is needed to grill hot dogs. Contact Lona Antil at lonaantil@gmail.com for more information. Parking is available in the school lot and Rotary aprons will be provided. Lona says it will not rain!

Housing trends

Beth Goldsmith, owner of Sold by the Gold, shared housing trends per research from the National Association of Realtors. Home buyers are seeking smaller houses,
economically and ecologically efficient homes, green spaces such as parks, a sense of community, downtown living spaces and intergenerational housing such as in-law suites. Goldsmith added that 90 percent of home buyers will look at a home online before seeing it in person.

Random Acts of Rotary

On Aug. 29, while many Rotarians from the club were hitting the green to raise money for Cleo Fox scholarships, a small group went to Washington Elementary to complete a service project. After all, what better way to highlight our club’s efforts to Open Doors through Service than to raise funds AND provide community support and service?

Rotarians Dick Sievers, Win Rood and Mike Kelly helped the Washington School library renovation efforts by removing outdated stickers from books. While the project wasn’t all that glamorous or exciting, it did open the door for the library and school staff to maximize the impact of their time with students. The project exemplified our motto of
service above self. As Principal J.R. Ankenbruck said, "We always welcome adults at the school to help, especially Rotarians!"

Random Acts of Rotary is a series of Done in a Day-type service projects that require little planning, make significant impact and feature the myriad of ways that the club opens doors through service. Look for more random acts from the Downtown Club in the future!

**Golf Outing**

Below are some photos from pre/post-course time at the golf outing on Aug. 29, which raises funds for Cleo Fox music scholarships. Look in next week’s Spin for the low-down on scores, winners and losers.
Where The Rubber Hits The Road!

My dad always used to tell me, “What doesn’t kill you will only make you stronger”. Well, after the weekend’s “5K Fun Run & Walk”, our club is a much stronger place – just ask my aching legs! Maybe the saying, “Nothing good comes easy” is more appropriate? All the proceeds went to the Rotary International Polio Eradication Initiative! So there was “some” good that came with the pain! Speaking of pain…this event was a “1st Annual” grudge match between our club and the Anthony Wayne Club. The Anthony Wayne Club triumphed resoundingly (boos and hisses!!) over our club – our women’s team defaulted due to coming up short one runner and our men came up that little bit short! It’s always been said that the Fort Wayne Club members are “lovers not fighters”! There is always next year! A special note to pass on to the Membership Committee! We need a male and female member who can
each do a sub 20 minute 5K recruited in time for next year’s event to get us back in the running! Mark your calendars - The “Rumble On The Road 2012” will be held on Saturday, August 18, 2012! This is our chance to bring the travelling trophies back home!

Our sincere thanks to Bill Harris for pulling everything together for our club for this event. Congratulations to Tim “The Jack Rabbit” Gibson for setting the pace and all the rest of our gang for what we’ll call a “team (aka character) building” experience! Running from our club were Candace Schular (her husband dropped her off and went out for breakfast – now there’s support!), Ron Verlee, Jason Daenens, Kim Wagner, Dee Hoffman, Fred Eckart, Lona Antil, Roger Reece, Win Moses, Tim Gibson, Mike Kelly (looking quite Presidential – he never broke a sweat!!), and me (Dave Borgen)!