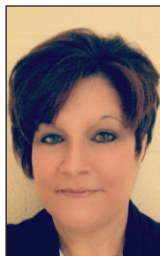


Generations Agency on Aging

Staying active promotes healthy aging

Studies show that adults ages 50 and over need 150 minutes of activity each week. Staying active can help fight chronic disease, improve mood & overall quality of life. But physical activity doesn't have to be a chore! Choose an activity that is fun to you! This might be swimming, bowling, bicycling, taking a nature walk or even gardening. Just remember to take proper precautions against the heat and then get out there and get moving!



BRENDA HANCOCK

2017 TRAILBLAZER 5K - IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER
Generations' annual Trailblazer 5K is coming up on August 12th, 2017. Held on the beautiful

campus of Vincennes University's Vincennes Campus. For more information on this event and how to register, visit www.trailblazer5k.com or you can visit the Generations website at www.generations-network.org

DO YOU HAVE A CHRONIC CONDITION? WOULD YOU LIKE TO TAKE CHARGE TO IMPROVE YOUR HEALTH? Generations will be hosting a Living a Health Life With Chronic Conditions workshop beginning August 16th, 2017 at the Jasonville Library, 611 West Main, Jasonville, IN. This workshop will last for 6 weeks and will meet weekly from 1:30-3:00 p.m. You will set your own goals and make a step-by-step plan to improve your health and your life! You will learn from trained volunteer leaders with health conditions themselves. This class is free to participants, but you must reserve

your spot. To find out more, you may contact Sandy Carpenter at 812-381-0441, Dodie Uhl at 812-482-1766, or Alma Kramer at akramer@vinu.edu.

GENERATIONS RECEIVES SENIOR CORPS RSVP GRANT

GREAT NEWS!! New volunteer opportunities for volunteers ages 55+ will be on their way to Greene County soon! Plenty of opportunities already exist for volunteers of all ages, so if you are interested in volunteering in ANY of the counties in our service area (Davies, Dubois, Greene, Knox, Martin and Pike), give us a call at 1-800-742-9002.

GENERATIONS MAGAZINE

The spring issue of Generations magazine is out! Our magazine is geared toward adults in pre-retirement and retirement years

and promotes active aging and preventive health. It is published three times a year and is free to subscribers. All we need is your name and address. If you would like to receive future copies of the magazine, contact Brenda Hancock at 812-888-5146 or bhancock@vinu.edu.

Brenda is a Community Resource Coordinator with Generations, Area 13 Agency on Aging & Disability. She can be reached at bhancock@vinu.edu. Generations, Area 13 Agency on Aging & Disability, is a program of Vincennes University's Community Services Division. Our agency connects individuals and caregivers to community resources and options for long-term care and in-home services. For more information, call 1-800-742-9002 or 812-888-5880 or visit our website at www.generationsnetwork.org.

Turner

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

gets home.' I sweated and worried the rest of the day. When he got home, dad laughed and made mud pies with me, then we cleaned out his mixer together. My dad showed me patience, he showed me compassion, and he taught me not to sweat the small stuff. He also taught me that it's mostly small stuff."

The patience and kindness Turner's daughter remembers from her dad reflect the kind and loving heart Turner carries around on a daily basis. His gentle way with children makes him quite popular with the younger generations, and in return, Turner volunteers his time with Head Start, often spending time reading to them along with the Greene County Literacy Coalition's Beth Burcham, whom Turner calls his "first female boss, and my favorite one, even if she did go to Purdue."

"You have to start a love of reading in the little ones early," Turner said of the reason he devotes some of his available volunteer time to children's programs.

Turner related a story in which he was shopping for groceries at a local store, and thought he heard someone call his name.

"I looked over, and all the way across the store, a little girl was pointing me out to her mom, saying 'That's him, mom, that's my Bob!' that just made my day."

Greene County resident Reena Evans has known Turner for a number of years, having met him in 2013 as a library customer. Soon, the two were working together, with Evans using her experience as a circulation clerk at a library in Indianapolis combined with a teaching career and a lifelong love of learning, to run the front desk at BEGCPL with Turner.

"I am sure Bob makes a very memorable impression on children," Evans said. "He is very friendly, very outgoing and he has a way of connecting with people on every level. When he would go to day-care facilities and read to children, he would make it so fun for them. For example, if Bob was reading them the story of the Three Billy Goats Gruff, he would read in different voices for each character and be very animated. Bob is just able to make people of all age groups, all social strata and all situations comfortable."

Evans said Turner has made strides in

programs developed to increase literacy and provide high school equivalency training to inmates in area correctional facilities.

"Bob is a very Christian person," Evans said. "He is not judgmental, he walks the walk to accompany the talk. He is not at all prideful and he means what he says. The only pride I've ever seen him display had a purpose. He had purchased some shirts at a secondhand shop and was showing somebody during an outreach occasion. He had paid 25 cents or so for each shirt. He was wearing one of them, and at the same time, he was showing by example that there is absolutely no shame in second-hand clothing, he was thrilled to get such a bargain."

Currently homebound with an unspecified illness, Evans is a grateful recipient of the Library Express service offered by her past employer, BEGCPL, and enjoys Turner's regular visits supplying her with a stream of reading material. The regular visits also provide Evans with Turner's friendly and entertaining companionship and, sometimes, a little help around her home.

Evans has an outbuilding on her property, a small shed that she wanted to turn into her version of a "man cave," but customized for her interests. Unable to physically perform the tasks necessary to improve the building, Evans was relieved and grateful when Turner offered his expertise and a helping hand, insulating and finishing the building to make it a comfortable and weatherproof place to craft and create.

"Another thing I really admire about Bob is his ability to bring out the best in people," Evans added.

"He has the ability to look within and see what a person is good at, bring that ability out to be used to benefit others, and gift that person with a sense of accomplishment and achievement. He can find strength a person didn't know they possessed and show them how to use it."

Turner was raised in Charleston, S.C., moving to Fort Wayne as an adult. He next spent 30 years in Ann Arbor, Mich., owning and operating a successful dry-wall business.

So successful, in fact, Turner was popular with members of the Detroit Red Wings after finishing a complicated project for one player. The word got around, and soon Turner was up to his elbows with business from Red Wings players and from members of the Detroit Pistons. Turn-

er's second wife Norma passed away in 2011, from complications related to diabetes, a disease which led to the amputation of both of her legs a short while before her passing.

In 2013, Turner was urged by his daughter to relocate to Greene County, and he complied, giving himself and his daughter the gift of a deeper and closer relationship and the chance to get to know one another even better.

"My favorite thing about my dad is his sense of humor, most of the time," Neill said. "Once you meet him, he is memorable, to say the least. Getting to know my dad has taught me a lot about myself, where I got my work ethic, my strength and independence. I admire his tenacity, I've watched him battle life over and over, to overcome and rebuild. I have watched my dad mature," she said.

Neill also recalls watching her father display a remarkable determination when dealing with his own health issues.

In recent years, Turner found himself faced with a diagnosis no one wants to hear. While not forthcoming with specifics, Turner revealed he was diagnosed with cancer a few years ago. Turner's particular cancer was one with a high likelihood of metastasis. In metastasis, according to the National Cancer Institute, cancer cells break away from where they first formed (primary cancer), travel through the blood or lymph system and form new tumors in other parts of the body.

"I have watched my dad deal with several medical conditions at one time," said Neill. "He went through chemotherapy and still worked full time at age 82, while keeping his sense of humor even though he didn't feel well. He was patient with medical staff and kept them entertained, even though I know he was hurting and scared."

Evans echoed the feelings of Turner's daughter. "Bob just kept on going and going," she said. "He made jokes about filling up his 'man purse,' with healthy snacks and juices he juiced himself after researching the benefits of them. He has such a strong faith in God, and that faith manifested itself in results."

Said Neill, "He kept his focus on God and knew whatever happened, he was ready. He has been in remission for almost two years now."

Evans said that just a couple of weeks ago, Turner visited his doctors for follow up tests to check on the progress of his cancer treatment.

"He said the doctor came out and said the cancer was gone.



By Patti Danner

The Little Library in Switz City is located in front of the fire station.

The doctors said they couldn't explain it, they didn't know what to say. Bob said 'Well, I do, the Lord did it'. That's Bob."

Turner currently lives in Linton, and his sporty silver Ford can be seen all around Greene Coun-

ty as he makes his way from Little Library to Little Library, to senior centers, day care facilities and the homes of Greene County library patrons that he calls friends.

The indefatigable Turner reminds us all of the power of faith and

the power of friendship, and he raises the bar for the heights we can reach when we truly care for others.

As Turner taught his only daughter years before, "Don't sweat the small stuff, and it's mostly small stuff."



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