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# ACCENT

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SECTION **C**



Grower Randy Stout of Melody Acres works at his farm south of Bargersville. Stout grows carrots, radishes, lettuce, kale, collard greens and Swiss chard in three greenhouses to sell to restaurants and at the Bloomington Winter Market. A year-round farmers market store is set to open in May at Indianapolis City Market.



Janet Hommel Mangas

## Extreme makeover: Bath tile edition

**W**hen we strolled into Lowe's last month, my husband and I were holding hands.

We had talked about remodeling our upstairs main bathroom since we moved into our 1959 brick ranch 16 years ago.

But you know how things get in the way: birthing three daughters, then potty training them, swim practices, lots of fun ministries at church and purchasing and remodeling my husband's office six years ago.

It's not that I don't still enjoy the 1950-ish sunshine yellow-and-gray bathroom.

What's not to love when your sunshine-yellow bathroom sink matches your sunshine yellow bathtub and sunshine yellow toilet?

Whoever laid the tile obviously did an excellent job, since it has lasted about 47 years.

In the years that we've lived in this house, I figure I've cleaned the bathroom 862 times, if I cleaned it thoroughly once a week. (Hence, the two key words are "if" and "thoroughly.")

Anyway, despite cleaning and re-grouting, the elephant-gray bathtub/shower wall tiles have become loose or fallen.

The husband has re-grouted and replaced them, but it's time we laid the elephant-gray tiles to rest.

The problem is that things have changed a little since 1959 when the only tile choices were white, yellow, pink and gray.

In Lowe's, there are 6.49 billion choices of tiles.

Looking at all the colors made me dizzy.

The good thing is that the hubby and I have similar tastes. Neither of us like bright blue tile, nor do we like fluorescent orange polka-dot tiles with red horizontal lines.

So it seemed like it would be fairly easy and fun to pick a color.

Since we both have busy schedules, I suggested we ask the tile experts about getting some references about contractors who could lay the tile.

That's when the hubby informed me that laying tile is relatively easy and that we could do it ourselves.

After reminding him that the finished edges might be a bit difficult for a beginner and that since I would probably be cleaning this bathroom and looking at the edges for the next 1,560 cleanings, I strongly suggested we have a tile guy, who already has the appropriate tools, time and knowledge, lay the bathroom tile.

At that moment, Steve dramatically pointed to what he referred to as a sign from God.

(SEE TILE, PAGE C4)

# Cornering the local market

Group encourages neighbors to support Indiana growers year-round

By ANNETTE JONES  
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**T**he demand for locally grown food is increasing nationwide. Americans want produce that is safe, tastes fresh and supplies more nutrition than produce that has been picked before it is ripe and shipped across the country.

Having tasted the fresh fruits and vegetables from local growers at farmers markets during the summer, customers crave the same quality year-round, says grower Randy Stout of Melody Acres, south of Bargersville.

Johnson County farmers and producers are working to accommodate the demand for fresh products, Stout says.

Farmers are trying to maximize their harvest and income by building greenhouses and supplying winter vegetables, he said.

Stout grows a winter crop of carrots, radishes, lettuce, kale, collard greens and Swiss chard in 14,000 square feet of greenhouse space. He sells the produce to restaurants and at the Bloomington Winter Market on Saturday mornings.

In May, another venue for year-round farm products will open in the renovated Indianapolis City Market, 222 E. Market St. between Delaware and Alabama streets.

Indiana Farm Retail Market, or I.FaRM, will operate a store at the market that will be open year-round. The venture

### FYI

Want to join local growers in selling produce and other products? Contact I.FaRM membership coordinator Daina Chamness at 414-5102.



Bargersville grower Randy Stout digs up baby carrots in one of his greenhouses. Stout's produce meets the demand of consumers seeking fresh, locally grown produce year-round.

will be a retail-store cooperative owned by Indiana growers and producers.

I.FaRM will provide a variety of Indiana products and food-related goods, with a high percentage of the profits going back to farmers and producers. The

(SEE MARKET, PAGE C9)

# Guys warm to embraces with other men ... in macho forms, of course

Manly greetings straying from strictly handshakes

By CYNTHIA HUBERT  
SACRAMENTO (CALIF.) BEE

Will Smith and Forest Whitaker did it on the red carpet at the SAG Awards last month. The men of TV's "Entourage" embrace it. The "Soprano" boys take it in stride.

We're talking about the man hug. Dudes hugging dudes. In public and with enthusiasm.

It's happening more and more, and not only among celebrity guys. "As American men, we used to have one option for greeting one another: the handshake," says psychotherapist and pop-culture commentator Joshua Estrin. "Not anymore."

"I travel a lot, and I'm seeing it all over the country. You can walk into



SCRIPPS HOWARD PHOTO

"Pursuit of Happiness" director Gabriele Muccino, left, gives a super-sized hug to film star Will Smith. More men aren't shying from touchy-feeling greetings.

a Cheesecake Factory in the Midwest and see guys with their girlfriends greeting other guys with hugs. It's

interesting and rather uplifting, I think."

Hip-hop artists are widely credited with introducing the popular pound hug or pound shake as a greeting between men. It consists of a combination of a handshake and a stiff one-armed hug, and includes two slaps on the back.

"Depending on the circumstances, it can also include a loud exclamation, a general grunting noise to assert your masculinity," says Patrick Carone, entertainment director for Stuff magazine, whose readers are largely males in their 20s.

That's just one of the ways that American man hugs are different from hugs between men and women, and even embraces among females, he notes.

Man hugs are brief, involve minimal body contact and may include a back slap, a guttural noise, or both.

"We're still men, after all," jokes Carone. "It's OK to show that we like

each other, but we still have to act tough." Especially if you happen to be a guy living in a macho culture.

Affectionate behavior "simply isn't a part of the masculine gender role," says Kory Floyd, an associate professor of communication at Arizona State University who has studied the Man Hug phenomenon. "We socialize men to compete," he says, "not to be affectionate."

Floyd has documented the types and lengths of hugs between men and found that they rarely involve full body contact or last more than a second.

"They often begin with a handshake that continues through the hug, so they have their hands as a barrier between them," Floyd notes.

"Research shows that when people see two women hugging in public, they don't think twice about it," he says. Seeing two men hugging "is more unexpected, so it causes people to question" why they're embracing. Specifically, whether

the male huggers are more than just friends.

Those thoughts go out the window when men celebrate sports accomplishments. What's more manly, after all, than belting a grand slam or sacking the quarterback? Or acknowledging such feats with a man hug?

Vlade Divac, the former Sacramento King, had no qualms about embracing his teammates after a stellar pass or slam dunk. Baseball sluggers Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa engaged in a famous hug during their home-run race.

Today, American men are taking hugs beyond the playing field, thanks to hip-hop, global communication and guys such as Tony Soprano and Ari Gold of "Entourage." Elaborate handshakes have morphed into half-hugs and full embraces.

The men of "The Sopranos" perform

(SEE EMBRACES, PAGE C4)