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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2026

Solis, Poulson joins Arts Place as board members

Arts Place is excited to welcome Adolfo Solis and Patty Poulson to the Arts Place Corporate Board of Directors!

Patty hails from Hartford City and is a retired Executive Director of the Blackford County Community Foundation where she also served as its Board President. She has served and or volunteered for many organizations in Blackford County. Patty holds a Masters in Education/ Administration form Ball State University and, prior to working at the Foundation, served as an administrator for Blackford County Schools.

As a part of Patty's three-year term on the Arts Place Corporate Board of Directors, she will also serve on Arts Place's annual campaign committee.

Adolfo Solis is the owner of Progressive del Toro in downtown Portland. He is a member of the IU Health Jay, John Jay Center for Learning, the Jay County Development Corporation Board of Directors. He also serves as the director of CASA de Portland. Adolfo holds a Bachelors Degree from Ball State University.

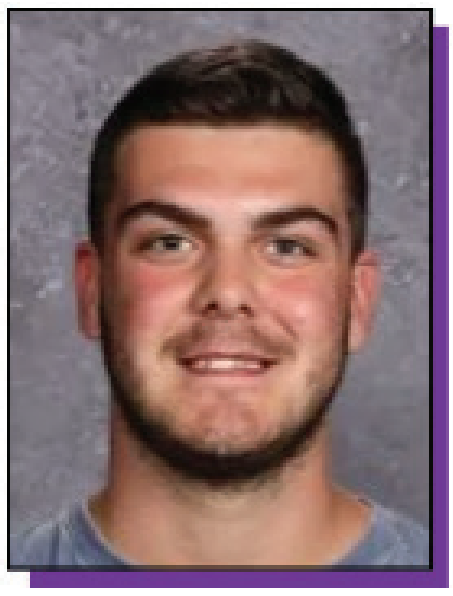
As a part of Adolfo's three-year term on the Arts Place Corporate Board of Directors, Adolfo will also serve on an ad hoc committee to expand arts and culture in our region.

MHS musicians selected for IJEA All-District Jazz Honors Band

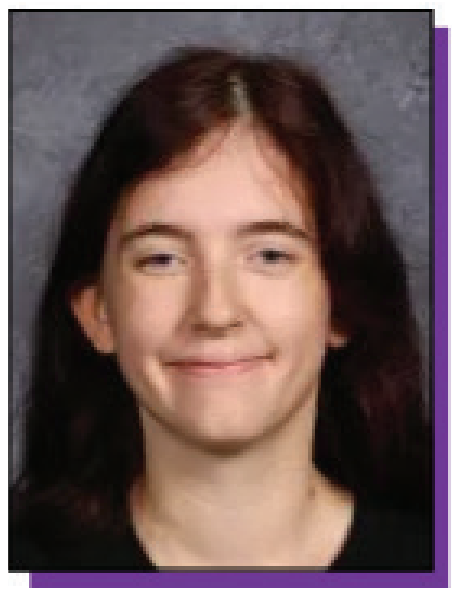
Two Marion High School students have been selected to perform in the Indiana Jazz Education Association All-District Jazz Honor Band.

The musicians selected are juniors Thomas Owen and Elaina Dunham, who both play trombone.

The All-District Jazz Honor Band, which features select students from around the area in grades nine through 12, is a great opportunity and gives students a chance to learn and grow as musicians. To be selected for the IJEA Honor Band, students are recommended by their band director, and must submit applications to be considered for the Honor Band earlier this year. Applications from students across the state were evaluated to select members of this talented group.



Thomas Owen



Elaina Dunham

Selected musicians were tasked with practicing the musical selections in preparation for the special performance. They will gather to rehearse together on Nov. 14, then offer a public performance Nov. 15 at Pendleton Heights High School, under the direction of Adam Waller, Director of Bands at Anderson University, and Mark Middleton, a longtime band director who is now on staff at the Indiana State School Music Association (ISSMA).

Congratulations to these talented, hard-working students on this great accomplishment!

Fairmount residents participate in numerous activities



Community members have begun to enjoy the decorating, added chairs and lights, as well as a mural at "The Alley at Main." State Representative Lori Goss-Reeves was in attendance last weekend and posted on Facebook: It was a beautiful day on Main Street in Fairmount as we gathered to celebrate the ribbon cutting for The Alley at Main. Thank you to everyone who donated and to Brittany who led this project. I love our small towns. Fairmount still feels like my home.



In October, Glenda Barry, a writer from Muncie, spoke about her writing life and times at the Fairmount Public Library. About a dozen attended. Refreshments were served and a lively question and answer exchange took place throughout Barry's presentation. Many stayed to visit afterward.



Saturday, November 7, the Fairmount Public Library hosted an "Art and Chat: Remembering Lourae" to honor the late Lourae Rumple, who passed away August 19 at age 65. For many years, Rumple led one of the most popular activities at the library, "Painting with Lourae." It was held on Saturdays throughout the year, except in the summer months when Rumple was an avid gardener and ran a business selling plants, vegetables, and flowers.



When the late Lourae Rumple taught, she painted alongside her students. At the Saturday, November 7 celebration of her life, visitors painted pictures at the Fairmount Public Library. Rumple's work was on display, to inspire others and remember her talent.

Main Street Fairmount has invited the public to join their board meeting Thursday November 19 from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. at The Branch to catch up on their future plans and enjoy light refreshments.

VICTORIOUS Living ...in a troubled world

Division has one ending... divided house

Teresa LeNeave
Leneave2@comcast.net



Teresa LeNeave

President Lincoln is famous for proclaiming, "United we stand – Divided we fall", but it certainly is not original with Lincoln. Aesop, a Greek storyteller who lived during the 6th century B.C. wrote a fable, "The Four Oxen and the Lion". In it, the last line of the fable reads, "united we stand, divided we fall". Jesus Christ said the same thing: "Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand" Matthew 12:25. The gospel of Mark states it yet another way, "And if a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand" Mark 3:25.

Aesop's story goes like this: "A lion used to prowl about a field in which four oxen used to dwell. Many a time he tried to attack them; but whenever he came near, they turned their tails to warn another, so that whichever way he approached them he was met by the horns of one of them. At last, however, they fell a-quarrelling among themselves, and each went off to pasture alone in the separate corner of the field. Then the Lion attacked them one by one and soon made an end of all four. United we stand. Divided we fall." (The Four Oxen and the Lion; Fables of Aesop.com).

The statement's meaning is undisputable. Everyone knows it is truth so why is it that there is still so much division? Is it not plain, "division will end in a fall? In destruction," just like Jesus said.

When Jesus made this statement, He had just healed a man possessed by the devil and the people were amazed by His power to heal and restore. In the context of the story, He was speaking directly to the Pharisees who had made the statement that He was only able to cast out devils "by Beelzebub (Satan) the prince of the devils". Jesus took this opportunity to explain that he could not possibly be casting out devils by the power of the devil because that is "a house divided against itself, which cannot possibly stand".

That truth still applies today and is applicable to the world we find ourselves living in. A house divided cannot stand. Does anyone agree on much of anything anymore?

Jesus goes on to explain, both in Matthew and in Mark, that any kingdom divided against itself will be destroyed, and any house divided against itself cannot stand. To put that on a level we relate to just think about a marriage; a school system; a country; a civic organization or a church. Most of us have been in a situation that proves a house divided against itself will be destroyed. It's the age-old trick: divide and conquer. A house, or a kingdom, that fights against itself cannot prosper nor will it have the strength to overcome the struggles and battles it goes through.



A house divided is imposing self-inflicting wounds. The Pharisees were attacking their own house (Jesus). Both, Jesus and the Pharisees, were warriors in a battle for good and evil, but because Jesus didn't follow the rules the Pharisees thought needed to be followed, they condemned him.

As Christians, we must not be divided. But that leads us to ask who is right? There has to be only one "truth".

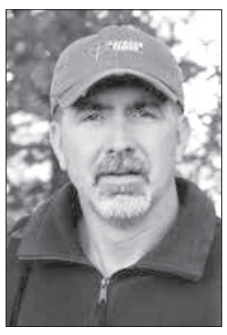
Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth and the life – no man comes to the Father but by me". Clearly, truth must have a marker; a standard to attain to. Can we honestly believe there are dozens of markers and hitting any one of them is okay? Jesus didn't think so. He said He is the Truth.

Honestly, I believe that is the root of our shaking world. Multitudes of young people are taught that their truth is what is truth to them. And, if Christians can't agree on what "truth is", then how can we expect the world to understand? If we stand united on what the Bible says, and if we are not divided in our beliefs as the body of Christ, we will be much stronger in a world that is wallowing in anger and misunderstanding toward each other.

I believe it is time for Christians to re-examine what is dividing us.

Outdoor Truths: Adapt

There's a lot of packing when you take a hunting trip that lasts several days. And the weather report might be the most important factor when deciding what to take. As I began to pack for this last trip, I really just went through the motions. I had made this trip so many times, I had packing down to a fine art. Several weeks before my trip, I begin making the list of everything I need to bring. A few days before I leave, I begin gathering it all together in a few places. I like this approach because I'm not rushing just hours before I leave. This year was no different. I did what I always do, except I neglected to check the weather until I had everything gathered up. Then things changed. I found out it was going to be unseasonably warm, and it was going to rain most of my time there. Now my mind begins to race and reorganize. What I had planned for, and prepared for, now had to be changed- or at least thought out one more time. I decided that my tree stand needed to be replaced with a ground blind and my cold weather gear needed to be replaced with a rain suit and plenty of extra clothes that I might need to stay dry. So, I quickly adapted, made the trip, and was glad I made my last-minute changes. I even arrowed a nice buck on the last day out of my ground blind. I did the Clint Eastwood thing. I adapted, improvised, and overcame.



Gary Miller

If there is one characteristic that marks successful people, it is the ability to adapt. Rarely do things go as planned. And if they do go as planned now, there will come a time when those same plans will lead to a different outcome. I mean while you and I may not want to change our ways, a changing world will demand it if we are to keep up. Or if we are to fulfill our purpose. As Christians, we are to be salt and light to the world we find ourselves in. I know this may cause a rub, but I want to remind you that striving to change our world is honorable and worthwhile. But don't forget that our true call is to adapt. It is to add our salt and light to any environment we find ourselves in. And when we understand that we can make all the plans we want without being afraid to change them. Because adapting isn't a change of plans. Adapting is part of the plan.

Gary Miller
Outdoortruths.org

Gary Miller has written Outdoor Truths articles for 24 years. He has also written five books which include compilations of his articles and a father/son devotional. He also speaks at wild-game dinners and men's events for churches and associations. Stay updated on Outdoor Truths each week by subscribing at Outdoortruths.org

If God Wills

He didn't receive a miracle, but his friend did. His friend was delivered from death, but he wasn't. The Bible says that the suffering experienced by the disciples James and Peter ended quite differently. James was martyred by Herod, but Peter was miraculously freed from prison by a heavenly angel (Acts 12:1-19). Considering that there wasn't a hair's difference between them, why was James allowed to die while Peter was granted freedom?

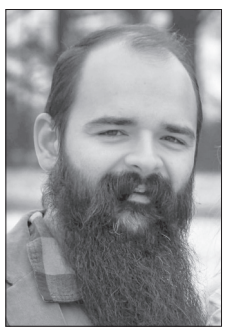
Because sometimes God wills to deliver His people and sometimes He doesn't. God did not love Peter more than James. Peter had not prayed more fervently or with more faith than his colleague. Peter was not a better follower of Jesus than James. It was simply the sovereign will of God to grant Peter deliverance while withholding it from James.

God may also deliver you from your suffering and trials, or He may allow them to persist. The sun of His providence may dry up the clouds of trouble, or it might hide behind them for a torrential season. You can petition the Lord to end your afflictions (cf. Psalm 13:1), and He may will them to cease today or to last for a thousand tomorrows. God may allow you to keep your thorn in the flesh, or He may gracefully remove it (2 Cor. 12:7-10). God may deliver you from the fiery furnace, or He may deliver you over to fiery afflictions such as those endured by Job (Job 1:6-22; Dan. 3:24-27).

You cannot know what the sovereign will of the Lord is. He has written a novel for your life that only He may read. As Moses said, "The secret things belong to the LORD our God" (Deut. 29:29). However, you can be certain that whatever God wills for His children is good.

Paul declared, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28; cf. Ezra 8:22).

Jane Borthwick (1813—1897) captured the spirit of submission to God's will that ought to mark all saints in the opening line of her lesser-known hymn,



Brandon Bramlett

My Jesus, as Thou Wilt:

"My Jesus, as Thou wilt:

O may Thy will be mine!

Into Thy hand of love

I would my all resign.

Through sorrow or thro' joy,

Conduct me as Thine own,

And help me still to say,

"My Lord, Thy will be done."

Note:

For more devotional readings like this, check out my newest book, Bible Gleanings Volume III, and for the Christmas season, Let Earth Receive Her King.

These two books and more are available on Amazon.

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."
– 1 Thessalonians 5:18

Area Deaths

Southern and East Central Indiana

Victoria "Vicki" L. Granacher

Victoria L. "Vicki" Granacher, age 74, of Jasper, Indiana, passed away surrounded by family at 10:34 p.m. on Sunday, November 8, 2026, at Deaconess Memorial Medical Center in Jasper, Indiana. A Mass of Christian Burial for Victoria L. Granacher will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, November 19, 2026, at Holy Family Catholic Church in Jasper, Indiana, with burial to follow in Fairview Cemetery. A visitation will be held from 3:00-7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 18, 2026, at the Beche-Kluesner Downtown Chapel in Jasper, Indiana, and one hour before services at the church on Thursday, November 19, 2026, from 9:30 a.m. until the 10:30 a.m. Mass time.

Edward "Ed" J. Bredhold

Edward J. "Ed" Bredhold, age 94, of Huntingburg, Indiana, passed away at 7:15 a.m. on Sunday, November 8, 2026, at Brookside Village in Jasper. A Mass of Christian Burial for Edward J. Bredhold will be held at 11:30 a.m. on Friday, November 13, 2026, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Huntingburg, Indiana, with burial to follow in the church cemetery. The American Legion Post #147 will conduct military graveside rites. A visitation will be held from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. at the Becher-Kluesner Downtown Chapel in Jasper, Indiana, on Friday, November 13, 2026.

Julie Stenftenagel

Sulie Stenftenagel, age 83, of St. Anthony, Indiana, passed away at 11:10 p.m. on Friday, November 6, 2026, at home surrounded by family. A Mass of Christian Burial for Julie Stenftenagel will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, November 12, 2026, at St. Anthony Catholic Church in St. Anthony, Indiana, with burial to follow in the church cemetery.

Othmar "Ottie" C. Striegel

Othmar C. "Ottie" Striegel 88, of Schnellville, Indiana, passed away peacefully on November 5, 2026 at Cypress Grove Rehabilitation Center in Newburgh. A Mass of Christian Burial for Othmar "Ottie" C. Striegel was held at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 10, 2026, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Schnellville, Indiana, with burial to follow in the church cemetery. The St. Anthony American Legion conducted military graveside rites.

Dennis "Denny" S. Lampert

Dennis S. Lampert, age 87, of Jasper, Indiana, passed away surrounded by family at 2:38 a.m. on Wednesday, November 4, 2026, at Deaconess Memorial Medical Center in Jasper, Indiana. A Mass of Christian Burial for Dennis S. Lampert was held at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 11, 2026, at St. Anthony Catholic Church in St. Anthony, Indiana, with burial to follow in Enlow Cemetery in Jasper, Indiana. The St. Anthony American Legion conducted military graveside rites. ficiated. Burial followed in St. Mary Cemetery.

Brenda K. Brown

SBrenda K. Brown, age 73, of Jasper, Indiana, passed away on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, at her home with family by her side. A funeral service for Brenda K. Brown will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, November 16, 2026, at the Becher-Kluesner North Side Funeral Home. A burial will follow at Portersville Cemetery. A visitation will be held from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. service time on Monday at the funeral home.

Thelma Mae Davidson

Thelma Mae Davidson obituary is pending.

Dolores L Fuesler

Dolores L. Fuesler, age 78, of Huntingburg, passed away on Tuesday, November 3, 2026 at Serenity Springs Senior Living at Northwood in Jasper. A mass of Christian burial began at 10:30 a.m. E.S.T. at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Huntingburg with burial to follow in the church cemetery. A parish rosary was held at the church at 10:00 a.m. prior to the service.

Myron Eugene Runyan

Myron Eugene Runyan, age 95 of Jasper, passed away on Monday, November 2, 2026, at St. Charles Health Campus in Jasper. Visitation for Myron Runyan was held on Thursday, November 5th at Central Christian Church in Huntingburg from 9:00 a.m. until the time of the services at 11:00. Jacob Keeling, officiated the service. Burial followed in St. Mary's Cemetery in Huntingburg. Nass and Son Funeral Home has been entrusted with the funeral arrangements.

Charles L. "Buck" Brown

Charles L. "Buck" Brown, 78, passed away on November 6, 2026. Funeral services were held at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, November 11, 2026, at Huber Funeral Home, Tell City Chapel.

Linda Peter

Linda S. Peter, 79, passed away on November 5, 2026, at Serenity Springs Senior Living in Jasper. A Mass of Christian Burial was held at 10:00 AM CST on Tuesday, November 10, 2026, at St. Mark Catholic Church. Rev. Tony Hollowell officiated with burial to follow in the church cemetery.

Mary Ann Wheatley

Mary Ann Wheatley, 84, passed away November 5, 2026. A Mass of Christian Burial was held at 10:00 AM CST on Monday, November 9, 2026, at St. Paul Catholic Church. Rev. Tony Hollowell officiated with burial to follow in St. Augustine Church Cemetery in Leopold.

Martha Nell DeWitt

Martha Nell DeWitt, 81, passed away on November 3, 2026, at Deaconess Gateway Hospital in Newburgh. Funeral services were held at 1:00 PM CST on Friday, November 6, 2026, at Huber Funeral Home, Tell City Chapel. Her son, R. Wayne DeWitt officiated. Burial followed in Ebenezer Cemetery near Hatfield.

Cora R. Hopf

Cora Rose Hopf, age 9, of Jasper, passed away at 7:09 a.m. on November 3, 2026, at her home, surrounded by her family. A private graveside service for Cora R. Hopf will be held at Community Cemetery of Haysville, in Haysville, Indiana. A celebration of life will be held at Redemption Christian Church in Jasper on November 14, 2026, at 10:00 a.m., E.S.T., with a meal to follow. Rainey Funeral Home in Dale has been entrusted with handling the arrangements.

Mark Anthony Fletcher II

MMark Anthony Fletcher II, age 49, of Dale, passed away at 7:40 a.m., Tuesday, November 3, 2026, at his home surrounded by his family. No services will be held at this time. Rainey Funeral Home in Dale has been entrusted with handling the arrangements.

David P. VanCleave

David P. VanCleave - September 5, 1942 ~ November 6, 2026 - A Memorial Service will be held at Needham-Storey-Wampner Funeral & Cremation Service, Storey Chapel, 400 E Main Street, Gas City, Indiana on Wednesday, November 11, 2026, at 10:30 am. For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; God's faithfulness continues through all generations (Psalm 100:5).

Leigh Street

Lilianne "Leigh" Street, 77, Greentown, passed away at 10:39 am on Thursday, November 5, 2026, at Majestic Care of Carmel. The family received visitors from 9:30 am to 11:30 am on Tuesday, November 10, 2026, at Needham-Storey-Wampner Funeral & Cremation Service, Storey Chapel, 400 E. Main St, Gas City, IN. Immediately following the time of visitation, a service to celebrate Leigh's life was held at 11:30 am with Pastor Mick Simpkins officiating. Burial took place at Marion National Cemetery.

Marylin Cloud

Marylin J. Cloud, 79, of Marion, passed away at 5:45 p.m. on Wednesday, November 4, 2026, at Marion Health. At Marylin's request, there will be no public visitation or funeral service. Arrangements are entrusted to Needham-Storey-Wampner Funeral & Cremation Service, North Chapel, 1341 N. Baldwin Ave., Marion, IN.

Joyce Ann Chaney

Joyce Ann Brewer Chaney, 72, Marion, went to Heaven on Wednesday, November 4, 2026. The family received visitors from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon on Wednesday, November 11, 2026, at Needham-Storey-Wampner Funeral & Cremation Service, North Chapel 1341 N. Baldwin Ave., Marion, IN. Immediately following the time of visitation, a service to celebrate Joyce's life was held at 12:00 noon with Pastor Bruce Koontz officiating. Burial took place at Gardens of Memory - Marion.

Sunnie Jo (Gross) Greer

Sunnie Jo Greer, 54, of Marion, passed away at 7:33 a.m. on Wednesday, November 4, 2026, in Marion. The family will receive visitors from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on Monday, November 23, 2026, at The River Church, Lakeview Chapel, 5316 S. Western Ave. , Marion, IN. Immediately following the time of visitation, a service to celebrate Sunnie's life will begin at 12:00 noon with Pastor Ken Dykhoff officiating.

Thomas Lee Brown

Thomas Lee Brown, 78, of Marion, passed away at 1:58 a.m. on Wednesday, November 4, 2026, at Ascension St. Vincent in Indianapolis. At Thomas's request, there will be no public visitation or funeral service. Arrangements are entrusted to Needham-Storey-Wampner Funeral & Cremation Service, North Chapel, 1341 N. Baldwin Ave., Marion, IN.

Barbara Boyd

Barbara A. Boyd, a cherished soul who embraced life with grace and compassion, peacefully departed this world with her sons beside her on November 3, 2026, at Westminster Village in Muncie, Indiana. The family received visitors from 11:00 am to 12:00 noon on Wednesday, November 11, 2026, at Needham-Storey-Wampner Funeral & Cremation Service, North Chapel, 1341 N. Baldwin Ave., Marion, IN. Immediately following the time of visitation, a service to celebrate Barbara's life was held at 12:00 noon with Pastor Jeff Jahn officiating. Entombment took place at Grant Memorial Park.

Deloris Marie Carmack

Deloris Marie Carmack, 93, of Marion, passed away at 11:08 p.m. on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, at Marion Health. The family received visitors from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Friday, November 6, 2026, at Needham-Storey-Wampner Funeral & Cremation Service, North Chapel, 1341 N. Baldwin Ave., Marion, IN. Immediately following the time of visitation, a service to celebrate Deloris' life was held at 1:00 p.m. with Pastor Andrew Morrell officiating. Burial took place at Grant Memorial Park.

Kenneth Lee Oliver Sr.

Kenneth Lee Oliver Sr., 88, of Marion, Indiana, passed away peacefully surrounded by his family on November 2, 2026, in Marion. Visitation was held on Friday, November 6, 2026, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Raven Choate Robinson Funeral Home, 1202 West Kem Road, Marion, Indiana. Funeral services began there at 1:00 p.m. Burial followed at Grant Memorial Park Cemetery, 1606 West 26th Street, Marion, Indiana.

Kate J Kemmer

Kate J. Kemmer, age 66, passed away peacefully on Friday, November 6, 2026, at Bethlehem Woods in Fort Wayne, Indiana. A graveside service took place on Tuesday, November 10, 2026, at Knox Chapel Cemetery at 1:00 PM with Pastor Matthew Trexler officiating, military honors provided by US Navy and American Legion Post 317 Greentown, Indiana.

Gloria Jean Marrs

Gloria Jean Marrs, 82, passed away on November 5, 2026, at Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie, IN. Service have been entrusted to the Fairmount Chapel of Armes-Hunt Life Celebration Funeral Home and Cremation Service, 415 S. Main Street, Fairmount, Indiana. Visitation will be on Saturday, November 14, 2026, from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Fairmount Chapel. The funeral service will begin at 2:00 p.m. with Pastor Joe Baylock and Pastor Bob McFarland officiating. Burial will follow at Park Cemetery.

Darlene S. Pinkerton

Darlene S Pinkerton, age 78, died Tuesday, November 3, 2026, at IU Methodist, Indianapolis. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Jones-Smith Chapel of Armes-Hunt Life Celebration Funeral Home and Cremation Services, 259 North Main Street, Upland, Indiana 46989, where a visitation was held on Sunday, November 8, 2026, from 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. A funeral service was held on Monday, November 9, 2026, at Pierce Church, 201 North 8th Street, Upland, Indiana, at 11:00 a.m. with Jeff Huston officiating. Burial followed the funeral at Jefferson Cemetery.

Albert C. Harker

Albert C. Harker, age 90, passed away peacefully on Nov.7, 2026, in his home. Visitation will be held on Thursday November 12, 2026 from 4pm-7pm at Gethsemane Episcopal Church, 111 E. 9th St. in Marion, Indiana. There will also be visitation on Friday, November 13, 2026 from 10am-10:45am in the church. The funeral mass will begin at 11am with the Rev. Mindy Hancock officiating. Burial will follow in the IOOF Cemetery, 2225 S Lincoln Blvd, Marion, IN 46953.

Patricia Jo Conner

Patricia Jo Conner, 83, of Marion, Indiana, died on November 4, 2026, in Marion. The services will be private. Owen-Weilert-Duncan Funeral Home, Marion Chapel, 2722 South Washington Street, Marion, Indiana was entrusted with the arrangements.

Mary Lou Cameron

Mary Lou Cameron, 85, of Hartford City, Indiana, passed away Saturday, November 7, 2026, at The Waters of Hartford City. Funeral services were held at 12:00 p.m. (noon) on Wednesday, November 11, 2026, at Keplinger Funeral Home, 509 North High Street, Hartford City, with Pastor Troy Kaufman officiating. Burial followed at Gardens of Memory in Muncie, Indiana.

The Huntingburg Press & Jasper News Journal :
ingnewspapers@gmail.com

Home DELIVERY FOR: Huntingburg Press
RATES: $51 per year (475 ZIP code) • $81 per year (outside a 475 ZIP code) • Website subscription: $51
MAIL TO: Kentucky Publishing, Inc., 1540 McCracken Blvd., Paducah, KY 42001
CARDS: Visa, Mastercard, American Express and Discover.
Subscriptions are payable in advance. Late payments are retroactive.

Published weekly by: Indiana Newspaper Group, 1540 McCracken Blvd; Paducah, Ky 42001
Postmaster: Send address changes to Indiana Newspaper Group, 1540 McCracken Blvd., Paducah, KY 42001.
The Huntingburg Press (I SSN 10413421-USPS #0030002). Periodical Class Postage Paid at The Huntingburg Post Office, Huntingburg. IN 47542.
Advertising standards Merchandise and services advertised in our papers are expected to be accurately described and readily available.

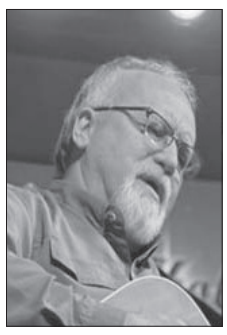
What's more important: Character or Reputation?

Appreciating and honoring our nation's Veterans

This is the official week when we honor and remember our veterans from all wars, though we honor their service and sacrifices every day of the year. The current number of living veterans is approximately 17 million according to various Federal data sources, and we sincerely say, thank you. Veterans Day is not the same as Memorial Day, as this day of honor is a time to remember those who literally gave their lives for our country, particularly in combat or from wounds sustained in battle. Veterans Day, originally called Armistice Day, marked the end of WW1. In 1954, the title was changed to Veterans Day, and recognizes all those who have served in war or peace, living or deceased, to show appreciation for their military service.

When we think about those who have served our nation, we realize that many men and women have paid a great price trying to defend and protect us, and we are truly grateful. We can also look around and see many wounded warriors who are forced to live with physical disabilities along with serious psychological problems resulting from what they have gone through. Though we might not be aware of the severity of this situation, there is an ongoing phenomenon regarding the high rate of suicide among U.S. military veterans. According to a report published by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs in 2016, which analyzed 55 million individual cases from 1974 to 2014, along with more recent data, it tragically confirmed that an average of 17 veterans commit suicide each day. In May 2019, President Trump signed an executive order for an initiative to counter this horrible reality. The program aims to equip state and local governments with the resources necessary to identify and intervene in scenarios where veterans may be at risk. Included within the record $80 billion for veteran health services is $10 billion allocated to mental health services.

There is a story about a young man named Josh who suffered a traumatic brain injury in Iraq, which left him with extreme hopelessness and depression. He had been deployed Southwest of Baghdad, where, during an attack, a mortar exploded 10 feet away from him, leaving him severely wounded and with a one-way ticket home. Six months later, on one particular winter evening, he was really having a hard time trying to fight the shadows of fear and sadness. His Ka-Bar knife was lying on the table beside his computer, where he had just written a letter trying to explain his torment. He stepped outside to sit on the cold and wet cement steps, just wanting to end it all.



Dr. Billy Holland

He remembers promising himself that tonight I will, as he took another drag from his cigarette. Staring out into the darkness, he noticed something moving and soon discovered it was a kitten that was slowly walking toward him. It was soaking wet but friendly, and obviously, being so skinny, it was hungry. It was a tom with black and white patches, and when Josh reached out to pet him, the mysterious visitor leaned into his touch and started to purr. This emotional connection with another living being triggered something deep within Josh's heart as he felt hot tears running down his face in the cold drizzle. The kitten did not show fear but just kept staring at him with beautiful green eyes. In fact, Josh says this innocent creature seemed to understand how desperately I needed a friend at that very moment.

Josh carried his unexpected guest inside, dried him off, and gave him some food. His plan to end it all had been distracted. Holding the kitten close, Josh considered he might not be able to deal with his own problems, but decided that he could try to help this little fellow with his. Josh named him Scout, and on bad days, Scout would curl up in Josh's lap and shower him with love that brought comfort and peace. Over the next few weeks, the bond they developed inspired Josh to request help for his depression, and eventually, he grew stronger in his faith and confidence. It's not a stretch of the imagination that Scout helped save his life, as Josh is now married and his wife just gave birth to a baby girl. Of course, Scout still loves to sleep in Josh's lap. If you are a veteran and struggling with PTSD, counselors are available at 1-800-273-8255. "I sought the Lord, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears" Psalm 34:4.

Dr. Holland is an ordained minister, chaplain, and author. Read more about the Christian life at billyhollandministries.com

Youth First, Inc.

Encouraging your child to take healthy risks

By Vicki Kirkman, Youth First, Inc.

As a parent, the idea of children taking risks might bring to mind concerns about drug use, reckless driving, or negative peer influences. These behaviors can be dangerous and lead to serious consequences. However, not all risks are harmful. Healthy risks encourage children to step outside their comfort zones, explore new experiences, and discover their capabilities. Taking these risks can help children build confidence, self-esteem, and independence.

Children should be encouraged to take healthy risks that promote fun, personal growth, and exploration. Some children naturally gravitate toward new experiences and enjoy the excitement of trying something different. Others may be more hesitant, especially if they experience anxiety or feel uncomfortable in unfamiliar settings.

Regardless of their personality, all children can benefit from healthy risk-taking when they feel supported by a trusted adult. With thoughtful consideration and appropriate guidance, trying something new can become a positive learning experience.

Parents and caregivers can encourage healthy risk-taking by helping children find opportunities that match their interests. If your child enjoys watching a particular sport but has never played, encourage them to try out for a team or join a recreational league. Music lessons, school plays, talent shows, and new hobbies also provide opportunities to explore interests and develop new skills.

For children who are shy or want to build stronger connections with others, volunteering or participating in community projects can be a great place to start. Joining them in these activities allows adults to model positive social skills and offer reassurance. Other healthy risks might include inviting a new friend over, trying a different hairstyle or clothing style, tasting an unfamiliar food, or ordering their own meal at a restaurant. Even small steps can help children become more comfortable with new experiences.

Parents and caregivers play an important role in helping children navigate the uncertainty that comes with taking risks. Keep communication open and offer encouragement without putting pressure on children to participate before they feel ready. Talk about the effort and patience that learning something new may require, as well as the potential benefits, such as making friends, discovering interests, and developing new skills.

Remind children that it is normal to feel nervous or uncomfortable when trying something unfamiliar. Those feelings may eventually give way to pride, happiness, and a sense of accomplishment. Even when an experience doesn't go as planned, children can learn valuable lessons about themselves and how to approach future challenges.

The goal isn't to eliminate risk from a child's life, but to help them learn how to take thoughtful, healthy risks. Adults can guide children in recognizing the difference between opportunities that encourage growth and choices that put their safety or well-being at risk. By creating a supportive environment where children feel safe exploring, making mistakes, and learning from experience, parents can help them develop the confidence and judgment they need to navigate the world around them.

Vicki Kirkman, MSW, LCSW, LCAC, is a Youth First Mental Health Professional at Gibson Southern High School in Gibson County. Youth First, Inc., is a nonprofit dedicated to strengthening youth and families. Youth First provides over 100 highly trained mental health professionals (primarily master's level social workers), prevention programs, parent engagement coordinators, and bilingual support personnel to 138 schools across 15 Indiana counties. Over 56,000 youth and families each year are served by Youth First's school-based social work and community programs that promote mental health, prevent substance misuse, and maximize student success. To learn more about Youth First, visit youthfirstinc.org or call 812-421-8336.

Variables the could elevate your risk for stroke

The World Stroke Organization notes that more than 12.2 million individuals experience stroke each year across the globe. Perhaps even more telling, the WSO reports that, globally, one in four people over age 25 will have a stroke in their lifetime.

Stroke is indeed a threat to public health. However, despite the prevalence of stroke, individuals are not helpless against it. Various risk factors for stroke are within individuals' control, and it's never too early for adults to prioritize stroke prevention. With that in mind, the following are some of the most common risk factors for stroke, courtesy of the WSO.

• **Elevated systolic blood pressure:** The American Heart Association notes that an elevated systolic blood pressure means the upper number on a blood pressure reading is between 120 and 129. Systolic blood pressure measures the pressure your blood is pushing against the artery walls each time the heart beats. Individuals diagnosed with elevated systolic blood pressure are urged to discuss the ways to lower that number, as the American Stroke Association notes high blood pressure is the most significant controllable risk factor for stroke.

• **High body mass index:** A 2022 study published in the journal PLOS One found that body mass index was associated with stroke risk among diabetes patients. The study found that the risk of ischemic stroke, which occurs when a blood clot or fatty plaque blocks a blood vessel in the brain, was higher among obese patients compared to patients who are overweight or normal-weight.

• **Smoking:** The WSO reports that someone who smokes 20 cigarettes a day is six times more likely to have a stroke compared to a non-smoker. One of the links between smoking and stroke risk surrounds carbon monoxide and nicotine. Smoke from cigarettes contains both carbon monoxide, which reduces the amount of oxygen in a smoker's blood, and nicotine, which makes a smoker's heart beat faster. Those variables combine to raise blood pressure, which has already been noted as a significant risk factor for stroke.



• **Alcohol consumption:** A recent study published in the journal Neurology examined the link between alcohol consumption and stroke. The study found that high levels of alcohol consumption are associated with a higher risk for all types of stroke, and even moderate intake, defined as between seven to 14 drinks per week for women and seven to 21 drinks per week for men, was associated with higher risk for all types of stroke.

These are not the only common risk factors for stroke. In fact, the WSO reports high fasting glucose, air pollution, low physical activity, poor diet, high LDL (i.e., "bad") cholesterol, and kidney dysfunction are some additional common risk factors for stroke.

Though stroke affects more than 12 million individuals across the globe each year, many of its more common risk factors are manageable. More information about stroke is available at stroke.org.

Honoring Our Heroes: Meaningful ways to celebrate veterans all year long

Veterans Day provides an important opportunity to pause, reflect and express gratitude to the men and women who have served in the United States Armed Forces. Across the country, communities gather for parades, ceremonies, special programs and patriotic celebrations to recognize the sacrifices made by military veterans. However, honoring those who served should not be limited to one day on the calendar. There are countless meaningful ways individuals, families, businesses and communities can show appreciation for veterans throughout the entire year.

One of the simplest and most meaningful gestures is to say, "Thank you for your service." Although these words may seem small, a sincere expression of appreciation can make a lasting impression. When meeting a veteran, take a moment to acknowledge their service. Listen to their stories if they are comfortable sharing them, and show genuine interest in their experiences. Not every veteran wishes to discuss their military service, but letting them know their contributions are appreciated is always a thoughtful gesture.



Remember Veterans Beyond the Holidays

While Veterans Day in November and Memorial Day in May are nationally recognized occasions, veterans deserve recognition every month. Families can make it a tradition to visit a local veterans memorial, attend military-related community events or participate in activities honoring those who served.

Birthdays, anniversaries of military service and other personal milestones can also provide opportunities to recognize veterans. A handwritten card, telephone call, thoughtful visit or invitation to share a meal can brighten someone's day. For veterans who live alone or have limited family nearby, regular companionship can be especially meaningful.

Support Veterans in the Community

Supporting veteran-owned businesses is another practical way to show appreciation. When shopping, dining or hiring local services, consider choosing a business owned by a veteran. Sharing information about these businesses with friends and neighbors can help strengthen the local economy while recognizing the contributions of former service members.

Communities can also support organizations that assist veterans and their families. Local veterans service organizations, including the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), Disabled American Veterans (DAV) and other community groups, often provide opportunities to volunteer, donate or participate in outreach programs.

Donations of appropriate supplies, financial contributions and volunteer hours can help organizations continue their work. Before donating, contact the organization to learn what items or services are currently needed.

Help Veterans Who May Need Assistance

Many veterans face challenges after returning to civilian life. Some may need help navigating benefits, finding employment, accessing transportation or locating community resources. Others may simply appreciate having someone willing to lend a hand.

Neighbors can make a difference through everyday acts of kindness, such as helping with yardwork, providing transportation to appointments, assisting with household projects or checking in regularly.

Veterans who need assistance with benefits or services can be directed to their local county Veterans Service Office or the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. These resources can help connect eligible veterans with available programs and support.

Include Younger Generations in Honoring Veterans

Teaching children and young people about military service is an important way to preserve the meaning of patriotism and remembrance. Parents, grandparents and teachers can explain why veterans are honored and discuss the different branches of the military: Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Space Force.

Children can participate by making patriotic cards, writing thank-you letters, creating classroom displays or taking part in community recognition programs. Schools, churches and youth organizations can invite veterans to speak about their experiences, allowing younger generations to learn about service, responsibility, courage and sacrifice firsthand.

These activities help ensure that the stories and contributions of veterans are remembered by future generations.

Make Recognition a Community Tradition

Local businesses, churches, civic organizations and community groups can make veteran appreciation an ongoing part of their activities. Restaurants might offer occasional meals or discounts to veterans. Churches can recognize veterans during services, while civic organizations can organize appreciation luncheons, supply drives or community service projects.

Newspapers and community publications can also help keep veterans' stories alive by featuring local veterans, highlighting their military branches and sharing their experiences. Recognizing veterans from different generations provides an opportunity to preserve local history and remind readers of the many individuals who have served.

Communities can also maintain veterans memorials, place American flags at appropriate locations and participate in local ceremonies throughout the year.

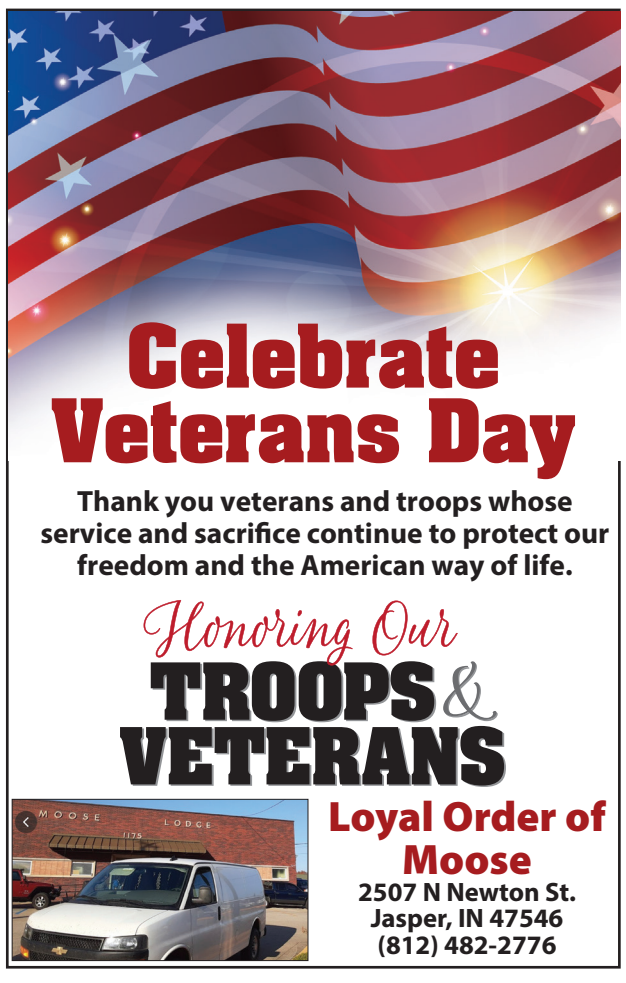
A Thank You That Lasts All Year

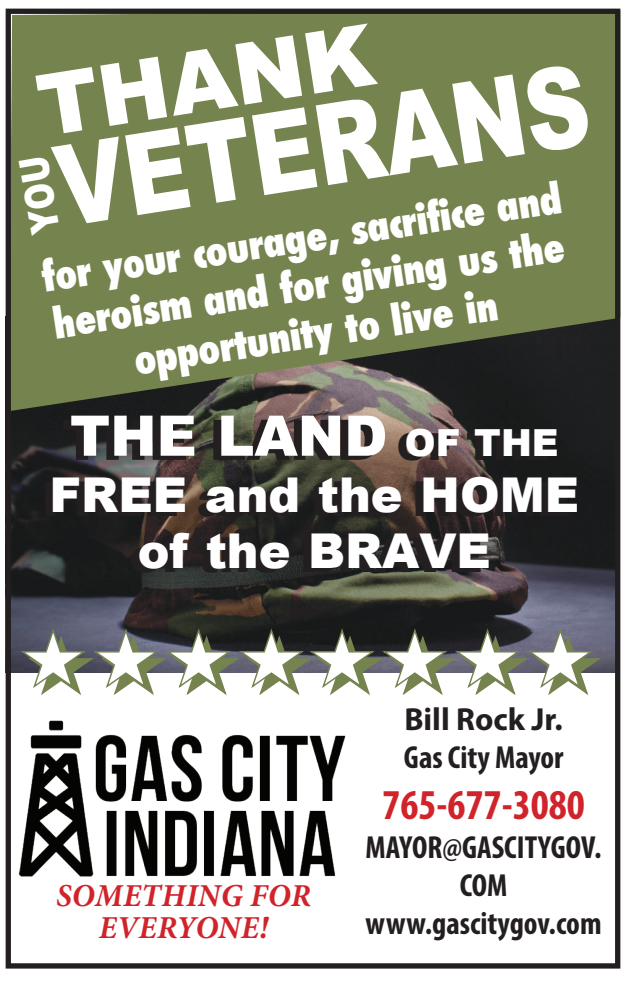
Honoring veterans does not always require a large celebration, expensive event or public ceremony. Often, the most meaningful gestures are simple acts of kindness, respect and appreciation.

A phone call, a visit, a helping hand or a sincere thank-you can remind a veteran that their service has not been forgotten. Supporting veteran organizations, encouraging young people to learn about military history and recognizing veterans in everyday community life all help create a culture of gratitude.

Veterans answered the call to serve their country, and their contributions deserve more than a single day of recognition. While Veterans Day serves as an annual reminder, appreciation should be demonstrated through our actions every day of the year.

The message is simple: We remember, we appreciate and we honor those who served—not just in November, but all year long.











A few simple fire safety habits could save your home

By Laurna Pruett
ING Writer

We've all done it. There's one outlet behind the television, but several things that need to be plugged in. So, we grab a power strip and make room for one more. It may seem harmless, but overloading electrical outlets is a fire hazard that is easy to overlook.

As temperatures drop and the holidays approach, many households are using more electricity. Between space heaters, Christmas lights, kitchen appliances and everyday electronics, it doesn't take long for outlets to become overloaded.

Power strips are convenient, but they don't increase the amount of electricity a circuit can safely handle. Plugging one power strip into another or using extension cords as permanent wiring can create dangerous conditions.

Space heaters deserve special attention. They should always be plugged directly into a wall outlet, never into a power strip or extension cord. Keep them at least three feet away from curtains, furniture, blankets and anything else that could catch fire.

Take a few minutes to check cords throughout your home. Frayed wires, loose plugs, warm outlets or a burning smell are warning signs that shouldn't be ignored.

Working smoke alarms are just as important. Test them monthly and make sure everyone in your household knows what to do if one sounds.

Before heading to bed, take one last look around. Turn off space heaters, unplug unnecessary decorations and make sure nothing is left too close to a heat source.

Most of us don't think about a house fire happening to our family. Unfortunately, it can happen when we least expect it. A few extra minutes of caution could make all the difference.

Gas fireplace safety tips

Few images capture the spirit of a season as well as a family gathered around a fireplace embodies winter. Winter is indeed a time when families spend more time together indoors, and there's no better gathering spot than around a warm fireplace.

Heartwarming scenes around a fireplace are even more enjoyable when safety has been prioritized. While natural fireplaces with roaring flames are notable safety risks, it's important that individuals with gas fireplaces embrace fire safety as well. The following are some gas fireplace safety strategies everyone can embrace.

• **Avoid the DIY installation route.** Even the most skilled do-it-yourselfers are urged to let the professionals install a new gas fireplace. Gas lines are nothing to mess around with, and professional installation teams have ample experience setting up new gas fireplaces in a home.

• **Be sure to install a carbon monoxide detector on the same floor as the fireplace.** During the gas fireplace installation, ask that a carbon monoxide detector with battery backup is installed on the same floor. The detector alarm will alert individuals if something is amiss, like a gas leak. Periodically inspect the detector to ensure it's working properly.

• **Periodically inspect your safety screen.** Glass panels are standard features on many gas fireplaces. Such panels separate the fire within the fireplace from the people and items outside of it. Glass panels can become extremely hot, which is why most gas fireplaces come with safety screens as well. These mesh safety screens can keep curious kids and pets from touching hot glass panels, and also protect adults. Inspect the safety screens periodically to ensure they're still intact and up to the job, replacing them if necessary.



• **Keep objects a safe distance away from the fireplace.** Experts advise keeping objects a minium of three feet away from the fireplace at all times. Fabrics and other materials that contact the glass pose a fire hazard, so keep the area in front of the fireplace clear.

• **Make the fireplace off limits to children and pets.** Though the aforementioned safety screens are a vital safety feature that can keep kids and pets safe, it's still best that kids and pets are kept away from the fireplace at all times. Turn off the fireplace if kids are playing in the room, and use safety gates to keep kids and pets away when the fireplace is in use.

• **Book annual fireplace inspections.** Annual inspections of the fireplace can ensure everything is working properly. Professional inspections may detect potentially harmful gas leaks, and annual checkups also can help individuals extend the life of their fireplaces.

• **Recognize outdoor gas fireplaces have their own safety protocols.** Outdoor fireplaces have become wildly popular in recent years. Homeowners who install outdoor gas fireplaces on their properties must recognize these awe-inspiring features require their own unique safety measures, including turning off the gas supply at the end of outdoor entertaining season and protecting the fireplace from the elements when necessary.

Gas fireplace safety strategies can protect residents and also increase the life expectancy of these sought-after features.

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How to make homes safer from fires

Over a five-year period beginning in 2024 and 2025, fire departments across the United States responded to roughly 350,000 home structure fires per year. That data, courtesy of the National Fire Protection Association, underscores the significance of home fire protection measures.

Smoke detectors are a key component of fire protection, but there's much more homeowners can do to protect themselves, their families, their belongings, and their homes from structure fires.

• **Routinely inspect smoke detectors.** Smoke detectors can only alert residents to a fire if they're working properly. Battery-powered smoke detectors won't work if the batteries die. Routine smoke detector check-ups can ensure the batteries still have juice and that the devices themselves are still functioning properly. Test alarms to make sure the devices are functioning and audible in nearby rooms. Install additional detectors as necessary so alarms and warnings can be heard in every room of the house.

• **Hire an electrician to audit your home.** Electricians can inspect a home and identify any issues that could make the home more vulnerable to fires. Ask electricians to look over every part of the house, including attics and crawl spaces. Oft-overlooked areas like attics and crawl spaces pose a potentially significant fire safety threat, as data from the Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA) indicates that 13 percent of electrical fires begin in such spaces.

• **Audit the laundry room.** The laundry room is another potential source of home structure fires. NFPA data indicates around 3 percent of home structure fires begin in laundry rooms each year. Strategies to reduce the risk of laundry room fires include leaving room for laundry to tumble in washers and dryers; routinely cleaning lint screens to avoid the buildup of dust, fiber and lint, which the NFPA notes are often the first items to ignite in fires linked to dryers; and ensuring the outlets washing machines and dryers are plugged into can handle the voltage such appliances require. It's also a good idea to clean dryer exhaust vents and ducts every year.

• **Look outward as well.** Though the majority of home fires begin inside, the NFPA reports that 4 percent of such fires begin outside the home. Homeowners can reduce the risk of such fires by ensuring all items that utilize fire, including grills and firepits, are always used at least 10 feet away from the home. Never operate a grill beneath eaves, and do not use grills on decks. Never leave children unattended around firepits, as all it takes is a single mistake and a moment for a fire to become unwieldy.

• **Sweat the small stuff.** Hair dryers, hair straighteners, scented candles, clothes irons, and holiday decorations are some additional home fire safety hazards. Never leave candles burning in empty rooms and make sure beauty and grooming items like dryers, straighteners and irons are unplugged and placed in a safe place to cool down when not in use.

Fire departments respond to hundreds of thousands of home fires each year. Some simple strategies and preventive measures can greatly reduce the risk that a fire will overtake your home.

Prevent home electrical fires

A person's home should be a safe haven. Too often, however, there may be dangers lurking in a home that can compromise the safety of residents.

Electrical fires are no joke. The Hartford insurance company says electrical failure or malfunctions account for almost 34,000 home fires per year. The National Fire Protection Association says they can contribute to 440 deaths and $1.3 billion in direct property damage annually.

Older homes may be most vulnerable to electrical fires, as such structures were not designed to handle the demands of modern living. The insurance experts at Nationwide say half of all homes in the United States have electrical systems that were installed before garage door openers, high-tech coffee makers, and many computers became must-have items. And the Electrical Safety Foundation International says homes built before 1973 with overloaded electrical systems pose a number of safety threats.

Overloaded circuits are not the only contributor to electrical fires. Damaged wiring characterized by worn, frayed or loose wires can cause fires. Malfunctioning appliances or those improperly maintained also can create home fires. Another contributor is poorly installed extension cords and power strips, as well as faulty outlets and switches around homes.

Homeowners can take various steps to reduce the risk of electrical fires at home.

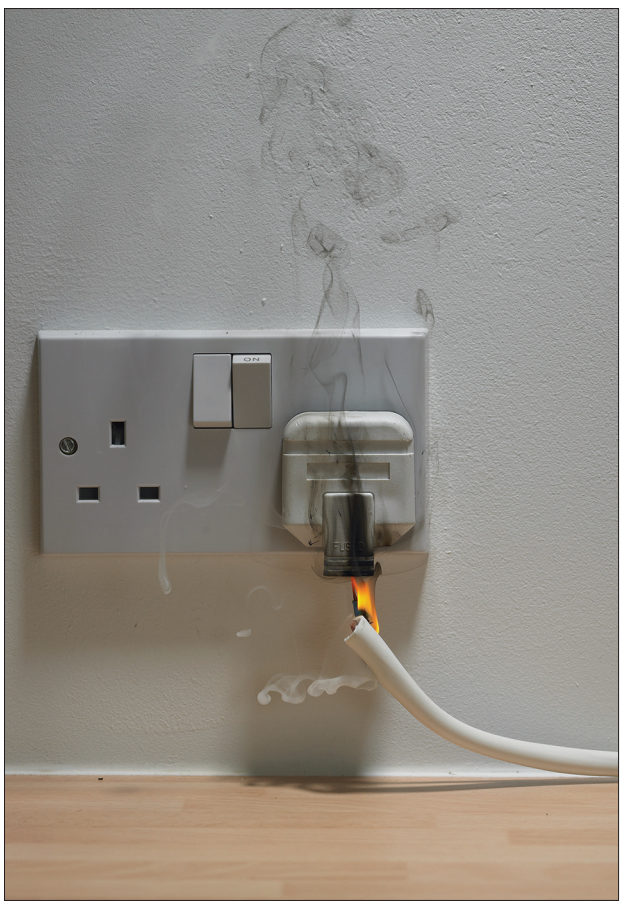
• **Install arc fault circuit interrupters.** AFCIs are special types of circuit breakers that help prevent fires caused by nicked or frayed wiring. An AFCI gets tripped and cuts off power when an electrical problem is detected before a fire can start. In 2022, the National Electric Code started requiring AFCIs in bedrooms, and by 2017 they have been mandated throughout homes.

• **Conduct a home electrical inspection.** All homes more than 40 years old should be inspected to ensure their electrical systems can handle modern demands, says Nationwide. A qualified electrician can make recommendations regarding replacing breakers and suggest other modifications to improve safety.

• **Utilize a monitor.** Ting from Whisker Labs monitors a home's electrical network using a smart plug-in sensor that is designed to detect hazards. The company indicates micro-arcs and sparks that develop are precursors to electrical fires.

• **Turn to automatic shut-offs.** Homeowners can utilize appliances and additional devices that automatically shut off after a set period of time. This can reduce the risk of overheating.

• **Rely on timers or smart devices.** Timers and smart home devices can give homeowners control of electrical components like appliances or lights from a remote area. This enables users to turn an appliance on or off to reduce overheating or avoid additional risk factors for electrical fires.



• **Don't go DIY.** Choosing to work with a professional electrician rather than doing electrical work oneself can help reduce electrical fire risk considerably. Electricians know how to work on electrical systems safely to prevent damage to wires and components, and also safeguard themselves against shock.

Risk for electrical fires at home can be reduced with technology and other strategies.









photo courtesy of Oak Hill High School

The Oak Hill football program won its first sectional title since 2013 on Friday, Nov. 6.

High School Football

Oak Hill wins first sectional title since 2023

Staff Report

WALTON — Oak Hill defeated Lewis Cass 49-33 in a sectional championship game on Friday, Nov. 6.

Productive Oak Hill won its first sectional title since 2024.

The Golden Eagles thrived throughout the game, owning multiple leads. Oak Hill entered halftime ahead 28-15.

Senior fullback Dylan Archer led Oak Hill to the sectional championship-clinching win. Archer rushed 34 times for 175 yards and five touchdowns.

Senior quarterback Jett Ott aided Oak Hill in its win. Ott made an impact for Oak Hill's offensive unit both through the air and on the ground. Through the air, Ott completed six passes for 113 yards and one touchdown. On the ground, Ott rushed 13 times for 174 yards and one touchdown.

Senior Rocky Johnson emerged as Oak Hill's leading receiver. Johnson hauled in two receptions for 60 yards and one touchdown.

Defensively, Gage Pearce (nine tackles, one tackle for a loss), Adam Esslinger (one sack) and Cullen Lainhart (one interception) combined to lead the Golden Eagles.

Oak Hil is set to host Lapel in a regional championship game at 7 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 13.



Photo of some of our fans



art of Our Drive Team - Sarah (operator), Shawn (Coach), and Isaiah (Driver)

PhyXTGears Wins at Boiler Bot Battle 2026

By Jonah Gerber (student) and Jill Justice (mentor)

"I've been lucky enough to be on Team 1720, The PhyXTGears, for three years. Since I joined the team, my mindset toward problems has changed. I've become a lot better at tackling technical challenges. The team is a great place for anyone looking to learn technical skills and make friends." Cassius, a third-year mechanical and programming student.

Team 1720, The PhyXTGears, is an award-winning, high-school level, community-based FIRST Robotics Competition team. FIRST© (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) is an international organization that designs accessible, innovative programs that motivate young people to pursue education and career opportunities in STEM, while building self-confidence, knowledge, and life skills.

"This is an excellent place to build my social skills, like getting more comfortable asking questions or speaking in front of an audience. This equips me to be more confident in sharing my ideas with others outside of robotics." Isaiah, a senior and programming student.

This past weekend, our team traveled to Lafayette, IN to compete in the Boiler Bot Battle (B3), which is an annual off-season event hosted by Purdue FIRST Programs. Thirty-two teams gathered together to compete at this event.

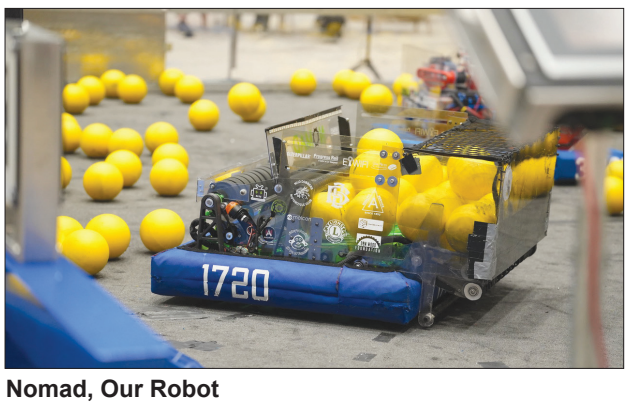
We started out strong in the qualification matches. We consistently were able to take the lead in points during the autonomous portion of the 2.5 minute matches. This set us apart from most teams. Although we sustained some damage from vigorous defense, we were able to overcome these challenges by making needed repairs in the pits.

We were undefeated the entire event! This earned us the privilege of becoming the first alliance captain, which in turn allowed us to request other strong teams to be our alliance partners. Our Alliance brought home the win for our respective teams! Here's what two of our students said about this event:

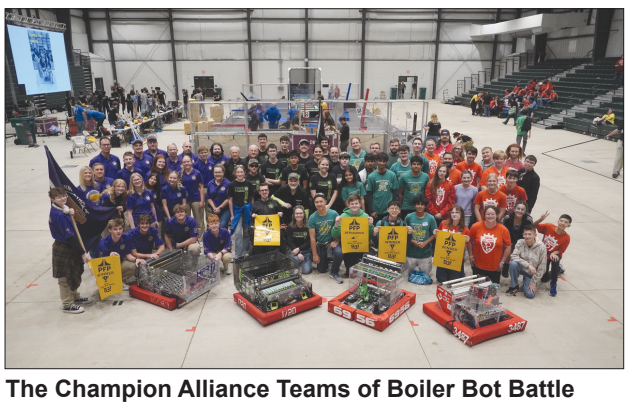
"I liked how the teams worked together and shared the resources they had." Oscar, a second year woodworking student

"My favorite thing about Boiler Bot Battle is how the team adapted to having a whole new drive team." Brady, a senior mechanical student

Our Open House was October 29th, but if you missed us, please visit our shop at 625 Massachusetts Avenue in Matthews to receive a tour from one of our many students on any Tuesday or Thursday between 6-9 pm. We love our community visiting us. We are actively accepting high school students and mentors for our new season and look forward to partnering with more local businesses.



Nomad, Our Robot



The Champion Alliance Teams of Boiler Bot Battle

Girls' High School Soccer

Hardman, Metzger district honors

Staff Report

CONVERSE — Oak Hill senior Landri Hardman has been named to the All-District 2 Girls' Soccer Team.

Hardman excelled for Oak Hill throughout the 2026 girls' high school soccer season. A longtime leader for Oak Hill, Hardman is the program's top all-time goal scorer.

Oak Hill head coach Sam Metzger has been named the District 2 Girls' Soccer Small School Coach of the Year.

Under the direction of Metzger, Oak Hill excelled throughout the 2026 girls' high school soccer season. Metzger guided Oak Hill to CIC, Sectional and Regional Championships. Under Metzger's guidance, Oak Hill reached the semifinals of the IHSAA Girls' Soccer State Tournament.

Oak Hill-Northfield girls' basketball game rescheduled

Staff Report

CONVERSE — The Oak Hill-Northfield girls' basketball game slated for Friday, Nov. 13 has been rescheduled.

Following a postponement, the Oak Hill-Northfield girls' basketball game has been rescheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 15.

The girls' high school basketball matchup was rescheduled due to the Oak Hill football team being set to play in a regional championship game.

Girls' high school basketball teams from throughout the area have returned to the court for the latest prep hoops season.

Girls' High School Basketball

Madison-Grant falls to Carrol in season debut

Staff Report

FLORA — Madison-Grant couldn't battle back from behind as Carroll pulled away to win 74-18 in a 2026-27 girls' high school basketball season opener on Tuesday, Nov. 3.

Carroll took control early, outscoring Madison-Grant 16-4 in the first quarter.

Midway through the game, following a 35-8 scoring advantage in the second quarter, Carroll entered halftime ahead 51-12.

Carroll outscored Madison-Grant 13-0 in the third period to put the game even further out of the visiting team's reach.

Nearly reaching double figures, Georgia Mitchell scored a team-high nine points for the Lady Argylls. Four players provided scoring for Madison-Grant in the girls' high school basketball season opener. The additional scorers for Madison-Grant were Delaney Pavey (four points), Makenzie Griffin (three points) and Demi Justus (two points).

Girls' High School Basketball

Marion drops season opener to Maconaquah

Staff Report

BUNKER HILL — Marion was limited offensively as Maconaquah pulled away to win 69-21 in a 2026-27 girls' high school basketball season opener on Tuesday, Nov. 4.

Maconaquah set the tone early, outscoring Marion 26-15 in the opening quarter.

Then, extending its lead, Maconaquah outscored Marion 21-4 in the second period.

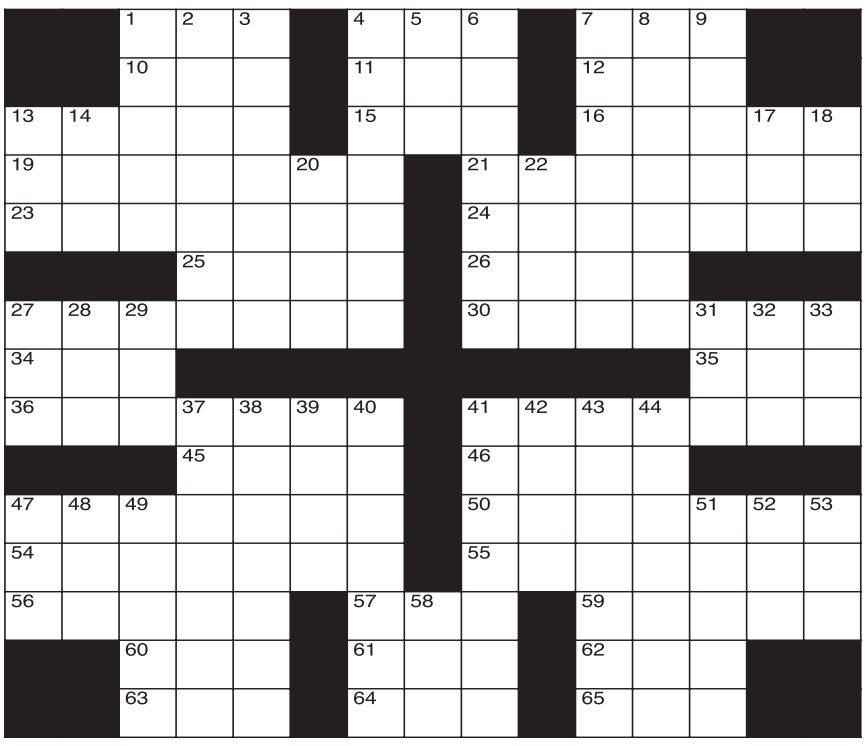
Maconaquah led 47-19 at halftime and remained in control throughout the second half.

Host Maconaquah outscored Marion 16-2 in the third quarter.

Jaylee Townsend paced Marion in the season opener. Narrowly missing double figures, Townsend netted a team-high nine points for the Lady Giants.

In addition to Townsend, Amiah Young Drake (seven points) and Naomi Cox (five points) provided scoring for Marion in the season opener.

Crossword Puzzle



CLUES ACROSS

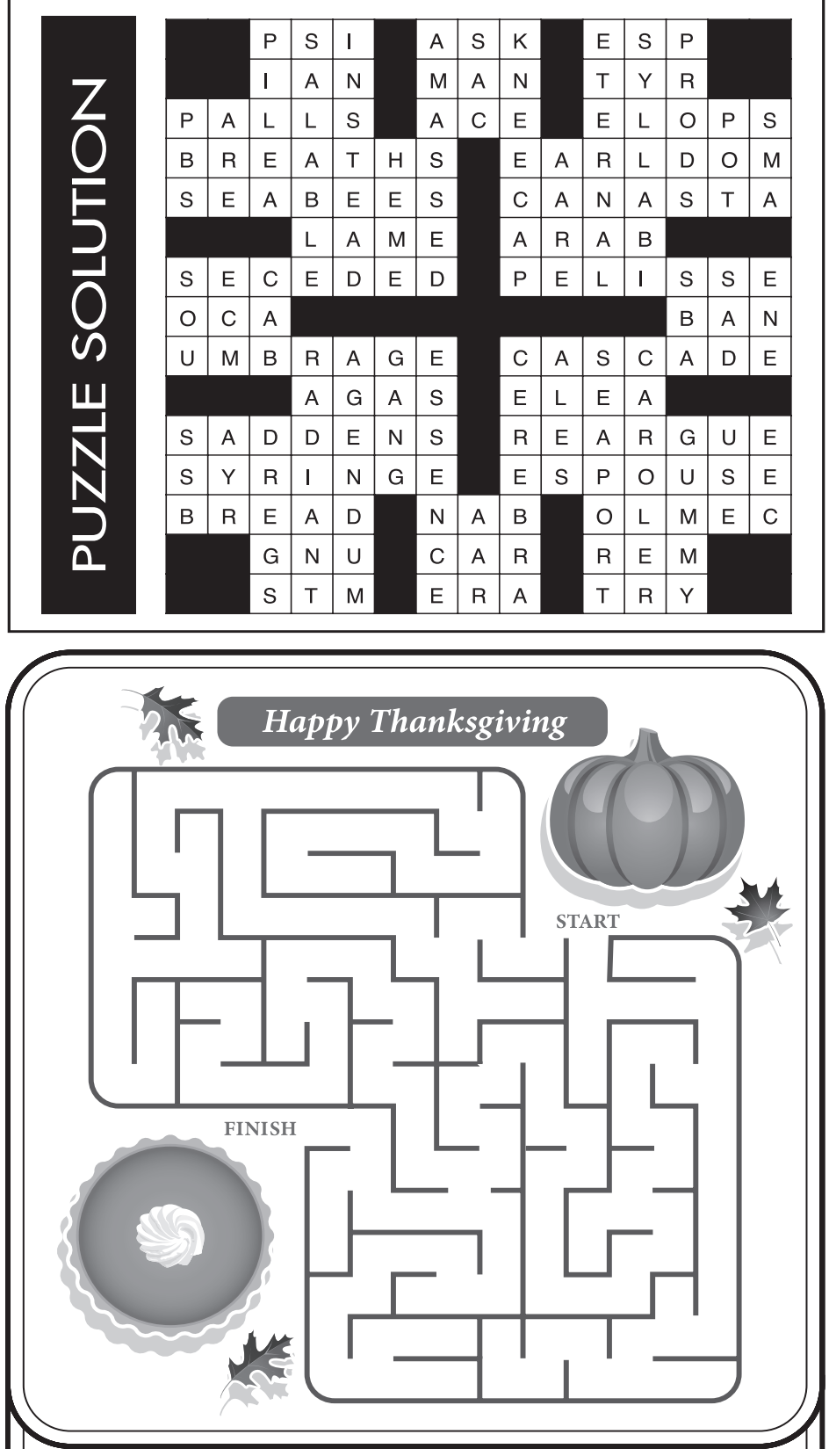
1. Tire pressure metric
4. Request
7. Clairvoyance
10. 007's creator Fleming
11. Male adult
12. Norse mythological figure
13. Coffin cloths
15. Breeze through
16. Ladyfish genus
19. We all take them
21. Nobleman's jurisdiction
23. Members of U.S. Navy
24. Rummy-like card game
25. Unable to move
26. Type of horse
27. Parted
30. Woman's cloak
34. South American plant
35. Prohibit
36. Something one takes
41. Dish detergent manufacturer
45. Romanian river
46. Personification of pity
47. Makes upset
50. Discuss again
54. Medical instrument
55. Support
56. Informal term for money
57. Catch doing something wrong
59. Prehistoric people
60. Large African antelope
61. Automobile
62. "Losing My Religion" rockers
63. High-resolution scientific instrument
64. A major division of geological time
65. Attempt

CLUES DOWN

1. Indoor plant
2. Fit to be sold
3. Rather
4. Collected
5. A baglike structure in a plant or animal
6. Irish rap group
7. Ageless
8. Lists indicating curriculum
9. Pokes at
13. Public television station
14. They __
17. Cooking tool
18. Separately managed account
20. Iron-containing compound
22. Swiss river
27. Former French coin
28. Electronic countermeasures
29. Taxi
31. Helps little firms
32. Unhappy
33. Midway between northeast and east
37. Glowing
38. Lists of items to be discussed
39. An informal body of friends
40. Indispensable quality
41. Neural structures
42. Brews
43. A place to dock
44. Festive singer
47. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
48. Northernmost point of mainland Wales
49. Most worthless parts
51. Type of "bear"
52. Take or consume
53. Defunct European organization
58. Swiss river

PUZZLE SOLUTION

		P	S	I		A	S	K		E	S	P		
		I	A	N		M	A	N		T	Y	R		
P	A	L	L	S		A	C	E		E	L	O	P	S
B	R	E	A	T	H	S		E	A	R	L	D	O	M
S	E	A	B	E	E	S		C	A	N	A	S	T	A
			L	A	M	E		A	R	A	B			
S	E	C	E	D	E	D		P	E	L	I	S	S	E
O	C	A										B	A	N
U	M	B	R	A	G	E		C	A	S	C	A	D	E
			A	G	A	S		E	L	E	A			
S	A	D	D	E	N	S		R	E	A	R	G	U	E
S	Y	R	I	N	G	E		E	S	P	O	U	S	E
B	R	E	A	D		N	A	B		O	L	M	E	C
		G	N	U		C	A	R		R	E	M		
		S	T	M		E	R	A		T	R	Y		



Word Search

THANKSGIVING TABLE WORD SEARCH

R	G	M	K	A	T	C	T	D	C	Y	W	H	W	Y	E	K	R	U	T
I	M	E	R	G	T	R	O	F	H	A	R	E	W	O	L	F	Y	A	M
A	L	W	B	R	A	P	B	R	D	E	P	H	I	M	H	L	C	O	A
E	E	D	K	D	A	L	Y	G	N	I	F	F	U	T	S	M	H	F	W
U	F	E	C	G	K	H	V	N	L	B	F	G	T	P	E	L	G	E	S
S	T	E	L	T	C	V	I	G	Y	R	R	E	B	N	A	R	C	N	M
E	O	C	U	O	G	D	R	H	H	T	P	E	O	M	G	G	U	N	H
E	V	E	E	B	R	I	N	G	V	A	M	B	A	G	N	O	K	Y	U
F	E	I	K	K	M	E	D	S	R	R	H	V	R	D	I	U	R	V	F
M	R	P	N	S	B	Y	S	A	L	S	D	A	I	H	R	R	T	N	V
P	S	R	I	W	B	C	D	S	I	E	T	H	S	B	E	D	R	H	S
O	E	E	A	A	W	E	H	W	A	I	I	H	T	W	H	C	E	I	C
B	C	T	E	M	W	Y	F	Y	T	C	A	P	N	G	T	Y	S	A	I
V	O	N	W	P	L	C	H	U	E	R	W	R	N	T	A	T	S	H	Y
G	G	E	T	A	M	A	D	U	V	R	B	S	A	I	G	A	E	R	F
R	M	C	A	N	U	E	M	E	R	F	D	B	V	B	K	T	D	Y	K
A	V	A	V	O	M	T	S	A	E	F	L	E	B	H	O	P	T	U	L
V	W	A	I	A	F	T	F	M	V	E	W	M	F	E	F	P	M	B	V
Y	M	E	Y	G	S	E	O	T	A	T	O	P	T	E	E	W	S	U	I
H	D	P	C	O	R	N	U	C	O	P	I	A	F	W	B	I	Y	D	P

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

ANSWERS ON THE CLASSIFIED PAGE

WORDS

CASSEROLE
CENTERPIECE
CORNBREAD
CORNUCOPIA
CRANBERRY
DESSERT
DINNER
FEAST
GATHERING
GOURD
GRATITUDE
GRAVY
HARVEST
LEFTOVERS
MAYFLOWER
PARADE
PILGRIMS
PUMPKIN PIE
STUFFING
SWEET POTATOES
TABLE
TURKEY
WAMPANOAG
WISHBONE

Sudoku Puzzle

How it Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle! Good Luck!

ANSWERS ON THE CLASSIFIED PAGE

			9					
					6			5
8					7	4		2
	3			7	9	1		
			1			6	2	
		8	3				4	
4		9		1				
6						2		
		1	8		3			

Word Scramble

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to Thanksgiving.

FUFINSTG

Answer: Stuffing

Guess Who?

GUESS WHO?

I am an actress born on November 12, 1982, in New York. I was raised in Millburn, NJ, and was inspired by my mother to go into acting. I've played a princess, a fashion magazine assistant and a cat burglar. I won an Academy Award for the film adaptation of a poplar musical.

Answer: Anne Hathaway

IF IT MATTERS TO YOU, IT MATTERS TO US. THANKS FOR READING!

Crypto Fun

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

CRYPTO FUN

Solve the code to discover words related to Thanksgiving.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 12 = A)

A. 10 5 24 4 11 18
Clue: Poultry

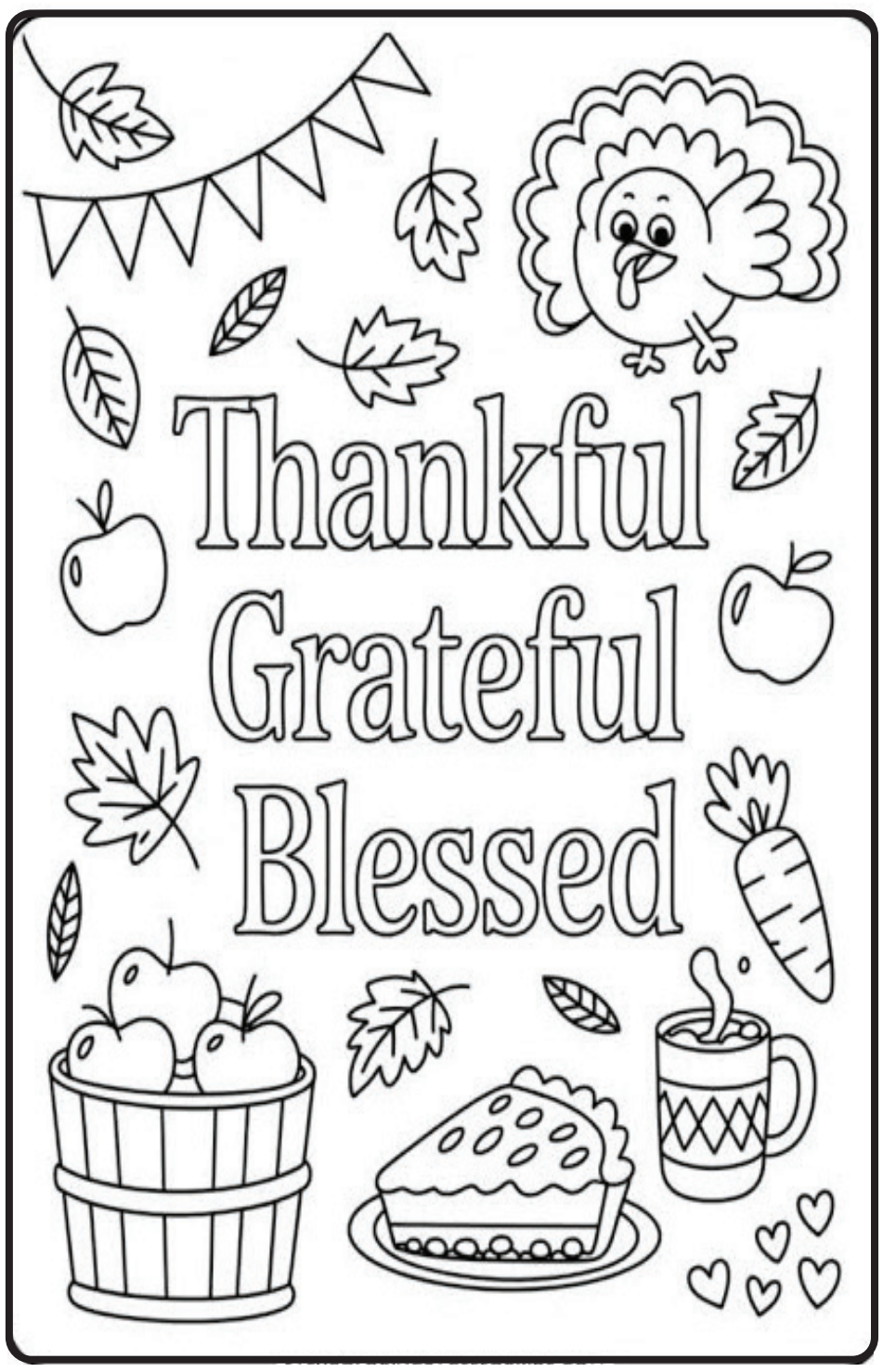
B. 14 12 10 22 11 24
Clue: Get together

C. 10 22 12 19 4 1 5 25
Clue: Showing gratitude

D. 1 12 8 16 25 18
Clue: Relatives

Answers: A. turkey B. gather C. thankful D. family

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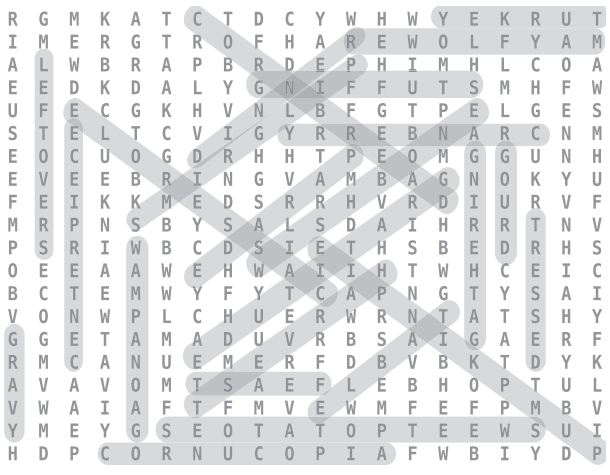
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Sudoku Answers

5	4	7	9	2	1	8	3	6
3	1	2	4	8	6	9	7	5
8	9	6	5	3	7	4	1	2
2	3	4	6	7	9	1	5	8
9	7	5	1	4	8	6	2	3
1	6	8	3	5	2	7	4	9
4	8	9	2	1	5	3	6	7
6	5	3	7	9	4	2	8	1
7	2	1	8	6	3	5	9	4

Word Search Answers



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JD-S550 684 Eng. hrs., 469 sep. hrs, 2WD duals, custom cab, 3- spd. elec. shift, contour master. Retiring. Asking $180,000. (815) 228-4021.

JD 7720, 4WD, 30.5x32 tires, long auger, $12,000 OBO. Call 859-608-4942

JOHN DEERE 6700 sprayer, new in the spring of 08, 603 hours, 60 ft. boom, 3 wheel with shields $67,500. PRICED REDUCED!!! Call anytime 309-376-6741.

210 ft. HIC Leg, 7500 Bu. per Hr., reconditioned 217-379-2016 Evening

Anhydrous Wagons - Very good cond. farmer owned, $1800 262-497-3600

7200 MaxEmerge II 1630, row cleaners, copper head closing wheels, 350 JD monitor, new tires, liq in the row, Keyton seat firmers, $8900-obo. 309-825-1056 (tfn).

2015 New Holland Big Baler 330R Crop Cutter, 3 x 3 square bales w/ preservative, rotor cutter, steerable tandem axle, hdy. folding roller chute, auto-lube, Intelli III monitor. 9778 bales, $89,000 OBO. Call Robert at 815-291-6856. (tfn

2014 Massey Ferguson 2270 Baler, 3 x 4 square bales w/ preservative knotter blower, standard chute, single axle, 8869 bales, $79,000 OBO. Call Robert 815-291-6856.

KillBros Seed Tender w/plastic auger, $2,000 1985 M & W 375 Wagon $2,200 309-275-0524. (tfn)

2007 Geringhoff Rotadisc, 8 row head, w/ rotacone corn savers, this head is very good and had very little use, needs no work on it before fall season, always shedded $29,000 815-761-2531. (tfn)

2006 Mustang. 634 telehandler, 6,000 lb cap., 34ft lift, 2,462 hours. foam tires. JD Diesel Engine. Very good condition. $25k OBO, 812-852-4594 Osgood, IN (tfn)

BUSINESS FOR SALE

Saw Mill Business for sale. Located in Tazwell, IN. $250,000 OBO Call Becky Higgins/Remax 812-267-6264 (tfn)

Children's clothing resale business, $7,500. includes 5000 items. 235 East Main Street. Gas City, Indiana . Donna 510-599-9010

AUTOS FOR SALE

2015 Nissan Frontier SV pickup full, 4-door, loaded and showroom new. 12,200 miles. Call 812-482-6304. If no answer, leave message.
2-25-22 tfn

2013 RED SMART FOUR TWO CONVERTIBLE, 43,000 miles, power steering, power breaks, cruise control, tack, garage kept, stored in winter, 35-40 mpg.Very clean, well kept car! Comes with car cover. This car won 1st Place in open stock competition at Heartland Worship Center Car Show in 2014. $9,500. Call 270-554-7367, leave message if no answer. (tfn)

2000 DODGE RAM 2500 SERIES, V8 Magnum SLT, 17" NEW Tires, Body Lift Kit, Cold Air, 103,000 miles $6500.00 - 812-549-5216 or 812-309-2214.

2004 STERLING tri-axle dump truck, 8LL transmission, 16.5 ft. aluminum bed, 849,000 miles, great shape, mechanically sound, one owner, professionally maintained. Mid 30's Call 812-639-1078 (tfn)

2009 TOYOTA CAMRY LE. New tires. $6,250 call 812-639-1246.

2006 YAMAHA ROADLINER 1900 w/ accessories. 29,000 miles and 2,000 miles on the tires. Drag pipes and Mustang seats. $5,500 call 812-686-1774.

2004 STERLING TRIAXLE DUMP TRUCK, 8LL transmission, 16.5 ft. aluminum bed, 849,000 miles, great shape, mechanically sound, one owner, professionally maintained. Mid 30's Call 812-639-1078 (tfn)

1976 CADILLAC ELDORADO CONVERTIBLE, front wheel drive, 22,400 actual miles, 2nd owner for over 30 years. Mint. Never rained on. Always garaged and covered.
$23,900 firm. 812-481-1470.

MOTORCYCLES & ACCESSORIES

2001 1200cc Sportster Turned Trike, low mileage, $8000. Please call 765-618-4497. (6-7-24 tfn)

2007 Honda Shadow, excellent motorcycle. 2 owner. White & Grey. 13,100 miles. Asking $4,000. Please call...765-661-5498.
(7-26-22 tfn)



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Nationwide Farming Trends: Mid-November agriculture focuses on winter preparation and 2027 planning

As November reaches its midpoint, farmers across the United States are transitioning from the busy fall harvest season to winter preparation, financial planning and decisions that will influence the 2027 growing season. From the Midwest corn and soybean fields to Southern cotton farms and Western livestock operations, producers are evaluating this year's results while preparing for the challenges ahead.

Harvest activity remains a major focus in several parts of the country, although much of the nation's corn, soybean, cotton and other fall crops are nearing completion. Farmers are assessing yields, monitoring grain markets and deciding whether to sell stored commodities or hold supplies in anticipation of improved prices.

Harvest progress varies by region and crop. According to the USDA's November 8 Crop Progress Report, 81% of the nation's corn crop had been harvested, trailing the five-year average of 86%. Soybean harvest was 92% complete, slightly ahead of the five-year average. Cotton harvest had reached 71%, while sorghum harvest stood at 70%.

Winter wheat planting is also nearing completion, with 89% of intended acreage planted nationwide. The condition of the emerging wheat crop will be closely watched as colder weather approaches, particularly across the Southern Plains, where moisture conditions have been a concern.

Financial pressures continue to influence decisions on farms of every size. The USDA forecasts 2026 production expenses will increase 4.5% compared with 2025, reaching approximately $492.8 billion. Fertilizer and fuel costs are among the expenses expected to rise, putting additional pressure on operating budgets. The agency also projects inflation-adjusted net farm income will decline 5.5% this year.

Livestock producers are entering an important seasonal transition as colder temperatures bring increased attention to feed supplies, animal health, pasture management and winter housing. Cattle markets, feed prices and hay availability remain important considerations for ranchers and livestock operations nationwide.

Technology and conservation are also shaping the future of American agriculture. Precision farming equipment, GPS-guided machinery, improved seed varieties, soil testing and cover crops are helping producers make more informed decisions while managing resources.

As mid-November arrives, farmers are looking beyond the current harvest and beginning to prepare for 2027.

Reviewing crop rotations, comparing seed and fertilizer options, maintaining equipment and studying market forecasts are among the priorities.

Although challenges involving expenses, commodity prices and unpredictable weather remain, American agriculture continues to adapt. The decisions farmers make during the winter months will play an important role in determining the productivity and profitability of the next growing season.



TRACTORS: 1998 John Deere 9100-Hrs. Showing 8,061, GoodYear 520/85R42 tires, 4 hydraulic remotes; 1995 John Deere 8970- Hrs. Showing 2,982, 4 hydraulic remotes, 20.8R42 Tires; 1990 John Deere 8760- Hrs. Showing 6,186, Firestone 18.4R42 tires, 3 point hitch, 3 hydraulic remotes; 1983 John Deere 4250-hrs meter showing 2,663, (meter broken) actual believed to have approx. 3,000hrs) 2nd. Owner, Powershift trans, 18.4R38 tires, 2 hydraulic remotes, 540/1000 PTO, 3 point hitch; 1981 John Deere 4440- Hr meter showing 7,143, 8spd. Powershift trans, 2 hydraulic remotes, 540/1000 PTO, 3 point hitch; **COMBINE & HEADS:** John Deere 9560STS-4,227eng. Hrs. 2,322Sep. hrs. Bin extensions, Firestone 900/60R32 tires; 2005 John Deere 630F HydraFlex Flex Head, 30ft. Cutting Width, *DAMAGED* Full-Finger Auger, Hyd. Fore/Aft Reel, Single-Point Hookup, Poly Skid Plates, S/N H00630F712360; John Deere 606C Corn Head, 6 Row, 30" Spacing, Poly Snouts, Single-Point Hookup, Gathering Chains, Knife Rolls;Unverferth HT30 Header Transport, 30' Capacity, Green, 4-Wheel Running Gear, Front Steering, Adjustable Header Supports, Lights, Reflective Marking, Pin Hitch; **SEMI & TRAILER, GRAIN TRUCK:** 2007 Volvo VNL Day Cab Truck Tractor, Volvo D12 12.1L Diesel, 465 HP, Eaton Fuller 10-Spd Manual Trans, Tandem Axle, 6x4, 12,000 lb Front Axle, Aluminum Wheels, Air Ride, Dual Fuel Tanks, VIN 4V4NC9GH27N462168; 2011 Timpte Aluminum Hopper Bottom Grain Trailer, Tandem Axle, Air Ride Suspension, Dual Hoppers, Shur-Co 4500HD Electric Roll Tarp, Aluminum Construction, Rear Ladder, LED Lights; 2000 Freightliner FL80 Tandem-Axle Grain Truck: Approx. 19 ft. Scott aluminum grain dump bed, Shur-Lok roll tarp, rear grain gate, Eaton Fuller automated transmission, air brakes, aluminum wheels, rear hitch with electrical hookup, and air-ride driver's seat. Dash replacement noted at 212,934 miles; total mileage unverified; **GRAIN CART & TENDER:** 2020 J&M SpeedTender C450 Seed Tender, S/N 2062038, 4-Box Capacity, 22' x 8" Belt Conveyor, Hyd. Swing & Raise/Lower, 13 HP Honda Gas Engine w/ Electric Start, Tandem Axle, Electric Brakes; 2004 Brent 1080 Grain Cart, 1,080 Bu. Capacity, 20" Corner Auger, Hyd. Adjustable Spout, Roll Tarp, Scale System, 1000 PTO, Large Flotation Tires, S/N B20920127; **PLANTERS & DRILLS:** 2014 Kinze 3600 16/32 Row, Bulk fill, Air Seed delivery, fill auger, markers, row cleaners, No-till coulters, 1 spiked & 1 rubber closing wheel, seed firmers, Center pivot frame; John Deere 7000 Planter, 6 Row, 30" Spacing, Pull-Type, Fiberglass Seed Boxes, Mechanical Ground Drive, Double-Disc Openers, Rubber Closing Wheels, Hyd. Lift, Row Markers; 1994 John Deere 750 No-Till Grain Drill, 15' Working Width, 7.5" Spacing, 24 Openers, Single-Disc No-Till Openers, Press Wheels, Hyd. Lift, Hyd. Row Markers, Grain Box, Pull-Type, S/N N00750X013918; **TILLAGE EQUIP:** 2014 Kent by Great Plains 6541 Series VII Field Cultivator, 41ft. Working Width, 71 Shank; DMI 40ft. Crumbler with hydraulic double fold; 2011 Sunflower 6630 Vertical Tillage Tool, Hyd. Fold, Walking Tandems, Wing Gauge Wheels, Single-Point Depth Control, Serrated SoilRazor Blades, Rear Rolling Baskets, S/N AGCS66300BZVRT025; **SPRAYER & TENDER:** Case IH Patriot SPX3150 Self-Propelled Sprayer, 90ft. Boom, 750 Gal Poly Tank, Hydrostatic 4WD; **AUGERS:** Sudenga Portable Grain Auger, Approx. 6" x 31', Electric Drive, Galvanized Tube, Manual Cable/Wheel Lift, Transport Wheels, Discharge Spout w/ Flex Downspout; Hutchinson/Mayrath 10" x Approx. 72' Swing-Away Grain Auger, S/N 953131, 540 PTO, Swing-Away Hopper, Hyd. Lift, Galvanized Tube, Cable-Truss Support, Transport Wheels; **GRAIN BINS & GRAIN HANDLING EQUIPMENT:** 30 ft. Grain Bin: 7 rings tall, drying floor, grain spreader, stirring system, roof vents, side access door, Hutchinson vertical unload auger with 7.5 hp Baldor motor, and GSI centrifugal drying fan with 15 hp Baldor motor and gas-fired heater; Approx. 24 ft. Columbian Red Top Grain Bin: 6½ rings tall, drying floor, grain spreader, sweep auger, Hutchinson inclined unload auger with electric motor, aeration fan, side access door, and exterior ladder; Approx. 18 ft. Columbian Red Top Grain Bin: 6½ rings tall, drying floor, grain spreader, horizontal unload auger with electric motor, aeration fan, side access door, and interior and exterior ladders; Approx. 24 ft. Columbian Red Top Grain Bin: 6½ rings tall, drying floor, stirring system, Hutchinson inclined unload auger with 2 hp Baldor motor, side access door, and interior and exterior ladders; **This is a partial listing only! Check back for more info!**

***TERMS & CONDITIONS:** Online bidder fees apply. EVERYTHING SELLS AS IS WHERE IS W/ NO GUARANTEES. ONLINE BIDDING AVAILABLE EQUIPMENTFACTS.COM & PROXIBIDCOM & NEXTLOT.*







