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AREA DEATHS - inside

Journal Reporter

Thursday, March 12, 2026

Serving GAS CITY, JONESBORO & MARION Since 1888

In God We Trust

Dozens of Marion musicians earn ISSMA's top award at State Solo & Ensemble

Marion Community Schools congratulates more than four dozen outstanding young musicians from Marion High School and McCulloch Junior High who competed recently at ISSMA's annual State Solo & Ensemble competition! We are proud of these artists, who all took on a high degree of difficulty to reach the state level. Impressively: 16 of them earned the top adjudication award, Gold with Distinction, which recognizes a high degree of excellence. Two students doubled this outstanding accomplishment, earning two Gold with Distinction awards apiece!

Each year, the Indiana State School Music Association puts on regional and state level Solo & Ensemble competitions for instrumentalists and for vocalists and pianists. Musicians who earn a gold rating at regional on a Division 1 entry (the toughest division) advance to the state level. This year, vocal/piano state competition was on Feb. 21, and the instrumental state competition was on Feb. 28.

Marion Community Schools applauds these

students on their great accomplishments, and expresses gratitude to the teachers who work every day to help these students develop their talent and skills.

Here's a look at the full list of Marion musicians who competed at state Solo & Ensemble, and their awards:

Gold with Distinction

Hannah Huff, sophomore flute solo
vocal solo
Madelynn Boogar, junior marimba solo
percussion ensemble
Aliya Cruz, junior, vocal solo
Aubriella Cruz, freshman, vocal solo
Clara Davies, junior, vocal solo
Bralen Davis, junior, percussion ensemble
Gracie Dixon, sophomore, percussion ensemble,
Cymaura Dorsey, freshman, percussion ensemble
Damian Evans, senior, percussion ensemble
Cecilia Hancock, eighth, vocal solo
Joseph Hancock, sophomore, percussion ensemble
Chayim Hofmann, senior, percussion ensemble

MARION COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Elisabella Ramirez, eighth, vocal solo
Colin Royse, junior, piano solo
Micah Wayman, eighth, vocal solo
Zoey Wayman, senior, vocal solo

Gold

Clara Davies, junior vocal ensemble
vocal quartet
Mia Moreno, senior vocal solo
vocal ensemble
Justin Peters, senior trombone solo
brass quintet
Colin Royse, junior vocal solo
vocal ensemble
Brooklynne Smith, junior vocal ensemble
vocal quartet
Justice Sweat, freshman saxophone solo
vocal ensemble
Macey Wayman, sophomore vocal solo
vocal quartet
Zoey Wayman, senior vocal ensemble
vocal quartet
Audrey Alsup, sophomore, vocal ensemble
Nolan Berryhill, junior, vocal ensemble
Madelynn Boogar, junior, vocal ensemble
Skylar Boogar, sophomore, vocal ensemble
Cassandra Bucher, senior, vocal ensemble
Mariana Castro, senior, vocal solo
Miles Contreras, eighth, vocal ensemble
Keagan Couchman, junior, brass quintet
Selah Craig, junior, vocal ensemble
Aliya Cruz, junior, vocal ensemble
Antonio Cruz, eighth, vocal ensemble
Dakhota Daley, senior, clarinet trio
Myla Dunston, eighth, vocal ensemble
Gabriel Fisher, junior, vocal ensemble
Cecilia Hancock, eighth, vocal ensemble
Heidi Harshman, sophomore, vocal ensemble
Benjamin Havens, sophomore, flute solo
Micah Hawkins, junior, vocal ensemble
King-Henry Henriquez, sophomore, vocal ensemble
Hannah Huff, sophomore, vocal ensemble

Lucy Jenkins, junior, vocal ensemble
Evelynn Lopez-Gomez, senior, clarinet ensemble
Ruby Mets, eighth, vocal ensemble
Jecca Paduga, eighth, vocal ensemble
Justin Peters, senior, brass quintet
Elisabella Ramirez, eighth, vocal ensemble
Hannah Smith, sophomore, clarinet trio
Nicholas Smith, junior, vocal ensemble
Arabella Stanley, junior, vocal ensemble
Jehren Smithley, senior, brass quintet
Greg Stanley, eighth, vocal ensemble
Skai Terry, freshman, vocal ensemble
Manuel Trejo, senior, brass quintet
Adin Turner, sophomore, vocal ensemble
Jayden Wallace, sophomore, brass quintet
Micah Wayman, eighth, vocal ensemble
Macey Wayman, sophomore, vocal ensemble

Silver

Manuel Trejo, senior, trumpet solo

Bronze

Saxophone trio: Mackenzie Herring, sophomore; and Norin Smithley and Dietrich Runyan, freshmen

Now entering Marion can now be seen on YouTube

Ball State PBS Documentary: "Now Entering Marion" Share Ball State PBS's most recent documentary under their "Now Entering..." series is all about Marion, Indiana—honing in on our rich history, the arts, basketball. It is viewable on YouTube at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qV3MtGB0fQ8&t=2s>

May your troubles be less.
And your blessings be more.
And nothing but happiness come through your door.
— Irish blessing

Happy St. Patrick's Day

Marion Community School of the Arts awarded IYI Well-Being Project Grant

Marion, Indiana — Marion Community School of the Arts (CSA) is proud to announce that it has been awarded the IYI Well-Being Project Grant to support a comprehensive Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB) initiative across the organization.

This grant will allow CSA to take intentional steps toward strengthening equitable access,

representation, and participation in its arts education programs, pre-professional theatre company, and community theatre offerings. As an organization committed to serving the entire Marion community, CSA recognizes the importance of ensuring that its policies, leadership structures, and classroom practices reflect and respond to the diverse populations it serves.

Through this initiative, CSA will partner with Lark Song, a local consulting group specializing in organizational DEIB strategy and capacity building. Lark Song will guide CSA through a structured process that includes staff and board training, a review of organizational policies and procedures, and the development of a formal DEIB Policy Framework to guide future decision-making.

"This work is essential to who we

are and who we aspire to be," said Shelly Inskeep, Executive Director of Marion Community School of the Arts. "At this time in our community and in our broader cultural landscape, it is more important than ever that arts organizations lead with intentionality, accountability, and compassion. Our mission is to make excellence in arts education and enrichment accessible to all. This initiative ensures that we are not only saying those words, but building the systems and structures to truly live them out."

The grant-supported work will focus on:

Providing DEIB training for staff, faculty, and board members to build shared understanding and practical skills

Reviewing and strengthening hiring, recruitment, outreach, and governance policies

Establishing

measurable goals and accountability structures to ensure long-term sustainability

Enhancing community engagement efforts to increase participation from historically underrepresented groups

Megan Gilmore, Executive Director at Lark's Song, emphasized the significance of this partnership:

"The DEIB initiative at CSA is a responsive, brave, and necessary work in our community, and we cannot wait for the impact both on our community and on the organization as a whole. Our Culture Care wing at Lark's Song exists to co-create transformative systemic change that requires the kind of humility, preparation, and investment that Community School of the Arts is displaying by pursuing a higher level of accountability

when it comes to access, inclusivity, and equity."

The initiative is designed not as a one-time project, but as a long-term investment in organizational learning and growth. By embedding DEIB principles into its strategic planning and evaluation processes, CSA aims to foster a culture where equity and belonging are central to all aspects of its mission.

Community Participation Invited

As part of this work, CSA is expanding its DEIB Committee and is seeking community members who are invested in arts education and enrichment—particularly individuals representing diverse populations within Marion—to participate in committee efforts.

CSA welcomes individuals who are passionate about increasing access to

the arts, strengthening inclusive practices, and helping ensure that all community members feel seen, valued, and represented. Committee members will collaborate with CSA leadership to provide insight, share lived experiences, and help shape policies and outreach strategies that reflect the needs of the broader community.

Those interested in learning more about serving on the DEIB Committee are encouraged to contact CSA directly.

By undertaking this initiative, CSA reaffirms its commitment to making high-quality arts education accessible and welcoming to all and to serving as a responsive and inclusive leader within the Marion community.

For more information about CSA and its programs, visit www.csa-marion.com.

VICTORIOUS

Living

...in a troubled world

Upcoming Youth Xplosion 26

Equip Church in Paducah, KY., will be hosting Youth Xplosion 26 on Friday, March 27 th, from 6 pm to 8 pm, and Saturday, March 28 th, from 9 am to 9 pm. It is a church youth conference that will be hosted by Rev. Joshua & Christy Sullivan from Be Real Ministries. Friday will consist of in-person registration and an evening service/worship service. Saturday events include workshops, prayer time, and morning and evening worship services. Lunch and dinner will also be served on Saturday. Advance Registration cost is \$30.00 until Friday, March 13th . After that date, the registration cost is \$40.00. On-site registration is also available for \$40.00. Registration, except for on-site registration, will be online. For additional registration information, contact Rev. Joshua Sullivan at berealministries.com or Pastor Scott Wade at (217) 899-8639. We are proud and excited to bring this youth conference to the Paducah area. The youth are the future leaders of the church, and we look forward to helping to lead them to obtain a closer relationship with our Lord & Savior, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit. For more information you can contact Equip Church at 270-441-7900.

Selective Hearing

By Teresa LeNeave
leneave2@comcast.net

Selective hearing. Not good when it involves where we spend eternity. The Bible has some fascinating things to say about the heart and how we hear. For example, have you ever wondered what it means that people hear but don’t understand? Or, “He that has ears to hear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches”? We all have ears so I guess that means everyone should listen with intent. The difference, it seems, is whether we hear with our ears or with our heart. Selective hearing. You know what selective hearing is. We’ve all experienced it. You’re talking to someone and their mind is nowhere near what you’re saying. You might as well be talking to a wall.



Selective Hearing

It seems we have a choice in how we choose to hear. That applies spiritually as well as physically because in Revelations the Bible repeatedly says, “He that has ears to hear, let him hear...”. To understand the difference, you could think of it like this: The ears would say: “I heard what you said.” But the heart would say: “I “hear” what you said. I believe it. I

are closed. Their mind is somewhere else. According to the scripture, the Truth of the Word needs to take root, and that takes work. The only garden that didn’t take a lot of work was the Garden of Eden and that’s long gone. Every gardener will tell you it takes a lot of work to have a good garden. A good spiritual ground doesn’t just happen by chance any more than a good vegetable garden does. Both gardens require work. A good spiritual garden requires cultivation through prayer, faith and the Bible. For example, Jesus said some people do not let Truth take root in their lives. They are too busy and life just takes over, leaving no space or time for God. Jesus explained this clearly in the Parable of the Sower in Matthew 13. He said the message of God is like seed. Some seed falls on a path. People hear but immediately forget it. Some seed falls on rocky ground. They accept it, briefly, but soon fall away. Some seed falls among thorns but worries and riches of life choke the message. These all “heard” but they didn’t do the work of cultivation and preparing the ground so the seeds could not live. But there were some seeds that fall on good soil. Soil that was prepared and ready to produce a summer harvest. These people hear, understand, and produce fruit. How we hear and respond is important. Selective hearing it’s not something we want to practice when it comes to salvation and eternity. Choose to hear. Choose to cultivate, mull over and think about the Gospel you hear. It’s the life line to eternity with God.

Standing strong with confidence in God

By Dr. Billy Holland

Fear and anxiety are negative byproducts of modern life, trying to influence us away from God. Our jobs are often stressful, our relationships and finances, and even our children struggle with social pressures we hardly faced when we were their age. Some people turn to natural remedies, like the newly popular cannabidiol products, while others are absorbed in social media, but there is even better news that can give us peace in this troubled world. The Bible remains an unfailing source of hope and comfort in the seasons when we are discouraged and perplexed. Psalm 46:1-3 declares that even in the darkest times, we can stand strong in the light of God’s authority because we

are trusting that His promises are true. “God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.” There are times when all of us, at one time or another, feel sad and discouraged. It’s alright to occasionally examine our situation, but we should not pitch our tent and decide to live there. It’s the irritating things that can distract us and start pulling us toward doubt and worry. Changing our mind can change our attitude, but it does not just happen all by itself; it takes having a strong desire to transform our mind, which involves

choosing the type of life we want to live. We know that spiritual faith is being positive-minded, which gives us joy and strength, and we can also establish that optimism is the key ingredient for happiness. It helps us live more fully and engage more generously with life. It helps us notice joy, to see what is possible, and take the next steps with hope and confidence. In my office, my desk is covered with encouraging quotes that remind me to stay positive and focused on God – He is the way, the life, and the truth. For many, their wealth and health are their security, and they cannot fathom the thought of losing them. However, may we remember that God is our ultimate security and our healer. Though His followers

live in this world, we are also citizens of heaven. What an encouragement to know this temporary life is not all there is – our future is forever! “He shall cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you shall take refuge; His truth shall be your shield and buckler. You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, nor of the arrow that flies by day, nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness, nor of the destruction that lays waste at noonday.” When we are overwhelmed with fear and feel as if the walls are closing in on us, we can know that God is with us and will always take care of us. Remember that faith nor fear force themselves upon us; they are invited guests. We are given the choice to select one of two foundations we

will stand on; thus, yielding ourselves to God’s care must be a deliberate decision. We cannot always control what is happening in our surroundings, but we can control how we react to them. When we truly believe that He is watching us even more closely than the tiny Sparrow, we will stop doubting His desire and ability to deliver and sustain us. God loves us and wants everyone to understand and believe that He is who He says He is. In John 14:27, Christ promises, “Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world gives, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.” He is saying the world cannot give us the spiritual security that He offers because it’s only based on

materialism. When Christ sits on the throne of our heart, we are no longer frantically trying to figure out our own solutions, but we can trust in His power and wisdom to bless and protect us. Optimism doesn’t change the world; it changes how we see the world. Since fear is a learned behavior, can we not train our minds to accept faith instead? When our will is to do His will, we will enjoy His peace that passes all understanding. “The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?” Psalm 27:1. Dr. Holland is an ordained minister, chaplain, author, and teacher. Read more about the Christian life at billyhollandministries.com

Rooted in Christ

By Brandon Bramlett
Pastor - Bandana Baptist Church

We smelled something sour, but stumbled upon something stunning. While backpacking with one of my brother-in-laws near the Cache River State Natural Area in southern Illinois, we were suddenly enveloped by a foul odor that stopped us in our tracks. But unlike most common-sense hikers, we followed our noses—all the way to the most enormous tree we had ever seen: the historic, state-

champion cherrybark oak tree. An information placard beside it explained that the tree was more than three-hundred years old, stretching one-hundred feet skyward, and over eight feet in diameter. And once I breathed the clean air of Kentucky again, I surfed the internet for answers about its gargantuan growth—and its unwelcome smell. The tree’s malodorous musk remains a mystery, but its massive growth is no secret: this giant oak grows deep before it grows

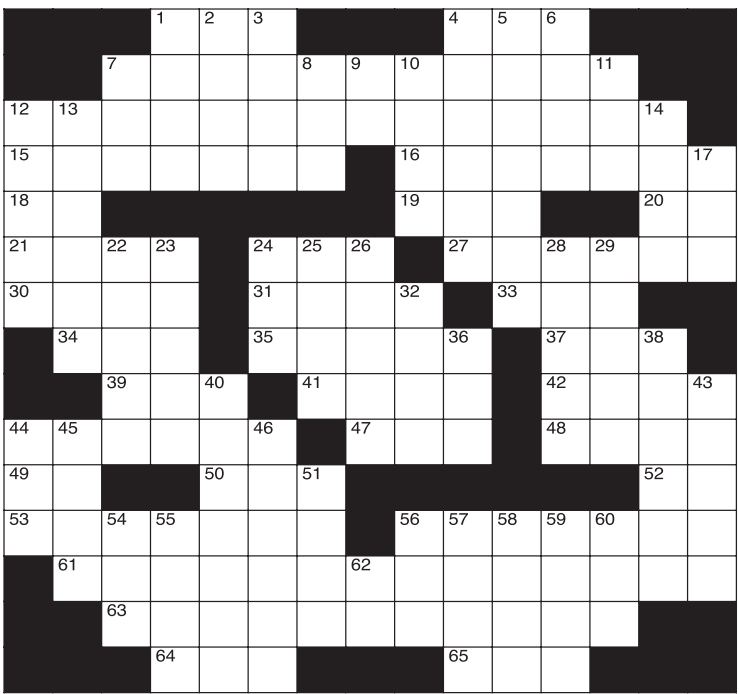
tall. It grips the earth and gathers all the life-giving nutrients it needs through its roots. Despite countless tornadoes, ice storms, floods, and environmental changes, it has grown heavenward and held its ground all because it is anchored underground. Never underestimate the strength of deep roots! Deep roots in Christ are also the key to weathering every storm of life and growing heavenward in spiritual maturity. This is why the apostle Paul commanded believers to be “rooted and built

up in Him” (Col. 2:7a). If you yearn to grow tall into an “oak tree” Christian and bear God-glorifying fruit in your life, you must be connected to Jesus—drawing spiritual sustenance from Him just as roots draw nourishment from the soil. As Isaiah the prophet said, “take root downward, and bear fruit upward” (Isa. 37:31b). Jesus used a similar image when He assured, “I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing” (John

15:5, KJV). Roots also prevent a tree from being uprooted during wind and storms, and vehement tribulations and violent temptations won’t be able to knock you down when you are rooted in Jesus. Tornadoes of life-trouble and hurricanes of temptation may tear off some bark and branches—they may leave their mark on you—but you will remain standing when you are rooted in Christ. As Jeremiah the prophet illustrated, “But blessed are those who trust in the LORD

and have made the LORD their hope and confidence. They are like trees planted along a riverbank, with roots that reach deep into the water. Such trees are not bothered by the heat or worried by long months of drought. Their leaves stay green, and they never stop producing fruit” (Jer. 17:7-8, NLT). The strength of your Christian life depends on what lies beneath the surface. Are you burying your roots in Christ through prayer, time spent in His word, worshipping with His people, and walking in obedience to Him?

Crossword Puzzle



CLUES ACROSS

1. Blockchain-based entity

4. A woolen cap of Scottish origin

7. Painted with glue

12. Legendary crooner

15. Structure made with strips of wood

16. Tropical fruits

18. Commercial

19. Comedienne Gasteyer

20. The Ocean State

21. Ancient Scot

24. Basics

27. Stated propositions

30. Scottish island group

31. Expression of annoyance

33. Large tree

34. Engine additive

35. Conspiracy

37. Drunkard

39. Someone who is morally reprehensible

41. Ancient Syrian city

42. Mild yellow Dutch cheese made in balls

44. Carry (slang)

47. Sweet potato

48. European river

49. The Golden State

50. Windy City ballplayer

52. New Testament

53. Possess spiritually

56. A treeless grassy plain

61. Popular historical novel

63. In a law-abiding way

64. A place to sleep

65. Criticize

CLUES DOWN

1. Impression in a surface

2. Computer language

3. Relating to the ear

4. Occupant

5. Member of Great Plains people

6. Social media firm

7. Digital audiotape

8. Midway between east and southeast

9. Chronic, progressive disease

10. Chinese lute

11. Not wet

12. Moves wings up and down

13. Communication devices

14. Swiss river

17. Female sibling

22. Receive

23. Relating to a type

24. General's assistant (abbr.)

25. Steep bank

26. Taxi driver

28. Moves into without difficulty

29. Bicycle manufacturer

32. Traditional rhythmic pattern

36. Fugitives are on it

38. Bitter-tasting organic substance

40. Die

43. Matched

44. Literary genre ___-fi

45. Cannot

46. Pounded

51. British rock group

54. Debt relief order

55. 2006 NL Cy Young winner

56. Green vegetable

57. Tough outer skin of fruit

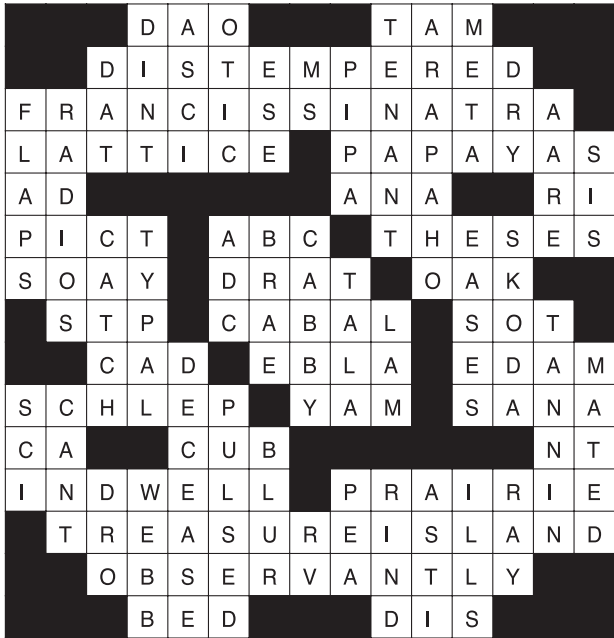
58. ___ Spumante (Italian wine)

59. Ailments

60. Famed singer Charles

62. Camper

PUZZLE SOLUTION



Crypto Fun

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CRYPTO FUN

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Solve the code to discover words related to home improvement.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 2 = E)

A. 6 2 11 1 17 6 7

Clue: Fixes

B. 6 2 9 8 19 1 21 2

Clue: Improve upon

C. 17 9 21 2 6 17 8 6

Clue: Inside

D. 5 2 7 17 10 9

Clue: Scope or scheme

Answers: A. repairs B. renovate C. interior D. design

Word Search

HOME REPAIR

WORD SEARCH

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Elton John Bancroft

Elton John Bancroft, 79, of Marion, Indiana, passed away at 2:28 p.m. on Thursday, March 5, 2026, at Lutheran Hospital of Indiana in Fort Wayne. The family will receive visitors from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Friday, March 13, 2026 at Needham-Storey-Wampner Funeral & Cremation Service, North Chapel, 1341 N. Baldwin Ave., Marion, IN. Immediately following the visitation, a service to celebrate Elton’s life will begin at 4:00 p.m., with

Pastor Bruce Crabtree officiating.

Bradley Jay Phillips

Bradley Jay “Brad” Phillips, 64, of Marion, passed away Wednesday, March 4, 2026, at Lutheran Hospital of Indiana in Fort Wayne. The family received visitors from 11 am to 12 pm on Tuesday, March 10, 2026, at Needham Storey Wampner Funeral and Cremation Service, North Chapel, 1341 N. Baldwin Ave., Marion, IN. Immediately following

the visitation, a funeral service was held to celebrate Brad’s life will take place at 12 PM with Pastor Mick Simpkins officiating. Burial followed at Gardens of Memory Cemetery in Marion.

Mable David

Mable Marie David, age 91, passed away peacefully after a brief illness on February 28, 2026. A memorial service was held at Grace Baptist Church 3305 Peters Creek Parkway, Winston-Salem, NC on Friday March 6, 2026. Burial will be at Grant Memorial Park in Marion, Indiana with a graveside service at 11 am on Saturday March 14, 2026.

Wampner Funeral & Cremation Service, North Chapel, 1341 N. Baldwin Ave., Marion, IN. Immediately following the time of visitation, a service to celebrate Patricia’s life was held at 1:00 pm with Chaplain Jeffrey Horsman officiating. Burial took place at Grant Memorial Park in Marion.

Dennis J. Breece

Dennis J. Breece, 78, of Marion, passed away at 11:34 p.m. on Sunday, March 1, 2026. The family received visitors from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Monday, March 9, 2026, at Needham-Storey-Wampner Funeral & Cremation Service, North Chapel, 1341 N. Baldwin Ave., Marion, IN. A service to celebrate Dennis’s life was held at 12:00 p.m., with Pastor Tom Mansbarger officiating. Burial followed at Grant Memorial Park.

Needham-Storey-Wampner Funeral & Cremation Service, Storey Chapel, 400 E. Main St., Gas City, IN.

Marcretta Jo Joy

Marcretta Jo Joy, 78, of Marion, passed away at 4:30 am on Saturday, February 28, 2026, at Miller’s Merry Manor in Marion. The family received visitors from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm on Monday, March 9, 2026, at Needham-Storey-Wampner Funeral & Cremation Service, North Chapel, 1341 N. Baldwin Ave., Marion, IN. Immediately following the time of visitation, a Funeral Service to celebrate Marcretta’s life was held at 1:00 pm with Pastor Mick Simpkins officiating. Burial took place at Estates of Serenity Cemetery in Marion.

immediately following visitation. Rev. Darrell Smith will officiate.

James E. Childers

James E. Childers, born on August 11, 1947, in Santa Maria, California, passed away peacefully on March 3, 2026, in Marion, Indiana. Service will be held at a future date - Raven Choate Robinson Funeral Home, 1202 West Kem Road, Marion, IN 46952 is entrusted with the details.

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NOTICE OF DETERMINATION TO ENTER INTO LEASE

Taxpayers of the Gas City Redevelopment District (“District”), the boundaries of which are coterminous with the boundaries of the City of Gas City, Indiana (“City”), are hereby notified that the Gas City Redevelopment Commission (“Commission”) did on March 3, 2026, adopt a resolution preliminarily determining to enter into a lease (“Lease”) for the purpose of providing funds for the cost of acquisition and leasing of interests in certain real estate for the purpose of providing funds for the design, acquisition and construction of YMCA improvements, together with all necessary appurtenances, related improvements and equipment and issuance expenses (collectively, “Project”), located in the City. The Lease will be for a maximum term of twenty (20) years commencing with the completion of the Project. The proceeds of the bonds to be issued to finance the Project will be used to finance the costs of the Project and other expenses incidental thereto and costs of issuing the bonds.

The Lease provides for rentals with regard to Tract I (as defined in the Lease) at the maximum annual rate of \$1,200,000, payable semiannually on January 1 and July 1, commencing no earlier than July 15, 2026 and ending upon completion of the Project (“Interim Period”). At the end of the Interim Period, the Lease provides for rentals at the maximum rate of \$600,000 semiannually, commencing on the day the Project is constructed and ready for use and occupancy. The lease rentals shall be payable from General Revenues (as defined in the Lease), and, to the extent the General Revenues are not sufficient, from a special benefits tax levied and collected in the District.

Dated: March 4 and March 11, 2026.

GAS CITY REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

(3-5-26_2X_JR)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED LEASE BY THE GAS CITY REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

You are hereby notified that a public hearing will be held before the Gas City Redevelopment Commission on March 17, 2026, at the hour of 5:30 p.m. (local time) in the Gas City, City Hall, 211 E. Main Street, Gas City, Indiana, upon a proposed lease (“Lease”) to be entered into between the Gas City Redevelopment Authority (“Authority”), as lessor, and the Gas City Redevelopment Commission (“Commission”), as lessee. The Lease is for the benefit of the citizens of the City of Gas City, Indiana (“City”).

The proposed Lease upon which the hearing will be held is for a maximum term of twenty (20) years, commencing upon completion of the Project (as described below). The Project consists of the design, acquisition and construction of YMCA improvements located in the City, together will all necessary appurtenances, related improvements and equipment, as further described in Exhibit A attached to the Lease, and incidental costs associated therewith. With regard to Tract I (as defined in the Lease), the Lease provides for interim Lease rentals at the maximum annual rate of \$1,200,000 payable semiannually on January 1 and July 1 beginning no earlier than July 15, 2026, and ending upon completion of the Project for lease of the Leased Premises (as defined in the Lease) (“Interim Period”). At the end of the Interim Period, the Lease provides for a maximum annual lease rental of \$1,200,000 payable semiannually on January 1 and July 1 of each year during the term of the Lease. At the end of the Interim Period, the first rental installment shall be due on the day the Project constructed on Tract II (as defined in the Lease) is completed and ready for use and occupancy.

After the sale by the Authority of its [Taxable] Lease Rental Revenue Bonds, Series 2026 (“Bonds”), issued to pay for the cost of the Project and other expenses incidental thereto, including funding costs of issuance, the annual rental shall be reduced to an amount equal to the multiple of \$1,000 next higher than the sum of principal and interest due on the Bonds in each twelve-month period ending on January 1 (Bond Year) plus Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000), payable in semiannual installments. Lease rentals shall be payable from General Revenues and, to the extent General Revenues (as defined in the Lease) are not sufficient, from a redevelopment district special benefits tax levy.

The Lease gives an option to the lessee to purchase the Leased Premises on any rental payment date. The estimates for the cost of the Project, as well as a copy of the proposed Lease, are available for inspection by the public on all business days, during business hours, at the office of the Clerk-Treasurer, 211 East Main Street, Gas City, Indiana.

Dated March 5, 2026

GAS CITY REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
(3-5-26, 3-12-26-JR_2x)

Dianna K. Jeffries

Dianna K. Jeffries, 80, of Marion, passed away at 3:10 a.m. on Sunday, March 1, 2026, in Marion. At Dianna’s request, there will be no public visitation or funeral service. Family held a memorial service to celebrate Dianna’s life at 4:00 pm on Friday, March 6, 2026 at Marion Church of the Brethren 2302 S. Geneva Ave. with Pastor Kay Theel officiating.

Jerry A. Warr

Jerry Allan Warr, 78, of Summitville, passed away at 6:45 pm on Sunday, March 1, 2026, at Community Hospital Anderson. At Jerry’s request, there will be no public visitation or funeral service. He will be laid to rest at Marion National Cemetery at a later time. Arrangements are entrusted to

Steve Timmons

Steven (Steve) Howard Timmons, 56, passed away peacefully on Thursday, March 5th, surrounded by the love of his children. Visitation for family and friends was held Monday, March 9, 2026, from 4:00 - 6:00 PM at Raven Choate Robinson Funeral Home, 1202 W. Kem Rd., Marion, Indiana 46952. Funeral services were held

Surrounded by her beloved family, Marcella Ann Carroll, 96, passed away on February 28, 2026, at Colonial Oaks Assisted Living, her home for the past three years. Visitation was held at Needham-Storey-Wampner Funeral Service, 400 East Main Street, Gas City, IN on Friday, March 6, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. with the services followed at 12:00 p.m. with Rev. Tom Mansbarger and Rev. Robert Streeter officiating. Burial followed at Gardens of Memory Cemetery, Marion.

Patricia J. Blair

Patricia “Patti” Joanne Blair, 69, passed away on Monday, March 2, 2026 at IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital. Funeral service was held at 1 pm on Saturday, March 7, 2026 at Keplinger Funeral Home, 509 N. High St. Hartford City.

Jack Anthony Brown, 68, passed away peacefully on March 5, 2026, at 7:15 a.m., surrounded by the love of his family after a courageous and hard-fought battle with cancer. Jack’s strength, loyalty, and love will never be forgotten. Keplinger Funeral Home in Hartford City is in charge of arrangements. Memorials may be made to ARF, 1209 W Riggins Road, Muncie, Indiana 47303.

Patricia J. Winchell

Patricia J. “Pati” Winchell, 71, of Gas City, passed away on Monday, March 2, 2026. The family received visitors from 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm on Friday, March 6, 2026, at Needham-Storey-





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LEGAL NOTICE REQUEST FOR SEALED BIDS

Notice is hereby given that **Mississinewa Community Schools**, Gas City, Indiana, will receive sealed bids for the sale of the following surplus vehicle:

One (1) 2008 Thomas Transit 78-passenger school bus. The vehicle is in used condition and is sold **AS-IS, WHERE-IS**, with no warranties expressed or implied. The bus has a known transmission malfunction; the extent of the issue is unknown. The vehicle may be inspected by appointment. For questions or to arrange inspection, contact the Transportation Office at 765-677-4413. Sealed bids must be clearly marked “School Bus Bid” and delivered to:

Mississinewa Community Schools
424 E South A St
Gas City, Indiana 46933

Bids will be accepted until **April 6, 2026**, at 12:00 PM, at which time they will be opened. Late bids will not be accepted.

The successful bidder will be required to remove the bus from school property within 48 hours of the sale.

Mississinewa Community Schools reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

(3-12-26_1x_JR)

Caring for Seniors



Retirement savings shortfalls

A recent report from the senior care experts at Seniorly indicated that millions of retirees are in jeopardy of outliving their retirement savings. The Seniorly report tabulated projected retirement income and expenses starting at age 65, and found that the average American retiree can expect roughly \$762,000 in income generated from government-sponsored plans like Social Security, savings and investments. But the expected living expenses of such individuals was determined to be \$877,000, meaning the average retiree may have a shortfall of \$115,000. Retirement savings shortfalls also are a cause for concern in Canada, where 59 percent of Canadians indicated they fear they will outlive their savings in a 2025 CPP Investments Retirement Survey. Projections like those from Seniorly and the fears expressed by Canadians concerned by a potential shortfall of retirement savings underscore the need to prioritize saving for life after working, which can have short-term benefits as well. In fact, 49 percent of Canadians who expected to utilize the Canada Pension Plan reported lower levels of stress as a result of their commitment to retirement planning.

How some seniors benefit from looking after their grandchildren

Modern seniors are spending a lot of time with their grandchildren, and much of that time is spent providing care for youngsters, which might be helping grandparents in some unique ways. According to the National Poll on Healthy Aging from the University of Michigan’s Institute for Healthcare Policy & Innovation, 8 percent of grandparents provide daily or near-daily care for their grandchildren. One in five grandparents reports providing care for one or more grandchildren at least once a week.

Though it can be a tall order for grandparents to look after their grandchildren, the time grandparents spend with their children’s children can provide some unique benefits. The National Poll on Healthy Aging found that 72 percent of people with grandchildren indicated they hardly ever feel isolated, compared to 62 percent without



grandchildren. The poll also found that 13 percent of seniors without grandchildren indicated their mental health was fair or poor, while just 9 percent of seniors with grandchildren characterized their mental health in that way. Grandparents spending ample time with their grandchildren also may help to build stronger social and cultural connections between themselves and their grandkids. The healthy aging poll found that slightly more than six in 10 grandparents indicated they shared at least one meal with a grandchild or grandchildren over the previous month, and nearly half indicated they had prepared food for them. In addition, 36 percent of grandparents indicated they had baked or cooked with their grandkids over the previous month. One researcher who worked with the team behind the poll noted that eating and cooking with grandchildren affords grandparents an opportunity to pass down knowledge and recipes to younger generations. Caregiving for grandchildren can be a tall order for grandparents. However, seniors who provide such care may be benefitting in some unique and important ways.

The Guardians and 8th Street in concert at Epworth Church March 14

Epworth Church, 105 W 8th St, Matthews, Indiana is pleased to announce The Guardians with special guest 8th Street in concert on Saturday , March 14, 2026! New Saturday early start time for 2026: concerts start at 6 pm (Doors open at 5 pm. Tickets \$15. Also, a love offering will be received. Tickets on sale at epworthworship.com/guardians or call/text 765-667-0842.



The Guardians

John Darin Rowsey, Pat Barker, Dale Forbes, and Paul Lancaster, collectively known as The Guardians are a southern gospel quartet with a unique sound, tight harmony and a passion for sharing the gospel through their music. Occasionally, they are joined on stage by founding member, owner and manager, Dean Hickman, who has been in southern gospel music for over 60 years. With three Dove Award nominations, multiple #1 songs and Fan Awards, the Lord has blessed The Guardians with an incredible journey since their inception. Each member of the Group brings a sincere commitment to glorifying Jesus Christ. Therefore, their mantra remains echoing John the Baptist’s words in



8th Street

John 3:30: “He must increase but I must decrease”
It all started on 8th street in Sapulpa, Oklahoma at a little church called Pentecostal Mission. Jonathan Thompson, Ivan and Byron Hughart grew up learning about Jesus and singing together. They have been singing as a trio since 2017. Their mission is simple - Take the Message of Jesus Christ to everyone they reach with their music ministry; and see those same people walk away forever changed by the mercy of God. 8th Street made their main stage debut at NQC 2023 after winning their artist showcase and winning again in 2025!

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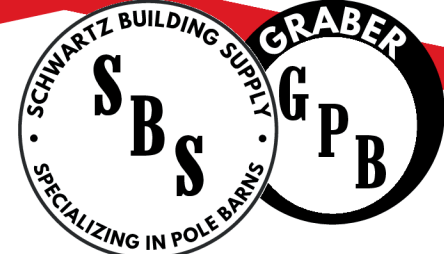
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2	4	9	6	5	8	1	8	7
5	8	6	7	1	8	4	2	9
1	8	7	9	2	4	6	5	8
7	9	1	4	8	5	8	6	2
6	5	4	8	9	2	7	8	1
8	2	8	1	6	7	9	4	5
9	7	5	2	4	6	8	1	8
4	1	2	8	8	9	5	7	6
8	6	8	5	7	1	2	9	4

Word Search Answers

1	H	R	V	R	W	I	T	8	9	8	1	8	N	I	O	T	O	H
2	3	R	M	I	L	A	X	L	3	0	8	7	3	8	N	C	J	
3	N	A	H	N	I	M	V	L	3	N	0	9	A	3	0	C	M	
4	I	d	A	M	I	N	L	H	I	I	d	T	O	S	8	C	T	C
5	H	O	9	T	I	9	I	N	T	V	V	0	3	C	T	I	N	C
6	I	V	N	O	d	O	M	H	C	I	W	7	8	R	3	N	0	
7	I	O	9	O	I	I	3	d	T	T	L	S	V	9	8	H	R	W
8	0	S	L	A	S	N	S	R	C	V	M	8	9	3	0	H	O	d
9	0	d	H	A	M	V	9	T	A	L	A	S	d	7	0	H	S	R
0	N	I	9	V	0	I	O	8	H	8	H	9	I	S	N	A		
1	C	M	L	X	O	H	M	N	L	3	M	I	N	8	H	X	S	
2	C	O	L	S	T	O	C	V	9	C	M	I	N	3	I	9	C	
3	S	X	C	C	J	X	M	T	W	L	M	X	M	9	O	V	M	C
4	H	O	7	C	H	A	M	X	d	9	S	R	I	N	M	O	T	d
5	8	A	3	H	S	V	T	d	S	X	V	8	H	J	A	R	H	
6	8	I	3	V	T	A	N	C	N	S	L	S	S	A	C	V	H	
7	A	R	S	3	I	9	3	N	3	N	A	N	C	M	V	T	d	
8	N	X	H	R	R	I	9	3	N	3	V	O	8	I	M	V	A	R
9	O	7	P	R	M	3	M	8	O	I	S	R	I	O	I	V	A	R
0	3	A	L	P	K	9	d	d	W	9	N	S	N	R	S			

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Severe weather prep:

Know the risks, check your gear, stay safe

By Laurna Todd,
ING Writer

As severe weather season approaches, preparation is key—for both your family and your equipment. Regular maintenance on tractors, trucks, and trailers can prevent costly repairs and keep you safe during storms. Check brakes, tires, lights,

fluids, and hitch connections, and make sure trailers are properly secured. But protecting your vehicles is only part of the plan. Understanding tornadoes and staying aware of changing weather is critical. Tornadoes can form quickly, often with little warning, so a safety plan is

essential.

Safe Shelter Tips
The American Red Cross recommends:

- Use an underground area like a basement, storm shelter, or safe room.
- Stock enough food and water for three days, along with first-aid kits, flashlights, and battery backups

for phones.

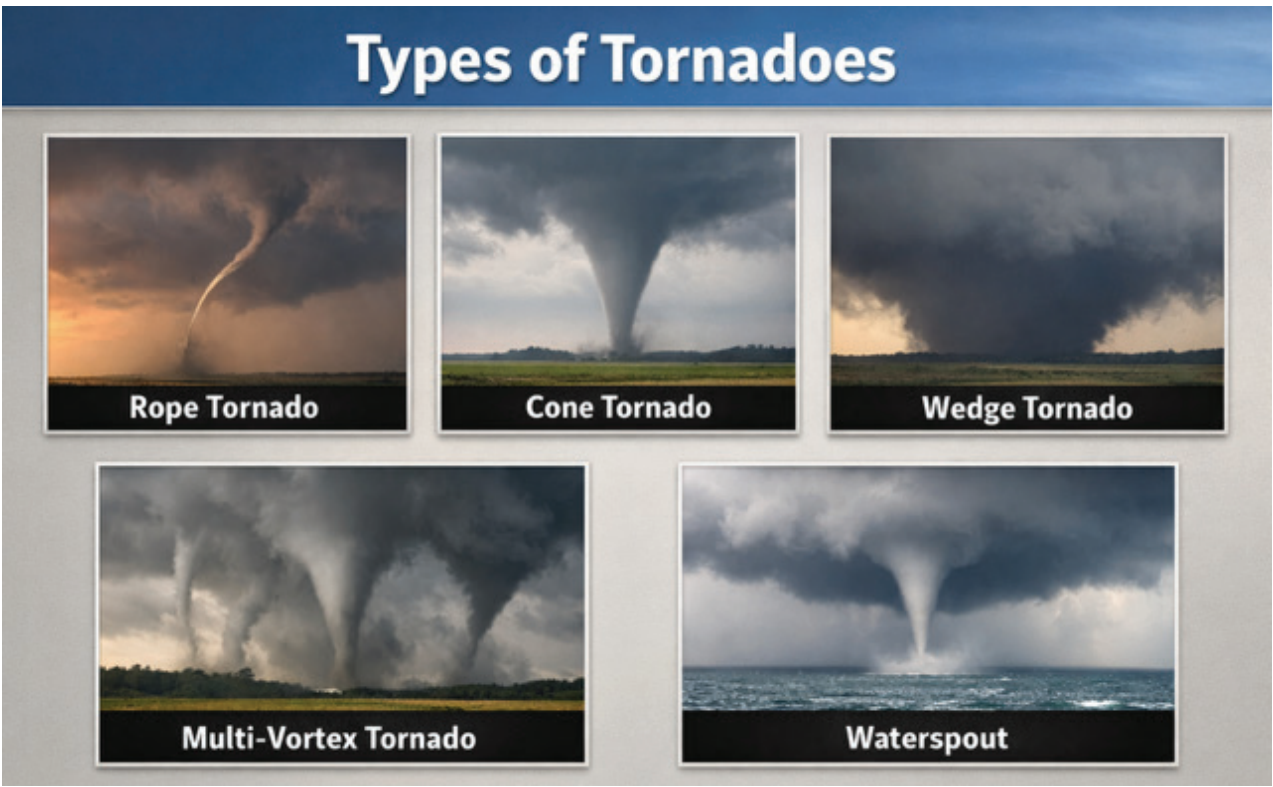
- Keep a charged NOAA weather radio for storm updates
- Have essential documents ready, such as Social Security cards, insurance papers, and banking information.

Tornado Myths to Ignore
According to the National Climate

Data Center:

- Overpasses aren’t safe: Flying debris makes them deadly.
- You can’t outrun a tornado: Paths are unpredictable and can change quickly.
- Mobile home parks aren’t specifically targeted: Tornadoes strike indiscriminately; mobile homes simply offer less protection.

Stay Alert, Stay Safe
Awareness is the best defense. Keep up with weather reports, maintain your vehicles and equipment, and know your safe areas. Being prepared and informed can protect lives, property, and peace of mind when severe weather strikes.



Understanding different types of tornadoes

By Laurna Todd,
ING Writer

When severe weather threatens, it can bring uncertainty and anxiety for many people. One way to help ease some of that concern is by understanding the different types of tornadoes that can develop. While no tornado should ever be taken lightly, knowing what meteorologists mean when they describe certain tornado types can help people better understand warnings and what kind of damage may be possible.

Meteorologists identify several types of tornadoes based on their shape and structure. Although they may look different, each type forms from powerful thunderstorms and can produce dangerous winds.

Rope Tornadoes are thin and narrow, often resembling a twisting rope in the sky. According to the National Oceanic

and Atmospheric Administration, rope tornadoes frequently appear this way during the final stage of their life cycle. However, some remain narrow throughout their entire lifespan. Even though they may appear less threatening than larger storms, rope tornadoes can still produce strong winds and cause damage. Because they are smaller and sometimes harder to see, they can occasionally catch people off guard.

Cone Tornadoes are the classic funnel shape many people picture when thinking of tornadoes. These storms are wider at the base where they meet the ground and taper upward toward the cloud above. Cone tornadoes are commonly shown in weather photos and videos and are capable of causing significant damage along their path.

Wedge Tornadoes

are among the largest and most destructive tornadoes. These tornadoes often appear wider than they are tall and can stretch hundreds of yards—or even miles—across. Because of their massive size and intense winds, wedge tornadoes have been responsible for some of the most devastating tornado events in history. Their broad path can lead to widespread destruction in the areas they cross.

Multi-vortex Tornadoes occur when several smaller funnels rotate within or around a larger tornado. These smaller vortices spin around the main circulation and can create pockets of extremely intense wind. This can lead to uneven damage patterns, where one building may be heavily damaged while another nearby may receive less impact.

Waterspouts are tornado-like funnels that form over water.

They are most often seen over lakes or coastal waters. While many waterspouts are weaker than tornadoes that form on land, they can still overturn boats and create hazardous conditions on the water. If a waterspout moves onto land, it can sometimes become a damaging tornado.

While tornadoes may appear in different shapes and sizes, they should all be taken seriously when warnings are issued. Understanding these different types of tornadoes can help people feel more informed when watching weather reports or hearing alerts. In many cases, knowledge can help reduce fear by replacing uncertainty with understanding.

Being aware of how tornadoes form and the ways they may appear can help communities stay calm, stay alert, and respond quickly when severe weather approaches.

Reinforce your home: prepare now to minimize tornado damage

By Laurna Todd,
ING Writer

Tornadoes are unpredictable and powerful, making it essential to fortify your home before the storm season hits. Taking steps now can reduce damage and improve safety. Here’s what you can do:

Reinforce Your Roof
If you are able to: Inspect your roof annually before storm season and replace any compromised shingles or boards. Consider hiring a professional to install hurricane clips, which attach roof trusses to load-bearing walls for added strength.

If not: Ensure that loose shingles, tiles, or boards are secured as best as possible. Remove heavy objects from the roof or eaves that could become airborne during high winds.

Upgrade Windows and Doors
If you are able to: Install shatter-proof windows and reinforce doors. For maximum safety, consider a permanent storm

shelter to protect your family during severe weather.

If not: Use plywood or storm panels to temporarily cover windows when severe weather is forecast. Move furniture and valuables away from windows, and keep helmets or cushions handy for personal protection.

Know Your Utility Switches
If you are able to: Learn where your main gas, water, and electrical shut-off points are and how to operate them. Hire a professional if needed to ensure proper handling.

If not: Keep a wrench or tool nearby to turn off gas and water quickly if damage occurs, and unplug sensitive electronics to prevent electrical fires.

Preparation pays off. Whether you can make full upgrades or only take small steps with what you have, reinforcing your home ahead of time can significantly reduce damage and provide peace of mind when severe weather strikes.

The difference between a tornado watch and a warning

A tornado watch means conditions are favorable for tornadoes, while a tornado warning means a tornado has been sighted or indicated by radar and immediate action is required.

Tornado Watch: Be Prepared
A tornado watch is issued when weather conditions are favorable for the formation of tornadoes in a specific area. It does not mean a tornado is occurring, only that one is possible. Watches typically cover large regions, often multiple counties or even several states, and can last several hours. During a watch, you should:

- Stay alert and monitor local news, weather apps, or NOAA Weather Radio.
- Review your emergency plan and identify safe shelter locations.
- Ensure emergency supplies, such as water, food, flashlights, and batteries, are ready.
- Charge devices and prepare for potential power outages.

Watches are issued by the Storm Prediction Center (SPC), which monitors atmospheric

conditions like wind shear, instability, and moisture that could support tornado development.

Tornado Warning: Take Action Immediately
A tornado warning is issued when a tornado has been sighted or indicated by radar, signaling imminent danger to life and property. Warnings cover smaller, localized areas, such as a city or part of a county, and usually last 20 to 60 minutes. When a warning is issued, you should:

- Move immediately to a basement or interior room on the lowest floor, away from windows.
- If in a mobile home, vehicle, or outdoors, seek the closest substantial shelter.
- Protect yourself from flying debris using blankets, helmets, or heavy clothing.
- Continue monitoring alerts until the threat has passed.

Warnings are issued by local National Weather Service (NWS) forecast offices using radar data, satellite imagery, and reports from trained storm spotters.

Plan Ahead. Be Prepared.

Natural disasters and emergency situations can strike at any time. Make sure you are prepared and know what to do in a crisis.

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Plan. Prepare. Protect.

As extreme weather events affect more and more communities with greater frequency, preparedness can make a lifesaving difference. Always be prepared.

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