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AREA DEATHS - inside

Journal Reporter

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In God We Trust

City gives \$20K to CASA of Grant County to help offset federal funding loss

Mayor Ronald Morrell, Jr. has given \$20,000 on behalf of the City of Marion to assist CASA of Grant County, Inc. after learning of a significant drop in their federal funding.

CASAs are Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children. CASA of Grant County, Inc. served nearly 300 children in 2025, and currently operates with a waiting list of CHINS (Child in Need of Services) cases, while a looming 40% federal funding loss of \$180,000 begins Oct. 1st, 2026. As of March 4th, 2026, there were 302 children in Grant County needing help, with CASA of Grant County serving 171 of them while the rest remain on a waiting list.

CASA of Grant County recently approached Mayor Morrell about the burden, and he took their situation to heart and offered to have the City of Marion help boost their funding during the time of need.

CASA of Grant County Executive Director Leslie Hendricks Holt said they are incredibly grateful for the support of



the City, and noted Mayor Morrell's action as historical. "According to the State Office of GAL/CASA, Marion is the first municipality in Indiana to provide financial support to a CASA program. This contribution will help ensure that children in Marion and throughout Grant County who have experienced abuse or neglect continue to have a dedicated advocate speaking for their best interests in the courtroom."

Indiana Court of Appeals Judge Dana Kenworthy praised the City for its contribution. "CASA of Grant County staff and volunteers

advocate for our community's most vulnerable children. In my 25+ years of interaction with CASA staff and volunteers, I observed firsthand, on a regular basis, CASA volunteers providing strong, effective, and heartfelt advocacy for children involved in CHINS and TPR (Termination of Parental Rights) cases. CASA volunteers serve not for money, not for prestige, not for power, but simply out of love and care for these children in need. I'm so pleased to see the City of Marion invest in this worthy and critically necessary service." Grant Superior

Court 2 Judge Nathan Meeks has been overseeing the program in recent years. "This landmark gift from the City of Marion is a powerful first in our community's commitment to vulnerable children. By investing in CASA of Grant County, the City is standing up for those who cannot stand for themselves, strengthening families, and shaping a brighter future not just for Marion, but for the whole of Grant County. I thank God for the City's generosity and pray other cities and towns will join Marion's efforts."

CASA of Grant County, Inc. is a state-mandated program, but not fully funded by the state. Funding is distributed based on CHINS cases per county. Grant County contributed \$63,639 in 2026—39.7% more than their normal match with the state—in response to the need this year.

City of Marion Contact: Ronald Morrell, Jr. | Mayor | 765.662.9931 | mayor@cityofmarion.in.gov

CASA of Grant County Contact: Leslie Hendricks Holt | 765.664.1891 | casa@grantcounty.in.gov



Blake Hancock



Alex Allison

New coaches, new energy for MHS soccer teams

Both the boys and girls soccer teams at Marion High School will have new head coaches at the helm heading into the 2026 season.

Both coaches are on the job and planning for the coming season. MHS and MCS are excited to see the next chapter of Giants soccer begin.

Hancock to head up girls soccer

Blake Hancock has been selected as the next head coach for the MHS girls soccer team, bringing with him more than a decade of coaching youth and high school athletes, both at the club and school levels.

He has been involved in rebuilding a club soccer program in Marion, Central Indiana Futbol Club, and he is certified through the United States Soccer Federation. The developmental opportunities provided by local club youth soccer have a long

history of producing skilled players who become significant contributors on their high school teams.

As a Marion High School alumnus, Coach Hancock is looking forward to supporting the growth and development of student-athletes within the Marion Giants soccer program.

Allison takes the lead for boys soccer

Alex Allison has been selected as the next head coach for the MHS boys soccer team, bringing with him several years of coaching high school athletes, as well as BSW and MSW degrees in social work from IWU.

The Marion High School graduate has worked alongside longtime MHS soccer coach Jorge Berry, who retired at the end of last season. Coach Allison is looking forward to continuing to invest in our student-athletes and lead the program into a new era.

Marion robotics squad head to state finals

Earlier this year, the Tech Giants Team B earned their state finals berth by claiming the Robot Skills Champion Award during the invitational held at Justice Intermediate School on Feb. for the Frances Slocum Elementary League on Feb. 29.

Congratulations to these skilled and dedicated students on this achievement!

The VEX IQ State

Championship is set for this Saturday, March 14, at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis. The event is open to the public, and admission is free. Doors open at 9 a.m., with the opening ceremony set for 9:30 a.m. and competition starting at 10:15 a.m. The competition is the largest VEX IQ state championship in the country, gathering hundreds of robotics teams from elementary, middle, and high school levels to compete.

The VEX IQ Challenge, presented by the Robotics Education & Competition Foundation, provides students with open-ended robotics and research project challenges that enhance their science, technology, engineering, and math skills through

hands-on, student-centered learning. The Marion robotics clubs foster teamwork, critical thinking, project management, and communication skills. Opportunities like this help prepare students to become the next generation of innovators and problem solvers!

This year's challenge is called Mix & Match, and teams use their robots together with one other or alone to score points by completing specific maneuvers, as outlined by the challenge rules. Marion's teams have been working for months to design and build their robots, and to practice the required skills. Over the last several months they have competed multiple times a week, including some weekends. We are proud of all of these

Giants for their hard work and dedication!

There are school-based robotics clubs in all 92 Indiana counties, with tens of thousands of students involved at thousands of schools across the state. Throughout

the season, matches across the state offer qualification opportunities for the state championship. Marion Community Schools' robotics clubs have been participating in the VEX IQ competitions

for several years, and many of our squads have made it to the state level over the past few years. In 2013 a McCulloch squad qualified for the world championships and traveled to Texas to compete!



McCulloch Junior High School's Tech Giants Team B works to complete the "Mix & Match" skills challenge at the VEX IQ competition held at Justice Intermediate School on Feb. 13. The squad earned a spot at the upcoming VEX IQ State Championship on March 14 at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis. Pictured are Justice Intermediate Assistant Principal Amy Siders, JIS teacher Marquita Coleman, and JIS Principal Heather Rumble, and MJH Tech Giants competitors Leland Johnson and Luke Sheetz, both eighth grade; and Jackson Craig, seventh grade.

(Photo provided by Marion Community Schools)

VICTORIOUS

Living...in a troubled world

The elephant in the room

By Teresa LeNeave
leneave2@comcast.net

It’s easy to do things absentmindedly. There can be some bad consequences from not thinking before we make decisions. I was 62-years-old before I had a broken bone. Freezing rain was falling and compacting as soon as it hit the ground. Without thinking, I decided to go outside, down four-ice covered steps just to shut a storage building door that had blown open. There were no items of significance in the building so why did I absentmindedly, step out the door not taking the consequences of

my actions into consideration? I don’t know, but what I do know is that the second my foot stepped out the door and touched the first step, I immediately slid down the other three shattering my wrist requiring surgery with two pins and six screws to hold it together. I remember when my sister was diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer. Even though I knew God could heal her, I thought my world had nearly ended. Bad news can be a very frightening thing. It shakes our world and shatters our peace. Doubt and fear come flooding into our soul and mind. For a

little while we may forget our position in Christ. A phone call at 3:00 a.m. sends chills down our spine. A knock at the door after mid-night momentarily engulfs us in fear. News of a bad accident is blood chilling. That’s when we pray scared prayers. We pray visualizing the worse scenarios: everything our mind tells us is possible. We pray in fear of what may happen. As you know, most of what we fear never happens. Although there are those times when our worst fears do come true, faith is still our best go-to. Where do we run? What is our first reaction to bad news?



What about when the weather man is counting down the time when a tornado could potentially hit your house? There are some scary times we have to deal with, but in all these God is still God and he has the power to bring peace to every situation. Faith is still the best antidote for fear. Any fear. The elephant in the room is, “How much

do we trust Him?” Is fear or faith our first reaction? For me, that depends on the situation, I guess. There were times I’ve had no fear in the face of bad news, but there were other times (like when I heard the news of my sister’s possible death), that I stayed up all night sick with fear. Praying for God to intervene. And, He has. She’s not cured yet, but she’s on the

way. God is good and the more we realize that, the stronger we’ll be when bad times come. We don’t want bad news. But, as you’ve often heard, God allows bad to come once in a while so we will learn to trust Him and be thankful to Him for the good He brings in our lives. If everyday was stress and anxiety free, we’d never appreciate the good God does in our lives. I’m so thankful for the Word of God that says “peace be still, take courage, be strong, trust in Me, I’ll never leave or fail you.” Faith is a product of hope and hope is the anchor of our soul.

By Gary Miller

As I look back on this last deer season, it seems that bad news could be the theme. I hunted hard but my effort only produced minimal results. If I had to compare the hours in the stand to my harvest ledger, I would definitely be in the red. What makes it even worse is I knew I was in a place where some big bucks lived. In fact, I missed my opportunity at one of those bucks because I couldn’t get my crossbow up before said buck left. Another bummer was when I arrowed a ten-pointer but was never able to find him. I think he’s still alive. At least I hope he is. When I think about it however, I

can’t remember a year that was marked by more successes than failures. The truth is bad news is a lot more normal than good news, and it’s easier to find. It’s certainly that way in most areas of life. One of my favorite evangelists of times past was a black man by the name of E.V. Hill. The way he preached could make me confess sins I’d never committed. He tells a story about a woman in his church who always sat on the front row. Her nickname was Eighteen Hundred. It was given to her because she was so old that everyone thought she must have been born in the 1800’s. Everyone loved Eighteen Hundred.

OUTDOOR

Truths

Eighteen Hundred

Author, Shane Claiborne, tells how E.V Hill shared the story with him. Every Sunday old Eighteen Hundred would sit in her usual spot in the front row. As Pastor Hill started preaching, she would start muttering, “Get to the good news, Pastor: get to the good news”. And her commentary would get louder and louder as the sermon progressed. The longer he talked, the louder she got. He would be talking about how Jesus died on Friday, and she’d yell back, “Don’t leave him there. Get to the empty tomb on Sunday.” He’d be talking about how hatred, sin, and racism are still alive today. And she’d shout back, “Move on Pastor. Get to the good

news!” Eventually he would get to the good news, and she would shout “Amen!” at the top of her lungs. I think about all that Eighteen Hundred went through in her life. Racism, slavery, poverty, and the likes. If anyone ought to wallow in the bad news it ought to be her. But Eighteen Hundred had not only found a story of bad news that ended in good news, but she also wanted to make sure it always ended the right way. It was this good news that overcame all the bad news she had endured in her life. Friend, I know the world is full of bad news. But it always has been. The gospel, however, is good news, and it is good news for

everyone who hears it. So, don’t forget, it’s alright to recognize all the bad things that may be going on, but don’t end the story on Friday. Sunday is coming. Gary Miller gary@outdoortruths.org Gary Miller has written Outdoor Truths articles for 23 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

Age is not an excuse for being unhealthy

This might be one of the most unpopular articles of all time, but as I sit here wanting to express from my heart, my private burdens are being exposed. I care about you (and me), it’s the only reason I would write about such a challenging subject. I believe it’s better to step forward and deal with personal issues that are causing great harm to our bodies and our self-esteem. Excess body fat is a serious problem. Many people, including myself, tend to gain size and bulk around the waist. I do not like it, but within my mind, trying to do something about it is like climbing a vertical cliff. Most of the time, I talk myself out of trying even before I can gather the ropes and climbing gear. Let’s face it, being

overweight makes a person sluggish, and to be blunt, we do not like how we look. Our obesity can be a psychological dark cloud that hangs over us, along with being self-conscious of how we look when we get dressed or undressed, and anywhere that has a mirror. Not only are we seen by everyone, but we also feel bad for our spouse and how we have let ourselves go, as if our appearance were not important. I know those who love us say they do not care about our outward appearance, but what are they supposed to say? I’ve heard people joke around about their appearance by saying things like, “I don’t care what people think, I just want to enjoy my life” or, “I’m too old to care

anymore, I just want to be happy.” I get it, but are we really content and proud with what we have created? These types of comments evolve from the combination of secret frustrations and anger. Frustrating because of how difficult it is to break free from this powerful bondage, and anger for allowing ourselves to get into this mess in the first place. My intention is not to heap more condemnation or guilt on us, but to come out in the open and ask why we are stuck in this merry-go-round of being overweight and out of shape, and how we can stop yielding to the temptations to please and serve our flesh. I guess the big question is, do we believe this is a serious problem, or will we continue being controlled and living

in denial? It is said that when we don’t deal with what’s going on, it keeps going on. Within the context of being a marshmallow, the more bad foods we eat, the more we help diabetes take control of our destiny. Even when we realize that what we consume is the problem, some still refuse to change their lifestyles. They are discouraged and depressed, yet the desire to eat unhealthy is stronger than the desire to cast down these food addictions. Max Dupree is quoted, “We cannot become what we want by remaining what we are.” We are told that highs and lows from glucose and insulin can make us feel weird, which is why so many of us are on meds to keep us balanced. I

realize I’m older, but I believe my cravings for afternoon naps are a consequence of my sugary diet and lack of exercise. Exercise is a popular subject to talk about, but it’s very difficult to actually do. Personally, I’ve had visions of working out, but have never been serious about it. I have every opportunity to do push-ups and sit-ups, but I don’t want to. I would much rather sit down and watch something meaningless. Just how important is this to me? Yes, I’m old and tired, and I do not have the energy I once had, which proves even more how I must accept that I’m responsible for my health. What about embracing our bad habits, eating too much, eating the wrong types of food,

not getting enough cardio exercise (which causes us to not only be out of shape, and the reason for our muscle atrophy), retaining fluid, heart-artery, lung, kidney, liver, and pancreas problems, and this is just naming a few. I can make a lot of excuses about my negative addictions, but the pain has not yet caused me to raise my game. We can continue to ignore our old attitudes, or we can become motivated to be transformed into the best version of ourselves. Isn’t it better to be honest, even if it’s uncomfortable? Dr. Holland is an ordained minister, chaplain, author, and teacher. Read more about the Christian life at billyhollandministries.com

Upcoming Youth Xplosion 26 coming to Paducah March 27th

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 \$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.



take place at Grant Memorial Park.

Robert Lee France

Robert Lee France, 89, of Pierceton, passed away at 2:37 p.m. on Wednesday, March 11, 2026, at Lutheran Hospital of Indiana in Fort Wayne. A graveside service was held on Saturday, March 14, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. at Gardens of Memory - Marion with Curtis Banker officiating.

Elizabeth Louise Whitham

Betty Whitham went to be with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ on March 11, 2026. She was born on January 2, 1928, to Walter and Elsie (Greiner) Zimmerman in Peoria, IL where she lived until the family moved to the Greiner farm near Metamora, IL. The family will receive visitors from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm on Saturday, March 21, 2026, at St. James Lutheran Church, 1206 N. Miller Ave., Marion, IN. Immediately following the time of visitation, a service to celebrate Elizabeth’s life will begin at 12:00 pm. Burial will

Janet L. Buteau

Manet L. Buteau, 78, of Marion, passed away at 7:15 pm on Monday, March 9, 2026, at Colonial Oaks Health & Rehabilitation Center in Marion. At Janet’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.

Samuel Thompson

Samuel “Sam” Thompson, 80, Marion, passed away in his home surrounded by loved ones at 7:05 pm on Monday, March 9, 2026. The family received visitors from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm on Saturday, March 14, 2026, at Needham-Storey-Wampner Funeral & Cremation Service, Storey Chapel, 400 E. Main St, Gas City, IN.

James D. Haggard

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.

Dianna K. Jeffries

James “Jim” David Haggard, 78, of Marion, Indiana died Monday, March 9, 2026 peacefully in his home, surrounded by loved ones. The family received visitors from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 12, 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 James’s life was held at 1:00 p.m. with Chaplain Les Turner officiating. Burial will take place at Forrestville Cemetery.

Joseph “A.J.” Kidwell

Joseph A. Kidwell, known to those who cherished him as AJ, was born on a summer day in Marion, Indiana, on June 25, 1980. His life, rooted deeply in the heartland, came to a close in Van Buren, Indiana, on March 10, 2026, leaving behind a

tapestry of memories colored by laughter, love, and an undeniable spirit of mischief. The final moments for AJ were held on March 16, 2026, beginning at 11:00 a.m. with a visitation at the Raven Choate Robinson Funeral Home located at 1202 West Kem Road, Marion, Indiana. Lillian R. Smith, 74, of Marion, Indiana, went home to her Heavenly Father on Wednesday, March 12, 2026. There will be no service as Lillian will be cremated.

Jacqueline Niverson

Jacqueline Niverson, 89, passed away Wednesday, March 11, 2026 at Miller’s Merry Manor in Marion, IN. Visitation was held on Monday, March 16, 2026, from 12:00-1:00 p.m. at Armes-Hunt Funeral Home, with a funeral service following at 1:00 p.m, with Pastor Mark Atkinson officiating. Entombment was at Grant Memorial Park.

Velma A. Messersmith

Velma Ann Messersmith, 92, passed away peacefully at her residence with her family by her side and went Heaven to be with her precious Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on March 11, 2026 at 9:30 a.m. A Celebration of Life will be held on April 11, 2026 at 11 a.m. at The Lighthouse Church, 2101 N. Walnut St., Hartford City with Pastor Troy Kaufman officiating. Visitation will be from 9-11 a.m. at the church. Keplinger Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

LOCAL CHURCH SERVICES

Submitted by Catherine Lamb

- Back Creek Friends – 10:30 a.m., Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.
- Back Creek Wesleyan – 10:30 a.m., Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.
- Fairmount Baptist Church – 10:30 a.m., Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.
- Fairmount Church of God – 10:30 a.m., Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.
- Fairmount Friends – 10:30 a.m.
- Fairmount Wesleyan – 9:30 a.m.
- Fairmount United Methodist – 9:30 a.m.
- Fowlerton United Methodist – 10:45 a.m.
- Grant Church (Global Methodist) 11018 S 300 E Fairmount 9:00 a.m.
- Jones Chapel – 10:30 a.m., Sunday School – 9 a.m.
- MorningStar Ministries, 11:00 a.m. (Jonesboro)
- Prince of Peace Lutheran Church – 9 a.m. (Hartford City)
- One of Ten Ministries and Church – 10:30 a.m.
- Pilgrim Holiness – 6 p.m.
- Real Community Covenant Church – 10 a.m. – 1240 S. Adams in Marion
- Westview Wesleyan, 11 a.m. (Jonesboro)
- Women of Hope Bible Study – Tuesday – 10 a.m. (Located at One of Ten on SR 26 in Fairmount. Open to all women in Grant County)
- Fairmount UMC – Monday – 7 p.m. – Campus Life
- Fairmount UMC – Wednesday – 10 a.m., Men and Women’s Bible Study

Upcoming Community Events

Submitted by Catherine Lamb

- Community Breakfast – Masonic Lodge #635, Saturday, (biweekly), freewill donation
- Hope Center – Every Friday, 1 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
- Fairmount Town Council – Biweekly at 6 p.m.
- Feeding Fairmount Ministry – 2nd Monday of month – Fairmount UMC, freewill donation, 12 noon
- Blackford County Extension - April 14: April District Meeting in Hartford City, “As American As Apple Pie”
- Blackford County Extension - May 7: Achievement Day which includes recognition of perfect attendance, membership milestones, new members & Memorial for deceased members.

Our deepest condolences to those who have lost loved ones.
Prayers of comfort and peace.

NOTICE OF EXECUTION OF LEASE BETWEEN THE GAS CITY REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION AND THE GAS CITY REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Pursuant to action previously taken by the Gas City Redevelopment Commission (“Commission”), a lease between the Commission and the Gas City Redevelopment Authority was executed and entered into on March 17, 2026 (“Lease”). Prior to the lease being entered into in full force and effect, the Common Council of the City of Gas City, Indiana (“City”) ratified the execution of and approval of the Lease by resolution adopted on March 17, 2026. The Lease covers the construction of a new YMCA located in the City, together will all necessary appurtenances, related improvements and equipment, as further described in Exhibit A attached to the Lease, all located in the City. A copy of the Lease is on file in the office of the Clerk-Treasurer, located at 211 East Main Street, Gas City, Indiana, and is available for inspection during normal business hours.

Dated March 18, 2026.

GAS CITY REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION.

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HELP WANTED

JOIN OUR TEAM

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Marion Giants top finishes at HSR Qualifiers at IWU

The Marion Giants top finishers this past weekend during the HSR Qualifiers @ IWU.	Albi Tucker - 8:35.66 (2nd place)	***Boys 4 x 400m relay: Caiden Daniel, Elijah McGruder, Albi Tucker, Colton Goolsby - 3:45.46 (6th place)
***Boys 4 x 800m relay: Caiden Daniel, Elijah McGruder, Micah Hawkins,	***Boys High Jump: Jamari Johnson - 6'0" (2nd place)	***Boys Shot Put: Trevor Morgan - 48-3.50 (4th place)

Boys Basketball Sectional Semifinal

Giants 73 Heritage 57	place)	Association)
Marion will play the New Haven/Bellmont winner on Saturday night @ 7:30 pm for the Sectional Championship.	15th place - Jody McCain 1204	(Saturday-March 7) Boys Basketball-Sectional Championship
T. Jones 29, J. Freshwater 17, D. Red 11, C. Guerrero 8, L. Anderson 8	Congratulations to Marion Lady Giant Nyomi Hahn for being selected to the 2026 IBCA “Supreme 15” Underclass All-State team. The “Supreme 15” is the top honor awarded. (IBCA - Indiana Basketball Coaches	New Haven 74 Giants 60 Marion’s season comes to an end. T. Jones 25, C. Guerrero 15, J. Freshwater 8, Jordan Johnson 6, D. Red 2, L. Anderson 2, Jamari Johnson 2

Email Us Your Upcoming Events to:
Catherine Lamb at: lambc899@gmail.com or to pamela.kpi2018@gmail.com *Deadline is Monday at 5 PM for the Thursday edition.

Katelyn Foor elected to membership into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

BATON ROUGE, LA — Katelyn Foor of Elwood, Indiana, was recently elected to membership into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation’s oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society, at Purdue University.

Foor is among approximately 20,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do

faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

Phi Kappa Phi was founded in 1897 under the leadership of undergraduate student Marcus L. Urann who had a desire to create a different kind of honor society: one that recognized excellence in all academic disciplines. Today, the Society has chapters on more than 300 campuses in the United States and its territories. Its mission is to “cultivate a community that celebrates and advances the love of learning.”

About Phi Kappa Phi

Founded in 1897, Phi Kappa Phi is the nation’s oldest and most selective

collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines. Phi Kappa Phi inducts approximately 20,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni annually. The Society has chapters on more than 300 select colleges and universities in the United States and its territories. Membership is by invitation only to the top 10 percent of seniors and graduate students and 7.5 percent of juniors. Faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction also qualify. The Society’s mission is to “cultivate a community that celebrates and advances the love of learning.” For more information, visit www.PhiKappaPhi.org.

SHERIFF’S REPORT

Grant County Sheriff’s Office responds to fatal crash on Interstate 69

On March 10th, 2026, at 06:33 am ... Grant County Sheriff Deputies responded to a vehicle crash on Interstate 69 near mile-marker 272 in north bound traffic lanes with several other First Responders after Grant County Central 911 Emergency Dispatch Center receives multiple calls reference the crash reporting a vehicle flipped and person ejected, then two people ejected, and a third trapped inside a vehicle.

Deputies arrived on scene determined that two vehicles were involved in the crash, a 2011 Chevrolet Silverado truck and a 1996 Chevrolet truck with three individuals injured, and one of the injured died at the scene despite life saving efforts by

First Responders. The deceased is Joseph A. Kidwell (45) of Marion. The other injured were transported to area hospital in Fort Wayne for treatment of injuries.

Deputies investigating the crash are gathering information from the scene, witnesses, and surviving participants. Preliminary information reveals that the deceased and his wife broke down in their 1996 Chevrolet truck on the side of the road awaiting family for assistance, when the 2011 Chevrolet truck was passing a Semi tractor-trailer switching lanes veering off road striking the Kidwell’s truck.

Agencies responding to this crash scene this morning are

the Indiana State Police, Huntington County Sheriff’s Office, Van Buren Fire Department, Washington Twp Fire Department, Marion Fire Department, Marion Health Medics, Grant County Emergency Medical Service, Emergency Management Agency, Warren Emergency Medical Service, and Grant County 911 Emergency Dispatch Center.

The investigation is on-going so if you have information or were a witness to this crash, please contact the Grant County Sheriff’s Office at (765) 662-9836.

Sheriff Del Garcia and staff extend our prayers to the families involved and the loss of a loved one!

Sheriff Del Garcia
Chief Deputy Jay Kay PIO

Brian Free & Assurance and Billy Walker in concert April 10th at Epworth Church

Epworth Church, 105 W 8th St, Matthews, Indiana is pleased to announce Brian Free and Assurance with special guest Billy Walker in concert on Friday, April 10, 2026! Doors open at 6 PM, Concert starts at 7 PM. Tickets are \$15. Also, a love offering will be received. Limited seating, To guarantee your seats, please purchase tickets in advance at epworthworship.com/bfa or call/text 765-667-0842.

Brian Free is undeniably the most recognizable tenor of our generation. Since 1982, he has been at the forefront of Christian music since first joining Gold City Quartet, then moving on to form his own group. Christian music has always been Brian’s first love, and fans have responded to his music by honoring him and the group at the Dove Awards for Southern Gospel Performance of the Year, “Say Amen,” in 2014 as well as “Long As I Got King Jesus” in 2006. Brian Free and Assurance has also made a number of notable television appearances, including TBN, Gospel Music Channel, Prime Time Country (TNN), Hee Haw (CBS), The “Today Show” (NBC), 27 of the “Gaither Video” series. In the summer of 2014, BFA was chosen by BBC to represent Elvis Presley’s love of Gospel Music on That’s Alright Mama, a Tribute to Elvis Presley with his arrangement of Peace In The Valley. These



Brian Free & Assurance

accolades show the consistent response to BFA’s music, how God has used them, and how he will continue to use them. While the guys all



Billy Walker

come from different backgrounds, they all agree on one thing, and that is to use their God-given abilities to take the message of Jesus Christ to everyone they can.

Billy Walker is a Christian artist with a voice as powerful as his passion for the Gospel. With over 34 years in full-time music ministry, he has dedicated his life to sharing the hope, redemption, and salvation found in Jesus Christ. From singing at just two

and a half years old to leading The Walkers, his family group, for more than three decades, Billy has never wavered in his calling.

Now in his solo ministry, Billy blends the rich tradition of Southern Gospel with a fresh, contemporary sound that reaches every generation. Audiences are consistently moved by his strong, distinctive vocals and the joy and sincerity he brings to every stage. Known for heartfelt worship, dynamic energy, and moments of humor and real life connection, Billy has a unique gift for drawing people in and pointing them to Jesus.



Woods-Walking Art Exhibit

Michele Pollock combines her love of fabric and stitching to express her fascination with the natural world and the difficult subjects of illness and grief. She machine quilts paper and eco-dyed fabrics, then adds hand embroidery, beading and sculptural elements to create two- and three-dimensional artworks that explore the often-unseen world around us. Michele walks as often as possible in the woods around her Brown County, Indiana home, photographing the forest, especially the mushrooms, mosses and lichens, native plants and insects that make themselves known to us when we take the time to stop and look. These photos are the basis of the artwork she creates, whether she is hand embroidering directly into the photographs or using them to create patterns, designs, or ideas for her stitched paper artwork.

Michele holds a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Purdue University,



and she spent a decade doing research at 3M. She holds an M.F.A. in Creative Writing from Hamline University. As a visual artist, she was trained at the Minnesota Center for Book Arts and relies on many traditional techniques from quilting and bookbinding, but she is self-taught in sewing, constantly inventing new ways of combining paper, fabric, and stitching in her studio. Michele’s poetry and woods journaling are the inspiration for, or find their way into, her visual artwork.

Event Date/Time:
Monday- 10 am- 7 pm
Tuesday- 10 am- 8 pm
Wednesday- 10 am-7 pm
Thursday- 10 am – 8 pm
Friday- 10 am – 4 pm
Event Location:

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MichelePollock

Instagram:
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For more information or questions on how to be involved, please contact Arts Place by calling 260-726-4809 or emailing visualarts@myartsplace.org



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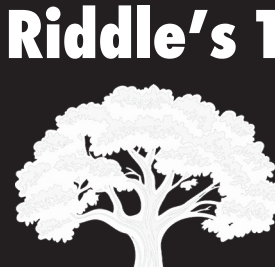
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9	6	2	7	8	1	8	9	7
8	5	4	9	8	2	6	1	7
7	8	1	6	2	9	7	8	5
2	7	9	8	7	8	9	6	1
6	9	8	1	7	5	4	8	2
5	4	7	8	9	8	1	2	6
8	8	6	2	1	7	5	4	9
1	2	9	5	6	4	8	7	3

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1 V N N D R A X 3 9 A 7 J C 3 I S J A
2 H 3 2 A 2 I N G 0 d d Z H 1 T S I S
3 I 1 9 1 N V 9 0 d d A M R 3 Z V T
4 I 9 Z I I N H 0 d d H 0 N I T R 0 S d
5 Z H H I I 0 T L R 9 9 M V A Z d
6 M d d d V I L H 3 3 Z N 0 3 H 0 H
7 I R d d V I L 1 8 1 8 I T S V V I Z
8 N N O L H 3 3 3 0 0 S 5 I R A X 3
9 R W I V 3 7 I N N 0 0 S 8 N I X R d
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7 I M N M 0 2 X 3 3 3 3 3 3 X N M N d
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Senior Care

How to manage multiple medications

Polypharmacy, or the practice of managing multiple medications, is a part of life for a significant percentage of seniors. Many prescription and over-the-counter drugs are essential for maintaining health and managing chronic conditions. However, the chemical complexity of mixing so many drugs can lead to dangerous outcomes if one isn't careful.

Older adults take more medications than any other age group. A report conducted by Age Wave and The John A. Hartford Foundation found that the average senior takes four medications, but more than 15 percent take eight or more. Some medications can create further conditions or worsen existing conditions. Data from the Agency for Healthcare Research Quality show that 15.9 percent of older adults use inappropriate medication.

Structured medication management is essential for seniors' safety. Here's how to safely navigate taking multiple medications at once.

- Conduct a medication audit. Take all of the medications and supplements you use to a primary care physician or pharmacist to discuss potential interactions and if any prescriptions can be canceled. Research from Clarest Health indicates that patients taking five to nine medications have a



50 percent chance of experiencing a significant adverse drug event.

- Talk about deprescribing. Speak with a doctor about the process of tapering off medications that may no longer be necessary or are resulting in more harm than benefit.
- Use one pharmacy. Always fill prescriptions from the same pharmacy. Modern systems are equipped with safeguards to flag certain drug-to-drug interactions automatically. Also, the pharmacist is often an underutilized resource. Ask questions and figure out if he or she can conduct a medication review to ensure a regimen for taking medications is as complication-free as possible.
- Utilize smart systems. Rely on smart pill dispensers that unlock only at the correct time to manage high-risk medications. Other pill organizers and digital apps can set reminders to take medications at the

appropriate times. An app like Medisafe will notify family members if a dose is missed.

- Link doses to actions. Make medications an automatic part of your day by linking them to activities, like morning pills taken with a cup of coffee or evening pills when you eat dinner.
 - Use visual cues. Keep pill organizers in a visible spot so you remember to take the medication.
 - Ask for help. If managing medications has become a tall order, ask a friend, family member or a visiting nurse or aide to assist with medication management.
 - Update your list. Always maintain a current list of the medications and supplements you are taking, and bring it along to every new medical appointment for further review.
- Managing medications becomes more complex as seniors typically take multiple drugs and supplements to maintain health.



Enjoyable ways for seniors to savor spring

After a cold winter, there's often nothing better than the arrival of spring. From the moment those first crocuses and tulips peek their heads out of the soil to the days of cherry blossoms in full bloom, spring is a time of sunshine, warmth and a renewed sense of vitality.

Seniors who may have spent much of the winter cooped up indoors often are inspired by warmer temperatures to venture outside once again when spring has sprung. According to UC Davis Health, time outdoors provides a host of health benefits, and seniors who embrace the great outdoors can reap those rewards. Studies show that nature has a positive effect on the body by reducing cortisol levels and demands on the cardiovascular system and relieving muscle tension. Being outside in sunshine (with the use of sunscreen) can increase vitamin D levels, which is important for a healthy immune system and strong

bones.

Embracing the many ways to enjoy spring is relatively easy to do. The following are some ways seniors can make the most of spring.

- Plant a garden. Spring is a time when the ground has thawed and the soil is warm enough to begin planting a garden. Individuals should refer to their particular agricultural zones to determine when to plant. Certain plants need a specific number of hours of sunlight and minimum temperatures to grow. It's important to wait until the threat of overnight frost has subsided. Gardening can be a thorough workout, so it's important for seniors to go slowly as they acclimate to this type of activity.
- Relax outside. Seniors can soak up vitamin D and enjoy the sounds of nature by spending time on a deck or the front porch. Any activity that was typically done indoors, such as reading a book,

listening to music, engaging in a hobby, and more, can be moved outside.

- Explore local wildlife. Trees and flowers are not the only things renewed by spring. Many animals give birth in spring and there might be little ones frolicking. Seniors can look for bunnies, fledglings chirping in bird nests, spotted fawns, and young foxes around their neighborhoods.
 - Attend an open-air event. Whether it's a concert or an outdoor theater performance, seniors can look to local entertainment as a way to get outside and have a little fun.
 - Bike or walk the neighborhood. Seniors can find serene paths to bike or walk. Dog owners can take their pooches for a stroll, or meet up with other friends and begin a walking club for camaraderie and exercise.
- Seniors can make the most of the warm weather and extended daylight hours of spring to enjoy many outdoor activities.





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7 activities to commemorate the start of spring

The beginning of spring is cause for celebration. In many areas of the world, the start of spring marks the end of cold temperatures and hours spent indoors, a shift in conditions that is welcomed by millions each year. Spring is a time of rebirth when flowers and trees bloom anew and animals bear new young. Spring is an exciting and busy time, and one that people can commemorate in many unique ways. Here are seven ideas to usher in spring this March.

1. Fill a home or business with flowers. Collect some early tulip or daffodil blooms and place them around the house. Offer bouquets of dandelions to children or weave them into flower

crowns.

2. Spend time in nature. It's time to get outside, and there is no better time to do so than the beginning of spring. Soak up the sun and temperate climate, which can be good for your physical and mental well-being.
3. Visit a loved one. Bring some sunshine to an elderly relative by visiting with him or her. Take a stroll outside or sit on a bench and enjoy a picnic.
4. Prepare the garden by cleaning out weeds and tilling the soil. Some early spring preparation ensures everything will be ready when planting time arrives.
5. Prepare an outdoor feast. Whether it's a picnic or a barbecue,

serve up a warm-weather feast with salads, sandwiches and other dishes that are normally served outdoors.

6. Sow some seeds. Encourage each member of your household to pick a favorite plant or flower and sow it in celebration of the first day of spring. It's possible to make a special spring garden with perennials that will bloom each year.
7. Make spring-related crafts. Colorful wreaths, centerpieces and garlands can bring some of the natural wonders of spring indoors.

The first day of spring is an opportunity to enjoy what makes the season so special. Celebrate the new season with plenty of creative ideas.



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