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AREA DEATHS - inside

In God We Trust



Thursday, April 30, 2026

UPLAND, FAIRMOUNT & HARTFORD CITY

Courier

The Voice of EAST CENTRAL INDIANA Since 1892 • Indiana News Group

Fairmount Camp awarded significant Lilly Grant;

\$2.5 million in funds to include a full gymnasium

By Cathy Shouse

The Fairmount Camp has received an Implementation Grant from Lilly Endowment Inc., one of dozens of others that received funds. Most of the funds were provided to Indiana programs. The Fairmount Camp, formerly known as a Wesleyan campground for decades, is located at 711 E 900 S (State Road 26).

Krista Brown, Executive Director of Fairmount Camp shared some of the process and next steps.

"We provided to Lilly a detailed list of things we wanted to accomplish with the grant in our proposal. We will be finalizing those plans in the days ahead," Brown said. "Guests to Fairmount Camp will see the effects of the grant this year for sure. We have many projects in the works and hope to start before the end of the summer."

"Fairmount Camp has a long history of serving kids, teens, and families. We look forward to the many ways that God will use this grant to continue that work."

According to a press release from the Fairmount Camp:

This funding will support "Phase 3" of a comprehensive capital improvement plan

designed to modernize aging infrastructure and expand the camp's capacity to serve youth year-round.

The grant will fund several high-impact projects, including the construction of an 11,700-square-foot multi-purpose Recreation Center featuring a full gymnasium and classrooms, and a new Lodge/Retreat Center designed for year-round residency. Additionally, the funds will support critical infrastructure upgrades such as complete electrical rewiring of five buildings, a modernized sewer and water system, and the renovation of the West Playground to meet full ADA accessibility and safety standards.

Brown said there are many guidelines that are outlined in the grant. "This grant must be completed in 5 years. Our goal is 3 years," Brown said.

According to the foundation website: Lilly Endowment Inc. has approved 69 implementation grants through its Capital Project Initiative for Residential Youth Camps. Launched in 2025, the initiative aims to help Indiana residential youth camps improve the overall camp experience and

outcomes for youth through new, enhanced and expanded facilities integral to quality youth camp programming. In this competitive phase of the initiative, grants ranged from \$254,343 to \$6.5 million.

Residential camps play a positive role in youth development – especially during a time when young people have fewer opportunities to explore the natural world and engage in the types of social interactions with others that residential camps can offer," said Ted Maple, the Endowment's vice president for education. "The large-scale projects that these grants are supporting will help camps across Indiana not only improve their facilities but increase their capacity to serve more campers through high-quality programs."

In earlier phases of the Capital Project Initiative for Residential Youth Camps, the Endowment made planning grants and non-competitive implementation grants to support smaller-scale capital improvements at camps in Indiana totaling \$87 million. The initiative adds to the Endowment's



There are weddings held at Fairmount Camp, in addition to worship services and a variety of activities for all ages.

long-standing support of youth-serving organizations in Indiana.

The Fairmount Camp Board released this statement. "We believe that the completion of these projects will serve our mission for generations to come," said the Fairmount Camp Board. "This modernization ensures a safe, inclusive, and high-quality

environment where youth can thrive in every season".

More details about the camp: About Fairmount Camp Located on 20+ acres in Fairmount, Indiana, Fairmount Camp has served families for over 126 years. Originally the site of Fairmount Bible College, the camp is now a Crossroads District affiliate corporation

that hosts weeklong summer camps, family camps, and specialized retreats for youth of all denominations. With approximately 100 structures, the camp provides a multi-generational camping experience focused on spiritual, emotional, and social growth.

The Fairmount Camp offers many activities. On Facebook: Fairmount Camp



The structure, "Bethel," is one of the dozens of building on the grounds of the Fairmount Camp.



There are many activities for children at the Fairmount Camp, and this photo represents one held annually for special needs children.

National Day of Prayer event in Upland May 7th

The Upland National Day of Prayer will be held on Thursday, May 7, from Noon-12:50 at the Upland Community Building, located at 557 W. Washington Street, Upland IN 46989.

As our world and nation faces challenges, we come together as a community to look to God for mercy, wisdom, and deliverance. Regardless of our political or denominational

background, we humbly join in prayer to bring the various components of our nation to God in prayer. Various community members will lead in prayer related to the various areas of concern

in our community, state, and nation. Others will have the opportunity to pray, as time permits. The event will begin with the singing of "America the Beautiful" and end on time to allow people on a tight

schedule to get back to work on time.

I Chronicles 16:24
"Tell of His glory among the nations, His wonderful deeds among all the peoples."

Gary and Joy
Newton

VICTORIOUS *Living* ...in a troubled world

Why “built a tower” should bring you comfort

Teresa LeNeave –
leneave2@comcast.net

Peter, Jesus’ loud and energetic disciple, once said, “He (God) has given us everything that pertains to life and godliness” (2 Peter 1:3). That’s a powerful statement because “everything” means “everything” ... not just some of what we need to live in this world. When you’re going through a battle, it may not feel like He’s given you everything but even though we can’t see it, it’s still true.

There’s a parable in the Bible, told by Jesus, in Matthew 21:33 where He describes God’s investment into humanity. In the parable, after planting a vineyard, the Landowner (God), builds a hedge, digs a winepress, then builds a tower.

When the vineyard is carefully set up with provision and protection, He rents it out to tenants then goes away.

The people understood the parable because vineyards were valuable and, in those days, they were vulnerable to thieves and wild animals.

The Landowner (God) knew there would be dangerous things coming to try to destroy the vineyard, but I believe the focus here is not the danger, but that before leaving, He provided all they needed. “Nothing was missing. Everything needed for success was already given”.

Then, there comes a twist in the story. When harvest time comes, He sends servants to collect his share. The tenants beat, stone, or kill them. He sends more



servants, but with the same result. Finally, he sends his Son, thinking they’ll respect him. Instead, they kill the Son to try to seize the inheritance.

The landowner is God and the parable

assures us He is watching, but He’s also returning. The vineyard is God’s people. The hedge, the winepress, and the tower is everything God provided for success: protection (hedge);

purpose/productivity (winepress); added protection, a place to watch over and protect the vineyard from predators and thieves (the tower). That’s why “built a tower” should bring us comfort. He

refused to leave us defenseless against evil.

In short: nothing was lacking. The setup was complete. God gave leaders responsibility over His people. Those leaders failed and abused that responsibility. They rejected God’s messengers again and again and finally, they rejected (and killed) His Son. The Good News is that even after killing his Son, God made provision: His Son rose from the grave and currently is in heaven making intercession for us.

That’s a good God. A good Landowner. And, no matter what anyone believes, God is the Landowner. He created it all. He created you and He cares about you. Trusting God’s love and provision is the best arsenal we have against evil.

He’s still waiting

By Gary Miller

That morning I had located what turned out to be four toms and some hens. They were still on the roost. And even though they had not been pressured, I made sure to do minimal and only light calling. A soft yelp on my slate call was enough for all the ears within 100 yards to hear me. So, I laid down the call, got my gun ready, and began scanning the top of the hill in front of me. I knew pretty much what any older tom would do. He would not come directly in line with my call. He would show up to one

side or another. These birds know not to trust their ears as much as their eyes. I also knew that any other tom that might be with him would follow. Sure enough, in just a few minutes, two hens and four gobblers showed up about 100 yards to my right – which is a terrible place if one is right-handed like myself. Two of the toms began to perform in full strut. The other two shortly followed suit. The hens were not impressed. I thought about how I might go about getting a shot without being seen. Nothing came to mind other than “be patient.” Soon the hens

moved within 35 yards of me, and two big toms were following. The problem, however, remained. They stayed to my right. How would I rearrange my seating, raise my gun and aim without them seeing me and flying away. I couldn’t. So, I decided once again to just be patient. Before too long, all those toms began coming my way and moving perfectly in front of me. The biggest one came to about 40 yards. When he moved behind a tree, I raised my gun, got ready, and waited (patiently again) for him to clear the tree. When he did, I aimed carefully and

pulled the trigger. I ate smoked turkey breast for lunch the next day. He was a big bird. Eleven inches of beard. One and a half inch spurs. It was a fun hunt.

When you look at the subject of patience in the Bible, you will quickly notice that God thinks it is important. There are several reasons and many of them have to do with our everyday circumstances and situations. But I think when it comes to relationships, I see three things. First, God is patient with us. A synonym of patience that describes His dealings with us is the

word long-suffering. God is long-suffering with us. I sure am glad He is. Secondly, since He is patient with us, He wants us to be patient with other people. Or be long-suffering with others. Yes, this is the hard part. But here’s the third piece. It’s the job of the Holy Spirit to produce in us the patience we need to deal with others. And in this I think is where people see Jesus in us. It’s when our patience with others is seen as coming from a place beyond us. So, the next time you’re struggling with patience with others, ask God to remind you how many

times He has waited for you to get it right. For me, I think He’s still waiting.

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

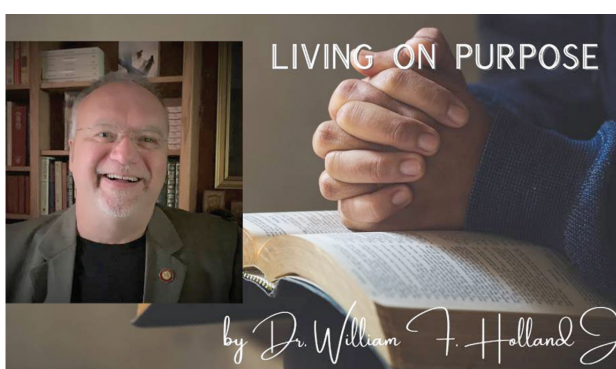
Comforting those who need an encouraging word

By Dr. Billy Holland

For those who have visited a nursing home or a medical care facility, you know what I mean when I refer to these places as difficult and uncomfortable. The sights and sounds are difficult for our emotions to process, which explains why many would rather avoid them altogether. I’ve heard people say they dislike hospitals, nursing homes, or funerals, and this is usually because they prompt us to think more deeply about our own future. When we look around and witness how individuals are coping with aging and health problems, it’s a normal response to live in denial as the old saying reminds us, “Out of sight – out of mind” however, let us not avoid those who suffer, or live in fear about our own future because God reminds us for example in Psalm 27 that He will always be with us and help us.

The Lord is filled with compassion and desires for us to have empathy toward others and to see the world as He sees it. “Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; Who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God” II Corinthians 1:3-4.

We are not here to just selfishly enjoy our blessings, but, as Matthew chapter seven mentions, we are to do unto others as we would like others to do unto us. Helen Keller is quoted as saying, “Once I knew only darkness and stillness... my life was without past or future, but a little word from the fingers of another fell into my hand that clutched at emptiness, and my heart leaped to the rapture of living.” My friend Ian White, who is a highly intelligent and



humorous newspaper editor, shared a story with me about his experiences with nursing homes. He said that many years ago, when he was still living in England, he was the chairman of his hometown’s carnival association, which included an elaborate parade featuring the annual carnival queen and her court of two princesses. These beautiful young women, who had won beauty pageants the previous fall, were now ready to embark on a celebrity tour.

As a part of the carnival promotion, the association would

take these girls to surrounding cities and have them participate in parades and public appearances. On each official outing, the girls wore stunning ballgown gowns and crystal crowns that projected the magic of fairy tale royalty. However, with all of the attention and star status, there was one stop on the tour that was not considered glamorous. They were required to visit a cancer hospital for children. Ian found himself trying to persuade these “rock stars” to spend some time on Christmas Day with these kids. It was Ian’s duty to collect

the girls and chauffeur them to the facility and, with absolutely no hint of his inner apprehension, convince them that this visit would forever change their perspective on life.

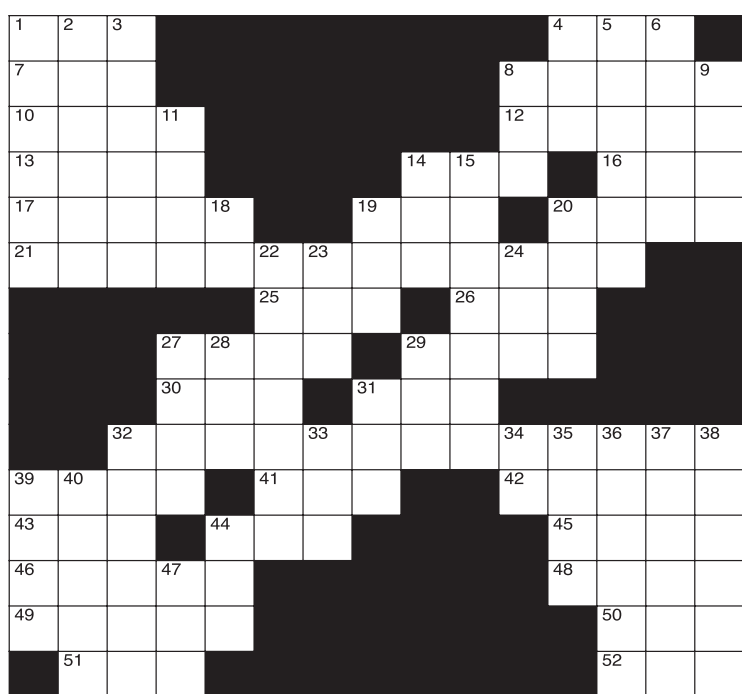
Each year, a new group of celebrities would enter the faculty with trepidation, obviously intent on getting the ordeal over and done with. However, surprisingly, these young ladies remained at the children’s bedsides far longer than anyone would have expected, hugging and chatting with the youth who could hardly speak. The mask of pride and pomp quickly melted into a sobering realization that many innocent individuals live each day with misery and suffering that very few are aware of. As the young women hugged and listened to each child, Ian could sense the power of compassion that was creating waves of gratitude and humility in everyone present.

The girls were sincerely grateful to everyone for allowing them the opportunity to meet these special individuals and to understand more clearly how important it is to sincerely share the feelings, thoughts, and experiences of others.

We do not need to be ordained clergy or a popular hero to brighten someone’s day. We all have the capacity to listen and obey God and help those who desperately need to know that someone cares. “Then they also will answer him, saying, Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you? Then he will answer them, saying, Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.”

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

Crossword Puzzle



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Purchase
- 4. British news organization
- 7. Midway between northeast and east
- 8. Language specialist group
- 10. Fancy automobile
- 12. Small loop or series of loops
- 13. Exploiter
- 14. Don't know when yet
- 16. Group of languages
- 17. One who's finished
- 19. After B
- 20. Angled
- 21. A place to adopt pets
- 25. Swiss river
- 26. Young boy
- 27. Unexciting
- 29. American comedian Vidale
- 30. Peyton's little brother
- 31. Corporate higher-up
- 32. "All in the Family" star
- 39. Strike something forcefully
- 41. Up in the air (abbr.)
- 42. Clay earth pigments
- 43. Means to record brain activity
- 44. Small constellation
- 45. Embraces
- 46. Brief description
- 48. Exclude
- 49. White (French)
- 50. Insect
- 51. A major division of geological time
- 52. Soviet Socialist Republic

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Type of whale
- 2. In tune
- 3. A citizen of Yemen
- 4. Actress Ling
- 5. One who supports
- 6. Circus performer
- 8. Yearly tonnage (abbr.)
- 9. Quantitative fact
- 11. Utah city
- 14. Where a golfer begins
- 15. Attendant
- 18. The ancient Egyptian sun god
- 19. Book of Chronicles (abbr.)
- 20. Benedictine monk
- 22. Not turbulent
- 23. Car mechanics group
- 24. Buffer used in chemistry
- 27. Fall heavily
- 28. Pie ___ mode
- 29. The Brits love it
- 31. Children's TV channel (abbr.)
- 32. Jacksonville footballer
- 33. Helps little firms
- 34. ___ and behold
- 35. A way to resemble
- 36. Fingers
- 37. Excessive indulgences
- 38. You might be an "empty" one
- 39. "How the West Was Won" writer
- 40. European river
- 44. They begin the alphabet
- 47. The body's messenger

PUZZLE SOLUTION

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

Crypto Fun



Solve the code to discover words related to humor.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 10 = C)

- A. 11 19 20 15**
Clue: Funny saying
- B. 10 19 18 14 10**
Clue: Funny person
- C. 7 2 17 26 23**
Clue: Expresses humor
- D. 2 17 12 14 15 25 10 15**
Clue: People watching a show

Answers: A. joke B. comic C. laugh D. audience

April Jokes

- What did the pencil say to the paper?**
I've got a point to make.
- Why did the broom show up late?**
It over-swept.

Word Search

LOTS OF LAUGHS WORD SEARCH

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

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

ANSWERS ON THE CLASSIFIED PAGE

WORDS

- AMUSING
- BANTER
- CHUCKLE
- COMEDY
- FACETIOUS
- FUNNY
- GUFFAW
- HILARITY
- IRONY
- JESTING
- JOCULAR
- LEVITY
- MERRIMENT
- PARODY
- PUNCHLINE
- QUIP
- SATIRE
- SLAPSTICK
- SNICKER
- TEDIUM
- TICKLE
- UPROARIOUS
- WITTICISM
- ZANY

Sudoku Puzzle

How it Works:

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

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

Word Scramble

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to humor.

ILSESM

--	--	--	--	--	--

Answer: Smiles

Guess Who?

GUESS WHO?

I am a football player born in New Orleans on April 27, 2004. I am the grandson of a longtime New Orleans Saints quarterback and two of my uncles each won a pair of Super Bowls. I was a highly coveted recruit coming out of high school, and I ultimately chose to play for the Texas Longhorns.

Answer: Arch Manning

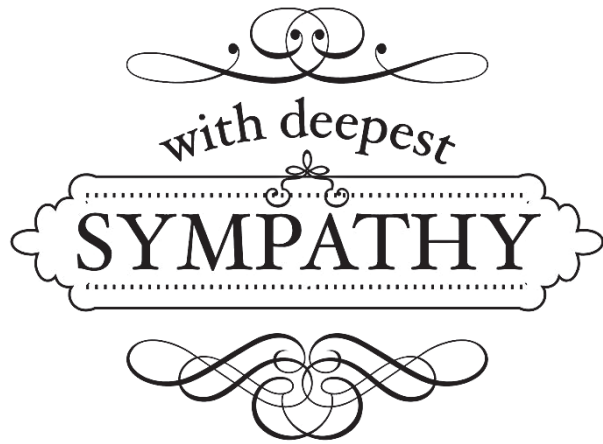
COLORING FUN



APRIL SHOWERS



BRING MAY FLOWERS



Thelma J. Baldwin

Thelma J. Baldwin, 99, of Gas City, passed away at 5:11 pm on Tuesday, April 21, 2026, at Marion Health. At the family's request, there will be no public visitation or funeral service. Burial will take place at Grant Memorial Park 1606 W. 26th St., Marion, IN. Arrangements are entrusted to Needham-Storey-Wampner Funeral & Cremation Service, Storey Chapel, 400 E. Main St., Gas City, IN, IN. Burial took place at Park Cemetery.

Loretta E. Braun

Loretta E. Braun, 39, Indianapolis, passed away at 4:26 pm on Saturday, April 18, 2026, at

Community Hospital North in Indianapolis. The family will receive visitors from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon on Thursday, April 30, 2026, at Needham-Storey-Wampner Funeral & Cremation Service, North Chapel, 1341 N. Baldwin Ave., Marion, IN. Immediately following the time of visitation, a service to celebrate Loretta's life will begin at 12:00 noon. Burial will take place at Gardens of Memory - Marion.

Dakota Ryan Decker Jr.

Dakota Ryan Decker, Jr., Marion, passed away on Thursday, April 16, 2026, at Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis. A private graveside service to honor Dakota was held at 11:00 am on Friday, April 24, 2026 at Grant Memorial Park 1606 W. 26th St., Marion, IN.

June L. Robbins

June L. Robbins, a cherished member of the Marion community and a devoted family matriarch, passed away peacefully on April 24, 2026, in her hometown of Marion, Indiana. The family received friends during a visitation on April 29, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Raven Choate Robinson Funeral Home, located at 1202 West Kem Road in Marion, Indiana. A funeral service followed immediately, commencing at 12:00 p.m., concluding at 1:00 p.m., held at the same location.

REGIONAL CHURCHES DIRECTORY

Liberty Baptist Church

517 Church St, Sweetser, IN 46987
<https://www.libertyfamily.org>
 (765) 384-7004
 Sunday School - @ 9:00 AM
 Worship - @ 10:00 AM
 Sunday Evening - @ 6:00 PM
 THURSDAYS
 Classes @ 5:30 & 6:30 PM

Sweetser United Methodist Church

413 N. Main Street, Sweetser, IN 46987
www.sweetserumc.org
 (765) 384-7354

Swayzee United Methodist Church

306 S Washington St, Swayzee, IN, United States, 46986
www.umc.org
 (765) 922-7223

Converse Church of Christ

301 E. Wabash Street Converse, IN 46919
 765-395-3361
 First Hour service (traditional) @ 9am
 Second Hour service (contemporary) @ 10:15am

Sweetser Wesleyan Church

(765) 384-7232
 200 West Delphi Pike Sweetser, IN 46987
www.sweetserwesleyan.org
 Sunday Morning 10 am

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

NEXT UP AT THE WALTON:

The SpongeBob Musical, featuring more than a dozen MCS students

Tickets are now on sale for The SpongeBob Musical, an exciting modern show featuring the irresistible characters from one of television's longest-running and most popular animated series, SpongeBob SquarePants.

This dynamic, silly, heartwarming tale of friendship, courage, and the power of teamwork features original songs by many popular artists including John Legend, Cyndi Lauper, Panic! At the Disco, They Might Be Giants, T.I., Lady A, and more.

When the residents of Bikini Bottom discover their beloved home is in danger, SpongeBob and his friends must come together to save the

undersea world. Of course, nothing is as straightforward or simple as it sounds! Come along for this magical and inspiring adventure with SpongeBob, Patrick, Sandy, and all of their friends (and villains too)!

Don't miss this Tony-nominated Broadway musical presented by CSA Theatre compANY on the main stage at the Walton Performing Arts Center May 8-10, 2026. Showtimes are 7 p.m. May 8 and 9, and 2 p.m. May 10.

The CSA Theatre compANY features performers from around the county who are participating in rigorous pre-professional training in acting and vocal technique, dance,

theatrical design and production, and more. When you watch their performances, you may be hard-pressed to believe that the cast is made up entirely of students ages 10-18! The majority of the company members are also students in the CSA Arts Academy with Marion Community Schools.

How to get your tickets

Tickets for the performances can be purchased at www.csa-marion.com/tickets or at Marion Community School of the Arts, 305 S. Adams Street, Marion, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays. Tickets will be available at the door beginning one hour before showtime. Ticket prices increase

\$2 at the door. Doors open for seating 30 minutes before showtime.

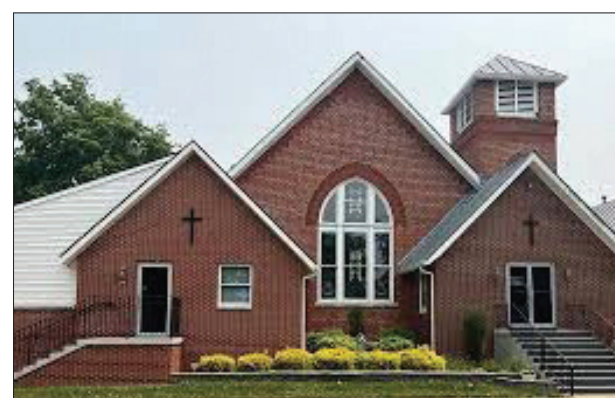
Marion Community Schools students can get special discounted tickets for \$5 with a valid school ID. These tickets can be purchased in-person at CSA. They are not available for online purchase.

For more information, contact CSA at 765-662-6263 or info@csa-marion.com.

Based on the series by Stephen Hillenburg. Book by Kyle Jarrow. Musical production conceived by Tina Landau. The SpongeBob Musical is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals. www.concordtheatricals.com.



Epworth Church to hold annual Chicken Noodle Fundraiser May 3rd



Epworth Church at 105 W 8th St. in Matthews, Indiana will have their annual Chicken Noodle Fundraiser Dinner on Sunday, May 3, 2026. Epworth is known for their noodles served at Cumberland Covered Bridge Festival and this is an opportunity to enjoy a delicious homemade chicken and noodle dinner prepared in the same tradition.

Serving will be from 11:45 am - 1:30 pm, and the community is invited to dine-in or carry out. We

welcome other church congregations to join us following their services. Dinners include chicken and noodles, mashed potatoes, green beans, rolls, beverages, and dessert. Free will donations for the meal will be gratefully accepted for the Epworth Concert Outreach Ministry Fund.

This outreach provides an opportunity to experience Christ through the power of music by accomplished, nationally known gospel artists.

Regional student art exhibition through May 13th

The public is invited to enjoy the wonderful works of our local students! Artwork from Jay County Schools is now on display until May 13th!

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

Event Location: Arts

Place, Jay County Campus

131 E Walnut St. Portland, IN 47371
 Cost: FREE!

Arts Place contact person for questions or more information and how to be involved please call Allison (260) 726-4809 or email visualarts@myartsplace.org

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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.

To be included in the Church Directory:

Email your Church Name - Church Address - Service Times to pamela.kpi2018@gmail.com

***Deadline is Monday at 5 PM for the Thursday edition. Email any changes to same email address**

All-City Art Show to feature Marion students' visual and performing arts May 15-16

The All-City Art Show features work from Marion students at all grade levels. The show will be open to the public from 4 to 6 p.m. Friday, May 15, and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, May 16.

Visitors will enter through the Walton Performing Arts Center, where some of the artwork will be displayed, and continue on into the art hallway to view more displays.

The All-City Art Show features will include:

- Interactive art experiences
 - Performances by Marion Community Schools music ensembles (times to be announced)
 - Art awards presented at 1 p.m. May 16
 - More shows!
- The All-City Art Show is part of more than a week of arts in the spotlight at Marion Community Schools:

Friday through Sunday, May 8-10: The SpongeBob Musical on stage at the Walton, featuring more than a dozen Marion Community Schools students who are members of the CSA Theatre compANY (click for details)

Monday, May 11: McCulloch Junior High 7th grade choir concert at the MJH auditorium, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, May 12: McCulloch Junior High 8th grade choir concert at the MJH auditorium, 6 p.m.

Wednesday, May 13: McCulloch Junior High band concert at the Walton, 6 p.m.

Thursday, May 14: Justice Intermediate School band and choir concert at the Walton, 6 p.m.

Friday, May 15: Marion High School choir concert at the Walton, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 16: Marion High School band concert at the Walton, 5:30 p.m.

Anthem Edition and Avenue in concert at Epworth Church



Anthem Edition

Epworth Church, 105 W 8th St, Matthews, Indiana is pleased to announce Anthem Edition (formerly "The Old Paths") with special guest Avenue in concert on Friday, May 15, 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/anthem or call/text 765-667-0842.

Anthem Edition burst onto the scene in 2003, then known

as The Old Paths, setting forth with a clear vision and mission: to glorify the Lord and seek His ways in everything. In 2012, they signed with Crossroad Music's Sonlite Records label, a collaboration which brought forth the breakout album, 'Right Now.' This debut record quickly yielded two #1 hits, 'Battlestand' and 'God's Great,' and earned the group a Singing News Fan Award for Favorite New Quartet. Anthem Edition consists of Tim Rackley (lead), Doug Roark (baritone), Andrew



Avenue

Utech (bass), Cameron Edens (tenor), and Kevin Davis (pianist).

Avenue is a dynamic trio of seasoned vocalists—Kasey Kemp, Haley Kemp, and Jonathan C. Smith—who have swiftly earned recognition in the Christian music community for their exceptional harmonies and powerful messages of encouragement and hope. The name "Avenue" reflects the group's mission: to use their music as the pathway for proclaiming the greatest message—the Gospel of Jesus

Christ. Their debut project, Songs For Every Mile, released in June 2018, showcases their robust sound, strong vocals, and poignant messages. The album's first radio release, "One Of These Mornings," climbed to #23 on the national Singing News chart. Avenue has since continued their success with chart-toppers such as "Can't Keep a Good Man Down," "Here We Are," "Walking on With Jesus," "They Could Not," "I Will Follow Christ," and "New Name Written Down in Glory."

Frances Slocum Elementary School presents The Lion King Kids, May 8-9

Family and friends are invited to join us for Frances Slocum Elementary's performances of Lion King Kids!

About 50 of our students in grades two through four will be featured in this production, which features the classic Disney story of Simba and his friends Nala, Timon, and Pumba, and of course the beloved songs Hakuna Matata, Can You Feel the Love Tonight, and more. Come celebrate the circle of life in this timeless story of courage, friendship, and destiny.

Shows will start at 7 p.m. May 8, and 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. on May 9. Run time is approximately half an hour.

Tickets will be available for purchase in person from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. May 4 through 8 in the lobby of Frances Slocum Elementary.

"This has been an amazing experience for our students," said Etherington, who is one of the show's directors and a STEM interventionist here

at FSES. "They are learning the art of theatre, practicing their reading skills, working on their memorization skills, and showing what incredible young people they are. They are working hard to put on an incredible performance. We are so proud of them."

Disney's The Lion King KIDS is presented through special arrangement with and all materials are provided by Music Theatre International, www.mtishows.com. Music and lyrics by Elton John and Tim Rice. Additional music and lyrics by Lebo M., Mark Mancina, Jay Rifkin, and Hans Zimmer. Book by Roger Allers and Irene Mecchi. Based on the Broadway production directed by Juli Taymor. Music adapted & arranged and additional music & lyrics and "Luau Hawaiian Treat" written by Will Van Dyke. "It's a Small World" written by Richard M. Sherman and Robert B. Sherman.

Grant County Sheriff's Office respond to firearm complaint

On Monday, April 20th, 2026, at 08:50 hrs (8:50am) Deputies were dispatched to the 1900 block of East 38th Street in Marion reference individuals in gray Chevrolet displaying a firearm and chasing the complaint.

Deputy Michael Cook observed the possible suspect vehicle on 38th Street near 400 East conducting a traffic stop, where the vehicle stopped, but then fled away as soon as Deputy exited his vehicle.

Deputies, Indiana State Troopers and several other local law enforcement agencies assisted in this vehicle pursuit of the armed subjects that goes into Gas City then onto Interstate 69 at speeds of 100+ mph at times. The pursuit continues southbound on the interstate until the vehicle struck a trailer being pulled by another vehicle and was disabled by this crash near the mile marker 218. The two (2) occupants of the vehicle were taken into custody, and a loaded firearm, Century Arms Mini DRACO AK Semi-Auto Pistol was recovered from the gray Chevrolet Malibu. This pursuit travelled approximately 47



miles crossing three (3) counties, Grant, Delaware, & Madison. There were no injuries involved in this investigation and pursuit.

Arrest on preliminary charges of;

- Cameron Allen Perry age 26 of Indianapolis, Indiana (Passenger) Conspiracy to commit Intimidation with a Deadly Weapon (Felony Level 5)
- Dontrell Devote Cole age 24 of Franklin, Indiana (Driver) Unlawful Possession of a Firearm by a Serious Violent Felon (Felony Level 4) Intimidation with a Deadly Weapon (Felony Level 5) Resisting Law Enforcement w/ Vehicle (Felony Level 6)
- Criminal Recklessness (Felony Level 6)
- Reckless Driving Class (Misdemeanor Class B)
- Anyone with



Cameron Perry



Dontrell Devote Cole

information on this crime or other criminal activity can call Grant County Sheriff's Office (765) 668-8168, or Crime Stoppers. The Sheriff's Office wants

to thank the many assisting agencies involved in the pursuit and apprehension of the suspects.

Sheriff Del Garcia Chief Deputy Jay Kay (PIO)



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Sudoku Answers

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

Word Search Answers

T	X	K	B	H	R	N	N	L	P	R	E	I	M	F	S	S	D	N
T	J	L	O	G	H	R	O	H	S	L	N	A	G	O	C	N	I	C
G	H	S	M	T	V	S	O	W	A	H	I	V	B	G	V	O	0	0
H	S	M	V	B	S	O	B	S	V	O	C	B	M	A	S	V	0	0
H	O	B	I	O	G	E	N	D	W	K	T	I	G	B	0	0	0	0
I	J	O	B	O	E	C	K	N	V	K	H	I	M	I	W	H	0	0
C	H	I	D	B	N	I	C	N	R	S	O	N	A	C	0	0	0	0
O	H	N	H	I	N	V	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
R	O	S	J	V	I	N	V	H	L	I	T	S	N	S	I	N	O	S
O	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
O	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
S	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
S	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
G	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
F	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
I	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
H	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
S	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
H	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
I	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

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Caring for Seniors

Wise skin cancer prevention for seniors

Wisdom and age frequently go hand in hand. But when it comes to knowledge of the latest medical advancements, some older adults may not be up-to-date.

Medical recommendations evolve over time. After all, it wasn't too long ago people were told to avoid foods containing high amounts of dietary cholesterol because it would raise their own blood cholesterol levels. Now MedlinePlus says the general consensus is that eating dietary cholesterol has a minimal impact on blood cholesterol for most people. And people in their 70s may have raised children thinking it was fine to lay the child in the crib on the baby's stomach. Now the advice is "back is best."

Medical professionals now know that exposure

to ultraviolet rays of the sun and tanning beds can contribute to the development of skin cancer. But just a few generations ago people were slathering on baby oil and using suntan reflectors to accelerate tanning. The risk of skin cancer is raised for those who have had cumulative exposure to the sun. So it is essential that seniors practice sun safety every day so they are not adding to the damage that already may have occurred. It's also foolish to think, "I've made it this long without skin cancer, and it takes decades to develop, so I'm never going to get it."

No one knows how long they will live and it's important to take care of oneself to live as strong, healthy and long as possible. To that end, seniors can employ these sun safety tips, courtesy of the Skin

Cancer Foundation.

• **Learn the facts.** Suffering just five sunburns over your lifetime more than doubles your chances of developing melanoma, and each successive tan or sunburn raises the risk even further. Suntans damage the skin's DNA and age it before its time. Also, skin undergoes changes that reduce defenses against disease and healing. One bad burn as a senior may be the final straw.

• **Use sunscreen.** Sunscreen may not have been widely used when today's seniors were young. Just because that was the norm then doesn't mean things can't change now. It's never too late to reduce your skin cancer risk by lathering on sunscreen daily — even when the sun doesn't seem



particularly strong. Seniors should look for a broad-spectrum sunscreen with SPF 30 for daily use.

• **Wear protective clothing.** Choose tightly woven, long-sleeved shirts, long pants, and wide-brimmed hats to protect you. You can purchase clothing that has sun protection built right

in.

• **Avoid being outside during certain times of day.** Stay out of the sun when it is at its peak. Radiation is typically the strongest between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. That's when the risk for skin damage is highest, says the American Cancer Society.

• **Seek shade.** When spending time outdoors, seek shady spots, whether you're under an umbrella or in tree-lined areas.

Sun safety for seniors is generally the same for people of all ages. But it becomes a more urgent necessity due to cumulative sun exposure that comes with age.

How seniors can build their social networks in retirement

Social isolation and loneliness can have a notably adverse effect on a person's overall health. According to the World Health Organization, roughly 12 percent of older individuals experience loneliness, which can have a negative impact on their physical and mental health, quality of life, and even their life expectancy.

Seniors have much to gain when they take successful steps to avoid social isolation. Seniors who are concerned about the prospect of social isolation or loneliness or those already experiencing such feelings can try these strategies to build their social networks in retirement.

• **Reconnect with old friends.** It's easy for adults to lose touch with old friends. By the time many adults reach middle age, professional and personal obligations can leave little time for a thriving social life. Successful professionals may be preoccupied with



work projects, and while parents may be juggling their own hectic schedules with their children's obligations. Come retirement, much of those responsibilities have ended, making this a perfect time to reconnect with old friends who also might have extra free time on their hands. Reach out through social media, text message

or even a phone call, and let the situation unfold organically from there.

• **Take advantage of community offerings.** Many communities sponsor events for seniors, like bus trips to local museums or stadiums, in an effort to encourage seniors to get out of the house. Retirees can

take advantage of these opportunities, which tend to attract like-minded individuals with the same interests. A bus trip to a theater production will attract fellow arts lovers, and shared interests are a solid foundation for friendship.

• **Start a local club or group.** Starting a local club based on

a particular activity is another great way for seniors to build a social network in retirement. Take to social media and express your interest in starting a local book club or walking group. Like community-sponsored bus trips, clubs and groups tend to attract like-minded individuals, providing a built-in pathway to friendship.

• **Reconnect with your faith.** Houses of worship also offer a great way to meet locals and build relationships based on a shared identity. Faith-based communities provide a sense of belonging that can help retirees overcome social isolation and loneliness.

• **Open yourself to new experiences.** Trying something new is another great way to make new friends. Many local agencies like parks departments or community recreation offices offer seniors in-person workshops covering a wide range of activities. These offerings are a great way to discover a new pastime and meet new people along the way.

Social isolation and loneliness poses a significant threat to millions of seniors. But there are many ways for seniors to build their social networks in retirement.



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