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Thursday, September 17, 2026

Journal Reporter

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In God We Trust

Join us Friday: Day of Action & Campaign Kick-off Luncheon!

Grant County moves forward when its leaders show up for it, and we'd like you at the table this Friday!

You're invited to our Day of Action & Campaign Kick-off Luncheon on Friday, September 18, at 11:00 a.m. at the Gas City Performing Arts Center, 100 Auditorium Dr, Gas City, IN 46933. Lunch is on us. We'll share what's ahead for this year's United Way campaign and celebrate the volunteers heading out into the community that afternoon for Day of Action.

You're welcome to join us for lunch whether or not you're volunteering that day. If you would like to get your hands dirty too, a few Day of Action projects still have openings. Sign up at uwgrant.com/action.

Please RSVP by replying to this email (or email evan@uwgrant.com) so we can plan for a seat and a plate.

We hope you'll join us!



Crisp autumn air will soon be rolling in and the leaves on trees will be trading their vivid green hues for shades of orange, red and purple. Fall begins on the autumnal equinox. Although people may see it as the official kickoff to bonfires and flannels, that's not the only interesting part of this remarkable day.

- It's a moment and not a day. Despite what many people think, the autumnal equinox is not an entire day. In fact, the equinox is a precise astronomical event. It occurs at the exact moment the sun crosses the celestial equator, an imaginary line in the sky directly above the Earth's equator.
- It's not "equal night." Although the word equinox comes from the Latin word "aequus" (equal) and "nox" (night), we do not get exactly 12 hours of daylight and 12 hours of darkness on the equinox. This is because of how the Earth's atmosphere refracts sunlight. The sun appears above the horizon even after it has technically set, according to the National Weather Service.
- Northern lights can be seen. Those hoping to catch a glimpse of the aurora borealis will find the weeks surrounding the autumnal equinox are the prime window to do so, according to NASA. Geomagnetic storms that trigger these stunning light displays occur twice as frequently around the fall and spring equinoxes compared to the summer and winter solstices.
- It's not always on the same day. The autumnal equinox does not fall on the same day each year. It usually lands on September 22 or 23, but it can occasionally occur on September 21 or 24 (in the northern hemisphere), indicates the U.S. Naval Observatory.

This year it will be on Tuesday, September 22.

The autumnal equinox is a unique and often enjoyable day on the calendar.

15-minute survey shows you the region's pay

Grant County employers have until September 18th to help set the region's compensation benchmark, and, in return, to see everyone else's numbers.

Every employer believes it pays fairly. Rather fewer can prove it.

This is not a failing of character. It is a failing of data. In the absence of good regional figures, compensation decisions tend to be made the way most difficult decisions are made, by instinct, by anecdote, and by whatever a departing employee happened to say on the way out. It is a poor way to run a payroll, and an expensive one. Guess too low and you train your best people for a competitor down the road. Guess too high and you erode the margins that keep the doors open. Either way, you are flying blind in a market that has grown a good deal more turbulent.

There is now a straightforward remedy, and it costs you nothing but a little time.

About the Survey

The Grant County Economic Growth Council, together with eight neighboring counties through Forge ECI, is conducting the 2026 East Central Indiana Wage & Benefit Survey. It asks local employers a simple question, occupation by occupation: what do you pay, and what do you offer? The answers are compiled not by us, but by the Purdue Center for Regional Development, a research body whose entire business is turning scattered figures into something you can actually use.

The result is a regional report covering entry, average and top hourly wages across dozens of roles, alongside the benefits: insurance, retirement, leave, bonuses, shift premiums, that increasingly decide whether an offer is accepted or declined. For a nine-county labor market, it is as close to a compensation map as you are likely to get.

The completed report goes first, in October, to the employers who took part. Sit this one out and you will be negotiating salaries next year against neighbors who have seen the board while you have not.

Two concerns usually surface at this point, and both are easily dispatched.

Confidentiality. Only researchers at Purdue see your company's individual responses. Your figures are never published on their own and never shared with anyone outside the PCRD team. They are aggregated with everyone else's, which is precisely what makes the final numbers trustworthy, and precisely why your own remain invisible within them.

Time. You do not employ every job listed, and you are not expected to. Skip the categories that do not apply and complete only those that do. The online survey lets you save your work and return to it later, and a PDF version is available so you can gather your numbers before you begin.

A Word on Timing

Completed surveys are due by 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 18th, 2026. That is enough time if you start this week.

Good data compounds. The more Grant County employers who take part, the sharper the picture becomes for setting competitive pay, for defending the pay you already offer, and for making the case that this is a region that knows its own worth.

Fifteen minutes now buys you a year of better decisions. We would take that trade.

Tickets now available for MHS's The Music Man, Oct 2-3

Marion High School is bringing The Music Man back to the stage at the Walton Performing Arts Center this fall! The cast features students from Marion High School as well as McCulloch Junior High.

Marching bands, love songs, and a conman with a heart of gold ... what could be better?

By turns wicked, funny, warm, romantic and touching, The Music Man is family entertainment at its best. Meredith Willson's six-time Tony Award-winning musical comedy has been entertaining audiences since 1957. Fast-talking traveling salesman Harold Hill sets his sights on an easy mark: the town of River City, Iowa. But things don't go exactly as he planned when he falls for the local librarian. With heartfelt tunes including the rousing march "Seventy-six Trombones", the wistful "Good Night My Someone", the folksy "Wells Fargo Wagon", the classic love song "Till There Was You", and of course the comedic "Gary, Indiana", this show is a must-see!

Shows are set for 7:30 p.m. Oct. 2 and Oct 3. (NOTE: A previously advertised Saturday matinee has been canceled due to scheduling conflicts.) General admission tickets are \$10 for adults, \$7 for students. Tickets can be purchased online below, or at the door the day of the show.

Book, Music and Lyrics by Meredith Willson. The Music Man is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.MTIShows.com.

with deepest

SYMPATHY

Michael W. Rohrer

Michael W. Rohrer, 69, Marion, passed away at 11:01 am on Wednesday, September 9, 2026, at Indiana University Health Ball Memorial in Muncie. The family will receive visitors from 10:00 am to 11:00 am on Friday, September 18, 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 Michael's life will begin at 11:00 am with Pastor Mick Simpkins officiating.

Gerald James “Jim” Goins

Gerald James Goins, 68, of Marion, passed away at 6:58 p.m. on Wednesday, September 9, 2026, at Parkview Regional Medical Center in Fort Wayne. The family received visitors from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 16, 2026, at Needham-Storey-Wampner Funeral & Cremation Service, North Chapel, 1341 N. Baldwin Ave., Marion, Indiana. Immediately following visitation, a service celebrating Gerald's life was held at 1:00 p.m., with Charles Moon officiating. Burial followed at Grant Memorial Park.

Anna J. Kinzie

Anna J. Kinzie, 79, Marion, passed away at 12:40 am on Monday, September 7, 2026, at Colonial Oaks Health & Rehabilitation Center. The family received visitors from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm on Friday, September 11, 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 Anna's life was held at 5:00 pm with Chaplain Don Miller officiating. Burial took place at Riverside Cemetery.

Carolyn S. Paschall

Carolyn Paschall passed away peacefully, surrounded by her loving family. he family received visitors from 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm on Monday, September 14, 2026, at Needham-Storey-Wampner Funeral & Cremation Service, Storey Chapel 400 E. Main St., Gas City, IN. Immediately following the time of visitation, a graveside service was held at 2:00 pm with Bishop David Morris officiating at Grant Memorial Park.

Julie A. Holcomb

Julie Ann Holcomb, 82, of Marion, passed away on Monday, September 7, 2026. The family will receive visitors from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 19, 2026 at St. James Lutheran Church, 1206 N. Miller Ave., Marion, IN 46952. Immediately following the time of visitation, a memorial service to celebrate Julie's life will begin at 2:00 p.m. with Pastor Fredrick Hearn officiating.

MHS Class of 2026 recognized for performance

Several current Marion High School students and members of the MHS Class of 2026 have been recognized by the College Board for their cumulative excellent performance on multiple Advanced Placement tests in the 2025-26 school year or earlier in their high school career. Every year, the College Board, which administers AP exams, awards students who have excelled on multiple exams. AP exams are scored on a scale of 1 to 5. A score of 3 designates the student as “qualified” and capable of doing the work of an introductory-level course in a particular subject at college, according to the AP Program’s website. Many colleges and universities grant credit and placement for scores of 3, 4 or 5, but the AP Program’s website notes that each college decides which scores it will accept. Here’s a complete look at the most recent AP honors, reflecting scores on tests taken in spring 2025 or earlier in a student’s

high school career:

AP Scholars with Distinction (earning scores of 3 or higher on five or more exams, with an average score of at least 3.5 on all exams taken)

Grace Carpenter, Class of 2026

Aliya Cruz, senior

Dakhota Daley, Class of 2026

Richard Detamore, Class of 2026 (also AP Capstone Diploma recipient)

Tate Duncan, senior (also AP Capstone Diploma recipient)

Gabe Fisher, senior

Micah Hawkins, senior

Elijah Inskeep, Class of 2026

Jethe Paduga, senior

Derrick Simmons-Lollis, Class of 2026 (also AP Capstone Diploma recipient)

Aly Yanis-Earnest, senior (also AP Capstone Diploma recipient)

AP Scholars with Honor (earning scores of 3 or higher on four or more exams, with an average score of at least 3.25 on all exams taken)

Gary Freiburger, Class of 2026

Mary Herrington, senior (also AP Capstone Diploma recipient)

Chayim Hofmann, Class of 2026

Nolan Lomely, senior

Axel Ortiz Juarez,

senior

Aubry Roedl, Class of 2026

Allyson Williams, Class of 2026

AP Scholars (earning scores of 3 or higher on three or more exams)

Gigi Bunker, Class of 2026

Eliana Campanero, junior

Shaeli Castaneda, Class of 2026

Lennon Cordell, Class of 2026

Roman Dailey, senior

Clara Davies, senior

Gracie Dixon, junior

Jeremias Gallegos Ayala, Class of 2026

Nyla Hubartt, Class of 2026

see **MHS**, page 10

Amanda Broomfield

Amanda Gail Broomfield, 48, of Marion, passed away at 4:59 p.m. on Friday, September 4, 2026, in Marion. The family received visitors from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, September 16, 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 Amanda's life was held at 11:00 a.m. with Pastor Curtis Banker officiating.

Stephen Teegarden

Stephen Teegarden, 72, was called home to Heaven on September 9, 2026. Visitation was held on Tuesday, September 15, 2026, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at New Life Community Church, 2011 W 10th St, Marion, IN 46953. The funeral service followed at 4:00 p.m. IN. Burial took place at Grant Memorial Park.

Mary Louise Shaver

Mary Louise Shaver, 78 of Fairmount, went to be with her Lord and Savior, on Monday September 7, 2026 at Miller's Merry Manor in Marion. Services are entrusted to the Fairmount Chapel of Armes-Hunt Life Celebration Funeral Home and Cremation Services, 415 S. Main, Fairmount, Indiana. As per Mary Lou's wished she will be cremated. A graveside service will be held on Wednesday September 23, 2026 at 1 PM.

Vickie S. Burns

Vickie S. Burns, 66, of Marion passed away on September 8, 2026, in Indianapolis, Indiana. The visitation was held on Wednesday, September 16, 2026 from 11am-12:45pm at Owen-Weilert-Duncan Funeral Home, Marion Chapel, 2722 South Washington Street, Marion, Indiana. The funeral followed at 1pm.

Phyllis Stepler

Phyllis Joan (Ancil) Stepler, 90, of Amboy, passed away at 2:10 PM, Friday, September 11, 2026, at Marion General Hospital. A service honoring the life of Phyllis Joan Stepler was held at 2:00 PM, Wednesday, September 16, 2026, at the Laird-Eddy Funeral Home, 201 N Main St. Amboy, with Rex Dobson officiating. Burial followed in the Park Lawn Cemetery.

Ellen Pettay

Ellen Louise (Klingman) Pettay, 80, passed away at 8:15 P.M., Monday, September 7, 2026 at Bell Trace Health and Living Center in Bloomington, IN. There will be a celebration of life held at 3:00 PM, Saturday, September 26, 2026, at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 2411 E 2nd St. Bloomington, IN, 47401. Ellen will be laid to rest, next to her son and parents, in a private burial held at Park Lawn Cemetery, Amboy, IN..

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

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
- a.m. Sunday evening and Wednesday evening 5:00 p.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)
- 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. https://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
- Email Us Your Upcoming Events to:
pamela.kpi2018@gmail.com

**Deadline is Monday at 5 PM for the Thursday edition.*
- STATE OF INDIANAIN THE
COUNTY OF GRANTGRANT CIRCUIT COURT
CASE NO. 27C01-2608-MI-99

IN RE THE MATTER OF:

Bran Danilo De La Paz
Petitioner

ORDER SETTING HEARING

Comes now Bran Danilo De La Paz, pro se, having filed a Verified Petition for Change of Name, and the Court finds that the matter should be set for hearing.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that this matter shall be heard on October 5, 2026 at 8:30 AM

So ORDERED August 21, 2026


Judicial Officer

Published in the Journal Reporter,
09-03-26, 09-10-26, 09-17-26, HSPAXLP
- we treat people like people.
because, they’re people.

simple human sense

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- NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

Pursuant to Indiana Code § 6-1.1-20-5, notice is hereby given that the Board of School Trustees of the Mississinewa Community School Corporation has preliminarily determined to enter into a lease agreement and issue bonds in one or more series of bonds in the aggregate principal amount of \$16,300,000 to fund the construction of additions, renovations and improvements to Northview Elementary School, Westview Elementary School and Mississinewa High School; deferred maintenance improvements at school facilities including roofing improvements and site improvements; and the purchase of equipment, vehicles, and technology.

Dated: September 9, 2026

/s/ Secretary, Board of School Trustees
Mississinewa Community School Corporation

Published in the Journal Reporter,
9-10-26, 9-17-26, 9-24-26 HSPAXLP

VICTORIOUS *Living* ...in a troubled world

Jesus is still in the boat — you’re not alone

By Teresa LeNeave
leneave2@comcast.net

There is an old song many of us once sang: “Troublesome times are here; filling men’s hearts with fear.” Those words have been echoed throughout generations, because troubled times are nothing new. Yet while the world may give us reason to be concerned, this is not a time to panic. Instead, it is a time to embrace the promises of God; promises that never fail.

Hebrews 11:6 reminds us, “But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that comes to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”

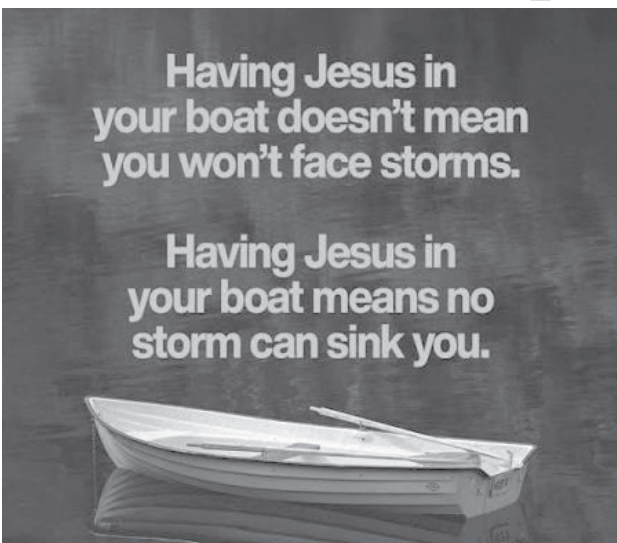
Faith requires determination and perseverance. It means choosing to trust God even when circumstances give us

every reason to doubt. Doubt tells us that God is absent or that our circumstances are beyond His control. Faith tells us otherwise.

The Bible gives us a powerful picture of this kind of faith in the account of Jesus and His disciples caught in a violent storm. While the disciples feared that the ship would sink, Jesus was asleep. When they woke Him, He simply spoke to the wind and the waves, and the storm became calm. But Jesus did more than calm the troubled sea. He also calmed the troubled hearts of His disciples.

That is good news for us today. The same God who brought peace to the disciples in the midst of a storm is still able to bring peace to people facing storms of their own. Psalm 91 speaks of finding “rest in the secret place of the Most High.”

We are living



through difficult times. Hearts are broken, and people everywhere are facing circumstances that can seem overwhelming. Cancer has touched countless families, and many are fighting for their lives. My own family has experienced this struggle. My sister has stage 4 lung cancer, and I recently learned that my cousin has also been diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer. The struggle is real.

Yet cancer is not the

only battle people are facing. Every person carries some kind of burden. It may not be a disease. It may be grief, financial hardship, loneliness, broken relationships, fear, uncertainty or a battle that no one else can see. Whatever the struggle, people everywhere need comfort, healing and hope.

We know that when circumstances look bleak, God is neither surprised nor afraid.

Nothing catches Him off guard. He knows what will happen before it happens. He has all authority and all power, and He remains sovereign over His creation.

That does not mean we will always understand why He allows certain things to happen. There are questions for which we may never have answers in this life. But perhaps that is where faith becomes most important. In times of struggle, we learn to trust the Creator even when we cannot understand His ways.

If God can keep the universe in motion, surely He is capable of taking care of us. Jesus said in John 20:29, “Blessed are those who have not seen, and yet have believed.” Though we cannot see faith with our eyes, but that does not make it unreal. Faith is a confidence in the God we cannot

physically see but who has revealed Himself through His Word and through His Son. First John 5:4 declares, “Faith is the victory that overcomes the world.” He sees what we cannot see. He understands what we cannot understand. And He knows how to bring His people safely through the storms of life.

That kind of peace does not come from pretending that problems do not exist. It does not come from blindly ignoring reality. True peace comes from believing God’s Word and knowing why we believe it.

We believe because God sent His Son to redeem us, to heal us and to restore troubled souls. The storm may be raging, but like the disciples, we do not have to face it alone. Jesus is still in the boat.

Choose to keep your face toward the light

By Dr. Billy Holland

Since before the world was made, God has known you and loved you. He has never taken His eyes away or ignored you. If you were to write down all the blessings and victories He’s provided, they would prove He has called you, saved you, and has been guiding and helping you every day of your life. You might say, it doesn’t seem like it, but remember, many times we made decisions that were not a part of His plan.

It’s common to be filled with a mixture of emotions. Worry, stress, sadness, and anxiety are everywhere, but just because there is a tornado of events going on around us does not mean we have to allow them to control us. Our minds are like sponges that absorb the constant sights and sounds of our chaotic world, but remember we are called to be guardians of what we think about. It’s in the quiet secret place of God’s presence that fills us with His hope, peace, and

contentment.

Has disappointment in the past caused you to not be as confident or excited as you once were? Of course, we all have times in our lives when we are upset and wonder why things happen or didn’t happen. Stop beating yourself up; you are perfectly normal. Life is a series of ups and downs, and no matter how charismatic a personality you may have, there will be seasons when we search deep within our soul to see if we are being attacked, or if maybe we are just not following God. Whatever the case, it’s easy to wallow in our sorrows, but if we will turn our attention away from ourselves and focus on listening to the Lord, the dark clouds of confusion will begin lifting, and the joy and compassion of God’s presence will fill us with hope.

I want to share a word with you from Psalm 42:5, and repeated again in verse 11: “Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me?

Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise Him, my Savior and my God.” It is said that David wrote these words, and if you study his relationship with God, you know he had his share of sorrows, but he also learned how to encourage himself. He wrote this when his son Absalom committed treason, but even with something as devastating as this, he expresses that faith in God can generate hope when everything seems hopeless. He examines his own heart and understands there are times we will not comprehend why we are going through trials, but we are to obey and glorify God while we are waiting for our answer.

Instead of going to bed and covering our heads, let us look beyond our pity party and focus our eyes on the prize of the high calling in Christ Jesus. Sometimes we are so absorbed with what we are going through, we just simply forget how much He cares about us. I had two situations a while

back that could have been tragic, but God intervened in them both. I was driving on the bypass and was getting ready to change lanes when, at the last second, I saw a car beside me out of the corner of my eye. If I had made that mistake, it probably would have been my last. The second situation involved me being on a ladder on my front porch the same day. I thought I was on the bottom step, but I was actually on the step above and fell onto the concrete and into the storm door. I broke the door and have a few bruises, but miraculously I was not seriously injured.

Throughout our lives, we’ve had some ups and downs, but all in all we have a lot to be thankful for. I know it’s easy at times to feel sorry for ourselves, but instead of feeling cast down, may we



Dr. Billy Holland

consider where we would be without God’s grace. Hope is a small word like love and joy, but it’s the power within the human soul to trust God and to know that His will CAN be fulfilled in our lives. Depression

and discouragement come upon us when we are focused more on our emotions than our spiritual armor, so don’t forget, optimism and pessimism are hourly choices we make within our conscience. Many times we are our own worst enemy. Keep your face toward the light – and the shadows will always be behind you.

Dr. Holland is an ordained minister, chaplain, public school teacher, and Christian author. To read more about LIVING ON PURPOSE, visit: billyhollandministries.com

Crying for milk

By Brandon Bramlett
Pastor - Bandana Baptist Church

The chilling cry shatters the serene stillness of midnight. It disrespects the disarming dawn, too—as the sun rises higher, the unsettling shriek grows louder. The sharp-edged screech is unpredictable and may strike you anytime and anywhere. Even the sacred space of a sanctuary is not exempt—the hysterical wailing disrupts the preacher’s sermon and disturbs the congregation’s singing. The scream erupts from the lungs of my baby boy when

he is hungry—and he makes certain that his voice is heard.

Two seconds too late and his countenance becomes crimson. You cannot convince him to wait or distract him with toys. His appetite is insatiable, and he must be fednow.

Of course, he sometimes whines from boredom and whimpers when he wants to be held, but he has never once sobbed over news headlines, the color of his onesie, or because his stuffed animals looked at him the wrong way. His serious tears are solely for milk because his highest priority is

being fed.

He puts me to shame because I tend to cry over spilled milk: when foul weather ruins a hike, traffic makes me late for an appointment, or technology refuses to cooperate when I need it to work. But how frequently am I agitated by an irrepressible hunger for the milk of God’s word? What irritates me more: someone’s unkind words or how little I have heard from the word of truth (James 1:18)? And how often am I distracted by worldly amusements which diminish my desire for the law of the Lord,

to where I forget how much I need it? A Bible that often rests unopened on my desk testifies against me.

However, all believers—myself included—should “throw a fit” for the nourishment of the word of God. As Peter commanded, “Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation” (1 Peter 2:2). Christians should ache with gnawing hunger morning, night, and throughout the hours between for the faith-food of Scripture. The Bible is not an optional appetizer or an occasional dessert—

your spiritual life depends on it: “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from

the mouth of God” (Matt. 4:4). Consequently, whether babes in Christ or seasoned saints, all children of God should crave the Scriptures, cry out for them, and drink deeply from its pages with a desperate urgency.

I have watched my son skyrocket from



Brandon Bramlett

an eight-pound newborn who couldn’t hold up his head to a four-month old who can roll over, belly-laugh, and say “mama” (despite strong coaxing to say “dada” first). He can

do what he’s never done because he eats like he’s never eaten. Likewise, to grow in Christlikeness like you never have and do for God what you’ve never done, you must eat the truth of Scripture like you never have before (Jer. 15:16; 2 Tim. 3:16; Ps. 119:11).



The Oak Hill boys' cross country team won the IWU Wildcat Classic on Saturday, Sept. 12.

(Photo courtesy of Oak Hill High School Athletics)



The Oak Hill girls' cross country team won the IWU Wildcat Classic on Saturday, Sept. 12.

(Photo courtesy of Oak Hill High School Athletics)

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Oak Hill rolls to win over Frankton

Staff Report

CONVERSE — Oak Hill defeated Frankton 42-13 in a Central Indiana Athletic Conference game on Friday, Sept. 11.

Productive Oak Hill notched its first win in the 2026 high school football season. The Golden Eagles improved to 1-3 after registering the win.

Oak Hill benefitted from a balanced offensive attack.

Fullback Dylan Archer led Oak Hill to the win. Archer excelled on the ground, rushing 15 times for 185 yards and four touchdowns.

Quarterback Jett Ott paced Oak Hill through the air, completing nine passes for 173 yards and two touchdowns.

Caden Key and Meyer Middlesworth each hauled in one touchdown reception for the Golden Eagles.

Defensively for Oak Hill, Gage Pearce recorded a team-high six tackles and two tackles for losses.

Aiding Oak Hill defensively, Adam Esslinger recorded two sacks and one forced fumble.

Oak Hill is scheduled to host Alexandria-Monroe for its next game in the 2026 high school football season on Friday, Sept. 18.



HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Argylls shut out Panthers

Staff Report

ELWOOD —
Madison-Grant shut
out Elwood 46-0 in
a Central Indiana
Athletic Conference
game on Friday, Sept.
11.

The Argylls moved to 4-0 overall after registering the win.

Madison-Grant set the tone early in the game and gradually pulled away to win convincingly.

The Argylls started strong, reaching the endzone twice during the opening quarter.

Madison-Grant led 14-0 at the end of the first quarter and quickly extended its lead.

The Argylls entered
halftime ahead 36-0.

Madison-Grant led 39-0 at the conclusion of the third quarter.

The Argylls benefitted from a balanced rushing attack. Harry Brooks

provided two rushing touchdowns for the Argylls. As part of Madison-Grant's attack, Dylan Martin and Jon Stanley added one rushing touchdown apiece.

Martin paced Maidson-Grant through the air, supplying two passing touchdowns.

Hank Rudy and
Zajuan Johnson each
hauling in one receiving

touchdown for the
Argylls.

Defensively for Madison-Grant, Brooks tallied a team-high six tackles while Skylar Landis and Ryder Frank each recorded one interception.

Madison-Grant is scheduled to visit Frankton for its next game in the 2026 high school football season on Friday, Sept. 18.



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BOY’S HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER

Golden Eagles defeat Squires

Staff Report

CONVERSE — Oak Hill pulled away to defeat Manchester 7-1 in a boys’ soccer match on Monday, Sept. 14.

The Golden Eagles started strong, scoring three goals in the first half.

Luke Elzinga led Oak Hill to the win, recording a hat trick for the Golden Eagles.

Along with scoring three goals, Elzinga dished out one assist.

Maddox Kenyon (two goals), Garret Summers (one goal) and Caiden Jones (one goal) accompanied Elzinga in Oak Hill’s scoring column.

Carter Kreitzer (two assists), Tayt Bowlin (two assists) and Micah Weesner (one assist) also aided Oak Hill offensively.

Defensively for Oak Hill, goalkeeper Ben Babinski limited Manchester to one goal.

The Golden Eagles improved to 6-3-1 overall after registering the win.

Oak Hill and Manchester aren’t scheduled to meet again in the 2026 boys’ high school soccer season.

BOY’S HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER

Giants outlast Red Devils

Staff Report

MARION — Marion outlasted Richmond 4-3 in a North Central Conference boys’ soccer match on Saturday, Sept. 12.

Determined Marion produced both offensively and defensively throughout the conference boys’ soccer match.

Keeghan Cook led Marion to the win, scoring three goals and recording a hat trick for the Giants.

Joining Cook in Marion’s scoring column, Hadley Rumble netted one goal.

Defensively for Marion, goalkeeper Parker Stiles limited Richmond to three goals.

Girls’ Soccer - Richmond 3, Marion 2: Marion came up short in a North Central Conference girls’ soccer match as Richmond held on to win 3-2.

Jayme Hardwick scored both of Marion’s goals.

Aiding Marion offensively, Naya Cruz provided two assists.

Defensively for Marion, goalkeeper Cora Topping held Richmond to three goals.

BOY’S HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER

Indians shut out Tigers

Staff Report

ALEXANDRIA — Mississinewa shut out Alexandria-Monroe 3-0 in a Central Indiana Athletic Conference boys’ soccer match on Saturday, Sept. 12.

Following the win, Mississinewa improved to 2-4 overall.

Alvaro Castano (one goal), Bentlee Sosh (one goal) and Dylan Davis (one assist) each contributed offensively for the Indians.

Mississinewa took a total of 10 shots in the conference match.

The Indians thrived defensively. Defensively for Mississinewa, goalkeeper Luke Payne recorded a shutout.

Mississinewa and Alexandria-Monroe aren’t scheduled to meet again in the 2026 boys’ high school soccer season.

BOY’S HIGH SCHOOL TENNIS

Marion sweeps Anderson

Staff Report

MARION — Marion swept Anderson in boys’ high school tennis, winning 5-0 on Monday, Sept. 14.

It was Josiah Henson’s first win as Marion head coach.

Marion was scheduled to travel to Madison-Grant on Tuesday, Sept. 15.

The results from the Marion-Anderson boys’ soccer match follow.

Number 1 Singles: Landon Beal won 6-0, 6-1.

Number 2 Singles: Nick Smith won 6-2, 6-1.

Number 3 Singles: Albert Tucker won 6-0, 6-0.

Number 1 Doubles: Esteban Santiago/Judah Trout won 6-0, 6-0.

Number 2 Doubles: Marion won by forfeit.

Indiana football rises to No. 4 in AP Top 25 Poll entering Week 3

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Indiana football is ranked No. 4 in the Associated Press Top 25 poll ahead of Week 3. The Hoosiers received three first-place votes and 1,466 total voting points.

IU has been ranked in 32 consecutive AP polls dating back to Week 6 of the 2024 season, marking the longest streak in program history. Indiana was previously ranked No. 5 last week and began the season ranked No. 6.

The Hoosiers (2-0) continued a strong start to the campaign Saturday afternoon with a 55-0 blowout victory over Howard at Memorial Stadium. With the win, Indiana extended its undefeated streak to 18-0 overall and 17 consecutive wins at Memorial Stadium.

The Hoosiers totaled 506 yards and seven touchdowns offense, while holding the Bison to 57 total yards and scoring a interception return touchdown on defense.

Indiana quarterback Josh Hoover needed just two quarters to complete 6-of-11 passes for 146 yards, four touchdowns and zero turnovers.

Wide receiver Charlie Becker hauled in three touchdown receptions on three catches for 81 yards, giving Becker five touchdowns through two games.

Wide receivers Nick Marsh, Shazz Preston and Davion Chandler also recorded one touchdown catch.

IU’s rushing attack came alive against Howard, rumbling for 296 total yards and one touchdown. Lee Beebe Jr. led the way with a game-high 117 rushing yards on 16 carries, and Turbo Richard added 11 carries for 108 yards and one touchdown.

Defensively, Indiana racked up five sacks, 12 tackles for loss, one interception, one forced fumble and one touchdown. Rolijah Hardy picked off Howard quarterback Ja’Shawn Scroggins midway through the second quarter and returned it for a 19-yard touchdown. Nine different Hoosiers recorded at least 0.5 tackles for loss, while defensive end Keishaun Calhoun recorded two sacks.

Up next, Indiana hosts Western Kentucky next Saturday in the non-conference finale. Kickoff is set for 4 p.m. ET and will be broadcast on Peacock.

Below is the full AP Top 25 entering Week 3:

1 Texas (56 first-place votes)	16 SMU
2 Georgia (3)	17 Utah
3 Notre Dame (1)	18 Iowa
4 Indiana (3)	19 Michigan
5 Miami (4)	20 Missouri
6 Ohio State	21 Oregon
7 LSU (1)	22 Houston
8 Ole Miss	23 Louisville
9 Texas A&M	24 Oklahoma
10 Alabama	25 Virginia
11 BYU	Others receiving votes: Washington 172, Florida 83, Boise State 57, Oklahoma State 36, Western Michigan 35, Tulsa 18, Mississippi State 17, South Carolina 15, Virginia Tech 11, UCLA 9, James Madison 6, Arizona 5, North Dakota State 3, Pittsburgh 1, Kansas State 1
12 USC	
13 Texas Tech	
14 Penn State	
15 Tennessee	

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No. 4 Indiana plays Western Kentucky

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Western Kentucky (0-2) at No. 4 Indiana (2-0), Sept. 19 at 4 p.m. EDT.

Opening Line: Indiana by 44.5. Against the spread: Indiana 0-2, Western Kentucky 0-2.

Key stats

Indiana Offense

Overall: 435.0 yards per game (51st in FBS)

Passing: 220.0 yards per game (78th)

Rushing: 215.0 yards per game (34th)

Scoring: 53.5 points per game (8th)

Indiana Defense

Overall: 212.0 yards per game (14th in FBS)

Passing: 129.5 yards per game (16th)

Rushing: 82.5 yards per game (29th)

Scoring: 8.0 points per game (11th)



Western Kentucky Offense

Overall: 296.0 yards per game (123rd in FBS)

Passing: 159.0 yards per game (122nd)

Rushing: 137.0 yards per game (97th)

Scoring: 17.0 points per game (123rd)

Western Kentucky Defense

Overall: 489.5 yards

per game (132nd in FBS)

Passing: 211.0 yards per game (75th)

Rushing: 278.5 yards per game (137th)

Scoring: 59.5 points per game (138th)

Western Kentucky is 134th in defensive third down percentage, allowing opponents to convert 54.5% of the time. Indiana ranks 8th on offense, converting on 63.2% of third downs.

Western Kentucky is 125th in the FBS with a -3 turnover margin, compared to Indiana's 40th-ranked +1 margin.

Indiana ranks 14th in the FBS averaging 31.5 penalty yards per game.

Western Kentucky is 87th in FBS in red zone defense, allowing opponents to score on 100.0% of trips. Indiana's red zone offense ranks 1st, scoring on 100.0% of red zone

opportunities.

Indiana ranks 105th in the FBS with an average time of possession of 28:07, compared to Western Kentucky's 44th-ranked average of 31:50.

Team leaders

Indiana

Passing: Josh Hoover, 376 yards, 8 TDs, 0 INTs, 70.4 completion percentage

Rushing: Turbo Richard, 166 yards on 26 carries, 3 TDs

Receiving: Charlie Becker, 145 yards on 7 catches, 5 TDs

Western Kentucky

Passing: Rodney Tisdale Jr., 234 yards, 0 TDs, 1 INT, 55.6 completion percentage

Rushing: Ajay Allen, 121 yards on 32 carries, 2 TDs

Receiving: Cameron Flowers, 74 yards on 8 catches, 0 TDs

Last game

Indiana won 55-0 over Howard on Sept. 12. Hoover passed for 145 yards on 6-of-11 attempts (54.5%) with four touchdowns and no interceptions. Lee Beebe carried the ball 16 times for 112 yards. Becker had three receptions for 81 yards and three touchdowns

Western Kentucky lost 70-20 to Georgia on Sept. 12. Brock Glenn passed for 84 yards on 12-of-23 attempts (52.2%) with one touchdown and one interception. He also carried the ball 13 times for 70 yards and two rushing touchdowns. Le'Kamren Meadows had 26 rushing yards on five carries, adding one reception for zero yards. Quincy Burroughs put up 29 yards on two catches.

Next game

Indiana hosts Northwestern on Sept. 25. Western Kentucky hosts Mercyhurst on Sept. 26.

Sophie Cunningham expresses thoughts on next WNBA commissioner, has discussed them with Adam Silver

By MICHAEL MAROT
AP Sports Writer

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Indiana Fever guard Sophie Cunningham has discussed the soon-to-be vacant WNBA commissioner's job with Adam Silver after the NBA commissioner reached out to her.

"I have talked to Adam Silver a couple times, and I think he's a great guy," Cunningham said Monday after a Fever practice during the women's FIBA World Cup break. "He was very knowledgeable and full of wisdom and so getting to talk to him and hear his perspective of how he approaches the NBA is huge, who he's kind of looking for. I think if you want to know the real answers, you go to him.

"But I think he's going to put someone in place who really wants to take our league to another level than it's already at," Cunningham added. "Our league is booming, so why would we not (want) someone who's going to make it even more booming?"

Current commissioner Cathy Engelbert recently announced she would retire at the end of the year. Silver has a long history of speaking with players about various topics in the NBA or the WNBA, though the NBA de-



Indiana Fever guard Sophie Cunningham smiles while warming up before a WNBA basketball game against the Connecticut Sun, Friday, Aug. 28, 2026, in Indianapolis. (AP Photo/Marc LeBryk)

clined to specifically address what Silver and Cunningham discussed.

Cunningham, however, was more outspoken about the traits and characteristics she wants to see in the WNBA's next leader, though she didn't share names of any possible candidates she might have in mind.

Cunningham has emerged as a polarizing player this season because of her position on transgender athletes competing in women's and girls sports. She has not backed down from her opinion despite a backlash that has included fans of Cunningham and her stance being confront-

ed at games.

Yet Cunningham believes the league needs a unifier.

"I think the WNBA has always been a place for people to feel safe and comfortable. I think there's all types of walks in this organization, or in this league, which I think is absolutely awesome," Cunningham said. "But I do think with that you need someone who's going to unite everybody because it can be so different. But that doesn't mean it's a bad thing. I think it makes it a lot of fun."

She also wants someone committed to helping the league continue to grow.

The WNBA has seen ticket and merchandising sales, television ratings and interest in the league soar since the Fever drafted Caitlin Clark with the No. 1 selection in 2024 even amid the many controversies about everything from whether the hard fouls that Clark has taken this season are too hard to questions about Engelbert's leadership.

Engelbert's accomplishments include signing a new, richer television contract, a new collective bargaining agreement and added charter flights for teams.

Cunningham said it may be time for the league to discuss

if playing games on back-to-back nights creates a better product on the court or if they could be eliminated with shorter in-season breaks — though she noted that's part of the reason for higher salaries.

But the biggest thing Cunningham is looking for is someone who values the players.

"I really do think that you need a commissioner who is players' first, who wants a relationship with their players," Cunningham said. "I think that's so important. That doesn't mean we're always going to get along, and we're always going to agree. Like they have a job, they work for the

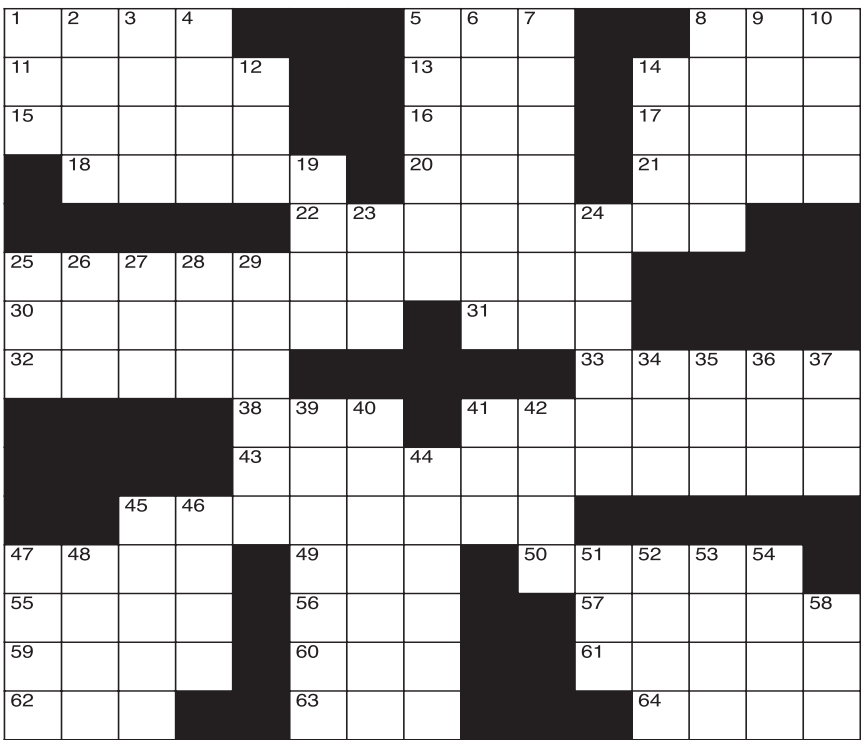
owners, and so they're going to have to make hard decisions. But if you have that open line of communication and that respect level, I think that it just feels different. I think that is a very important piece for our new commissioner."

And regardless of the fans or the critics, Cunningham insists she wants the WNBA to continue its overall mission.

"You continue to have a growth mindset and see other people's walks of life and really get to know why they are the way they are, and I think that's truly fun," she said. "Like you are playing the best basketball, you're in the best league in the entire world and you're getting to learn so much about who you are as a human, how other people are as a human. But with all that, with all the diversity you do need someone who's going to unite our league and have a common goal and get us all on the same page. I think that's super important."

Indiana is waiting for All-Stars Clark and Aliyah Boston and coach Stephanie White to rejoin the team. The trio was part of the United States' gold-medal winning team in Berlin. The Fever resume play on Friday at Toronto.

Crossword Puzzle



CLUES ACROSS

1. Egyptian bull god

5. A young canine

8. North Carolina university

11. “Oddbod” actor Tom

13. Midway between northeast and east

14. A place to shop

15. Mysterious “Severance” family

16. Single Lens Reflex

17. Malaria

18. Informal loan organizations

20. Twitching

21. Holm oak

22. Willing to consent

25. In an early way

30. Stuck it out

31. Language in Ghana

32. Obtain

33. Ancient Greek currency

38. One point east (clockwise) of due north
41. Popular baseball movie

43. Group of islands

45. Church building

47. Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea

49. Late AC/DC frontman Scott

50. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation

55. Thick piece of something

56. Breakfast food

57. One mole of solute per kilogram of solvent

59. Ancient Greek City

60. Bitterly regret

61. Don’t forget it

62. Dishonorable man

63. Affirmative

64. “__ and flows”

CLUES DOWN

1. Bridge-building degree

2. Expression of sorrow or pity

3. Lizard species

4. Turkish leader title

5. A way to bother

6. Blank

7. A fine, closely woven cotton fabric

8. Sports broadcaster Ian

9. Popular whodunit board game

10. Alkali flats mineral

12. Large African antelope

14. It’s delivered most days

19. Satisfy

23. Water soaked soil

24. Of a past era

25. Chest muscle (slang)

26. Ribonucleic acid

27. Doctor of Education

28. Coffee receptacle
29. Where rockstars work

34. International airport in Connecticut

35. Russian river

36. It’s used to make cabins

37. OJ trial judge Lance

39. A means to persuade

40. Short poem

41. A way to begin hostilities with

42. Multi-function radar (abbr.)

44. Joints

45. Blatted

46. Swedish rock group

47. Millisecond

48. __ podrida: Spanish stew

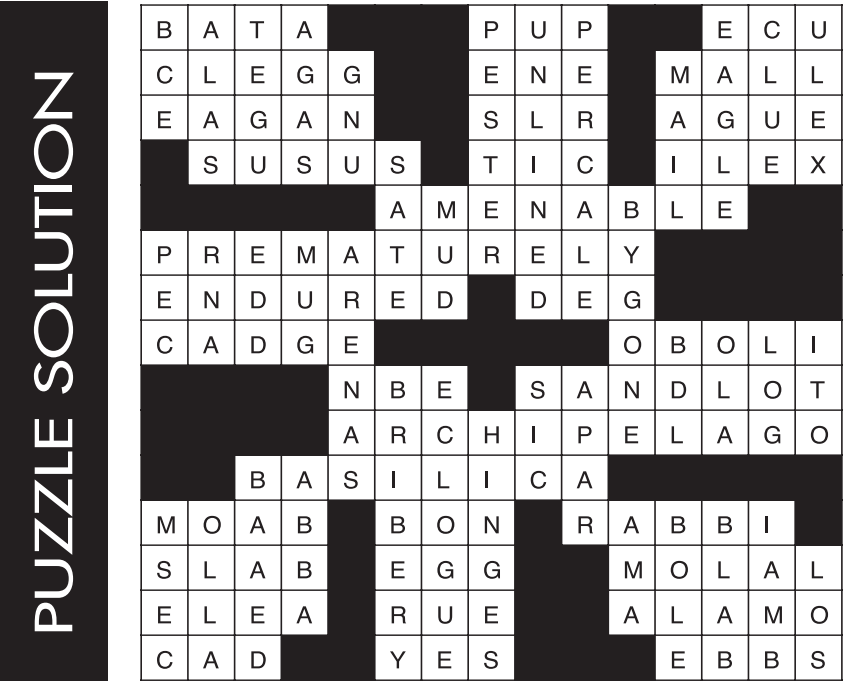
51. Doctors’ group

52. Trunk of a tree

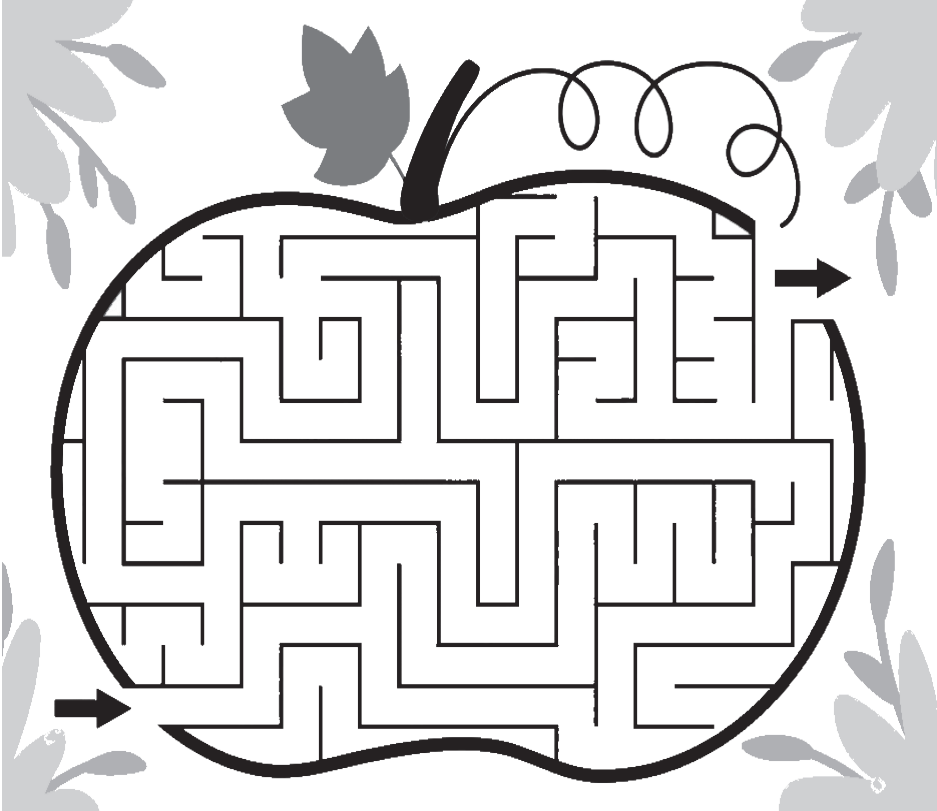
53. Tattle

54. Metrical foot

58. __ Angeles



Maze Craze



Word Search

SAFE SPORTS

WORD SEARCH

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

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

- ANSWERS ON THE CLASSIFIED PAGE
- WORDS
- ATHLETE

BRACE

CLEATS

CONCUSSION

CONDITIONING

CONTUSION

COOL DOWN

ERGONOMICS

GOGGLES

HELMET

HYDRATION

IMPACT

INFLAMMATION

MOUTH GUARD

PADDING

REFEREE

REHABILITATION

SPORTSMANSHIP

SPRAIN

STAMINA

STRAIN

SUPERVISION

TEAMWORK

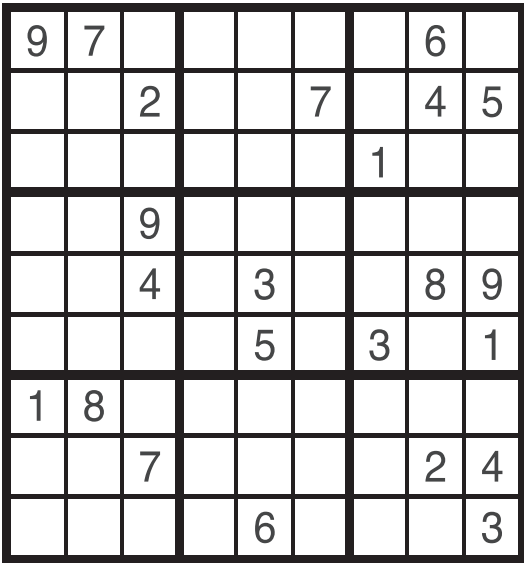
WARM-UP

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



Word Scramble

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to sports.

IEFDL



Answer: Field

Guess Who?

GUESS WHO?

I am an athlete born in Texas on September 17, 1995. I played football, basketball and baseball while in high school. But football is where I eventually gravitated, despite my father playing professional baseball. I have led the Kansas City Chiefs to several Super Bowl victories.

Answer: Patrick Mahomes

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

Crypto Fun

CRYPTO FUN

Solve the code to discover words related to sports safety. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 22 = E)

A. 2 22 17 19 22 10

Clue: Protects head

B. 23 22 15 6

Clue: Equipment

C. 6 25 17 22 13

Clue: Govern play

D. 21 22 5 15 17 10 26

Clue: Punishment

Answers: A. helmet B. gear C. rules D. penalty

Coloring Fun

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Sudoku Answers

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

Word Search Answers

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

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(7-26-22 tfn

Training, partnerships keep Dubois County ready for emergencies

By Laurna Pruett
ING Writer

DUBOIS COUNTY — Preparing for disasters requires year-round planning, training and cooperation among agencies throughout Dubois County, according to Tammy Humbert, director of the Dubois County Emergency Management Agency.

During a major emergency, the county can call upon fire departments, law enforcement, emergency medical services and the communications center. Utility

providers, municipal departments, the county highway department and health department and solid waste department may also assist.

“We plan, train and exercise these types of scenarios continuously, so when disaster strikes, we know exactly who we should reach out to,” Humbert said.

First responders train together annually, allowing them to establish working relationships before an actual emergency occurs. Agencies also meet quarterly to review recent

incidents, evaluate how each response was handled and identify possible improvements.

Dubois County recently implemented IPAWS, a mass notification system that can quickly alert residents and provide instructions about actions they should take.

Humbert said the county must be prepared for a wide range of emergencies. Past incidents have included avian influenza, COVID-19, tornadoes, flooding, fires and explosions.

“We prepare for all disasters, as the response will be similar for all emergencies,” she said.

Residents also play an important role in emergency preparedness. Humbert recommends that every household maintain an emergency kit containing enough supplies for at least 72 hours. Families should also develop a plan that includes where they will go if an evacuation is necessary.

Depending on the size and severity of an emergency, responders may not be able to reach every resident immediately.

“Being prepared in advance is the best way to stay safe,” Humbert said. “You must be prepared and able to take care of your family until help arrives.”



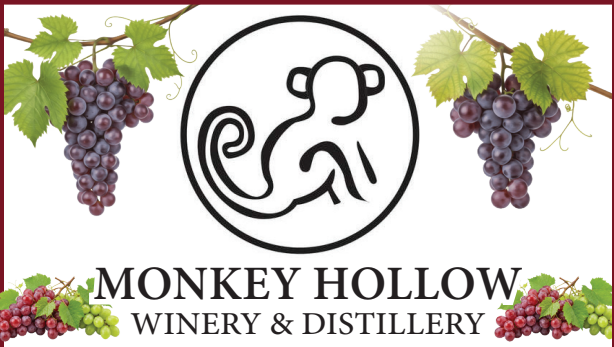
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Dubois County Hazmat Team in action doing deacon.



Debriefing of all responders after completion of exercise



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