

County tackles routine matters

Commissioners reportedly look to keep Messmer on as a consultant

By Keith Rhoades
MCC Chief Correspondent

MORGAN COUNTY — The Morgan County Commissioners met Monday night to sign contracts, hear reports and approve a resolution of the county’s security plan.

The commissioners formally signed the resolution that put in place a security plan for the judicial campus. By law, the county will not disclose what is in the plan or how it operates.

For around 20 years, Sycamore Services has not raised the fees they charge to use their public transportation. The old fee was \$4 per stop in Martinsville and \$5 per stop in Morgan County. Seniors age 60 and older ride free.

The new rates are \$1 more, \$5 in Martinsville and \$6 in

SEE MATTERS | PAGE A7

NEW FACE OF THE COUNTY



Morgan County Administrator Kyle Swalls tackles the growing to-do list at his desk inside the Morgan County Administration Building on Tuesday afternoon. (Stephen Crane photo / MCC)

Kyle Swalls is ‘here to listen’ as he takes over as county administrator

By Jared Quigg
MCC Reporter

MORGAN COUNTY — The new county administrator’s first job was working for the *Marshall Advocate*, a small newspaper in Illinois. At 14, Kyle Swalls was not yet trusted by the editor to work inside the newsroom with the adults, but was instead assigned a job he likened to being a “newspaper cop.”

Some town residents were concerned their newspapers were being delivered to the wrong location, so young Kyle was to ride around the paper route on his bike and simply monitor if everyone got their paper. Swalls, at least for the short time he worked there, ensured that everyone did.

Of course, that was a long time ago. The *Marshall Advocate* ceased publication earlier this year, has been constructed, that land — nearly all currently used for agriculture — is available for development, and the city is hoping to lead the charge.

The RDC spending plan allots \$3 million for the purchase of land, though specific acreage is still unknown. The plan also allots \$9.5 million for “Sports Park fields and parking,” the projected construction price of the proposed project.

Nevertheless, after Swalls made it through

the first round of interviews to replace Josh Messmer and become Morgan County’s second-ever administrator, he decided to purchase a one-month, digital subscription to *The Correspondent* as the Franklin Township resident wanted to learn more about the place he might end up working.

Swalls called the interview process very “competitive,” and described the job as a “once in a lifetime” opportunity, a sentiment not everyone might share about potentially working in Morgan County.

After all, Swalls was leaving a job in Indianapolis, which might as well be New York City to residents of small communities like Eminence or Brooklyn. But Swalls says he wants to be here. He declares his intention to never work from home, and to serve the residents of Morgan County in person each week.

After he got the job, Swalls purchased a



SWALLS

12-month subscription to *The Correspondent*.

Connection

Swalls formally began work as county administrator last Wednesday, Nov. 12, taking over after Messmer’s six-year tenure in the role.

He spent his first week meeting with all the county department heads, introducing himself and gathering information from everyone. Swalls took time out of his busy schedule to meet with *The Correspondent* at our office last week for an interview.

Swalls arrived in a black suit and tie, attire not often seen in this line of work, even from his predecessor.

The first thing he did once he arrived was apologize — *The Correspondent* first reached out to him for an interview weeks ago after he was announced as Messmer’s replacement, but Swalls wanted to postpone the interview until he was completely finished at his former job.

SEE SWALLS | PAGE A6

New sports park on the bypass?

City RDC approves ‘wish list’ spending plan for 2026

By Stephen Crane
MCC

MARTINSVILLE — The Martinsville Redevelopment Commission (RDC) met last Wednesday morning and approved its spending plan for 2026, which included a list of projects totaling nearly \$29 million.

“This is just kind of a wish list, so to speak,” said RDC chair Rich Griswold. “It’s not stating we’re doing everything (on the list). It’s just kind of a wish list.”

Topping the “wish list,” however, is a combined \$12.5 mil-

lion for a sports park reportedly planned for the land just south of the Ind. 39 bypass. Now that the levee has been constructed, that land — nearly all currently used for agriculture — is available for development, and the city is hoping to lead the charge.

THE CITY OF Martinsville INDIANA

Other big ticket items on the RDC’s 2026 plan include \$4 million to extend sewer lines east of I-69 to serve Jordan Road on the city’s south side. A future fire station east of I-69 has \$3 million allotted.

Transportation enhancement projects and “permissible incentives” have \$2 million listed for each. Costs to install sewer lines to serve Hess Road that runs south off Ind. 44 has \$1.7 million allocated. The purchase of land to connect The Oaks at Lincoln subdivision has \$1.5 million allotted.

SEE SPORTS PARK | PAGE A7

State Senate says ‘no’ to redistricting

Bray, Senate GOP reject state and federal pressures, citing lack of votes

By Tom Davies, Leslie Bonilla Muñiz and Casey Smith
Indiana Capital Chronicle

INDIANAPOLIS — Indiana Senate Pro Tem Rodric Bray (R-Martinsville) announced last Friday that his chamber was rejecting President Donald Trump’s push for congressional redistricting — a move immediately blasted by Gov.

Mike Braun and Trump allies.

Bray said in a statement Friday afternoon that the Senate won’t take up the issue, as was expected in an unusual December session.

“Over the last several months, Senate Republicans have given very serious and thoughtful consideration



BRAY

SEE REDISTRICT | PAGE A8

STIHL

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Martinsville ACE

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Obituaries

Joyce Ann Rhoden, 70

MARTINSVILLE – Beloved sister and aunt, Joyce Ann Rhoden, 70, a longtime Martinsville resident, entered eternal rest with her brother by her side on Friday, November 14th, 2025, at 7:44 a.m. at Grand Valley Health and Rehabilitation in Martinsville. Joyce's life began on Tuesday, August 9, 1955, in South Bend, Indiana. She was one of five children and the only daughter born to the late Harold and Leona (Thatcher) Rhoden. Joyce was disabled most of her life, but that never kept her from finding joy each day. She lived with her parents throughout her life until her mother's passing in 2006. During her mother's later years, Joyce learned to help care for her, and after her mother's death, she discovered she was able to continue living in the family home with the love, support, and assistance of her family and Sycamore Services for the next 18 years. She loved watching television and was an avid fan of the Colts, the Hoosiers, and NASCAR. Her love for NASCAR began after learning of the death of Dale Earnhardt, whom she fondly—and always—referred to as "Dale Hardt." She also enjoyed watching cooking shows, learning new things, and remembering nearly anything she heard. Her sharp memory and keen awareness, especially regarding the things she loved – current events and every family member's birthday – were truly remarkable. Joyce leaves behind a host of loving family, including her brothers, Dan Rhoden (wife, Jenny) and Mel Rhoden (wife, Anita), all of Martinsville; nieces, Carrie Cross of



Byron, Illinois, and Natalie Urban (husband, Daniel) of Martinsville; nephews, Johnnie Rhoden of Florida, Rick Rhoden and Rob Rhoden (wife, Heather), all of Martinsville, and Kyle Rhoden (wife, Leslie) of Plainfield, Indiana; and sisters-in-law, Donna Rhoden of Florida and Theresa Rhoden of Martinsville. She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Marvin and Kenny Rhoden; and one niece, Jennifer Rhoden. Family and friends are invited to a graveside service celebrating Joyce's life on Saturday, November 22, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. at New South Park Cemetery in Martinsville. The family would like to express their heartfelt appreciation to Sycamore Services and Grand Valley Health and Rehabilitation for their tender, loving care and support. Neal & Summers Funeral & Cremation Center has been entrusted with the arrangements. Memorial contributions may be made to Sycamore Services, Inc., 465 S. Main St. #108, Martinsville, IN 46151. Online condolences may be shared with Joyce's family at www.nealandsummers.com.



Richard ‘Ray’ Kincaid, 77



MARTINSVILLE – Richard "Ray" Kincaid, 77, a resident of Ken Mar in Martinsville, passed away Sunday, November 16, 2025 at Meadow Lakes in Mooresville after a short, but valiant fight with cancer. Ray was born in Gosport, Indiana on Thursday, June 24, 1948. He was the son of Harry and Iva Jane (McKown) Kincaid. He was always cheerfully friendly and walked everywhere. He had been employed at the Kennedy Home and Walmart. Ray faithfully attended New Life Christian Church. Ray is survived by his sister, Fay Arthur; special friend, Brenda Dove; caregivers and brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Charles and Mary Ann Davis; as well as other relatives and friends. Ray was preceded in death by his wife, Elizabeth "Liz" (Davis) Kincaid, whom he married September 18, 1989 and she passed away on February 19, 2008; as well as his parents, Harry and Iva; siblings,

Doris May Bush, William "Bill" Kincaid, Betty Babbs, and James "Jim" Kincaid. Graveside Services will be at 12:00 p.m. Friday, November 21, 2025 at Nebo Memorial Park Cemetery with a celebration of life at a later date at New Life Christian Church in Paragon. In lieu of flowers, please make contributions to New Life Christian Church, 2450 South Guy Road, Paragon, IN 46166.



Obituary Notices

Jerry Williams
MOORESVILLE – Jerry Edward Williams, 75, of Mooresville, died Nov. 13, 2025. Arrangements by Costin Funeral Chapel in Martinsville.

Junior Potter
MARTINSVILLE – Junior "Jay" Potter, 55, of Martinsville, died Nov. 14, 2025. Arrangements by Costin Funeral Chapel in Martinsville.

Edwin Singer
MARTINSVILLE – Edwin "Ed" Ray Singer, 71, of Martinsville, died Nov. 15, 2025. Arrangements by Costin Funeral Chapel in Martinsville.

A WORD OF THANKS

The family of Norma Crouse would like to express their sincere gratitude to the staff at Grand Valley Health and Rehab, Keystone Hospice, and Jones Family Mortuary for the loving and respectful care Norma received. It was a blessing to have such kind and caring people tend to her. Thank you.

Marriage/Divorces

Marriage License
Shasteen R. Harless, Indianapolis; Brian Sheriff, Brooklyn Nicholas Cross, Martinsville; Joseph Goodman, Martinsville Brandon Stewart Beaman, Mooresville; Jennifer Ann Saler, Mooresville

Divorces
Tamera Williams vs. Danny E. Williams
Maison Matthew Hadley vs. Kaitrin Brianne Hadley
Joshua D. Prather vs. Nicole L. Lingle
Janet Hope Kelly vs. Robert Raymond Kelly
Marissa Marie Kopp vs. Emilee Anne Caldwell

Court News

Morgan County Superior Court I
Special Judge G. Michael Witte
Wendy Jugg, 42, Camby, domestic battery and resisting law enforcement. Sentenced to 730 days in jail, suspended except for 120 days to serve (time served), 610 days probation, fines and costs of \$240.

Wendy Jugg, 42, Camby, probation violation. Sentenced to 245 days in jail.

Superior Court II
Judge Brian H. Williams
Paul Girtton, 51, Portage, theft. Sentenced to 825 days in jail, fines, costs, and restitution of \$14,690.

Ian J. Moseley, 18, Camby, theft. Sentenced to 365 days in jail, suspended except for six days to serve, 359 days probation, fines, costs, and restitution of \$875.

Grant C. Roberts, 32, Mooresville, operating while

Jail Bookings

These are preliminary charges and do not represent a conviction. Suspects are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

Hannah Niquole Andrews, 26, Martinsville, possession of methamphetamine and possession of paraphernalia.

Kevin Joseph Bruce Jr., 36, Indianapolis, held for Marion County warrant.

Matthew Scott Chambers, 28, Camby, residential burglary, intimidation, criminal mischief, and disorderly conduct.

Nathan Clint Childs, 44, Camby, driving while suspended-prior.

Carla Sue Cole, 49, Trafalgar, serving time – probation violation.

Alexander Kazakov Dafforn, 24, Beech Grove, operating a vehicle while intoxicated-endangerment and operating a vehicle while intoxicated.

Shane Michael Dailey, 39, Mooresville, possession of marijuana, operating a vehicle while intoxicated, and possession of a schedule II, III, IV substance.

Larry Tyrone Daughtry, 45, Homeless, violation of pretrial release.

Jeison Alfredo Del Orbe, 29, Camby, domestic battery-simple assault.

Dane A. Dvorak, 47, Bloomington, operating a vehicle while intoxicated, operating a vehicle while intoxicated-endangerment, possession of paraphernalia, and violation of driving conditions.

Danny Charles Flores, 31, Camby, serving time – possession of a firearm by

intoxicated. Sentenced to 60 days in jail, suspended except for six days to serve, 365 days probation, 90-day license suspension, fines and costs of \$790.

Superior Court III
Senior Judge Mark K. Loyd
Thomas Lozano, 33, Indianapolis, possession of methamphetamine. Sentenced to 545 days in jail, suspended except for 90 days to serve on home detention, 455 days probation, fines and costs of \$790.

Charles J. Reeves, 48, Martinsville, disorderly conduct. Sentenced to four days in jail (time served), fines and costs of \$190.

Randall Lee Wagaman, 47, Morgantown, possession of methamphetamine. Sentenced to 545 days in jail, suspended except for 90 days to serve on home detention, 455 days probation, fines and costs of \$790.

a serious violent felon.

Brandon Joe Hunt, 37, Mooresville, serving time – probation revocation.

Brandon Jackson, 34, Indianapolis, habitual traffic violator.

Melvin Jay Kays, 56, Martinsville, serving time – operating a vehicle while intoxicated-prior conviction.

Nathan Maldonado, 19, Gosport, serving time-operating a vehicle while intoxicated-endangerment.

Chase Edward Potter, 34, Martinsville, failure to appear.

Braun Wade Price, 39, Brooklyn, intimidation, resisting law enforcement, and public indecency-indecent exposure.

Tyler Allen Schroder, 29, Martinsville, failure to appear.

Joshua Collin Scott, 32, Coatsville, invasion of privacy.

Harpreet Singh, 28, Bangersville, operating without ever obtaining a license, and forgery-possession/produce/distribute false government identification.

Brayden Jeffrey Smith, 22, Martinsville, driving while suspended-prior conviction.

Randall Jay Snowden Jr., 21, Martinsville, domestic battery-adult knowing in presence of child less than 16 years of age, domestic battery-simple assault, and disorderly conduct.

Jase Brian Stafford, 27, Homeless, criminal trespass.

Isaac Alexander Thompson, 22, Greenwood, operating while intoxicated, operating a vehicle while intoxicated-endangerment, and leaving the scene of a property damage accident.

Death Notices

Morgan County Health Department
Gary Bennett, 60, Mooresville
Alison Jones, 71, Martinsville
Wanda Lou Smith, 75, Mooresville
Donald Ray Wilcher, 81, Mooresville
Marsha D. Shipman, 77, Greenwood
Reuben Kay Selch, 81, Martinsville
Robert Eugene Trout, 85, Reisterstown, Md.

Phillip Stover, 77, Martinsville
Shirley A. Mitchell, 89, Plainfield
Cort Daniel Cassetty, 46, Martinsville
Roger Dale Phillips, 70, Camby
Katherine A. Richardson-Couch, 55, Martinsville
Cheyenne Nicole Sears, 25, Spencer
Rickey Dean Peterson, 71, Martinsville
Debra Lynn Reid, 57, Mooresville

Sheriff 's Report

230 Inmates	
191 Males	19 Work release
39 Females	14 Male
	5 Female
8 Department of Correction inmates	
7 Male	16 Jail correction workers
1 Female	13 Male
	3 Female
51 F-6 Felony inmates	
40 Male	10,583 Law enforcement calls for service (VTD)
11 Female	

Government Meetings

Nov. 20
The Morgan County Regional Sewer District will meet at 6:30 p.m. at the Mooresville Police Station, 445 S. Indiana St.

The Metropolitan School District of Martinsville board will hold a regular meeting at 7 p.m. at the Central Education Center, 389 E. Jackson St.

Nov. 24
The Monrovia Economic

Development Commission will meet at 6 p.m. at the Government Center, 60 S. Marley Way.

The Morgan County Public Library Board will meet at 6 p.m. at the Main Branch, 110 S. Jefferson St. in Martinsville.

The Monrovia Redevelopment Commission will meet at 6:30 p.m. at the Government Center, 60 S. Marley Way.

The Martinsville Board of Works will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the council chambers at 59 S. Jefferson St.

The Morgan County Board of Zoning Appeals will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the administration building, 180 S. Main St. in Martinsville.

The Martinsville City Council will meet at 7 p.m. in the council chambers at 59 S. Jefferson St.

Dec. 1
The Morgan County Drainage Board will meet at 8:30 a.m. in the administration building, 180 S. Main St. in Martinsville.

The Mooresville Library Board will hold a meeting at 9 a.m. in the Bonita C. Marley Community Room at the library, 220 W. Harrison St.

The Morgan County Board of Commissioners will meet at 9:30 a.m. in the administration building, 180 S. Main St. in Martinsville.

The Morgan County Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the administration building, 180 S. Main St. in Martinsville.

Dec. 2
The Morgan County Native and Invasive Plant Partnership will meet at 6 p.m. at the administration building,

180 S. Main St. in Martinsville.

The Mooresville Town Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. at the Government Center, 4 E. Harrison St.

Dec. 3
The Martinsville Redevelopment Commission will meet at 7:30 a.m. in council chambers, 59 S. Jefferson St.

Dec. 4
The Mooresville Redevelopment Commission will meet at 6 p.m. at the Government Center, 4 E. Harrison St.

Dec. 8
The Martinsville Board of Works will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the council chambers at 59 S. Jefferson St.

The Morgan County Plan Commission will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the administration building, 180 S. Main St. in Martinsville.

The Mooresville Parks and Recreation District will meet at 6:30 p.m. at the park office, 1101 Indianapolis Road.

The Martinsville City Council will meet at 7 p.m. in the council chambers at 59 S. Jefferson St.

Dec. 9
The Monrovia Plan Commission will meet at 6:30 p.m. at the Government Center, 60 S. Marley Way.

Dec. 10
The Morgan County Soil and Water Conservation District board will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the Morgan County Administration Building, 180 S. Main St. in Martinsville.

Dec. 15
The Morgan County Park Board will meet at 4:30 p.m. at the History Museum, 127 S. Main St. in Martinsville.

The Morgan County Commissioners will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the administration building, 180 S. Main St. in Martinsville.

The Monrovia Board of Zoning Appeals will meet at 6:30 p.m. at the Government Center, 60 S. Marley Way.

Dec. 16
The Monrovia Town Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. at the Government Center, 60 S. Marley Way.

The Mooresville Town Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. at the Government Center, 4 E. Harrison St.

Dec. 18
The Metropolitan School District of Martinsville board will hold a regular meeting at 7 p.m. at the Central Education Center, 389 E. Jackson St.

Dec. 22
The Martinsville Board of Works will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the council chambers at 59 S. Jefferson St.

The Morgan County Board of Zoning Appeals will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the administration building, 180 S. Main St. in Martinsville.

The Martinsville City Council will meet at 7 p.m. in the council chambers at 59 S. Jefferson St.

Dec. 26
The Mooresville Library Board will hold a year-end meeting at 9 a.m. in the Bonita C. Marley Community Room at the library, 220 W. Harrison St.

Dec. 29
The Morgan County Board of Commissioners will meet at 9:30 a.m. in the administration building, 180 S. Main St. in Martinsville.

• Morgantown (2nd Monday each month at the firehouse, 269 N. Highland St.

• Paragon (1st Monday each month at 7 p.m. at the town hall, 300 N. Main St.)

• Brooklyn (2nd Tuesday each month at 6 p.m. at Brooklyn Kids Park, 3277 E. Centenary Road)

• Bethany (4th Thursday each month at 7 p.m. at town hall, 7355 Bethany Park)



THE MORGAN COUNTY Correspondent

How to Contact Us

The policy of this paper is to strive for accuracy! Like perfection, total accuracy may be unattainable; however it will remain our primary goal and we will not feel satisfied until it is within our grasp.

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The Morgan County Correspondent (USPS PE#25709)
Morgan County Correspondent (PE#25709) is published weekly by Morgan County Correspondent, LLC 109 E Morgan St. Martinsville, Indiana 46151.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Morgan County Correspondent 109 E. Morgan St. Martinsville, IN 46151-1544.
Periodicals postage paid at Martinsville, IN 46151.

Investigation ongoing in Mooresville man's death

Staff Report

MOORESVILLE — The death of a Mooresville man is still under investigation as of Monday, according to Morgan County Coroner Mike Ellis. The man's death was reported to authorities the morning of Nov. 1, and the deceased was thereafter taken to a local funeral home. However, during the body's inspection, questions arose concerning his manner of death, and by that afternoon, investigators from Morgan County's Major Crimes Task Force had taped off the deceased's house in the 600 block of White Ash Trail in the Rooker Trace subdivision just east of Mooresville. By the late afternoon, the street in front of the house was filled with

about a dozen vehicles from the Martinsville and Mooresville police departments, as well as the Morgan County Sheriff's Office. Investigators remained at the house well into the evening. Ellis had concluded the deceased's autopsy on Nov. 3 and passed the results on to local law enforcement. He said as of Nov. 17, that "detectives are still wrapping things up," and the man's cause of death has still not been released to the public. The Mooresville Metropolitan Police Department Det. Matthew McDaniel is leading the investigation, and anyone with information is asked to contact the MMPD at 317-831-3434. *Merv Hendricks and Jared Quigg contributed to this story.*

WANTED

PROBATION VIOLATION
EUGENE CARTER JR

TURN 'EM IN THURSDAY

FAILURE TO APPEAR
IZEAHIA WRIGHT

PROBATION VIOLATION
JORDAN YATES

If you have any information concerning a wanted person, please contact the Morgan County Sheriff's Office at 765-342-5544. Never attempt to follow or contact any fugitive. Instead, immediately dial 911 or contact your local law enforcement agency. All suspects are presumed innocent until proven guilty in the court of law.

Calendar of Events

Now Through Nov
Donations are currently being accepted at The Red Barn Food Pantry, 146 E. Morgan St. in Martinsville to fill Thanksgiving baskets, drop-off from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays or by appointment. Blankets, hats and gloves are also needed at this time of year.

Nov. 1-22
The Red Barn Food Pantry, 146 E. Morgan St. Martinsville, will hand out Thanksgiving baskets again this year with a week's worth of food, including ham or turkey, sides and rolls from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call 765-342-9063 to register, starting Nov. 1.

Nov. 20
Thursday Euchre at Martinsville Senior Center from 6 to 9 p.m. \$3 All are welcome.

LEGO Club at Morgan County Public Library, 110 S Jefferson St in Martinsville from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Meets the third Thursday of each month.

Community Concert: The Perfect Love Song at Mt. Gilead Church, 619 E SR 144 in Mooresville at 7 p.m. Pianist Andreas Kern, presented by the Community Concert Association.

Nov. 21 to 23
Shrek the Musical at Martinsville High School 1360 East Gray St. Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m., Sunday at 3 p.m. \$15.

Nov. 21 to 23
The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical at Monrovia High School 205 South Chestnut St. Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m., Sunday at 3 p.m. \$8 for adults, \$5 for students and children.

Nov. 21
Tiny Tots at the Monrovia Branch of Morgan County Public Library, 145 S. Chestnut St. from 10:30 to 11 a.m. every Friday.

Toddler Time at Morgan County Public Library, Main Branch 110 S. Jefferson St. in Martinsville, from 10:30 to 11 a.m., every Friday for children 1 to 2 yrs with caregivers, siblings outside the program's age range are welcome.

Friday Euchre at Martinsville Senior Center from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. \$5 All are welcome

Live Music at Cedar Creek, 3820 Leonard Road, east of Martinsville, featuring John Ryan at 6 p.m.

Taps on the Square at the Veterans Memorial, 95 E. Washington St. Martinsville. Meet and Greet at 6:40 p.m.; Names Read at 6:55 p.m. Paying tribute to all military service members and first responders who have passed.

Karaoke Stars with Bobbi Delane at Hoosier Que/Foxcliff Golf Club, 1970 E. Mapleturn Road north of Martinsville at 7 p.m

Nov. 22
In partnership with Meijer in Greenwood, Christian Chapel Church, 6828 Ind. 44 in Morgantown, will distribute free Thanksgiving dinners from 4 to 6 p.m. to the first 50 who register at 765-212-7537.

Live Music at Cedar Creek, 3820 Leonard Road, east of Martinsville, featuring UKA-Aliens at 4 p.m

Live Music at Main Street Grill Monrovia 220 W Main St, featuring Mikey Goode with Drew Lasley at 8 p.m.

Nov. 24
Pioneer Pathfinders walk at Pioneer Park, 1101 N Indianapolis Road in Mooresville 9 to 10 a.m., meet at shelter #2.

Storytime at Morgan County Public Library, Main Branch 110 S. Jefferson St. in Martinsville from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. every Monday for children 3 to 5 yrs siblings outside the program's age range are welcome.

A Matter of Balance at Mooresville Senior Center 43005 E. St. Rd. IN-144 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Nov 3rd to Dec 22. Open to the community, free to attend. A Matter of Balance is a program designed to manage falls and increase activity levels. 317-999-8145, ext 1

Community Table, Free Hot Meal Monday's at First Christian Church, 89 S. Main St. in Martinsville from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Everyone Welcome.

Life Support Group for Women at 359 N. Elliott St., Martinsville (side entrance of Way of the Cross Church) from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Hosted by Arise Together. Call or text 317-430-9880 for more info. Meets every Monday.

PAL Parents of Addicted Loved Ones at The Haven Youth Center, 39 E. Jackson St. in Martinsville, Meets each Monday for education and support. 6:30 to 8 p.m. 317-494-8794

Recovery at Mt. Gilead Church, 6019 E. SR 144 in Mooresville, weekly meeting from 7-8:30 p.m. A Faith-based support group that values the 12-steps and the principles from scripture. Anyone looking to recover from something is welcome to attend!

Monrovia Branch Book Club at Morgan County Public Library, 145 South Chestnut St. starts at 7 p.m. Last Monday of the month. Discuss the book of the month with other readers. Nov. book The Great Alone by Kristin Hannah, Dec. book The Last Christmas in Paris by Hazel Gaynor and Heather Webb.

Nov. 25
The Foxcliff Chess Club meets at Greeks Pizza, 10 E. Morgan St in Martinsville, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month from 6 to 9 p.m. All ages welcome, from beginner to advanced. Contact foxcliffchess@gmail.com for more information.

Life Support at Life Pointe Church 528 N Indiana St., Mooresville. A Christ centered 12 step program for anyone struggling with a life issue. Connect (coffee and snacks) at 6 p.m., Community Group at 6:15 p.m., Care Groups at 7 p.m. Meets every Tuesday.

Weekly live music at the Martinsville Senior Center, 1369 Blue Bluff Road, from 6:30

to 9 p.m. Fun for the whole family.

DJ Trivia Night at Main Street Grill Martinsville, 21 N Jefferson at 7 p.m.

Nov. 26
Preschool Storytime with Ms. Emma at Waverly Branch of Morgan County Public Library, 9410 E State Road 144 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. every Wednesday.

Preschool Storytime at Monrovia Branch of Morgan County Public Library, 145 S. Chestnut St. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. and again from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. every Wednesday.

Indiana Spirit of '45 Battle Buddy and Spouse Support Group at 75 East Washington St. in Martinsville at 6:30 p.m. All veterans and veteran spouses are welcome to attend.

Nov. 27
Tri Kappa Turkey Trot at Foxcliff North Manor House 4041 N Foxcliff Drive East, Martinsville 8 a.m. Race Day Registration, 9 a.m. run/walk starts. register at www.GetMeRegistered.com/FoxcliffTurkeyTrot or cash/check race day.

Nov. 28
Tiny Tots at the Monrovia Branch of Morgan County Public Library, 145 S. Chestnut St. from 10:30 to 11 a.m. every Friday.

Toddler Time at Morgan County Public Library, Main Branch 110 S. Jefferson St. in Martinsville, from 10:30 to 11 a.m., every Friday for children 1 to 2 yrs with caregivers, siblings outside the program's age range are welcome.

Friday Euchre at Martinsville Senior Center from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. \$5 All are welcome

Monthly Dinner at VFW Post 1257, 1000 Josephine St. in Martinsville, steak and fish dinner with potato and salad starting at 6 p.m. Cost is \$20, for steak, \$15 for fish.

Taps on the Square at the Veterans Memorial, 95 E. Washington St. Martinsville. Meet and Greet at 6:40 p.m.; Names Read at 6:55 p.m. Paying tribute to all military service members and first responders who have passed.

Karaoke Stars with Bobbi Delane at Hoosier Que/Foxcliff Golf Club, 1970 E. Mapleturn Road north of Martinsville at 7 p.m

Nov. 29
Winter Wonderland Festival of Lights lighting ceremony at Jimmy Nash City Park, 360 N Home Ave. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Visit with Santa, food trucks on site, free crafts for kids.

Dec. 1
A Matter of Balance at Mooresville Senior Center 43005 E. St. Rd. IN-144 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Nov 3rd to Dec 22. Open to the community, free to attend. A Matter of Balance is a program designed to manage falls and increase activity levels. 317-999-8145, ext 1

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VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Horizon Hillside Theatre, Tracey Rollison, 6155 Rinker Road, Mooresville, 3177093730, check our FB page and <https://horizonhillside theatreco.ludus.com/200463832> , hillsidetheatreco@gmail.com, help with shows

Martinsville Crime Watch, Betty Chamberlin or Debbie Osborn, 160 W Jackson St, 765-341-1364, MartinsvilleCrimeWatch@gmail.com, Come to a meeting at the Morgan County Library starting January 2025 third Monday

Morgan County Farmers Market Association, Rebecca Watkins, 460 S. Main St., Martinsville (317)701-8376, www.mcfarmers.org, info@mcfarmers.org, Help the market manager set up Saturday mornings from 7-8am or break down from 1-1:30pm, Go to our website and click the "Interested in volunteering." Link or email us.

A Senior Retreat Senior Services Inc, Susan Lowe, 609 S Lincoln St, Martinsville, 317-999-8145 x1, www.aseniorretreat.com, Play piano, sing, help with painting or crafts, assist with gardening tasks, lead a men's group, Contact Joni at mc@aseniorretreat.com or call 317-999-8145 x1

Peace Restored, Lisa Akers, 902 Indianapolis Rd., 3173615281, info@peacerestored.net, Light cleaning, administrative tasks, card writing, landscaping, building upkeep. Please visit our website and choose the "Get Involved" tab in the upper right-hand corner. Then click on "Volunteer" and complete the form

League of Miracles, Melissa Plunkett, 7101 E. Landersdale Rd., Camby, 317-864-8884 leagueofmiracles.org, leagueofmiraclesinc@gmail.com, Buddy, Concession stand, other, visit the website and choose the event you'd like to volunteer for or email, text or call

First Response Wellness Foundation, Zachary Bernstein, 2680 E Main St, Suite 305B, Plainfield, 765-346-6473, www.frwellnessfoundation.org, Zpbernstein@frwellnessfoundation.org, Volunteering at bingos, outreach events locally, marketing, volunteering at a large festival that we are planning in Mooresville Aug. 8-10th., Email directly for information.

CASA Volunteer: A Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) is a volunteer who advocates for the best interests of abused and neglected children. Volunteers give a voice in court that represents the child, who is often unable to speak for themselves. ☑ Be 21 years of age or older ☑ Have a minimum of a high school diploma or GED equivalent ☑ Successfully pass all criminal and child welfare background checks ☑ Provide personal and professional references ☑ Complete 30 hours of pre-service training and court observation To volunteer contact 765-342-1082 or ccarter@morgancounty.in.gov

United Way of Central Indiana is looking for volunteers in Martinsville and Mooresville for its signature ReadUP program, a literacy initiative that sends volunteers into elementary schools to read with third graders to help them get on track with grade-level literacy. Registration is open for those interested in volunteering for the school year, and the program will begin in September. In Morgan County, United Way is looking for 60 volunteers to read with students at three schools: Newby Memorial Elementary School, Paragon Elementary School and Poston Road Elementary School. To learn more or sign up, visit uwci.org/readup, Margaret Matray, 317-923-1466, margaret.matray@uwci.org

add your volunteer opportunities at tinyurl.com/mccvolun

PUBLIC AUCTION

To settle the Estate of Larry Brickert, we will offer for sale the following items located at:
5351 E Rinker Rd, Mooresville, In 46158 Saturday November 22nd, 2025 @ 10:00 AM
Antiques & Collectables: Radios(Spirit of St. Louis, GE radio, Philco book end, Sentry, Zenith, Air pilot lantern, Pitcher pump lamps, Cast iron pcs & skillets, Ammo boxes, License plates & frames, Clocks (Seth Thomas, Coke, Harley, Pepsi, Snap-on, Neon, Rock-olaneon, Eagle), Automotive wall decor & signs, Pyrex, Camp stove, Doll furniture, Indy car decanter, Open sign, NASCAR wobble heads & lamps, Brass eagles, Colts jerseys, Harley Davidson (Lamps, Signs, Hats, Others), Elvis gold encore decanter, 45 & 33 Records, Boyds bear fig., DVD's, Wrought iron gumball machine, Coleman lantern & heater, Copper funnel, **Auto & Motorcycle accessories:** Pro stick & B&M shifter, KC lights, Liquor pump, Buell & Harley tanks, Chrome exhaust sets, Super trap exhaust, Motor cycle windshields & exhaust, AC service kit, SS pipe, Hubcaps, Air horns, Vintage automotive parts, Leather jackets, Saddle bags, **Models:** Race cars, AMT classic, Stock car, **Toys:** Tonka dozer, Little tikes loader, R2D215", 31" Darth Vader, Star Wars, Road hog, Mcmemories, Mini cannons, Bicycle (seats, helmets, arts), **RC:** Pepsi truck, Jeep, West side choppers car, Duratrac stadium, Nitro viper GT boat, Hobbi co air vialst model plane, **Audio:** Car radios (Pioneer, Sony, JVC), Car speakers (Pioneer, Kenwood, Polk, Clarion, Boston rally), Rampage, Amplified subwoofer, Kickerbass, Polk, Stereo speakers, Amplifiers, **Tools & Misc.:** Miter saw, Reese hitches, Air compressor, Saw-zal, Sm.Handle tools, Power saw, 18v saw, Cordless screw driver kit, Power tools, Pneumatic tools, Bar clamps, Socket sets, Deep socket sets, Open end wrenches, Pipe wrenches, Impact, 18" Crecent wrenches, C P air compressor, 3 Drwr tool box, Tool boxes, Fishing poles, Tackle box, Swivel head ratchet wrench, Remington elec. chain saw, Power tools, Hose reel, C-clamps, Chainsaw, Worx leaf blower, Bolt cutters, **Motorcycles:** 1971350 Honda motorcycle sold w/reserve, 1971 Harley sportster XL iron head 3,586mi sold w/reserve
For Terms ,Directions ,Photos, & Full Listing visit www.cravenauctioneering.com www.auctionzip.com #1990, [#5316](http://www.gotoauction.com)
Roger AU08800046, (765)-346-1421, Curtis AU10800113 (765)346-0622 Founder: Harris Craven

COMIC



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Bray did the right thing

In January 2012, Roderic Bray announced his run for the Indiana Senate seat held by his father for five terms.

A few days later, a local Teamsters official contacted me as the Morgan County Democratic Party chairperson at the time. The official was angry a Senate seat would automatically be passed down to a son if there was no challenger.

“What if I ran against Bray?” the Teamsters official said. And he did.

For the next several months, the official and I spent endless hours driving all over Morgan County and parts of Johnson, Owen and Putnam counties putting up signs and looking for campaign funds.

In the end, Rod Bray won the Senate seat by a 3-to-1 margin, but, I like to think he came away from the race with a grudging respect for his opponent.

Since then, I’ve watched Rod Bray rise within the Republican Party and the Legislature. In 2018, for instance, he was elected Senate Majority Leader, and a few months later, he was named Senate President Pro Tem.

While I have not always agreed with some of his bills, Bray has always been open to discussing legislative matters. I also have found him to be straightforward in the few personal encounters I’ve had with him. Rod always looked me straight in the eye and listened attentively before responding to me.

This all to say how pleased I was last week when I read a statement from his office stating that there was not enough support among his Republican colleagues for a special legislative session to redraw Indiana’s nine Congressional districts.

From the beginning, I thought this idea was ridiculous. I now worry about any retribution the President and Governor, both of whom favor redistricting, may inflict upon Bray and his Republican colleagues.

Bray’s announcement also reminded me of a remark one of my professors once made.

He observed: “It really doesn’t matter if a local candidate is a Democrat or a Republican, as long as he or she represents all the people.”

Rod Bray, you represented all the people last week. Thank you.

David B. Reddick
Camby

Time for a ‘Smokeout’

Nov. 20 is the Great American Smokeout, a day set aside by the American Cancer Society to encourage smokers to give up tobacco, at least for one day, and to think about quitting for good.

These days, most people have a pretty good understanding of the harms caused by cigarette smoking, but about 1 in 5 Indiana adults still smoke.

Smokers have a high risk of developing lung cancer, heart disease and many other types of cancer. Smoking also increases the damage of chronic diseases such as diabetes and asthma, and can increase the risk of strokes.

We can support Hoosier smokers attempting to quit by encouraging participation in the Great American Smoke Out on Nov. 20 and through free resources such as the Indiana Tobacco Quitline. Indiana residents ages 13 and over can contact the Quitline at 1-800-Quit-Now or QuitNowIndiana.com.

In addition to these resources, we have two opportunities coming up for Morgan County residents. The IU Health Mobile Lung Screening unit will be at Life Pointe Church, 825 N Indiana St. in Mooresville on Nov. 25 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and at Hoosier Harvest Church, 4085 Leonard Road just east of Martinsville on Dec. 9 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Lung screening is covered by insurance, including Medicare and Medicaid, if you meet the eligibility requirements. To be eligible for the screening, participants must have a 20-year smoking history (one pack per day for 20 years or two packs per day for at least 10 years) and be between the ages of 55 and 77.

Appointments are recommended and can be made by calling 317-962-LUNG (5864) or emailing lungscreening@iuhealth.org.

Kristinia Love
Tobacco Prevention and Treatment Coordinator
IU Health

Hunters help fight hunger

Every month, I consult with my staff, my family and even some of you on what I should discuss in my column, and this month is no different.

While there is no shortage of developments at CFMC, many are not ready for disclosure, restricting my public announcements (cliff-hanger!).

But my staff suggested I inform you again this month about Morgan County’s food shortage, especially since the season of giving is near. Of course, what great timing, given the unprecedented level of need we are seeing in Morgan County and the uncertainty of SNAP benefits. As I organized my thoughts and researched solutions for food insecure areas, I discovered something I was not expecting. I think we have a significant solution to reducing hunger all around us.

Susan Haynes is the longtime executive director for Churches in Mission (CIM), Morgan County’s largest food pantry. Susan has worn many hats during her 30 years of volunteer service with CIM, and I frequently rely on her updates of the need.

In June, Susan shocked our women’s giving circle, 100+ Women Who Care, with the unprecedented number of hungry families CIM was serving. The women responded by awarding that night’s grant to CIM of more than \$30,000. Susan was grateful but later told me those funds would only last through the summer. I wrote about her win and the growing need in my July column.

From January to October this year, Churches in Mission filled 7,422 food orders for 1,781 households. Those households included 1,750 children and 617 seniors. October was the largest one-month total for assistance, with 1,235 food orders filled. These numbers have tripled since the COVID pandemic in 2020.

At the beginning of this month, Churches in Mission had its largest single day of assistance, with 150 food orders filled. On that day alone, 15 households new to



CFMC Community Chat
KIM COLE

Churches in Mission came for assistance.

So what do we do now? I welcome direct donations to Churches in Mission and other food pantries, but I have a more specific ask of two very prevalent, powerful groups in Morgan County — hunters and farmers. Like I said, in preparing this column, I made a discovery that I think is a viable solution to this growing problem.

In 1997, in Hagerstown, Md., a woman was desperately struggling to load a battered buck she found into her car so she could feed her family.

A man named Rick Wilson stopped to help her and felt both heartbroken and inspired. Her determination to do whatever it took to feed her kids made a lasting impact on him. Rick went home that day with a passion inside him to bring farmers and hunters together to help feed their hungry neighbors. That vision has now grown into a nationwide effort that unites volunteers across America to provide healthy protein for food banks and feeding ministries in local communities.

Rick founded Farmers & Hunters Feeding the Hungry (FHFH) and is now combating hunger locally and sustainably. CFMC has reached out to Monroe County, which has a local chapter of FHFH to extend this to Morgan County.

Morgan County is filled with

farmers and hunters. This collaboration could be very powerful. During deer season, Indiana licensed hunters are allowed to kill six does and one buck; however, there is a reduction zone that runs between Ind. 67 and I-69, and from Ind. 39 to I-465, allowing hunters to kill nine does and one buck.

A lifetime licensed hunter like my husband can hunt this limit without purchasing tags, required for processing, but that lifetime license was discontinued in 2003.

Through a fund at CFMC, we can reimburse hunters for tags and butchers for processing fees for donated animals. Did you know the meat from one deer can make 160 meals? Offering needy families meat options is one of the greatest challenges for Churches in Mission. I consider our food shortage to be the highest and most urgent need of our county. Imagine being able to offer hungry children biscuits and venison gravy instead of a box of cereal.

Opening day of gun season started Saturday, Nov. 15. And I

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF MORGAN COUNTY

ask all hunters to consider donating one kill this season. Your donation could have a huge impact in reducing Morgan County’s hunger problem.

Readers, if you know a hunter, spread the word and consider donating to our fund to offset processing costs. All charitable donations are tax deductible.

Throughout my short time at CFMC, I have made many requests of you. From reaching our GIFT VIII goal set by Lilly Endowment to organizing our giving circles, I have learned repeatedly the strength and generosity of Morgan County.

We take care of our neighbors, and we do not let them go hungry.

For more information and offers of help, please contact me at kcole@cfmconline.org.

Kim Cole is the president of the Community Foundation of Morgan County.

The life of a childcare provider

Every morning before the sun rises, childcare providers across Indiana unlock their doors, turn on the lights, and prepare classrooms filled with tiny shoes, big dreams and growing minds.

We welcome children whose parents trust us with their most precious treasure while they keep our communities running.

But lately, behind every cheerful morning greeting is quiet panic.

The latest Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) budget cuts have left providers reeling. Those of us who meet the state’s highest standards — licensed, Paths to QUALITY Level 3 and 4 programs with degreed, experienced teachers — are being reimbursed less than before. Funding that once helped cover teacher wages, classroom materials and family engagement has been stripped away. We’re doing more for less pay, and the math no longer works.

Cutting what matters most

Because of these cuts, I’ve eliminated things that once defined our program’s heart. Our parent workshops, where families came together to learn and support one another, are gone. We used to offer free childcare and pizza so parents could attend, but that’s no longer possible.

Our family engagement nights — when parents and children played, learned and built connections — have been scaled back just to make the budget stretch.

Even classroom learning supplies are being cut. Manipulatives, art materials and science tools that make learning come alive are now donation-based. We’re asking families to help supply the basics so teachers can teach.

Choosing children over dollars

When the new CCDF rates came out, many centers passed those overages on to families. I couldn’t. I know my families — their stories and struggles. They can’t afford another increase, and I refuse to make childcare an impossible choice.

So I chose the children. We serve many neurodiverse children, and I couldn’t jeopardize their stability. Our classrooms are safe havens — predictable, nurturing spaces filled with adults who understand and support them. We don’t have high staff or child



Guest Column
JENNIFER PALMER

turnover; we have a bond.

One little boy came to us after being expelled from his previous childcare, one that wasn’t part of Indiana’s Paths to QUALITY system. That program placed him in a high chair when his behaviors exploded because he was “being a baby.” He was 4 years old.

At our Level 3 center, we took a different approach. With patience, observation and collaboration with his family and pediatrician, he was diagnosed with autism, level 2. Since then, his world has changed.

He now thrives in our classroom. We’ve learned his triggers, taught him to handle frustration without hitting, and built strategies that work at home. His parents attended our workshop before funding cuts shut it down and learned to parent with compassion and consistency.

He no longer hits his mom or has explosive outbursts. He builds elaborate Magna-Tile towers — a future engineer in the making.

This is what high-quality childcare looks like.

This is what Indiana should want for every child.

The wrong direction

Instead, state leaders are moving the opposite way.

While cutting funding to high-quality programs, legislators increased the number of children unlicensed childcare homes can serve from five to seven. These homes aren’t required to undergo background checks, complete training, hold CPR certification or pass inspections.

At the same time, there’s talk of deregulating childcare altogether —

allowing one adult to care for even more children and calling it “fixing affordability.”

That fixes the numbers, not the problem. It lowers costs by devaluing the workforce that nurtures our children. It “solves” the childcare crisis by lowering the quality of care for those who need it most.

We need reform, not retreat

We’re not asking for special treatment — just fairness and sustainability.

- Fully fund CCDF to restore reimbursement rates and reopen the waitlist.

- Develop a provider feedback survey educators can safely and honestly complete.

- Protect families from sudden rate changes or loss of care.

- Invest in quality, not quantity.

Indiana needs real CCDF reform, not reckless cuts. Providers, families and legislators should work

together on long-term solutions that ensure every family has access to high-quality early care and education. You can’t cut us

off at the knees and expect us to stand tall for Indiana’s children.

Refund now — then let’s work on reform for the 2027 budget. Let’s scale CCDF thoughtfully, transparently and sustainably. That’s how we protect our workforce, support families, and ensure children thrive.

A final word

I love what I do. My teachers love what they do. We are proud to shape the next generation of thinkers and dreamers. But love can’t pay the bills or keep the lights on.

The life of a childcare provider in Indiana right now is one of exhaustion, sacrifice and heartbreak — yet still full of hope. We show up every day because we believe every child deserves a chance to thrive. Our future depends on it.

Jennifer Palmer, M.A. Ed., is the owner and director of The Growing Garden Learning Center in Mooresville and serves as president of the Morgan County Early Learning Coalition. She is an advocate for high-quality, play-based and nature-rich early learning for all Hoosier children.

Letters to the editor policy

The Correspondent values the opinions of the public and encourages letters to the editor.

Letters are limited to 350 words in length and may be submitted via email to editor Stephen Crane at scrane@morgancountycorrespondent.com or by mail to the Correspondent, 109 E. Morgan St., Martinsville, IN 46151. Submissions must include a name and phone number to confirm authorship.

The Correspondent reserves the right to edit for length, taste and clarity. The newspaper may also refuse to publish, particularly in instances of libel or slander.

This page is a forum for a broad spectrum of opinions and to be considered separate from the news coverage of this publication. The opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the Correspondent, its owners or its staff.

Love language

She liked to cook, dinner mostly. But oh, the breakfasts on Saturday mornings were an aromatic symbol of heaven in our kitchen. The sizzle and the sweet combined to draw her little duo out of our beds and into her warm company. Ever the early riser, she thought first of my father and me when planning her day.

If the kitchen was her familiar milieu, then travel was her imaginary friend. We rarely left the farm — only to go to town for groceries or supplies or a visit to the grandparents. But Father, knowing her penchant for faraway destinations and her dreams of mysterious adventures, collected postcards from all over the world to delight and indulge her fantasies.

If neighbors were traveling to Europe, he asked them to bring back picture cards from France or Italy or Denmark. When a city cousin went on safari in South Africa, wild animals appeared on a card mailed from Johannesburg. A photo of a downtown scene in Beijing graced the postcard brought back by a foreign exchange student. Yet another featured the Amazon River, complete with open rafts and menacing water creatures native to South America. Mother went around the world in her imagination all her life.

And she loved music. All kinds, different styles and a broad variety of artists and instruments. If she could not see those faraway destinations in reality, she invited the melodies of a thousand muses to carry her away.

My father's all-encompassing love for us provided everything we needed and much of what



Authors Who Serve
CONNIE SIEFERMAN

we wanted. I was a part of their love story, landing me a front-row seat to all that played out in the course of nearly 46 years. He told her that he would love her until the day he died. I never married, choosing to remain in their comforting embrace rather than risk not ever finding what they had together.

She and her little world became ever smaller after Father died. She continued to manage the house and the yard, cooking with the products of her abundant garden. I helped with what I could, and we rented out the farm in small parcels to those who tilled the land as he would have done. It wasn't until she passed away, nearly two-and-a-half years after him, that I found the suitcase stashed away in the attic.

It was filled with those postcards, the placeholders of those travel dreams Father had so thoughtfully honored. What I never knew was that, before he presented each one to her, he carefully wrote the name of a song on the back of each one — a song that was somehow significant. The postcard from Dublin was inscribed with "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling." Then I smiled myself when I saw Abba's "Lay All Your Love on Me," paying homage to a

Authors Who Serve

All writers are invited to join our Mooresville-based writing group. Please email Rachel@AuthorsWhoServe.com for more information.

Swedish landscape. A city view of Los Angeles was marked by "L.A. Woman" from The Doors.

The melodies of a thousand muses.

And then there was a postcard from Nashville, Tenn. An aunt and uncle had traveled there to celebrate an anniversary; my father asked them to send a picture of the Ryman Auditorium. He knew Mother would like that. She rarely missed a Saturday night performance of the Grand Ole Opry on the radio. I was surprised to see that the card did not have a song title written on it.

As I looked at the postmark, I realized why the customary musical inscription was missing. The card was dated for the day my father died.

I hesitated, feeling the collection was not quite complete. Nashville. Surely there was a country song that would be absolutely perfect for this postcard and this date. I found a pen and wrote, "He Stopped Loving Her Today."

I hope they found each other quickly on the other side. Perhaps she is making breakfast, he tending a small farm; perhaps they are speaking of dreams and faraway places and the music that harmonized their life. I hope they are loving once again.

Connie Siefertman loves to engage with language. Reading, writing, speaking ... the words are always dancing! She likes historical fiction, biographies and Christian non-fiction for cozy afternoon reads. 'A good book takes me on a wonderful adventure!'



A great time for a walk in the woods — and shopping local



Art Cart
NANCY MAXWELL

Black Locust, Tulip Poplar, Kentucky Coffeetree, Hickory, Maples of all kinds, Oaks, Hackberry, Osage Orange, and so many more — to walk through a central Indiana woodland is a smorgasbord of trees. If you were lucky enough to be a fifth-grader in the '60s and '70s, you needed to recognize a minimum of 10 by their leaves to get your tree ribbon at Bradford Woods. The leaves are quickly dropping, the colors well past peak, but a woods walk is always a refreshing and enjoyable experience.

Dog and I try for a walk through our woods most days, I with my walking stick and Dog with any branch available, large or small. What is it about dogs and sticks? With even the suggestion of a walk, he races to grab a stick, tree limb or even a firepit log for the journey! I am enjoying the fresh air and making observations for future drawings, while he is trying to rearrange the forest.

This is a great time to observe tree structure. Remnants of the leaf canopy are still visible for basic overall shape recognition, but enough of the leaves are gone to see the underlying tree structure. Like snowflakes and faces, no two trees are exactly the same, and all are infinitely fascinating.

Pen-and-ink is my favorite way to render trees; I add a new tree sketch to my tablet most days. My evening Drawing Group has been working with pen and simple line drawing thus far, with tree studies being a great choice for drawing practice.

Willowfield Lavender Farm hosts its annual Holiday Open House, today through Sunday, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. from Thursday to Saturday, and noon to 4 p.m. on Sunday. Enjoy a cup of lavender tea, shop for unique ornaments and lavender-themed pottery items created by owner Libby O'Conner.

Flowers by Dewey and Sterling Butterfly both host their Holiday Open House this Saturday.

Candy Cane pours continue each Saturday at the Martinsville Can-



FROM TOP: The main gallery at Art Sanctuary is filled with vendors for last year's Makers Market — an event defined by homemade goods. // Santa and Mrs. Claus always like to make an appearance at Makers Market at Art Sanctuary. This year, it will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Nov. 29, otherwise known as Small Business Saturday. (Courtesy photos)

dy Kitchen; pour times vary. Handmade candies include divinity, fudge, cinnamon logs, cherry cordial bark and so much more.

Art Sanctuary welcomes painter Barb Cooper as its newest resident artist. Cooper showcases colorful landscape paintings in her main floor studio. She will be offering wine-and-canvas type classes starting in January. She will be "officially open" for Small Business Saturday on Nov. 29.

Small Business Saturday is the day to explore downtown Martinsville. Businesses will be open with special deals for this nationwide event, focusing on shopping small and shopping local. Unique gift items will be offered by local vendors in shops, and the Makers Market at Art Sanctuary hosts a full compliment of artists, crafters, homemade product vendors from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Santa will be in for chats and photos with the kiddos.

For additional info, including vendor space availability email organizer Dorene Page at makersmarket3@gmail.com. Several Art Sanctuary artists' studios will also be open with great holiday gift giving choices and special sales. Lunch in one of the many good downtown eateries

is a fun addition to the day!

Fairy Tales & Fables bookstore has a full slate of book signings and special events coming up, including a meet-and-greet book signing on Sunday, Nov. 23, with Indiana author Katy Mann, of Where to Take the Kids Indianapolis. Sip & Paint, Polar Express for kids in jammies, and several other events are coming up in the next few weeks.

Stop in the Community Foundation of Morgan County on the west side of the Martinsville Square anytime the Open flag is flying to enjoy artwork by several of Morgan County's best artists. Visitors are always welcome.

Ask about their "100 Women Who Give" and "Guys That Give" unique donation opportunities while you are there. If you are interested in investing in our amazing nonprofits helping Morgan County residents, this is a great choice for your donation dollars.

I'll be posting holiday special prices for Maxwell Fine Art Studios in next week's article. Specials start with Small Business Saturday and run through December.

In the meantime, keep me posted at artcartmartinsville@gmail.com, nancy.maxwell@me.com or text to 765-318-0972.



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RD Productions music promoter Rob Helms and WCBK's Jon Bowen take to the airwaves last Thursday evening at Hubler Chevrolet in Martinsville as Helms unveils next year's lineup for the Prefair Concert. (Keith Rhoades photo / MCC)



McCreery will be the headliner in next summer's Prefair Concert at the Morgan County Fairgrounds on June 13, 2026. (Courtesy photo)

The big show

Staff Report

MARTINSVILLE — As the weather begins to get colder, Morgan County residents can take comfort that summer will one day come again, and with it, another county pre-fair country concert courtesy of RD Productions.

Like always, promoter Rob Helms has worked his magic to bring country music stars to the county fair-

grounds in Martinsville, and this year is no different. Next year's Big Show will star Scotty McCreery and Josh Turner, along with Lorrie Morgan and Bigg Country.

McCreery will be recognized for his seven No. 1 hit records, which include "Bottle Rockets," "Five More Minutes," and "This Is It." Turner, meanwhile, is famous for his country hits "Long Black Train," "Why Don't We Just Dance" and "Would

You Go With Me."

For those whose country music taste trends a little older, Lorrie Morgan will be the draw at the concert. A Grand Ole Opry member since 1984, Morgan is famous for her hits "Five Minutes," "What Part of No" and "Something in Red."

Meanwhile, Bigg Country is a local act out of Central and Southern Indiana, and they've played fairs, festivals, casinos and clubs for more

than 30 years. They've worked as the opening act for more than 50 singers and bands, including Travis Tritt, Blake Shelton, the Charlie Daniels Band and many more.

The concert will take place on June 13, 2026, at the Morgan County Fairgrounds Midway Area, 1749 Hospital Drive, Martinsville, Indiana.

Tickets go on sale Saturday, March 28, 2026, at Greg Hubler

Chevrolet in Camby from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tickets can be purchased online starting at 2 p.m. that day at GregHublerChevy.com, WCBK1023.com or RDPtickets.com.

Those who purchase tickets at Greg Hubler Chevrolet on March 28 will receive 25 percent off their tickets.

Advanced Silver tickets cost \$25. Advanced Gold tickets cost \$50. Advanced Platinum tickets cost \$100.

SWALLS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

Now he is finished, and today he acts as one of the most powerful unelected officials in the county. Swalls explained his role in his own words.

"My role is to carry out ordinances and resolutions passed by the county commissioners," Swalls said. "I make sure all their priorities are met, and I oversee all the department heads in the county."

It's quite the job, overseeing so much, but it's a bit smaller than Swalls' previous jobs.

Before coming to Morgan County, Swalls was the chief operating officer for the Indianapolis-Marion County Forensic Services Agency for

four years, and before that he worked for the Wisconsin Department of Health Services and Legislative Audit Bureau. Before that, Swalls served on the Illinois Board of Higher Education and the Illinois Department of Transportation.

State agencies, urban bodies, a lot of people and programs formerly overseen by Swalls, and now he finds himself in a county with a combined population nearly on par with the city of Greenwood.

"At the local level, the things we (in the government) do are so close to people you see every day," Swalls said. "I really like to feel connected to the people I'm serving. You don't always feel your impact when you're working at the state level."

Swalls does not live in Morgan County, but he maintains that his familiarity with it and its people grows more every day. He describes the landscape as "beautiful," and has taken his wife and two young children on trips to Anderson Orchard as well as a cabin over in Morgantown.

Despite his recent work experience at higher levels of government, Swalls does not feel out of place here. After all, while he was born in Terre Haute, he was raised just across the state line in Marshall, Ill., which isn't much bigger than Monrovia, and certainly smaller than Martinsville.

"Where I live has never determined my dedication to the job," Swalls said. "In all of my jobs, I've always cared

enough to go beyond what was expected of me. I don't know another way to do my work but go all in."

Transparency

Swalls is becoming county administrator at a time when county residents' trust in local government is eroding.

Morgan County Republican Party Chair Carole Snyder recently told *The Correspondent* that more Monrovia residents than ever plan to run for office in next year's primaries over the data center, with residents complaining that the project's planning process lacked transparency from local officials.

Even before Google's planned data center mired the county in controversy, trust in local officials was al-

ready low, a phenomenon not unique to Morgan County, but felt at home nonetheless. Swalls did not go into specifics about how he might address the issue of transparency in Morgan County, but he said he understood people's frustration.

"Transparency is really important to me," Swalls said. "I want to make sure people are a part of the process of governing. People should always have access to their government."

Swalls went on to say that despite his extensive resume and work experience, he was not looking to come into Morgan County and simply impose his will.

"I may have a lot of experience, but my goal is to listen and learn," Swalls said. "It

would be really arrogant to just come in and say, 'I know what I'm doing.' Yes, I have ideas, but I'm here to listen."

Listening should be easy enough, since he will see us delivered each week to his home, detailing both the actions taken in local government, and what the governed think of those actions.

It's perhaps too soon to tell if Swalls is serious about fixing the transparency issues in Morgan County, but at least one thing on his unofficial resume is encouraging.

That 14-year-old boy who once made sure everyone in town got their newspaper — to put it another way — helped ensure everyone in town knew what their government was doing. It doesn't get more transparent than that.



Join Guys Who Give Morgan County on December 9th!

CFMC is recruiting members for this men's giving circle, where \$100 quarterly donations are pooled to award **thousands of dollars** to a local nonprofit—all in about 90 minutes.

At each meeting, members **nominate, advocate, and vote** for nonprofits. Three names are drawn, and each nominator gets 5 minutes to make their pitch. Only members can attend, nominate, and vote. Membership is open, including to nonprofit employees.

Learn more at cfmconline.org



December 9th

Grassfork Fisheries
2902 East Morgan Street
Martinsville, Indiana
5:30 - 7pm

Visit cfmconline.org for 2026 Quarterly Meeting Dates



Home Bank is the exclusive corporate sponsor of Guys Who Give Morgan County.

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December 11th

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128 North Main Street
Martinsville, Indiana
5:30 - 7pm

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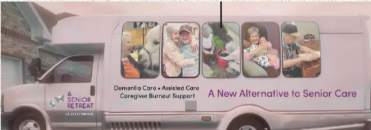


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Back to the drawing board

Mooresville Plan Commission tables development once again

By Lance Gideon
MCC Correspondent

MOORESVILLE — A secondary plat request for a proposed development along Bridge Street in Mooresville was discussed, and tabled, again during a meeting of the town’s Nov. 13 plan commission meeting.

The town approved a rezone request for the land earlier this year to PUD-E to allow for mixed use of the property.

The plan is to allow for both residential and commercial properties within the development.

Then, in September, developers presented a sec-

ondary plat, but plan commission members asked for additional information.

The developers, as well as their engineer Ross Holloway, returned to the commission during its Nov. 13 meeting.

“Last time we were here, you asked for more details on parking, setbacks, buffering and some things like that,” Holloway said.

He added that the town’s ordinance governing PUDs “makes references to a buffer table within the old ordinance,” and that the development meets all requirements for the buffering.

Holloway told the commission that the developers needed “a way forward” from the commission.

Plan commission member JD Robinson said the development exceeds the

maximum square footage allowed by town ordinance.

“My idea — and everyone would have to discuss that with legal to see if we can even do this — is to get it back in tech review before we waste anybody’s time to get where everybody agrees upon what we’re doing,” Robinson said.

Plan commission attorney Ashley Ulbricht said the terms of the PUD are the “law of this land.”

“It’s outside the regular zoning categories, so if we want to go outside that PUD, the ordinance needs to be amended,” Ulbricht said.

Holloway responded that there are parameters within the PUD ordinance, but “not enough detail.”

“Under the PUD ordinance that we’re operating under, it specifically

says the plan commission have findings that aren’t addressed (like) parking,” Holloway said.

Based on the ordinance approved by the town council, Holloway said the developers can “develop up to 145 residential sales units, 55 to 65 market rate apartments and 20,000 square feet of commercial space.”

“Now how that is developed in a secondary plat is what the issue is,” Holloway said.

“No, the issue — that’s one of the issues — but the other issue is what we approved in April, this exceeds that,” Robinson said.

“It’s as black and white as that.”

“That is correct,” Holloway responded.

That’s why, Robinson added, he believes the request needs to go back to the commission’s tech review to get the details ironed out.

Commission president Josh Brown asked Holloway about the retention pond for the development, noting that he’s heard that the pond would need to be bigger than originally proposed.

Holloway responded that the pond would need to be larger than originally planned, noting it’s almost twice as large as drawn.

Ultimately, the plan commission tabled the request until a future meeting to give the developers a chance to work with the tech review committee on the proposal.

In other business

- The commission also discussed a rezoning request for a property at 51 E. High St. from R1 to B3. The request now moves to the town council with no recommendation from the plan commission.

The next regular meeting of the Mooresville Plan Commission is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 11, at the Mooresville Government Center, 4 E. Harrison St.



Park board moves money to pay bills

By Lance Gideon
MCC Correspondent

MOORESVILLE — As the end of the year approaches, the town of Mooresville, including the parks department, is running low on money in some of its funds.

During the Mooresville Park Board meeting on Nov. 10, park superintendent Phil Cornelius said there had been some unexpected expenses caused, in part, by the town’s self-funded health insurance and benefits plans. Other unexpected expenses at the park included work at the pool and vehicle repairs.

“We do not have what it would take to finish the standard billing ... through December of this year,” Cornelius said.

He presented a request for the

board to move \$50,000 from the parks’ non-reverting fund to the general fund.

The board unanimously approved the request to move the money into the general fund.

Grant opportunity

In recent months, the board has been discussing expanding trails throughout the town.

Cornelius presented a grant opportunity from the Indiana Department of Health to cover some of the planning costs for future bicycle and pedestrian trails.

The plan would help determine where trails make the most sense in Mooresville and where the connections.

According to Cornelius, the opportunity is a matching grant, meaning if the park receives the

grant it would need to equally match what it would be awarded.

He said the grant would be for up to \$20,000 and that the department has enough funds to cover the match.

Board member Brent Callahan asked if the funding could cover construction costs.

“This is not (for) construction costs,” Cornelius responded. “It can give us estimates ... the whole purpose of it is to forecast the best connectivity trail system plan for your community to connect to your existing or new trails that are planned to then be ready to then provide to other grant opportunities for construction cost funding.”

Board member Matt Saner thanked the staff for looking for ways to fund potential trails and said he was in favor of finding funding sources.

“It feels like real movement,” Saner said.

Cornelius said the deadline to apply for the grant was Nov. 14.

The board unanimously approved a motion to have Cornelius move forward on the grant application.

In other business

- The board approved a motion to allow its attorney to send a letter to Troyer Group to request a copy of the park master plan in a

format that can easily be printed.

- Cornelius said that the department has received two appraisals for the purchase of land to expand park property.
- The Mooresville Parks will host a tree lighting ceremony at Bicentennial Park in downtown Mooresville at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 6. The park will also host programs from 4 to 6 p.m. that day at Bicentennial Park prior to the tree lighting ceremony, which kicks off the Victorian Christmas celebration weekend.
- Cornelius told the board that more than \$2.3 million has been spent on the Pioneer Park upgrades as of the Nov. 10 meeting.

The next regular meeting of the Mooresville Park Board is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 8, at the Pioneer Park office, 1101 Indianapolis Road.



Mooresville school board approves 2026 collective bargaining agreement

By Jared Quigg
MCC Reporter

MOORESVILLE — The Mooresville school board approved the 2026 collective bargaining agreement with the Mooresville Classroom Teachers Association (MCTA) at a short meeting last Tuesday, Nov. 11.

The one-year agreement makes a number of small changes to previous agreements. The board allowed for public comment before

the vote was taken, but no one from the public elected to speak.

The agreement stipulates that all full-time teachers in the district will receive a \$500 stipend in addition to their regular salaries. District administrators will also receive this stipend, which district assistant superintendent Patrick Biggerstaff said would be in lieu of additional raises for the administration.

Payments for ancillary duties were also updated in

the contract to include all music programs, all drama productions and the annual Back to School nights.

The district is also rewarding teachers who have exceptional attendance.

The district will pay teachers with outstanding attendance a stipend equal

to that teacher’s per diem salary for two days.

Additionally, the district updated its policies so that approved professional leave, school field trips, jury duty and bereavement leave will not count against a teacher’s attendance.

In athletics, the new con-

tract with MCTA clarifies that for any sports team — not just middle school — coaches who hire assistant coaches may divide the head coach’s stipend between them, per their agreement.

In other news

- The meeting was held on Veterans Day, and the board honored the nation’s veterans by opening the meeting with the pledge and a presentation of the

flag by Mooresville High’s JROTC.

- The board recognized the Wynona Community Foundation for making a donation to Northwood Student Activities in the amount of \$2,818.31.
- Thanksgiving Break for all students will take place Nov. 26-28.

The next meeting of the Mooresville school board will take place Tuesday, Dec. 9 at 6:30 p.m. at the Education Center.



MATTERS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

the county. Seniors will still ride free. This is the first increase in 20 years.

The commissioners approved the Missing and Endangered Persons plan for the county. The plan sets conditions for sending out alerts for people who may be missing or endangered.

The commissioners heard a report from CrossRoad Engineers on two projects being done in the county.

The first project, the work on Ballenger Road, is nearly complete. That work straightened out a bad curve in the road. Due to several factors, the county was able to save around \$100,000 on the project.

The second project now under engineering work is to straighten out two bad curves on Lincoln Hill Road. The work will be done in two phases to allow residents access to their homes. Work on the southern curve is estimated to cost around \$380,000 while the work on the northern curve is estimated to cost around \$260,000.

Plans are for the project to be bid in mid 2026 with work commencing in late 2026.

The commissioners made note of receiving the spending plan for the Morgan County Redevelopment Commission for 2026. The total budget for the year is around \$5.4 million. The budget calls for spending around \$630,000 on bond payment, \$4.5 million on Capital Expenditures projects, and \$250,000

for professional services.

The commissioners voted to allow commissioner Bryan Collier to negotiate a contract for consultant services to help with work as the new county administrator becomes familiar with his job. Collier reportedly wants former administrator Josh Messmer to fill the consulting role for up to 12 months.

The commissioners signed the agreements for the Bond Bank Fuel Program. The commission-

ers approved the agreement at an earlier meeting.

The commissioners approved sending two tort claims to the county insurance company. One claim was filed on behalf of an inmate who died while in the county jail. The second is for damage allegedly done by county mowing equipment to a fiber optic cable.

The next scheduled commissioner meeting is Monday, Dec. 1, at 9:30 a.m. at the county administration building, 180 S. Main St. in Martinsville.



SPORTS PARK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

Smaller ticket items include the proposed skatepark on Southview Drive, with \$750,000 allocated. The RDC proposes \$700,000 to extend water lines along Hospital Drive, and another \$350,000 to do the same along Artesian Avenue. There is also \$250,000 allotted for a new stoplight on Ohio Street near I-69, as the city eyes development on the east side of Ohio Street.

Oakes update

Martinsville Director of Planning and Engineering Gary Oakes gave an update to the RDC on projects currently in the works around the city, including possible development on Ohio Street.

Oakes said conversations are “active with a Marriott hotel and convention center” in that area, and he expects them to make a presentation on the proposal next month.

He also reported that John Fewell is planning a residential

development for up to 180 homes on about 65 acres of land between Faith Missionary Church to the north and Ind. 252 to the south. The project is expected to come before the city’s plan commission next month.

Progress on the new Jimmy John’s sandwich eatery and Dunkin’ Donuts off Bills Boulevard is continuing. And work is taking place at the former White Castle building on Birk Road in the Grand Valley area. Oakes wasn’t sure of the details on that

project, other than to say the owners are looking to acquire a liquor license.

“Just a lot of things going on right now,” Oakes said.

In other business

- The RDC voted to proceed with a rezoning of six parcels of land it owns just north of Ohio Street to make way for development. The parcels are currently zoned residential and would be changed to business.
- The RDC voted to begin the

process of adding those additional properties to a TIF district.

“If you get a Marriott hotel that’s worth \$20 million, you better have it in a TIF,” Oakes said.

TIF districts are what fund the RDC’s coffers by capping tax levels for all other taxing units — like libraries and schools — and putting the additional tax revenue into the RDC.

The next meeting of the RDC will be at 7:30 a.m. on Dec. 3 in council chambers, 59 S. Jefferson St.

Trump calls out Bray, Senate leadership

By Niki Kelly

Indiana Capital Chronicle

President Donald Trump on Sunday called out two Indiana “RINO Senators,” as well as Gov. Mike Braun, for the state’s failure to move forward with redrawing congressional boundaries.

“Very disappointed in Indiana State Senate Republicans, led by RINO Senators Rod Bray and Greg Goode, for not wanting to redistrict their State, allowing the United States Congress to perhaps gain two more Republican seats,” Trump posted to Truth Social on Sunday morning.

“The Democrats have done

redistricting for years, often illegally, and all other appropriate Republican States have done it,” he continued. “Because of these two politically correct type ‘gentlemen,’ and a few others, they could be depriving Republicans of a Majority in the House, A VERY BIG DEAL!”

Hours after Trump named Goode specifically, he was the victim of swatting at his Vigo County home. That is when a prankster calls police and reports a bogus need for emergency ser-



GOODE

vices at an address.

“Vigo County sheriff’s deputies responded to the incident under the impression of a domestic violence emergency. The deputies professionally fulfilled their duty,” Goode said in a statement. “While this entire incident is unfortunate and reflective of the volatile nature of our current political environment, I give thanks to God that my family and I are OK.”

The president has been pushing GOP-led states to change their congressional maps to ensure a Republican U.S. House majority in 2026. Some Democratic-controlled states have responded in kind, moving to add more blue seats.

Trump said “no one” is calling out California, which passed a constitutional amendment in the recent election to pick up five seats, and blamed “weak ‘Republicans’” for causing problems — like “crazy Policies and Ideas that are so bad for America.”

Then, Trump turned his attention to Braun, who has been a vocal supporter of his.

“Also, a friend of mine, Governor Mike Braun, perhaps, is not working the way he should to get the necessary Votes. Considering that Mike wouldn’t be Governor without me (Not even close!), is disappointing!” Trump wrote.

He ended his lengthy post by

saying any Republican voting against redistricting should face a primary opponent.

Thirteen Senate Republicans have announced their support with eight publicly against.

Neither Bray nor Goode — along with 17 other Senate Republicans — have said where they stand on the redistricting proposal.

Bray has repeatedly reported a lack of supportive votes among the 40-member caucus, while Goode recently held a town hall to hear from constituents on redistricting. Not one person spoke in support.

REDISTRICT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

to the concept of redrawing our state’s congressional maps,” Bray said in a statement released by his office. “Today, I’m announcing there are not enough votes to move that idea forward, and the Senate will not reconvene in December.”

Indiana lawmakers were scheduled to meet starting Dec. 1 to consider drawing more Republican-leaning U.S. House districts ahead of next year’s midterm elections — following a months-long pressure campaign by Trump’s administration and his supporters.

If the decision by Senate Republicans stands, Indiana would become the first GOP-led state to outright turn down Trump’s wish to squeeze out more Republican-friendly congressional seats ahead of the 2026 midterm elections.

Braun endorsed Trump’s push and called for legislators to convene Nov. 3 in a special session to redraw the congressional maps. Legislative leaders delayed that to Dec. 1.

“I called for our legislators to convene to ensure Hoosiers’ voices in Washington, D.C., are not diluted by the Democrats’ gerrymandering,” Braun said in a statement released by the governor’s office Friday. “Our state senators need to do the right thing and show up to vote for fair maps. Hoosiers deserve to know where their elected officials stand on important issues.”

This could be the first time in decades that legislators have not abided by a governor’s call for a special session. The state Constitution and code don’t explicitly require it.

In response to a request for comment from Republican House Speaker Todd Huston, his spokeswoman replied: “As we’ve said previously, the House does have the votes to support redistricting.”

The White House did not immediately comment Friday or respond to messages seeking reaction to Bray’s announcement, though Po-

Sen. Bray makes statement Tuesday

STATEHOUSE — Senate President Pro Tem Rodric Bray (R-Martinsville) made the following statement Tuesday regarding redrawing Indiana’s congressional maps mid-cycle:

“I want to be abundantly clear that our Senate Republican Caucus wants to see a Republican-held House in 2026 so that President Trump can continue making progress on important issues like fighting illegal immigration and crime in our country.

“However, many in my caucus, myself included, do not feel that redrawing our Congressional districts mid-cycle is the best way to achieve that goal. We would rather support efforts to elect a Republican in the existing 1st Congressional District, which has been trending Republican for

the last several years and would give President Trump another Republican in Congress.

“We don’t believe the choice to redistrict is a binary choice where we will either keep a 7-2 map or draw one that automatically becomes 9-0. Candidates in these hypothetical districts have not walked a parade, attended a county fair or raised a dollar. And that’s before we get through primary season, in which we can assuredly expect competition.

“I’ve had the honor to speak with the President on this issue, and I have expressed to him that our caucus is supportive of him and wants to maintain Republican control of the House, which is why we believe pursuing Congressional District 1 is the best way forward.”

litico reported that Trump was summoning Indiana Republicans to D.C. for Oval Office visits.

Debate focused on Senate Republicans

Redistricting supporters wanted Indiana lawmakers to craft a map with all nine Indiana congressional districts favoring Republicans based on 2020 census data.

The current congressional maps drawn by Republicans in 2021 maintained a 7-2 GOP majority — with Democrat Frank Mrvan holding the 1st District in northwest Indiana and Democrat Andre Carson holding the 7th District, which covers much of Indianapolis.

“Prayer, people, and partnerships power change. We’re about collaboration, not division. We’re about independent thinking — not taking orders from Washington,” Carson said in a Friday statement. “Hoosiers do things differently. I

want to thank Senator Bray and all the Republican and Democratic members of the Indiana Statehouse who held firm on Hoosier values. This is a win for all of us.”

Indiana’s entire GOP U.S. House delegation had lined up in support of the maneuver. And some were reacting Friday afternoon to the announcement.

“This is simply unacceptable,” posted U.S. Rep. Marlin Stutzman, R-3rd. “Democrats are gaining ground in their states before our eyes and Indiana state senators are rolling over and letting the left overtake us. What will it take for Republicans to WANT to WIN?”

Undecided state senators had become the target of advertising campaigns, including digital, cellphone, television and mail ads from pro-redistricting groups.

Eight Republican senators among the 40-member caucus had come out pub-

licly against redistricting, with 13 having announced their support, before Bray’s statement Friday.

Trump ally Marty Obst — leader of the pro-redistricting group Fair Maps Indiana — said he expected political repercussions for Bray and others.

“It’s a shame Sen. Bray blocked the Special Session,” Obst told the Indiana Capital Chronicle. “It’s clear he does not support President Trump’s agenda. Senators should show up and do their jobs and vote on redistricting.

“Like elections, decisions have consequences. I anticipate those consequences to be severe,” said Obst, who held top roles in Trump’s 2016 and 2020 presidential campaigns and was a senior political adviser to former Vice President Mike Pence.

Of the 25 state Senate seats up for election in 2026, 22 are now held by Republicans, who now command a 40-10 Senate majority.

Bray has been the top Senate Republican — as selected by his GOP colleagues — since late 2018. He was reelected last year by voters to a Senate term that runs until November 2028.

“I don’t think this is necessarily as damaging as it might feel” for Bray, said Laura Merrifield Wilson, a political science professor at the University of Indianapolis. “A lot of the polls indicated a 2-to-1 majority of Hoosiers opposing this,” Wilson said, while acknowledging “vocal Hoosiers in support, too.”

“He may have been making a decision for what he sees as the greater good of the institution and his colleagues, even though it might be a short term setback, challenge and risk for his own immediate future,” Wilson told the Capital Chronicle.

Bray is accountable to more than constituents, though. There typically aren’t changes to the caucus’ leadership team between general elections, but the pro tem’s break with the governor and Trump ad-

ministration could present an opportunity for his members.

“If there are ambitious state senators who are looking to maneuver around the (leader), maybe this is a time they want to do it, Wilson said.

She also noted tension among the different branches of government is not unprecedented, citing the Legislature’s rocky relationship with former Gov. Eric Holcomb.

“He was able to still very effectively pursue his agenda while in office,” Wilson said. “Having a little bit of tension isn’t necessarily a stop-gap for progress either.”

Redistricting foes hail decision

Senate Minority Leader Shelli Yoder, D-Bloomington, celebrated the decision, saying in a statement that “Washington insiders pressured the Governor to rig Indiana’s congressional maps in the middle of a decade for one reason.”

“They were afraid of voters. They were afraid of losing power the honest way,” Yoder said. “... Now that this reckless idea has collapsed, our focus can return to where it should have been all along. Hoosiers. Their budgets. Their safety. Their health. Their future.”

The pro-redistricting campaigns came as a recent statewide poll of 800 registered voters found 51 percent did not support redistricting now — with 45 percent “strongly” opposed. About 39 percent supported the prospect, but just 23 percent “strongly” backed it.

The poll was sponsored by the group Indiana Conservation Voters, which started an anti-redistricting campaign soon after the possibility emerged in August with Vance’s first trip to Indianapolis pushing the issue.

Megan Robertson, the group’s executive director, called the pro-redistricting campaigns the product of Washington consultants trying to stir up voter anger. “We are grateful that Sen-

ate leaders listened to Hoosiers and closed the door on mid-decade redistricting,” Robertson said in a statement Friday. “Families across our state have been clear: they want leaders focused on the real challenges they’re facing every day, not partisan power plays.”

Freshman Rep. Andrew Ireland, of Indianapolis, is among several Republicans in the House who have been outspoken in support of potential redistricting.

Ireland continued his calls on Friday, saying in a post to X that “Indiana cannot sit on the sidelines on redistricting while Democrats in California, Virginia, and Illinois are working to gerrymander away more Republican seats in Congress.”

State Sen. Liz Brown, R-Fort Wayne, was also one of the loudest supporters of redistricting and she took to social media to call Indiana a state of “cowards.”

“This is bad news for our conservative values. If Democrats take control of Congress, we will see impeachment hearings, woke ideology and higher taxes thrust upon Indiana and the rest of the country. Indiana will be blamed. And how cowardly that we couldn’t even take a vote. This is the time to stand up to Democrats who wish ill upon us, not cower to their demands,” Brown said.

Trump started the national redistricting fight by pushing Texas Republicans to redraw its congressional map this summer, followed by Republican redistricting moves in Missouri, Ohio and North Carolina. An attempt by Kansas Republicans for a special session on redistricting has stalled.

Democrats responded with their own redistricting in California and possible moves in Illinois and Virginia.

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Sophomore Braxton Connor goes to the free-throw stripe during the matchup against Terre Haute North last Saturday. (Dave Rinehart photo / MCC)

Arties get a win

Three players in double figures help secure home victory for Lady Arties

By Dave Rinehart
MCC Correspondent

MARTINSVILLE — The Martinsville Lady Artesians played their first home game of the season last Saturday at John R. Wooden Gymnasium after three tough road losses.

With Saturday’s 50-37 win, the Lady Arties have now won the last 11 of 12 games against the Terre Haute North Lady Patriots.

Junior Addie Curless got the scoring started for Martinsville, hitting a three-pointer at the 5:18 mark. Then it was a seesaw battle the rest of the quarter with two ties and a lead change. But the Artesians got a final bucket to end the quarter by sophomore Braxton Conner to put the home team up one point, 10-9.

Not much scoring took place

SEE ARTIES | PAGE B2

A FIGHT TO THE END

A close first half slips away from Martinsville in regional matchup

By Dave Rinehart
MCC Correspondent

LINCOLN CITY — The Martinsville Artesians team and student fan buses along with the many Artesian faithful made the two-hour trek south to Lincoln City last Friday night — home to Heritage Hills High School and the 4A IHSAA Regional Championship matchup.

Just the second time in the past 29 years Martinsville has played for a regional championship in back-to-back years, with the previous in 1996 under the leadership of All-State quarterback Earl Haniford.

The Artesians received the kickoff to start Friday’s game and started at their own 20-yard line. Three plays and three yards later, the Artesians punted the ball away, giving Heritage Hills good field position at their own 37-yard line.

The Patriots covered the next 63 yards in 6:56, running 12 plays and picking up five first downs before quarterback Jett Goldsberry scored the first of his three rushing touchdowns on the evening. That gave the Patriots a 6-0 lead on a blocked extra point.

The Artesians’ second possession started once again at their 20-yard line with the first quarter winding down. Senior running back Lucas Dewey showed some fine running, including his first double-digit run of the game for 12 yards, and a completed pass good for 15 yards from junior QB Chase Davis to senior tight end Landen Pottorff got Martinsville to the Patriots’ 26-yard line.

Dewey then got the ball to the 16-yard line on a couple of carries before Davis found classmate Landon Caze for the touchdown. With a successful PAT, the Artesians took their first and only lead of the game at 7-6.

Heritage Hills then took possession and settled for a 30-yard field goal, taking the lead back at 9-7.

Martinsville’s next possession stalled at midfield, ending in a



Martinsville senior classmates Levi Reuter and Landen Pottorff embrace in support following the Artesians’ loss in regionals last Friday. (MSD of Martinsville courtesy photo)

failed fourth-down try and a turnover on possession.

“We got the look we wanted,” Coach Brian Dugger said after the game. “But we didn’t do something we’ve done all year — fundamental stuff. But it happens.”

Heritage Hills did what good teams do — they took advantage of an opportunity when given the ball at the midfield. They took it down field in 3:05, running 8 plays capped off with the only passing touchdown by Goldsberry, a 14-yard completion to junior WR Micah Toler.

But Artesians made the most of the 40 seconds they had to work with on their final possession of the half, starting again at their own 20-yard line. It was Dewey with some strong running to move the chains. Then Caze got his sixth reception of the first half, good for 19 yards and a first

SEE FIGHT | PAGE B2



A slew of Arties — including senior Grady Gardner (9), junior Blane Littell (34), sophomore Lincoln Hovious (82) and junior Joel Sumner — joins forces to bring down the Heritage Hills ball carrier during last Friday’s regional matchup in Lincoln City. (MSD of Martinsville courtesy photo)



Mooresville head coach Mark Hurt and longtime assistant coach Joe Johnson gather the Lady Pioneers to go over the strategy during a timeout last Thursday. (Dave Rinehart photo / MCC)

Pioneers struggle with turnovers in loss

By Dave Rinehart
MCC Correspondent

MOORESVILLE — The Mooresville Lady Pioneers played their third home game at the Curry Center last Thursday, but they didn’t fare too well against the Irish of Cathedral High.

The Pioneers opened with two quick turnovers that led to easy baskets for the Irish — and a quick timeout from Mooresville Coach Mark

Hurt just 40 seconds into the game “to calm the kids down,” he said later.

But it didn’t slow Cathedral down as they went on a 7-0 run to build up an 11-0 lead less than 4 minutes into the game, leading to another Pioneer timeout.

The half-court and three-quarter-court pressure defense by the athletic Cathedral ball club wreaked havoc on Mooresville.

Cathedral Coach Lisa

Finn said their defense “is something we are going to hang our hat on,” with an intentional effort to “turn defense into offense.”

With the first quarter a little over half over, 6-foot Mooresville sophomore Halle Moore got to the free throw line on back to back Pioneer possessions, hitting 3 of 4 free throws. A couple more field goals for the Irish, a free throw for 5’7” junior Kendal Price and

5’5” sophomore Makenzie Holtzclaw hitting her lone field goal at the buzzer ended the first quarter with the Irish up 15-9.

The second quarter the Pioneers saw more pressure defense, which led to more turnovers. Coach Hurt, in his 28th year coaching the Pioneers, said he was “not pleased of his team’s execution against the Irish defense.”

SEE PIONEERS | PAGE B2

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK MONROVIA HIGH SCHOOL

SPONSORED BY:



Citizens Bank

Member FDIC

GRACE DEATON

AVA ELLIOTT



GRADE: Junior
SPORT: Basketball
REASON FOR AWARD: Grace scored 21 points last Saturday night to lead the team to a hard-fought 54-50 win over Covenant Christian. The team is now 4-0 to start the season — the first time in 37 years.



GRADE: Sophomore
SPORT: Wrestling
REASON FOR AWARD: Ava had a third-place finish at New Palestine invitational and a second-place finish at the Purdue Polytech Invitational.



Eminence freshman Rylee Dillon keeps the mic close as he sits at the scorer’s table on Saturday, serving as the public-address announcer for the girls basketball game. (Eminence Athletics courtesy photo)

Unexpected magic on the mic

Staff Report

EMINENCE — When Eminence Jr./Sr. High School found itself without a public-address announcer for last Saturday’s girls basketball game, freshman Rylee Dillon stepped up without hesitation, despite never having done anything like that before.

Rylee grabbed the microphone and handled the

entire game like a seasoned pro, exhibiting a clear voice, confident presence and zero fear.

The school lauded him on social media for showing “incredible courage, leadership and pride in representing Eminence.”

In addition to his newfound talents on the microphone, Rylee is also a standout cross country runner and basketball player for the Eminence Eels.





Wolf signs with Notre Dame

Artesian baseball player to join the Fighting Irish next year

By Jared Quigg
MCC Reporter

MARTINSVILLE — Senior Rhys Wolf calls Notre Dame his “dream school,” and on Monday morning, in front of friends and family, the Martinsville High School senior made that dream come true.

The Artesians’ right-handed pitcher signed with the Fighting Irish on Nov. 17, a feat accomplished by only about 2 percent of high school athletes. Martinsville Athletic Director Kip Staggs personally congratulated Wolf, and called him one of the



Surrounded by his family, Martinsville senior Rhys Wolf is all smiles after signing his letter of commitment Monday to play baseball for the Fighting Irish of Notre Dame. (Jared Quigg photo / MCC)

school’s finest athletes in recent memory. “I have not seen an athlete over the last four or five years that has put in as much time as you have,” Staggs said. “You move into a very elite group of student ath-

letes in this country.” Staggs also praised Wolf’s academic talents, touting Wolf as a “4.0 student.”

Wolf, a baseball player since the age of 6, said he’s always been a fan of Notre Dame, especially praising the school’s “atmosphere” and colors. He intends to study biological sciences in order to become a sports physician.

Wolf will travel up north to South Bend next fall, leaving behind a Martinsville team that got him where he is today. He said the best part of being an Artesian was all the people around him.

“(My favorite part of being an Artesian was) playing for the community I love,” Wolf said.

Martinsville senior Rhys Wolf signs his letter of commitment Monday to play baseball for the Fighting Irish of Notre Dame. (Jared Quigg photo / MCC)



Martinsville junior Landon Cazee fends off a would be tackler during last Friday's regional championship game against Heritage Hills. (MSD of Martinsville courtesy photo)

FIGHT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

down. Then Davis found Pottorff for a 29-yard touchdown reception with no time on the clock — his ninth receiving TD of the year.

The Artesians went for the two-point conversion, but it failed.

Coach Dugger talked about the 80-yard drive in 40 seconds, picking up four first downs in five plays.

“Great plays before half,” he said, “great job keeping us in the game and giving us a shot.”

The teams went into the half with Heritage Hills up, 15-13, over Martinsville.

The second half started with Martinsville kicking off to the Patriots, including a little trickery

with an excellent onside kick by senior Charlie Rawlins that was recovered by the Arties at mid-field.

“We knew we had to get the ball,” Dugger said. “Just didn’t capitalize on it.”

Martinsville failed to convert on fourth-and-1, turning the ball over to the Heritage Hills.

The Patriots took advantage of the good field position, moving 58 yards in 7 plays in a drive that ended with a 4-yard touchdown run. That opened up a 9-point lead, 22-13.

On Martinsville’s next possession, Davis tossed his 13th interception of the season, giving the Patriots another opportunity to score.

And they did, going 72 yards in 14 plays for another TD and a 28-



Martinsville senior running back Lucas Dewey stretches out for additional yardage as he’s brought down during last Friday's regional championship game against Heritage Hills. (MSD of Martinsville courtesy photo)

13 lead.

Martinsville took over with 11:28 on the clock and moved the ball all the way down to the Patriots’ 7-yard line before failing to convert on fourth down.

Heritage Hills then went 93 yards in seven plays, scoring on a 36-yard run by the quarterback — his third rushing TD of the game.

The Artesians had one more opportunity as the season was coming to an end. Starting at the 20-yard line, they moved the ball across midfield at the HH’s 47-

yard line. Davis then connected with Cazee for his third passing touchdown of the game and Cazee’s second receiving of the game.

But it was too little, too late, and the Artesians season came to an end with a score of 35-19.

Patriots Head Coach Todd Wilkerson knew it would be a tough game.

“We knew we were up against a really good opponent,” he said. “They play a really good schedule (of the 62 4A teams, Martinsville

ARTIES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

in the second quarter, with each team scoring just 6 points each, including four from Martinsville senior Ruby Murrell. In the second quarter there were four lead changes with Martinsville holding on to the one-point lead at the half. Turnovers dominated the first half, including 14 for the Patriots to Martinsville’s seven.

The teams headed into the halftime locker room with the Lady Arties up 16-15.

After trading a couple of free throws, Terre Haute went on a 6-0 run to take their largest lead at 22-19.

The last three minutes of the third quarter saw Martinsville step to the free-throw stripe seven straight times — hitting 12 of 14 — to take a nine-point lead at 35-26.

The Patriots Hornbrook hit a field goal to stop the Artesian run, and the quarter ended with the Artesians up, 35-28. Martinsville went to the free throw line a total of 10 times in the third quarter, going 16-20 from the stripe.



Coach Dave Nuckles gathers his team during a timeout to go over the game plan against Terre Haute North last Saturday. (Dave Rinehart photo / MCC)

Freshman Sadie Thacker scored 6 for Martinsville in the third, and Murrell added 5.

Terre Haute hit a couple of threes to start the fourth

quarter to make it a three-point game, 35-32. Then the Arties went on a 11-2 run to lead by a dozen points, 46-34.

Thacker continued with

her hot hand in the fourth, scoring nine more points, two coming from nice assists from Murrell and Curless. Martinsville had six players in the scoring

column led by Thacker’s 17 points (including 15 in the second half). Curless contributed 14, and Murrell had five in each half for 10 points.

Rounding out the scoring, sophomore Braxtyn Conner with six, sophomore Hayley Stephenson scoring the final two points for Martinsville, and junior Audrey Haenlein hitting one of two FTs.

Coach Nuckles commented on how important it was to get to the free throw line in the third quarter, as well as the team’s lower turnover numbers from the three early road losses.

He talked about two of his young players, sophomore Braxton Conner, how she had a rough game vs. Columbus North, but came off the bench and did a “great job!”

Coach Nuckles commented how he was proud of his team for their rebounding against a bigger, more physical team.

Coach concluded; “It’s nice to get the first win,” Coach Nuckles said. “It was a tough one to get. But excited for our kids!”

Martinsville improves to 1-3 with the victory. They hosted Bloomington North on Tuesday, after press time.

On Saturday, they’ll host Lebanon in John R. Wooden Gymnasium, with a 1:30 p.m. tipoff.

PIONEERS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

The lone bright spot for Mooresville in the quarter was Moore’s two field goals, including an offensive rebound and put back.

By the time the second quarter ended, Cathedral had built up a 20-point lead to go up 30-10 at the half.

The Pioneers defensive struggles continued into the third quar-

ter as the Irish outscored Mooresville 17-9 and had a commanding lead of 47-19 with one quarter to go.

“You can’t have close to 30 turnovers and get out rebounded and not shoot the ball very well,” Coach Hurt said. “Those are tough things to overcome in a basketball game.”

The Pioneers did score 13 points in the fourth quarter, but as Coach Hurt noted, it was against the subs on the Cathedral team.

Mooresville’s best offensive output in the game was a 11-2 run in the fourth quarter, capped off by 5’7” freshman Millie Allison’s lone three-pointer in the game.

Cathedral playing just their second game of the season improved to 1-1 with the 55-32 victory, while the Pioneers — now on a three-game losing streak — fall to 1-3.

“We just didn’t have a good basketball game tonight,” Coach Hurt commented.

Mooresville had seven players in the scoring column, led by the 14 points of Halle Moore “Halle played her best game so far this season,” Coach Hurt said. “She needs to be our leading rebounder each and every night”

The Irish had three players scoring in double figures, led by 6-foot sophomore Caroline Wiggins’ 15 points.

The Pioneers with a couple more non-conference games before they get to playing in Mid-

State Conference action on Nov. 25 versus Martinsville.

Coach Hurt hopes to see things improve with every game.

“We have to be better — taking care of the basketball, rebounding, executing,” he said. “If we don’t do these things, we are in for a long season!”

Mooresville hosted Danville on Tuesday night, after press time. They’ll travel to Columbus East on Friday, Nov. 21, with a 7:30 p.m. tipoff.

A SALUTE TO HOMETOWN HEROES



U.S. Marine Corps Maj. (ret.) Jarod Overton addresses the crowd last Friday at the Salute to Hometown Heroes Breakfast, hosted by the Mooresville High School Key Club and held at the Boys and Girls Club in Mooresville. More than a dozen Key Club members took part in the event, helping set up, serve breakfast and honor local veterans, including a World War II veteran who was in attendance. (Mooresville Schools courtesy photo)

FLAG WAS STILL WAVING



Students at Charles L. Smith Fine Arts Academy in Martinsville wave their flags high as the choir sings 'God Bless America,' last week during Veterans Day, which was celebrated throughout the school district and the county. (MSD of Martinsville courtesy photo)

Osborn to lead MPL as executive director

Staff Report

MOORESVILLE — The Mooresville Public Library (MPL) Board of Trustees announced last week that Sandra Osborn will serve as the library’s new executive director.

Following the retirement of longtime director Diane Huerkamp in January, Osborn has served as the library’s interim director.

“Sandra has continued

to focus on the library’s vision statement and value statement, in conjunction with being fiscally responsible,”

MPL board president Jane Amos said. “She has also successfully led updates to the strategic plan, technology plan and capital improvement plan.



OSBORN

“Sandra has done a remarkable job leading the construction efforts of the Library renovation,” Amos continued. “The lower level is amazing — as will be the children’s area soon. Sandra’s leadership has been outstanding this past year.”

Osborn brings extensive experience in library administration and community service. She has worked at the library since 2014, starting as technical services manager. In 2018,

she was promoted to deputy director, overseeing the circulation department, serving as primary cataloger, selecting and acquiring materials and media, managing electronic resources and databases, and handling numerous administrative responsibilities. She holds a bachelor’s degree and a Master of Library

Science degree from Indiana University.

“I am truly honored to serve this community and lead our library into the next era,” said Osborn.

“My vision is for the library to be a community center, a space where people of all ages can learn, connect, and grow. I look forward to building on our

strong traditional services while exploring new ways to meet our community’s needs.”

The Mooresville Public Library provides a full range of educational, cultural, and technological resources to residents of all ages. The library’s mission is to engage, educate, and enrich the community through accessible programs, services, and lifelong learning opportunities.

MCSO deputy among leadership graduates

From the ISA

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana Sheriffs’ Association (ISA) last week announced the graduation of 40 public-safety leaders from the West Point Leadership program, including Morgan County Sheriff’s Office Deputy Kyle Seward.

This is ISA’s third West Point Leadership class, bringing the Association’s three-year total to more than 150 graduates — a testament to ISA’s sustained, statewide commitment to excellence in leadership training and development.

Built on enduring leadership principles associated with the

United States Military Academy and adapted for modern policing, the West Point Leadership program — delivered in partnership with the National Command & Staff College — blends structured online modules, instructor facilitation, discussion boards, and applied assignments to translate theory into on-the-job supervisory practice and culture change.

“Professionalism and public trust rise with the quality of lead-

ership,” said Steve Luce, Executive Director of the Indiana Sheriffs’ Association. “Investing in West Point Leadership—now for the third consecutive cohort—equips our sheriffs’ offices with leaders who think clearly, act ethically, and elevate

the people around them. We’re proud to see these graduates carry forward a common language of accountability, character and service.”



From left: Morgan County Sheriff’s Office Deputy Kyle Seward is joined by Morgan County Sheriff Rich Myers last week at the graduation ceremony for the latest cohort to graduate from the West Point Leadership program. (Courtesy photo)

Sadler honored as distinguished Indiana University alum

Staff Report

BLOOMINGTON — The world knows her as Catt Sadler from “E! News,” but around here, she was once known as Cathy.

The three-time Emmy-winning journalist and Martinsville native was honored by the Indiana University Media School last week, where she was

recognized as a distinguished alumna.

Sadler had wanted to work in the entertainment industry since she was 11 years old after appearing as an extra in “Hoosiers.” The Martinsville High School alum was



SADLER

determined to make that dream come true.

Sadler graduated from Indiana University in 1997 with a degree in journalism, beginning her career at Fox 59 immediately after graduation.

From there Sadler went on to do her most notable work at E! Entertainment, where she spent more than a decade contributing to “E! News,” “E! News Week-

end,” “Daily Pop” and “Live from E!”

With E! Entertainment she covered Hollywood’s biggest red carpet events where she interviewed celebrities throughout awards season. Additionally, Sadler co-hosted the Vanity Fair Oscars Party show for several consecutive years.

Sadler eventually resigned from E! Entertainment over wage inequi-

ty, thereafter becoming a prominent voice in the equal pay movement. She has since championed women’s rights through her participation in the Los Angeles Women’s March, her speech at the Equal Pay Day rally at New York City Hall and through her starring roles in campaigns for LUNA Bar, SECRET Deodorant and Summersalt, among others.

Today, Sadler is the host and executive producer of her weekly podcast, “Catt Sadler Now,” which has recorded more than 300 episodes. The podcast explores personal growth, wellness, and inner beauty through intimate interviews.

The eternal Artesian is currently writing her first book, a memoir set to be released in 2027.

Food budgeting: Tips to save money and eat better

By Rachel Peine

Purdue Extension-Morgan County

MORGAN COUNTY — With rising grocery prices, managing food costs has become a priority for many households. Purdue Extension-Morgan County offers practical strategies to help families stretch their dollars without sacrificing nutrition.

- Start at home: Cooking at home is one of the most effective ways to save money and eat healthier.

Preparing meals from scratch often costs less than dining out and gives you control over ingredients.

Before heading to the store, take inventory of what you already have. Shopping your pantry first prevents unnecessary purchases and reduces waste. Creating a weekly menu and grocery list ensures you buy only what you need.

- Plan ahead and stick to it: Impulse buys can quickly derail a budget.

Make a list and stick to it. Consider using a grocery app to track deals and compare prices. Digital tools can help you stay organized and find additional savings.

- Coupons count: Coupons — both digital and paper — remain a powerful way to cut costs.

Shoppers can save 10 to 15 percent on their grocery bill by using them consistently. Many stores offer apps or loyalty programs that make couponing easier than ever.

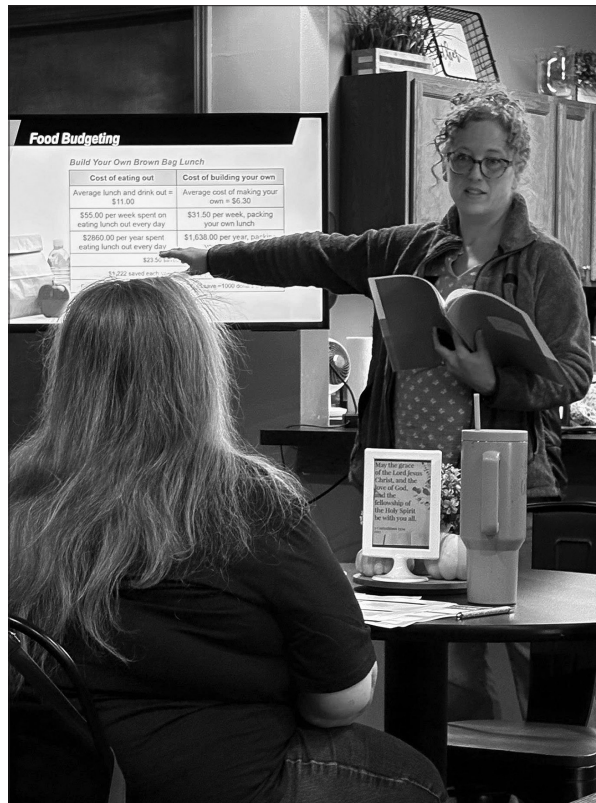
- Don’t waste food: Leftovers aren’t just scraps — they’re opportunities.

Repurpose them into lunches or freeze for later use. Always label and date freezer items to maintain freshness and avoid waste.

- Start small, pay attention: Food budgeting doesn’t have to be overwhelming.

Begin with small changes, take your time and stay mindful of spending habits. Every step toward planning and reducing waste adds up to significant savings over time.

Rachel Peine is the Health and Human Sciences Extension Educator for the Purdue Extension – Morgan County office. She can be contacted at rpeine@purdue.edu or by calling 765-342-1010.



For more info

For more resources and guidance, contact Purdue Extension – Morgan County at 765-342-1010 or visit <https://extension.purdue.edu/county/morgan>.

As the Health and Human Sciences Purdue Extension Educator, I often teach classes on food budgeting and meal planning, including the one earlier this month at Hope House in Mooresville. (Courtesy photo)



Purdue Extension
Morgan County

FANTASTIC ROASTED VEGETABLES

The whole family will love these! In a few simple steps, you'll get beautiful roasted vegetables that are absolutely delicious!

INGREDIENTS

- 2 cups Brussels sprouts, halved
- 2 cups baby carrots
- 2 cups sweet potatoes, diced
- 1 red onion, sliced
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1 teaspoon smoked paprika
- Salt and pepper, to taste
- Fresh herbs for garnish (like parsley and rosemary)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Preheat your oven to 425°F to prepare for roasting.
- Wash, peel, and chop the Brussels sprouts, baby carrots, and sweet potatoes into evenly-sized pieces.
- In a large mixing bowl, combine all the vegetables with olive oil, garlic powder, thyme, smoked paprika, salt, and pepper.
- Mix everything until the vegetables are evenly coated with the oil and seasonings.
- Line a baking sheet with parchment paper and spread the vegetable mixture in a single layer for even cooking.
- Place the baking sheet in the oven and roast for about 25-30 minutes, stirring halfway through for even cooking.
- Remove from the oven when the vegetables are tender and slightly caramelized, checking for a fork-tender texture.
- Transfer the vegetables to a serving dish and sprinkle with fresh herbs for an added touch of flavor.



Shelley's Sweet Spot
SHELLEY SUTER



COLUMN & PUZZLES

Advertising is what keeps Uncle Sam healthy

FEBRUARY 1976 — Andrew belongs to the “sparkplug” profession. It keeps Uncle Sam from growing financially anemic by keeping a rich flow of dollars in his “veins.”

Jesus and Elijah also belonged to this unique profession!

CASE G-607: Andrew B., aged 35, is a newspaper advertising manager.

“Dr. Crane,” he said, “I know you are a rooter for good advertising, for I studied your textbook in college.

“So I wonder if you could come East to address our Advertising Club?

“And I hope you can also expose the false notion among many Americans that advertising increases the cost of goods.

“You often state that Un-



The Worry Clinic
DR. GEORGE W. CRANE

cle Sam leads the world in manufacturing and our high standard of living, which you attribute to the fact Uncle Sam symbolizes the world’s foremost go-getter advertising nation.”

Bravo, advertising!

Jesus indulged in national advertising, for he sent 70 disciples ahead of him, two by two, to publicize his forthcoming sermons in all the towns

and cities of Judea.

Elijah also employed the dramatic flair of superb advertisers by boldly challenging wicked Queen Jezebel’s 450 prophets of her idol, Baal.

King Ahab then heeded Elijah’s request and nationally advertised the event!

Remember, Elijah was the most wanted man in the kingdom, whom Jezebel had instructed the army to bring before her — dead or alive!

Yet Elijah dared her priests, under her palace windows, to a life-and-death religious experiment, as we see in chapter 18 in I Kings.

Advertising is the sparkplug of our superb American “free enterprise” system, for it moves the merchandise from the factories or stores and puts it into our homes.

Without advertising (and salesmen), who of us would have a job or bring home a paycheck?

Please note our debt to advertising:

- Advertisements finance our newspapers so we don’t need to pay \$10 per copy for them!
- We now enjoy free radio and television shows, plus sports events, because advertisers pay the costs.
- Savvy shoppers obtain bargains every day because the ads in this and 1,750 other daily newspapers in the U.S.A.

In fact, you save enough money during the year, due to the bargain prices in such advertised local sales, to pay your entire newspaper subscription each year, plus finance a two-week vacation!

- Advertising also LOWERS the cost of goods by

producing such a heavy demand that large-scale manufacturing of the products reduces the unit cost!

Oranges, for example, used to be a luxury here in America, yet oranges and orange juice are now standard menu items.

G.V. Sanders, editor in Jacksonville, Fla., launched this “Worry Clinic” down there and told me that when he was a boy, his father brought him ONE orange at Christmas.

“Dr. Crane,” he added, “Dad then peeled that orange and handed out just one slice apiece to the members of the family!”

If it weren’t for such large-scale manufacturing that results from advertising, imagine the price of any handmade, factory-built automobile or vacuum cleaner, sewing machine or TV set!

Hen eggs are also in great demand, in contrast to duck or goose eggs, because the hen advertises her merchandise! How? By letting the world know she has laid another egg through her loud cackling!

A nation slips into “stagnation” without advertising!

Uncle Sam would grow economically anemic if advertisers and salesmen didn’t keep money circulating heavily in his veins!

So be grateful — not hateful — to the real spark-plugs of our free enterprise system, for they’ve made us the envy of the world!

Dr. George W. Crane, based out of Hillsboro, Ind., was a syndicated columnist for more than 60 years in newspapers across the country, offering psychological advice to everyday people.

STATEPOINT MEDIA
THEME: NURSERY RHYMES

ACROSS

1. Type of haircut, pl.

5. Tiny helper
8. *What rain does in famous nursery rhyme
12. What accomplices do

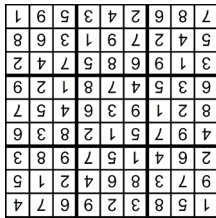
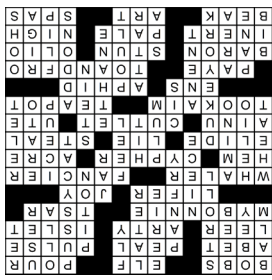
13. Ring like a bell
14. Sign of life
15. Lascivious look
16. Pretentiously artistic
17. Tiny island
18. *Bring her back! (2 words)
20. Nicholas II of Russia, e.g.
21. Inmate with life sentence
22. *One for Sorrow (Two for ____)
23. Melville’s “Pequod,” e.g.
26. More fancy
30. Request for tailor
31. Encoded message
34. Land measure
35. Omit
37. *Hush-a-bye, baby. ____ still”
38. Take a base
39. Hokkaido native
40. Veal serving
42. Beehive State native
43. What Cupid did (2 words)
45. *Tip me over!
47. Lt’s inferior
48. Plant louse
50. “Pay as you earn” tax system
52. *How do your ears wobble? (3 words)
56. Sacha Cohen’s middle name
57. Render speechless
58. Medley
59. Apathetic
60. Not tanned
61. Nearly
62. Bird’s groomer
63. It’s open to interpretation
64. #57 Down, pl.

DOWN

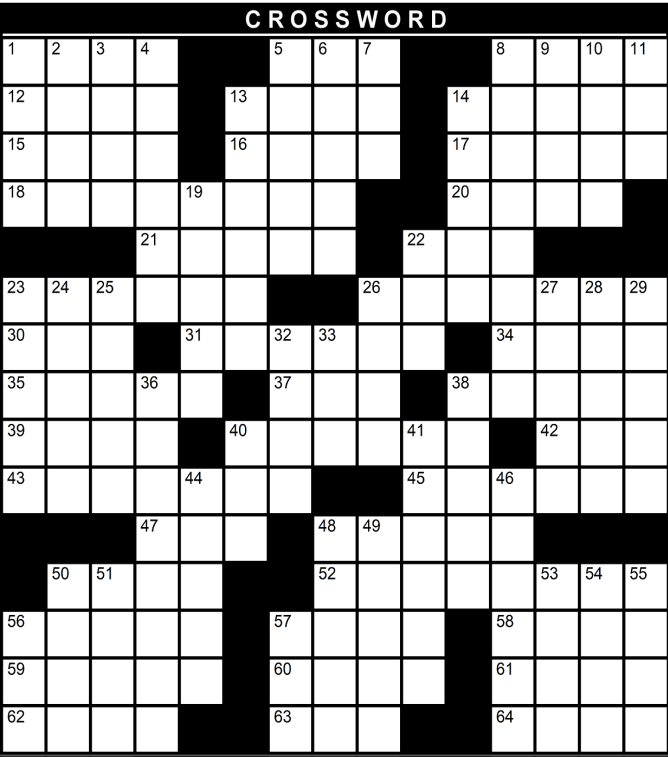
1. It’s soothing
2. Do as directed
3. British Broadcasting Corporation, colloquially
4. Take a leisurely walk
5. Chill-inducing
6. Procrastinator’s word

7. *What the old lady swallowed
8. *She’s been to London to visit the Queen
9. Paella pot
10. ____-friendly
11. Expose to moisture
13. One way to cook fish
14. Mountain climber’s spike
19. Brother’s daughter
22. *Who stole the cookie from the cookie ____?
23. Semolina source
24. Sunny prefix
25. Kind of acid
26. Perceive by touch
27. Frost over (2 words)
28. One of the Muses
29. Find new tenant
32. *What Jack Horner pulled out
33. Not miss
36. *____ of ____, he had ten thousand men
38. Beer garden mug
40. Post-Soviet Union alliance, acr.

ANSWERS:



41. C2H6, flammable gas
44. With regard to, archaic
46. Software plug-ins
48. Rose oil
49. Young chicken
50. Window glass
51. Geometric calculation
53. Buy and resell
54. Baltic capital
55. Sounds of amazement
56. Baby’s apron
57. Self-care resort



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World War II at 80 – November 1945

A most wonderful Thanksgiving: Martinsville's Company K men return home

By Ronald P. May
MCC Contributor

HOME — Thanksgiving fell on Nov. 22 in 1945. For more than 40 Martinsville men, formerly of Company K of the Indiana National Guard, it was the most wonderful Thanksgiving of all. It was their first Thanksgiving back home after almost five years of war service. In January 1941, approximately 80 men from Morgan County, known as the “Boys of Company K,” left behind their homes, families and friends for a year-long commitment of military training at Camp Shelby, Miss.

Eleven months into that training — with only a month remaining of their year of obligation — the Japanese forces attacked the Navy fleet at Pearl Harbor.

Overnight, everything changed for the country ... and for the “Boys of Company K.”

Suddenly, their “year” of service was extended indefinitely.

None of them would have imagined that their lives would be put on hold for the next four years as they became part of the fighting forces overseas.

Company K's men were assigned to the 151st Infantry Regiment in the 38th Infantry Division.

For the first two years, the boys of Martinsville remained in the U.S. training at Camp Shelby and later at Camp Livingston, La.

From there, they left for jungle training in Hawaii, a sign that they were destined for combat on Pacific Islands.

In January 1944, the 38th Division deployed to New Guinea, as part of the new 8th Army, where they completed their training and experienced their first combat.

In December 1944, the division was sent to the Philippines. Here the men engaged in harsh combat with Japanese forces while clearing the island of Luzon.

For their success in opening Zig Zag Pass and the Bataan peninsula, the division earned their nickname “The Avengers of Bataan.”

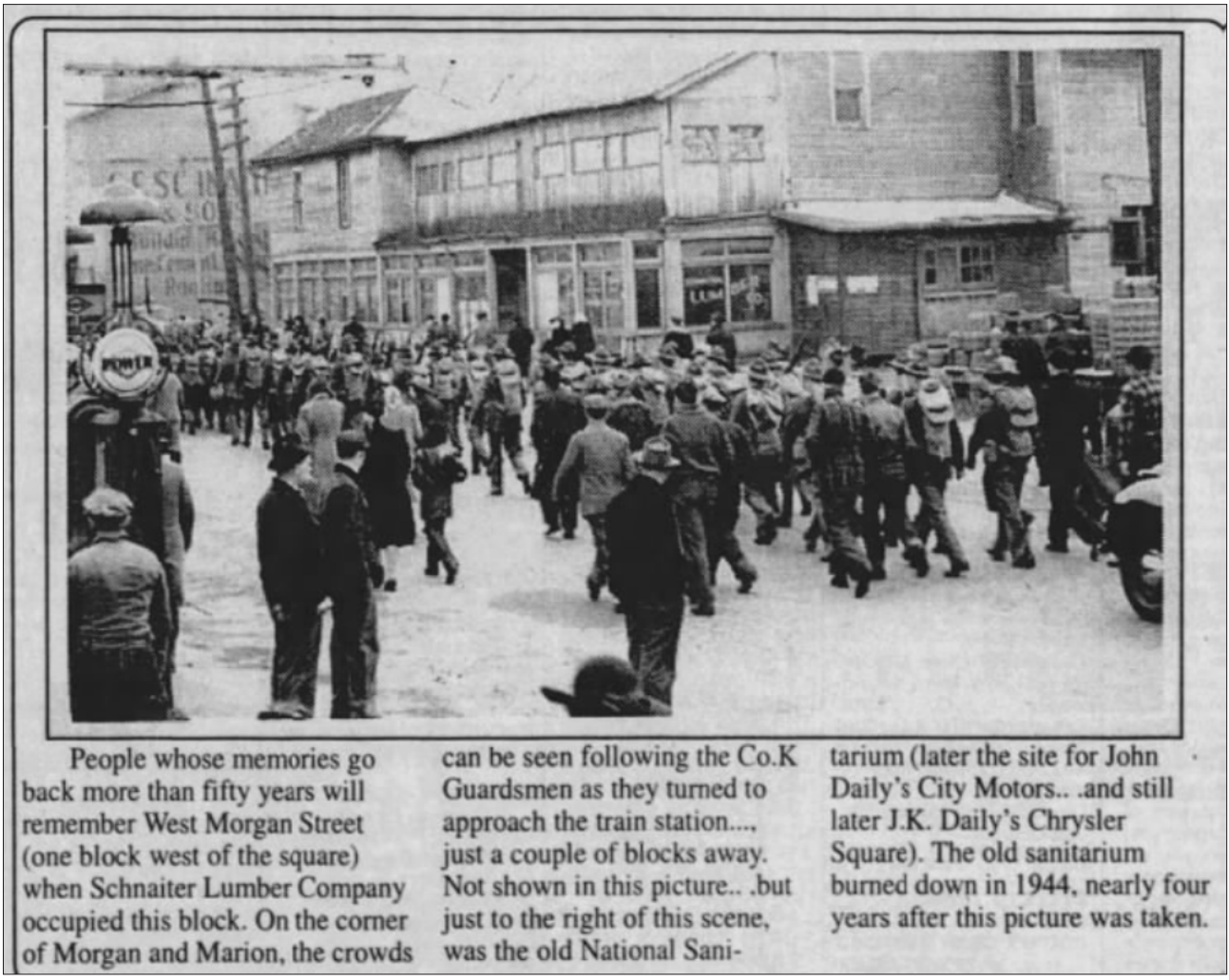
The men left the Philippines in October 1945, the month after Japan's official surrender, crossing the Pacific Ocean before reaching San Francisco.

From there, they boarded cross-country trains and arrived at Camp Atterbury for discharge or temporary leave.

They returned home to Martinsville in mid-November 1945.

Bittersweet reunions

While the reunion with loved ones on Thanksgiving Day was joyful for all the men who came home,



The Daily Reporter covered the community reaction as Company K left for Camp Shelby in January 1941. (Courtesy clipping)

it was even more special for Herschel D. Leonard of Martinsville.

Like many men, he wasn't just returning to his parents and siblings, he was coming home to a sweetheart.

And that Thanksgiving Day wasn't just marked with turkey and the trimmings; it was also the day of wedding bells for Herschel and his fiancé, Evelyn Mosier, also of Martinsville.

They were married in the First Methodist Church in their hometown and then enjoyed a festive Thanksgiving meal at a home in Indianapolis.

Their 35-year marriage was blessed with two children and four grandchildren.

Leonard's wife died in 1980. He lived to the age of 93, passing in 2006.

Not all of Morgan County's Company K men returned home alive.

Four area men died while serving in the Philippines: Arnold “Dutch” Hacker, James Arlo Bowman, Charles Glover and Charles Watkins.

While most of the Morgan County men who left Martinsville with Company K in 1941 remained with the 38th Division, others departed for different units and theaters of war after their initial training at Camp Shelby.

Bill Martin, Ralph Curtis, Bob Clark, Emmett Martin, Ed Rydell and Rex Smith, among others, joined units that fought in the European theater.

Smith and Rydell served with the Army Air Force.

Sadly, Clark and Martin, who joined Army units,



LEONARD



A sign erected in the Philippines during World War II shows the role the 38th Infantry Division played, as 'The Avengers of Bataan.' (Public Domain photo)

died in combat during their service in Europe.

A few of the “Boys of Company K” remained in military service and made careers in the Army. Among them were Billy “Donk” Adkins, Forrest Decker and Verlie Knoy, all of whom served in the Korean conflict five years after the end of World War II.

Others coming home

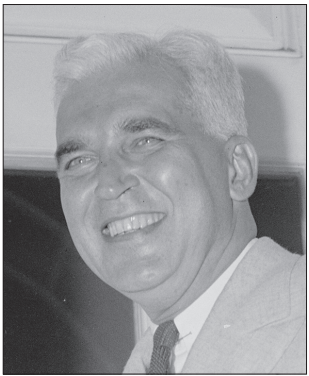
There were hundreds of other Morgan County men who came home from their long war service in November 1945.

Centerton native, John Wooden was one of them.

His family moved to Martinsville after losing their farm near Centerton in bankruptcy.



WOODEN



Governor General of the Philippines Paul McNutt smiles for the camera as he arrives at the White House for a luncheon with President Roosevelt in 1939. (Library of Congress courtesy photo)

Carolina and later the University of Iowa.

The future basketball coach's legendary life was possibly spared due to an appendicitis attack, which kept him from serving on the USS Franklin aircraft carrier, which was bound for the South Pacific in 1944.

The naval officer who took his place was killed on Oct. 30, 1944, when a Japanese kamikaze hit the ship on which Wooden was scheduled to serve.

The rest of Wooden's legendary coaching career with Indiana State Teacher's College and UCLA is well-known.

He retired from coaching in 1975 and died at the age of 99 in 2010.

No one had a more impressive return home in November than Ensign Joseph L. Elliott of Martinsville.

Elliott and his new wife, Orajeann Hickman, flew in his own private plane from Vero Beach, Fla., to Morgan County, landing the plane in front of his parents' home in Jefferson Township, about three miles southwest of Martinsville.

The Purdue student-turned-naval-aviator began his pilot training at

Depauw University as an air cadet in 1943 and earned his wings from the Naval Air Training base in Corpus Christi, Texas, in December 1944.

He was completing additional flight training in Florida when the war ended.

After the brief landing at his parents' home, he flew his plane to the Great Lakes Naval Training Center to be discharged.

Not to be outdone by Elliott, Martinsville native Calvin Hacker, Jr, who had been a prisoner of war in Japan for four years, had his own grand way of traveling through Morgan County.

He bought the first new post-war car in Martinsville.

No automobiles were made or sold during the war years.

Hacker drove off the lot, still wearing his uniform, in a brand new 1946 Ford two-door sedan.

Not everyone was coming home to stay in November.

Continued service

One man with Morgan County roots, Paul V. McNutt, was going back to the Philippines.

McNutt moved with his family to Martinsville when he was 7 years old, later graduating from high school there.

After graduating from Indiana University and earning his law degree at Harvard, McNutt entered politics and became Indiana's governor from 1933-37.

He was then appointed by President Roosevelt to be the second high commissioner to the Philippines, serving from 1937-1939.

At the end of the war, McNutt was appointed again for the position by President Truman in September 1945.

In November 1945 he had a brief visit with his parents in Martinsville before heading back to the Philippines.

As the final high commissioner and soon-to-be first ambassador to the Philippines, McNutt signed the Treaty of Manila on July 4, 1946, which granted independence and ended U.S. sovereignty over the islands.

He oversaw and participated in the joyful festivities on that historic day.

The Filipino people had risen from the ashes of war-time destruction and begun a new chapter thanks to the liberation by U.S. forces, many of them from Morgan County, and the service of the last U.S. High Commissioner, Martinsville's own Paul McNutt.

Next time: December 1945 — A sweet and sad end to 1945.

Learn more about Ronald P. May and his books at <https://ronaldpmay.com> or contact him by email at ron@ronaldpmay.com. Check out his videos on YouTube at: World War II History & Stories with Ron May.



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**240 N. Jefferson St.
Martinsville**

Joshua: A great leader

By Mickey Elliott
Weekday Religious Education

Moses died before entering the Promised Land, and his assistant, Joshua, became leader of the Israelites.

Joshua was a humble, loyal, courageous leader, who walked by faith.

There are people even today who do not like to be in the minority. They always want to be in the majority, and they want to go with the crowd.

But when a person has laid hold of the divine nature of God, has become a partaker of His divine nature, he/she is willing then to go against the world's system and culture.

We read nothing negative in the Scriptures about Joshua. He never complained on the journey through the wilderness. He never questioned Moses but was obedient to him, trusting that God was leading Moses.

Joshua was not a controlling person. He was content to stay in the background, always willing to help in any way possible. He learned much as a follower of Moses and had confidence in the God Moses followed.

I hope you know people who are a witness to you of God's faithfulness so that you can learn what following God looks like in everyday life. It is true freedom, and also hard sometimes, but it brings peace and assurance to our lives and produces faith that touches the lives of others. That is why we encourage our WRE students to go to church when possible and find others who believe and follow Christ.



The Israelites had crossed the Jordan River. God again opened the waters and made a path for them to cross over. He also gave Joshua divine directions to enable Israel to take the walled city of Jericho to enter the Promised Land.

This was a large city with huge walls surrounding it. It appeared to be an impossible task. God works in mysterious ways, as this story reveals. Joshua didn't understand God's direction but was faithful to trust and follow them.

The Lord said to Joshua, "I will let you take the city together with its king and soldiers.

"Here is what you must do. Each day for six days, march once around the city with your soldiers. Take along the sacred chest and have seven priests walk in front of it, carrying trumpets made of ram's horns.

"One the seventh day, march around the city seven times while the priest blows the trumpets. When they make a loud blast on the trumpets, everyone shouts. The walls will fall, and all of you can rush in and capture the city."

My friend, that is exactly what happened. The Israelites took control of the city. Finally, the children of Israel reached their

earthly destiny. Jericho had heard about this great God of Israel, His strength, and all the wonderful miracles He had done to provide for His people. This paved the way for them to take back all the land God had promised Abraham and the 12 sons of Jacob.

When Joshua died, he gave his last speech in Joshua 23:1-14. I encourage you to read this passage.

My friend, let us take God at His Word. Try His Word and you will find that God is true. Do not listen to people who are trying to destroy your confidence in the Word by telling you that God

does not keep His promises. They are deceiving you.

I encourage you to trust God fully, step out in faith, and He will open the windows of heaven and pour His blessings on you, giving you complete confidence in His love, plan and purpose for eternal security and blessings in this life.

Let me leave you with these words: Never underestimate the power of prayer in your life and that of your children. Prayer is a direct line to God and offers possibilities for divine intervention.

We stand before God on behalf of our children. We confidently affirm their worth, and invite God to mold their hearts. Your example of prayer and service has a profound impact on their faith and security.

I encourage you to teach them the following verses:

Jeremiah 29:11 says, "'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and give you a hope and future.'"

The students in Weekday will also be learning Joshua 1:9, "Be strong and of good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed; for the Lord, thy God is with you wherever you go." Consider displaying these verses at home to remind you and your children of Jesus's care and his plan for their future.

Contact us at Morgan County Schools of Weekday Religious Education, P.O. Box 1285, Martinsville, IN 46151. Or visit our website at wremorgancounty-schools.org.

Church Directory

Alaska Christian Church • 7230 Lewisville Road, Quincy • 317-383-6300 • Facebook: Alaska Christian Church • alaskaorgan@gmail.com • Pastor Mike Wall • Sunday blended worship 11 a.m., as well as kids worship/nursery

Centennial Christian Church • 1510 Centennial Road, Martinsville • martinsvillecccc@gmail.com • Interim Pastor Keenan Steinway • Sunday service at 10:30 a.m.

Good Shepherd Baptist Church • 1150 State Road 144, Mooresville • 317-831-1279 • gsbcindy.com • info@gsbcindy.com • Pastor Brandon Sighting • Sunday School at 9:15 a.m., morning worship at 10:30 a.m., evening worship at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday Bible Study at 11 a.m., small groups at 7 p.m.

Prince of Peace Lutheran • 3496 E. Morgan St., Martinsville • 765-342-2004 • popmartinsville.org • popchurchclms@hotmail.com • Pastor Nathan Janssen • Sundays at 9 a.m., Wednesdays at noon

River Valley Christian Church • 4295 Egbert Road, Martinsville • 765-349-2700 or 765-318-2741 • rivervalleychristianchurch.com • kevinable@rivervalley-christianchurch.com • Kevin Able • Sunday worship at 10 a.m., Wednesday Bible Study at 6:30 p.m., Thursday adult bible study at 10 a.m.

Spirit of Life Church • 189 W. Indiana St., Martinsville • 765-342-8123 • slcmartinsville.org • slcstudentministries@gmail.com • Pastor Kenny Collier • Sunday Service with Kids Classes at 10 a.m., Sunday Youth Group at 6 p.m., Monday Bible Studies 6:30 p.m.

Zion's Hill Baptist Church • 5050 Turkey Track Road, Martinsville • 765-349-3862 • zionshillbc.com • church.zionshill@gmail.com • Pastor Warner Swopes • Sunday service 9:30 a.m., Sunday School/Connection Groups follow service.

Morgan Street Church of Christ • 540 E. Morgan St., Martinsville • 765-342-6027 • morganstreetchurchof-christ.com • davidknoy@att.net • Preacher Robert Hawkins • Sunday Bible study 9:30 a.m., Wednesday service at 6 p.m., Sunday service at 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.

St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church • 1720 E. Harrison St., Martinsville • 765-342-6379 • stmtours.org • parishoffice@stmtours.org • Rev. Stephen Giannini • Saturday confession at 3 p.m., Mass at 4 p.m.; Sunday Mass at 10 a.m.; Tuesday and Thursday Mass at 8:10 a.m. Check website for Holy Days of Obligation.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church • 1109 E. Morgan St., Martinsville • 765-342-1682 • stmarysmartinsville.com • stmarys1109@gmail.com • Rev. Todd Kissam • Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

First Methodist Church of Martinsville • 3150 Myra Lane, Martinsville • 765-342-3558 • fmcmartinsville.org • office@fmcmartinsville.org • Pastor Chris Klingenfus • Sunday service at 9 a.m.

First Baptist Church • 1109 E. Columbus St., Martinsville • 765-342-3616 • firstbaptistmartinsville.org • fbcmart@sbcglobal.net • Pastor John Maples • Sunday service at 9:30 a.m.

Paragon Christian Church • 290 Main St., Paragon • 765-537-2683 • Facebook: Paragon Christian • paragon.christian.church@gmail.com • Pastor Luke Jackson • Sunday service at 10 a.m.

Life of Love MC • 265 Morton Ave., Martinsville • 765-341-9466 • lol-mc.com • lolmc@gmail.com • Jason and Shelly Abney • Sunday prayer at 10 a.m., service at 11 a.m., Wednesday service at 7 p.m.

Gospel Lighthouse Assembly • 340 Hoosier St., Morgantown • 865-253-4109 • f.criswell112@att.net • Rev. Frank Criswell • Sunday at 10 a.m., Wednesday at 6 p.m.

Monrovia Christian Church • 710 Gordon Road, Monrovia • 317-996-2812 • monroviacc.org • mccoffice@ccrtc.com • Pastor Richard Dickison • Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

INFORMATION

Get your church added to the directory by visiting tinyurl.com/mccchurch.

Sponsor the directory. Contact ads@morgancountycorrespondent.com or 317-989-6045.

First Presbyterian Church • 240 E. Washington St., Martinsville • 765-342-3282 • fpcmartinsville.org • office@fpcmartinsville.org • Rev. John Erickson • Sunday at 10 a.m.

Hoosier Harvest Church • 4085 Leonard Road, Martinsville • 765-349-0552 • hhchurch.com • Susie@hhchurch.com • Pastor Chris Page • Sunday at 10 a.m.

Grace Church Camby • 4172 E. Allison Road, Camby • 317-831-0798 • discovergrace.net • info@discovergrace.net • Sunday at 9:30 and 11 a.m.

Zion's Hill Baptist Church • 5050 Turkey Track Road, Martinsville • 765-349-3862 • zionshillbc.com • church.zionshill@gmail.com • Pastor Warner Swopes • Sunday at 9:30 a.m. followed by Sunday School.

New View Community Church (nondenom) • 4265 Wilbur Road, Martinsville • newviewcc.com • info@newviewcc.com • Pastor Brian Fleener • Sunday School at 9:45 a.m., service at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday at 6 p.m.

Olive Christian Church • 1967 N. Olive Church Road, Paragon • 765-537-2415 • Facebook.com/olivechristianchurch.in • Pastor Kurt Berger • Sunday service at 9:30 a.m., Sunday School at 11 a.m.

Hynsdale Christian Church • 1067 Old St. Rd. 67, Martinsville • annievv@peoplepc.com • Pastor Susan Hanscom • Sunday service at 10 a.m.

Church of Christ • 800 S. Crawford St., Martinsville • martinsvillecoc.org • churchof-christelders@gmail.com • Sundays at 10 a.m., Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Martinsville Church of the Firstborn • 2032 Ind. 252, Martinsville • 765-342-4565 • mcoft252@gmail.com • Pastor Max Piercefield • Sunday service and children's church at 10 a.m.

Whitaker Baptist Church • 3490 S. Lingle Road, Paragon • 812-879-4498 • whitakerbaptistvbs@gmail.com • Pastor Charles Tinsley • Sunday School at 9:30 a.m., service at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday Bible study at 7 p.m.

M1 Church of the Nazarene • 1609 John R. Wooden Drive, Martinsville • 765-342-2269 • m1nazarene.org • Pastor Jeff Floyd • Sunday School at 9 a.m., service at 10 a.m., Wednesday youth/kids at 6:30 p.m., Bible study at 7 p.m.

Mt. Gilead Church • 6019 E. Ind. 144, Mooresville • 317-831-1900 • mgchurch.org • Senior Minister Jeff Fauli • Sunday services at 9 and 10:30 a.m.

Brooklyn Christian Church • 7 S. Church St., Brooklyn • 317-840-8789 • Pastor Doug Burns • dburnsnavy@gmail.com • Sunday service at 10:40 a.m.

Eastview Christian Church • 2745 Old Morgantown Road, Martinsville • 765-342-4483 • ecc@eastview-christianchurch.org • eastviewchristianchurch.org • Senior minister Nathan Crowe • Sunday school at 9 a.m., service at 10 a.m.

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) • 525 N. Indiana St., Mooresville • 317-831-2777 • firstc-mooresville.org • office@firstccmooresville.org • Pastor Glenda Survance • Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

Faith Missionary Church • 1895 St. Rd. 44, Martinsville • 765-342-2228 • myfaithchurch.org • info@myfaithchurch.org • Pastor Matt Tucker • Sundays at 10 a.m. with nursery and children's services.

First Christian Church of Martinsville (Disciples of Christ) • 89 S. Main St., Martinsville • 765-342-3461 • fccmartinsville.org • Facebook: First Christian Church of Martinsville, Indiana • Rev. Roxie McNelly • Sunday service at 9:30 a.m. (previous week's sermon on 102.3 WCBK at 9:30 a.m.); discipleship classes at 10:30 a.m.

Liberty Christian Church • 2010 Liberty Church Road, Martinsville • 765-342-8519 • officelccmartinsville@gmail.com • lccmartinsville.org • Pastor Dewayne Liebrandt • Sunday service at 9 a.m., Sunday School at 10:15 a.m. and contemporary service at 6:30 p.m.

Life Pointe Community Church • 825 N. Indiana St., Mooresville • 317-831-0659 • lpcommunity.com • medens@lpcommunity.org • Pastor Jeff Thomas • Sunday service with kids programming at 10:30 a.m.

Mooresville Friends Church • 50 N. Monroe St., Mooresville • 317-831-2800 • mooresvillefriends.net • mooresvillefriends@att.net • Pastor Stan Banker, Presiding Clerk of Meeting John Heshelman • Sunday service at 10:30 a.m.

New Life Community Wesleyan Church • 4356 E. Ind. 144, Mooresville • 317-372-7757 • nlcw-church.com • info@nlcw-church.com • Pastor Michael Linville II • Sunday service at 10:30 a.m.

Mooresville Free Methodist Church • 20 Star Lane, Mooresville • 317-831-3874 • mooresvillefmcchurch.org • mooresvillefmc.pastor@gmail.com • Pastor Jon Stermerick • Sunday service at 10 a.m. with doughnuts and coffee at 9:30 a.m., Wednesday prayer meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Mooresville First United Methodist • 900 Indianapolis Road, Mooresville • 317-831-3376 • MooresvilleFUMC.org • Rev. Dr. Amber Karkosky-Litten • Blended Sunday worship at 9:15 a.m.

Pleasant Grove Christian Church • 6605 Maple Grove Road, Martinsville • 765-342-6277 • Pastor Jim Land • Sunday School at 9:30 a.m., service at 10:30 a.m.

St. Thomas More Catholic Church • 1200 N. Indiana St., Mooresville • 317-831-4142 • stm-church.org • pweber@stm-church.org • Father Joseph Newton • Saturday at 5:30 p.m., Sunday at 10:45 a.m.

Eminence Baptist Church • Intersection of Ind. 42 and 142 • 812-829-6358 • "First Baptist Church of Eminence Indiana" on Facebook • Pastor Billy G. Williams • Sunday School at 9:30 a.m., worship at 10:30 a.m., Tuesday Bible study at 6 p.m. (carry-in dinner at 5:30 p.m.)

New Life Baptist Church – Brooklyn • 8020 N. Old State Road 67, Mooresville • 317-831-5857 • pastor@nlbc-mooresville.com • Sunday school at 10 a.m., service at 11 a.m., evening service at 6 p.m., Wednesday services at 7 p.m.

Five Points Baptist Church • 5596 E. Ind. 144, Mooresville • 317-831-5090 • fivepointsbaptist.net • Pastor Tony Gearlds • Sunday service at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday at 6 p.m.

Martinsville First Evangelical Methodist Church • 60 W. Douglas St., Martinsville • martinsville1stemc@gmail.com • Pastor Travis Fleener • Sunday school at 9:30 a.m., service at 10:40 p.m., evening service at 6 p.m., Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Samaria Baptist Church • 10851 Baseline Road, Paragon • Interim Pastor Tim Cooper • tamerahick@sbcglobal.net • Sunday school at 9:30 a.m., service at 10:30 a.m.

Community Church of Mooresville • 61 W Harrison St, Mooresville • 317-831-7554 • www.ccmooresville.com • elders.ccom@gmail.com • Randy Weddle • Sunday service at 11:15 a.m.

Paragon Bible Baptist Church • 269 W. Union St. • paragonbiblebaptist@gmail.com • Sunday morning service 11 a.m., Sunday afternoon 4:30 p.m., Wednesday Bible study 6:30 p.m.

Abounding Worship Center • 1795 Centerton Road, Martinsville • 317-831-1084 • Pastor Ken Hayden • Sunday service at 10:30 a.m., Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

Martinsville Baptist Tabernacle • 2189 Burton Lane, Martinsville • 765-342-0501 • mbttcm.org/mbt • info@mbttcm.org • Pastor David Zempel • Sunday School at 9:30 a.m., services at 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.

Holy Trinity Reformed Church • 7542 E. Landersdale Road, Camby • 912-978-0279 • reformedholyltrinity.org • reformedholyltrinity@gmail.com • Pastor James Brown Jr. • Sunday School at 9:30 a.m., worship at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday prayer at 7 p.m.

Life Line Baptist Church • 13387 N Slideoff Road, Camby • 317-856-1112 • lifelinebaptist.net • pastor@lifelinebaptist.net • Tim Lindsey, II • Sunday School at 9:30 a.m., worship at 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

First Christian Church of Morgantown • 2717 S. Morgantown Road in Morgantown • 812-597-0336 • fccmorgantown.org • shelley@fccmorgantown.org • Senior Pastor Burt Brock • Sunday service at 9 a.m. in person and on FB live

Mt. Pleasant Christian Church of Hall • 5830 W. Hurt Road • Pastor Randy Weddle • mpccpastor.randy@yahoo.com • Sundays at 10 a.m., Wednesday Bible Study at 6:30 p.m.

Eminence Christian Church • 6597 North Forest Street • 765-528-2312 • eminencechristianchurch.org • Sunday School at 9:30 a.m., service at 10:30 a.m.

Gasburg Baptist Church • 11564 N Gasburg Road, Mooresville • 317-996-2112 • gasburgbaptistchurch.com • info@gasburgbaptistchurch.com • Pastor Chris Thorne • Sunday service at 10:15 a.m. • info@gasburg-baptistchurch.com

Waverly Park Global Methodist • 8525 N. Main St., Martinsville • 317-422-1514 • vvvanhorn317@embarq-mail.com • Pastor Bill Vanhorn • Sunday 9:30 a.m.

Banta Global Methodist • 6594 N. Banta Road, Bargersville • 317-422-1514 • vvvanhorn317@embarqmail.com • Pastor Bill Vanhorn • Sunday 10:45 a.m.

West Union Friends Meeting • 2038 W. Ind. 42, Monrovia • 317-446-1904 • halee146@aol.com • Sunday service at 10 a.m.

Corinth Baptist Church • 4875 Plano Road, Martinsville • 765-528-2388 • Pastor Jeff Brewer • Sunday School at 9:45 a.m., service at 10:30 a.m.

Your Church's Name Here

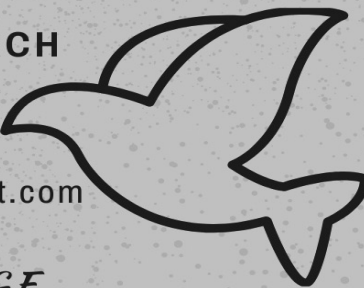
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LEGAL NOTICES

State of Indiana
County of Morgan

IN THE MORGAN COUNTY COURT
CAUSE NO.: **55C01-2510-MI-002664**
IN RE THE NAME CHANGE OF: Helen M Mosier Tackett,
Petitioner

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME
Helen M. Mosier Tackett, whose mailing address is 4530 Grounds Road, Martinsville, IN 46151 in Morgan County, Indiana hereby gives notice that Helen M. Mosier Tackett has filed a petition in the ____ Court requesting that her name be changed to __Helen M Mosier__.
Notice is further given that the hearing will be held on said Petition on February 2, 2026 at 11:00 am.

/s/ Helen M. Mosier, Petitioner

October 28, 2025 /s/Judicial Officer
Date

State of Indiana
County of Morgan

IN THE MORGAN COUNTY COURT
CAUSE NO.: **55C01-2510-MI-002664**
IN RE THE NAME CHANGE OF: Helen M. Mosier Tackett,
Petitioner

Order Set Hearing
Comes now _____, 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 February 2, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. So ordered October 28, 2025.

/s/ Helen M Mosier Tackett Petitioner

October 28, 2025 /s/Judicial Officer
Date

Hearing will be held via Zoom. Parties may appear in person if they wish. If appearing via Zoom, please provide the Court with a good email address to send the Zoom information to on the day of the hearing.

STATE OF INDIANA)
IN MORGAN SUPERIOR COURT 1
) SS: COUNTY OF MORGAN)
CAUSE NO. **55D01-2509-AD-000080**

IN RE THE ADOPTION OF:
MASON KAI MATHIS

DEVIN HAWKINS
Petitioner.

NOTICE OF ADOPTION TO GRANDPARENTS
To: Robert Robertson and any and all unknown grandparents

Notice is hereby given to Robert Robertson and any and all unknown grandparents that a petition for adoption has been filed in the office of the clerk of Morgan County regarding Mason Kai Mathis (the "Child") by the Petitioner listed above. This notice is required by Indiana Code 31-19-2.5-3(a)(3). You are receiving this notice because you are the grandparent of the Child. As a grandparent, you may have the right to file a petition in court to establish or protect grandparent visitation rights. However, IC 31-17-5-3(b) provides that such a petition must be filed prior to the date a decree of adoption is entered. It is for that reason that you are receiving this notice.

In order to protect any rights of grandparent visitation, which you may have, you should contact your own attorney without delay. Failure to act on your part could cause you to lose your right of grandparent visitation, if such a right exists.

This notice applies to you even if the parent(s) of the Child have voluntarily allowed you to visit. Only court ordered visitation is protected, if at all.

Pursuant to IC 31-19-4.5-1.5, notice is required under IC 31-19-2.5-3(a)(3) is limited to the issue of visitation and

may not be used to contest the adoption.
This notice complies with the Indiana Code but does not exhaustively set forth a person's legal obligations under the Indiana adoption statutes. A person being served with this notice should consult the Indiana adoption statutes and their own legal counsel.

/s/ Tammy J. Parker
Morgan County Clerk

STATE OF INDIANA)
IN MORGAN SUPERIOR COURT 1
) SS: COUNTY OF MORGAN)
CAUSE NO. **55D01-2509-AD-000077**

IN THE ADOPTION OF:
NEWBORN INFANT, JONATHAN ALAN KROUT

JONATHAN ADAMS DICKINSON and
HEATHER JUNE DICKINSON
Petitioners.

NOTICE OF ADOPTION TO GRANDPARENTS
To: Cynthia Krout, Daid Krout, and Any and all Unknown Grandparents

Notice is hereby given to Cynthia Krout, David Krout, and any and all unknown Grandparents that a petition for adoption has been filed in the office of the clerk of Morgan County regarding Jonathan Alan Krout (the "Child") by the Petitioner listed above. This notice is required by Indiana Code 31-19-2.5-3(a)(3). You are receiving this notice because you are the grandparent of the Child. As a grandparent, you may have the right to file a petition in court to establish or protect grandparent visitation rights. However, IC 31-17-5-3(b) provides that such a petition must be filed prior to the date a decree of adoption is entered. It is for that reason that you are receiving this notice.

In order to protect any rights of grandparent visitation, which you may have, you should contact your own attorney without delay. Failure to act on your part could

cause you to lose your right of grandparent visitation, if such a right exists.

This notice applies to you even if the parent(s) of the Child have voluntarily allowed you to visit. Only court ordered visitation is protected, if at all.

Pursuant to IC 31-19-4.5-1.5, notice is required under IC 31-19-2.5-3(a)(3) is limited to the issue of visitation and may not be used to contest the adoption.

This notice complies with the Indiana Code but does not exhaustively set forth a person's legal obligations under the Indiana adoption statutes. A person being served with this notice should consult the Indiana adoption statutes and their own legal counsel.

/s/ Tammy J. Parker
Morgan County Clerk

State of Indiana
County of Morgan

IN THE MORGAN COUNTY COURT
CAUSE NO.: **55C01-2511-MI-002722**
IN RE THE NAME CHANGE OF: Braydin Michael Crawley,
Petitioner

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME
Braydin Michael Crawley, whose mailing address is 4920 Wilbur Road, Martinsville, IN 46151 in Morgan County, Indiana hereby gives notice that Braydin Michael Crawley has filed a petition in the __Morgan County__ Court requesting that her name be changed to __Braydin Michael Brewer__.
Notice is further given that the hearing will be held on said Petition on February 3, 2026 at 8:45 am.

/s/ Braydin Crawley, Petitioner
November 3, 2025 /s/Judicial Officer
Date

Hearing will be held via Zoom. Parties may appear in person if they wish. If appearing via Zoom, please provide the Court with a good email address to send the

Zoom information to on the day of the hearing.

STATE OF INDIANA)
IN THE MORGAN SUPERIOR COURT 2)
SS: COUNTY OF MORGAN)
CAUSE NO. **55D02-2511-GU-000061**
IN THE MATTER OF THE
GUARDIANSHIP OF: K. W. M. S., Minor

NOTICE TO UNKNOWN FATHER

Notice is hereby made to the unknown father of the child born to Eliza Mae Stephens, on October 20, 2025, that a Petition for Appointment of Permanent Guardianship was filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Morgan Superior Court 2, Martinsville, IN 46151.

A Petition for Appointment of Permanent Guardian was filed on November 5, 2025. A hearing on the petition has been set for January 9, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.

If the unknown father seeks to contest the appointment of a guardian, he must file a Motion with the Morgan Superior Court 2 not later than thirty (30) days after service of this Notice.

The persons seeking to be appointed guardians over the child are Matthew Stephens and Marchell Stephens.

If the unknown father does not file a Motion to contest to the guardianship within thirty (30) days after service of this Notice, or otherwise fails to appear, the Court named above will hear and determine the Petition for Appointment of Permanent Guardian.

A complete copy of the Petition for the Appointment of Permanent Guardian is on file in the Morgan Superior Court 2, under the above cause number.

Respectfully submitted,

BOREN, OLIVER & COFFEY, LLP
Dale S. Coffey, #18582-55
Attorney for Matthew Stephens
and Marchell Stephens

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF PROPOSED ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THE TAXPAYERS OF MORGAN COUNTY, INDIANA, THAT THE MORGAN COUNTY COUNCIL AT THEIR REGULAR MEETING PLACE AT 6:30 P.M. MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2025, WILL CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS IN EXCESS OF THE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2025. GENERAL FUND (1000) \$1,500.00, 1000.21100.00000.0275 JURY ADMINISTRATOR SUPPLIES, \$1,000.00, 1000.36100.00000.0275 JURY ADMINISTRATOR CONTRACTUAL SERVICES. **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FUND (1151)** \$110,000.00, 1151.49002.00000.0000 **AMBULANCE LEASE PURCHASE RAINY DAY FUND (1186)** \$271,848.00, 1186.44191.00000.0068 ADMIN BLDG BOILER REPLACEMENT.
TAXPAYERS APPEARING AT THE MEETING SHALL HAVE A RIGHT TO BE HEARD. APPROPRIATIONS, AS FINALLY MADE WILL BE REFERRED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE. THE BOARD WILL MAKE A WRITTEN DETERMINATION AS TO THE SUFFICIENCY OF FUNDS TO SUPPORT THE APPROPRIATIONS MADE WITHIN (15) DAYS OF RECEIPT OF A CERTIFIED COPY OF THE ACTION TAKEN.
PUBLISH: NOVEMBER 20, 2025
MORGAN COUNTY CORRESPONDENT LINDA PRUITT
MORGAN COUNTY AUDITOR

The following County Court Allowance Claims have been filed with the Auditor's Office and will be paid on November 26, 2025

Allen Law Office	Pauper Monthly Contracts	\$6,329.91
Boren, Oliver & Coffey LLP	Pauper Expense	\$2,167.00
Capital One, N.A.	Jury Supplies	\$98.44
Card Service Center	Jury Supplies	\$150.26
Card Service Center	Supplies Office	\$93.09
Carrillo Law LLC	Pauper Expense	\$5,000.00
Comprehensive Behavioral	Psych Exams	\$2,625.00
Culligan Of Martinsville	Service Agreement	\$103.95
Dillon Legal Group, PC	CHINS Public Defender	\$1,765.48
Dillon Legal Group, PC	Pauper Expense	\$1,540.00
Dillon Legal Group, PC	Pauper Monthly Contracts	\$4,983.00
Elizabeth M Smith Legal, LLC	Pauper Monthly Contracts	\$4,583.00
Gabriel S. Britton Attorney at	CHINS Public Defender	\$1,829.92
Gabriel S. Britton Attorney at	Pauper Expense	\$324.00
Harshman Ponist Smith & Rayl,	Pauper Monthly Contracts	\$5,794.42
Impressions Printing Company	Contractual Services	\$3,229.00
Impressions Printing Company	Supplies Office	\$198.00
Indianapolis Bar Assoc	Dues & Subscriptions	\$95.00
K D White Law PC	Judge Pro Tem	\$25.00
K D White Law PC	Pauper Monthly Contracts	\$833.33
Keller's Office Supply	Supplies Office	\$1,717.3
Ksenak, Jarrett T.	Pauper Monthly Contracts	\$1,746.91
Lauer And Lauer Attorneys	Pauper Monthly Contracts	\$5,583.00
Lidy Law, Pc	Pauper Monthly Contracts	\$4,783.00
LUNA Language Services	Prof. Svc/Interpreter	\$165.00
Malcon Indiana Inc.	Professional Services	\$1,300.00
Quill Corporation	Jury Supplies	\$20.15
Quill Corporation	Supplies Office	\$96.07
RELX Inc. DBA LexisNexis	Law Books-Library	\$608.00
Ringer, Tricia	Prof. Svc/Interpreter	\$70.00
Robbins Law LLC	Pauper Monthly Contracts	\$4,583.00
The Gaunt Law Office	CHINS Public Defender	\$1,584.00
The Gaunt Law Office	Pauper Monthly Contracts	\$5,794.42
Watkins Depositions	Pauper Expense	\$1,487.50
Total		\$71,305.98
Linda Pruitt		
Morgan County Auditor		

Notice is hereby given that I have, as the owner (or with the owner's consent) of the property commonly described at the address of
560 S Indiana St Mooresville, IN 46158, and the legally described by the attached legal description, have filed a petition before the Mooresville Board of Zoning Appeals, which requests a Variance for the said property in order to install 1 wall sign on each side of the Culver's restaurant, 4 in total. This petition, File #25-163, will come for hearing at 6:00pm at the Mooresville Town Hall, 4 E Harrison St, Mooresville, IN 46158 on December 11, 2025. In accordance with the American's Disabilities Act, if anyone wishes to attend the public hearing on the above referenced matter and is in need of reasonable accommodation in order to hear, present evidence, or participate in the proceedings at the public hearing on this matter, please contact the Administrator so accommodation can be made. The petition and file on this matter is available for examination by contacting the Administrator at (317) 831-9545. Comments regarding this petition may be submitted at any time. Information to be considered in the Staff Report and distributed to the PC members in advance of the hearing must be received by the Administration at least fourteen (14) days prior to the hearing.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION
A PART OF SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST

QUARTER OF SECTION 36, TOWNSHIP 14 NORTH, RANGE 1 EAST, BROWN TOWNSHIP, CITY OF MOORESVILLE, MORGAN COUNTY, INDIANA, BEING THAT TRACT OF LAND SHOWN ON A SURVEY CERTIFIED NUMBER LS21200020 UNDER WEIHE ENGINEERS, INC. PROJECT NUMBER W230459 AND MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
COMMENCING AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 36 (HEREINAFTER "QUARTER-QUARTER SECTION"); THENCE ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID QUARTER-QUARTER SECTION SOUTH 00 DEGREES 37 MINUTES 28 SECONDS EAST 300.00 FEET TO THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF VILLAGE MOORESVILLE STATION PER THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED AS INSTRUMENT NUMBER 200910814 IN THE OFFICE OF THE RECORDER OF SAID COUNTY BEING MARKED BY A SET MAG NAIL IN A WASHER STAMPED "WEIHE ENGR. 0012" (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS "MAG NAIL") AND BEING THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUING ALONG SAID EAST LINE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 37 MINUTES 28 SECONDS EAST 294.35 FEET TO A MAG NAIL; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 34 MINUTES 59 SECONDS WEST PASSING THROUGH A FIVE-EIGHTHS-INCH DIAMETER REBAR WITH A YELLOW PLASTIC CAP STAMPED "WEIHE ENGR. 0012" (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS "REBAR") AT 54.66 FEET, A TOTAL DISTANCE OF 318.72 FEET TO A REBAR; THENCE NORTH 0 DEGREES 04 MINUTES 29 SECONDS WEST 284.46 FEET TO A REBAR ON THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID VILLAGE MOORESVILLE STATION; THENCE ALONG SAID SOUTH LINE NORTH 88 DEGREES 37 MINUTES 45 SECONDS EAST PASSING THROUGH A REBAR AT 264.12

FEET, A TOTAL DISTANCE OF 315.97 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING 2.11 ACRES MORE OR LESS.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that the City of Martinsville, IN herein referred to as the Owner, will receive sealed bids for the 2026 Sidewalk and Curb Project located in the City of Martinsville, IN, Morgan County, Indiana.

Sealed bids are invited and may be forwarded by mail, other courier service or in person to the City of Martinsville, Attn: Mac Dunn, 59 S. Jefferson Street, Martinsville, IN 46151, until 4:00pm on December 8, 2025. Bids received after such hour will be returned unopened. Bids will be opened and publicly read aloud during The Board of Works meeting @ 6:30 pm that evening at City Hall. Bids will then be taken under advisement for review by the owner and engineer.

The contract will consist of the following:
2026 Sidewalk and Curb Project and related work items associated with sidewalk, curb, ADA ramp installation, and various street improvements throughout the City of Martinsville, IN.

Complete sets of bidding documents may be viewed at City Hall, 59 S. Jefferson Street, Martinsville, IN 46151. Electronic bidding documents are available per request at mdunn@martinsville.in.gov or hard copies can be picked up at City Hall, 59 S. Jefferson Street, Martinsville,

IN 46151.

Each bid must be enclosed in a sealed envelope bearing the title of the Project, and the name and address of Bidder. All bids must be submitted on the bid forms as identified in the Contract Documents.

Each bid shall be accompanied by a certified check or acceptable bidder's bond made payable to the Owner, in a sum of not less than five percent (5%) of the total amount of the bid, which check or bond will be held by the Owner as evidence that the bidder will, if awarded the contract, enter into the same with the Owner upon notification from him to do so within ten (10) days of said notification.

Approved performance and payment bonds guaranteeing faithful and proper performance of the work and materials, to be executed by an acceptable surety company, will be required of the Contractor at the time he executes his contract. The bond will be in the amount of 100% of the Contract Price and must be in full force and effect throughout the term of the Construction Contract plus a period of twelve (12) months from the date of substantial completion.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any bid, or all bids, or to accept any bid or bids, or to make such combination of bids as may seem desirable, and to waive any and all informalities in bidding. Any bid may be withdrawn prior to the above scheduled time for the opening of bids or authorized postponement thereof. Any bid received after the time and date specified shall not be considered. No bid may be withdrawn after the

scheduled closing time for receipt of bids for at least sixty (60) days.

The Owner may make such investigations as deemed necessary to determine the ability of the Bidder to perform the work and the Bidder shall furnish to the Owner all such information and data for this purpose as the Owner may request. The Owner reserves the right to reject any bid if the evidence submitted by, or investigation of, such Bidder fails to satisfy the Owner that such Bidder is properly qualified to carry out the obligations of the Agreement and to complete the work contemplated therein.

Bids shall be properly and completely executed on bid forms included in the Contract Documents. Bids shall include all information requested by Indiana Form 96 (Revised 2013) included in the Contract Documents.

If project is \$150,000 or more - State of Indiana requirement as of 7/2018, Bidder is required to submit with bid a written plan for an employee drug testing program that complies with IC 4-13-18-5 and IC 4-13-18-6.

Each Bidder is responsible for inspecting the Project site(s) and for reading and being thoroughly familiar with the Contract Documents and Specifications. The failure or omission of any Bidder to do any of the foregoing shall in no way relieve any Bidder from any obligation with respect to its Bid.

Classifieds

Announcements

MORGAN COUNTY CORRESPONDENT ACCEPTANCE POLICY
Any advertising, print or mail job or promotional product offered by a person to an em-

ployee or agent of the newspaper is subject to final acceptance by the Publisher at any time prior to publication or distribution.

The Publisher reserves the right to refund any money paid, to reject any offer to advertise or to cancel any advertisement, print, mail or promotional job.

Abbreviations, copy and entire ads are subject to final approval of the Publisher or his agent and the newspaper reserves the right to revise or reject advertisement or any portion thereof which is deemed objectionable or opposed to public policy or the policy of this newspaper. The right to classify

ads is also reserved.

For Rent

MARTINSVILLE

OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE
Clean 2,500-square-foot office space available just off of the I-69 Ohio Street exit. Lobby, four large offices, large common area and conference room, full kitchen. Call 317-513-7393.

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www.EremosCoffeeCompany.com
15 W Main St, Mooresville, IN 46158



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AJM LEGAL

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Martinsville, In 48151
317-427-3663



Wishing you Joyful Christmas Blessings and a Prosperous New Year



LAW OFFICE OF LISA A. BLACKMAN
Elder Law attorney
765-343-1900
LISA@BLACKMANELDERLAW.COM
369 E. MORGAN ST., MARTINSVILLE



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