EMINENCE EELS FINISH WITH 17-9 RECORD, BEST SINCE '78

SPORTS | B1

MCC

THE MORGAN COUNTY
Correspondent

The source for news from every corner of Morgan County

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Provo to leave M-G

Search for Monrovia's next superintendent will begin Thursday

By Jared Quigg
MCC Reporter

MONROVIA — Superintendent Trent Provo seemed reluctant to acknowledge it himself, so Monroe-Gregg School Board member Tom Kennedy did it for him: Provo will be departing the district effective June 30.



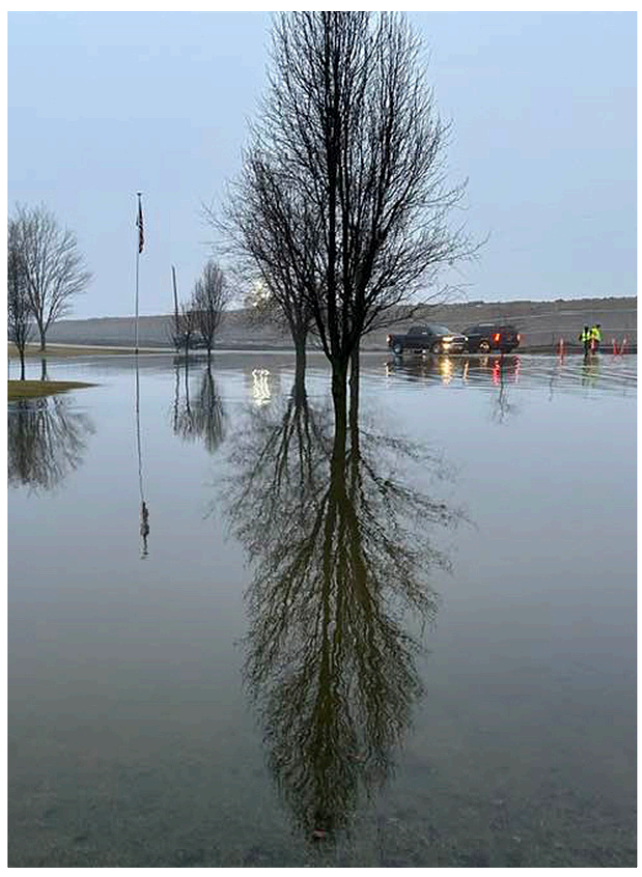
PROVO

The news was right there in March's personnel report, but Provo only spoke of other changes to the district's staff at Monday night's meeting of the board.

"It's also worth noticing that in the certified (staff recommendations), we accepted your resignation," Kennedy said. "Thank you for your service. You didn't say it, but I think we probably all would say that."

SEE PROVO | PAGE A7





DATA FLOOD

Staff Report

MONROVIA — Last week's torrential rain that dropped mid week brought swollen waterways throughout the county, and for a handful of homeowners just east of Monrovia, flooded properties.

The previous evening's rainstorm caused flooding near the data center construction site, and large pools of water amassed in front yards by Wednesday morning.

The flooding allegedly occurred because a large drain pipe near the site had recently been removed due to the construction.

Last week, excavators scurried to dig a path through the berm in order to pump the water back onto Google's property.

Work crews in the area, meanwhile, reportedly knocked on the doors of the affected property owners, offering to pump septic tanks, inspect crawl spaces and even offer free car washes.

FROM TOP: Excavators are hard at work clearing a path through the newly constructed berm last Wednesday morning as construction workers wade through high waters on North Antioch Road near Monrovia. // Several homeowners on North Antioch Road next to the site of Google's proposed data center wake up to 'lakefront property' last Wednesday morning, while Google contractors gather on the roadway to determine how best to remove flood waters. (Steve Willett courtesy photos)

Google applies for air quality permit

Company plans to install 166 diesel-powered backup generators for data center; pollution concerns raised

By Jared Quigg
MCC Reporter

MONROVIA — New information about Google's planned data center campus emerged last week after Monrovia residents who live near the Monroe Township construction site received mail copies of the company's application to the Indiana Department of Environmental Resources (IDEM) for an air quality construction permit.

The application was submitted to IDEM on Feb. 13 by engineering firm Olsson on behalf of Woodland Caribou LLC, a Google shell company.

The permit application states that the planned data center campus will include a number of diesel emergency engines and associated belly fuel tanks to support each building. The application states that 160 "Type 1" diesel engines will be used, along with 19

SEE GOOGLE | PAGE A8

Third House gives insights into local, state issues

By Merv Hendricks
MCC Correspondent

MOORESVILLE — Indiana's property tax revision is like "a pig going through a python" — a gradual process for a big issue that takes time to digest.

District 60 Indiana House of Representatives member Peggy Mayfield used that analogy in comments last Saturday morning at a Third House session in council chambers at the Mooresville Government Center.

Joining Mayfield at the event was state Sen. Rodric Bray, who serves as president pro tempore

SEE THIRD HOUSE | PAGE A6



From left: State Sen. Rod Bray (R-Martinsville) listens as State Rep. Peggy Mayfield addresses the audience at the Third House session hosted by the Mooresville Chamber on Saturday in Mooresville. (Mindy Taylor courtesy photo / Greater Mooresville Chamber of Commerce)

Mayor blasted for inaction on slumlord problem in city

By Stephen Crane
MCC

MARTINSVILLE — A property owner in Martinsville made use of Public Comments on Monday night to take mayor Kenny Costin to task, alleging the mayor has ignored his pleas that the slumlord problem in Martinsville be addressed.

"I have met with the mayor, (city superintendent) Mac Dunn and (building inspector) Bob Strader multiple times, with no resolutions," said Terry Lahne, who owns a number of rental properties in Martinsville.

Lahne cited the impact on property values, criminal activity and the general disregard for public health and safety that "slumlord" property owners perpetuate by neglecting their rental properties.

According to Lahne, his meetings with the city have proved fruitless.

"You (mayor) told me your hands were tied," Lahne said Monday night, later referencing a campaign promise Costin made in 2019 during his first campaign for mayor.

SEE MAYOR | PAGE A8



Obituaries

Cynthia Brewer, 84



MOORESVILLE — Cynthia (Foster) Brewer, 84, a longtime and active Mooresville resident, passed away on March 5, 2026. Cynthia was born on August 28, 1941, in Indianapolis, to the late Deryl and Lillian (Gudgel) Foster. She married the late Byron Larue Brewer on August 16, 1964, and he preceded her in death on November 2, 2021. Theirs was the first wedding to be held in the former First Christian Church in Columbus, Indiana.

A lifelong learner and educator, Cynthia graduated from Indiana University, earned her master's degree from Butler University, and later earned an endorsement as a gifted and talented educator from Purdue University. Cynthia took learning and teaching seriously, and she was an excellent educator. She worked as a teacher at Neil Armstrong Elementary School, retiring in 1986.

Cynthia was a devoted member of the First Christian Church in Mooresville for more than 60 years, where she served as the first woman elder and also served as Chairwoman of the Board. Always one to stay active in the community, Cynthia was an active member of Tri Kappa Sorority, having served in various offices through the years. She was a founding board member of the Community Foundation of Morgan County and served as the Foundation's interim Executive Director on more than one occasion. She was also a member of the Bayview Club and the Research Club. Cynthia will be fondly remembered for her wonderful personality and for the many ways in which she gave of herself to others.

Survivors include her children, Susannah (Bruce) Fout and Greg (Tara) Brewer; grandchildren, Jay (Christina) Fout, Kyle (Hailey Adams) Brewer, and Kevin (Hailey) Brewer; great-grandchildren, Hadi Fout, JJ Brewer, and Ayana Fout.

Services have been held at Carlisle – Branson Funeral Service & Crematory, Mooresville. Burial took place in Garland Brook Cemetery, Columbus.

Memorial contributions may be made to the First Christian Church, 525 N. Indiana St., Mooresville, IN 46158, or to the Community Foundation of Morgan County, 88 North Main Street, Martinsville, IN 46151. Visit www.CarlisleBranson.com to share a favorite memory or to sign the online guest registry.

CARLISLE BRANSON
FUNERAL SERVICE & CREMATORY

Nancy Kay Ratts, 89



EMINENCE — Nancy Kay Ratts, just shy of her 90th birthday, passed away peacefully on March 1, 2026, while in the comfort of her home. She was born in Greencastle, Indiana, to the late Ivan and Nola (Neier) Vaughan.

Nancy was a proud graduate of Belle Union High School. She later went on to spend a year at DePauw University. She met and married Edwin Ratts, who survives, on April 17, 1955. They welcomed two daughters into their family.

Nancy worked in banking for over 20 years, managing the Eminence branch of Indiana National Bank at her retirement. She was proud to be a part of both the Eminence and Belle Union communities and loved supporting the local events such as fish fries and pork chop dinners.

Nancy loved the outdoors. She enjoyed tending to her flowers. She enjoyed time in the sun, whether it be on a beach or lake. She mastered the art of water skiing on one ski.

Family meant everything to Nancy. Her favorite memories and activities centered around them. Whether they were celebrating Labor Day with campouts or Christmas with family dinners, Nancy was her happiest.

She is survived by her husband of 71 years, Edwin L. Ratts; daughters, Nancy Shoffner (John), Julie Brock (Greg); sister, Jean Krahn; grandchildren, Steve (Andrea) Shoffner, Laura (James) Simkins, Tyler (Breanna) Shoffner, Kate (David) Murray, and Casey (Adrienne) Brock; and 17 great grandchildren.

Aside from her parents, she was preceded in death by her sister, Janet Milhon.

Visitation is 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 14, 2026 at Mt. Tabor Christian Church, 8787 State Road 42, Monrovia, Indiana, 46157. A Memorial Service will follow the visitation with John Shoffner officiating.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in memory of Nancy to A&A Townships Fire Department, P.O. Box 225, Eminence, Indiana, or Mt. Tabor Christian Church.

Costin Funeral Chapel, Inc.
Established 1923
539 East Washington Street Martinsville, Indiana 46151

Barbara Jean Pogue, 87



GREENWOOD — After a battle with Alzheimer's, Barbara Jean (Dillon) Pogue went to be with the Lord on March 8, 2026.

Born Oct. 1, 1938, in Bedford, Ind., to Claude Everett and Eileen Harmony (Mitchell) Dillon, Barb was the second of six children. She attended school in Bedford and spent a large part of her life raising her family across south-central Indiana. Her focus was on her family and her faith.

Barb was a court stenographer for many years and had multiple after-retirement jobs, including working as a church secretary. For more than 42 years, she spent as much time as possible with her loving husband, Larry Pogue. The two traveled extensively, visiting several countries and all 50 U.S. states; and no one went hungry anywhere she went. Barb and Larry were longtime volunteers with the Indy Honor Flight, and enjoyed serving our Hoosier veterans.

She was especially known for her cinnamon rolls, pies and cherry cheesecake. Her fried chicken and mashed potatoes were staples at family meals as well. She provided love, food and fun with family gatherings, Sunday dinners and birthday seasons. She will be greatly missed.

Barb was preceded in death by her parents, Claude and Eileen Dillon; her sisters Sue (Woody) Wright, and Nancy Chilcote.

Barb is celebrated and loved by those she leaves behind including her husband, Larry Pogue, sons Dale (Debbie) True, Mike (Vanessa) True, and Kerry (Lori) True, step-children Daryl (Karen) Pogue, and Lisa (Tom) Martin, chosen son Mike (Julie) Bush; grandchildren Heather (Autumn) True, Jessica (Charles) Ingraham, Andrea (Caleb) Landis, Ashley True, Allyson True, Dillon True, Garrett Jones, Alisha (Justin) Nichols, Derrick Pogue, Kate (Ethan) Taulbee, and Ian (Hope) Martin; great-grandchildren Gavin and Halle Ingraham, Hadley Landis, Connor, Elizabeth, Abigail, and Charlotte Nichols, Alexander and Oliver Pogue, and Hayes and Graham Taulbee and Little Martin to be; siblings Debbie (Bob) Claprodt, Robert Dillon, and Mary (Dave) Kays; along with many nieces and nephews of multiple generations.

A celebration of life will be held at the Town Center Church, 218 E. Main St., Mooresville, Ind., on Saturday, March 14, 2026. Visitation with the family will be from 3 to 5 p.m., with a memorial service to follow at 5 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in her memory to Indy Honor Flight, P.O. Box 10, Plainfield, IN 46168 or at https://www.indyhonorflight.org/donate.

Obituary Notices

Billy Brown
MOORESVILLE — Billy Sue Brown, 85, of Mooresville, died Feb. 26, 2026. Arrangements by Carlisle-Branson Funeral Service and Crematory in Mooresville.

Jeanette Richey
MARTINSVILLE — Jeanette Richey, 81, of Martinsville, died March 4, 2026. Arrangements by Neal and Summers Funeral and Cremation Center in Martinsville.

Michael Schalk
INDIANAPOLIS — Michael Lynn Schalk, 74, of Indianapolis (formerly of Monrovia), died March 4, 2026. Arrangements by Light Memorial and Funeral Chapel in Monrovia.

Francine Shepherd
CAMBY — Francine "Fran" Ola Shepherd, 91, of Camby, died March 7, 2026. Arrangements by Carlisle-Branson Funeral Service and Crematory in Mooresville.

Stanley Moore
MARTINSVILLE — Stanley Michael "Mike" Moore, 78, of Martinsville, died March 8, 2026. Arrangements by Costin Funeral Chapel in Martinsville.

Death Notices

Morgan County Health Department

Joyce Evelyn Ray, 91, Clayton

Ronald Lee Bolton Jr., 64, Martinsville

Sandra K. Hewitt, 83, Mooresville

George Hommel III, 72, Mooresville

Shirley A. Ballou, 86, Mooresville

Melody Lynn Allen, 64, Martinsville

Brenda K. Fishel, 82, Martinsville

Louise Hodorek, 98, Spencer

Alberta Gregory, 91, Mooresville

Colleen Kay Patterson, 77, Nashville

Jail Bookings

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

Carter Mitchell Ballard, 19, Martinsville, serving time – probation violation and invasion of privacy.

Danielle Lee Beck, 36, Indianapolis, court-ordered return – two counts of theft and two counts of fraud.

William Joseph Burgin, 43, Poland, serving time – visiting a common nuisance.

Joshua Anthony Casse, 43, Martinsville, petition to revoke probation.

Talyr Autumn Dees, 30, Bloomington, possession of a hypodermic syringe or needle and possession of paraphernalia.

Loreyna Jolynn Eberhardt, 33, Indianapolis, serving time – probation violation.

Harrison Scott Ellis, 55, Martinsville, serving time – domestic battery-simple assault.

Julie Ann Engelsen, 53, Martinsville, serving time – possession of methamphetamine.

Daniel Gallardo Vasquez, 24, Indianapolis, driving while suspended.

Jamie Perez Garcia, 40, Indianapolis, operating without ever obtaining a license.

Justin Thomas Gibson, 44, Mooresville, petition to revoke probation, robbery, and theft.

Michael Ray Gilman, 59, Martinsville, two counts of contempt of court-criminal.

Adam Lee Hacker, 48, Martinsville, possession of cocaine or narcotic drug and possession of paraphernalia.

Robert Emery Lee Hardymon, 41, Mooresville, wanted by another state.

Denver L. Harris, 45, Indianapolis, driving while suspended.

Bradley Aaron Helton, 44, Mooresville, public intoxication by alcohol.

Joshua Michael Jenkins, 46, Paragon, serving time – operating a vehicle while intoxicated-endangerment.

Wendy Nicole Jugg, 42, Camby, serving time – petition to revoke probation.

Donna Janay Kiehl, 57, Martinsville, possession of methamphetamine, possession of marijuana, and possession of paraphernalia.

William Dean Lietzman, 46, Martinsville, resisting law enforcement-defendant uses a vehicle and driving while suspended-prior.

Jaclyn R. Lively, 46, Mooresville, possession of methamphetamine, possession of a schedule II, III IV substance, and possession of paraphernalia.

Joshua Ryan Lowder, 22, Appleton, Wisc., interfering with law enforcement-defendant uses a vehicle.

Omare YA Luciano Mason, 22, Indianapolis, wanted on Marion County warrant.

Daniel Edward Moreland, 26, Indianapolis, two counts of possession of marijuana.

Steven Leslie Parker, 55, Martinsville, disorderly conduct and resisting law enforcement-defendant uses a vehicle.

Holden Matthew Roberts, 30, Mooresville, failure to appear.

Nicole E. Roberts, 47, Amo, aiding, inducing, or causing an undereage person to enter.

Stephanie Lynn Roberts, 38, Indianapolis, contempt of court-civil.

David Joseph Rogers, 26, Martinsville, petition to revoke probation.

Rodrigo Salazar, 24, Indianapolis, serving time – probation violation.

Emery Alan Sanford, 62, Mooresville, serving time – operating a vehicle while intoxicated.

Yesenia M. Saravia Granados, 27, Indianapolis, failure to appear.

Eric Karl Scholz, 64, Martinsville, petition to revoke probation.

Steven Bruce Settle, 71, Indianapolis, operating a vehicle while intoxicated-endangerment, operating a vehicle while intoxicated, and possession of marijuana.

Jason Wayne Thrasher, 48, Camby, serving time – contempt of court-civil.

Anthony Jakob Vandagrifft, 36, Martinsville, operating a vehicle while intoxicated and operating a vehicle while intoxicated-endangerment.

Jairo Naun Velasquez, 43, Plainfield, serving time-operating a vehicle with a blood alcohol content of .15 percent or more.

Will Lawrence Wynn, 21, Indianapolis, failure to appear.

Marriage/Divorces

Marriage License

Heather Nicole Sutherlin, Martinsville; Kyle Matthew Walker, Martinsville

Ethan John Cain, Mooresville; Makayla Ann Bain, Mooresville

Heather Marie Harris, Martinsville; Benjamin Joseph Daily, Martinsville

Taelor Lee, Camby; Philip Kostrzewski, Camby

Divorces

Christian Cooper vs. David Cooper

Julie Chandler vs. Joseph Lee Chandler

Sean M. Gadberry vs. Catherine M. Gadberry

Robert Zloty vs. Stacia Zloty

Aaron Grubb vs. Rose O'Neal

MCC 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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Court News

Morgan County Superior Court I
Judge Dakota VanLeeuwen

Matthew Chambers, 29, Indianapolis, attempted residential entry. Sentenced to 910 days in jail, suspended except for 180 days to serve, fines, costs and restitution of $2,014.

Harrison Ellis, 55, Martinsville, domestic battery. Sentenced to 365 days in jail, fines and costs of $240.

Julie Engelson, 53, Martinsville, possession of methamphetamine. Sentenced to 730 days in jail, fines and costs of $790.

Adam Hensley, 41, Mooresville, intimidation. Sentenced to 180 days in jail, fines and costs of $190.

Rylan Wiles, 24, Brownsburg, operating while intoxicated-endangering a person. Sentenced to 365 days in jail, suspended except for two days to serve (time served), 363 days probation, 90-day license suspension, fines and costs of $390.

Superior Court II
Judge Brian H. Williams

Billy Darling Jr., 35, Martinsville, operating a vehicle as a habitual traffic violator. Sentenced to 180 days in jail, fines and costs of $590.

Buu Doan, 68, Indianapolis, violation of driving condition. Sentenced to 60 days in jail, suspended except for two days to serve (time served), 58 days probation, fines and costs of $190.

Cassandra Green, 39, Indianapolis, fraud and theft with prior conviction. Sentenced to 120 days in jail, fines and costs of $190.

Cody W. Tinsky, 31, Paragon, criminal trespass. Sentenced to 365 days in jail, suspended except for two days to serve (time served), 363 days probation, fines and costs of $190.

James Walters, 28, Pendleton, theft with prior conviction. Sentenced to 180 days in jail, fines and costs of $190.

Treveon M. Wright, 19, Mooresville, domestic battery. Sentenced to 365 days in jail, suspended except for 114 days to serve (time served), 365 days probation, fines and costs of $590.

Superior Court III
Judge Sara A. Dungan

Justin D. Burton, 45, Mooresville, possession of methamphetamine. Sentenced to 545 days in jail, suspended except for 12 days to serve (time served), 533 days probation, fines and costs of $790.

Government Meetings

March 12
Mooresville Board of Zoning Appeals will meet at 6 p.m. at the Government Center, 4 E. Harrison St.

Mooresville Plan Commission will meet at 6:30 p.m. at the Government Center, 4 E. Harrison St.

March 16
The Morgan County Commissioners will meet at 6:30 p.m. at 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 Marley Way.

March 17
The Martinsville Police Merit Board will meet at 6 p.m. in the PD training room, 110 W. Morgan St.

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

March 18
The Martinsville Unsafe Building and Hearing Authority will meet at 7 p.m. in council chambers, 59 S. Jefferson St.

The Monroe Township Fire District ill meet at 7:30 p.m. at 450 N. Chestnut St. in Monrovia.

March 19
The Mooresville Police Commission will meet at 5 p.m. at the Government Center, 4 E. Harrison 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.

March 23
The Monrovia Redevelopment 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 Library Branch, 110 S. Jefferson St. in Martinsville.

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

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

March 24
The Martinsville Board of Zoning Appeals will meet at 6 p.m. in council chambers at 59 S. Jefferson St.

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

The Martinsville Plan Commission will meet at 7 p.m. in council chambers, 59 S. Jefferson St.

March 31
The Martinsville Fire Merit Board will meet at 6 p.m. in the training room at the station, 160 W. Morgan St.

April 2
The Mooresville Redevelopment Commission will meet at 6 p.m. at the Government Center, 4 E. Harrison St.

April 6
The Morgan County Commissioners will meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Administration Building, 180 S. Main St. in Martinsville.

The Mooresville Public Library Board will meet at 4 p.m. at the library, 220 W. Harrison St.

April 8
The Martinsville Redevelopment Commission will meet at 7:30 a.m. in council chambers, 59 S. Jefferson St.

The Morgan County Redevelopment Commission will meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Administration Building, 180 S. Main St. in Martinsville.

The Monrovia Public Works Committee will meet at 6:30 p.m. at the Government Center, 60 S. Marley Way.

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

April 13
The Morgantown Town Council will meet at 6 p.m. at the Town Hall, 269 Washington St.

The Monroe-Gregg School Board will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the administration office, 135 S. Chestnut St. in Monrovia.

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

The Mooresville Park Board will meet at 6:30 pm. 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.

April 14
The Morgan County Park Board will meet at 4:30 p.m. at the History Museum, 127 S. Main St. in Martinsville.

The Martinsville Park Board will meet at 6 p.m. in the council chambers at 59 S. Jefferson St.

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

The Morgan County Fair Board will meet at 7 p.m. in the 4-H Building at the fairgrounds, 1749 Hospital Drive in Martinsville.

April 15
The Martinsville Unsafe Building and Hearing Authority will meet at 7 p.m. in council chambers, 59 S. Jefferson St.

April 16
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.

April 20
The Morgan County Commissioners will meet at 6:30 p.m. at 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 Marley Way.

April 21
The Martinsville Police Merit Board will meet at 6 p.m. in the PD training room, 110 W. Morgan St.

April 27
The Morgan County Public Library Board will meet at 6 p.m. at the Main Library Branch, 110 S. Jefferson St. in Martinsville.

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

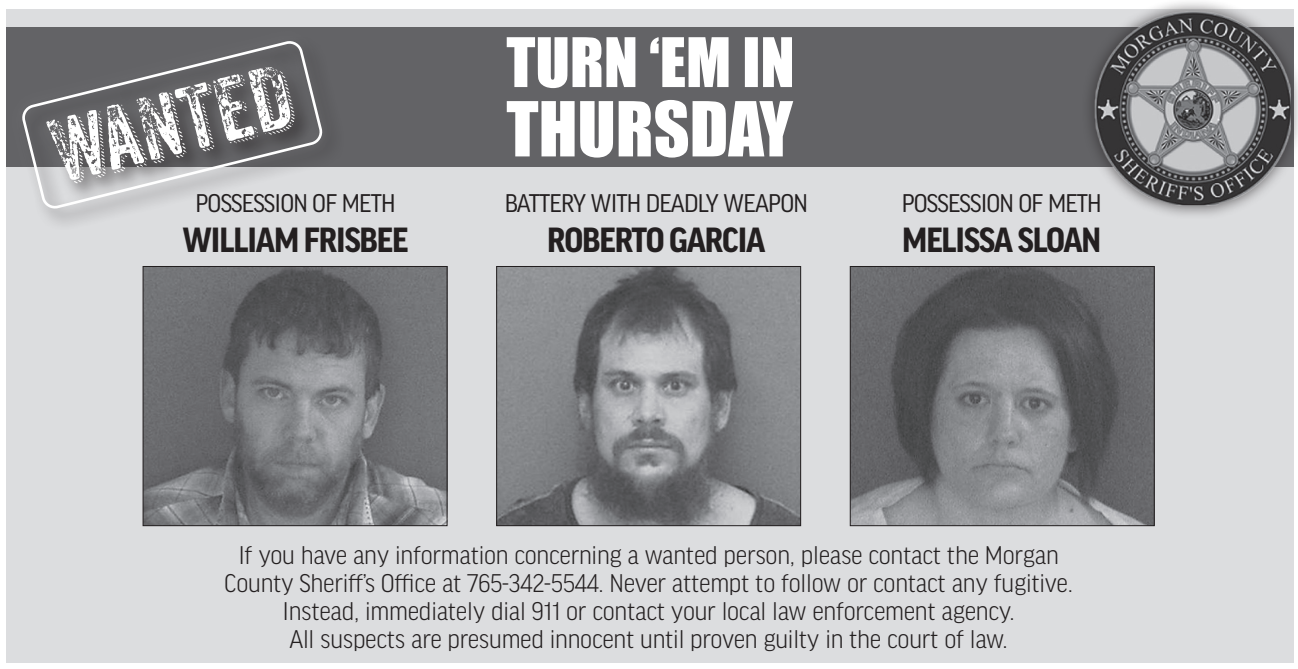
The Martinsville City Council will meet at 7 p.m. in the council chambers at 59 S. Jefferson St.

April 28
The Martinsville Fire Merit Board will meet at 6 p.m. in the training room at the station, 160 W. Morgan St.

The Martinsville Board of Zoning Appeals will meet at 6 p.m. in council chambers at 59 S. Jefferson St.

- 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)

Thu 3/12	Fri 3/13	Sat 3/14	Sun 3/15	Mon 3/16	Tue 3/17	Wed 3/18
50° | 41°F	58° | 32°F	54° | 45°F	63° | 25°F	29° | 16°F	32° | 24°F	42° | 33°F
Mostly Sunny	Cloudy/Wind	Cloudy	Thunderstorms	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	AM Snow Showers
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Calendar of Events

Mar. 12 - Mar. 26
Community Lenten Lunch at St. Martin of Tours, Sexton Hall, 172 E Harrison St., Martinsville. 11:30-12:30 $5 per person. Held each Thursday during the Lenten season.

Mar. 12
Thursday Euchre at Martinsville Senior Center, 1369 Blue Bluff Road, at 5:45 p.m. $3 All are welcome.

Morgan County Federation of Republican Women monthly meeting at the Martinsville Youth Center, 165 Morton Ave., at 6 p.m.

Dining with Diabetes at Paragon Volunteer Fire Department, 101 W Union Rd, Paragon 6-8 p.m. 4 Sessions, Free, contact Rachel at 765-342-1010 to sign up. Week 1 What is diabetes? Snacks and appetizers.

Open Mic & Pints at Main Street Grill, 21 N Jefferson, Martinsville. Live music and poetry, all ages welcome. Sign ups at 5:45, music starts at 6 p.m.

Mar. 13
Tiny Tots at the Monrovia Branch of Morgan County Public Library, 145 S. Chestnut St. from 10:30-11 a.m. every Friday.

Toddler Time at Morgan County Public Library, Main Branch 110 S. Jefferson St. in Martinsville, from 10:30-11 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, 1369 Blue Bluff Road, at 12:15 p.m. $5 All are welcome.

Second Friday Open Studio and Open Mic night, Art Sanctuary, 190 N. Sycamore St.in Martinsville, from 6-9 p.m. Tour working artists studios and enjoy local live music.

Music Bingo at Cedar Creek Winery, 3820 Leonard Rd., Martinsville from 6:30-10 p.m. This is a free, all ages event.

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.

Cool Hand Luke at the Martinsville Entertainment Theater, 36 E Morgan St. at 7 p.m. Tickets $5, doors open one hour before show.

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

Mar. 14
Gardenfest and Annual Pansy Sale at Mooresville Christian Academy, 4271 SR 144 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. $2 entry fee, yard and garden vendors, presentations on gardening topics, free seeds and trees. food trucks on site. Presented by Morgan County Master Gardeners.

2026 Headshot Event at MWPImages 7 E. Moore St., Mooresville from 10-11 a.m. MWPImages to take professional headshots, free entry with donation to Peace Restored. Items to donate: Journals, Adult Coloring Books, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Chocolate Candy. Event hosted by Women in Leadership-Morgan County.

Learn to knit a dishcloth at Morgan County Public Library, Main Branch 110 S. Jefferson St. in Martinsville, from 10-11 a.m., beginner-friendly project. All materials provided; however, participants may bring their own yarn and needles. Registration is required.

Meet the Author: Nikota Brault at Fables and Fairy Tales, 38 N Main St. Martinsville from 1-3 p.m. Nikota is the author of Where Beauty Never Fades.

Heroes of the League Gala at Jones Crossing Banquet Center 4161 E. Allison Rd, Mooresville from 5-9 p.m. To benefit the League of Miracles. Cocktail attire recommended, capes and costumes welcome, dinner, live and silent auction, photo booth, drinks and dancing. leagueofmiracles.org/gala to donate, sponsor a table or buy tickets.

Silent Disco at Cedar Creek Winery, 3820 Leonard Rd., Martinsville from 7-10 p.m. $20 per person, only 150 headphones are available, get your tickets early.

Captain Fantastic, Elton John and Billy Joel tribute at the Martinsville Entertainment Theater, 36 E Morgan St. at 7:30 p.m. Tickets $35 in advance or $40 day of show, available at www.RDPTickets.com, doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Live Music at 67 Boars Nest, 2285 Ind 6, Paragon featuring The Rox Band at 8 p.m.

Mar. 15
Gone with the Wind at the Martinsville Entertainment Theater, 36 E Morgan St. at 2 p.m. Tickets $5, doors open one hour before show.

Live Music at Cedar Creek Winery, 3820 Leonard Rd., Martinsville at 2 p.m. featuring Brandon Boerner.

Sip and Paint at Main Street Grill Monrovia, 220 W Main St., from 2-5 p.m. $39 per person, includes all supplies. Painting night blossoms at dusk.

Bingo at Boys and Girls Club of Morgan County, 31 Indianapolis Rd, Mooresville, 3-5 p.m, doors open at 2. Single ticket $75, includes 2 booklets of 10 games, purchase in advance at the club or at the door. Cash or Check only. Free food, drinks and dessert.

Mar. 16
Pioneer Pathfinders walk at Pioneer Park, 1101 N Indianapolis Road in Mooresville 9-10 a.m., meet at shelter #2.

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

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

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

Life Support Group for Women at 359 N. Elliott St., Martinsville (side entrance of Way of the Cross Church) from 6:30-8:30 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, 6:30-8 p.m. 317-494-8794

Main Branch Book Club at Morgan County Public Library, Main Branch 110 S. Jefferson St. in Martinsville from 7-8 p.m. 3rd Monday of the month. Discuss the book of the month with other readers.

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!

Mar. 17
Teen Tuesdays at Morgan County Public Library, Main Branch 110 S. Jefferson St. in Martinsville, from 3-4 p.m. Teens in grades 6-12 can join us for weekly programs featuring crafts, games, creating art, and more!

St. Patrick's Day Party at Cedar Creek Winery, 3820 Leonard Rd., Martinsville featuring Ellie Grayce Duo, music starts at 4 p.m.

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.

Morgan County Schoolhouse Quilters Guild at First Church of the Nazarene, 1609 John R. Wooden Dr. in Martinsville. The 3rd Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. Visitors are welcome. Please use the entrance facing the High School Football Field.

Live music at Martinsville Senior Center, 1369 Blue Bluff Road, from 6:30-9 p.m., doors open at 5:30. $5 bring favorite dish to share. Fun for the whole family. 765-342-5525

Martinsville Photography Club at the Morgan County Public Library, Main Branch 110 S. Jefferson St. in Martinsville from 7:00-8:15 p.m. Share photos, learn, exchange ideas and talk about photography with other hobby photographers.

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

St. Patricks Day Party at 67 Boars Nest, 2285 SR 67, Paragon 8-Midnight. featuring Cabin Row.

Mar. 18
Preschool Storytime at Monrovia Branch of Morgan County Public Library, 145 S. Chestnut St. 10:30-11:30 a.m. and again from 1:30-2:30 p.m. every Wednesday.

Martinsville in Motion City Walk, meet at Churches in Mission parking lot, 60 W Pike St. at noon. Free Community walk, options for a 10, 20 or 30 minute walk.

Tween Wednesday at the Morgan County Public Library, Main Branch 110 S. Jefferson St. in Martinsville from 4-5 p.m. Crafts, games, snacks and more for ages 9-12.

Morgan County Democratic Women led Group monthly meeting at Keller Hall, First Presbyterian Church, 240 E Washington St at 6:30 p.m.

Mar. 19
Thursday Euchre at Martinsville Senior Center, 1369 Blue Bluff Road, at 5:45 p.m. $3 All are welcome.

Dining with Diabetes at Paragon Volunteer Fire Department, 101 W Union Rd, Paragon 6-8 p.m. 4 Sessions, Free, contact Rachel at 765-342-1010 to sign up. Week 2 Carbs & sweeteners, desserts.

Silent Book Club at Sara's Goodies, 460 S Main St. from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Presented by Fables and Fairy Tales. Bring whatever you're reading! The meeting starts off with some casual conversation, order a snack, drink or dessert, then just sit and enjoy your reading.

Open Mic & Pints at Main Street Grill, 220 W Main St., Monrovia. Live music and poetry, all ages welcome. Sign ups at 5:45, music starts at 6 p.m.

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

The Art of Junk Journaling at the Monrovia Branch of Morgan County Public Library, 145 S. Chestnut St. from 6:30-8 p.m. We'll talk about how to get started, share examples and work on our own. Open to teens and adults. Registration appreciated.

Mar. 20-21
Book Sale at Morgan County Public Library, 110 S Jefferson St. Martinsville, in the large meeting room from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days.

Mar. 20
Tiny Tots at the Monrovia Branch of Morgan County Public Library, 145 S. Chestnut St. from 10:30-11 a.m. every Friday.

Opinion

COMIC



Wars and rumors of war



Marking Time
MARK SUTER

It's foggy out my window this morning. It's so rainy and damp that I'm watching a couple of ducks waddling across my neighbor's yard. Really.

The foggy sky is an apt metaphor for what's happening in Iran and the Middle East right now. The ambiguity is not the bombing of Tehran and eliminating the regime with extreme prejudice. It's that nobody knows for sure what happens next.

Will the next leaders of Iran, whoever they are, be preferable to us and more peaceful toward us? Will we be pulled into a drawn-out war of unintended consequences, costing untold blood and treasure?

Most concerning, perhaps, is Iran's remaining capacity to sow chaos and death. A wounded bear, like a suicidal terrorist, can still inflict a world of hurt. Nobody knows for sure how many came with the millions who illegally entered the U. S. before 2025. Who knows where they are right now and what they're up to?

I would like to tell you that everything is going to work out perfectly, that there is absolutely no possibility of any danger or repercussions, and that from now on, the world will be perfectly secure and at peace. I'd like to tell you that, but I can't. Nor can anybody else.

Having lived through the Iran hostage crisis, various terrorist bombings, plane crashes, Kuwait, 9/11, Afghanistan, and all the rest, any disturbance in the Middle East feels like a powder keg about to explode, and there's no guarantee it won't.

By the same token, the gloom and doomers can't say for sure that this latest go around is the portent of Armageddon and the end of the world. It is curious, though, that all this came about close to a rare blood moon, the total lunar eclipse on March 3.

It's also the week of Purim, the Jewish holiday commemorating the fifth century B.C. rescue of the Jews from genocide in Persia, thanks to the efforts of Queen Esther and her cousin, Mordecai.

Is it just coincidence that Esther's Persia is today's Iran who, like Israel's ancient enemies, has openly vowed to annihilate Israel and all Jewish people, along with the U.S. if given the chance?

Of course, it is more likely that what is called a blood moon is a naturally occurring — and predictable — lunar eclipse. When the Earth passes between the Sun and the Moon, sunlight filtered through Earth's atmosphere casts a reddish glow on the lunar surface, and thus, a "blood" moon. Such moons have always come and gone, and we already know the next one will be in 2028.

As for the convergence with Purim, blood moons are bound to occasionally coincide with Jewish religious festivals. I don't know that this one makes the end of time any closer than it always is.

The great Ray Charles once said, "Live each day like it's your last, because one of these days, you're gonna be right."

From day one, life on this planet is temporary and fragile. There have been "wars and rumors of wars" from the earliest days of created earth right up to this week in Iran.

In fact, according to World Population Review, 40 countries around the world are right now engaged in some level of warfare. They just aren't on the news nonstop. Such is life, and death, in this world of ours populated by fallen, broken people.

It's what makes worrying and prognosticating a poor use of time and energy. It's why I'm not more afraid or more worried this month than I was last month.

As of this morning, the world is still turning, even after all that humanity has tried to do to it and to each other for ages and eons.

Of course, some nut may find a way to blow it up, though that has become a little less likely this week after events in Iran. Even if they don't, however, we are in for more conflict, war, pain and death. Even in a good and worthy cause, many good and innocent lives will sadly be lost.

It's good, then, that so many, even nonreligious, are urging us to pray for our country, our leaders, and especially our troops and their families.

If prayer is a good idea, it might help us navigate through the fog to ask a simple question: Pray to whom? Or what? Is there anybody on the receiving end of all these prayers? Or is it all just positive thoughts and good vibes?

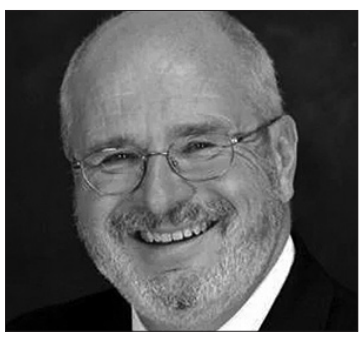
May I humbly suggest any and all prayers be addressed to the One who was there "in the beginning … ."

He is true, He will still be there at the end, however and whenever that is, and just like the present moment, He's got the whole world in His hands.

Always did, always will.

Mark Suter was raised on a farm in Kentucky, and is a retired pastor who served in Martinsville for 20 years. He can be reached with comments or questions at mksuter@gmail.com.

An exit from the crazy train



The Statehouse File
JOHN KRULL

Former Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard's entry into the race for Indiana Secretary of State shakes things up in an interesting way.

Ballard became the first Republican since Steve Goldsmith to lead the Hoosier state's largest city when he scored an upset victory in 2007 over incumbent Democrat Bart Peterson. This time, Ballard plans to run as an independent for secretary of state.

He will face off against the scandal-plagued incumbent, Republican Diego Morales, and his most likely Democratic challenger, Beau Bayh, possessor of one of the most potent surnames in Indiana politics. The Morales-Bayh tilt already has generated a disproportionate share of attention with both national money and national media focus finding its way toward the contest.

Some of that can be attributed to one of the oddities of Indiana political history.

For some odd reason, at certain moments, this relatively inconsequential statewide office becomes the red-hot center of Indiana politics.

It was that way in 1986, when Beau Bayh's father, Evan Bayh — himself the son of a former U.S. senator from Indiana — ran against Republican Rob Bowen, the son of former Gov. Otis Bowen. This scuffle between the scions of popular politicians ended with Bayh prevailing. That victory launched Evan Bayh into a career that included two terms as Indiana's governor and two terms as U.S. senator from the state, along with serious consideration a couple of times for a Democratic vice-presidential nomination.

Four years after Evan Bayh won the secretary of state's race, his handpicked successor, Joe Hogsett, squared off against Republican Indianapolis Mayor William Hudnut. Once again, even though there was a hotly contested race for U.S. Senate, the secretary of state battle soaked up most of the ink and broadcast attention.

Hogsett won that battle of heavyweights jostling in the flyweight division and now is in his third term as mayor of Indianapolis.

This year's secretary of state scuffle also promises to attract an inordinate amount of attention.

With access to his family's name and his family's vast fundraising network, Beau Bayh is the political equivalent of the latest sequel to a series of blockbuster movies. The show is bound to open to great fanfare, but it remains to be seen whether the story is compelling enough to make it another hit.

Morales, on the other hand, is a known quantity, a grasping member of the scandal-a-day club who seems more focused on figuring out ways to use his office to provide him with luxury vehicles and jobs for family members than on serving the public.

Morales' vulnerability doubtless had some role in encouraging the younger Bayh to make the race in the first place. An easier target for a campaign focused on the virtues of duty and public integrity than a poster boy for seeking political office as a path to personal and family enrichment would be hard to imagine.

But that's what makes Ballard's entry into the mix intriguing.

Both he and Beau Bayh are ex-Marines, but Ballard spent more than two decades wearing this nation's uniform, which makes him the clear winner in the military service primary.

What's more, Ballard's message — that he's running not to be the Republican secretary of state or the Democratic secretary of state, but to be your secretary of state — cuts into Bayh's post-partisan, good-government-for-its-own sake appeals to independent and non-MAGA Republican voters.

It's clear that Ballard discerned he might be able to fill the lane once occupied by Richard Lugar and Mitch Daniels Indiana Republicans who now feel like outcasts in their own party.

At the very least, he'll give disaffected Republicans a way to exit the crazy train without having to completely betray their historic GOP loyalties.

He won't win, of course.

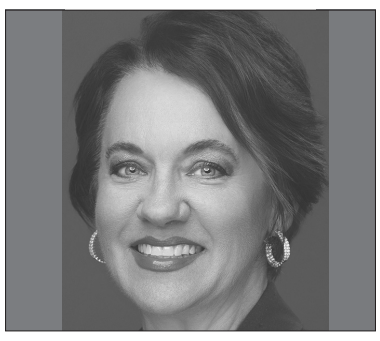
But he'll force both Bayh and Morales to focus their messages more. And Ballard may even prompt Indiana Republicans to reconsider whether Diego Morales is a hill upon which they're willing to die.

Yeah.

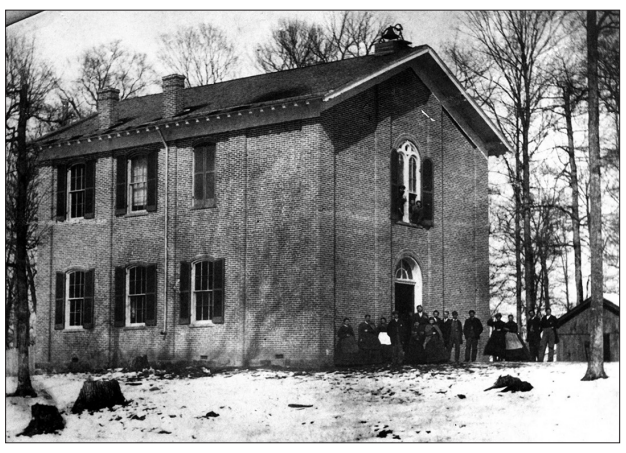
Greg Ballard is going to make an already interesting 2026 campaign year even more interesting.

John Krull is director of Franklin College's Pulliam School of Journalism and publisher of TheStatehouseFile.com, a news website powered by Franklin College journalism students. The views expressed are those of the author only and should not be attributed to Franklin College.

A lasting legacy that stands apart



CFMC Community Chat
KIM COLE



The first known photo of the now historic Academy building in Mooresville was taken after it was completed in 1861. (Mooresville Schools courtesy photo)

The older I get, the more I appreciate everything. Aging has made me respect the power of time, and I have an affinity for history that I didn't when I was young.

In my position at the community foundation, I am fortunate to attend so many meaningful events in the county, and one such event that really resonated with me earlier this month was the first meeting of Pioneer Partners, organized and hosted by Dr. Jake Allen.

Anyone who knows Jake (Dr. Allen feels too stuffy for this cool guy) knows his enthusiasm for Mooresville Schools is unmatched. I cannot imagine a better leader for any school district, and Mooresville has been lucky to call this Illinois native their own his entire career, starting as a student observer at Paul Hadley Middle School in 2003.

This column isn't about Jake though, but rather his beloved Mooresville Schools, and specifically the Academy Building, which was Central Indiana's first high school and likely the only school in the United States paid for by private donations that operated as a public school for more than 100 years!

Thirteen original donors funded the project after growing concern that there was no high school in the area. Donations ranged from 50 cents to $150 per donor, and others donated stone, labor, and hauled lime. The school was built in 1860 and opened in 1861 during Abraham Lincoln's presidency. Total building cost was $4,500.

Many donors were members of the Quaker church, Society of Friends, with construction overseen by the Mooresville High School Association of Board of Managers, also members of Friends Church. The separate staircases in the front of the building — one for males and one for females — are a reminder of the Quaker influence.

Remarkably, records show 30 out of 78 students the first year were girls, and they received equal training with boys. Of those first students, 43 were local and others came from Springtown, Plainfield, Monrovia, Danville, Bridgeport, and even the state of Iowa. Then called a boarding academy, students unable to commute daily boarded with a local family.

In 1867, 87 donors raised funds for a two-room addition to accommodate their growing attendance, then 150 students. After this addition, an elementary school was started as preparatory education for the high school.

From 1879-1907, 147 graduates came through the Academy Building. In 1869, students were commissioned to join the military due to the Civil War, and they were commissioned again in 1889. With declining enrollment limiting the budget and the rise in free public schools, the Board of Managers sold the school to the town of Mooresville in 1870 for $5,000, which they later refunded.

From 1883 to 1907, the building simply known as Mooresville School housed all grades. In 1907, the building was full, so a new high school was built next door in 1908. The Academy Building then housed grades 1-8.

In 1936, a new elementary school was built after Arthur Newby donated a 140-acre farm and other property to build William and Milton Newby Memorial Elementary School in dedication to his uncles. Fortunately, the original plan to tear down the Academy Building was thwarted by Superintendent Forrest Caldwell who wanted it preserved, and the school board agreed. After 1936, the building was used for junior high classes until the current Mooresville High School was built in 1960. The old high school then became the junior high, and Academy Building was filled with elementary students until Neil A. Armstrong Elementary was built in 1971, which incidentally was built on land originally owned by one of the 13 donors for The Academy, John D. Carter.

The Academy Building has stood the test of time, surviving two tornados — one in 1917 and one in April 2020 — with a community grateful to the late Sonny Perry who restored all but one of the original 19 desks himself following the latter storm.

Mooresville is proud of this historic site as is CFMC, which received a grant to help with restoration efforts in 1997.

Of everything I learned, I was most impressed with their arduous curriculum — English, three kinds of geography, meteorology, geology, chemistry, botany, philosophy, physiology, composition, elocution, grammar, history, rhetoric, logic, economy, spelling, six different mathematics courses, surveying, astronomy, and eight classes in Latin and Greek.

At the time of the sale from the church, school trustees intended to "never let it fall below its former standard."

In my opinion, Dr. Jake Allen is continuing that standard today with the 22 college and career options for students (almost three times the options available at most Indiana high schools), the new Agriscience and Construction Trades Building, and a 98-percent graduation rate. Keep up the good work, Jake!

To learn more about Dr. Jake Allen, watch my podcast interview with him on our website at cfmconline.org.

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

Springtime is here again



Lisa Dodson turned to art quilting after retirement, as a way to keep busy. Not afraid to try new materials and methods, she uses many of her own surface dyed and designed fabrics, eco-prints, watercolors, acrylic paint, and paper in her beautiful, detailed small treasures. (Courtesy photo)



Mika Power, a studio artist at Art Sanctuary, has three paintings at CFMC Gallery that are bright, mixed media eye candy and worth stopping in to see! (Courtesy photo)



Art Cart
NANCY MAXWELL

Contract with a snow-plow driver for the driveway, or get the lawnmower its annual tune-up? Leave the holiday lights up a little longer, or rake the winter detritus from the garden? Wrap the kids in coats, hats and gloves, or just grab sweatshirts as they head to the bus stop?

Welcome to Spring in Indiana!

A few cold slushy days are likely still in the forecast; however, the daffodils are popping up, and Morgan County Master Gardeners have the pansies all ready to go this Saturday, so Winter is almost an afterthought.

Skip raking the flower beds for now (dormant pollinators still need that protection for another month or more), and instead, head to the Mooresville Christian Academy in Mooresville on Saturday for your annual pansy fix from the Master Gardeners.

Doors open at 9 a.m., and pansies generally sell out by 1 p.m. Enjoy garden art, presentations by gardening authorities, a variety of plants and related items and the annual tree giveaway compliments of Indiana Department of Natural Resources, including shag bark hickory and silky dogwood.

Gardeners, crafters, home bakers, musicians, and artisans — it is not too soon to be thinking about the Morgan County Farmers Market. Are you interested in participating this year? Contact the market through Facebook for dates and details.

Thanks to Tammy Cheeseman and master drummer Julian Douglas, another successful Drum Circle took place recently at Keller Hall. A full complement of participants, old and new to drumming, learned about various types of drums, about the universality of rhythm, and when to re-ring a gong!

This most recent drum circle was funded in tribute to Doris Patton, a memorable figure in Martinsville's history, and the first female member of the Indiana University Jazz Band. Watch for the next scheduled drum circle event on Facebook or here in The Correspondent.

New art and artists are featured at the Community Foundation of Morgan County's office on the west side of the Martinsville Square. The small CFMC gallery space is a showcase for some of Morgan County's finest artists and artwork.

Currently showing are works by potter Debbie Dodge, art quilts from Lisa Dodson, photography of Gayle Moore, watercolor paintings of Donna Mason, and acrylic paintings of Mika Power.

Debbie Dodge maintains a home studio with husband and painter Steve Dodge. She also produces and teaches hand building and wheel courses at Mudworks Pottery Studio in Mooresville. Dodge creates an annual collectible ornament each year, sold exclusively at the Martinsville Candy Kitchen, and has work at Sterling Butterfly.

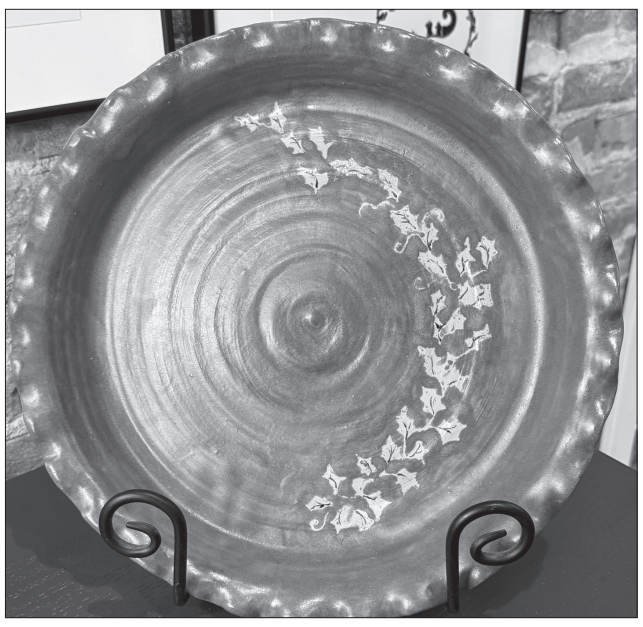
Lisa Dodson turned to art quilting after retirement, as a way to keep busy. Always comfortable with sewing, quilting seemed like a reasonable extension of her skills. Starting with traditional bed quilts, wall quilts and a membership in the Studio Art Quilt Association her skills accelerated, dedication to the art form increased, and she made the leap from hobby quilter to quilt artist.

Acceptance into juried national juried shows and having work published in magazines and books, along with having quilts exhibited on the international stage have firmly established Dodson's credentials. Not afraid to try new materials and methods, she uses many of her own surface dyed and designed fabrics, eco-prints, watercolors, acrylic paint, and paper in her beautiful, detailed small treasures.

Donna Mason has been involved in arts and crafts all her life. Drawing, painting, jewelry, fibers, and various crafting adventures have all added to her artistic skills and vision. Her collection featured at CFMC features beautiful watercolor work, strong colors and enjoyable everyday scenes.



Gayle Moore found her artistic vision in the delicate texture, lines and structure of plants and trees. Her close up views – often printed in reverse value – show the unique beauty of each plant's shape and form. (Courtesy photo)



Potter Debbie Dodge produces and teaches hand building and wheel courses at Mudworks Pottery Studio in Mooresville. (Courtesy photo)

One standout work is that of the Morgan County Courthouse. Donna's rendition shows the intricate details of our historic courthouse. The piece featured is a print of the original and can be purchased. Donna designs the annual fundraiser ornament sold by WellSpring Shelter, showing one side of the Martinsville Square. The 2026 edition will complete the set with the painting of the final side of the Square; no doubt she will find a new venture to showcase her talents. Mason is a studio artist at Art Sanctuary.

Gayle Moore has been photographing nature for over 40 years. Inspired by black and white prints she found her artistic vision in the delicate texture, lines and structure of plants and trees. Her close up views and often printed in reverse value show the unique beauty of each plant's shape and form. Gayle shares studio space with Tom Potter at Art Sanctuary and in Indianapolis.

Mika Power, also a studio artist at Art Sanctuary, has just three paintings at CFMC Gallery, but they are bright, mixed media eye candy and worth stopping in to see! Powers is a mixed media artist, trying a variety of paint types, surfaces, application processes, and subject matter to create works of electric color and pattern.

What a collection! Morgan County is a treasure-trove of artistic talent! Stop at CFMC anytime the Open Flag is flying.

Visit the Art Sanctuary artists in their studios tomorrow night for Open Studio Night, March 13, 6-9pm.

Keep me posted at artcart martinsville@gmail.com, nancy.maxwell@me.com or text to 765-318-0972.



Melissa wanted no part of this camping trip with her sister, but Dad was the reason why. (Rachel Hills courtesy photo)

Another perspective



Authors Who Serve
RACHEL HILLS

Here they were, back at Yellowwood. Melissa had resisted going on this trip, especially to celebrate her 40th. They both knew Melissa wasn't an outdoor girl. She didn't like bugs and dirt and tents, but this place held good memories.

This was where the family had come when vacation plans had to be instant, as they often were. And now Heather wanted Melissa to share her birthday in the woods. She'd rather have a root canal.

Instead, she squared off with a tent which refused to stand erect.

Of course Heather would take over. She did everything right. Melissa pivoted from the tent to build a fire. She needed breathing room. The longest she had been with Heather in years was three hours for annual "family reunions." She knew Heather was trying to keep the siblings in touch, an admirable thing but ineffectual. She searched for tinder, resisting the urge to stomp her feet.

After stilted conversation tending the fire, they climbed into sleeping bags, and Melissa hoped for sleep. She had stopped camping after high school and was grateful her husband and kids had no interest.

Next morning, last night's irritation climbed out of the tent with her, but she tried to be cheerful. When Heather asked about Melissa's kids, she shared as little as she could and still be polite. Then she said, "While we fix breakfast, tell me how the foundation is doing. This is when you gear up for the fundraiser, right?"

While Heather babbled on, Melissa considered how to end the weekend faster. She would move tomorrow's afternoon hike to late morning. No need to stay two nights. One was enough time with Heather or the woods.

Heather paused for breath and Melissa jumped in.

"I was thinking maybe we could hike after breakfast. What do you think?"

"Oh, yes! This is perfect timing for wildflowers. Did you see them when we set up camp last night?"

That would be a no. I was fighting a tent.

"Not really, but I'm sure we'll see more while hiking."

"For sure. Look to the right of the tent. We almost covered Snowdrops and some Salt and Pepper."

"Great. Well, let's clean up our mess."

And then hoist all this food back into the tree. What idiot called camping restful?

At last, they set off for Dad's favorite spot in the park, a high overlook. Melissa wasn't looking forward to the climb, but she had not wasted her gym membership. She figured she was in better shape than Heather and six years younger.

Better yet, they weren't carrying all their gear, just a day pack with water and snacks. Dad had always insisted on this minimum, plus first aid. She did not miss this at all. Okay, maybe a little. This had been Dad's favorite time of year, before the first leaves on the trees interfered with long views through the canopy. She remembered him identifying the trees by their bark and calling out the wildflowers.

His favorite was Spring Beauty, and there they were, spreading in several directions. Delicate white petals and faint red veining, somehow both fragile and sturdy.

"Oh, look! Our first Trout Lilly. I love the yellow, but let's watch for the white ones."

Melissa was glad Heather said yellow so she could recall which flower was a Trout Lily. They continued on the narrow track, Melissa silently rehearsing all the reasons she didn't need her big sister.

Yet here she was, back in Yellowwood, with the one person she avoided. At last, they stepped onto the huge stone topping the outlook. She was panting, but Heather nearly fell as she sat.

Melissa tried to look casual as she sat, but the climb left her winded.

Heather said, "Whew, I'd forgotten how high this is."

Melissa wished she could forget Heather's ugly comment the night their Dad died, Heather the mini-adult at age 12. Heather's words had permanently set the tone for their relationship.

She looked at the evergreens below and dreaded the climb down. Heather would need to rest a while.

She looked at Melissa and said, "Do you ever wish we had not asked Dad to go out that night?"

"*We?* When the cops came, you said, 'If *you* hadn't been so needy,' meaning I made Dad go and so the drunk driver hit him."

"You?" Heather's mouth fell open. "I was the one who needed Motrin. You only wanted candy. I said, 'If *we* hadn't been so needy.' Did you think I blamed you?"

"Of course you blamed me."

"Oh, Melissa. I blamed myself, not you."

Heather blamed herself? Melissa didn't believe it. but Heather's expression seemed genuine. Melissa decided to linger on the outlook, see if this was real. In fact, she might stay the second night after all.

This changed everything.

Rachel Hills is a Mooresville resident whose playground includes the power of story and the joy of seeing.

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'The French Family Band' brings world-class performance

By Pamela Siddons
MCC Contributor

MARTINSVILLE — From Shelbyville, Evansville, Clay City, Zionsville, Ohio and Illinois, people came to join local residents to watch The French Family Band at the Martinsville High School Auditorium on March 3, in an event sponsored by the Morgan County Community Concerts.

Originally from Australia, mother Camille and father Stuie, were one of its best-loved musical acts. They achieved high honors in winning three Australian Golden Guitar Awards. After adding son Sonny in 2023, The French Family Band won another Golden Guitar Award.

In 2019, the family moved to Nashville, Tenn., with their three children. Quickly thereafter, The French Family Band found their love of touring was quarantined due to Covid. Covid necessitated Facebook Live concerts, which exposed them to a worldwide audience.



From left: Sonny, Camille and Stuie French perform at the Martinsville High School Auditorium on March 3, bringing their renowned blend of country- and western-style guitar pickin'. (Pamela Siddons photo / MCC)

Their country and western style follows American roots of decades. They appeared on the Grand Ol' Opry four times in 2023. Marty Stuart stated,

"Stuie and Sonny French have invaded Nashville with the best country guitar playing the town has heard in years," Nashville music star Marty Stuart said of the group.

Twin guitar harmonies and blended vocals provided a smooth family style and echoed somewhat Merle Haggard, Anne Murray and Chet Adkins as the audience was charmed with their family talent and spirit. The audience listened to their renditions of *Good Time Charlie's Got the Blues, Tumbling Tumbleweeds, Mainstreet Breakdown, Flowers on the Wall, Ring of Fire,* and other country greats together with several of the band's own creations.

Mother Camille, father Stuie and 18-year-old son Sonny became United States Citizens in 2025. They are proud to be Americans and proud to travel and present their music for their fans.

The next concert presented by Morgan County Community Concerts will be M5 The Mexican Brass on Friday, May 22, at the Mooresville High School Auditorium at 7 p.m.

Tickets may be purchased at the door.

For more information, visit www.morgancountyconcerts.com.

As part of our community outreach, as always, music students in grades 7 through 12 will be admitted free when accompanied by an adult.

Rotarians explore new 'Companion Club' opportunity

From Jenny Oakley
Martinsville Rotary Club

MORGAN COUNTY — Members of the community recently gathered for an informational meeting about launching a new Companion Club affiliated with Rotary International.

The Companion Club concept is designed to make it easier for people who may not be able to attend the typical midday meetings to still get involved in community service and networking.

The proposed club would offer a lower time commitment, a more casual atmosphere and reduced membership fees while still supporting the service mission of the Martinsville Rotary Club.

Organizers shared that only eight members are needed to officially launch the Companion Club. Once formed, the group would focus on fellowship, community service and networking opportunities while maintaining flexibility for members' schedules.

One example is its periodic Silent Disco events — the next is this Saturday at 7 p.m. at Cedar Creek — where participants dance while listening to music through wireless headphones. Proceeds from each event are donated to a different charitable organization, allowing the club to support a variety of community needs.

Community members who are interested in service, community connection, and building professional relationships are encouraged to attend and learn more about becoming part of the new Rotary Companion Club. A second informational social event will be held on March 19 at 6 p.m., again at Black Dog Brewing Co. in Mooresville.



Community service is a central mission of Rotary, and the Martinsville Club is hoping to expand its options for those with busy schedules who still want to serve. (Martinsville Rotary Club courtesy photo)

Elliott voices concerns over AES deal with BlackRock consortium

By Leslie Bonilla Muñiz
Indiana Capital Chronicle

INDIANA — Indiana State Treasurer Daniel Elliott says he "cannot support" a $33 billion agreement to buy the utility company AES and take it private, citing fears about the impact on central Indiana ratepayers.

"After learning the news (March 2) of the reported deal … I have spent the last 24 hours gathering information and am increasingly worried by this potential deal and the impact it will have on Hoosiers in central Indiana," Elliott said in a statement, a day after AES and the investor group announced they had entered into a definitive agreement.

AES Indiana is one of the state's "big five" investor-owned electric utilities. It serves more than 500,000 homes and businesses in and around Indianapolis, over an exclusive territory of about 530 square miles. It also owns the Eagle Valley power plant on Blue Bluff Road.

The buyers involved in the deal announced last week include BlackRock subsidiary Global Infrastructure Partners, headquartered in New York, and Swedish EQT's Infrastructure VI fund. They are joined by two underwriters: the California Public Employees' Retirement System and the Qatar Investment Authority, which is that nation's sovereign wealth fund.



State Treasurer Daniel Elliott (far left), a Republican from Martinsville, meets with members of the Morgan County Leadership Academy back in February. After it was announced last week that AES agreed to a $33 billion acquisition deal with a BlackRock consortium, Elliott has voiced serious concerns. He has had his eye on the company going back to 2024, when he put them on his 'watch list' of potential Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) offenders, particularly in relation to state investments. (Treasurer Daniel Elliott courtesy photo)

Elliott — a Republican from Martinsville who in 2024 voted to dismiss BlackRock as one of Indiana's public retirement fund asset managers over allegations of liberal investment decisions — also expressed concerns about CalPERS fiscal "mismanagement" and Qatari support for the militant group Hamas.

"Hoosiers need to be guaranteed that they will not face harm at a time when affordability is one of the most important issues facing all of us," Elliott said. "I hope that the federal regulators that are in charge of reviewing and approving this merger will complete a full review and give Hoosiers complete transparency on the terms of this deal."

"Otherwise and until then, I cannot support this deal," he said.

As treasurer, Elliott is the Indiana's chief investment officer and banker, managing more than $16 billion for the state.

Chief of Staff Abhilash Reddy acknowledged the treasurer doesn't have statutory powers to stop the transaction, in a statement to the Indiana Capital Chronicle last week.

"However, he has been talking to leaders at all levels, and we are looking to see what can be done to ensure that there is proper transparency for all those who could be potentially affected by this," Reddy said. "At the very least, Treasurer Elliott can help provide a voice to the concerns of those that don't often get heard in situations like this, and that's a responsibility that he takes very seriously."

Amendments and bills were proposed to block the sale in the most recent legislative session, which ended Feb. 27, but Republican General Assembly leaders didn't act on them.

Indiana Gov. Mike Braun told reporters last week that his primary ask for utilities is to bring rates down, regardless of ownership. Indianapolis-area Democrats, however, have denounced the deal.

The Financial Times broke news of the potential acquisition in October, but Reddy said Elliott didn't release a statement then because his team didn't have enough confidence in the details reported.

THIRD HOUSE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

of the Indiana Senate.

The event, sponsored by the Greater Mooresville Chamber of Commerce, allowed the legislators to review actions from the 2026 General Assembly, which concluded Feb. 27.

Bray and Mayfield's conservative positions on issues seemed to have wide approval from most of the 30 or so citizens at the event.

Bray and Mayfield are two of three legislators representing all or parts of Morgan County in the General Assembly. The third Morgan County state legislator, Craig Haggard, did not attend Saturday's session.

Among the issues Bray and Mayfield discussed:

Property tax reform

The "pig through the python" reference, both incumbent legislators told their Mooresville audience, reflect that a property tax cut passed by the 2025 General Assembly still needs balancing.

Last year's tax cut bill, designated SB1 as the Senate's top priority for that legislative session, passed the House 70-27 on April 10, 2025, and the Senate 27-22 on April 15, 2025.

The law provides that, beginning this year, homeowners, farmers and businesses would see a 10-percent tax credit, up to $300, through 2008. Seniors on fixed incomes would receive an additional $150 credit, and benefits for disabled veterans also would increase. Totally, those cuts would provide $1.5 billion in property tax relief over three years.

Find bills at iga.in.gov
House and Senate bill numbers are included so readers can access full descriptions, actions and votes at iga.in.gov.

The tax credit, Bray said, should be seen on tax bills residents receive in May, which cover 2025. The bills "will not be dramatically smaller, but they will be smaller," he said.

The property tax cuts have left local units of government with less funding than previously. Some have, in turn, instituted Local Income Taxes to compensate for those losses.

Mayfield said the Legislature needs to better align tax rates (rates per every $1,000 of valuation) with levies — the maximum amount of money local units can raise through property taxes.

Medicaid cuts

The Senate's top priority for 2026 was controlling Medicaid expenses, outlined in Senate Enrolled Act 1. The Senate passed the bill 39-9, the House 62-31. A House-originated bill on Medicaid, HB 1277, passed the House 96-0 and the Senate 26-4.

From the time Medicaid was established in 1965 by President Lyndon Johnson, Indiana's cost has risen to $10 billion, $5 billion of that coming from 2021-2025 alone, Bray said. The federal government pays about two-thirds of the cost; the other one-third comes from the state, he said.

SEA 1 limits several aspects of eligibility, including for SNAP (food stamps), multiple enrollments and immigrant eligibility. HB 1277 limits some health services.

Bray, Mayfield and Haggard all voted for both bills.

Medicaid expenses have risen to 23 percent of the state's $46 million budget, Bray said.

The goal of the cuts, he said, is to preserve Medicaid for "people with children, the elderly and people who are really unhealthy" and to keep people who don't qualify off of the benefit. Medicaid also serves some as insurance for healthy adults, Bray said.

Opponents to Medicaid cuts have said they fear risks to, among others, people with disabilities, cancer patients and Medicaid recipients who are victims of fraud. Other concerns include less compensation to hospitals providing Medicaid services and causing elimination of such units as maternity services.

Social media and cell phones

Effective Jan. 1, 2027, teens 16 and under will not be allowed to use many popular social media sites without parental consent and without a company's age verification.

That provision, added to the end of HB 1408, passed the House 93-0 and the Senate 49-1. Both Bray and Mayfield voted for it; no vote shows on iga.in.gov for Haggard.

The bill came at least in partial response to the death of Indiana teen Hailey Buzbee, whose body was found in Ohio. A man she apparently met online at a gaming site has been charged in her death.

In addition, effective July 1, 2026, a "bell-to-bell" ban on cell phones in Indiana schools will take place. Students will not be allowed to use their cell phones in class, during lunch or in passing periods. That bill, SEA 78, passed the Senate, 38-12, with Bray voting yes; it passed the House with Haggard voting yes and Mayfield voting no because she said local schools already possess such controls.

"Cell phones interfere with learning no doubt about it," Mayfield said. "All of the data supports that."

Data center debate

Even though a bill containing language about data centers (HB 1333) didn't pass, Bray offered a strong opinion about non-disclosure agreements that have been signed by local officials, as in the site near Monrovia in which officials were not for months allowed to say that the company involved was Google.

Such NDAs need to be limited to the beginning of a project, Bray said, "but after it goes down the road anywhere at all, it does everyone a disservice because there is a void of real information [and] that void is filled with all sorts of inaccurate information that then becomes gospel. … There's no reason not to just have the conversation and see if the community wants it or not."

Bray also said tax abatement and other incentives now exceed acceptable levels and need to be pulled into line.

He also said, "We need to make sure data centers are paying for the [water and electrical] capacity that they need for their site."

Mayfield said the bill originally barely mentioned data centers and instead pertained only to 12 Indiana sites in brownfields, defined in an internet search as "abandoned, idled or underutilized industrial and commercial properties."

The overall purpose of the original bill was, in fact, to preserve usable farm land from undesirable development, she said.

'Da Bears' bill

As the Chicago Bears search for a deal on a football stadium to replace Soldier Field, Indiana has made a major pitch to have the new stadium built in Northwest Indiana.

Specifically identifying Hammond in Lake County, SB 27 creates a stadium authority, a stadium board and authorizes that town to work with the Bears to bring them to Indiana. The 71-page bill also details a raft of incentives to help attract the Bears.

The bill passed the Senate 45-4 and the House 95-4 with Bray, Haggard and Mayfield all voting in favor.

Indiana's offer, Mayfield said, would "save the Bears $200 million in taxes every year."

"They approached us," she said, "…and we are not offering [Illinois] anything else [than the bill's contents)."

If wooing the Bears fails, Mayfield said, "Valparaiso, Hammond, Gary, East Chicago's phones are ringing off the hook with people interested in being next in line [for a deal with Indiana]."

Bray and Mayfield said a decision could come from the Bears by May.

Monroe-Gregg board spars over maintenance contract

By Jared Quigg
MCC Reporter

MONROVIA — The Monroe-Gregg School District has had a cleaning problem all school year.

It began back in July, when the district, in anticipation of revenue drops resulting from Senate Enrolled Act 1, decided to let go six members of Monrovia Elementary School's custodial staff. The school board responded by contracting out custodial work to provide nighttime cleaning at the school, but superintendent Trent Provo warned at the time that there "may be more reductions coming."

And indeed, more reductions came, until only three remained on the district's custodial staff.

Teachers in the district have largely been forced to pick up the slack, which has been a source of frustration throughout Monrovia, as the teaching staff already have heavy workloads as it is.

Provo's solution was to finish the job he started last summer, and he recommended the board approve a contract with cleaning company GSF at Monday night's meeting of the school board.

Since the end of January, the district received six bids from various cleaning companies, and GSF was the lowest bidder, costing the district $749,973.67.

Importantly, GSF promised to hire the district's three remaining employees, and would pay them comparable salaries to what they currently make with the district. Not all of their benefits would transfer, however; a representative from GSF was at the meeting, and he admitted that the healthcare plan offered by his company, for example, was not as good as what the school district was offering.

Provo's recommendation did not sit well with board president Brock Sears or vice president Kevin Blundell, both of whom voiced opposition to approving a contract with GSF, at least for the time being.

Their opposition mainly stemmed from the fact that the district custodians had all been working in Monrovia for quite some time — one staff member for more than 40 years — and they felt uncomfortable signing those employees away to a company for whom they may not want to work.

"I have a lot of heartburn on employees," Sears said. "I feel like they probably hired in for a job, knowing they was gonna get a retirement. I know they're vested."

Blundell agreed, saying that it was hard to let people go, especially when they've known members of the staff for a very long time. He requested that he have more time to weigh this decision and talk to the staff members who would be affected to see how they feel about possibly working for GSF.

Board member Tom Kennedy led the charge on behalf of GSF.

"On the flip side, this is a problem we've been trying to solve," Kennedy said. "I mean, we've proven that the model we're trying to do now isn't working. That's the one thing I've heard constantly."

Sears asked district treasurer Moriah Crane how much money the district would save by contracting with GSF for custodial services. Crane said it would save the district about $180,000 in the first year of the contract.

Another concern Sears had was that no one on the current staff had met anyone from GSF, and so he felt uncomfortable forcing an employee either into an early retirement or away to a strange new employer.

"But what would be the alternative," Kennedy said, pushing against the notion of tabling the contract until next month. "Look, I want the best for our employees, too, but we don't get to dictate who (GSF) hires. I'm just kind of playing the other side of the argument. I mean, it's tough to read people. This decision is gonna be hell."

After Sears stated he had nothing else to say, Kennedy moved to approve the contract.

"Do I have a second?" Sears asked.

There was then a long silence in the room.

"Going once," Sears said.

"What are you wanting to get out of (another month)," board member Ky Kizzee asked.

Blundell said he would like to at least talk to the custodial staff and ask how they feel.

"I don't think delaying it is gonna change the outcome," Kizzee said.

"All you gotta do is second that bad boy then, Ky," Blundell said.

But Kizzee did not second Kennedy's motion, nor did anyone else. After another moment of silence, and realizing the contract did not have sufficient support, Kennedy withdrew his motion. The board then moved to table the vote until next month, which was approved 4-1, with Kennedy voting against the measure.

High school updates

At the beginning of the meeting, Monrovia High School principal Mike Springer and grant administrator Andrew Grismore provided the board with updates from the high school.

Springer's portion of the update largely consisted of presenting the school's SAT scores, which are below an already low state average, and are lower than the students at Martinsville High School and Mooresville High School.

Springer said it was difficult to get students to take the SAT seriously, as many Monrovia students either plan not to attend college, or are unsure if they want to continue their studies beyond high school. He added that normally about a third of Monrovia's students passed the SAT, and that those who pass almost always go on to attend college.

Grismore had much better news to share with the board. He said Monrovia is now able to offer Indiana College Core, which can provide high school students with up to 32 collegiate hours through Ivy Tech Bloomington.

Students can now receive 12 college credits through various English classes, six history credits, three political science credits, five biology credits, and six anatomy/physiology credits. Grismore compared this to a $10,000 scholarship if a student earns all 32 credits, and added that it would effectively allow incoming college students to immediately begin their sophomore years upon entering university.

In other news

• The board recognized four students of the month for March, and one student from February who was not able to attend last month's board meeting. From Monrovia Elementary School, Lydia Sims, Matthew Green and Lilly McCaslin were honored; Florenso Joseph was recognized from Monrovia Middle School; and Noah Breeden was selected from Monrovia High School. Each student earned a plaque and a restaurant gift card provided by Midway Auction.

• The board will hold an executive session, closed to the public, this evening to begin the search for a new superintendent to replace Provo, who will become the assistant superintendent at Greenwood beginning in July.

The next meeting of the Monroe-Gregg school board will take place on Monday, April 13, at 6:30 p.m. at the Administration Office, 135 S. Chestnut St.

City eyes parking restrictions

By Stephen Crane
MCC

MARTINSVILLE — The city of Martinsville is working on a comprehensive parking ordinance for the city, but until that's completed, city leaders are hoping that the parking can be limited or prohibited altogether on some of its narrowest streets.

"There is no way you can get a fire truck through there," city superintendent Mac Dunn told the Martinsville Board of Works and Safety (BOW) on Monday night.

Dunn requested that portions of seven city streets have parking restrictions, some as narrow as 22 feet across.

In the new parking ordinance the city is working on, the guidelines may prohibit parking on any streets narrower than 24 feet. From 24 to 30 feet, parking may be allowed on one side. And for streets 38 feet wide or more, parking may be allowed on both sides.

"Until we have a chance to present that (comprehensive parking ordinance) to the council, there are seven streets I would like the board of works to look at, and of course, the police department."

Dunn is hoping the BOW, the police department and the fire department could look at the proposed streets and come back with a recommendation in early May.

The BOW made a motion to table the issue until May.

In other business

• The BOW voted 2-0, with member John Lillywhite absent, to approve a change order for HWC Engineering in the amount of $218,243 to construct a gravel access roadway between the four lift stations along the North Levee.

• The BOW approved claims in the amount of $8,715 for expenses related to the Martinsville Entertainment Theater.

The next meeting of the BOW will be at 6:30 p.m. on March 23 in council chambers, 59 S. Jefferson St.

Streets eyed for parking restrictions

- E. Pike St.: from Main St. to North 5th St.
- 5th St.
- E. Walnut St.: from Main St. to Home Ave.
- W. Harrison St.: from Main St. to Park Ave.
- W. Pike St.: from Main St. to Park Ave.
- E. Jackson St.: from Main St. to 2nd St.
- E. Washington St.: from 600 block of E. Washington St. to 2nd St.

RDC hears update as Main in Motion project gets underway

By Lance Gideon
MCC Correspondent

MOORESVILLE — As the Main in Motion project is now underway, things will start to look different along Main Street by the end of March.

During the Mooresville Redevelopment Commission last Thursday, RDC consultant Chelsey Manns noted that trees along the construction path would need to be removed before March 31.

"That is for the entirety of the project," Manns said. "So even though we're only on the west end of the project, the tree removal, per state statute, has to be completed by March 31. So, those will all be coming down this month."

Eventually, new trees will be planted along Main Street.

"Final tree selection will be based on nursery stock availability at the time of construction," Manns added.

She also noted downtown merchants had a meeting earlier this month to discuss marketing during the construction.

According to Manns, one idea that came up during the meeting was creating a "passport" to entice people to visit several downtown businesses through prizes and other incentives. The businesses would also like to see downtown street fairs return after construction is over because the fairs help bring people into the shops and restaurants downtown.

"The main thing, like we said from day one, we want to keep that communication line as open as possible," RDC president Ryan Taylor said. "So, I feel like it's been great up to this point, so we want to make sure as we get into the nitty-gritty part of it, we want to continue that and help alleviate any stress from any of these people that are impacted by it."

Manns noted that project office hours will take place from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Eremos Coffee Shop, 15 W. Main St., on the third Wednesday of each month throughout the duration of construction.

Parks update

Mooresville Park Superintendent Phil Cornelius gave an update on the project at Pioneer Park.

He said crews have been working on the maintenance building.

"We are in the final stages for the shade structure that will go on the pickleball courts," Cornelius said. "... At that point, we'll have our construction crew, Greystone, actually start the work for the foundation work."

He also noted that lighting has been installed at the pickleball courts and are now functional. The park is working to ensure the lights don't impose on neighboring properties.

During the meeting, Cornelius was asking the RDC to disburse $169,863 for the project.

He noted that the RDC's contribution to the project, so far, has been $3,285,383, which leaves $413,617 remaining of what the commission allocated for the project.

The RDC unanimously approved the disbursement, along with all of its March claims, toward the end of the meeting.

In other business

• RDC attorney Adam Steuerwald noted that there had been some minor changes to Tax Increment Financing (TIF) during the recent legislative session.

• Manns told the RDC that there have been some continued discussions between the county and town about a western truck route.

• Manns also noted that she would be working on the RDC's annual April 15 report about the commission's work in 2025.

The next regular meeting of the Mooresville Redevelopment Commission is scheduled for 6 p.m. on Thursday, April 2, at the Mooresville Government Center, 4 E. Harrison St.

Town talks speed limits and awning upgrades

By Lance Gideon
MCC Correspondent

MOORESVILLE — The town of Mooresville has received complaints that traffic signs located around school zones near Mooresville High School and Newby Memorial Elementary School were in need of attention.

During the Mooresville Town Council's March 3 meeting, Public Works Superintendent Brian Moore said the department has replaced old signs with new ones.

Moore said he's looked into digital speed limit signs that would tell motorists if they are speeding through a school zone.

Town council president Tom Warthen said he had been forwarded an email from councilman Jeff Cook from the Mooresville Schools' police department about speeding around school buildings in town.

The old signs used to say that the speed limit near the schools was 20 mph when children are present. The new signs, however, don't include the "when children are present" verbiage.

Warthen asked if someone was issued a ticket for going over 20 mph during a time when children are not present in the area, could there be a challenge.

"I think it could be challenged," town attorney Chou-il Lee said.

Mooresville police chief Kerry Buckner said he believes using some digital signs along Indiana and Monroe streets could be helpful to keep motorists driving slower through school zones.

The council asked Moore to work with the town's police department and schools to get a recommendation on speed limit signage.

Government center awnings

Anyone who has regularly visited the Mooresville Government Center recently has possibly noticed the outside awnings at the building's entrances are looking weathered.

Councilman Josh Brown discussed quotes he's received from Sign Solutions to replace the awnings.

According to Brown, he has been working on updating the awnings since last year.

Brown also said the town has received quotes to replace carpeting in the government center and is potentially looking at painting the council's meeting room.

Cook said he believes the town needs to maintain its buildings, and he reminded the council that he thinks the town court building and fire headquarters, located directly across the street from the government center, also needs updates.

Councilman Greg Swinney also said he believes the town's buildings need to be maintained and kept up to date.

The council approved a motion to move forward with getting new awnings for the town's government center.

Overton tax abatement compliance forms

During the meeting, the council found Overton Industries in substantial compliance with four tax abatements the town has granted the company between 2021 and 2025.

Warthen said the estimated investment for the first abatement from 2021 for personal property was about $220,000 with the actual investment $219,670 and the estimated employment at the time as 51 employees. Overton currently has 54 employees. The council found Overton in substantial compliance with the abatement.

Warthen also noted the second abatement was for personal property as well, with an estimated investment of $179,000 and an actual investment $179,000. He said the company's estimated employment was 45 employees, and he reminded the council that the company currently employees 54 people.

The council found Overton in substantial compliance with the abatement.

The company also had another personal property abatement with an estimated investment of $798,462 with the actual investment being more than $1.3 million. At the time, the estimated employment level was 58 employees, and the company currently employees 54 people.

The council found Overton in substantial compliance with the abatement.

For the final abatement, the company had an estimated investment of $266,595 with the actual investment being $266,595. The estimated employment level at the time was 59 employees.

The council found Overton in substantial compliance with the abatement.

The next regular meeting of the Mooresville Town Council is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 17, at the Mooresville Government Center, 4 E. Harrison St.

PROVO

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

And then, with little fanfare, the meeting moved on.

Provo was approved for a job in Greenwood last month after the Greenwood Community School Corp. board voted to make him their district's assistant superintendent. Provo appeared at the Greenwood board meeting, thanking the district for hiring him and adding that "the interview process was one of the best I've been through."

He will assume the role beginning July 1.

Provo spoke with *The Correspondent* after Monday night's meeting, and he explained why he was leaving Monroe-Gregg for Greenwood. Provo said that stepping back from the school's district's top job was the right professional move for him.

"I've been looking at possibly stepping back from the superintendency and taking the assistant superintendent's role, where I can kind of focus in more on a few areas and feel like I'm really doing a great job in a few areas," Provo said. "There's so much on your plate as a superintendent. Sometimes, I feel like I'm just kind of scratching the surface."

The school board will be holding an executive session tonight, the topic of which will be the search for Provo's replacement. Unlike Provo — who was able to learn the ropes from the district's previous superintendent when Provo first took on the role — whoever steps in for the outgoing superintendent will need experience, as Provo will not be able to stick around to help his replacement find their footing.

But Provo did have a message for the one who will come after him.

"This district has great potential," Provo said. "Whoever gets the job should come in here and get to know the community, be visible. The district has a lot of potential, and that potential can be grown."

Provo's tenure at the Monroe-Gregg district is ending a year early, as his contract ran through 2027. Provo arrived in Monrovia in the summer of 2024 after having served as the superintendent in Eastern Greene, about an hour south of Monrovia. Provo took over from Kirk Freeman, who served as the superintendent in Monrovia for six years.

Monroe-Gregg faced a number of challenges under Provo, most of which he inherited from past school boards or from the statehouse in Indianapolis. The district has been plagued in recent years by financial difficulties, and the tax cuts resulting from 2025's Senate Enrolled Act 1 required the district to make a number of staffing cuts.

Provo also spearheaded the district's facility study during his tenure, an act that took up much of 2025. The final facility study outlined a number of recommendations for the district in order to more efficiently utilize its buildings to meet demand, and construction projects associated with the facility study will be pursued in the coming years.

BALLOT CHECK



From left: Kimberly Pond listens as Morgan County Election Board member Becky Waymire discusses ballot considerations with county clerk Tammy Parker and election office staffers Katie O'Neal and Kimberly Dalton. (Keith Rhoades photo / MCC)

By Keith Rhoades
MCC Chief Correspondent

MORGAN COUNTY — Members of the Morgan County Election Board spent around two hours last Friday morning reviewing the mail-in ballots for the May 2026 primary election. The ballots will be sent to people who want to vote from home.

The county has 45 precincts, and each precinct has two ballots — one for the Republican ticket and one for the Democratic.

Each ballot has to be checked to make sure the candidates are in their proper place, the names are spelled correctly, and the wording is correct. Several candidates have unique spelling of their names. The names are entered on the ballot the same way they are on the report the candidate filed with the election office. Some have no periods after their middle initial. Each name must match what the candidate put on their form they filed when they applied to run for an office.

While the ballots are set by computer, nothing is left to chance. Everything is checked.

No problems were found, so the ballots will be printed and sent to the election office.

The board also used the occasion to review the 2025 campaign finance report of the Morgan County Democratic Central Committee.

The next scheduled election board meeting is March 24 at 1 p.m. in the administration building, 180 S. Main St. in Martinsville, where the board will be testing a sample of voting machines in the lead-up to the primary.



Google's air quality permit includes a map of on-site plans, which includes water tower on the north end of the property, a wastewater treatment plant (WWTP)/ proposed lift station that will pump to Hendricks County, high-voltage transmission (between buildings in pink — appearing to enter from the south and exiting north and west), generator placement (light blue in northeast corner), substation (southerly gray building with black mechanicals on top), telecom substations (labeled CMDA), and retention ponds in blue. (IDEM courtesy map)

GOOGLE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

"Type 2" diesel engines. The Type 1 generators are equipped with 5,255-gallon capacity belly tanks, and the Type 2 generators are equipped with 4,961-gallon belly tanks.

There are 179 belly tanks in total.

An air quality construction permit is required because the data center campus has the potential to emit more than 25 tons of nitrogen oxides per year, according to the application.

A report released last month by environmental watchdog group Community and Environmental Defense Services (CEDS) found that emissions from data centers can cause breathing issues and premature deaths for those living within at least 0.6 miles from data center sites.

The report found that people's lungs can be harmed by the nitrogen dioxide and inhalable particles that are released at data center sites. The CEDS report noted that many data centers used diesel generators as backup power, singling them out as particularly strong polluters.

Data Center Community Information Fair
Where: Monrovia Middle School
When: Thursday, March 19 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Why: Speak with project leaders, engineers and local officials

In addition to the diesel engines, a number of other auxiliary generators are listed in the application and will need IDEM approval. The data center campus will apparently need 36 cooling towers, one emergency administrative building engine, three emergency wastewater treatment plant engines, two emergency lift station engines, two emergency fire pump engines, two emergency site entrance engines, two emergency booster pump engines and one emergency warehouse engine.

Google's data center plans to use electrical power provided by AES to maintain operations, but the 166 diesel engine generators will provide power to the facility in the event of power supply interruption.

The application states that the engines are "generally" only operated during emergencies, though regular cycling is typically required.

The purpose of each auxiliary generator is briefly explained in the application.

The fire pump generators are self-explanatory — they will be used for fire protection and personnel safety. The site entrance generators are for "site security."

Meanwhile, the three wastewater treatment pump generators will be installed at the treatment plant building in case of a power outage to ensure the facility's ability to process wastewater.

The lift station generators ensure the facility's access to water for cooling tower operation during power outages. The booster pump generators have the same purpose.

According to the application, these emergency generators could run up to 100 hours per year as monthly testing is typically required, regardless of emergency needs.

The planned AI data center in Monroe Township has been in the works for at least two years now, with the county announcing its intentions at the beginning of last year. Google revealed itself to be the company behind the project last fall, and construction began shortly thereafter, despite widespread public opposition.

County officials have argued that a data center campus will be beneficial to local residents, as it will expand the county's property tax base in the wake of state tax cuts enacted in 2025. Locals have had a wide variety of criticism, with concerns over water and energy needs and many believing a data center will lower property values, damage the local environment and diminish quality of life in the area.

Representatives from Google have previously told The Correspondent that the company hopes to change the community's perspective on data centers, and to do that, the company will hold a community information fair at Monrovia Middle School on Thursday, March 19 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The event will be jointly held by Google and the Morgan County Economic Development Corp. An informational flyer about the event states that members of the community will be able to "speak directly with project leaders, engineers and local officials," and adds that residents will be able to get their questions answered.

The flyer further advertises that people who show up can learn more about power availability and utility impacts, energy and grid modernization, water and environmental protections, air and stormwater management, traffic and infrastructure, and economic impact.

MAYOR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

"It is past time that steps are taken to resolve the issue of slumlords who have no respect for their tenants, neighbors or law enforcement," Costin said in his 2019 social media post.

In the post made seven years ago, Costin outlines a plan to enforce current ordinances, and if needed, create some new ones, all in the spirit of "problem-oriented policing," concluding that "slumlords are a problem that must be addressed."

On Monday night, Lahne said he's received little to no support from city leaders, and after his most recent meeting with them, he was told to contact council members instead — and he did.

"I found all the council members to be respectful," Lahne said, adding that members told him it's an enforcement issue that rests on the mayor.

"I just need to know who has the ultimate control," Lahne said Monday night.

City attorney Dale Coffey weighed in on the question.

"If we have an ordinance in place that addresses an issue at that house, that's enforcement (i.e. the city)," Coffey said. "Modification or new ordinance, that's the council."

Strader and his code enforcement officer, Bob Downey, are aware of Lahne's concerns, and councilman Phil Deckard II said he had spoken with Strader about it but has not yet received any recommendations on the complaint.

"As soon as I do, I'm more than happy to assist if I can," Deckard said. "I just need the recommendations yet."

The councilman followed up by asking Lehne if he'd spoken with the property owner of the rental in question.

According to Lehne, Strader advised that he call the owner, who is a local insurance agent who has ties to the city, going back to his school days. The call didn't go well.

"He told me, 'I don't care if Mr. Strader or anybody on that council told you to call. I've known them for years. Hell, I went to school with them. They're not going to do anything to me,'" Lehne recounted Monday night.

Deckard said he'd meet with the mayor, Strader, Downey and others to see what can be done about the issue.

"I'll work with you," Lahne concluded. "But I don't know what else to do. I'm frustrated. I really am."

In other business

• The council voted 5-0, with Ann Miller and Josh Ferran absent, to move $1 million into the city's rainy day fund. The transfer includes $365,000 from sewer, $260,000 from water, $142,000 from local income tax, $90,000 from EDIT, $88,000 from stormwater and $55,000 from motor vehicle.

"This is no extra burden to the taxpayer," clerk-treasurer Ben Merida explained. "These are monies that were not used last year."

• The council voted to surplus two trucks from the street department.

Councilman Jonathan Collier wondered if the trucks could be gifted to the high school for vocational training.

Dunn said the scrap cost would be about $1,500, but gifting them could be an option.

• The council approved claims totaling $3.2 million.

The next meeting of the city council will be at 7 p.m. on March 23 in council chambers, 59 S. Jefferson St.



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HECKUVA RUN

Eminence Eels finish with 17-9 record, best since '78

By Dave Rinehart
MCC Correspondent



Eminence senior Johnathan Myers (42) looks to screen as junior Keon Gregory (11) sets the offense while junior Luke Finney (24) calls for the pass from behind the arc last Friday. (Dave Rinehart photo / MCC)

INDIANAPOLIS — It had been 15 years since the Eels last took home a sectional title, but they had a chance to make a run for it last Saturday against Greenwood Christian Academy at Lutheran High School in Indianapolis.

But alas, Eminence will have to wait another year for glory, as the team fell 70-51 after an intense game.

The GCA Cougars had too much height, quickness, strength and athleticism for the Eels to handle for 32 minutes of high school hardwood action. GCA handled the Eels easily after a very competitive first quarter to be crowned Sectional Champions for the fifth time in the school's history.

It is the end of a record-setting season for the Eels, one they should have been proud of even before any of the sectional games were played.

The Eels came into the sectional games at 15-8, a school record. Since their last Sectional Championship 15 years ago, the team, the school and the community were excited about the possibility of the team bringing home the winning trophy. The Eels have improved each year under coach Drew Dorsett and his coaching staff.

First up, the Eels took on the Central Christian Chargers last Tuesday, March 3.

After a slow start on the opening night of the Sectional, the Eels fell behind 11-9 after the first eight minutes of play. Assistant coaches Dave Dorsett and Merideth Deckard got the defense going in the second and third quarters and slowed down the Chargers. Allowing just four points to be scored in the second quarter, the Eels had a 20-15 lead going in at halftime.

The Eels came out of the locker room with the idea of putting this game away.

Freshman guard Eli Jones scored 8 points in the third, Finney matched his first half totals with another 6 points, and senior Johnathan Myers added 4 points, giving the Eels a 15-point lead after three quarters (40-25).

Jones, one of the leading scorers in the state out of the freshman class and who has been the leading scorer throughout the season for the Eels, added 10 more points in the fourth quarter and had game-high honors with 20 points.

Eminence outscored Central Christian, 13-12, in the final eight minutes for the 53-35 victory, their 16th win of the season.

The Eels returned last Friday night for Semifinal action to take on the Wolves of Providence Cristo Rey (PCR), a ball club with a .500 record (12-12), and some height, length, speed and athleticism.

Eminence scored the first point of the game with 5:51 on the clock. Junior Keon Gregory hit one of two free throws for the 1-0 lead. PCR scored their first field

SEE EELS | PAGE B2



Eminence head coach Drew Dorsett goes over the game plan during a timeout last Friday night in the sectional semifinal against the Wolves of Providence Cristo Rey. (Dave Rinehart photo / MCC)



The Love of the Game
DAVE RINEHART

56 yrs of Hoosier Hysteria

The life of *Hoosier Basketball Magazine*

Kip Wesner was raised in Martinsville by his parents, Gene and Mary Lee Wesner. They attended home football and basketball games for the Martinsville Artesians. Kip's mother, now 99, was always a BIG sports fan (and also very dedicated to the Weekday Religious Education program for elementary students for many years), especially when it came to the Artesians. I would see her at many Artesian sporting events. So Kip got it honestly!

His oldest sister, Judy (Warkentien), was a classmate of mine in '69 and a varsity cheerleader in '69, so even after Judy went off to college, his parents continued to go to games.

Kip told me he can remember popping cups at the Glenn Curtis Gymnasium on Friday nights in the '70s. Kip's other sister, Cindy (Dralle), and brother Tim also graduated from MHS in the '70s, so going to high school games is just what they did as a family.

I've reminded Kip of my days of working at Frisch's Big Boy while I was in high school, and his parents would bring the family to the restaurant on Sunday after church. His parents would sit on one side of the booth and the three kids on the other side.

Kip was your typical kid growing up, playing all the sports

SEE RINEHART | PAGE B3

Cards oust Pioneers despite Thompson's effort

By Steve Page
MCC Correspondent

MOORESVILLE — With his team trailing by nine points early in the final frame, Chris Thompson-Moore decided it was time.

First, the Mooresville senior hit a 3-point shot from the left corner. After a Southport turnover, he hit a 20-footer from the right side, 54-51. After forcing another turnover, Thomas hit another basket, 54-53 with 1:57 left in last Friday's sectional semifinal game in the Curry Center Gymnasium.

Mooresville missed a 3, then Southport turned over the ball. Timeout, Mooresville, 51.4 remaining. Thomas then missed another 3, protesting that he was fouled. Now, the Pioneers had to foul to try to get the ball back, but Southport was in the penalty, and made 7 of 8 free throws down the stretch to seal it.

"It" was a 61-53 decision that finished the Pioneers' season. They finished 8-15 after losing their final four games.

But not without another great effort from Thomas, who scored 49 points in the Pioneers' win over Martinsville, which turned out to be their last victory.

He scored 29 against Southport, including 10 in the final frame.

"(Thompson) has been our go-to guy — a lot of heart," said Pioneer coach Gavin Groninger.

After he had scored 12 points in the first period, the Cardinals limited Thompson to 2 points in the second and 5 in the third.

SEE PIONEERS | PAGE B3



Chris Thompson splits the Southport defense as the Mooresville senior drives the lane for a layup during last Friday's sectional semifinal in the Curry Center Gymnasium. (Steve Page photo / MCC)

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK
MONROVIA HIGH SCHOOL

SPONSORED BY: Citizens Bank Member FDIC

HAYDEN NAJERA



GRADE: Senior
SPORT: Basketball
REASON FOR AWARD: Hayden scored 19 points in the Bulldogs final game of the regular season against Cascade.

SKOALER HAYNES



GRADE: Junior
SPORT: Basketball
REASON FOR AWARD: Skoaler scored 11 in the 51-45 victory over Cascade to finish off the Bulldogs' regular season.

Arties drop Sectional opener to Panthers in first round matchup

By Dave Rinehart
MCC Correspondent

MARTINSVILLE — The Artesians faced a familiar foe in last weekend's 4A sectional game, one that appeared to be a bit too much for them. Bloomington South, Martinsville's rival in five of the last six sectionals, ended a hard-fought season for the Arties with a 56-34 victory.

The Arties lost to the Panthers in late January, 68-56, and no doubt the Martinsville followers would like to have seen some of the magic the team had two years ago when they upset Bloomington South in sectional action 65-61.

But that was not meant to be this go around as the Panthers picked up their 18th win of the season to advance to the semifinal against Terre Haute South, which they won before losing Saturday to the sectional champs from Terre Haute North.

In last week's sectional opener, Martinsville junior Carson Robertson got the Artesians off to a great start, scoring a three-pointer for the first score of the game just 24 seconds into the contest. Bloomington then had back-to-back scores to take their first lead in the first quarter.

Senior Grady Gardner with an assist from Robertson put the Artesians back up at 5-4. The Panthers hit their third field goal in the first three minutes of the game to take the lead at 6-5 in the back and forth game.

Robertson knocked down his second three pointer to put MHS back ahead at 8-6. The Panthers tied the game at 8 all and again took the lead when South's senior James Clark hit his first of four three pointers to go up 11-8.

Robertson kept his hot streak going with a field goal on assist from senior Alex Stout, Gardner hit one of two free throws and the score was tied for the second time at 11-11 with 2:10 to go in the quarter.

The Panthers scored, Artesian sophomore Colton VanCleave hit one of two free throws, Clark hit another three for South and the first eight minute quarter ended with the Panthers leading 16-12.

Robertson scored his 10th point in the first half just forty seconds

SEE ARTESIANS | PAGE B2

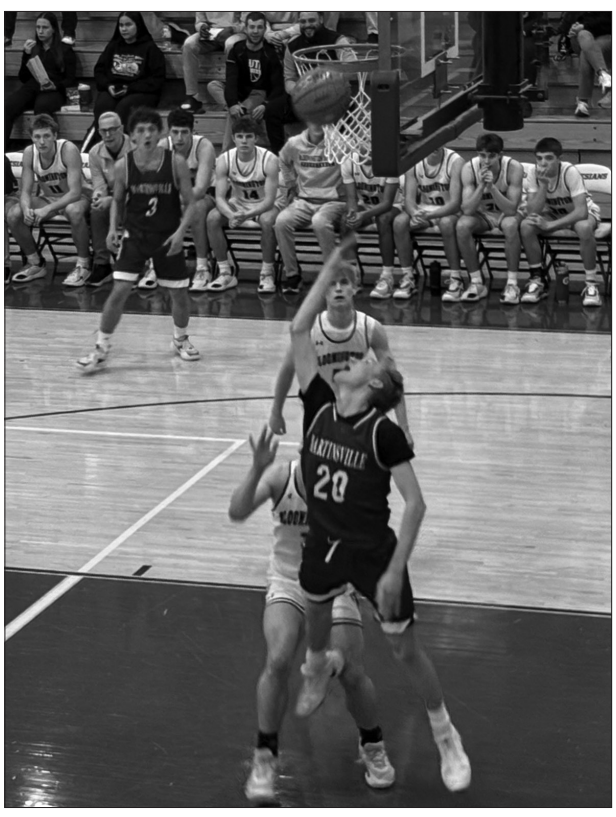
INGLERT SIGNS WITH FRANKLIN



Monrovia senior Trinity Inglert is flanked by her parents as she signs her official commitment letter to attend Franklin College next where she'll play on the soccer team and compete in track. Inglert has been a three-sport athlete for the Bulldogs. (Monrovia Athletics courtesy photo)



Martinsville senior Grady Gardner looks to penetrate as teammates Carson Robertson (20), Alex Stout (10) and Mason Dodson (30) look to help. (Dave Rinehart photo / MCC)



Martinsville junior Carson Robertson goes for the reverse layup against his Panther opponents during last week's first-round sectional matchup. (Dave Rinehart photo / MCC)



Eminence freshman Eli Jones challenges the inbounder during last Friday's sectional semifinal. (Dave Rinehart photo / MCC)



Eminence freshman Cullen Mowery goes up strong for the lefthanded layup last Friday. (Dave Rinehart photo / MCC)



Martinsville senior Alex Stout splits the Panther defense in the paint for a layup during the first-round sectional matchup. (Dave Rinehart photo / MCC)

EELS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

goal at the 4:01 mark of the quarter, and then scored a free throw twice in the next couple minutes and added a field goal with 45 seconds to go to take a 6-1 lead.

Eminence had five turnovers in the first quarter, their last with just ticks to go in the first eight minutes, and it led to a monstrous dunk with one second to go in the quarter. The Eels "were shaking off the sectional jitters," as Coach Dorsett called it, adding that "they had never been in a moment like this before."

The first quarter ended with the Eels trailing, 8-1.

The second quarter didn't start any better for the Eels as their cold shooting woes continued along with turning the ball over five more times.

The pressure defense was causing problems for the young men from Morgan County. At the 3:44 mark of the second quarter, the Wolves lead increased to 13 points at 16-3.

Eminence's scoring opportunities came at the free throw line, and after three trips there, they only hit two of six attempts.

Coach Dorsett had brought freshman Rylee Dillon off the bench to try to make something happen, and with 2:09 to go in the quarter, Dillion knocked down a three from the corner. Senior Johnathan Myers scored off of a Wolves turnover, and the Eels were on a 5-0 run in a matter of 20 seconds, cutting into their opponents lead.

PCR countered with a 6-0 run to go up 22-8. Myers was fouled with two seconds left in the second quarter and stepped to the 15-foot stripe and calmly hit both free throws.

The Eels headed to the locker room trailing 22-10 at the half. Dorsett said the discussion to the players at halftime was "keep diggin', fightin', reaching in — don't quit."

Eminence's turnover woes followed them into the third quarter.

The Eels had two turnovers within the first minute of play, and the Wolves scored off one of them to go up 14 points at 24-10. Junior Luke Finney was fouled in the act of shooting and hit both free throw attempts to cut the lead in half at 24-12.

The Wolves hit a three and a free throw, and within a minute, the lead was up to 16 points with 5:51 to go in the third quarter.

In the next four minutes and seven seconds, the Eels offense came alive as they went on an 8-1 run.

Junior Keon Gregory hit a field goal, Dillon scored off of a Wolves turnover, Gregory snagged a couple free throws, and Finney nabbed his only two-point shot of the game, and it was a ballgame.

The quarter ended with Myers scoring with just one tick left on the clock to make it 30-22, PCR up 8 points with one quarter to go.

After pulling within three to start the fourth quarter, the Eels went on a five-minute run, outscoring the Wolves 13-10.

The last two field goals for the Eels were three-pointers by freshman Eli Jones (his only scores of the game) and Finney, tying the score at 40-40 to send the game into overtime.

In the four-minute OT period, the Wolves scored first, and then Gregory tied it at 42. The Eels took their first lead of the game after freshman Cullen Mowery took it to the rim off of a PCR turnover.

A little over a minute later, Finney hit one of two free throws for a three-point lead with 1:08 to go. But the Wolves weren't done, as freshman Daylen Bullock hit a three-point shot to send the game into a second overtime.

Double overtime took a minute and a half to get any points scored, with Jeffries scoring on a rebound to give Eminence the lead. Finney got fouled about a minute later and hit one of two free throws to give the Eels a 48-45 lead.

After some back and forth scoring and a couple of Wolves free throws, the Eels prevailed to snag their 17th win of the season in a 52-49 comeback victory.

While the championship game that followed did not go the way they wanted, Eminence can hold their heads high after a very successful season, which improved upon previous seasons.

"We will recover from tonight's loss," Dorsett said after the championship game Saturday night. "We have several underclassmen coming back. It's promising — but they have lots of work to do, and a lot of potential."



Eminence junior Luke Finney charges hard into the lane against the Cougars of Greenwood Christian Academy in Saturday night's sectional championship. (Dave Rinehart photo / MCC)



Eminence freshman Eli Jones inbounds the ball from the baseline to junior Luke Finney in Saturday night's sectional championship game. (Dave Rinehart photo / MCC)

ARTESIANS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

into the second quarter, cutting the lead down to 16-14. The Panthers scored to get the lead back to four points, Gardner hit his only three-pointer to take the Panther lead down to one point, but the Artesians didn't score again in the first half.

Bloomington went on a 10-0 run (with Clark hitting another three) and the Panthers were up 11 points at 28-17 when both teams headed for their locker rooms at the half.

Artesian coach Jackson Williams said Clark's three point shot was "a momentum shifter, and the ball didn't bounce our way."

South outscored the Artesians 14-7 in the third quarter. Three trips to the free throw line gave Martinsville 5 points (Gardner 2 for 2 and Robertson 3 of 4), and the Artesians' lone field goal was credited to junior Gavin Nelson.

After three quarters, Bloomington's lead was 18 points, 42-24.

South started the fourth quarter with a field goal to reach their second 20-point lead. Martinsville countered with a 10-5 run, with Gardner scoring 9 of the 10 points. Gardner hit three field goals (one on a very nice assist from his senior classmate Mason Dodson) and was 3 of 3 at the 15-foot stripe. Robertson had the other point from the free throw line.

South ended the final 2:07 on a 7-0 run for the final score of 56-34.

Martinsville was 7 of 17 on two-point shots (41 percent), 3-16 on three-point FG's (19 percent) and 11-15 FT's (73 percent). The Artesians were outrebounded 25-19, and had five more turnovers than South (13-8). Gardner finished with 17 points and Robertson had 14.

Coach Williams commented on seniors Grady, Alex, Mason, Ty Stroud and Jacob Toloday.

"We got a lot out of them all year," Williams said. "They did a great job laying the foundation on what we want to build."

Senior Alex Stout commented on his four years at Martinsville High School.

"Man, it's tough," Stout said. "I've put all my time in it for the last 12 years — but I'm grateful that it happened and grateful for the people that I got to meet and the lessons I've learned along the way."

Stout said his future has him going to IU and majoring in some scientific field and going to medical school.

Senior Grady Gardner also shared thoughts on his final game.

"I thought we came out strong and punched them in the mouth," Gardner said. "We played hard for the whole game, played good defense, we just couldn't get it going offensively."

Gardner also commented on snatching the program record for second-highest points scored (1,623) in Martinsville's history.

"It's pretty cool," Gardner said. "I never thought something like that could happen when I came in here as a freshman. To be one of two players to score 1,600-plus points is pretty awesome."

RINEHART

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

— Little League, junior football and BiddyBall (now Lil' Arties). As an adult, he's been involved one way or another with the same sports.

For more than 30 years, I organized the Martinsville Church Softball League. I played on the Lutheran team, and Kip was a member of the Methodist team. Who's the organizer now and has been for several years? My friend, Kip Wesner.

Kip has also been a leader of the Methodist Men's Group through the years, and I know where he got a lot of his skills — he was one of those 10-year 4H kids.

He remembers the triple-overtime loss to Bloomington North in the 1983 sectional final. Still a very disappointing loss in his heart, now more than 40 years ago.

After graduating in 1987 from Martinsville, he attended Purdue University and studied building construction technology. He worked for Tidd & Sons Construction locally for a couple of summers in the late 1980s, and quickly realized that construction was not in his future.

His real passion was sports, especially basketball. He bought his first *Hoosier Basketball Magazine* in 1988, while at Purdue. The cover featured Richie Mount of Lebanon, and he was coached by his brother-in-law Dan Warkentien, sister Judy's husband.

He said he was on the Lebanon bandwagon as Mount was a Purdue recruit and the son of Boilermaker legend Rick Mount.

The following year, Kip met his good friend Matt Bennet. He was from Marian with the Purple reign, including Jay Edwards and Lyndon Jones. He knew all about the *Hoosier Basketball Magazine* and its history, as well as the publisher, Garry Donna.

This broadened Kip's interest in high school basketball statewide. That winter, Martinsville won their first sectional championship in a dozen years and the first regional since 1964. Kip was then totally infected in Hoosier Hysteria!

In the fall of 1991, Kip reached out to Garry Donna by mail and offered to help with the *Hoosier Basketball Magazine* in any way that Donna wanted. He never heard back! (But if you knew Garry Donna, you'd understand!)

Kip was rooming with his good friend Matt that semester, and he told Kip that Donna will probably be at the coach's clinic at Mackey Arena that Saturday.

So Kip reprinted the letter that he had sent to Donna and decided to see if he could meet him. He spotted him at the clinic and introduced himself and informed him that he had written him a letter a few weeks earlier. Kip gave him a copy of the letter. Kip said

"He literally edited the letter in front of me," an irritated Kip said. "What have I gotten myself into, this was a mistake!"

But Donna asked him if he wanted to stay and try to sell 25 magazines at the Purdue scrimmage. Kip did stay, and he did sell the 25 copies.

Later that year, Donna offered him a full-time position with his business, including a role in producing the annual *Hoosier Basketball Magazine* publication.

Several times over the years, I'd meet up with Garry at his office because we were off to a high school or college game somewhere in the state, and I would see Kip hard at work preparing for the next edition of *Hoosier Basketball Magazine.*

Through the years, Donna told Kip that he was his right-hand man and that he knew that he could do the magazine when he was gone.

Garry Donna was not married and had no family. True to his word, in 2017 when he passed away, he left *Hoosier Basketball Magazine* to Kip to continue. Garry Donna always talked with Kip about getting to the 50th anniversary issue, but he only made it to 47th.

"It was a great celebration in 2020 with a true sense of pride to know that Hoosier Basketball Magazine endured through 50 years of publications," said now-publisher Kip.

Kip has really enjoyed his job, and he's very passionate about the magazine.

His goal now is to see if he can make it to 75 years. It is currently in his 56th year of publication — so only 19 more publications to go!

Another goal Kip has is to visit every high school gymnasium in the state of Indiana — a four-year project, he anticipates — and then write a book on the history of the magazine. Kip believes the future is bright for the magazine.

Garry Donna used to tell Kip that working on the magazine is a "labor of love," and in Kip's opinion, no truer words have ever been spoken!

Kip, continue doing what you are doing! The basketball world loves it!

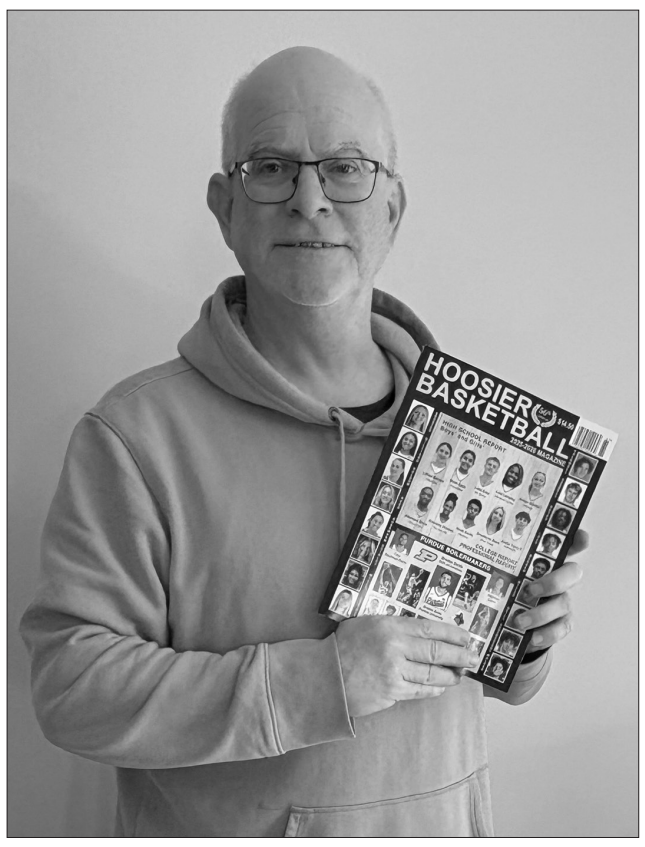
All for "The Love of the Game!"

More Info

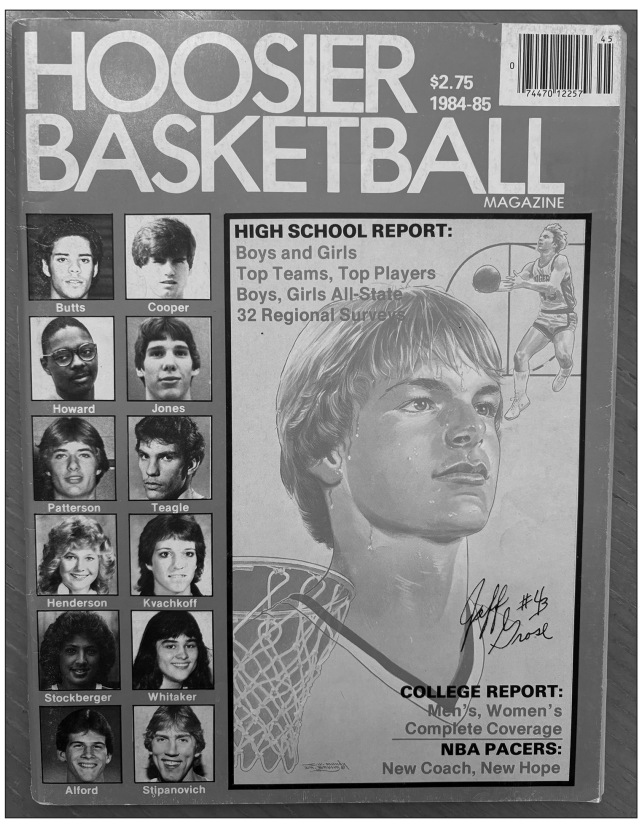
You can order the 2025-26 issue of Hoosier Basketball Magazine by mail. The cost for a hard copy magazine to be mailed is $19.99. For both a hard copy and digital copy, the cost is $35. For more information, contact Kip Wesner at 317-925-8200.

Please send a check or money order in that amount to:

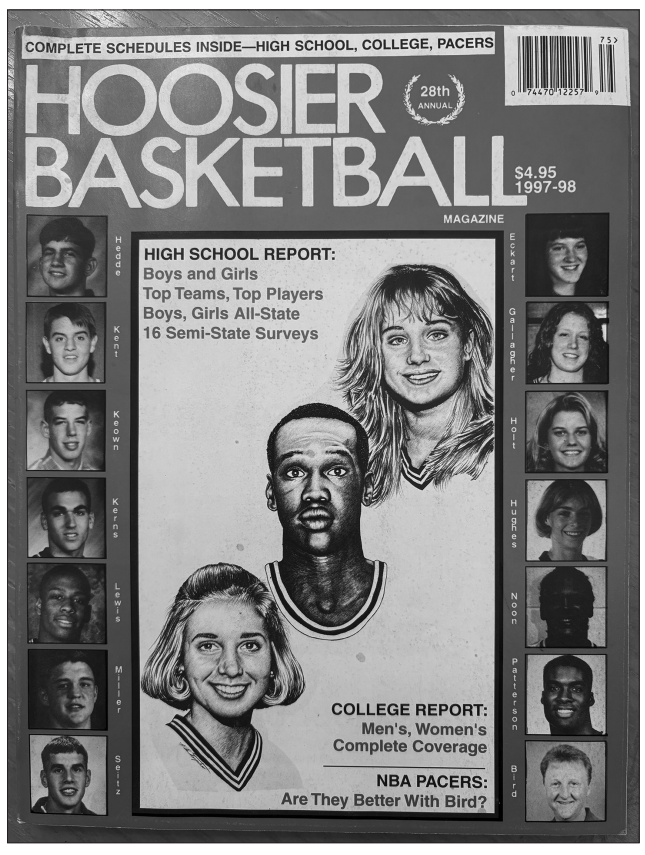
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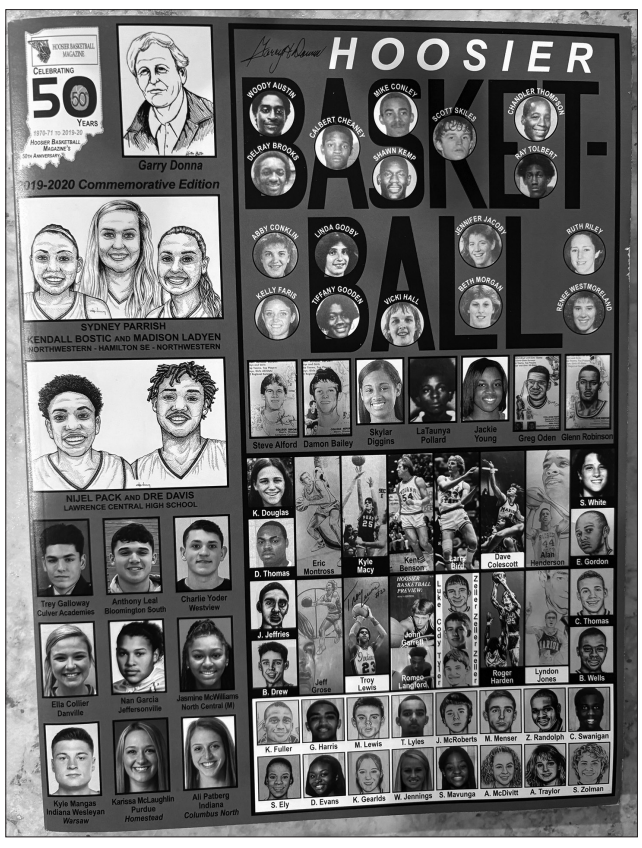
Kip Wesner, now the publisher of Hoosier Basketball Magazine, holds the 2025-2026 edition of the publication. Wesner grew up in Martinsville and came by his love of Hoosier Hysteria the honest way – through his family. (Dave Rinehart photo / MCC)



Mooresville standout player Carrie Henderson is featured on the '84-'85 cover, but she's not alone. Other local players featured over the years include Martinsville all-stars Jerry Sichting, Ryan Wolf and Keegan Northern, along with Mooresville's Matt Kenney and Jama Sharp, among plenty of others. (Dave Rinehart photo / MCC)



The 1997-'98 edition of Hoosier Basketball Magazine featured two local basketball standouts – Kristen Bodine and April Traylor, coming off their non-class championship the year before. (Dave Rinehart photo / MCC)



The 2019-'20 edition marked the 50th anniversary of Hoosier Basketball Magazine, which paid homage to founder Garry Donna. (Dave Rinehart photo / MCC)



Hoosier Basketball Magazine founder and publisher Garry Donna was a well known figure at high school gymnasiums across the state. (Courtesy photo)



Mooresville sophomore Keagan Burch steals the ball from a falling Southport player during last Friday's sectional semifinal in the Curry Center Gymnasium. (Steve Page photo / MCC)



Silas Smith, a Mooresville senior, battles Southport players for a rebound during Friday's sectional semifinal. (Steve Page photo / MCC)

PIONEERS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

"They made some adjustments at the half; we made adjustments," Groninger said. "We let the kid go when he makes his shots."

He made them down the stretch, but Chris Cruz (6'3") scored 18 points, 6'6" Sam Lloyd had 13, 6'7" James Kalala and 6'9" Jonathan Fulce added 9 each for the Cards.

"Give credit to Southport," Groninger said. "He's a 5'8" kid going against their height.

"At the end, that was just Chris making plays. Chris has had a fantastic career. He's one of the finest competitors I've ever coached."

Thompson hit eight two-point shots, three 3-pointers and sank 4 of 6 free throws.

Silas Smith, the other senior, scored nine points on one two, two 3's and 1 of 2 free throws.

Sophomore Jameson Elliott scored 5, junior Mason Samuels 4, freshman Colton Briede 3 and sophomore Xavier Browning 1.

The back-and-forth game was close until late in the third quarter. Mooresville led 13-12 at the quarter break, Southport 28-21 at the half and 44-34 after three periods.

The Cards then fell 69-62 to Decatur Central in the championship game.

SLOW COOKER ROASTED POTATOES



Shelley's Sweet Spot
SHELLEY SUTER

Roasted fingerling potatoes are a great quick-mix side dish. There's no potato peeling for this recipe. Just rinse, toss in the spices and butter and roast. This is a side dish the whole family will enjoy.

Did you know that potatoes, as well as the skins, are great sources of vitamin C, vitamin B6, copper, potassium, zinc, and protein? Neither naturally contains any fat, cholesterol or sodium. Leaving the skin intact can also help preserve the nutrients in the flesh of the potato.



SLOW COOKER ROASTED POTATOES

INGREDIENTS

- Bag of fingerling potatoes, or halved red potatoes
- 3 tbsp. melted butter
- ½ tsp. garlic powder
- ½ tsp. onion salt
- ½ tsp. dried parsley
- ¼ tsp. coarse pepper
- 1 tbsp. water

DIRECTIONS

- Make a sealed bag to place the potatoes in with aluminum foil.
- Spray the inside of the bag with non-stick spray.
- Place all the spices, butter and water in small bowl and microwave for 30 seconds.
- Stir to blend the spices and butter and pour over potatoes.
- Roll the open end shut and place the bag in the slow cooker and roast on low for six hours.

*You can also use this recipe and place the bag on top of a meat you are cooking in the slow cooker.

COLUMN & PUZZLES

Esoteric language only serves to 'freeze out' everyday people



The Worry Clinic
DR. GEORGE W. CRANE

500,000 college students have also studied our textbook, but a few braintruster profs still affect disdain for its practical slant.

Notice why!

CASE B-622: Nathan S., aged 26, was working on his Ph.D. in psychology.

"Dr. Crane," he began, "I developed my original interest in psychology from reading your column in our Lakeland LEDGER.

"So I decided even while a high school senior that I wanted to be a psychologist. But the psychology I got in college was very impractical.

"However, I kept on till I recently got my Ph.D. Then I attended our American Psychological Association Convention.

"But many of the psychologists there, dwelt on such far-fetched problems and used such complicated vocabulary that average Americans wouldn't even understand what they were talking about!

"And I met several professors who actually try to minimize your prestige by saying you employ short words and thus belittle college psychology by over-simplification.

"Isn't the ability to put ideas across in short words one of the criteria for a superb teacher?"

OBFUSCATED PROFS

Nathan is correct in saying a certain number of professors seem to delight in using long words to "freeze out" the average citizen. Such profs imagine thereby that they are patting themselves on the back as superior geniuses!

My Mania, on the contrary, is to make psychology practical and useful. And superb salesmen, whether of commercial products or ideas, find that short words produce quicker understanding!

When we were first married, I was director of our Psychology Lab and teaching a full schedule at Northwestern University.

The Midwestern Psychological Association was having its convention at Madison, Wis. So I took Mrs. Crane along.

One of the first papers to be read was by a female psychologist from Purdue University. She spent half an hour on that hot, steaming afternoon (no air conditioning available) to describe the purpose, plus the scientific method, etc., of her research project for graduate students who were working toward their Ph.D. in psychology.

And after she elaborated on how she had expertly directed the surveys of her students into domestic affairs, she came up with this profound and world shaking conclusion: "After a baby is born to a new wife, it is much harder to keep the house spic and span!"

Well, Mrs. Crane looked at me in wonderment as if to say: "Do psychologists waste so much time on self-evident axioms?"

So I merely smiled and nodded toward the speaker, meanwhile twirling my finger above my right ear in the familiar gesture that suggests: "She's just touched in the head!"

Before our marriage, Mrs. Crane spent two years as a traveling saleswoman, covering several states, and handling wholesale orders for toilet training equipment for young children, so she had expected something practical from that Wisconsin seminar.

You readers have long noted my stress on "Horse Sense" and useful strategy for quickly solving everyday problems.

So you can see why there is often a schism between my stress on Applied Psychology and the braintruster profs who stay up in the stratosphere with their esoteric lingo!

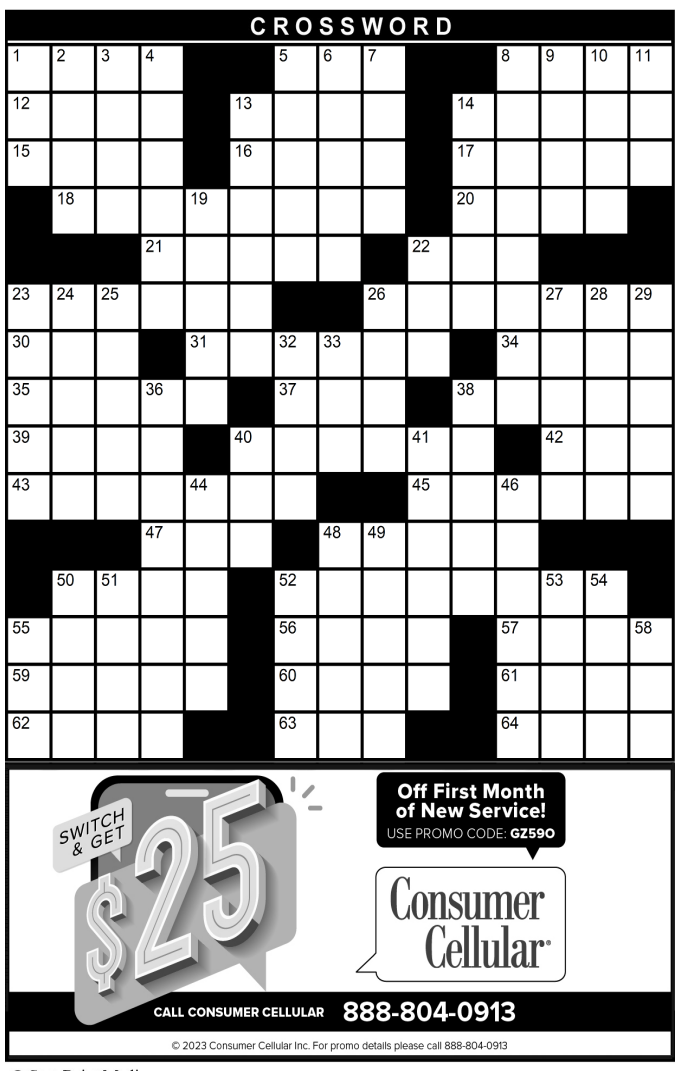
Dr. George W. Crane, based out of Hillsboro, Ind., was a syndicated columnist for more than 60 years in newspapers across the country, offering psychological advice to everyday people.

STATEPOINT MEDIA
THEME: SUPERHEROES

ACROSS
1. Abbreviation, abbr.
5. Corvine bird's sound
8. Aquarium dweller
12. Sandwich shop
13. Half human, half cobra in Hinduism
14. Blatant
15. Don't go
16. *Tony Stark, a.k.a. ___ Man
17. High-quality black tea
18. *Leader of Guardians of the Galaxy
20. Research facil.
21. Words to live by
22. Leo month
23. ___ Tree National Park
26. Period between linked activities (2 words)
30. Not safe in baseball
31. Drunk's speech?
34. Sitar music
35. Doughy snack of Jewish origin
37. Rage
38. Seize a throne
39. Common hosiery shade
40. Nom de guerre
42. "Wow!"
43. What emergency workers do
45. Choice word
47. Young newt
48. Passport stamps
50. Vomit
52. *Doctor Doom's frequent ally (2 words)
55. Deserved consequence
56. One of Great Lakes
57. Iranian money
59. Like Vitruvian Man, e.g.
60. Prima donnas' problems
61. Author Murdoch
62. Like Regina George
63. "___ My People Go"
64. *Sandman can transform his body into this

DOWN
1. Pop-ups, e.g.
2. Risky business, pl.
3. Cry plaintively
4. Capital of Saudi Arabia
5. Billiards bounce
6. Ancient Greek marketplace
7. Diagon Alley purchase
8. *Captain America's team
9. Albanian monetary units
10. Small cave
11. What Pac-Man did to strawberry
13. Largest Asian antelope
14. Poppy seed derivative
19. Just outside a fairway
22. Inflation matter
23. *Batman's arch-nemesis
24. 1/16th of a pound
25. Not shakes, as in bartender
26. *___ Titans, cyborgs' team
27. L in LOL
28. Acquiesce
29. Rubbernecker
32. Tough spot
33. *Leonardo to Michelangelo
36. *One from Krypton
38. Inuit skin boat
40. *Size-changing ___-Man
41. Yeses, alt. sp.
44. Butcher's refuse
46. Trouble, in Yiddish
48. Threshold
49. "Complete ___'s Guides"
50. Bid, past tense
51. Particular region
52. Comes on a rod
53. Turkish currency
54. Been in bed
55. *___ Possible
58. Lysergic acid derivative, acr.

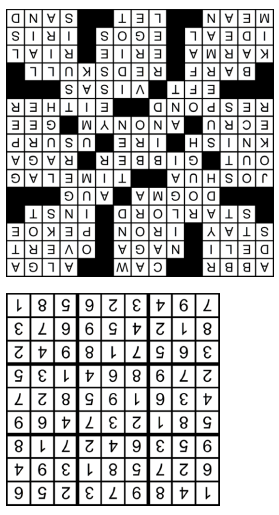
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Indiana DAR Enduring Promise

To honor Frank Monroe Wininger

From Janice Bolinger
Daughters of the American Revolution

Editor's note: The Indiana Daughters of the American Revolution will be recognizing the 1,500 World War II Hoosier Veterans who remain missing in action and unaccounted. Bricks will be placed in the area surrounding the Soldiers and Sailors Monument in Indianapolis. The Ten O'clock Line Chapter will be sponsoring bricks for the Morgan County veterans, including Frank Monroe Wininger.



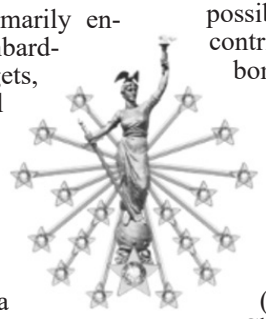
Frank Wininger is memorialized at the Tablets of the Missing at Cambridge American Cemetery in Cambridge, England. (Courtesy photo)



B-17s fly in formation during bombing runs over Germany on Aug. 17, 1943. (Public domain photo)

Constituted as the 379th Bombardment Group of the 526th Bomb Squadron on Oct. 28, 1942, the group was activated in November of that same year.

It was part of the second wave of B-17 groups to join the Eighth Air Force and took part in strategic bombing campaigns over Germany and France. The group crossed the Atlantic in two waves. The air echelon flew across the North Atlantic in April 1943.



The group was primarily engaged in the bombardment of strategic targets, including chemical plants, aircraft assembly plants, ball-bearing plants, marshalling yards, airfields and oil refineries.

On Sept. 16, 1943, while on a bombing mission to Nantes, France, SSgt. Frank Wininger's B-17 was struck and crashed with no survivors.



WININGER

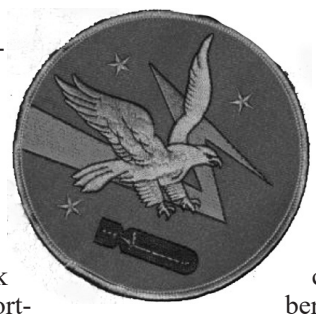
It has not been fully determined if the loss was due to an errant bomb from another B-17 in the formation or enemy fire. It is possible both contributed to the loss of the bomber.

The lost crew members included 1st Lt. Donald M. Murray (pilot), 2nd Lt. Robert M. McGraw (co-pilot), 2nd Lt. William R. Meyer (navigator), 2nd Lt. Chester R. Gwinn (bombardier), TSgt. Michael F. Curtin (engineer/top turret gunner), TSgt. Rogers W. Tatum (radio operator), SSgt. Alexander C.J. Robert, Jr. (ball turret gunner), SSgt. Carl G. Moak (waist gunner), SSgt. Frank M. Wininger (waist gunner), and SSgt. John W. Rogers (tail gunner).

Frank Monroe Wininger was born in Floyd County, Ind., on June 1, 1921, to George M. and Jennie M. Tuttle Wininger. Sometime prior to 1930, the family moved to Martinsville, with Frank graduating with the MHS Class of 1939.

Frank Wininger is memorialized at the Tablets of the Missing at Cambridge American Cemetery in Cambridge, England.

His commendations and awards include the WWII Victory Medal, Air Medal, Purple Heart, American Campaign Medal, Army Presidential Unit Citation, Army Good Conduct Medal and European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign.



Family members of SSgt. Frank Wininger are reported to have made contact with the state DAR committee in charge of Enduring Promise. However, as the local chapter is also honoring the Morgan County MIAs, family members are requested to contact DAR member Janice Bolinger at 765-349-9862 or dlbjeb@comcast.net.

'A love for flying'

Mooresville resident pursued the skies in service and in life

By Ronald P. May
MCC Contributor



Max Shanklin prepares to leap from a plane during his training at Jump School. (Max Shanklin courtesy photo)



A mortar team in Korea prepares to drop another ordinance into the tube. (U.S. Army photo / Public Domain)



Max Shanklin stands next to one of the many planes he built over the years at his workshop in Mooresville back in 2014. Over the years, he built 12 planes from kits and repaired five other planes that were wrecked. (Ronald P. May courtesy photo)



Shanklin



Max Shanklin pauses for a photo during his time at Jump School. (Max Shanklin courtesy photo)



Max Shanklin points to a collage mounted inside his Mooresville home that showcases the many airplanes he had over the years. Next to it is the plaque that reads: Time spent flying is not deducted from one's lifetime. (Ronald P. May courtesy photo)

Most people are content to live their lives on the ground. Max Shanklin preferred to spend as much time as possible in the air.

Shanklin was born March 23, 1923, in Indianapolis, one of four children raised by his parents, Charles and Ethel Shanklin.

After graduating from Decatur Central High School in 1941, Shanklin worked as a bottle washer at Eli Lilly Co.

Suspecting that he would be drafted soon with the start of World War II, he decided to enlist for the service in 1942.

Interested in aviation since childhood, he enrolled in the Navy Aviation Cadet Program.

After his basic training in Chicago, he returned to Indianapolis for three months of civilian pilot training at Weir Cook Airport.

From there he went to Monterrey, Calif., for three months of pre-flight training and then on to Hutchinson, Kan., for primary flight training.

While in Hutchinson, one of the guys in his squad mentioned to Shanklin that his brother was in the Merchant Marines and was making a lot of money.

The Navy was paying $75 a month, while the Merchant Marines were offering men $400 to $500 a month.

Shanklin decided to temporarily put his dreams for the air on hold and chase the money to be made on the water.

He left the Navy and entered Merchant Marine Training at Sheepshead Bay in Brooklyn, N.Y.

After completing his basic training, he was invited to go to junior officer school in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Following his three months of training there, he was sent to New Orleans to be assigned to one of the merchant ships that would be heading out to the South Pacific.

He waited for three months in New Orleans, but he was never assigned to a ship. There were more junior officers than there were positions available for them.

Having seen a poster on a bulletin board promoting direct commission opportunities in the Army, Shanklin decided once again to leave one service and enter another.

He accepted a direct commission into the Army as a second lieutenant and began his eight weeks of basic officer training in Tallahassee, Fla.

While there, he saw another poster. This one promoted the need for paratroopers with the words, "Jump into the Fight!"

Shanklin had found his ticket back into the skies!

He went to Ft. Benning, Ga., for Basic Infantry Training and then entered Jump School for the five-week training that prepared him to leap out of planes and descend through the skies via parachute.

Following his training, Shanklin was assigned to the 515th Parachute Infantry Regiment, which became part of the 13th Airborne Division.

In January 1945, he boarded a ship and headed to his division headquarters in Auxerre, France — a city southeast of Paris.

From there, Shanklin's unit continued their training and awaited their combat mission.

But it never came.

The 13th Airborne Division was held in reserve for the largest paratrooper operation in World War II at the end of March 1945, "Operation Varsity", the drop of paratroopers across the Rhine River into Germany.

Following that operation, the Allied Forces moved quickly across Germany and did not need the paratroopers.

Shanklin was disappointed. But during some down time, he explored Paris.

He ascended the Eiffel Tower and toured the cathedral of Notre Dame.

"For a kid raised poor who had never been anywhere, I saw a lot in Europe," he recalled.

The 13th Airborne Division was one of the first units to leave Europe after Germany's surrender.

The plan was to return to the U.S. for a 30-day leave and then head over to the Pacific theater. But while Shanklin was back home, the war in the Pacific ended.

Shanklin separated from military service and returned home to his wife, Violet, whom he had married in 1942. His son, Max, was born in 1945.

He began working again at Eli Lilly and enrolled at Butler University, graduating with a degree in business and advertising.

In October 1950, the Army recalled him for service in Korea.

Shanklin, now a lieutenant, arrived in Japan and was initially assigned as an Assistant Detachment Officer at a hospital in Fukuoka on the island of Kyushu, Japan.

A year later, he was transferred to the 187th Regimental Combat Team in Korea, where he became a mortar platoon leader and spent six months in combat.

"I had never been around a mortar in my whole life!" Shanklin exclaimed.

The man who aspired to fly the skies suddenly found himself launching mortars into them.

His unit was constantly being sent out to help other units that were pinned down in combat.

"I got scared a few times over there," he admitted.

He also got a Purple Heart for wounds that he sustained in combat.

His ultimately unit rotated back to Japan, where Shanklin became the Assistant Public Information Officer and finished his recall time.

He returned home, and in 1953, his daughter, Karen, was born.

During that same year, Shanklin got his private pilot's license and began flying on his own as often as he could. His longest solo flight was a trip out to Oregon.

Shanklin returned to work at Eli Lilly Co. He climbed the corporate ladder and became a supervisor and finally a department head.

He retired from the company in 1988 after 46 years of service.

His love for aviation grew throughout his lifetime, expanding from flying planes to building them.

Over the years, he built 12 planes from kits and repaired five other planes that were wrecked.

Inside his Mooresville home, there was a plaque next to a framed collage of photos of Shanklin and his many planes. The plaque read: Time spent flying is not deducted from one's lifetime.

That proved to be the case for Shanklin as he continued to build and fly his planes into his early 90's.

Having outlived both of his children, Shanklin died at the age of 95 on July 29, 2018. He is buried at West Newton Cemetery.

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.

Sow good seed and reap a harvest

By Mickey Elliott
Weekday Religious Education



"Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. Whoever sows to please their own flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life." Galatians 6:7-8

This important Scripture truth means that God cannot be mocked, and his principles cannot be set aside. We are urged not to be deceived into thinking we can behave badly and have good results. We do reap what we sow!

I love this biblical truth because it lets me know that I have some control regarding the way my life turns out. I need to consider what I want my life to look like in the future, then be wise enough to realize that the harvest I reap tomorrow will directly relate to the seeds I sow today. We see the principle of sowing and reaping as easily as we think. We cannot plant onion seeds and reap corn. We must sow the seed now that it will produce the fruit or vegetables we desire to grow later. It's the same concept we see in this scripture as it relates to serving the Lord Jesus.

God tells us in Genesis 8:22 that as long as the earth remains there will be "Seedtime and Harvest." If you are not satisfied with your harvest perhaps you should consider the seed you have been sowing.

Let us apply this to our character. No one can sow anger and reap peace, nor can a person sow a bad attitude and reap a happy, joyful attitude, and positive outlook on life.

If a person has no friends, or finds that when he makes a new friend the friendship never lasts long, it would be wise to ask himself how he is treating his friends. Is he easy to get along with? Is he selfish or is he trying to give unwanted advice too often? Maybe he is negative and too judgmental. People who are good friends usually always have plenty of friends. If we show mercy in our relationships with people, we will receive mercy from them.

Matthew 5:7 says, "Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God." If we sow judgment toward others, we will receive judgment against ourselves; if we give, it will be given unto us. Luke 6: 37-38 says, "Give and it shall be given unto you, good measure, pressed down and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again." If we sow to the flesh, we will reap from the flesh decay, ruin, and destruction, but if we sow to the Spirit, we will reap life (Galatians 6: 8).

To sow to the flesh means to behave in a carnal manner, obeying the impulses of the flesh rather than following the guidance of the Holy Spirit. It means doing what we want to do rather than doing what God wants us to do.

Sometimes we find ourselves tempted by problems we cannot avoid that come from our enemy Satan merely from living in the world, and we don't always sow some specific bad seeds that cause them. We know what God has planned for us and that we can overcome the enemy. We know good from evil.

The Spirit within us reveals truth and gives us power and wisdom to say No! to the enemy.

As the Apostle Paul prayed for the Colossians he prayed the same prayer for us. And we should pray for others. Colossians 1:9-13 says, "For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and desire that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and Spiritual understanding; that you might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God, strengthened with all His might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy; giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the Saints in the light; who has delivered us from the power of darkness, and translated us into the Kingdom of his Dear Son."

Sow the seeds of God's love and righteousness. Pray this prayer for all; And always be ready to answer to the hope that is in you which you have in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 • martinsvilleccc@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 Sichting • 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 • popchurchlcms@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@rivervalleychristianchurch.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 • morganstreetchurchofchrist.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 • fpcmartinsivlle.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 • churchofchristelders@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 • mcotf252@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 Faull • 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@eastviewchristianchurch.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 • firstccmooresville.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..

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 • mooresvillefmchurch.org • mooresvillefmc.pastor@gmail.com • Pastor Jon Stemerick • 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 • Pastor Connor Bell • 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 • reformedholytrinity.org • reformedholytrinity@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 • Sunday service at 10:15 a.m.

Waverly Park Global Methodist • 8525 N. Main St., Martinsville • 317-422-1514 • wvanhorn317@embarqmail.com • Pastor Bill Vanhorn • Sunday 9:30 a.m.

Banta Global Methodist • 6594 N. Banta Road, Bargersville • 317-422-1514 • wvanhorn317@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.

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

Your Church's Name Here
BE THE FEATURED CHURCH OF THE MONTH
Contact
ads@morgancountycorrespondent.com
765-201-0765
SHARE YOUR MESSAGE

LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF INDIANA
MORGAN COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT 2
COUNTY OF MORGAN
CAUSE NO.: 55D02-2602-PL-000429
2011 PASCAL FAMILY TRUST,

Plaintiff,
v.
THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, SUCCESSORS, AND/OR ASSIGNS OF PAUL A. AND MARY E. TAYLOR, AND/OR ANY OTHER UNKNOWN THIRD PARTIES WITH AN INTEREST IN THE RESTRICTIONS ENCUMBERING 437 S. INDIANA ST., MOORESVILLE, IN 46158,
Defendant.

SUMMONS

TO DEFENDANT: The Heirs, Successors, and/or Assigns of Paul A. and Mary E. Taylor

Despite a diligent search, Plaintiff has been unable to determine the whereabouts of Defendant. Plaintiff filed its "Complaint for Declaratory Judgment" in the Morgan County Courts bearing the case name "2011 Pascal Family Trust v. The Heirs, Successors, and/or Assigns of Paul A. and Mary E. Taylor, and/or any Other Unknown Third Parties With an Interest in the Restrictions Encumbering 437 S. Indiana St., Mooresville, IN 46158" and having Cause No.: 55D02-2602-PL-000429. Plaintiff is represented by Patrick M. Rooney, whose contact information is located below. This suit was filed to obtain a Declaratory Judgment regarding restrictive covenants on the real estate commonly known as 437 S. Indiana St., Mooresville, IN 46158. Defendant has been named for notice purposes only because they have a potential interest in the relief that Plaintiff is requesting Plaintiff is not requesting any affirmative relief against Defendant, only that it be determined to be bound by the Court's Declaratory Judgment in this action. The nature of the suit against you is stated in the Complaint, which you can find by going to public.courts.in.gov and inputting the above case number. It also states the relief sought or the demand made against you by the Plaintiff.

You must respond within thirty (30) days after the last notice of this action is published. If you fail to do so, the Declaratory Judgment may be entered by default.

If you have a claim for relief against the Plaintiff arising from the same transaction or occurrence, you must assert it in your written answer.

Date: 2/17/2026

/s/ Tammy Parker
Clerk, Morgan County Court

The following manner of service of Summons is hereby designated:
Registered or Certified Mail
Service on individual at above address
Service on agent:
X Service by Publication

Respectfully submitted,

DATED: 02/17/2026 By: /s/ Patrick M. Rooney
Patrick M. Rooney, # 28383-49
Attorney at Law
1638 Shelby Street, Suite 101
Indianapolis, IN 46203
(317) 445-9956
pmrooney1@gmail.com
Attorney for Plaintiff:
2011 Pascal Family Trust

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STATE OF INDIANA
SS:
COUNTY OF MORGAN
IN THE MORGAN COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT
CASE NO: **55C01-2603-MI-000572**

IN RE THE NAME CHANGE OF:
Michelle Danelli Wolfe
Petitioner

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Michelle Danelli Wolfe hereby gives notice that Michelle Danelli Wolfe has filed a petition in the Morgan Court requesting that name be changed to Michelle Danielle Grenier.

Notice is further given that the hearing will be held on said Petition on May 11, 2026, at 11:30 a.m.

/s/ Michelle D. Wolfe
Petitioner

Date: 3/4/26

/s/ Tammy J. Parker
Clerk, Morgan County Court

PUBLIC NOTICES

Mooresville Civil Town, Morgan County, Indiana
Cash & Investments Combined Statement - 2025

	Local Fund Number	Local Fund Name	Beg Cash & Inv Bal Jan. 1, 2025	Receipts	Disbursements	End Cash & Inv Bal Dec. 31, 2025
Governmental Activities	1101	GENERAL FUND	$5,912,868.80	$7,127,927.77	$6,060,540.52	$6,980,256.05
	2201	MOTOR VEHICLE HIGHWAY	$674,521.38	$1,190,082.99	$1,120,037.87	$744,566.50
	2202	LOCAL ROAD AND STREET	$428,479.10	$183,337.78	$206,171.39	$405,645.49
	2203	MVH RESTRICTED	$74,338.74	$202,444.42	$163,464.14	$113,319.02
	2204	PARK AND RECREATION - OPERATING	$493,264.09	$1,154,629.47	$1,120,974.40	$526,919.16
	2209	LIT - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (FORMERLY CEDIT)	$559,255.77	$706,595.00	$633,363.72	$632,487.05
	2211	PARK NONREVERTING OPERATING	$757,503.68	$780,090.75	$750,505.45	$787,088.98
	2218	PLANNING AND ZONING	$636,373.19	$59,804.45	$140,232.64	$555,945.00
	2228	LLEPCE	$44,892.29	$5,789.00	$4,694.00	$45,987.29
	2234	UNSAFE BUILDING	$19,235.23	$0.00	$0.00	$19,235.23
	2235	RIVERBOAT	$216,312.03	$53,896.18	$90,000.00	$180,208.21
	2236	RAINY DAY	$1,181,592.58	$0.00	$26,700.00	$1,154,892.58
	2240	LIT - PUBLIC SAFETY	$930,836.51	$1,009,640.08	$1,005,463.67	$935,012.92
	2256	OPIOID SETTLEMENT UNRESTRICTED	$230,314.39	$2,290.29	$50,000.00	$182,604.68
	2257	OPIOID SETTLEMENT RESTRICTED	$71,430.89	$14,780.37	$0.00	$86,211.26
	2300	BABY BOX DONATIONS	$3,083.49	$0.00	$0.00	$3,083.49
	2301	TOWN IMPROVEMENT DONATION	$324.18	$0.00	$0.00	$324.18
	2302	PARK DONATIONS	$41,457.95	$26,506.05	$12,078.92	$55,885.08
	2303	POLICE DONATION	$17,912.70	$6,510.00	$6,988.93	$17,433.77
	2304	K9 DONATION FUND	$6,707.44	$0.00	$286.38	$6,421.06
	2305	MOORESVILLE CHILDREN'S FUND	$31,145.28	$210.00	$2,274.98	$29,080.30
	2306	FIRE DONATION	$15,861.55	$600.00	$2,221.22	$14,240.33
	2307	NON-REV CPR DONATION FUND	$8,162.60	$2,350.00	$2,293.96	$8,218.64
	2308	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT USE	$13,035.72	$0.00	$0.00	$13,035.72
	2402	STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUND (ARPA)	$1,982,449.76	$0.00	$1,976,567.00	$5,882.76
	2403	READI GRANT	$0.00	$279,811.00	$279,811.00	$0.00
	2405	OPERATION PULL OVER (CHIRP)	$0.00	$6,959.71	$6,959.71	$0.00
	2406	CRIMINAL JUSTICE REIMBRSM	$2,924.38	$0.00	$0.00	$2,924.38
	2407	VEST GRANT	-$1,064.75	$1,064.75	$0.00	$0.00
	2408	DNU MORGAN COUNTY ARPA GRANT FUND	$0.00	$4,282.50	$4,282.50	$0.00
	2410	MORGAN COUNTY ARPA GRANT FUND REIMBURSEMENTS	$0.00	$1,087,886.43	$1,092,168.96	-$4,282.53
	2412	KENDRICK FINANCIAL GRANT	$13.32	$0.00	$0.00	$13.32
	2413	IPEP GRANT 2022 - POLICE	$97.12	$0.00	$0.00	$97.12
	2418	CSX TRANSPORTATION GRANT	$0.00	$1,377.73	$1,377.73	$0.00
	8615	CROUCH/COUNTRYVIEW ESTATES	$46,281.68	$2,014.42	$0.00	$48,296.10
	8901	PAYROLL	$0.00	$4,718,440.75	$4,718,440.75	$0.00
	8902	PR FEDERAL & FICA W/H	$0.00	$853,544.97	$853,544.97	$0.00
	8903	PR FICA W/H	$0.00	$323,628.00	$323,628.00	$0.00
	8904	PR STATE/CTY W/H	$0.00	$337,021.07	$337,021.07	$0.00
	8905	PR 77 PENSION PLAN	$0.00	$131,895.53	$131,895.53	$0.00
	8906	PR AFLAC	$0.00	$14,387.82	$14,387.82	$0.00
	8910	PR CHILD SUPPORT	$0.00	$32,430.36	$32,430.36	$0.00
	8911	PR COLONIAL LIFE-	$0.00	$1,277.88	$1,277.88	$0.00
	8912	PR CORE SOURCE	$0.00	$32,775.00	$32,775.00	$0.00
	8913	PR PEBSCO	$0.00	$22,386.00	$22,386.00	$0.00
	8915	PR POLICE AND FIREMEN'S INSURANCE ASSOCIATION	$0.00	$5,495.90	$5,495.90	$0.00
	8916	PR PRE-PAID LEGAL	$0.00	$310.80	$310.80	$0.00
	8917	PR WORKSITE SOLUTIONS	$0.00	$602.00	$602.00	$0.00
	8918	PR-GARNISHMENT OF WAGES	$0.00	$485.79	$485.79	$0.00
	8919	PR-PFS SHAREHOLDERS	$0.00	$1,450.00	$1,450.00	$0.00
	8921	UNION INC LOCAL 4555 - MORGAN CO PRO FIREFIGHTERS	$0.00	$5,395.67	$5,395.67	$0.00
STORM WATER	6501	STORM WATER UTILITY OPERATING	$291,022.43	$141,627.54	$144,402.59	$288,247.38
WASTEWATER	6201	WASTEWATER OPERATING	$2,684,697.61	$4,048,769.86	$3,531,871.93	$3,201,595.54
	6202	SEWAGE UTILITY BOND AND INTEREST SINKING	$0.00	$411,030.00	$411,030.00	$0.00
	6206	WASTEWATER PLANT IMPR	$604,252.11	$57,150.00	$0.00	$661,402.11
	6207	WASTEWATER DEVEL AVAIL	$351,754.19	$43,312.50	$0.00	$395,066.69
	6208	WASTEWTR SEWER AVAILBLTY	$301,563.51	$18,837.50	$0.00	$320,401.01
MOORESVILLE CEMETERY	6605	CEMETERY	$116,611.93	$24,300.00	$20,174.49	$120,737.44

Intent to Demolish
3068 W. Hinshaw Rd
Monrovia, IN, 46157

The Town of Monrovia, following the Order upheld by the Plan Commission on January 13th, 2026, will be demolishing the structures on 3069 W. Hinshaw Rd, pursuant to the Indiana Unsafe Building Code IC 36-7-9.

For information, please contact the Town of Monrovia at 317-996-6116 ex.2

/s/ Donald Jones
Plan Administrator

Mooresville Civil Town, Morgan County, Indiana
Cash & Investments Combined Statement - 2025

	Local Fund Number	Local Fund Name	Beg Cash & Inv Bal Jan. 1, 2025	Receipts	Disbursements	End Cash & Inv Bal Dec. 31, 2025
Governmental Activities	2500	BURGLAR ALARM PERMITS	$45,637.26	$3,650.00	$0.00	$49,287.26
	2501	EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES	$14,983.08	$5,800.00	$1,228.00	$19,555.08
	2503	MOORESVILLE POLICE DRUG FUND	$1,002.33	$12,621.00	$1,345.08	$12,278.25
	2504	PACE TEAM DRUG FUND	$7,700.23	$0.00	$600.00	$7,100.23
	2505	MSVL COURT FAX	$969.74	$0.00	$0.00	$969.74
	2506	COUNTY COURT	$3,212.00	$35,678.00	$32,304.00	$6,586.00
	2507	POLICE CON'T ED	$22,726.58	$104,230.00	$96,882.00	$30,074.58
	2508	NON-REV SW/SOIL EROSION	$12,371.12	$26,549.75	$27,516.88	$11,403.99
	2510	GATEWAY MAINTENANCE	$50,239.25	$21,229.85	$6,543.62	$64,925.48
	2511	STATE ROAD 267 TAKEOVER	$165,511.00	$0.00	$0.00	$165,511.00
	2512	TIF RENTAL OF PROPERTY	$678,594.90	$0.00	$0.00	$678,594.90
	2513	PR INTEREST EARNED	$4,307.97	$2,116.25	$0.00	$6,424.22
	2514	PR MISC CHARGES	$6,656.95	$345.69	$0.00	$7,002.64
	2515	PETTY CASH	$400.00	$0.00	$0.00	$400.00
	2516	PARK PETTY CASH	$300.00	$0.00	$0.00	$300.00
	2598	TOWN COURT - ODYSSEY	$0.00	$161,323.87	$127,595.71	$33,728.16
	2599	TOWN COURT - KEYSTONE	$18,130.50	$297,550.99	$314,347.61	$1,333.88
	3308	SRF BOND & INTEREST	$413,630.57	$710,566.71	$695,698.10	$428,499.18
	3311	TIF DEBT SERVICE RESERVE	$470,474.38	$0.00	$0.00	$470,474.38
	3321	SRF DEBT SVC RESERVE	$739,233.10	$46,053.37	$0.00	$785,286.47
	3323	BNY SEWAGE WORKS 2022	$0.00	$99,687.50	$99,687.50	$0.00
	4401	CUMULATIVE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT - CIGARETTE TAX	$88,570.57	$16,753.59	$64,840.03	$40,484.13
	4402	CUMULATIVE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT	$477,158.53	$352,262.07	$310,869.74	$518,550.86
	4403	PARK NONREVERTING CAPITAL	$444,221.79	$2,175.00	$439,650.06	$6,746.73
	4406	REDEVELOPMENT CAPITAL	$16,418,559.88	$5,460,552.91	$4,198,853.65	$17,680,259.14
	4439	FOOD AND BEVERAGE TAX	$2,402,181.47	$514,318.84	$361,667.29	$2,554,833.02
	4445	MOORESVILLE 2019 TIF ALLOCATION	$0.00	$129,660.87	$0.00	$129,660.87
	4446	MOORESVILLE 2023 TIF ALLOCATION	$0.00	$28,989.09	$0.00	$28,989.09
	4500	LOCAL ROAD AND BRIDGE MATCHING GRANT FUND	$0.00	$543,844.57	$543,844.57	$0.00
	7704	SELF-INSURANCE	$18,937.03	$2,327,250.42	$2,290,737.62	$55,449.83
	8811	SECURITY BONDS & ESCROW	$11,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$11,000.00
	8812	FUNDS IN ESCROW - CRAFTON	$5,820.21	$0.58	$0.00	$5,820.79
	8813	FUNDS IN ESCROW - ROOKER RUN	$4,464.77	$44.84	$0.00	$4,509.61
	8814	COURT FINES IN TRUST	$5,300.00	$0.00	$0.00	$5,300.00

Monrovia Civil Town, Morgan County, Indiana
Cash & Investments Combined Statement - 2025

	Local Fund Number	Local Fund Name	Beg Cash & Inv Bal Jan. 1, 2025	Receipts	Disbursements	End Cash & Inv Bal Dec. 31, 2025
Governmental Activities	1101	GENERAL FUND	$709,400.17	$389,914.09	$337,022.76	$762,291.50
	1180	ARP GRANT FUND	$6,419.37	$0.00	$500.00	$5,919.37
	1237	OPIOID RESTRICTED FUNDS	$15,565.62	$200.00	$0.00	$15,765.62
	1238	OPIOID UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	$2,113.60	$552.90	$0.00	$2,666.50
	2201	MOTOR VEHICLE HIGHWAY	$331,614.01	$79,024.35	$51,134.53	$359,503.83
	2202	LOCAL ROAD & STREET	$123,070.98	$30,431.31	$34,038.50	$119,463.79
	2203	MVH RESTRICTED	$133,087.38	$32,389.48	$132,395.66	$33,081.20
	2204	PARK & RECREATION	$48,959.44	$1,159.00	$45,493.66	$4,624.78
	2228	LOCAL LAW ENF CONT ED	$4,949.18	$4,292.18	$1,055.13	$8,186.23
	2235	RIVERBOAT REVENUE SHARING	$44,631.31	$9,409.35	$0.00	$54,040.66
	2236	RAINY DAY	$84,548.41	$0.00	$1,006.79	$83,541.62
	2240	PUBLIC SAFETY FUND	$73,025.88	$33,423.00	$46,328.87	$60,120.01
	2248	SEA 67 LOIT SPECIAL DISTRIBUTION	$15,964.61	$0.00	$14,328.91	$1,635.70
	2301	PARK DONATIONS FUND	$4,626.40	$0.00	$0.00	$4,626.40
	2401	GRANT- POLICE COMPUTERS	$35.46	$0.00	$35.46	$0.00
	2501	OPO - OPERATION PULLOVER	$3,089.00	$4,950.15	$0.00	$8,039.15
	2502	Local Road and Bridge Grant Fund	$0.00	$473,358.59	$447,400.46	$25,958.13
	2503	NON-REVERTING #2	$4,363.00	$0.00	$0.00	$4,363.00
	2504	VERIZON ESCROW	$7,999.00	$0.00	$7,999.00	$0.00
	2505	PRECISION DATA ESCROW	$0.20	$0.00	$0.20	$0.00
	2506	PARK IMPACT FEE	$0.00	$95,096.00	$13,397.00	$81,699.00
	4401	CUM CAP IMP - CIG TAX	$25,106.77	$2,442.16	$0.00	$27,548.93
	4402	CUMULATIVE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT	$36,247.83	$66,455.84	$0.00	$102,703.67
	4436	ECONOMIC DEV INCOME TAX - LIT	$316,037.77	$157,657.08	$83,087.77	$390,607.08
	8901	PAYROLL	$7,301.83	$286,360.03	$287,349.61	$6,312.25
	9501	ALARM PERMIT FUND	$355.00	$393.35	$0.00	$748.35
WASTEWATER	6201	WASTEWATER UTILITY OPERATING	$2,042,006.18	$1,237,993.39	$2,374,502.42	$905,497.15
	6202	WASTEWATER UTL BOND & INT	$735.28	$0.00	$0.00	$735.28
	6204	WASTEWATER UTL CONSTRUCTION	$16,411.56	$36,000.00	$0.00	$52,411.56
	6206	WW - DEBT SERVICE RESERVE	$77,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$77,000.00
	6210	WASTEWATER UTILITY CASH RESERVE FUND	$190,000.00	$60,000.00	$0.00	$250,000.00
		Total All Funds	$4,324,665.24	$3,001,502.25	$3,877,076.73	$3,449,090.76

March means Garden Fest



Conservation Matters
DAVID MOW

MOORESVILLE — Morgan County Master Gardeners Garden Fest will take place this Saturday, March 14, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Come early if you want the best choice of the pansies because they sell out fast! It will be held at the Mooresville Christian Academy, located at 4271 Ind. 144 just east of Mooresville.

There will be a $2 admission fee per person, but each paid admission will receive five tickets that can be redeemed for one of the 300 trees being given away that day and/or seed packets that Master Gardeners have saved throughout the year.

Besides the opportunity to buy all sorts of items from vendors, there is a large educational component to the event.

I will be there as a guest speaker, talking about planting trees from their seeds and will be part of an Question-and-Answer panel session with top master Gardeners. Bring your gardening problems, and we will try to solve them!

At the Morgan County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) booth, you can pre-order trees for the spring giveaway if you haven't already, sign-up for a vegetable garden soil assessment and other spring conservation events. You can learn more about conservation grant programs in Morgan County and request an invasive species property survey to receive a personalized plan of control and removal. The Morgan County Native & Invasive Plant Partnership (MC NIPP) will be represented at the SWCD booth and will be promoting their activities.

The South-Central Chapter of the Indiana Native Plant Society will be there, too! They promote and educate gardeners, young and old, in the beauty and sustainability of using native plants in gardens and landscapes. They are champions for biodiversity and focus on education and volunteerism.

One of my favorite activities, as a member of this group, is to lead hikes to see these native plants in their natural habitats throughout our regional parks and nature preserves. They will have information on how to join and upcoming events that you can participate in as a member.

Among the other merchants that will be there are Grey's Plants, Flower Mama, Summersfield Farms, PEO Sisterhood, Vogarden's Shady Lady, Funk Designs, The Rusty Windmill, Earthen Wood Studio, Morgan County Public Library, Randy Collins (Garden Writer), Frenchie's Traditional Ironwork, Purpura Farms Maple Syrup, JJ'S Countyline Castings, Glenn's Garden Glass, Tree Frog Gardens, Morgan County Farmers Market, SavATree, Aquatic Design, Wishing Well Dahlias and Glads, Forest Commodities, Sculptures by Jay, and The Little Plant Wagon.

Oh, and come hungry! There will be two food trucks on site. Sara's Goodies and Serenna's Food Hut will be serving up delicious food all day long.

Bring a friend with you and make a day trip out of it! Get an early start this spring by getting some things to plant.

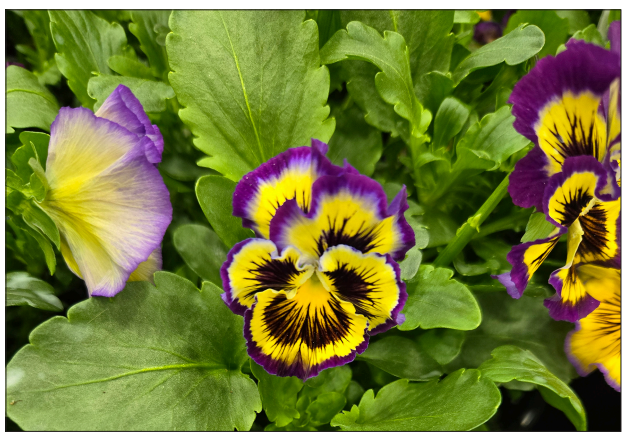
The purpose of Morgan County Master Gardeners is to share what they know, and this is one of their biggest outreach events of the year. So come and learn from them and the many other knowledgeable folks there.

For more information on the Morgan County Master Gardeners, visit https://mcmastergardeners.org, and please reach out to Purdue Extension at 765-342-1010 for more info on this fun event!

David Mow is the invasive species specialist for the Morgan County Soil and Water Conservation District. He is a local Master Gardener and member of Indiana Native Plant & Wildflower Society.



Tables are lined with pansies during last year's Morgan County Master Gardeners Garden Fest at Mooresville Christian Academy, where we'll be again this year. (David Mow courtesy photo)



Nothing says spring like pansies, and plenty will be on hand this Saturday. Pansies are a cool weather plant, and no matter how much you water, feed or shade them, they'll be gone when the summer heat arrives – so enjoy them while you can! (David Mow courtesy photo)



Seeds, seeds and more seeds! Morgan County Master Gardeners love giving away seeds and saplings at Garden Fest. (David Mow courtesy photo)

Free financial class to be offered in Morgan County

From Purdue Extension – Morgan County

PURDUE UNIVERSITY | Extension - Morgan County

MORGAN COUNTY — When payday rolls around, many consumers try to figure out which bills they will pay and which ones must wait until another paycheck comes in. With costs increasing for necessary expenses, such as gasoline, utilities and healthcare, consumers are finding it harder to make ends meet.

If you, like many others, are wondering how you can stretch your paycheck and make your money go further, you will want to attend the program "Where Does Your Money Go?"

"A fresh look at your financial situation can give you new insight into ways to change spending behaviors in order to have more money," says Rachel Peine, Purdue Extension Educator for Health and Human Sciences. "If some unnecessary items are eliminated or postponed, there may be enough money coming into the household to pay for expenses that are needed. This program gives participants an opportunity to rethink how they are currently spending money and plan for future spending."

The "Where Does Your Money Go?" program will be presented by Rachel Peine, Purdue Extension Educator, Morgan County, at Hope House, located at 1125 N. Indiana St. in Mooresville on April 1 at 6 p.m.

If you have a disability that requires special assistance for your participation, please contact the Purdue Extension, Morgan County at 765-342-1010.

Please register in advance for this program. You can register by going to this link — https://purdue.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0O1R5h3t2Q8hICW — or scanning the QR Code. Or just call the Purdue Extension Office Morgan County at 765-342-1010.



The Stine-Anderson Family Farm, a historic Clinton County farm southwest of Frankfort, won the award in 2025. (Indiana Landmarks courtesy photo)

Historic farms sought for rural preservation award

From Indiana Landmarks

INDIANA — Indiana Landmarks and Indiana Farm Bureau welcome nominations for the 2026 John Arnold Award for Rural Preservation. The award recognizes the preservation and ongoing agricultural use of historic farms and farm buildings in Indiana. Owners of more than 30 historic farms across the state have been honored with the award since it was established in 1992.

Anyone, including farm owners, can submit a nomination for the Arnold Award, which will be presented during the Celebration of Agriculture at the Indiana State Fair in August.

The nomination is simple and asks for:

• A brief history of the farm and description of its significant historic structures and features, such as the farmhouse, barns, agricultural outbuildings, and landscape elements.

• A description of how the farm's historic agricultural structures continue to be used in day-to-day farming operations, and how they have been preserved or adapted.

• High-res digital photographs of the farm and its preserved historic features. Historic images are also welcome.

The award winner receives an outdoor marker and feature coverage in *Indiana Preservation* magazine.

Indiana Landmarks named the award in memory of John Arnold (1955-1991), a Rush County farmer who successfully combined progressive agricultural practices with a deep respect for the historic and natural features of the rural landscape. The John Arnold Award for Rural Preservation honors those who share a similar commitment to preserving the landmarks and landscape of rural Indiana.

Submit nominations for the Arnold Award at indianalandmarks.org/john-arnold-award-rural-preservation. Deadline for nominations is April 30, 2026.

About Indiana Landmarks

Indiana Landmarks revitalizes communities, strengthens connections to our diverse heritage, and saves meaningful places. With nine offices located throughout the state, Indiana Landmarks helps people rescue endangered landmarks and restore historic neighborhoods and downtowns. People who join Indiana Landmarks receive its bimonthly magazine, *Indiana Preservation.* For more information on the not-for-profit organization, call 317-639-4534, 800-450-4534, or visit IndianaLandmarks.org.







