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CALENDAR

Thursday, December 27
2 pm—Movies at the Marion Public Library, Meeting Room B, 600 S. Washington St., Marion. Join us for Incredibles 2. Free. Info: 765-668-2900.

4 pm—Let's Knit and Crochet, Marion Public Library and Museum, 600 S Washington St. Beginners, \$15. Info.: Sue Bratton, 765-668-2900, ext 145, sbratton@marion.lib.in.us

6 pm—Christmas City Walkway of Lights, Marion Riverwalk, River Drive, Marion. Drive through or walk through light display that is among the largest in Indiana. The route is 2.5 miles long and encompasses 2.5 million lights. Lit nightly from 6 pm-10 pm. Cost: \$5 season sticker per car. Info:http://www.walkwayoflights.org

6 pm—Gas City Christmas Light Display, Gas City "Beaer Linn" Park, 718 S. Broadway, Gas City. Tour the Gas City Park and enjoy twinkling and brightly glowing lighted displays celebrating the Christmas season. Free. Info: http://www.gascityindiana.com.

Friday, December 28
6 pm—Christmas City Walkway of Lights, See Dec 27.

6 pm—Gas City Christmas Light Display, See Dec 27.

Saturday, December 29
2:30 pm—Teen Game Day Tournament, Marion Public Library Meeting Room B, 600 S. Washington St., Marion. Teens grades 7-12 are invite to join us for this gaming tournament playing Super Smash Brothers. Other games will also be available to play. Free. Info: 765-668-2900.

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The year in review (part 1)

This week and next, The News Herald takes a look at some of the stories that appeared in our pages during 2018.—Ed.

January
With temperatures forecasted to remain below zero at times and at best extremely cold and with wind chill temperatures expected to be well below zero, the Grant County Emergency Management Agency opened warming stations for residents' safety.

One new restaurant opened in downtown Marion and another plans to soon. Miles to Go, described by its owner Margaret Miles as a "Carryout Café," opened on Monday, January 8, at 5th Street, in the old Grand's Hamburger Stand. Romanda's opened in what used to be a downtown train depot. Neither restaurant made it to the end of the year.

Marion's first radio station, WBAT 1400 AM, modified its "all-talk" format to include a mix of "pop, soul and rock-and-roll from the late '60s, '70s and early to mid-'80s. "Good Morning Grant County," the 6-9 am, Monday-Friday program that provides local news, weather, interviews, sports, information and commentary was retained.

Indiana Wesleyan University hosted its fifth annual celebration honoring the late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Friday, Jan. 12 in the Phillippe Performing Arts Center. To start the celebration, IWU held a chapel service featuring the Blind Boys of Alabama, who also headlined the 7 pm MLK



Photo by Glen Devitt

Two planes collided at the Marion airport in April, causing the death of two area firemen.

Celebration Concert called Living the Dream. Taylor University's annual celebration of the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. took place on Monday, January 15. In addition to special speakers and musical guests, the event included service projects in Marion. The theme was Keep Moving Forward, which comes from the quote by King: "If you can't fly, then run. If you can't run, then walk. If you can't walk, then crawl, but whatever you do you have to keep moving forward."

Oak Hill United School Corporation installed two ground-mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) arrays at the Oak Hill Senior High School (644 kilowatts-dc) and Oak Hill Junior High School (1.25 megawatt-dc) and new LED lighting that is expected to generate a combined 1.89 megawatts of clean, renewable energy and offset approximately 78% combined electrical usage at the two build-

ings. The project is made possible by a guaranteed energy savings contract which will result in a cumulative net energy estimated savings of \$6.3 million over 30 years.

Ann Vermilion, administrative director of Marion General Hospital and chair of the Grant County Opioid and Substance Abuse Task Force, was the guest of U.S. Representative Susan Brooks (Republican, District 5) at the State of the Union address given by President Donald Trump on Tuesday night, January 30. "The night of the State of the Union was one of the most enchanted evenings of my lifetime. I am amazed, honored and appreciative of Congresswoman Brooks for her support of my community, my partners in this opioid fight, and mostly her support of me personally."

>>2018, pg. 4

'Charity Shots' competition on Friday night is fundraiser for Cancer Services

Contest to decide county's best free throw shooter

Who is the best free throw shooter in Grant County? A special contest intends to answer that question. Charity Shots for Charity, to be held Friday, December 28, starting at 5 pm, in the Grant County Family YMCA's Star Financial Coliseum, will feature varsity players from the county's high schools, as well as an open competition for any Grant County resident 18 years or older. Proceeds from the contest will go to Cancer Services of Grant County.

Two girls and two boys from the varsity teams of Eastbrook, Madison-Grant, Marion, Mississinewa and Oak Hill will compete for individual and team honors in the varsity division. The 28 players will shoot 30 free throws each in qualifying. The top two girls and the top two boys will face off in the finals, shooting a total of 10 one-and-ones from each end of the Coliseum to determine the winner.

The team competition finalists will be determined by the combined scores of the four players from each school. The top two teams will face off in the finals, with each player shooting five free throws at each end of the court for a total of 40 shots per team.


Open division qualifying will take place from 5-6:30 pm at the

>>Charity, page 3

INDIANA QUIZ

Answers are on page 10.

- The Soldier's and Sailors' Monument was first strung with lights from top to bottom in 1952, 1962, or 1972?**
- Which holiday song was written by Hoosier Hoagy Carmichael: Let It Snow, Winter Wonderland or My Christmas Song for You?**
- Santa Claus, Indiana, is in which county? Harrison, Spencer or Knox?**



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THE NEWS HERALD

postal information

Share the magic of the stage with our community this holiday season.

The Community School of the Arts has been presenting theatre and theatrical dance through the CSA Performance Series since 2014-2015, and has brought productions to the stage for nearly 15 years. The Share the Stage program allows you to bring the theatre to underserved populations in Grant County, making the arts accessible to those with barriers that prevent them from experiencing the joy and magic of theatre. Your donation will allow CSA to offer tickets at no charge to individuals and organizations across Grant County. With your donation we will list your name or business as a sponsor of the Share the Stage program in our program inserts.

GIVING LEVELS

Directors	\$500 - 100 sponsored tickets
Stage Managers	\$250 - 50 sponsored tickets
Choreographers	\$100 - 20 sponsored tickets
Stage Crew	\$50 - 10 sponsored tickets
Ushers	\$25 - 5 sponsored tickets

305 S. Adams St. • Marion, In • 765-662-6263 • info@csa-marion.com

Answering every kid’s question about Santa Claus

The Roundup is sponsored by Afena Federal Credit Union; see their ad. below



THE ROUNDUP Doug Roorbach



‘...there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man... could tear apart. Only faith, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.’

EVERY PARENT...dreads the question from the kids as they grow older and more skeptical: “Is there really a Santa Claus?” or some derivation thereof. We never want to lie to our children, of course, but we also don’t want to steal even a single precious minute of their childhoods.

So, what to answer? This is the dilemma faced by Frank Church, a staff member of The New York Sun newspaper (recently resurrected as a web site) back in 1897.

Here is how he answered the question; no one has ever addressed it more truthfully.

We take pleasure in answering thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of The Sun:

Dear Editor:

I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, “If you see it in The Sun, it’s so.” Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?

Virginia O’Hanlon
115 West Ninety Fifth Street

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do

DOING GOOD

Last Friday the Grant County Rescue Mission hosted a Christmas dinner for the entire community. This grand event was for anyone who wanted to get a good meal and to celebrate both Christmas and the good work done by the Rescue Mission. We applaud the Mission and its Director Rick Berberia for all the good deeds they do in our community. We would be a much poorer place without their efforts and the love they share with so many. They embody the Christmas spirit every day of the year. Thank you to all the folks at the Grant County Rescue Mission.

Wreaths Across America is a national effort to recognize military veterans for their sacrifice and service by placing Christmas wreaths on the graves of veterans at military cemeteries all across the country. Our local Marion National Cemetery took part in this effort and many of the graves there have been decorated with beautiful green Christmas wreaths. This good project is a result of local volunteers who both purchase the wreaths and place them on the veterans’ graves. What a good way to remember those who gave so much for our freedom.

This Friday is a good

event being sponsored by The News Herald to benefit Cancer Services of Grant County. It’s called Charity Shots for Charity and is a free throw shooting contest for high school students to determine the best foul shooters in Grant County. There is also an open division for anyone over 18 years of age, so this is an opportunity for all of us to relive our glory days of basketball without breaking a sweat. The suggested donation entry fee goes to benefit a very good cause. This good event is at the Grant County Family YMCA on Friday starting at 5 pm and you are welcome to attend as both a spectator

and a participant. You have nothing to lose and Cancer Services is a good cause to help. We hope to see you there this Friday evening.

This is Christmas week and those of us at The News Herald would like to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas. We use this special day and season as a time to celebrate the coming of Jesus Christ into the world as God’s messenger of love for all mankind. The words of the angels on that special night still ring loudly for all of us to hear and consider, “Peace on earth, goodwill to men.”

—Mike Roorbach

SUDOKU

Rating: 1 • 2 • 3 • 4 • 5 • 6. Solution is on page 10.
www.sudokuoftheday.com

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

Provided by BestCrosswords.com. Used with permission. Solution is on page 10.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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Across

- Actress Ward
- Gumbo ingredient
- Gross
- Parroted
- “La Vie en Rose” singer
- Eagle’s home
- Prefix for small
- Fast-food option
- Rock
- Sympathy
- Fine
- Corrida cheer
- Small purple plum
- Shrek, for one
- “Slippery” tree
- More frigid
- Haggis ingredient
- Intestinal sections
- In spite of
- Iowa city
- Pro ____
- Red fluorescent dye
- Laughing syllable
- Mouth bones
- Treasure State capital
- Arab instrument
- Little bit
- Star groups
- Minimum
- Compass direction
- Head of France?
- Loosen
- Entr’ ____
- Pressure
- Greeted the villain
- Dirty look
- Verge

Down

- Newsman Donaldson
- Heroic
- Jester Jay
- Take ____ view of
- Choice
- Refreshment stand
- Fury
- Get an ____ effort
- Fortified feudal residence
- Fasten again
- Suffix with buck
- ____ Fein
- Gets the picture
- Native New Zealander
- Large artery
- Singer Shore
- Pueblo Indian village
- Bishop’s headdress
- Uses a Singer
- Boots
- “ ____ grip!”
- Beethoven dedicatee
- Bolshevik leader
- ____ Carta
- “Saint Joan” playwright
- Worshiped one
- Commerce
- ____ say more?
- Protruded
- Madman at the tea party
- Actor Davis
- Sample
- Heavy stick
- Vintner’s prefix
- Western pact
- Sharon of “Boston Public”
- Ornamental fabric
- Will-____wisp
- Can’t do without
- Deer sir
- Riviera season

FEATURES

EDITORIAL CARTOON—ERIC REAVES



December 27, 1981

Hoagy Carmichael dies in Rancho Mirage, California. Growing up in Bloomington, he became a popular writer of songs, including “Stardust” and “Georgia on My Mind.”

December 28, 1812

William Henry Harrison resigns as Governor of the Indiana Territory in order to join in the War of 1812. John Gibson is acting governor until Thomas Posey is appointed by James Madison

December 29, 1885

The Indiana Academy of Science is organized at a meeting at the Marion County Courthouse

December 30, 1861

The 40th Regiment Indiana Infantry musters in at

Charity, Continued from 1

Coliseum. After a practice period for all contestants from 6:30-7 pm, the open division finals will take place. The entry fee for the open division is \$10, which includes admission to the Coliseum for the evening’s activities for all and a James Dean Grant County T-shirt to the first 50 contestants. The men’s and women’s winners will receive a trophy. Qualifying for the individual competition in the varsity division will follow the open division finals and the evening will end with the individual finals and then the team finals. Suggested donation for admission to the event is \$5 for adults and \$2 for children, to benefit Cancer Services of Grant County. Visit www.newsherald.org for more info.



Lafayette and Indianapolis. Serving until the end of the Civil War, the regiment engages in 16 significant battles, including Shiloh, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Resaca, and the Siege of Atlanta

December 31, 1921

Francis P. Hamilton launches the first Indianapolis radio station, 92K

January 1, 1827

Presbyterian minister John Finley Crowe establishes

Hanover College, the oldest private college in the state

January 2, 1781

Virginia grants 150,000 acres of land to George Rogers Clark and his men. Included is all of present Clark County, Indiana, in addition to parts of surrounding counties

January 3, 1825

Scottish factory owner Robert Owen buys 30,000 acres in Southwest Indiana which becomes New Harmony

January 4, 1986

Poet Arthur Franklin Mapes dies in Kendallville. Among his works is “Indiana,” adopted as the Indiana State Poem in 196

January 5, 1948

Raintree County is published by Ross Lockridge, Jr. The novel takes place during the Civil War era. Henry County, Indiana, is the basis for the title locale

January 6, 1859

Dr. Mary F. Thomas becomes the first woman to address the Indiana Legislature

January 6, 1887

The General Assembly opens its first session at the new State House in Indianapolis

THE NEWS HERALD

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THE NEWS HERALD (USPS 386660) is published weekly by Good News Ventures, Inc., an Indiana corporation. Periodical postage paid at Marion, IN, 46952. Postmaster: send address changes to: PO Box 1167, Marion, IN 46952. © 2018, all rights reserved.

Letters to the editor and readers’ submissions are encouraged; please email news@newsherald.org. All submissions become the property of Good News Ventures, Inc., and are subject to editing and publication at the discretion of the staff.

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Corrections: THE NEWS HERALD strives for complete accuracy, but if corrections are needed we will endeavor to make them as quickly as possible. Please contact us using the information listed above.

Soli deo gloria: It is the desire of the owners of THE NEWS HERALD that everything we do would please our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and that God would receive the credit for any good done through these pages.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

From all of us at Afena Federal Credit Union. We hope your holiday season is spent with the people that matter most and the new year brings happiness and peace. Thank you for choosing Afena.



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The reason for the season: more than a baby

Isaiah 9:6-7

The greatest story ever told was the birth of the Christ-child. There is nothing that compares to God's gift to mankind like the story of Jesus. In last week's article we talked about how He would come. He came as a child, the Son of God. The most wonderful gift one could ever receive.

Have you ever wondered why He came? "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder," the Bible says (Isaiah 9:6a). Jesus came as the "Great Deliverer." There is an old song we sing, "He's Got The Whole World In His Hands." That song is so true, but He also had the weight (sin) of

the world on His shoulders. Jesus came because of sin. Man owed a sin-debt he could not pay, so Jesus came to pay this debt. "For He hath made Him, who knew no sin, to be sin for us, that we might be made the righteousness of God," it says in II Corinthians 5:21. There is no way of escaping without Christ. Yes, it is hard to picture the Christ-child as the suffering Savior dying on a cruel rugged cross, but that is why He came.

Isaiah goes on in Isaiah 9: 6, 7 to tell us what He will be. He gives us special attributes of this child. He said, "He shall be called Wonderful." This attribute or name has a very special meaning. It means to make great. It speaks of one who

is miraculous. His whole manifestation will be a miracle. He will be that which is separated from the ordinary. There will be nothing ordinary about Him. He will be a picture of exciting amazement, and admirable. Wonderful is defined here by love, humility, self-denial, sorrow, works, death and resurrection. One would have a hard time grasping that wonderful would mean all that, but in reality, He is so much more!

Isaiah goes on to describe Jesus as "The Counselor." This is a description that carries an honorable rank. He is One who is fitted to stand with kings as their Advisor. He is One who displays great wisdom. He has the ability to guide and

direct the human race. He will have this great ability because He is "The Master" of human nature.

Isaiah calls Him "The Mighty God." This is an attribute to the true God. For this reason the scribes and pharisees wanted to crucify Him, because they thought He was blasphemous by claiming to be God. The prophet Isaiah is telling the people that this is exactly who He shall be. He will be God incarnate (God in the flesh). They could never accept this.

He is also called the "Everlasting Father." This means that He is the man abiding forever. He is the Father of Eternity. We know that His kingdom will never end. He is the Father



JUST A THOUGHT

Rev. Tom Mansbarger



of strength, knowledge, intelligence, glory, and goodness. Eternity has no beginning and no end. That is definitely more than I can

comprehend.

He is also called "The Prince of Peace." This is a reference to a "peaceful prince." As I ponder these attributes, it is obvious that He is a sight to behold. He will be nothing like we have ever seen before. He is Savior of the world, but more importantly, He is my Savior. I hope you can say that He is your Savior too. If you miss Jesus, you have missed it all. Merry Christmas! Tom

Tom Mansbarger is senior pastor of Grace Community Church. Tom offers free pastoral counseling to anyone needing help. Reach him at 765-517-1187 or tom@graceccmarion.org.

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lot and the passenger of the Cessna 150 were killed. Kyle Hibst was the pilot of the Cessna 150; David Wittkamper was his passenger. Both were firefighters with the Pipe Creek Township Fire Department in Madison County near Elwood and both were 31 years old. The FAA statement said that the Cessna 150 was attempting to take off at 5:09 pm when it clipped the tail of the Citation, which had just landed. The Cessna 150 crashed and burst into flames. The CitationJet, which is owned by the Avis Corporation in Upland, had five people on board, but they were not severely injured.

The Marion Housing Authority (MHA) began demolition of the former Hotel Marion on East Fourth Street (State Route 18). The action fits in with Marion Mayor Jess Alumbaugh's stated aim to clean up the "major corridors" into the city. In a press release, MHA said it "is taking action to remove one of the city's largest sites of blight." The hotel was long-empty when, in 2014, a fire broke out and closed the building indefinitely. Mayor Alumbaugh has stated publicly that the MHA will build a "fair market" apartment building on the site.

Approximately 190 community members participated in the 2018 Prevent Child Abuse (PCA) Grant County Council Training and Luncheon on April 11.

Marion Housing Authority was awarded the prestigious Champion of Children Award for the attention to the needs of children throughout Grant County.

May

Grant County voters handed the Republican nomination for county prosecutor to Rodney Faulk, turning aside incumbent Jim Luttrull, Jr., who has held the office since 2003. The final tally was close, with only 182 votes separating the two (3,661-3,479) out of more than 7,000 cast. "It was worth it in the end," Faulk said in an interview on WBAT after the results were announced. He pointed to "a grass roots movement" from people who "wanted to see a change in the office" as the main reason for his victory. "A lot of ordinary people said 'Change needs to happen,'" Faulk said. In the other contested county race, Pamela Harris barely edged Karen Wood for county clerk, by 36 votes, 3303-3267.

On a gorgeous Monday morning, the community of Marion gathered for a short, yet eloquent Memorial Day ceremony at the Marion National Cemetery to honor the men and women who paid the ultimate price to preserve America's freedom. Executive Director of the National Cemetery Administration-Midwest District Joshua de Leon said: "We honor veterans and their family members with a final resting place...For us, every day is Memorial Day."

Evan Bishir, the 2018



Photo submitted

Ann Vermilion, administrative director of Marion General Hospital and chair of the Grant County Opioid and Substance Abuse Task Force, was the guest of U.S. Representative Susan Brooks (Republican, District 5) at the State of the Union address given by President Donald Trump on Tuesday night, January 30.

Grant County Spelling Bee champion, traveled to Washington, DC to compete in the Scripps National Spelling Bee, May 29-31. Bishir, 11, is finishing the fifth grade at Park Elementary School in Fairmount. He is the son of Al and Rachel Bishir, Fairmount. Bishir outlasted 71 spellers from 17 area schools to win the county spelling bee on March 20 at College Wesleyan Church, which adjoins Indiana Wesleyan University.

IWU sponsored the event for the 10th consecutive year. An all-expense-paid trip to Washington to compete in the national spelling bee was one of several prizes Bishir received for winning the county spelling bee. Bishir competed against 518 spellers from across the United States. He wrote: "I spelled the words 'touche' and 'sleuthed' correctly in those rounds, but unfortunately there were other spellers that got a higher

score on their written tests, so I was not able to advance to the finals. I was tied for 42nd place and they were only able to take 41 to the finals."

Nearly 200 men, women and children answered the call for help and showed up to clean, trim, mow and otherwise spruce up the Estates of Serenity Cemetery along Lincoln Boulevard and Central Avenue on Marion's southeast side. The response came after a spate of news coverage in which the owners of the cemetery were criticized for an absence of mowing and maintenance.

June

Construction work began on Marion's longest awaited restaurant, the Texas Road House, in front of the Meijer/Hobby Lobby strip mall and just south of the new Regions Bank location. The steakhouse was originally to have opened last December, but the developer rescheduled. "We poured the dining room yesterday, the kitchen today and you'll be able to have dinner here in about six months," a construction worker on the site said Monday afternoon. He was correct; the restaurant opened in late November.

Tragedy struck in the early hours of Saturday morning as 35-year old Roger Randolph-brother of Zach Randolph, former Marion Giants basketball star who now plays for the NBA's Sacramento Kings--was shot and killed outside of a Marion restaurant. According to Sgt. Mark Stefanos of the Marion Police Department, police re-

sponded to reports of shots fired at the Hop's Blue Room on 1401 S. McClure Street, just south of downtown Marion, at 4:49 am Saturday. Upon arrival police found a body, later identified as Roger Randolph, lying between two parked cars in front of the restaurant. He was pronounced dead at the scene a short time later by Marion General Hospital ambulance personnel.

For the 12th consecutive year, the Carey Services Duck Race, held at the Splash House in Marion since its inception in 2006, was a rousing success. The race raises money for Carey Services to further help people with physical and intellectual challenges across Grant and surrounding counties. After 2,100 plastic, yellow ducks floated around a pre-determined track, the top 10 finishers received cash and other prizes. Innovative Packing was the runner-up, winning \$500, while Grant Memorial Park won the grand prize of \$1,000.

Avis Stewart, a Marion native, was named the interim president of Earlham College in Richmond, IN. Stewart will remain in that role until a new president is selected. Deborah Hull, chair of Earlham's board of trustees, said: "Avis has been a member of the College's administration for many years and is respected by those on campus and off for his ability and dedication to the College."

Next week: We continue our look at 2018, covering the months of July-December.

Calendar

Continued from page 1

6 pm—Christmas City Walkway of Lights, See Dec 27.

6 pm—Gas City Christmas Light Display, See Dec 27.

Sunday, December 30

6 pm—Christmas City Walkway of Lights, See Dec 27.

6 pm—Gas City Christmas Light Display, See Dec 27.

Monday, December 31

10:30 am—Preschool Tales,

Marion Public Library and Museum, 600 S Washington St. Free. Info.: Tylanna Jones, 765-668-2900, ext 105, tjones@marion.lib.in.us

11:30 am—Noon Year's Eve Party, Marion Public Library Children's Room, 600 S. Washington St., Marion. Celebrate the New Year with us. We'll have fun activities and countdown to noon. Free. Info: 765-668-2900.

6 pm—Understanding Grief, Family Life Care, 705 S. Baldwin Ave., Marion.

Adults (18 up), free. Recurring. Info.: Jeff Luttrell, 800-355-2817

6 pm—Christmas City Walkway of Lights, See Dec 27.

6 pm—Gas City Christmas Light Display, See Dec 27.

Tuesday, January 1

10:30 am—First Day Hike, Salamonie Reservoir, 9214 W Lost Bridge West, Andrews. Join us for eagles and Auld Lang Syne. Free. Info: 260-468-2127.

6 pm—Gas City Christmas Light Display, See Dec 27.

2018, Continued from 1

February

The Grant County Rescue Mission (GCRM) commemorated 13 years of its annual fundraiser, Walk-A-Mile, on Saturday, February 10. With a record-setting 200-plus registrants, the Mission raised \$28,443.02 (and counting), which exceed their goal of \$25,000.

After 50 years of molding and affecting young minds in the Marion community, JoEllen Shipman retired from McCulloch Junior High School. Shipman, who grew up in nearby Alexandria and got her teaching degree from Ball State University, spent her entire career at McCulloch, teaching English and language arts for 40 years before switching to U.S. history and social studies for the final ten. "I just loved the kids," Shipman said. "McCulloch has got a wonderful closeness. It's like a family atmosphere, and it's always been about the kids and their families. That's why I never left."

"We do have a couple of issues we're dealing with," Mayor Jess Alumbaugh said at the annual state of the city address. Regarding the finances of the city, Alumbaugh said, "...we're moving in the right direction, we're

trending upward. We're paying our bills on time..." He said that in 2019 "the insurance fund will hit us at its peak." That will leave a projected \$19,000 in the General Fund. "Not where we want to be," Alumbaugh said. He said that the city has reduced expenses a little over \$1.7 million over the last two years, but, he added, "it's really getting hard to find other areas to cut...Whether anybody wants to talk about this or not, the need for revenue is real. That means taxes, folks." Then Alumbaugh slipped in another bit of news: "If I'm elected, and, yes, I'm going to run again, I'm telling you, we need taxes. If that hurts my [re-]election, I'm just telling you the truth, folks. If you don't want to vote for me because of that, I understand, but I'm not going to sit up here and blow smoke at you."

February

For the fourth time since 2014, The News Herald--in the person of Publisher's Representative Mike Roorbach this year--spent a day at the Indiana statehouse, visiting with the state representatives and senators that represent Grant County and taking stock of the activities and accomplishments of our legislatures. "There was no great excitement this year," Roorbach said after spend-

ing the day talking with Grant County's legislators and observing the statehouse and its visitors. Not like two years ago, when LGBT protestors swamped the statehouse and there was an edginess to every debate and discussion.

March

The Star Financial Coliseum was transformed into a stage as volunteers from Marion and the surrounding communities took a captivated audience through the last week of Jesus Christ's life in the biennial Marion Easter Pageant. A tradition that began in 1937, the Marion Easter Pageant tells the Easter story in its entirety. From Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem to His resurrection, audience members experienced all the highs and lows of Christ's final days, culminating in a stirring Hallelujah chorus. "I think our community needs to hear this story over and over again," one cast member said.

April

"A single-engine Cessna 150 collided on the ground [Monday] afternoon with a Cessna 525 CitationJet at Marion Municipal Airport," according to a statement released by the Federal Aviation Administration. The pi-

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Yoga as therapy for emotional and mental issues

I know somebody, let's call her Charlotte. Charlotte went through some emotional and mental difficulties a few years ago. She was down because she didn't feel love for herself, only she didn't know this at the time. She was quite angry with the world and was also debilitated by anxiety for a large proportion of the day. Charlotte didn't want to reach for the pharmaceutical solution. Critically she chose not to hide her dilemma instead opting to take some positive action. Charlotte confided in a friend and yoga was recommended to her as the possible elixir she needed. She gave it a go, attending local classes and a two-week yoga retreat in Bali. Gradually her condition improved. Through the practice of yoga, she became less focused on how she felt every day and was able to heal herself.

The message behind Charlotte's story, and of thousands like hers, is that in yoga one can find refuge. Yoga enables one to feel fortified, and through it, one can find the path to self-love and kindness. Each of us, like Charlotte, is a spiritual being, having a human journey. The effects of yoga—that timeless spiritual custom of moving meditation—was profound for her. The good news is it can work for us all. As an alternative, a dedicated meditation practice achieves the same outcome. This is because Yoga and meditation belong to the same tribe of spiritual practices.

Yoga as therapy is now a well-recognized treatment. But there is a difference between yoga therapy and general yoga. During yoga therapy, a teacher will focus on the needs of the client by listening and questioning. They will determine what support is required. Yoga therapists will often find that their clients have lost a sense of self-kindness. Kindness is an innate characteristic, and each of us has the capacity for it. But as a consequence of many outside factors, our kindness is often lost.

Happiness is a lifelong journey and the capacity to be kind are its driver learner plates. Kindness can be considered the vehicle by which we propel our self through our lifetimes. Being compassionate pays great dividends then, as this is what it is to live mindfully. By pausing what we are doing, we take in our senses and the sensations they deliver to us. We also opt to switch off from our cares, and we lose our worries for the world. When we choose to radiate peace inside and out, we bestow upon ourselves a fantastic gift each day!

Once self-compassion is in place, we move on to showing kindness to others too. This is where the real magic can start. A battle of kindness. A world in which we are each seeking to better one another through the compassionate acts we carry out. Here's another example:

Garrett watches his mother and grandmother at the end of a car journey. Nana wants to give mom, who had been driving, some money for fuel. Mom didn't want to take it. The battle commenced: "...Val, take this gas money," said Nana in her kindness. "No, I don't want it, it's not necessary," said mom to Nana in responsive kindness. "But I insist!" said Nana. And so it continued. It went on and on until one or the other gave in. Or perhaps Nana would surreptitiously hide ten dollars out of mom's sight, for her to find later.

The day our society reaches a stage where we are battling with kindness in the fashion of my memory detailed above... when we want to "outdo" each other with random acts of compassion as a means to feel good, is the day we will find ourselves in a world that is awake. You can bring about a kindness charge in yourself which in turn can infect your community, your friends and your family. In my view, it begins with a daily meditation practice. Simply choose to provide space for yourself each day. Before you know it, you will have all that's needed to be more responsive and less reactive. Meditation will provide you with the skills you need to give space to those around you. In turn, they too might think about their reactions and whether they should be choosing to respond in a way that is kind. The ideal meditation practice to introduce in this endeavor is a Kindness meditation. You might practice, for yourself and for others by trying the following:

1. Close your eyes and settle into your breath.
2. Perceive the world around you. Feel the contact your body makes with surfaces and the sounds in the environment.
3. Envision your chosen face in your mind's eye.
4. As you exhale, imagine breathing lightness into the mouth of the face. Observe the face smiling.

As you inhale, observe the face in your mind's eye, breathe out — perhaps their breath is grey — take this breath in.

Repeat. As you breathe into the face in your mind's eye, watch it smile. Then breathe in all the negativity as that face breathes out.

This is an excellent practice that can be undertaken in formal sittings. But as you become more experienced at it, you may be able to introduce it into your day during the conversations and encounters you have. People need never know.

Kindness goes beyond formal practices, however. It also takes in things like the ego and nonattachment, and these are cornerstones of Buddhist philosophy too. Although you may not choose to follow Buddhism as a religion per se, its traditions point us towards a lifetime of happiness without reliance. In Buddhism, we are each responsible for our happiness and the compassion we show others. And in a world where all of us are seeking contentment, perhaps this offers the start of a solution.

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Hamilton and Morton: Taking the high ground

Seems like the appropriate time to take the high ground and revisit several people and places, starting with that Hoosier who long ago drifted across the line that separates politicians from statesmen and today clearly resides with the statesmen.

Lee Hamilton, who is now 87 years old and going to work every day at Indiana University in Bloomington, has done so much with his life that it makes the rest of us feel guilty of sloth. Congress for 34 years, chaired the House foreign affairs and intelligence committees, co-authored the 9-11 Commission Report back in 2001. The list goes on. In his elder statesman role, he regularly writes little notes that get posted, albeit too infrequently, on the editorial pages of newspapers around the state.

The current edition deals with this patriot's thoughts on patriotism at a time when the word itself is being twisted into some sort of grotesque mockery by those who inhabit higher places.

Hamilton concludes, quite correctly, that "...we have inherited a magnificent political legacy, a set of customs and traditions and, yes, moral values that give ordinary people the tools and power to improve life for themselves and succeeding generations. Patriotism lies in our efforts to enlarge that legacy so that it applies to all citizens. It means we defend civil liberties, the right to dissent, and the equality before the law of all Americans.

"And it means that uphold- ing our core values—tolerance, mutual respect, the right of everyone to be heard, the belief that in pursuing our own lives and interests we all are capable of contributing to the vibrancy of our democracy—is every bit as patriotic as placing our hand over our heart while reciting the Pledge."

Nothing startling from the veteran of hundreds of political and ideological wars, but what is interesting is the path he follows en route to the conclusion, starting with the editorial page of the New York Times, where the editors have identified what they call "clashing patriotisms."

"President Trump and Republicans see patriotism as conspicuous displays of respect for the traditional expressions of America—the flag, the military, the Pledge of Allegiance. Democrats, by contrast, see it as protecting the norms and institutions of our democracy."

"The two broad strands outlined by The Times inarguably exist," Hamilton concedes "We all remember the naval hero Stephen Decatur's famous toast in 1816, 'Our country, right or wrong.' And Senator Carl Schurz's amendment a half-century later: "My country, right or wrong — if right, to be kept right, if wrong, to be set right." We may criticize our country, in other words, but this is not motivated by malice. It's motivated by special affection and a belief that a great country can be made greater."

Seems meaningful at the moment, doesn't it?

But we must move on to another sage, an old friend and colleague, Morton Marcus, he formerly of the Indiana University School of Business. He who has devoted so much of his life to being the burr beneath the saddle, the irritant who provokes the institution until it has no choice but to seek creative solution to rid itself of the annoyance.

Over lunch at Paula's Ninth Street Café a few weeks ago, this extraordinarily gifted outside agitator was carrying on about the current buzzword, the acronym STEM—as in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics—the cleverly crafted label that is somehow to get our youngsters to the future.

Not so, said Dr. Marcus. "We need an H in there for history and [a] P for philosophy." It was then that he drifted across the line from agitation to profundity: "Four letters," he said. "Four letters are not enough to describe a civilization."

That takes us on to a man we never met, Mr. Will Durant, who, with his wife, Ariel, wrote the history of civilization in nine volumes, but summed it all up perfectly and succinctly in a couple of sentences:

"Civilization," he wrote, "is a stream with banks. The stream is sometimes filled with blood from people killing, stealing, shouting and doing things historians usually record; while on the banks, unnoticed, people build homes, make love, raise children, sing songs, write poetry and even whittle statues. The story of civilization is the story of what happens on the banks."

And that's today's report from the bank of the stream.

Ed Breen, co-host of "Good Morning Grant County" on WBAT radio, has been reporting on life in Indiana for more than 50 years. In 2016 he was inducted into the Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame.

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The week in Grant County boys basketball

Marion scores big upset; Panthers win

Eastbrook

Heading into their conference battle with the Elwood Panthers, the Panthers of Eastbrook were a 0-5 basketball team, but on Wednesday evening in the Panther Den, an incredible team effort finally got them over the hump, as the Panthers held on down the stretch to come away with a 55-52 triumph over Elwood, giving Greg Allison his first victory as a head coach.

“Currently right now in 2A, we have played the 10th toughest schedule,” Allison said after the game. “It feels good to get a win. I think it’s more for the kids than anything else. Hopefully we get some buy in, and hopefully we can springboard this going into the Grant Four.”

Cole Courtney knocked down a triple to tie the game at 19-19 early in the second quarter, but Eastbrook settled down from there, outscoring Elwood 13-6 the rest of the half to take a 32-25 lead at halftime.

However, that lead quickly evaporated early in the fourth. Courtney hit his sixth triple of the contest, and Mireles knocked down three free throws to make it one-possession game, and from that moment on, Elwood was right on Eastbrook’s heels.

With 14 seconds to go, Elwood trailed by just one

point, only needing a two-point field goal to complete the comeback. The ball went to Mireles, who immediately drove into the lane, but Singer was there to meet him. He defended the shot perfectly, and Alex Baker grabbed the rebound to secure the victory.

“Mireles is tough. For a kid they list at 5-10, he is really hard to keep out of the lane,” Allison said. “We had Singer on him, and then we had Binkerd on him throughout as well, just trying use our athleticism. He did a nice job of forcing him into a tough shot that we were then able to rebound.”

Dylan Bragg led all scorers with 25 points, while Bryce Schamber recorded a double-double with 11 points and 11 rebounds. Garrett Holder also scored 11 points for the Panthers.

Mireles was remarkable in the second half for Elwood, scoring 17 of his 23 points after halftime and coming away with a game-high 13 rebounds. Courtney finished the contest with 21 points, all coming from beyond the arc.

“It’s their first win of the year,” Allison said, “I’m proud of them. I’m proud of the way they battled and competed.”

Marion

The Marion Giants played

one of their finest games of the 2018-2019 campaign so far, in a hard-fought 60-56 victory over the Vikings in the final game of the annual Marion Basketball Classic.

“Going into the week, our guys were locked in practice-wise—I think everything starts there,” Marion Head Coach James Blackmon said. “It just shows you the confidence they have in each other and the confidence they have in themselves. We try to preach to our guys that if we come focused, if we come with a lot of intensity, and if we come with the right mindset, we can play with anybody. Tonight, we proved that.”

Newman scored eight quick points to give the Vikings an early 8-2 advantage, but Marion answered right back, as Jalen Blackmon and Qu’Ran Howard combined to score 11 points to cut the Vikings’ lead to 17-15 at the quarter break.

Valparaiso held four-point leads twice and a game-high six point lead near the end of the second quarter, but Blackmon had the answer each time, hitting timely triples at crucial junctures to keep the game close.

While Blackmon was impressive throughout the evening, Howard made a big difference on defense each time he was on the floor, keeping the Vikings out of

the lane and throwing their offensive out of rhythm. Marion forced eight Viking turnovers in the first half.

Freshman Rasheed Jones, who had four points in the first half, hit a key trey, before Blackmon scored the last four points of the quarter to make it a 40-36 Valparaiso lead heading into the final frame.

Jalen Blackmon may have been an unstoppable offensive force on Friday night, but three big plays from D’Angelo Jones midway through the frame turned the game in Marion’s favor.

First, he took a charge on the defensive end of the floor to force a turnover. Then, he scored on the Giants’ following possession to tie the game at 46-46. Finally, he forced another turnover in the half-court, which resulted in another Blackmon basket and Marion’s first lead of the contest at 48-46.

The Vikings tied it up on their ensuing trip down the floor, but a crucial blunder on the part of Newman put the nail in Valparaiso’s coffin. After picking up his fifth foul, he got into a verbal altercation with several Giants after fouling Blackmon on a three-point attempt, picking up a technical foul in the process.

Blackmon hit all five of his free throws, giving Marion a lead they would not re-

linquish, and knocked down five more down the stretch to secure the victory the four-point victory. Blackmon finished with 36 points in the contest.

Rasheed Jones scored 11 points, while Howard finished with six points, five rebounds, and four blocks.

Newman, a Purdue University commit, scored 20 points, while Aerts finished with 14 for the Vikings.

Mississinewa

Coming off of their impressive victory over county rival Madison-Grant, the Mississinewa Indians kept their win streak alive last Tuesday evening, improving to. 500 with a 64-39 victory over the Yorktown Tigers.

“We struggled with energy big time, especially early,” Mississinewa Head Coach James Reed, “And really our press, which has been our go-to all year, really wasn’t working at all because our energy and our focus wasn’t where it needed to be. In the second quarter, we got a little bit out of sorts. We were taking quick shots and doing things that we haven’t been doing lately.”

However, the Indians made some halftime adjustments and were much improved in the second half. Their offense began to click, while their defensive pressure was much more effective.

Mississinewa led 40-26 after the third quarter and cruised the rest of the way.

Tai McClung had an excellent night for the Indians, leading the team with 16 points, while Landen Swanner scored 13 points in the victory.

Oak Hill

Last Tuesday evening, the Oak Hill Golden Eagles put forth one of their best efforts of the young season against the Western Panthers. Unfortunately, it was still not enough, as the Panthers came away with a 49-44 triumph, handing Oak Hill its sixth loss of the year.

Oak Hill’s offense struggled shooting the ball against Western, scoring just 11 field goals while shooting seven-of-24 from beyond the arc.

“We are getting closer to turning a corner,” Oak Hill Head Coach Kevin Renbarger said. “There is no doubt we are improving and the kids are playing very hard. We just have to start limiting turnovers and I feel like we will need to start to get more from a post or interior presence to be as effective as we need to be.”

Bradey Evans led the Golden Eagles with 19 points in the loss, providing a nice scoring spark off the bench.

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