

# Officials

Kindergarten Roundup will be held on May 14 at 2 pm. The school’s last instructional day will be on May 14, and virtual graduation will be held on May 14. Since Marion’s 2020 graduates were unable to have a traditional ceremony, the plan is to hold commencement during Marion’s Homecoming Weekend this coming September.

Following Lindsay, Aaron Grindstaff, Regional VP of Operations at TLC Management, provided an update on the COVID-19 situation at Colonial Oaks, which includes 79 positive cases and nine deaths.

“Although this has been an unprecedented chal-

lenge, I can say this is not a challenge that Colonial Oaks was prepared to back down from,” Grindstaff said. “The COVID-19 virus is unforgiving, and it does not discriminate. Unfortunately, over the last three weeks, we have confirmed a total of 46 residents and 33 staff positive cases. We will never forget the nine residents that we have lost to this virus. They will forever be in our hearts, in our thoughts, and in our minds, and they are a constant reminder of the sacrifices that were made in fighting this virus. We pray that we have no further loss, and we work tirelessly each day to try to prevent this.”

However, despite the hardships, Grindstaff also reported that the situation continues to improve with each passing day.

“After every storm, there is sunshine, and after every darkness, there is light,” Grindstaff said. “We are happy to report that we have begun testing on our residents and our staff that have been at least 14 days [past] their initial diagnosis and are now asymptomatic. Although not all tests have been completed, five residents have now tested negative that were previously positive. One of these residents has received her second negative test. We’ve had 11 total staff members now

test negative, and we are also happy to report that one of them has also received their second negative test.

Brandy McClanahan, who has worked in the Colonial Oaks COVID-19 unit since it was created, feels that she and her fellow nurses have done an outstanding of helping their residents through this unprecedented crisis.

While the patients may be in isolation, they are not alone. They are busy with activities, and they are living fulfilling lives despite the current circumstances.

“I absolutely love our patients,” McClanahan said. “My coworkers, we take great pride in the care we are giving them. There have been sad times, but we have also been able to laugh and share in everyday things – helping them find their favorite show, giving them their crosswords books, playing with them, reading the Bible to them, and just genuinely caring for

them every day.”

Lastly, Dr. David Moore of the Grant County Public Health Department gave an update on testing in Grant County. The testing shortage is continuing to be addressed. Tests have been limited to those at-risk individuals, but Moore believes that we will eventually get to a point where everyone will be able to be tested.

In the near future, the state will be setting up a testing clinic in Marion at the YMCA, testing those who are symptomatic, who have been in close contact with those who are positive, first responders, and those who works in group homes. These tests will be by appointment only, and those wanting to be tested must meet the criteria.

“It’s been a long battle,” Moore said. “We’ve come together and we’ve fought this well. We are going to get there and be together again.”

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back at her tenure at MGH with nothing but fond memories.

Couse, who has lived in Marion her entire life, was born at MGH. The hospital has been a major part of her life since the beginning, and in the last 28 years, she has worked with a multitude of people in an environment that at times can be chaotic.

However, that is what Couse will miss the most – the camaraderie, the friendships, and the familial setting that MGH provided for her throughout her tenure.

“I will miss being involved with Grant County and our community members,” Couse said. “I think of the patients and my coworkers as friends and family. It’s a big family here, and even the people we serve in the community, I think of them as family and neighbors.”

And as she moves on, she wishes her former co-workers nothing but the best, and will continue to support them afar during the next chapter of her life.

“I just wish them the very best in the rest of their careers at Marion General,” Couse said. “A lot of my colleagues and coworkers have been here longer than me, and I just wish them the very best. That’s probably what I will miss the most.”

## Sudoku Answers


## ANSWER:

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


## Crossword Puzzle Answers

PUZZLE SOLUTION			T	R	W		I	R	E		S	S	T			
			H	I	E		S	O	L		C	O	A			
	A	M	U	S	E		R	M	A		O	U	J	D	A	
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	C	O	L	O	S	S	I		D	O	S	S	I	E	R	
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	T	E	R	N	I			I	A	N		S	H	A	D	E
				T	I	E		L	C	D		E	E	L		
				H	A	S		E	T	A		D	D	S		


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