

THE NEWS HERALD

Grant County Life

50 cents

Volume 52, Number 17

A Hometown Media, Inc. Publication.

June 10-16, 2020

DEATHS

Week of June 1-8

Talia Madeline Daake
2020-2020
Funeral services were held at Brookhaven Wesleyan Church, Marion, on Tuesday, June 9 at 3 pm.

Donald W. Dailey
1941-2020
Funeral services were held at Needham-Storey-Wampner, Storey Chapel, on Friday, June 5 at 11 am.

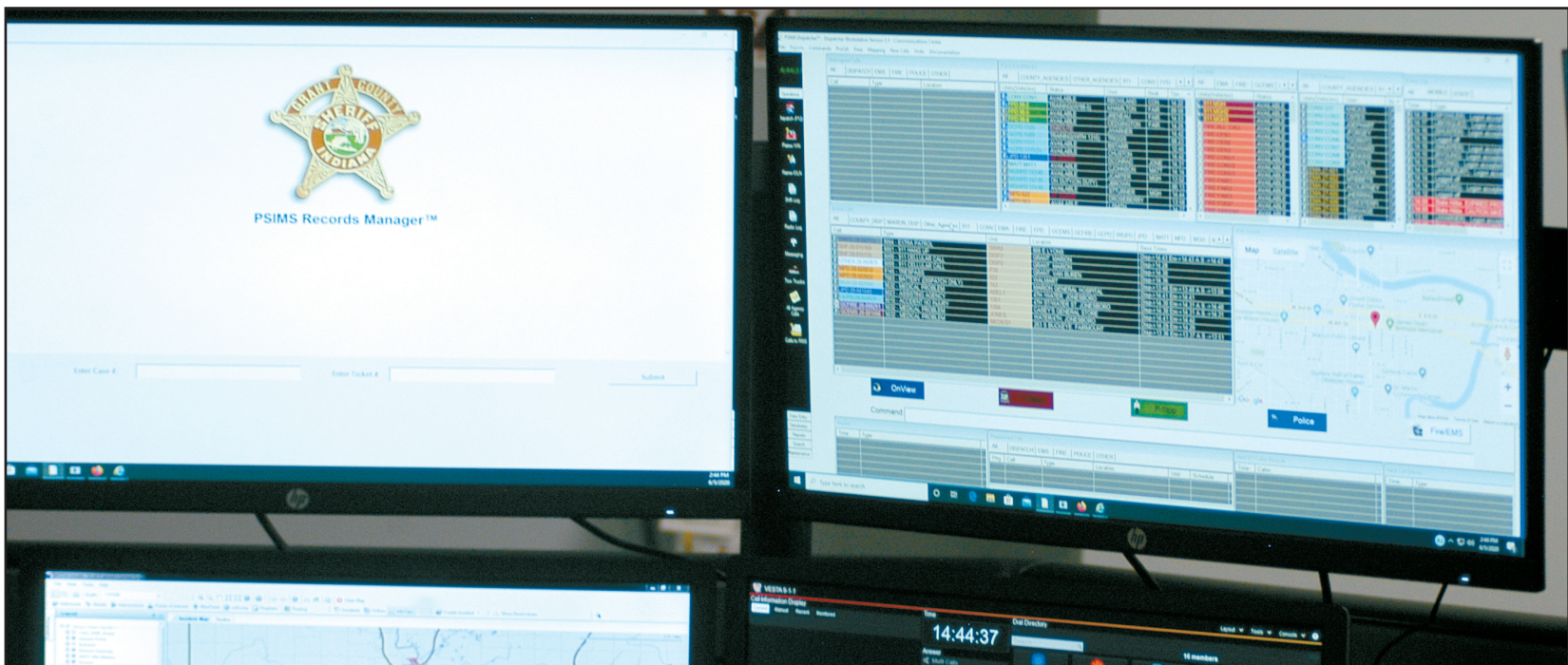
Mary Ilene Bell
1933-2020
Funeral services were held at Needham-Storey-Wampner, Storey Chapel, on Thursday, June 4 at 12 pm.

Rebecca Lynn Compo
1968-2020
Funeral services were held at Needham-Storey-Wampner, Storey Chapel, on Saturday, June 6 at 1 pm.

Joan L. Hall
1935-2020
The family will receive visitors from 11 am to 1 pm on Saturday, June 13, 2020, at Needham-Storey-Wampner Funeral Service, North Chapel, Marion. Immediately following the time of visitation, a service to

See Deaths, Page 2

New Central Dispatch opens



Public Safety Communications Director Michael Clayton giving a tour of the new Grant County Central Dispatch, State-of-the-art work station in the new Grant

County Central Dispatch. Photos by Sean Douglas

By Sean Douglas

After years of careful and meticulous planning, hundreds of meetings, and long hours of working to put it all together, the new Grant County Central Dispatch Center is open for business.

In a meeting this past Friday before the center went live on Monday morning, Public Safety Communications Director Michael Clayton talked about the center, its capabilities, and what Marion residents can expect going forward.

Grant County Central Dispatch is located in downtown Marion in the basement of the old Marion National Bank building, and is the merging of four other dispatch centers: Grant County Sheriff's Department, Marion City Police, Gas City Police, who merged with the Grant County Sheriff's De-

partment Center in November of 2019, and Marion General Hospital's EMS Dispatch.

This new center is located in the heart of downtown Marion and will serve a population of approximately 66,000 people within 415 square miles. Grant County Central Dispatch serves 17 police departments, 15 fire departments, and two EMS agencies, which produce approximately 190,000 calls annually. The center will handle EMS, fire, and police calls, taking calls from citizens, processing calls, and then assigning the proper agency to the locations where they are needed.

At this moment, the center currently employs 24 members, including 15 full-time 911 dispatchers, four part-time 911 dispatchers, three 911 communication supervisors, one operations manager, and

one public safety communications director.

Now, with one central location, dispatchers will now be able to gather information more quickly, cut down on transfers between multiple agencies, and most importantly, better respond to emergencies throughout the Grant County area.

"The great thing is that there won't be a transfer," Clayton said. "The same call taker will pick up the phone and take the caller through [everything]. Meanwhile, there are three dispatchers behind that call taker that are pushing that call out, looking up information for the call, or advising other units and getting more help.

"The processing, as far as calls go, will remain mostly the same. The product that is pushed out to the responders is mostly the same. We haven't



been able to cross train because of the COVID situation, so what I've done is I've taken all the trainers from both groups and we've met several times and we've worked on the basics that each operator needs to know whether its geography, policy and procedure, or protocol."

Dispatchers will each work an eight-hour shift, and a fire

dispatcher, Grant County law enforcement operator, and Marion City law enforcement operator will all be on the floor at the same time.

"It's a one stop shop for everything - police, fire, EMS," Clayton said. "We are not having to transfer a call to EMS and wait for EMS to

See Dispatch, page 2

Marion holds largest protest in city to date

By Sean Douglas

After a week of peaceful protests and demonstrations, Torri Williams and Channel 27 Founder and Executive, Richarh Tyson, combined to form the biggest rally yet as the city of Marion continued to protest racial inequality and police brutality in the wake of George Floyd's death in Minneapolis on May 25.

Floyd's death at the hands of Minneapolis police offi-

cer Derek Chauvin has sparked nationwide protests in cities like Indianapolis, Philadelphia, Portland, Washington D.C., and others, as people of all colors, creeds, and backgrounds have rallied to support the Black Lives Matter movement.

"I think the message is getting out. I think sometimes you have to rip off the band-aid or rip the blind off people's eyes," Williams

See Protest, page 4

Living in the Now, Preparing for the Future

Learn how you can redefine your savings approach toward education and retirement. To learn more, call my office today.



Bobby Browder
Financial Advisor
214 N Baldwin Ave
Marion, IN 46952
765-662-3980

edwardjones.com
Member SIPC

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

INDIANA QUIZ

Name the Indiana city which is home to each of the following schools.

1. Wabash College
2. Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
3. Ball State University
4. Earlham College

See page 3 for answers

