

Flourish where you're planted

By Linda Wilk

Our daughter Andrea recently had a couple college friends visit from IU for a wedding in Fort Wayne. Before heading back home one of her friends gushed about how much she loved our house, our neighborhood and Marion.

It filled me with pride. I have been called a champion for Marion, which I dutifully accept, believing the importance of blooming where you are planted.

I never expected to plant roots in Indiana and when I took a job in Marion, I had no idea what amenities I would find. Now, unless God has other plans, my intentions are to retire and long live in our more than a century old house.

It is easy to get discouraged as a homeowner when certain properties are neglected in the same block that you are doing your best to maintain and constantly improve.

I will encourage anyone who has a problem property in their neighborhood to stay diligent. If appropriate try to talk to the homeowner about the problem and if not, report it to Nuisance Abatement. Also involve other neighbors in the complaint process. It is important to remember that what starts out as maybe tall grass, some trash laying around and maybe an old TV, will mount up and spread in to more of a problem and eventually begin to devalue all properties in the neighborhood.



A SLICE OF LIFE

Linda Wilk



I have neighbors who pride themselves in making sure their house shines. I watched them recently power wash their front porch, siding and guttering, telling me that they even added Clorox to rid their house of any viruses.

That kind of pride can only be contagious as others consider moving to the community. I am part of a call committee for my church as we try to determine which pastor God is wanting us to call as our next leader.

During the call process recently, one pastor candidate asked us to tell him about Marion.

I found myself giving a litany of reasons why he and his family should move to Marion and Grant County, from the five school corporations, to the Cardinal Greenway, Marion Public Library, Community School of the Arts, Marion Philharmonic and a loving community as a start.

Now we also discussed how Marion is in a transition, losing factories that had been the city's main stay for years. I would liken our city's transition to one of many Indiana cities, which means it comes down to what will our mantra be?

When someone asks you tell them about Marion or another town in Grant County where you live, what will you say? Will you focus on the negatives which every community has? Will you share what certainly is part of our history – the last lynching – or will you let a potential resident, learn that story after visiting our local museum?

I am not stating we should mislead people about our town. Certainly, the lynching is part of our history. I am just asking that we work to bring our community together and encourage others to plant themselves in Marion because of the deep pride we have.

I have always said Marion can be a very loving community, rich with amenities usually only found in big cities. Marion also has some big city problems, that must be met head on and addressed.

As one of the pastors we talked with said during our conversation when asked how he addresses conflicts – very carefully, he said. Then he went on to say, – everyone is worthy of being listened to. Listen first and hold your tongue. It does not need to be said first and loudest. You may not change the other person's opinion, it important to show respect. It is important to be open to working out conflict, rather than let it fester. Too often we do not speak up, then when we finally do let it out, it is ugly.

So as you think about where you live and how you interact with others this week, take an opportunity to share with others why you live here and how you can put a positive spin on your community where you are planted.



Annual Marion Daddy-Daughter Dance cancelled

This year's Daddy Daughter Dance has officially been canceled.

The annual event which normally takes place at the Garden House each spring had been postponed until further notice, but due to continued health precautions, the event will not be rescheduled this year.

Please contact Rose Cadena for refunds at 765-382-3761 or rcadena@cityofmarion.in.gov.

Stay safe.
Stay healthy.
Keep reading
The News Herald!

Deaths — continued from page 1

Carlos F. Amaro
1942-2020
Funeral services were held at the BORN Church, Marion, on Wednesday, July 8 at 1 pm.

Philip H. Zeigler
1931-2020
Funeral services were held at Back Creed Friends Church, Fairmount, on Friday, July

10 at 11 am.
Frank Edwards Lugar, Jr.
1971-2020
Funeral services were held at Armes-Hunt Funeral Home, Fairmount, on Saturday, July 11 at 1 pm.

Paul E. Embry
1931-2020
Funeral services were

held at Armes-Hunt Funeral Home, Upland, on Monday, July 13 at 12 pm.

Willavene Jane Troup
1916-2020
A Celebration of Life Service will be held at 11 am on Saturday, August 8, at Liberty Baptist Church, Sweetser. Burial took place in Palm Beach, Florida.



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