

THE NEWS HERALD

Grant County Life

50 cents

Volume 52, Number 38

A Hometown Media, Inc. Publication.

Nov. 18-24, 2020

DEATHS

Nov. 10-16

Theodore Hurst
1955-2020

A graveside service was held at Grant Memorial Park on Monday, Nov. 16 at 12 pm.

Judith Ann Blake
1941-2020

A private graveside service will be held at Marion National Cemetery.

Donald C. Snapp
1949-2020

At Snapp's request, there will be no public visitation or funeral service.

Daniel L. Wyant
1931-2020

Wyant will be buried at Estate of Serenity, Marion, at a later date.

Janet Ann Brauchla
1934-2020

Funeral services were held at Needham-Storey-Wampner, North Chapel on Friday, Nov. 13 at 1 pm. Burial followed at Gardens of Memory, Marion.

Valdo J. Laymon
1925-2020

A graveside service was held at Grant Memorial Park, Marion, on Monday, Nov. 16 at 2 pm.

Robert Saylor
1916-2020

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INDIANA QUIZ

If it is 8:00 am in Indianapolis, what time is it in each of the following cities?

1. Evansville
2. Gary
3. Denver
4. San Diego
5. London
6. Moscow

Answers on page 3



Marion native elected Democratic Caucus chairman

A Marion native has been elected chairman of the Democratic Caucus in the upcoming session of the State Senate in the Indiana General Assembly.

Sen. Greg Taylor, who represents the 33rd District on the northwest side of Indianapolis, was elected last week by the 11-member Democratic Caucus. He will succeed Sen. Tim Lenane in leading the minority Democrats in the Senate. Going into the 2021 session, there are 39 Republicans and 11 Democrats in the Senate.

The election makes Taylor the first black to lead a Caucus in the Indiana legislature and also makes him the highest ranking Democratic elected official in the state. He has served in the legislature since 2008.

"I am excited to work with my fellow members of the Democratic Caucus to tackle many important issues in this next General Assembly," Taylor said in a prepared statement. "Our caucus members have al-



Senator
Greg Taylor

ways been champions for protecting Hoosier workers, protecting your right to vote and making sure our justice system treats every Hoosier fairly."

Taylor is a 1988 graduate of Marion High School and graduated from Indiana University with a degree in economics before getting his law degree from the I.U. School of Law.

He has been practicing law in Indianapolis since 1997.

"Our state government has to do better at protect-

ing the residents of this state," Taylor said. "I can assure you that the Senate Democrats will continue to stand for every Hoosier during this legislative session and beyond."

The caucus selected Sen. Eddie Melton of Gary as assistant minority leader, Sen. J.D. Ford of Indianapolis as minority caucus chair, Sen. Lonnie Randolph of East Chicago as minority whip and Sen. Shelli Yoder of Bloomington as assistant caucus chair.

As a leader in the Senate in a Statehouse populated entirely by elected Republicans officials, Taylor now becomes the highest ranking elected Democrat in the state and thus can be expected to have a voice in the restructuring of the Democratic Party in Indiana and the selection of a new state party chairman in the wake of the departure of state chairman John Zody, who said last week he will step down.

Veteran legislative reporter Ed Feigenbaum, as-

sessed Taylor this way:

"Greg's a good guy, a good person. He's really hard to dislike even if you don't agree with his policy positions. He can be a little bit aggravating in terms of some of the time that he spends on the senate floor, but you've essentially got a Marion native atop the Democratic Party in the state."

As a Democrat in the GOP-dominated Indiana General Assembly, Taylor's entire legislative career has been spent in the minority. Thus, he has learned to "work across the aisle," to negotiate with the majority, most notably, he believes, in his effort to pass legislation that allowed for expunging of arrests from criminal records.

"For years, just being arrested, even if you were never charged or convicted or entered a plea, the arrest remained on your record.

"I worked with another Grant County native, P. Eric Turner when he was over in the House of Representa-

tives, to get that corrected."

He has been appointed as a member of the Commission on the Social Status of Black Males, the White River State Park Development Commission, the Uniform Law Commission, the Public Defender Commission, Code Revision Commission as well as the State Fair Advisory Commission. He is a member of the Conference of State Legislatures, a bipartisan organization that serves the legislators of all 50 states.

Taylor practices law with MWH Law Group in the firm's transactional division and specializes in municipal finance law. Prior to his work with MWH, Taylor worked for the State of Indiana Department of Commerce, Business

Development Division. He is also a member of the National Association of Bond Lawyers and the Indiana State Bar Association.

He and his wife, Danielle, and three children, Jackson, Savannah, and Estella, live in Indianapolis.

Am Vets Post 5 holds annual Christmas bazaar

By Sean Douglas

This past weekend marked one of the first big holiday events in the city of Marion, as AmVets Post 5 hosted its annual Christmas Bazaar on Saturday morning and afternoon.

The Christmas Bazaar's roots were planted eight years ago by Gloria Cook, who established a spring bazaar show shortly after she joined the Post. She believed that a bazaar would be a great way to bring the people of Marion together, as well as raise money to help veterans within the city of Marion and around Grant County.

Three years after that, in 2015, the Christmas Bazaar was born and has become one of the area's most beloved holiday events.

"When I first joined here, I told [the club,] 'If you want to do something fun, let's have a bazaar,'" event coordinator Gloria Cook said. "Ever since we started



A father and his daughter taking a look at some of the cars on display.

Photo by Sean Douglas

doing it, it's grown every year, and I've been told we have the best bazaar in Grant County."

In the months leading up to the event, Cook meticulously picks vendors, mak-

ing sure to bring in a variety of handmade items for event-goers to peruse and purchase. According to Cook, about 70 percent of the vendors are local, but there are a few that come

from as far away as Indianapolis. All vendors that are eventually selected are those who create unique gifts and crafts that Cook believes will bring people in.

The variety of items for sale, according to Cook, is the bazaar's biggest strength, and the reason that the event has been so popular since it began five years ago.

"I really like the handmade things, and that's what the people come for," Cook said. "It's just a huge selection, and it's a wonderful event."

The different items on display throughout the Post included homemade cutting boards, jewelry, stocking caps and winter attire, Christmas decorations, Christmas-themed clothing, fudge, home decorations, scented candles, guitars, masks and much more. There were even items geared towards Marion's youth, including race cars, toys, and books.

All proceeds from the event go directly towards helping veterans with their needs and expenses incurred throughout the

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