

# Thanksgiving thoughtfulness

As we gather around the dinner table this Thanksgiving let us truly be thankful for all the blessings we have been given.

I realize the dinner table may look different this year as the pandemic has caused many to reduce the number of place settings at their annual dinner.

I know personally our family will be staying home, only having dinner with our immediate family. I have had conversations with my sister about figuring out a way to ZOOM my family either before or after the meal, just to see everyone. Although even that I have heard may be different, as my brother who lives in Lincoln is not sure he will be attending the Thanksgiving dinner with my mother, sister and her



A SLICE OF LIFE

Linda Wilk



family.

For some, like my brother, the concern of spreading COVID-19 is just that great. Both my brother and his wife have been working from home for months, isolating them-

selves from others whenever possible. On the rare occasion my brother visits my mother who is one hour away from him, he has been careful to do outdoor activities with my mom and keep a distance and wear a mask if he goes inside her house.

With all those extremes he is taking, I cannot even begin to justify driving from Indiana to Nebraska with my family with each of the girls coming from their respective universities.

I have seen on TV where people have created ZOOM groups where people each make a favorite dish and then get on zoom and eat that dish simultaneously. I am not sure my family would chose to do this, however, I do believe gathering around the computer here in Indiana and then

having my Nebraska family gather around my mother's computer for a chat might be worth doing.

It will not replace the Thanksgiving tradition of years past where one year we would travel to Nebraska for my mother's famous apple crumb pie and the other year to Minnesota to be with Larry's family. And then at Christmas we would go the opposite direction.

But, for this year, we will do what we need to do and stay put.

So far, no one in our immediate family or extended family has come down with COVID-19.

I pray we can continue to be COVID-19 free and will continue to do our best to keep all safe. In doing so, as I have already said, I will

try to figure out the best way to let all know they are loved and cared about.

One great way to express your love to those who you cannot physically be with this holiday season is through remembrance of days past. It might be sending a card of thanks, a phone call filled with memories or an email or text.

However, you chose to communicate with your loved ones, I would strongly encourage you to do just that this holiday season.

I would say now more than ever people need each other. People also need to know that they are not alone and that they are loved.

In this culture where many are quick to speak their mind and dismiss oth-

ers' opinions, let us find kind and caring things to build each other up.

Let us remember that each one of us was placed on this earth for a very special purpose. Let us focus on those small moments, reflecting on past holidays where we were able to gather together in unspecified numbers, where social distancing was not a concern. Let this be the time that we are unselfish and giving as Thanksgiving is designed for by keeping everyone safe so that next year we can return to the way things were before the pandemic with all of our loved ones still with us.

And, let this Thanksgiving be the bright spot in 2020 and the beginning of turning the corner on what has been a very trying year.

## Ray Johnson named Champion of Month by City of Marion

Ray Johnson has flown to great heights to champion for Marion & Grant County through a special aviation and autocraft event considered as a vital part of the community's heritage.

Johnson was born and raised in Elwood until age six, then grew up on a big farm between Marion and Gas City. He graduated from Mississinewa High School, before earning an associate degree in Electrical Engineering Technology in Ft. Wayne. Johnson was a loyal employee of American Electric Power and retired after 42 years.

When he was a boy, his



Ray Johnson

uncle landed a small plane on his family farm. The childhood event sparked a passion that keeps growing. He now owns and flies two vintage airplanes and holds a Private Pilot's license.

In 1991, Johnson thought of a way to bring people to the area while helping a local organization. That dream materialized into what is now renowned as the Fly/In Cruise/In, a grand event featuring

a variety of vintage and unique aircraft and autocraft. Now approaching 30 years of existence, the mega event held at the Marion Airport attracts air and auto professionals and enthusiasts from all over the country and beyond. Johnson has been the coordinator since year one. The

event holds 501(c)(3) nonprofit status, has a board of directors, and is supported by many dedicated volun-

teers and sponsors each year.

See Johnson, Page 4

## Deaths continued from Page 1

At the family's request, there will not be any visitation or funeral service at this time.

**Marie E. Ray**  
**1927-2020**

Funeral services were held at Holy Family Catholic Church, Gas City, on Saturday, Nov. 14 at 10:30 am. Burial followed at Riverside Cemetery.

**Ruth E. Horn**  
**1929-2020**

The family will receive visitors from 11 am to 1 pm on Tuesday, Nov. 17 at Needham-Storey-Wampner Funeral Service, North Chapel. Immediately following the time of visitation, a funeral service to celebrate Horn's life will

begin at 1 pm. Burial will follow at Grant Memorial Park.

**Phyllis E. Brown**  
**1936-2020**

Funeral services were held at Armes-Hunt Funeral Home, Fairmount, on Wednesday, Nov. 11 at 2 pm. Burial followed at Park Cemetery.

**J.D. Dunbar II**  
**1968-2020**

Funeral services were held at Christian Bible Church, Marion, on Wednesday, Nov. 11 at 6 pm. Cremation followed.

**Sharon Lynn Green**  
**1945-2020**

Funeral services were held at Church of God of Prophecy, Gas City, on Sunday, Nov. 15 at 2 pm.

**August L. Loftis**  
**1935-2020**

At Loftis' request, there will be no services.

**James Edward Roush**  
**1939-2020**

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

**Judy A. McKinney**  
**1947-2020**

Funeral services were held at Grant Memorial Park, Marion, on Thursday, Nov. 12 at 1 pm.

**John W. Copeland**  
**1922-2020**

Funeral services were held at Raven-Choate Funeral Home, on Friday, Nov. 13 at 1 pm. Burial followed at Grant Memorial Park.

### Indiana History Answers

1. 7:00 am
2. 7:00 am
3. 6:00 am
4. 5:00 am
5. 1:00 pm
6. 4:00 pm

**PLASTERING, DRYWALL, STUCCO & PAINTING**  
Residential • Commerical  
• Plaster Restoration  
• Repairs  
• Electric Heat Ceilings  
**OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE**  
**FREE ESTIMATES, INSURED**  
**Ron Banter (260) 820-0137**

**LAWSON'S ELECTRONICS**  
*Sales Installation & Service Since 1976*  
Special on TV Towers  
**\$300-\$400 OFF NORMAL PRICES**  
**Just in time for fall & before snow starts falling... put one up and save hundreds for years!**  
Used TV Towers also available  
Limited Time Only - While Supplies Last  
**Owner: Greg Lawson**  
**(765)-434-8234**

## THE NEWS HERALD

P.O. Box 1167, Marion, IN 46952 • 260-563-8326

[www.newsherald.org](http://www.newsherald.org)

Don L. Hurd, Publisher

*president@hoosiermediagroup.com*

Ed Breen, **Reporter**  
Alan Miller, **Reporter**

Sean Douglas, **Sports Editor**  
[sports@newsherald.org](mailto:sports@newsherald.org)

**Accounting and Legal Ads** - Julie Loehmer, [accounting@thepaperofwabash.com](mailto:accounting@thepaperofwabash.com)  
**Sales** - Arlene Long, [along@thepaperofwabash.com](mailto:along@thepaperofwabash.com)

**THE NEWS HERALD** (USPS 386660) is published weekly by Hometown Media, Inc., an Indiana corporation. Periodical postage paid at Marion, IN, 46952. Postmaster: send address changes to: PO Box 1167, Marion, IN 46952. © 2020, all rights reserved.

**Letters to the editor and readers' submissions** are encouraged; please email [news@newsherald.org](mailto:news@newsherald.org). All submissions become the property of Hometown Media, Inc., and are subject to editing and publication at the discretion of the staff.

**Subscriptions** are available by contacting the paper at [accounting@thepaperofwabash.com](mailto:accounting@thepaperofwabash.com). Single copies are 50 cents; subscriptions are \$23/year in county, \$39/year out of county. For information on **space advertising, classified ads and legal notices**, please contact us at 260.563.8326. Our rate card is also available online at [www.newsherald.org](http://www.newsherald.org).

**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.