

# Vaccine continues to yield optimistic results

By Sean Douglas

Members of Marion’s medical community, in Marion-Grant County Chamber of Commerce’s weekly COVID-19 meeting, provided several positive updates as the vaccine continues to be administered throughout Grant County.

At Marion General Hospital, Director of Nursing Cindy Futrell stated that while it has been very busy, the process has been fluid. MGH continues to follow the Indiana State Department of Health rules and regulations and recommendations, and recently, the vaccine was opened up to those 70 years or older. “We are pretty much maxing out our schedule every day,” Futrell said.



“That’s a good thing. We anticipate they will drop to 65 [soon.] We will wait and see what the state does with that. The state is trying to risk stratify based on deaths rather than based on who might be exposed the most.”

The Grant County Public Health Department also started their own vaccine clinic this past Monday, and he has been thrilled with the results.

“It has gone very

smoothly. I’ve been pleased with it,” Moore said. “I am glad to offer another site, but also glad to develop the expertise within the health department. We continue to follow the state’s lead in terms of who can be vaccinated and who the priority is.”

Furthermore, CVS and Walgreens will be begin administering the vaccine within the week, according to Moore, and the Grant County Health Department

is looking into other sites to use for COVID testing further down the line. Also looking into the sites they are using for COVID testing to see if they can use those sites for vaccinations.

While there have been some minor side effects, including a pain in the arm around the injection that some have reported, the vaccine has been a positive step forward in the fight against COVID-19.

“We have had people who had chills, almost COVID symptoms even though it’s not a live virus,” Futrell said. “But your body is trying to build up the immunities against COVID, so that is not an unexpected, adverse reaction.”

Additionally, the monoclonal antibody treatment,

B’MAB, has continued to be effective in at-risk patients, according to both Futrell and MGH Doctor Shinkaran Srikanth.

Even more encouraging, numbers are trending down from the first 13 days of January as compared to the first 13 days of December. Futrell stated that from December 1-13, there were have been 1,059 cases, and from January 1-13, that number was 450 less at 699 cases.

If those numbers continue to trend downward, Grant County could potentially move out of red status down to orange, which would allow restrictions to be lifted. Status is determined by the number of cases in a county per 100,000 population, and

what percentage of people tested tested positive. In order to move down a code, it must meet those metrics for two consecutive weeks.

Additionally, the state, after stating that you only needed to quarantine for seven days after exposure, quickly revoked that, again stating that quarantine must take place between 10-14 days after exposure.

Lastly, Srikanth stated that vaccine will begin being administered to nursing homes beginning on January 21 or 22, and also reminded the public that they should not get the vaccine if they are symptomatic or in the isolation period during recovery.

The next COVID-19 update will be on Thursday, Jan. 28 at 3:30 pm.

## Code Enforcement continues to finalize new Chapter 90 Ordinance

By Sean Douglas

After making a few changes, Marion’s Code Enforcement Department met again this past Wednesday, continuing to finalize their new Chapter 90 ordinance, which deals with abandoned and inoperable vehicles.

For any abandoned or inoperable vehicle that is towed by Code Enforcement, the fee is \$180 dollars. An additional fee of \$20 is added on each day the vehicle is not claimed by its owner

“It just makes sure that everybody knows what the fees are,” Common Council President and Code Enforcement Committee Member Deborah Cain said. “And it saves [us] having to

*“If [someone] just goes out and puts a ‘For Sale’ sign in their vehicle, then we wouldn’t have any idea how long that vehicle has been sitting there,” Foustnight said. “It would have all of that indicated on the dash, in public view, so that if a code officer would go by, he would be able to see if that vehicle is in compliance.”*

**Jerry Foustnight**  
*Committee member*

explain it.”

Additionally, as a reminder, committee member Jerry Foustnight reiterated that it is unlawful to park in a front, side, or rear yard that abuts a street or lot

zoned for residential use. Backyard parking is permitted only if there is no parking out in front of a residence or another designated zone.

As for concerns the of ve-

hicles, according to Foustnight, a permit must be visible on the dash to let Code Enforcement know why, and how long, the vehicle has been parked. A permit shall be issued to the seller of a vehicle prior to displaying a ‘for sale’ sign on the vehicle in question. The permit should be placed on the dashboard inside the vehicle so it can be seen.

“If [someone] just goes out and puts a ‘For Sale’ sign in their vehicle, then we wouldn’t have any idea how long that vehicle has been sitting there,” Foustnight said. “It would have all of that indicated on the dash, in public view, so that if a code officer would go by, he would be able to see if that vehicle is in compli-

ance.”

Permits cost five dollars and can be obtained by the owner of the vehicle in person at City Hall at the Code Department. The owner is required to show proper paperwork of ownership and sign all required documents.

Foustnight added that stipulation to the ordinance so people would not abuse the rules and just leave their vehicle on the street without actually selling it.

Permit is valid for 30 days after purchase, and after those 30 days, the permit would then be void. If a vehicle is not sold in that 30-day time frame, a new permit would have to be acquired.

Lastly, in an emergency situation, owners should

post information on the dashboard regarding how long the vehicle has been parked there, the nature of the emergency, contact information, and when they expect to move the vehicle. That way, Code Enforcement will not just tow the vehicle.

“We are trying to help those individuals out by getting information and being able to use that information,” Foustnight said. “It not only would benefit us, but it would benefit the owner of that vehicle.”

The Code Enforcement Committee will hold a final meeting on Jan. 21, and plan to have the new ordinance on the agenda for the Feb. 2 Common Council meeting.

## Police reports

**Jan. 11-17**  
**Monday, Jan. 11**  
Tabitha Kay Pfeiffer, 28, was served an immediate detention order in the 400 block of East Charles St., Marion.

Dawn Ranee Salazar, 40, was preliminarily charged with possession of methamphetamine during a traffic stop at 33rd and Nebraska streets, Marion.

Brady Lee Buck, 29, was served a warrant in the 11500 block of South East 00 West, Fairmount.

Brandon Curtis Miller, 33, was preliminarily charged with overdose/poisoning in the 600 block of East South C Street, Marion.

**Tuesday, Jan. 12**  
Marvin Valentine, 38,

was preliminarily charged with probation violation in the 100 block of East Fourth Street, Marion.

Tristen Matthew Winstead, 37, was preliminarily charged with driving while suspended during a traffic stop at 4th and Adams streets, Marion.

Brittany Michelle Vest, 22, was preliminarily charged with armed robbery in the 700 block of North River Road, Marion.

**Wednesday, Jan. 13**  
Abigail R. Barrett, 38, was served a warrant in the 700 block of Moon Road, Plainfield.

Brandon Lee Smith, 29, was served a warrant in the 200 block of East Fourth Street, Marion.

Lisa Maria Maine, 30, was served a warrant in the 200 block of East Fourth Street, Marion.

Markus Payne King, 25, was preliminarily charged with re-entry court violation in the 200 block of East Fourth Street, Marion.

Aaron R. Rhoads, 40, was served a warrant in the 200 block of East Fourth Street, Marion.

Donald James Ingle, 29, was preliminarily charged with leaving the scene of an accident at 141 North/1000 West 27, Converse.

**Thursday, Jan. 14**  
Tyler Kent Money, 27, was preliminarily charged with counterfeiting at State Road 18 and 900

East, Marion.

Christopher Nixon, 49, was served a warrant in the 500 block of South Adams Street, Marion.

Sandra Louise Weaver, 54, was preliminarily charged with possession of marijuana, possession of a Schedule I, II, III, or IV controlled substance during a traffic stop at River and Vine, Marion.

Shawn M. Burkhart, 31, was served a warrant in the 6100 block of Corridor Drive, Marion.

**Friday, Jan. 15**  
Angela Maria Aslinger, 38, was preliminarily charged with non-support of a defendant in the 500 block of South Adams Street, Marion.

Raymall Dashaun Love, 29, was served a warrant in the 200 block of East Fourth Street, Marion.

Hannah Larain Colyer, 33, was served a warrant in the 3000 block of East 200 North, Marion.

Damian L. Ritter, 27, was preliminarily charged with possession of marijuana and possession of paraphernalia in the 6200 block of East Corridor Drive, Marion.

**Saturday, Jan. 16**  
Jacob M. Bennie, 42, was served a warrant during a traffic stop at 4th and Race streets, Marion.  
Jay Tyson Hall, 49, was served a warrant during a traffic stop at 31st and Meridian streets, Marion.  
William Haden Reed,

60, was preliminarily charged with operating a vehicle after a lifetime suspension during a traffic stop at 28th Street and Lincoln Boulevard, Marion.

**Sunday, Jan. 17**  
Aaron B. Haynes, 23, was preliminarily charged with invasion of privacy in the 200 block of East Fourth Street, Marion.  
Richard Conteras, 43, was preliminarily charged with criminal trespass in the 1700 block of West 16th Street, Marion.  
Kaylie Madison Seerha, 23, was preliminarily charged with possession of marijuana and possession of paraphernalia in the 500 block of East Swayzee Street, Marion.