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DEATHS

Jan. 25-Feb. 1
David L. Kinzie
1944-2021
A memorial visitation and service will take place a later date.

J.C. Parton
1931-2021
Funeral services were held at Needham-Storey-Wampner, Storey Chapel, on Thursday, Jan. 28 at 1 pm. Burial followed at Riverside Cemetery.

Donald H. Day
1939-2021
Funeral services were held at Needham-Storey-Wampner, North Chapel with Pastor Rick Jett officiating.

Spencer Lee Pavey
2008-2021
Funeral services were held at Needham-Storey-Wampner, North Chapel, on Friday, Jan. 29 at 1 pm. Burial followed at Grant Memorial Park.

Kenneth “Ken” V. Kennedy
1929-2021
A private burial will take place at Estates of Serenity. A public memorial service to honor Kennedy will be held later this summer.

See Deaths, Page 2

INDIANA QUIZ

1. Marion County is the most densely populated of the 92 counties in the state. Which one is second in population? a/ Lake b/ Johnson c/ Hamilton d/ Allen
2. Which county is largest in land area? a/ Marion b/ Bartholomew c/ Allen d/ Hendricks
3. Which county is smallest in land area? a/ Brown b/ Switzerland c/ Gibson d/ Ohio

Answers on page 3



Wyndmoor of Marion expansion project breaks ground

By Sean Douglas

The Wyndmoor of Marion’s expansion project, which has been close to two years in the making, got off to its official start on Friday, as Executive Director Dee Dee Johnson, Sales and Marketing Director Cassie Austin, and members of the Marion-Grant County Chamber of Commerce celebrated a groundbreaking event on Friday afternoon.

The Wyndmoor of Marion, an assisted living facility located on West Kem Road and that currently houses 42 tenets, will be building an additional 50 more units throughout the spring and summer, which will increase their population cap and allow them to help more of those in

See Wyndmoor, Page 2



Photo: Cassie Austin (first in yellow hat on left), Dee Dee Johnson (second yellow hat), and Chamber of Commerce

President Kylie Jackson take part in the groundbreaking. Photo by Sean Douglas

Alumbaugh vetoes ordinances, Common Council to vote to override

After vetoing all the ordinances that the Marion Common Council passed back on Jan. 19, Marion Mayor Jess Alumbaugh released a statement on Monday afternoon, explaining his reasoning.

General Ordinances 22-2020 through 27-2020, which had been discussed at length between the Marion Common Council, the Board of Works, City Controller Julie Flores, and others, each passed by a 5-2 vote in the Council’s latest

meeting back on Jan. 19.

Two days later, however, on Jan. 21, the Mayor vetoed all six ordinances.

Marion Common Council President Deb Cain stated that she did not learn of the vetoes until Monday, Jan. 25, and was disappointed in the Mayor’s decision.

“I did not receive any notification personally from the mayor or the administration,” Cain said. “None at all. I was hoping that [Mayor Alumbaugh] would not [veto the ordinances],

and it is a great discouragement that he has. We are not doing anything different than other cities are doing, and the reason we are doing this is to be able to give the citizens and the taxpayers a better look at the finances.”

However, Alumbaugh fired back, stating that the ordinances would violate one of the foundations of government – the separation of powers. Alumbaugh believes that the ordinances would put too much power in the hands of the legisla-

tive branch.

“From the beginning, we have told the Council that these ordinances violate the separation of powers doctrine which is the foundation of our system of government,” Alumbaugh said. “Several members of the Board of Works told the Council the same thing. Unfortunately, our arguments fell on deaf ears. While the Council argues these ordinances will promote transparency, the reality is the actions of this Council are

being driven by a desire to take over all operations of City government, including those of the executive branch.”

In a memorandum written by Martin A. Harker, Esquire, the Marion Common Council attorney, on Monday, the document stated that the common objection “appears to be that the Ordinances require the Administration to receive approval of the Council prior to spending funds” and that

See Ordinances, Page 2

Former MHS guidance counselor indicted on child pornography charge

Ryan C. Vermillion, 46, of Marion, and former guidance counselor at Marion High School, was indicted by a grand jury on a single count of production of child pornography on Thursday morning.

According to court documents, from about Jan. 26, 2020, through Feb. 18, 2020, Vermillion, who was arrested and charged last February, allegedly

enticed a minor to send him sexually explicit pictures, pretending to be a sick teenage boy named “Will Ryan.”

The girl told investigators that she met “Will Ryan” on the website, Omegal, somewhere between December 2019 and January 2020, according to court documents. Shortly after, the conversation moved to Google Hangouts,

See Indicted, Page 3



Ryan Vermillion

COVID-19 vaccines in full swing in Marion, Grant County

By Sean Douglas

With COVID-19 vaccinations in full swing in Grant County, medical and community leaders provided several positive updates in their latest meeting this past Thursday.

According to Marion General Hospital Director of Nursing Cindy Futrell, vaccine administration is going smoothly, with 400 people being treated daily.

“Things are starting to slow down, which is a wonderful thing to see,” Futrell said. “We have less cases in the community, which means we have less cases we are seeing at the hospital.”

Additionally, while there have

been some reports that the second dose of the vaccine has caused COVID-like symptoms to appear in some cases, it’s a very small number, according to Dr. Shinkaran Srikanth of MGH, and that the vaccine, as a whole, has been overwhelmingly successful in Marion and Grant County as a whole.

“A very small percentage have a ‘severe local reaction’ after the second shot, same as in the studies,” Srikanth said. “We are seeing the same thing, but nothing bad, thankfully.”

Futrell also stated that the monoclonal clinic, where the B’MAB treatment is administered, will also

See COVID, Page 3