

DEATHS

April 29-May 6

Constance M. Salvaty

1947-2021

Funeral services will be held at Needham-Storey-Wampner, North Chapel, on Saturday, May 8 at 4 p.m.

Adalberto Garcia

1943-2021

Funeral services were held at Needham-Storey-Wampner, North Chapel, on Thursday, April 29 at 12:30 p.m. Burial followed at Marion National Cemetery.

David Gerard Sprowl

1970-2021

Funeral services were held at Needham-Storey-Wampner, Storey Chapel, on Saturday, May 1 at 10 a.m. Burial followed at Riverside Cemetery.

Ronald D. Ronk

1935-2021

Friends can visit with Ron's family from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 15, at Needham-Storey-Wampner, North Chapel. Ron's funeral service will begin at 1:00 pm.

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INDIANA QUIZ

- Which of the following Indiana cities is NOT on the National Road (US 40)? a/ Brazil b/ Plymouth c/ Cambridge City d/ Plainfield
- What is the name of the National Road as it passes through Indianapolis? a/ Meridian Street b/ Capitol Avenue c/ 16th Street d/ Washington Street
- Hoosier Entrepreneur Carl Fisher established what has been called the first "automobile road" across America. It was called the \_\_\_\_\_ Highway.

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Marion GM celebrates 65 years

By Sean Douglas

With the remarkable advances in technology in recent decades, combined with an ever-increasing move towards automation, the manufacturing industry continues to witness a plethora of seismic changes.

However, over the last 65 years in the city of Marion, the Marion GM plant, originally founded as Fisher Body and known as the Marion Metal Center, has been a beacon of stability, innovation, and excellence in an ever-changing industry.

"It's about a relentless pursuit of excellence in everything we do, and we continue to try to set new goals and new targets to improve our business," Plant Director Doug Hanly said. "You can look at it in everything we do. It's that spirit of innovation and creativity through our membership and through everyone that works here to try to drive the best results possible.



A GM employee checks the quality of the parts emerging from the press. Photo provided

When you have that kind of environment, a lot of great things can happen."

Since its beginnings in 1956, the Marion GM plant has specialized in producing blanks, stampings, and sheet metal assembly for cars, trucks, vans, and SUVs for distribution to GM assembly plants throughout North America.

"Our role here in Marion

is we provide stamped parts for a variety of customers, assembly plants, and some middlemen suppliers that ultimately go to some of the assembly plants throughout the United States," Hanly said. "Our customer base – about 80-85 percent of our product goes between Fort Wayne and Wentzville, [Mo.], and the rest of our product goes to 12-15 plants

across the country."

Currently, the Marion GM plant employs 625 hourly and 108 salary employees, each of whom have a unique and tailor-based skill, enabling them to collectively tackle all sorts of projects within the plant. Along with those who help manufacture parts, there are press operators, who work to keep the presses running,

production teams who check the quality of the materials being produced, and supply groups who ship finished products out the door and track those shipments until they reach their final destinations.

Like all manufacturing, there is an assembly-line process that ensures the manufacturing of high-quality. See GM, page 2

CASA volunteer utilizing skills from teaching career to continue her dedication to service

By Sean Douglas

Over 20 years of serving in the field of education, Marilyn Fiebig dedicated her life to serving the youth and giving them all they needed to succeed in life.

And while she may no longer be teaching, Fiebig's desire to work remained, and so over the last 3.5 years, she has utilized the same skills and strengths she possessed as a teacher in her role as a volunteer CASA for CASA of Grant County.

Fiebig spent most of her career in the state of Missouri, and continued teaching after moving to Grant County, working primarily in the realm of special services. Additionally, she worked as a teachers' aide for Mississinewa for five years.

Once she migrated out of education, however, she still felt that call to service.

"I felt like I still had things to contribute to children,"

Fiebig said. "I quit work and decided that...contributing to the life of a child is something I wanted to continue to do. There are a lot of kids out there who need something."

As Fiebig worked to figure out her next step in her life, her husband mentioned CASA of Grant County, stating he had heard Executive Director Leslie Hendricks speak at a function and that she might be interested in what they offer.

Intrigued, Fiebig called Hendricks and scheduled an appointment, and after chatting with her, she began the training program. While she originally did not think she could handle it, Fiebig powered through, and quickly was given her first case, which she has been a part of her entire tenure as a volunteer CASA.

"[We] know that kids sometimes come from bad situations, but I think because I'm dealing with the family

as well as the child and all of the service providers, I did develop some sympathy for the family," Fiebig said. "I've developed empathy for the child and the situation that he was living in and the trauma that child had grown through."

As do all CASA volunteers, Fiebig spends time on the phone or emailing service providers on a regular basis. Some days consist of writing court reports, while others are spent chatting with service providers to make sure that the child is progressing and receiving the best care possible.

While it is only one case, Fiebig stated that it has a plethora of moving parts and has several complicated factors. However, despite the busy days and hectic schedule, she believes that her time as a volunteer CASA has given her a perspective on a

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Grant County man arrested for child exploitation

On Sunday, detectives with the Indiana State Police, Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC) arrested a Grant County man on charges of child exploitation and possession of child pornography.

The month-long investigation by the Indiana State Police ICAC began when a tip was received from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC). The tip and subsequent investigation ultimately led to an arrest warrant being issued for Eddie Burnett Jr., 37, for the following charges:

- Count 1: Child Exploitation, Level 5 Felony
- Count 2: Possession of Child Pornography, Level 5 Felony (Under the age of 12)
- Count 3: Possession of Child Pornography, Level 6 Felony (Under the age of 18)

Burnett Jr. was also arrested on outstanding warrants unrelated to the Indiana State Police ICAC investigation and is incarcerated in the Grant County Jail.

This investigation is ongoing.

The Indiana State Police ICAC was assisted by Senior Trooper Jeremy Perez.

Anyone having any information related to crimes against children are encouraged to contact their local law enforcement agency or visit the NCMEC website at <http://www.missingkids.com/home> and find the link to make a CYBERTIPLINE report.

