

DEATHS

May 4-10

Edward “Ed” Daniel
Clemens
1937-2021

Funeral services were held at St. Paul Missionary Church, Marion, on Wednesday, May 12 at noon. Burial followed at Marion National Cemetery.

Wanda L. Foustnight
1930-2021

Funeral services were held at Needham-Storey-Wampner, Storey Chapel, on Thursday, May 6 at 1 p.m. Burial followed at Grant Memorial Park.

Liana M. Antrim Banter
1955-2021

Funeral services were held at Needham-Storey-Wamnpner, North Chapel, on Wednesday, May 5 at 1 p.m. Burial followed at Grant Memorial Park.

Michael Ray Mullins
1957-2021

Funeral services were held at Needham-Storey-Wampner, North Chapel, on Friday, May 7 at 1 p.m. Burial followed at Estates of Serenity.

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INDIANA QUIZ


Presidential Visits
to Indiana

1. In 1866, this President spoke at the Bates House Hotel in Indianapolis. He had taken office upon the assassination of his predecessor. a/ Andrew Johnson b/ Theodore Roosevelt c/ U. S. Grant

2. In 1927, this President led a Flag Day Parade in Hammond. a/ James Garfield b/ Rutherford Hayes c/ Calvin Coolidge

3. In 1982, this President was in Fort Wayne to help pile sandbags along the flooded St. Mary's River. a/ Richard Nixon b/ Ronald Reagan c/ George H. W. Bush

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New investment, jobs to help Wiley Metal

By Sean Douglas

Since its humble beginnings, Wiley Metal has been a Marion staple, serving the area as one of the leaders in the metalworks business. With new investments, updates, and growth alongside the ever-changing metalworks landscape, Wiley Metal looks to continue to be one of the viable metalworks not just in Indiana, but in the entire Midwest and the United States as a whole. Verne Wiley, who had years of experience in the steel fabrication, founded the company in 1982, and was joined one year later by his sons, Ed and Rob Wiley, who now serve as the company's president and vice president. The third generations of Wileys are also involved with the company, as Mike works on the sales and marketing side of the business, while his brother, Ben, works more on the manufacturing side. Over the course of the last 39 years, Wiley Metal has excelled due to one simple, yet sometimes overlooked, facet of business – customer service. Each day since the company's founding, Wiley Metal, and its employees, go above and beyond to serve their customer's needs and provide them with the highest quality material, and service possible. “What my grandfather started it on, and what...has passed down through the generations is service first,” Mike Wiley said. “When it comes to our customers, we do everything we can. We are committed to continuous improvement of our processes, to ensure we provide our customers with value added solutions.” As the years have passed, Wiley Metal has gone through significant changes. In the early days, 90 percent of the company's business was in the RV industry. However, through the years, through recessions and changes in the market, Wiley Metal has diversified, making the jump into the semi-truck and specialty truck industry. Wiley Metal's state-of-the-art facility allows the company to provide a plethora of services, including shearing, laser, high-precision, and waterjet cutting, assembly, and bending. Wiley Metal makes 90 percent of all the stainless steel, chrome fire truck bumpers in the United States, and they make all types of truck parts at their Marion plant, including apron plates, bumper legs, door track protectors, forkarms, tailshelves, utility truck buckets, and much more. After they are produced, they are dispersed all over the United States, particularly in the Midwest. “(Our reach extends) all over the country,” Mike Wiley said. “We have customers in (places) like Alabama, North Carolina, (and) South Carolina. When you get into package handling, it just depends on where the job is. Within the Midwest is a large majority of our business, but we do have



Two Wiley Metal employees discuss the company's new laser and all of its benefits. Photo by Sean Douglas

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Thirty percent of Grant County vaccinated

By Sean Douglas

While vaccinations are still happening at an efficient clip nationwide, only about 30 percent of Grant County residents have received the vaccine according to local health leaders. Additionally, only about 32 percent of the American population has been vaccinated, with the majority of those not receiving vaccinations in the 40-and-under crowd. “The biggest hesitancy seems to be with the below-40 crowd,” Srikanth said. “Across the nation, most admissions, even people diagnosed, are (in the) less than 50 (metric). And then the really worrying statistic that came out yesterday is that amongst the people who have tested positive over this past week, almost a quarter of them are children under the age of 18. That's worrying.” Furthermore, many of those who have chosen not to get the vaccine believe that it will not affect them, according to Srikanth. Even with the return of a more normal lifestyle, the COVID-19 virus is still prevalent in the Grant County community, which has been downgraded to yellow status. For those debating on whether to get the vaccine, Srikanth believes

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Converse man rescued from Mississinewa River

Indiana Conservation Officers responded and rescued a kayaker in distress from the Mississinewa River this afternoon. Today at approximately 12:55 p.m., Officers responded to a call from Grant County Dispatch of a stranded kayaker on the Mississinewa River who was clinging to a branch. Paul Bryant, 52, of Converse, was kayaking on the river, which is at elevated levels due to recent rains. Bryant's kayak struck an overhanging branch, causing it to capsize. Bryant, who was wearing a Personal Flotation Device (PFD), was able to grab a branch and hold on until rescuers arrived. Conservation Officers with the assistance of the Marion Fire Department were able to launch a boat and reach Bryant. Bryant was transported to shore and checked by medical personnel before being released. Conservation Officers would like to remind the public of the importance of wearing a PFD and using sound discretion when deciding to launch a boat in high water. Other responding agencies included Grant County Sheriff's Department, Indiana State Police, Marion Police Department, Marion Fire, Washington TWP Fire, Van Buren Fire, and Marion General Hospital EMS.

Suspect arrested in shooting

A Marion man was injured in a shooting early Monday morning, and his alleged assailant was arrested. According to an MPD news release: At approximately 12:08 a.m. Monday, Marion Police responded to Marion General Hospital's Emergency Department for a shooting victim. The victim, identified as Roger Pryor III, 25, had sustained a single gunshot wound to the left arm just below the elbow. He also had a wound to his left armpit due to the path that the bullet traveled. Pryor stated that he was at 300 block of North Norton Avenue where his ex-boyfriend, Chris Jordan, resides. Pryor reported that he and Jordan were arguing about their relationship and that Jordan was making threats to kill him. Pryor reported that he was then hit over the head with the gun. Jordan then left the bedroom. After the door was shut, a single gunshot was fired, and the round went through the bedroom door, striking Pryor in the arm. Pryor reported that Jordan then became scared and helped him into the shower to clean up and change clothes. Jordan, Pryor continued, drove him to the Emergency Department and dropped him off, before driving off and leaving the area. Due to Pryor's injuries, he was transported to a hospital in Fort Wayne and reported to be in stable condition. Jordan, 27, was located at his residence and arrested. He was charged with aggravated battery, felon in possession of firearm, and battery with serious bodily injury. Jordan was also arrested on an outstanding Marion City Court warrant.

