

THE NEWS HERALD

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DEATHS

Death Notices for Week
of June 1-7

John Clayborn
1922-2021
Funeral services were held at Needham-Storey-Wampner, North Chapel, on Thursday, May 27 at 10 a.m.

Marijean Timmons
1947-2021
Funeral services were held at Needham-Storey-Wampner, North Chapel, on Thursday, May 27 at 1 p.m.

Calvin Burgess Shelton
1936-2021
Funeral services were held at Needham-Storey-Wampner, Storey Chapel, on Friday, May 28 at 7 p.m. Burial followed at Horsecreek Church of God Cemetery, Afton, Tennessee.

Iva J. Sanders
1943-2021
Funeral services were held at Grant Memorial Park, Marion, on Friday, May 28 at 2 p.m.

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INDIANA QUIZ
Match the Indiana author to the appropriate book title

1. Meredith Nicholson

2. Booth Tarkington

3. Jessamyn West

4. Ambrose Bierce


A. The Friendly Persuasion

B. The House of a Thousand Candles

C. The Devil's Dictionary

D. The Magnificent Ambersons

Answers on page 3



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Zion, Miro more than puppies

By Lori Overmyer

Ask anyone. 2020 was a tough year. Doctors and nurses - nurturing on the frontlines. Teachers. Oh my! Students, worse. All of us, stuck at home.

But, maybe, law enforcement officers and first responders had an even more challenging time, and the stoic nature of their personalities often makes talking about the fear, death, anger, and sadness they witness darker in their bellies.

The loosening of Covid restrictions will not change the responders' narratives. What will change it, at least somewhat, in the Marion Police Department and the Swayzee Fire Department are two puppies.

"Law enforcement is going through a lot with Covid, the media, and just the everyday business of law enforcement. We need positive interaction to relieve stress. That's where the therapy dog comes in," Officer Joe Biddle explains.

Biddle's background with a master's degree in Divinity from Indiana Wesleyan University and as a chaplain in the army gives him insight into the narrative officers need to remain emotionally healthy as they serve the public.

Swayzee Fire Chief Les Frost has been with the department for 33 years, giving him the value of seeing and understanding what his



Zion and Miro share a cuddle.

Photo by Lori Overmyer

fellow officers need.

Frost began researching what first responders needed and how to help them relieve stress, which meant helping them open up. "Sometimes, that means keeping someone from hurting themselves," he said.

Biddle's research and experience in the National Guard took him in a similar direction. Both men found the value in adding a

therapy dog to their departments, as a therapy dog will get officers talking.

Frost said, "We used to just hold in all of our emotions. Now we talk. The dog brings us together."

Biddle added, "After a difficult situation, whether it's an accident, domestic situation, or random violence, responders need to debrief. The puppy, Zion, starts those conversations. What begins as a quick

tummy rub often becomes a conversation about what just happened."

"It's also important to remember that responders can't talk to just anybody. They need each other. The dogs help start conversations," Frost added.

Zion, the Marion Police Department puppy, is a Bernese Mountain Dog. His breeders are Lella Sanchez and her daughter Lella Sandavitch. Sanchez

is an assistant to the Chief. She overheard Biddle suggesting a therapy dog for the department and made the match.

"Biddle needed a calmer dog, so the Bernie was a good match," Sanchez said.

Zion is not Biddle's first time with the gentle giant Bernese Mountain Dog breed, so he knew the large

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Habitat for Humanity, Community School of Arts set campaign funding goals

The Community Foundation of Grant County is excited to announce two crowdfunding campaign goals. Habitat for Humanity of Grant County (Habitat) and Community School of the Arts (CSA) launched their campaigns on May 17th. Habitat aims to crowdfund \$20,000 to support the construction of a new Habitat home in Grant County. CSA aims to crowdfund \$15,000 to expand programming and in-



clude community theatre outside of current programming offered at CSA.

The Foundation will track all charitable contributions made by donors for each project. If the organizations

meet their fundraising goals, the Foundation will award them a dollar-for-dollar matching grant to complete their projects for a total of \$40,000 for Habitat and \$30,000 for CSA. Any

amount raised over these goals will also be awarded to the organizations. If either organization does not meet their goal by the deadline, they will not receive the matching grant.

However, all donations raised will be awarded to the projects. Both campaigns end on July 16, 2021 at midnight.

Habitat for Humanity of Grant County

The main goal of the Habitat campaign is to raise

funds to be used for Habitat's Homeownership Program, and specifically the 55th home build in Grant County.

Habitat is a non-profit housing ministry. They build simple, affordable homes for families in need, and sell them at no profit. Since established in 1993, Habitat has helped 54 Grant County families achieve the dream of homeownership. Habitat's long-term goal is

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