

THE NEWS HERALD

Grant County Life

50 cents

Volume 53, Number 19

A Hometown Media, Inc. Publication.

July 14-20, 2021

DEATHS

July 6-12

Michael W. Sharp
1949-2021
Funeral services were held at Needham-Storey-Wampner, North Chapel, on Friday, July 9, at 2 p.m. Burial followed at Estates of Serenity, Marion.

Bobby Gene Howell
1937-2021
Funeral services were held at Needham-Storey-Wampner, Storey Chapel, on Saturday, July 10, at 1 p.m. Burial followed at Grant Memorial Park.

Jeffrey "Jeff" L. Hawk
1944-2021
Funeral services were held at Converse Church of Christ, Converse, on Tuesday, July 13, at noon. Burial followed at Marion National Cemetery.

Flora Ehrhart
1931-2021
Funeral services were held at Needham-Storey-Wampner, North Chapel, on Saturday, July 10, at 1 p.m. Burial followed at Matthews Cemetery.

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INDIANA QUIZ

Did you know that you could visit Boston, Philadelphia, Long Beach, and Washington without leaving Indiana? Match the cities below to their Hoosier counties.

1. Boston 2. Philadelphia
3. Long Beach
4. Washington

A. LaPorte County B. Hancock County
C. Daviess County D. Wayne County

Answers on page 3



Zoning ordinance passes to second reading

By Sean Douglas

In the latest Marion Common Council meeting this past Tuesday, General Ordinance No. 6-2021, which would amend Marion City Code Chapter 153 (Zoning Ordinance) for several properties on Euclid Avenue, was passed to second reading, while the Council also adopted a new Electronic Communication Policy.

The measure has been in the works for the past two years, according to Advisory Plan Director Sam Ramsey. Eight home and property owners along Euclid Avenue approached Ramsey before the COVID-19 pandemic, looking to re-zone their

homes from R4, which are classified as Medium Density Single and Multi-Family Residential homes, to R2, which are classified as Medium Density Single Family Residential homes.

Six of the eight owners who own these properties have signed a petition and completed all the necessary paperwork, according to Ramsey.

"The homeowners brought it to us originally," Ramsey said. "We have talked about this quite a bit over the last two years, and after COVID, they finalized their application."

Through the years, many of the homes have been cut

down into smaller units and apartments, destroying the historical value of the properties. This restriction of the zoning ordinance will keep the character of one of Marion's most historic neighborhoods intact.

"This area has taken a hit a number of times, and they like to keep it looking nice and moving forward," Councilman Brad Luzadder said. "I support this 100 percent."

The ordinance passed to a second reading by a 6-0 margin together with one abstention.

Later in the meeting, the City of Marion's new Electronic Communications Pol-

icy was passed by a unanimous 7-0 margin.

Going forward, and as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the governing body may attend meetings electronically throughout the year, with some stipulations. Council members must be physically present at at least 50 percent of all meetings, and a request to participate electronically must be given within 12 hours of the scheduled meeting. Furthermore, members can attend up to two consecutive meetings electronically.

Council members must attend meetings in person for certain tasks, including the

adopting of a budget, initiating a referendum, imposing or increasing a fee, imposing or increasing a penalty, exercising the Council's power of eminent domain, and establishing, imposing, raising, or renewing a tax.

"I think that this is great," Council Vice President Brian Cowgill said. "I'm glad that [the state] revised it. With the COVID situation alone...I think this helps us have full members participating in our meetings."

The next Common Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 23 in the Council Chambers beginning at 7 p.m.

CASA holds annual Sand Sculpture Artfest

By Sean Douglas

For the 13th consecutive summer, business and community members gathered at the sandy area outside of the Splash House for the CASA Sand Sculpture Artfest, putting their creative skills on display while celebrating a worthy, and important, organization.

Through donations, CASA of Grant County raised \$19,000, all of which went to the organization to assist with daily operational expenses enabling their continued mission—advocating for Grant County's children.

"This is the Saturday in the sand where we get to say, 'Have fun,'" CASA of Grant County Executive Director Leslie Hendricks said. "We are so excited for the weather today. It's beautiful. The temperature is

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One of the many creations founds at the Splash House. Photo by Sean Douglas

One injured in Gas City two vehicle crash

On Thursday approximately 9:36 a.m., officers from the Indiana State Police, the Grant County Sheriff's Office, and the Gas City Police Department responded to a two-vehicle crash on State Road 22 at Grant County Road 500 East, in which a Gas City woman was in-

jured.

The preliminary crash investigation by Indiana State Police Senior Trooper Jeremy Perez revealed that Sukhminder Singh, 63, Levittown, NY was driving a 2020 Freightliner semi-tractor, pulling a box trailer, westbound on State Road 22, approaching a

green light at County Road 500 East. The semi-tractor attempted to turn southbound onto County Road 500 East and pulled into the path of an eastbound 2001 Buick Century. The Buick, driven by Ada Benfield, 94, Gas City, had the right of way with a green light.

Ada was transported, via ambulance, to a local hospital with a severe leg injury. Singh was not injured.

This is an ongoing investigation. At this time neither the consumption of alcoholic beverages nor narcotics is suspected as having contributed to this

crash.

Perez was assisted at the crash scene by Senior Trooper Eric Treon, Senior Trooper A.J. Coffee, the Gas City Police Department, the Grant County Sheriff's Office, and the Gas City Fire Department.