Newspapers



### TAKE NOTE Council president

suffers heart attack
Nashville Town Council President "Buzz" King was taken to
IU Health Methdent 'Buzz' King was taken lo IJU Houtih Melihoda Hospital last weekend after having a heart attack.
On Nov 9, town council Vice President Jame Gone said he was doing better; he was strong enough to have stentsp bit n, which restored blood flow.
She wasn't sure how much

shoud stow. She wasn't sure how much longer King would be at Methodst. His wife, Linda, was hoping they'll be able to transfer him to Brown County Health & Living for rehabilitation, Gore said.

family's spokesperson, she said anyone is welcome to call her if they need to, not King directly. Anyone who wishes to send a card can mail it to the Kings' home address.

### Duke power outage to

Duke power outage to happen this weekend Don't forget. Duke Energy is planning to shut the power like Sunday right, and then of the Sunday right, and then of the Sunday right, and then the the thing of the shut of the shut

The outage is estimated to tast about seven hours, beginning at about 11 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 18 and ending at 6 a.m. Monday, Nov. 19.

About 1,300 customers living in or around Nashville will be affected, including local hotels, and businesses in Salt Creek Plaza.

traffic control.

Power will be out because the wooden poles that hold a high-woltage power line have been damaged by woodpeckers and need to be replaced. While work is under way, Clay Lick Road will be closed from about 10 p.m. Nov. 19.

Allected to sisteman about 10 p.m. Sov. 19.

Affected customers should ex-ped robocalls to be done a lew days before the outage. Letters were to be sent last month to affected customers, too. A map of the affected area was printed in the Oct. 10 paper. With ques-tions, call the project hottine at 800-820-9362.

#### Maple Leaf group hires executive director

The Maple Leaf Performing Arts Center now has an executive director. Dana Beth Evans was hired at the Nov. 7 Maple Leaf Management Group meeting.

Learn more about her in next week's paper.

# This week's highlights

Eagle Scout complete project, 85 Subscribe

Brown County Democrat, P.O. Box 277, Nashville, IN 47448

### Contact us

Have a story idea? Call 812-988-2221 bodemocrat.com



# 2018



### But how important is party allegiance locally? Multiple voices weigh in

By Saka Current | The Desactar saffend/blockerocust.com

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MORE INSIDE //

PRECINCT BYPRECINCT VOTE TOTALS A8, A9

// RESULTS FROM MORE RACES, A6, A7, A11

Washington Township which went to Demo-crats, and one of them crats, and one of them label anyway because there were only two Republicans on the Bullot. "I had a premonition that if the stars aligned, we could have a win like that, we deter thought that we ditake everything." Bornan said last limit of the star of the

Above: Victorious candidates of the Brown County Republican Party gather for a group photo at the end of the mid-term election celebration at The Sassens Conference Center.

"It's been a very, very long road for Republicans to get to this point, because historically, Rrown County has been a Democratic county across the board," he said.
"There was a point in time when the exact same thing happened to Republicans that just happened to Democrats, except for minority races.

except for minority rac like township advisory board," he said, about the GOP's nearly clean sweep. "But never has

(SEE SWEEP PAGE A12)



### Incumbent to serve another term

By Suzankan Couch | Tric Dissocrati scouchylademassication

inan Biddle put down a pile of election tape she was rolling up, took a deep breath and leened back in the seat at Republican headquarters on election night.

"I'm excited for "I'm excited with a smile.
Biddle, a first-term county

she said with a smile. Biddle, a first-term county smile. Biddle, a first-term county commissioner, defeated Democrat challenger Kyle Birkeneier, 3,975 votes to lib \$2,000 as "a referendum on my accomplishments for the last four years." I definitely see it as a referendum on Maple Leaf (Performing Arts Center). I see it as a referendum on the county the improvement with the radio tower. I had a lot of people ask me questions about that," she said.

Biddle was a member of an ad.

(SEE INCUMBENT PAGE ARE

#### HOW YOU VOTED County commissioner

Kyle Birkemeier (D)...... 3102

# Voters choose new Brown Circuit Court judge

By Suzannan Couch | The Democrati scophotoderages over

fter more than two decades,
Brown Counly has a new cirBrown Counly has a new cirBroublean Mary Wertz will
Broublean Mary Wertz will
When sheeded Judge Judith Stewart
The happy, relieved and trilled. My
husband and I worked very hard to make
happy that the voters placed their confidence in me. It's humbling, "Wertz said.

HOW YOU VOTED

County judge Mary Wertz (R) Kristopher Kritzer (D)... .... 2754

Wertz defeated Democrat Kristopher Kritzer by more than 1,600 votes. Wertz received 4,393 votes to Kritzer's 2,754. "I'm disappointed," Kritzer said.

Pictured: Newly elected judge Mary Wertz, right, speaks with Democrat challenger Krisloph after the election. Kritzer came up to the Seasons Conference Center to congratulate Wertz avzaneur couch i the beneckar





SATURDAY December 1

6:00 PM

Village of Nashville New, unwrapped toys will be collected along the route for distribution by

the Brown County Salvation Army to Brown

County families (no stuffed animals please)

a Rain, Snow or Shine event!

https://aim.newspapers.com/image/662673177/

A12 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2018

### SENIOR NEWS

### Senior center plans

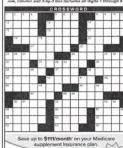
Senior center plans games, meals SPEARISVILLE—Hickory Ridge Civic Loague and Community Hickory Ridge Lane, is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursdays, with lunch 11:30 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 15: Cards, puzzles of o.m. to 2 p.m. to

p.m. Thursday, Nov. 29:

# Saturday, Nov. 17: Sau-sage gravy breakfast, 8 SENIOR LIVING SOLUTIONS

CALL (855) 439-6734

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#### **SWEEP** CONTINUED FROM PAGE AT

### Our vote history

In the late '80s and early '90s, results were almost the exact oppo-site of what we saw last

week. The post-election paper in 1992 read; "Democrats in 1992 read: "Democrats dominate county elec-tion." The only local Republican to win an office at the county level was Juanita Bainter, a four-term council member.

member.
The story was similar in 1988, 30 years ago.
All Democrats won their local offices, even though the county voted strongly for Republicans George Bush as president and Richard Lugar for senator.

and Richard Lugar for senator. The local Republican wave began to roll in 1996, the year of the Bob Dole-Bill Clinton presi-dential election. The top headline read "Voters sweep Republicans into offices"; the GOP won four of six contested races locally. David Critser, one of the Republicans to win a county council seat that

David Crisier, one of the Republicans to win a county council seaf that year, said the results upon the results of the man, not the party. He also attributed men'ng into the area, In 2000, it was more of the same. The top head-line read "BLOWOUT GOOP" loss only one condition of the results of the results

the state decision—
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acousty, who allowed the control of the control of

"strong Democrats" where they moved — won't come back because Brown County is "too Republican," he said. Now, it's getting tough to get Democrat candi-dates to run in Brown County. Bond focused this veer on getting the

finances.
"I really thought that we were going to win them, all five of them," he said. "I thought there were lots of issues out there that the county

#### HOW WAS VOTER TURNOUT?

- Turnout for this electic was 56.7 percent not record overall, but on pa record overall, but on par with turnouts for elections since 2008. The record in that time period was 64 percent for the 2016 presi-dential election.
- It was, however, a record year for turnout for a midterm election one that doesn't coincide with a presidential election.
- presidential election.

  Early voting didn't set a record, but it wasn't far off. In the 2016 general election, 3,037 people voted early, this time, 2,596 voters did. The highest early-voter turnout before 2016 was in the 2012 general election, at 2,162.
- at 2 (162. gyerne electry especial del not reflect the end fotals for several candidates. When the end totals for several candidates. When the end total several new properties of the end leasted early in the evening on Election Day, Brenda Woods, Beth Aultry, Kyle Brikemeier, Roger Kelso, Puel Hardin, Stifzanie Gore and Arthur Omberg were and Arthur Omberg were and the votes cast on Election Day were counted. If Juckson 2 was the precinct with the highest turnout, at 66.88 percent. Washington 3 had
- Washington 3 had the lowest turnout, at 35.57 percent. council has that money

council has that money never should have benedit are general. In ad cardidates came to me and say, so the country of the council of the counc

know what's actually going on in the county. ... And there, I think, is the problem: People that are not learning who the people are that are run-ning for office."

#### Straight tickets

Over the past 10 years, straight-ticket voting — automatically voting for all members of a par-

In 2008, 18 percent of

"How can I expect someone to have respect for me and my special needs child if they don't respect the life of a time, helpless, defenseless baby?" she wrote. Stateon people showed agreement with a "like."
"I don't vate blindly or ignorantly, I do research, 'she added. "II I don't care for the Republican candidate, I withhold my vote for that race. But what I said above is definitely my standard."

above is terminally asstandard."
Kate May said she voted straight-ticket for the first time because she didn't like the way Republicans had "aligned themselves," racially marking.

Party is one basis for Eve Bare's decisions, but it only pushes her if she doesn't know about the candidate in particular "Never straight ticket, but I do the research if I can," she wrote. "Party is my default, if that makes sense." Most of the 82 people.

Most of the 52 people

Most of the 82 people who answered that question on Fracebook said they never vote straight-party, they vote for the individuals they think will do the best job. In this election, 2,600 Brown Countians voted straight-party Republican and 1,319 voted straight-party Republican and 1,319 voted straight-party Republican and 1,319 voted straight-party Republican the property of the people voted that the property of the people voted that the property of the people voted that the property of the people voted to the people voted to the property of the people voted to the people voted to

woods and Beth Murry, said they believe straight-party voting was a factor based on their margin of loss — 421 votes in Woods' race and 397 in

of loss – 421 votes in Woods' race and 397 in Muliry's Woods' race and 397 in Muliry's — 11 think I had support from both sides, Jost Linner of the Linner of the Muliry work of the Cherk's office since 2005. "If we voted the candidate, then I don't know if the outcome would have been any different, dwarften of the Muliry work of the work of

party int always auto-matically the best choice amatically the best choice "We need to protect the community with the best people, not just because you have a favoritism towards a certain party, he said." I view place a celections totally separate, clections totally separate, clections totally separate, robusts to very four the best person even statewide and nationally too, but locally, it really affects us all."

Bond said that if straight telest would straight telest would straight telest would thave been fine with it. "because! I would have

"because I would have put up the best candi-dates. I believe I had the best candidates.
"I had the best county auditor in the state of Indiana get beat. The clerk's office... I don't know how to explain it," he said. "I just don't know how to explain it."

### Why is it partisan?

Why is it partisan?

Most candidates on this year's ballot were associated with a political party. However, two many party. However, two many the m

'independent' or 'etizens party' candidates, but if a candidate wished to run as a candidate of a political party, that is the candidate's choice. Under state law, the munici-pality could not prevent that," he wrote.

BROWN COUNTY DEMOCRAT

south country tembers.

Some voters this selection cycle have questioned why some offices are partisan at offices are partisan at sheriff which require the officeholder to interpret and execute laws fairly. Basically, they are that way because they've always been that way. Passed of whether to elect the ordices, you trainly apartisan process is a policy decision made by the Indiana General Assembly when it enacts election laws, 'King wrote. 'Gen-rally speaking, these offices have been elected on a partisan basis since offices have been elected on a partisan basis since political parties began to be organized following the 1824 election."

"Therefore, a legislator would have to introduce a bill in the General As-sembly to provide for any such change, and then persuade a majority of persuade a majority of both chambers to adop the bill for consideration by the governor."

Town council candi-

Town council candi-dates Nancy Crocker and Anna Hofstetter, who won their first elections this year, said they loved not affiliating with a party. Town elections have traditionally been noppartian.

have traditionally been nonpartian.
Crocker would like to see county elections be nonpartian as well.
"In the Constitution, it doesn't say we have to wote for a party," she said.
Hofstetter said being an independent required and help voters realist, and when we happy to do that rather than win on name recognition or Teel strongly about the two-party system; it inherently brings division and what we need is unity," she said.

sion and what we need is unity," she said. "There is no Demo-cratic or Republican way of cleaning the streets," of cleaning the streets," she added, quoting Fiorello LaGuardia, a Depression-era New York

Depression-tea armayor.

It hasn't been unheard of for local candidates to switch party affiliations—even midway through their campaigns. Most recently, during this spring's primary. Ron Sanders, a former Democrat township trustee, ran for county commissioner in the Re-

trustee, ran for county commissioner in the Republican primary. Party switches happened twice in 2008. Mid-eampaine, county council candidate Jerry council candidate Jerry council candidate Jerry personal candidate pe

Republicans weren't listening to their consents. He won re-electi to a fourth term that as a Democrat. "Ultimately, govern-