



THE MESSENGER

Extra Edition #280 2025



October 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 Council Meeting	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 Trunk or Treat
19	20 IEHA Week	21 Make A Difference Day 9-11:00am Fill tote bags	22	23	24 Noodle Making 8:30am WKR Kitchen	25
26	27	28 Craft Club	29	30	31 Yard Sale Set-up	Nov. 1 Yard Sale

Lions Schedule

October

22 Friendly Neighbors

29 Executive Board

November

5 Sunny Circle

12 Monrovia

19 AMICI



Hello!

IEHA week is next week! Has your club made any plans to promote IEHA next week? Help is needed on Tuesday for Make A Difference Day and filling tote bags in the Wilbur Kendall Room starting at 9:00am.

Noodle Making will be on Friday! This will start at 8:30am in the WKR.

At council, we learned about a charity called I Support the Girls. A little information about this charity is in the newsletter. Keep this charity in mind, we might be collecting donations in the near future. <https://isupportthegirls.org/about/>

Have a wonderful weekend,

Amy





Sew Club:

Thank you received from Desert Rose:

We want to thank you so much for all the handmade Christmas stockings. They are beautiful the residents will love them! We also want to thank you for the sweet outfits. We appreciate you & your support so much!

♥ Desert Rose



Craft Club

October 28th, 2:30-5:30pm

Brooklyn Christian Church

Making baskets with Bobbie

Cost: \$35 call Bobbie for information

Club news: Friendly Neighbors

Marilyn Cullen hosted the October meeting of the Friendly Neighbors and helped the members craft Christmas greeting cards.

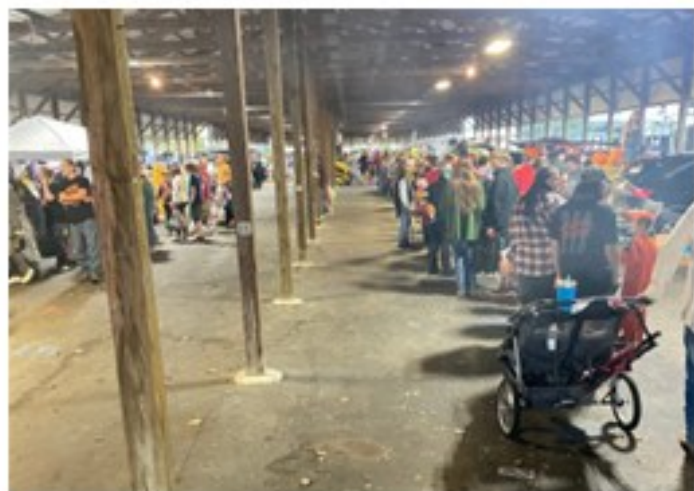


IEHA Make A Difference Day:

The bags made by Sew Club were filled with socks, gloves, chapstick, and tissues for Morgan County schools.



Trunk or Treat!!
FUN night for both kids and adults!



BIG Thank you to Tura and Helen for representing the Homemakers and passing out all the candy!!
Also, Drew and Tura's Sister-in-Law!!

Morgan County Extension Homemakers

Council Meeting – 10/07/2025

The Council met at the WKR, 4-H Building at 10:00 a.m. Those attending were Treasurer Tura LaMar, Secretary Diann Vanzant, Education/Scholarships/Grant Chair Helen Smith, Supply Purchaser Chair Rhonda Smith (subbing for Sue Tutewiler, Membership Chair Sheila Puckett, and 4-H Council Representative Amy Runkel. Clubs were represented: Amici President Tura LaMar, Friendly Neighbors President Diann Vanzant, Monrovia President Rhonda Smith subbing for Sue Tutewiler, and Sew Club President Bobbi Dirrim.

The meeting was opened by Treasurer Tura followed by leading the Pledge of Allegiance, The Homemakers Creed, and the IEHA Mission Statement. The thought for the day was “For I, the Lord your God, hold your right hand; it is I who say to you, Fear not, I am the one who helps you. Isaiah 41:13 (ESV). The Roll Call was taken by Secretary Diann with 7 Council Members present. Secretary Diann read the Minutes of the September 2nd Meeting. A motion was made to accept the minutes by Sheila and seconded by Rhonda (Sue). An ending Balance of \$5,377.92 was given by Treasurer Tura for the 9/30/2025 Income & Expense Report. A motion was made to accept the report by Helen and seconded by Sheila.

The \$200.00 Teachers Grant was decided for October 2025. The winner is Audrey Henry, Newby Memorial Elementary School, Grade 6, for books on different reading levels.

Program of Works Reports: Membership chair Sheila reported 2 new members: Kathy Hazel and Sherry Steirwalt.

Old Business

Fall District Meeting Oct.2 – Seven members were able to attend and reported the event was very nice and they had a good time. A new need was talked about that we could help with too. It is a group that collects bras and feminine items for Ladies in Need. Chapters in Indianapolis and Bloomington.

Farmer’s Day September 30th – How’d it go? Any thoughts or opinions? The button Spinners, Sewing Cards and several others ran out of items to share with the kids. Next year we need a count of Approximately how many children are coming so we can be more prepared. When they ran out, they left early because they had nothing to hand out. There was discussion about rotating the stations better, maybe coming inside first would work out better. Announcement of set-up times did not get to everyone who had a need to know. Children need bags to put their items in. Animals could be condensed a little bit so it didn’t take as long.

Retreat September 15-16 – Prices going up next year, looking for alternatives.

New Business

Trunk or Treat October 18th Fairgrounds 1 car 5-9:00pm-trunk should be decorated, wear costumes, prize for best decorated trunk! After a long discussion (not enough information available) Tura will use her truck. More candy is also needed for this event.

IEHA Week October 20-24 – 21st need people to fill bags from 9-11am in the WKR. Each school receives 12 bags. Bobbie leads this Sew Club project.

Noodle Making October 24th, 8:30am kitchen-fairgrounds. Will make approximately 72 bags, same as last year. If you volunteered a mixer, etc. don't forget them.

Executive Board serving Lions on the 29th, what will be served? It will be Chicken/Rice Casserole/ applesauce/salad, garlic bread, and Desserts by Diann, Sheila and Amy.

Indoor Yard Sale set-up October 31st, will begin at 9:00am. Each club supplies 1-4quart pot of soup, 2 dozen individually bagged cookies or snacks, Sue & Rhonda will do kitchen. Rhonda said Monrovia will bring chili and hot dogs left over from the night before event at their Church.

Indoor Yard Sale November 1st, 8 am to 3pm - Clubs need to pick-up their donated items that didn't sell at the close of the sale.

Holiday Bazaar November 1st, 9am-3pm – Fudge makers will be Sue, Karen and Diane Neal.

Holiday Program November 13th, 9:30 registration, 10am program, no cost, call office (765-342-1010) to register by November 6th.

Program of Works No more reports given.

Club Reports Craft Club – will meet October 28th, 2:30-5:30pm at Brooklyn Christian Church. We're making a basket and there's room for 1 more weaver. Cost \$35 update from last month. Contact Bobbi if you can fill that last spot.

Changing Council – November 6th will be the new date.

Meeting Adjourned. Diann Vanzant, Morgan County Extension Homemakers' Secretary



IEHA Fall District Day

October 2, 2025



Beautiful cards were made as part of
Community Service Project



2024-2025 Program Year

- Volunteer Hours: 157,496.5
- Value of Hours: \$5,479,303.24
- Money Donated: \$224,407
- Shawls of Compassion: 285
- Pop Tops: 218 lbs.
- Cancer research: \$3,367
- Pocket Hearts: 5,965
- Hygiene Kits: 750+
- Items donated to Riley Cheer Guild or Ronald McDonald House: 5,521





**Spread the word about the
upcoming Holiday Program!**

Bring A Friend or two!

Lunch provided!

FREE program!

Call the office to get registered!



(this is an edible centerpiece example, not
necessarily the edible arrangement you will
be learning about at the holiday program:)



Free Downtown Concert: Gospel Fest featuring DownPour

Enjoy a special live music event in downtown Martinsville on Sunday, October 19 with the final Downtown Martinsville Free Concert of the season. This fall Gospel Fest concert features several local gospel groups, plus featured band DownPour. Attendees will enjoy live music beginning at 2 pm at The Venue in downtown Martinsville. Bring your own seating; food trucks are typically on site and downtown eateries area open for dine in before the show, or carryout!

It's Science: Why a Pumpkin Is Actually a Fruit

Every fall, pumpkins steal the spotlight with multiple purposes: as decorations, for soups and in pies. But here's a fun fact backed by science: **this seasonal favorite is actually a fruit.**

Joe Masabni, Ph.D., Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service vegetable specialist and professor in the Texas A&M Department of Horticultural Sciences, said pumpkins are scientifically classified as fruits because of how they grow. Anything that starts from a flower is classified botanically as a fruit.

Why do people mistake pumpkins for vegetables?: People typically consider something as either a fruit or a vegetable based on how they eat it rather than how it grows.

"We see them as to whether we eat them as a dessert, salad or as part of a meal," Masabni said.

For example, consider cucumbers or tomatoes. People typically don't eat them as desserts, he said. They often eat cucumbers and tomatoes in salads or cooked meals, so they may think of them as vegetables, even though they're fruits.

"The pumpkin is a tricky one, though," he said, "because some people make soups or stews from pumpkins, which is a meal, while others make pies, which is a dessert. So that can lead to confusion."

What's the difference between a fruit and a vegetable?: The difference between a fruit and a vegetable lies in whether the produce starts as a flower.

"All plants start from a seed," Masabni said. "Let's take the example of lettuce as a vegetable. It makes more and more leaves, and then you harvest them and eat those leaves. If you let it go even longer, it will eventually make a flower stalk and make seeds that we harvest and store for next year's crop."

A pumpkin plant starts the same. However, its flowers eventually turn into the fruit we eat – in this case, the pumpkin itself.

"A pumpkin starts as a small plant with a few leaves, and as the leaves grow and more branches develop, flowers will start to bloom on the plant," he said. "Those flowers then need to be pollinated by bees or other pollinators. Once a flower is pollinated, it develops into a fruit that we consume. So ultimately, **fruit relies on pollination of the flower** to become the thing we eat."

What other 'vegetables' are actually fruits?: Besides pumpkins, some other fruits that are typically confused with vegetables are:

- Cucumbers
- Tomatoes
- Eggplants
- Corn
- Zucchini
- Okra
- String beans
- Squash
- Peppers



So, does it matter?: Maybe not at the dinner table, but it's a fun fact to share at your next fall gathering.

"The fruit and vegetable debate is a fun one that hangs on the technical, scientific view of these plants that we consume," Masabni said. "At the end of the day, we want to inform people, but we also want them to enjoy these plants as gardeners and at the dinner table."