



DAILY NEWS



AT A GLANCE

THANK YOU!

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WEATHER

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Today: Scattered rain/snow.

Full report, Page A8

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SUBMIT NEWS

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EVENTS

Local clubs, service groups, fraternal organizations, and others are encouraged to send their Coming Events information to the Daily News at news@greensburgdailynews.com with "Events" in the subject line or Daily News, PO Box 106, Greensburg, IN 47240.

TODAY

9 a.m. – Tonk at local Adult Center.
11:30 a.m. – Lunch at local Adult Center.
6 p.m. – Bridge at the local Adult Center.

Feb. 1, 2020
8 to 9:30 a.m. – The Greensburg/Decatur County Chamber of Commerce presents its legislative update at Decatur County REMC. State lawmakers will have 10 minutes to speak then the floor will be opened up for questions from the audience. The meeting is free and open to the public.

See **EVENTS** on A2



Testimony coming? Abrupt acquittal? Trump trial edges on

LISA MASCARO, ERIC TUCKER AND ZEKE MILLER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Senate jurors peppered President Donald Trump's defenders and accusers with final questions at his impeachment trial Thursday ahead of a crucial vote on calling witnesses, the focus shifting from details of the charges to whether it was time to simply acquit and conclude the trial.

The vote on witnesses, expected Friday, could lead to an abrupt end

of the trial with the expected acquittal. Or, less likely, it could bring weeks more of argument as Democrats press to hear testimony from former national security adviser John Bolton and others.

Thursday's testimony included soaring pleas to the senators who will decide Trump's fate, to either stop a president who Democrats said tried to cheat in the 2016 election and will again, or to shut down impeachment proceedings that Republicans insisted were never more than a partisan attack.

"Let's give the country a trial they can be proud of," said Rep. Adam Schiff, the lead prosecutor for House Democrats. Americans, he said, know what it takes for a fair trial and won't stand for anything less.

Trump attorney Eric Herschmann countered that Democrats are only prosecuting the president because they can't beat him in the 2020 election.

"We trust the American people to decide who should be our president," Herschmann said. "Enough is Enough. Stop all of this."

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell is toiling to keep Friday's vote on schedule even as the trial is unearthing fresh evidence from Bolton's new book and raising alarms among Democrats and some Republicans about a Trump attorney's controversial defense.

In a day-after tweet, Trump attorney Alan Dershowitz, complained about the portrayal of his testimony Wednesday when he said a president is essentially immune

See **TRUMP** on A2

FUN WITH FRIENDS



Bill Rethlake | Daily News

Doris Koenigkramer, Judy Ritchey, Pam Tucker and Patty Lawrence recently got together to play a few hands of canasta at Crown Pointe. "We just like to play cards together. It passes these cold days of winter," Lawrence said.

Rural home destroyed by fire

JOSHUA HEATH
DAILY NEWS

CLARKSBURG — Local emergency response personnel were dispatched to a four-alarm structure fire Wednesday night in northeastern Decatur County.

According to information provided by the Decatur County Sheriff's Department, the address of the home involved is 4956 E. CR 640 N. The property owners, according to Beacon, are Willard and Jeanetta Baker.

Clarksburg Community Volunteer Fire Department Chief Brad Speer said the structure was a total loss. Speer said an individual was still

inside the home when they arrived at the scene, and that person — who has not been identified by emergency response officials — was removed before the fire was extinguished.

"On arrival, the department found a mobile home with heavy fire and a report of a female still inside the home," the fire department said in a statement. "After a brief search, the victim was located and removed from the home by firefighters and their care was turned over to the Decatur County EMS units on scene."

Firefighters worked to extinguish the fire for more than four hours.

As of press time Thursday, the cause of the fire was still unknown.

An update regarding the status of the female transported to a hospital was unavailable.

The Clarksburg Community Volunteer Fire Department was assisted by the Greensburg Fire Department, the New Point Fire Department, Anderson Township Fire Department, Duke Energy, Indiana Fire Marshal investigators, Decatur County EMS, and the Decatur County Sheriff's Department.

Joshua Heath can be contacted at 812-663-3111 ext. 217401 or at joshua.heath@greensburgdailynews.com

First Baptist Church offers free income tax service

BILL RETHLAKE
DAILY NEWS

GREENSBURG — Volunteers at First Baptist Church of Greensburg, 209 W. Washington Street, through a grant from the Decatur County Community Foundation, are offering free and confidential tax filing assistance from now until April 10.

Tax preparer Linda Volk and a group of certified volunteers will be available 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday in the Greensburg First Baptist Fellowship Hall.

This mission is a multi-denominational project in which Volk, a lifetime resident of Decatur County, believes strongly and has participated in for several years.

Volk said that she and her volunteers helped over 1,000 local



File photo

Assistance with filing income tax returns is available from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday at First Baptist Church of Greensburg, 209 W. Washington Street.

See **SERVICE** on A2

Ziemke's bill to improve government efficiency advances

STATEHOUSE — The Indiana House of Representatives voted in support of State Rep. Cindy Ziemke's (R-Batesville) legislation that would make it easier for Hoosiers to submit important forms to state agencies.

While most forms used by state agencies can be submitted electronically, Ziemke said others are required to be submitted by mail or fax. House Bill 1093 would give state agencies the option to accept forms by email, PDF, e-sign, and through other digital means.

Ziemke said there have been several instances where constituents working on a time crunch do not have the ability to mail or fax forms.

"With this policy, all state agencies can move ahead into the digital age by accepting documents electronically," Ziemke said. "This means state government can better serve Hoosiers in a more timely and efficient way."

After meeting with staff from state agencies, Ziemke found



Rep. Cindy Ziemke

See **ZIEMKE** on A2