

Witzke named Woman of the Year

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MOORESVILLE

Barb Witzke, president of Networking Business Women of Morgan County-Mooresville Chapter, was chosen as the organization's Woman of the Year for 2013-14 Thursday during the club's annual dinner Thursday at Ralph and Ava's banquet facility on North Indiana Street.

Witzke has finished her second term as president and had endured an injury mid-year from a ziplining accident. Yet, she continued to pitch in and help — trying to continue her duties even on a walker.

Witzke is marketing director at Meadow Lakes, American Senior Living Community in Mooresville. She has been active in all NBW activities such as its annual purse auction, its Christmas wrap parties to help local families and has gotten speakers for meetings as well.

"You all are such a great group — there is not a woman here that I'm not proud to know. I can't say I'm sorry I'm leaving as president because I'll still be working with all of you. I enjoyed being your president, but I had a lot of help. We are almost like a family," Witzke said when accepting her plaque from long-time member Jan Brown of Printech Printing in Mooresville.

Judge Susan Leib was guest speaker for the evening. She talked about some of her duties as a town judge. She said most cases are criminal misdemeanors such as public intoxication, mischief, trespassing, driving with a suspended license and other less serious offenses such as traffic citations, parking offenses, curfew and ordinance violations.

"The prosecutor decides where the case goes to be heard," Leib said. "I rarely send people to jail — I can count on my one hand the number of times that has happened. We try to work with people. Last year we heard just under 3,000 cases, and we save the Morgan County courts time and money from dealing with up to 10,000 cases a year."

Leib said a judge's term is four years. She is not up for election this year and said it's curious that candidates must be affiliated with a political party since judges are not allowed to voice public opinions on much of anything or help on campaigns. They must remain neutral.

"What I am most proud of is our diversion or referral program. This is for first offenders who have been charged but have no prior criminal history. They can pay a higher fine and are sentenced to a non-reporting probation period of one year," Leib said.

Of course, even a town court judge can run out of patience with repeat offenders, and she uses the threat of jail and the county court system as the next steps they want to avoid. Leib said she tries to make them think about the direction they are going.

More than 25 women attended the event Thursday, and new officers were also inducted, with Patti Wilson as NBW president, Jayne Moore as vice president, Amy Hillenburg



Longtime Networking Business Women of Morgan County-Mooresville Chapter member Jan Brown, left, awards the honor, Woman of the Year, to outgoing president Barb Witzke at Thursday's Annual Dinner. Witzke is marketing director for Meadow Lakes in Mooresville. Photo by Amy Hillenburg.

as secretary and Jan Brown and Julie Kyle-Lee as directors. Rita Timmons has been serving as treasurer, but she passed the baton to Tina Ayers. Past officers lit candles as each new person pledged her service.

For those professional women who work outside or inside their homes or are retired and would like to serve the community, meetings are held the second Thursday of every month at the Mooresville Education Center, starting at 11:30 a.m. Women bring their own lunches and beverages, and there are usually guest speakers who share their business style and career tips. The meeting adjourns at 1 p.m. Dues are \$35 per year.

911 service restored after hiccup

Staff report

Morgan County was one of at least six counties on Wednesday to experience a problem with 911 services provided by AT&T.

The system went down in Boone, Hamilton, Johnson, Madison, Morgan and Shelby counties at about 10 a.m. Morgan County Sheriff Robert Downey confirmed the outage at the time and recommended that anyone with an emergency call their local police agency directly. Downey said at about 3 p.m. that all 911 services had been restored.

According to AT&T, no calls would have been missed during that time, they were simply rerouted to other agencies, which were then sending them to the correct agency.

AT&T has apologized and said they're investigating the cause of the outage.

"This morning, emergency calls to a limited number of counties surrounding Indianapolis were temporarily rerouted to nearby 911 agencies. AT&T technicians resolved the issue and 911 calls have been rerouted back. The network is now working normally. We apologize for the inconvenience," AT&T spokesman Jim Kimberly said in an email Wednesday evening.

Indiana's 911 Board, made up of authorities from several counties' 911 agencies, said there was no interruption of emergency services for callers who needed help and that the public was able to reach critical safety agencies during the outage through backup systems. The 911 Board said backup plans worked as designed.

"Reports indicate that 911 calls were automatically re-routed to other 911 agencies within the region," the board released in a statement.

Worthington House transitions to 'Worthington Place'

Staff report

CAMBY

Worthington House, which provides assisted living services and care to seniors in Heartland Crossing, Camby, has unveiled its new name. The facility will now be called Worthing Place. The new name reflects its refreshed commitment to enriching the lives of the residents it serves. It is located at 10799 Alliance Dr., Camby.

"We are thrilled about our new name - Worthington Place," said executive director Sheryl Morning in a press release, "because it better reflects our commitment to provide a vibrant environment where our residents thrive each and every day."

"Residents at Worthington Place are our extended family, and we treat them as such. This is a unique environment where residents are able to rekindle their inner spark in their own unique and individual way."

The renaming of Worthington Place coincides with the recent

rebranding of its parent company, Enlivant (formerly Assisted Living Concepts), which is under new ownership and executive leadership.

"It's a new day at our company," said Enlivant chief executive officer Jack R. Callison Jr. "The name 'Enlivant' captures the essence of this renewed sense of vitality and connectivity. While we are proud of our more than 30-year history as pioneers in the assisted living industry, today we celebrate the rebirth of our organization and renewed commitment to becoming the nation's most trusted assisted living provider."

The company also unveiled a new, redesigned website at www.Enlivant.com to serve as an educational resource for prospective residents and their families. In addition, a customized section with valuable educational information for Worthington Place referral partners has been added to the website.

Worthington Place employs a team of compassionate health care



Worthington House, an assisted living facility at 10799 Alliance Drive in Heartland Crossing, has changed its name to Worthington Place through its new parent company, Enlivant. Photo by Amy Hillenburg.

professionals dedicated to providing quality care and services. A full-time registered nurse partners with each resident to build a highly customized, individual plan to maintain their health, well-being and happiness. It also offers diverse programming that celebrates each resident's unique needs and

abilities in a supportive and lively community.

"At Worthington Place, we know that our actions significantly affect the lives of our residents every day," said Morning. "These actions are guided by our new core values: compassion, humility, excellence, fun and integrity. We enthusiastically invite

prospective residents, family members, referral partners and the community at large in Camby to come visit us and see what all of the excitement is about. It truly is a new day at Worthington Place, and the only way to fully appreciate the difference is to come in and experience it firsthand."

Enlivant and its subsidiaries operate more than 200 assisted living residences with more than 9,000 resident units across 19 states. It currently employs nearly 5,000 dedicated caregivers and support employees across the country. For more information, go to www.Enlivant.com.



MCA students participate in speech event

Mooresville Christian Academy's elementary students participated in a speech meet this year. The following students are moving on to the final round:

Front row: Nolan Moore, Elijah Pitcock, Josiah Allman, Alexis Squires, Keelan Dyson, Ariana Marks, Jalena Meeks, Aurora Wooton.

Middle row: Ian Maskell, Ethan Cornwell, Wyatt Bowman, Tait Kester, Joy Coffee, Moriah Coffee, Stella Dowden, Emma Gaffee, Elisa Kulkarni, Nia Zweifel.

Back row: Elijah Swearingen, Mallory Hoots, Alex Burris, Carson Fuller, Chaine Burris, Brenden Carey, Angelina Cossari, Emily Burns and Jocelyn Squires. Not pictured are Josiah Swearingen and Ava Fernhaber. Submitted photo.