

Friday, September 19, 2003

Volume 18, Number 33



Warren Weekly

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

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Thought for the Week: *Dream as if you'll live forever. Live as if you'll die today.* James Dean



STUDENTS HONORED

The students pictured above were recently honored by the LaFontaine Arts Council for their achievements in Choir, Art and Instrumental Music.

Pictured are (l-r) Anna Trout, teacher Mrs. Danielle Ellenburg, Nicole Shaw, teacher Diana Iden, Stacy McCoy, teacher Mr Douglas Hofherr and Mrs. Grabel from LaFontaine Arts Council.

Anna Trout is the daughter of Ted and Sarah Trout. She was honored for her outstanding musicianship, leadership qualities and participation in extra curricular music activities.

She has also received four first place awards at ISSMA solo and Ensemble contest. Anna is involved in Pizzazzi Music in Bluffton and has been featured in several music productions. She was the lead role of "Annie" in the play "Annie, Brigetta in the Sound of Music and Alice and Gladys in The Best Christmas Pageant Ever. She was nominated by Mrs. Danielle Ellenburg.

Nicole Shaw is the daughter of Susan Denman and Todd Shaw. She was nominated for this award because of her creative talent and enthusiasm for art. She is involved in 4-H and plans to attend college after graduation. She was nominated by Diana Iden.

Stacy McCoy is the daughter of Jeffery and Karen McCoy. She was nominated for her sense of humor, great attitude, work ethic and musicianship. Stacy plays first chair clarinet in the band. She is also very involved in athletics.

E-mail your news items to the Warren Weekly at wwkly@citiznet.com



GETTING CLOSER

The sign is up and the store is getting closer to opening at the new Dollar General just north of town. Many in the area are looking forward to the grand opening.

FISH/CHICKEN FRY

The Central Christian Church in VanBuren will sponsor a fish and chicken fry on September 19th at the Conservation Club on the south end of Van Buren. Serving will be from 4:30 to 7:00. Frying by Dan's of Huntington.

Tickets are \$6.50 presale and \$7.00 at the door. Children \$3.50 presale and \$4.00 at the door. Deserts may be purchased extra.

SUNDAY BRUNCH

Sunday Sept. 21 the Small World Nursery School will host a brunch for the community from 11a.m. to 1p.m at the Knight-Bergman Civic Center in Warren.

The fund-raiser meal will include French toast casserole, sausage and egg casserole, hash brown patties, sausage links, a variety of muffins, fresh fruits, a variety of cold cereals, and beverages.

The cost of the meal is \$5 for adults, \$4 for children 6-12 years old. Kids 5 and under are free. Small World Nursery is a Christian-based not-for-profit organization located in the Knight-Bergman Civic Center.

CRIMESTOPPERS

Crimestoppers requests your assistance in solving the following crime:

Sometime in the late evening hours or early morning hours of September 3. Someone gained entry into a locked tool box mounted on a pickup truck belonging to a Nathan Delagrang located at 1641 Condit St. Lot # 109, Huntington. Entry was made by prying open the toolbox with a metal object. Once inside the thieves stole numerous tools worth a value of up to \$3000.00.

Crimestoppers assists law enforcement by offering cash rewards for information leading to the arrest and prosecution of crime suspects. If you have information regarding this or any other incident, or if you know the location of a wanted criminal, please contact CrimeStoppers at (800)237-7867 or the Huntington County Police Department, (260)356-8316. We honor your desire to remain anonymous.

Crimestoppers is seeking donations to cover cash rewards. Donations can be made by check to Huntington County Crimestoppers,

PO Box 621, Huntington, Indiana 46750.

NEW FOOD PANTRY HOURS

Effective 1 October 2003, new hours for the Bread of Life Food Pantry at the Knight-Bergman Center are as follows: Wed. 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm; Sat. 10:00 am-11:30 pm. Phyllis Harness, Area Coordinator.

LUNCHEON EVENT

The Warren Area Kiwanis will be presenting a luncheon/program on October 15 at 11:30 in the Town Annex building.

Arlene Stoller of Bluffton will present a delightful and informative program, F.I.S.H. She touches on being involved in community activities. This program is sponsored by MarkleBank.

Any interested person in the area may attend by making a reservation to one of the following: Betty Yoder 375-3160, Joan Boyer 375-2145 or Lou Ann Shafer 375-2970.

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

Postmaster Sheryl Horst has announced that the United States Postal Service will be accepting applications from the public to take the Battery 470 examination for career Processing, Distribution, and Delivery positions in the 467, 468 and 473 zip code area.

The Postal Service is establishing a register of eligibility to meet future hiring needs. While the Battery 470 test covers several career Postal positions, the Postal Service only anticipates filling city carrier positions at this time.

Apply on the internet at www.usps.com/employment or apply by using a touch tone phone and calling 1-866-999-8777 (TTY 1-800-800-8776) and follow the prompts. You will be prompted to enter announcement number 72752 for the zip code area.

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

Pathfinder Services, Inc., is once again searching for someone in the community who has made an extra effort to assist persons with disabilities. Nominations for the 13th annual Herbert D. LaMont Award must be made by Wednesday, October 1, 2003.

The award is given in memory of Herbert D. LaMont, who was a major

force in the development of services for persons with disabilities in Huntington County. He was an early supporter of Pathfinder Services, Inc.

Awards have been presented to Judy Vanderspool, a Special Education Teacher with the Huntington County Community Schools., who began her career with Pathfinder Services; Bill Kruzan, former director of Special Education for the schools; Helen Brandt, long time volunteer for Pathfinder Services; Kay LaMont, Kids Kampus campaign chairperson and former Pathfinder Board member; Dr. Eugene Habecker, for ongoing work between Pathfinder Services and Huntington College; Dr. John Regan, for his role in founding Pathfinder Services in 1966; Chuck Nelson, for his support of the organization's mission through numerous activities when he was chairman of the Board; Wynfield and Lyn Wetherbee, for assisting the Pathfinder staff in acquiring communication technology; Kent and Sally Schenkel, who have made contributions as parents, board members, and donors to Pathfinder Services, Inc.; Royce Ruckman, for his role in inspiring others in supporting and enabling a family member with a disability; the late Tom Butler, for his role in organizing Pathfinder Services, Inc. and his service on its board of directors; Mary Brennan, who taught Pathfinder Services' first classes for children with special needs; Fred Teddy, who started the organization's first sheltered workshop for adults who had developmental disabilities, Roger Strickler, for his service on the Pathfinder Services board of directors and assistance establishing Pathfinder Foundation Inc.; George Brown, for his work as a teacher and pre-vocational counselor of pedal needs students; and Lola Lee Peters, who was a teacher of special needs children at Pathfinder Services and in the Huntington County school system.

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e-mail: wwky@citznet.com

WARREN WEEKLY is a free paper for the Warren, Indiana area. It is distributed every Friday to rural postal patrons of Warren, Liberty Center, and Van Buren, Indiana. The Warren Weekly is available at Cady's Express, and Gene's Market in downtown Warren. The Warren Weekly is also available in several businesses in Van Buren.

It is sent anywhere in the Continental United States for three (3) months for \$9.50, six (6) months for \$19 or \$38 for one year. Mail name, address, and payment to WARREN WEEKLY at: PO Box 695, Warren, IN 46792.

Deadline for news and/or advertising is 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, for that week's edition. Call if you need something in but won't have it here on time.

Leave news and/or advertising at PJ's Flower and Gift Shop or mail to P O Box 695, Warren. Van Buren residents may call Mary Jo Zoda at 765-934-3637.

WARREN WEEKLY will make every effort to see that all advertising copy is correctly printed. The firm assumes no financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertising, but will gladly reprint without charge that part in which an error may occur, provided that it is reported within five days of publication.

The publisher takes no responsibility for statements or claims made in any advertisement.

KUDOS, KICKS & KARATS

CARD OF THANKS

Thank you to all the papers who ran my ad for my lost pit bull. He has been returned and a microchip has been implanted in case of future loss.

Michael Shuttleworth

NATIONAL EMPLOY THE OLDER WORKER WEEK SEPTEMBER 22-26

Experience Works Inc, is a national, nonprofit organization that offers training and employment opportunities for mature workers. Established in 1965 as Green Thumb, and renamed Experience Works in 2002, the organization reaches more than 125,000 mature individuals in all 36 states and Puerto Rico each year.

More than ever, our nation relies on the active involvement of citizens 55 years old or older. Over 70 percent of these Americans work every day contributing to all aspects of our economy and our society; and as our population continues to age, contributions from older workers will play an increasingly important role in maintaining America's leadership in a highly competitive international marketplace; and despite often impressive job qualifications, older people sometimes face the injustice of being judged solely on their age; and their unique combinations of knowledge, skills, insight, and experience make older Americans at least as effective as younger employees, and in many cases, even more effective.

We put Experience to Work for your Business. We are a part of your community and our services support the people in your community. Employers are urged to consider carefully the qualifications of older workers and make use of their qualifications and expertise.

For more information, please contact the Experience Works office at toll free numbers: Indiana: 1-800-843-0885 or Michigan: 1-800-772-5550.

MEDICATIONS ARE MORE EFFECTIVE IF TAKEN AT THE RIGHT TIME

If your prescription instructions tell you to take one pill a day, you probably take it in the morning. For many conditions, however, the medication would be more effective if taken later in the afternoon or evening.

. High blood pressure: Blood pressure is highest in the morning. Medication works best when taken at bedtime.

. Asthma: Because asthma is at its worst between 4 a.m. and 6 a.m., Doctors at Temple University in Philadelphia say the best time to take steroids is 3 p.m., and that theophylline should be taken in the evening.

. Heartburn: The stomach secretes more acid between 10 p.m. and 2 a.m. Acid blockers should be taken before dinner time.

. Osteoarthritis: It is more painful in the evening and night. Many doctors recommend taking anti-inflammatory medications like ibuprofen in the afternoon or evening.

. Hay fever: Symptoms are worst in the morning before cortisol levels rise. Prescribed medications should be taken in the evening.

. Colds and flu: Symptoms are worse during the night and early morning. The best time to take medicine is at night.

Physicians recommend that medications be taken at convenient times for a reason: People are less likely to forget or ignore their instructions. Doctors at National Jewish Medical and Research Center in Denver advise patients to buy a cheap watch and set the alarm for 3 p.m. every day to remind them to take their asthma medication.

Read all the Advertisements in the Warren Weekly.
They're full of all kinds of useful information.

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VB CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 765-934-4074

Mike Helms, Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Adult Worship 10:30 a.m.
 Children's Church 10:30a.m.
 Youth Hours 6:00p.m.
 Evening Praise Hour..... 6:00p.m.
 Hour of Power (Wed) 7:00p.m.

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH Van Buren, Indiana 765-934-2199

Rev. Pat Mullen, Pastor

Worship 9:30 a.m.
 Sunday School 10:40 a.m.
 Bible Study, Wednesday..... 6:00 p.m.
 Youth Fellowship Sun 6:00 p.m.

THE CHRISTIAN & MISSIONARY ALLIANCE — Majenica Rev. Gus Hacker

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Worship 10:30 a.m.
 Sunday Evening 6:00 p.m.
 Wednesday Worship 7:00 p.m.

MT. ETNA UNITED METHODIST 260/468-2148

Rev. Tom DeFries - Pastor

Worship 9:00 a.m.
 Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

JEFFERSON CENTER UNITED METHODIST

Corner of 900S & 300W
Kathie Jones, Pastor

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
 Worship Service 10:00 a.m.

WARREN UNITED METHODIST Rev. Mike Beall, Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Worship 10:30 a.m.

WARREN CHURCH OF CHRIST 375-3022

Eric Vitz, Interim Minister
Becky Hartley, SS Supt.

Fellowship 9:15 a.m.
 Worship & Communion 9:30 a.m.
 Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

DILLMAN UNITED BRETHREN 8888S 1100W-90, Warren 375-2779

Lynn Mefferd, Pastor

Sun - 1st Worship Service..... 8:15a.m.
 Sunday School..... 9:30a.m.
 2nd Worship Service... 10:30a.m.
 Youth Group (6th-12th) 5:30p.m.

McNATT UNITED METHODIST 375-4359

Bill VanHaften, Pastor
B. Morton, Supt.

Coffee Fellowship..... 8:30 a.m.
 Worship 9:15 a.m.
 Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
 Bible Study - Wed. 7:00 p.m.

WARREN WESLEYAN CHURCH 375-2330

www.hows.net/46792WCT
Rev. Bill Barlow, Pastor
Wesley Welch, Supt.

Sue Brown, Children's Ministry

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Worship 10:15 a.m.
 Children's Church 10:15 a.m.
 Evening Worship 6:00p.m.
 Thursday Bible Study 7:00p.m.

LIBERTY CENTER BAPTIST CHURCH 694-6622

Pastor Dan Sommer

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
 Fellowship 9:55a.m.
 Worship 10:15a.m.
 Wed. Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

SALAMONIE CHURCH OF BRETHREN 468-2412

Mel Zumbrun, Pastor

Worship 9:30 a.m.
 Church School 10:45a.m.

BUCKEYE CHRISTIAN CHURCH 758-2085

Nathan Doyle, Minister
Sandy Keplinger, Supt.

Worship 9:30 a.m.
 Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

BANQUO CHRISTIAN CHURCH 8294S 900W 35

Gary Riley, Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Worship 10:30 a.m.
 Youth Choir Practice 5:00 p.m.
 Wed. Bible Study 6:30 p.m.
 Thurs. Kings Kids 6:30 p.m.
 BYG Youth Svc. (2&4Sun.) .. 6:00 p.m.
 CWF Ladies (3 Tue) 6:00 p.m.
 1st Sun. (Qtrly) Praise Hour.. 6:30 p.m.

LIBERTY CENTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Steve Bard, Pastor

Morning Worship 9:30 a.m.
 Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

HILLCREST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 375-2510

Bill Keen, Pastor
Aylssa Lugbill, Assoc. Pastor
Bus Service 375-2510

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Worship 10:30 a.m.
 Evening Worship..... 6:00 p.m.
 Youth Group (Wed.)..... 6:00 p.m.
 Wed. Midweek Service..... 7:00 p.m.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST 375-2102

Charles Dye , Jr., Pastor

Sunday Worship..... 9:30 a.m.
 Junior Church 10:00 a.m.
 Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
 Communion 1st Sunday of the Month
 Fun Factory 1st/3rd Sundays 6:00p.m.

THE NEW BEGINNING SR 218, 2 1/8 mile west of Poneto Steve Sutton, Pastor 765/728-2065 for more info

Sunday Worship..... 10:30a.m.
 ThursdayPrayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.

WARREN 1st BAPTIST CHURCH Corner of N. Wayne & Matilda Sts.

Rev. Bill Fisher, Pastor of Preaching & Discipleship
Sandy Richison, S.S. Supt.

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
 Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.
 Wednesday Prayer Mtg 6:30 p.m.

VB UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 765-934-1431

Pastor Blake J. Neff
Youth Pastor Adam Pierce

Worship Service 9:30 a.m.
 Sunday School 10:45a.m.
 UMYF 6- 7:30 p.m.
 Prayer-Bible Study (Thur)..... 7:30 p.m.
 www.vanburenumc.org

BOEHMER UNITED METHODIST Rev. Barry Humble, Pastor Joe Kober, S.S. Supt.

Sunday Worship 9:30a.m.
 Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

HANFIELD UNITED METHODIST 101 N 400 E - Marion, IN 765/664-8726

Timothy Helm, Senior Pastor

1st Worship..... 8:20 a.m.
 2nd Worship..... 9:45 a.m.
 3rd Worship 11:11 a.m.

Sunday School Children & Youth Programs

PLUM TREE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST 375-2691

Dr. Jeane Spoor, Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Worship 10:30 a.m.

LANCASTER WESLEYAN 468-2411

Doug Sharrard, Pastor
Teresa Davis, S.S. Supt.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Worship 10:30 a.m.
 Evening Service 6:00 p.m.
 Wednesday:
 CYC/Teen/Adult Meetings 7:00 p.m.

UNITED METHODIST MEMORIAL HOME

SUNDAY:
 Morning Worship 9:30 a.m.
 OTHER SERVICES BY ANNOUNCEMENT
 Tues, Thurs, Fri & Sat
 Chapel Services 9:00 a.m.

MOUNT ETNA WESLEYAN Wayne Wright, Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Worship 10:30 a.m.
 Sunday Evening 6:00 p.m.
 Mid-Week (Wed) 6:00 p.m.

ASBURY CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST 8013W 1100S - 90, Montpelier Pastor - Eric Dubach

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Worship 10:30 a.m.
 Wed Evening Carry-in & Fellowship 6:30 p.m.

Attend the Church of your choice

AREA NEWS

COUNCIL NOTES

President Harold Jones called the Sept. 8 meeting of the Warren Town Council to order at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was held in Town Hall Annex and opened with the Pledge to the American Flag.

Members of the Huntington County Commissioners were in attendance and discussed Animal Control with Council. They explained to Council a 2002 Ordinance which went into effect in January 2003. They explained that dogs and animals in violation should be reported to the Sheriff's Department dispatcher. They in turn will contact the County Animal Control Official. Commissioners said they plan to continue with this plan.

Council decided to decline a Humane Shelter contract in the amount of \$12,000 per year.

A number of Sigma Phi Gamma Sorority members were in attendance and reported they do not wish to continue with the concession stand at Tower Park. They had operated the stand for many years. It was hoped to work a business deal with another not-for-profit organization.

Minutes of the regular meeting of Aug. 25 and a special meeting on Sept. 3 was approved as submitted.

David Scheib reported on a Park Board meeting held prior to the council meeting. A walk-through of Tower Park with Council is set for 5:30 p.m. on Sept. 26.

A report was given on the Electric Project distribution upgrade. Pole inspection is expected to begin soon. There will be a special meeting on Sept. 15 with Spectrum.

A letter was expected to be sent to residents, business owners concerning inspection and permits in regard to the Wastewater Project. The Punch List-A-2-sewer project, was discussed. Local residents with concerns should call soon before the list is completed.

New doors had been ordered for the Town Hall rest rooms.

Work was reported to be underway on the Centennial Tower Project.

Council voted to purchase Fire Extinguishers in the amount of \$2242 from Thompson Fire. The extinguishers will replace old models currently in use along with coverage in some additional areas.

Schnelker Engineering had recommended that Indiana Corrugated Pre-Treatment plan be denied.

Council approved Ordinance 2003-3, 4 and 6. These are Salary Ordinances for the year 2004.

Resolution 3-2003, non tax funds, was adopted by Council as amended with CEDIT to be added. Resolution 4-2003, Tax Funds, was also adopted.

Ordinance 2003-6, 2004 Budget, was adopted by Council.

Council decided not to buy into the CD Ron Huntington County

Chamber.

Council learned the new fire truck has been delivered. The Township share was \$16,640 and the Town paid \$11,509.12. Council approved the payment.

A request to remove Sanitation charge was denied until further information is available.

According to reports a Community Image Workshop was an excellent meeting.

Clerk-Treasurer Marilyn Morrison gave the August Financial report.

The Clerk-Treasurer's Office will be closed on Oct. 9 in order for employees to attend a Keystone Training Workshop.

Darrel Bice gave the Utility/Street Departments report. Two water leaks had been repaired and paving done. The Ford dump truck had no brakes and needed repairs. Bice was advised to get quotes.

Council granted permission for two employees to attend a Sept. 25 meeting in Huntington, and one on Sept. 26 in Kendallville. Both are training meetings.

The leaf vac schedule is slated to begin on Sept. 19 and continue each Monday and Friday.

Council approved membership in Indiana Rural Water Association.

Dues are \$140 per year.

It was reported the Fire Department had received a grant from DNR.

The annual IACT Conference is set for Sept. 28 to Oct. 2.

The next Council meeting will be Sept. 22.

CAC EVENTS

Creative Arts Center offers a "Mixed levels YOGA" course.

Learn & practice: postures, relaxation, breathing for well-being with Susy Sridevi Jones, R.Y.T. Sign up for Fall Series: 8 Thursdays Sept. 25 - Nov. 13 at 6:00 to 7:30 PM. Fee: \$75 for 8 lessons (\$65 CAC member price) Info: Call (260) 824-5222 or 565-3813. Confirm enrollment with payment to POBox 18, Bluffton, IN 46714.

Creative Arts Center studio offers a great toning and fitness opportunity for adults with Pamela Stilwell Talarico at 7:00 - 8:00 PM on Tuesdays, beginning Sept. 23. Adult ballet is a fitness regimen conducted in a casual, fun atmosphere. Adults learn the language of ballet, poses, steps and movements with adjustments for individual pace.

The class is open for anyone with an interest in ballet, whether fresh-start beginners or those who previously studied the art form. Health benefits include toning, flexibility, agility and good circulation, breathing and posture. This is not a performance class, although participants who enjoy stage work are welcome to take roles in the school's spring program. Performance participation is not required. Weekly classes are paid \$35 for each four in advance (\$28 for CAC members) and continue until May, 2004. The first class Sept. 23 is offered as a "try it" opportunity.

Register by delivering payment: cash, check, Visa/MC to POBox 18, Bluffton, Indiana 46714, Email cac@parlorcity.com or call 260-824-5222.

ARE YOU A STRESS MAGNET

What: You May Be A Stress Magnet If...

When: Tuesday, September 23, 2003

Time: 2:30 p.m.

Where: Heritage Commons Activity Room

Deadline for Registration: September 19, 2003

You May Be A Stress Magnet If....

Stress doesn't need to be viewed as something to avoid at all costs; it can be the spice of life, the motivator that promotes growth and excitement. However, when the amount of stress is overwhelming the stress becomes distress and a breakdown in overall wellbeing occurs. In this program you will learn how to recognize stressors and techniques to avoid breakdowns. The program will be presented by Bonnie Coons and is sponsored by the Blackford County Extension Office. This program will be on Tuesday, September 23, 2003 at 2:30 p.m. at the Heritage Commons Activity Room at 100 Independence Parkway, Hartford City, IN. To make a reservations, please call the Blackford County Extension Office at 765-348-3213 by September 19, 2003.

KIDS CONNECTION

The Montpelier Church of the Nazarene is planning a big week of events starting Tue., Sept 23 - 26 with a KIDS CONNECTION RALLY with the Myron Stump family. We will start registering children at 5:30

with the program beginning at 6:00 PM. It will be an action packed week of outrageous fun with train smoke, ultimate physical challenges, magnificent machine mishaps, marshmallow mania, special deliveries, trouble busting, rovercomer dog, - the notorious Praisin' Raisin, and that chicken who just can't keep quiet.

Kids' Connection features outrageous costume characters, fun skits, exciting audience participation, props with radical lights and sounds, and life stories that reach into the hearts of young and old. Kids' Connection - Helping entire families to fall in love with Jesus!!!

Kids' Connection is for kids ages 4-104, targeting school age children.

So load everybody in the car and head on over!! No tickets necessary - no admission fee!!

On Sat., Sept 27th starting at 6:30 PM we will host our annual Fall Fling Singspiration featuring the Christianaires from Jay Co., The Fiends group from Geneva and Rev Darren Williams from the Pleasantdale United Methodist Church. A free will offering will be taken.

Sun., the 28th at 10:30 AM we will have a special singer, Jennifer Slager, a missionary home on furlough. Following our worship service we are planning a Hog Roast. Please feel free to join us for all these events.

For more information please contact: Pastor Jack Littlefield - 728-2329, Sherry Love 728-2296 or LuAnn Pemberton 728-5905.

SEARCHING FOR THE DEAD

Obituary Records Index Now OnLine

As anyone who is tracing their family history knows, obituary records are vital to the search.

An extensive Obituary Records Index is now on-line at The Wells County Public Library. The new index compliments the library's large genealogy department and will be a valuable tool for people documenting their family history.

Thanks to the efforts of several staff members, along with dedicated volunteers Lorin and Dorothy Schwartz, the index hit cyberspace on September 4 with more than 60,000 recorded names gleaned from Bluffton and Ossian, Indiana newspapers. It covers the years 1866 to 2000.

Vi Tester, who heads up the library's genealogy department, pointed out that obituary records can be a tricky thing.

"Most people familiar with genealogy realize that, sometimes, newspaper obituaries can be wrong," she explained. "They may have misspelled names or incorrect dates that did not get caught before publication."

Anyone who notes an inaccuracy — and has documentation to set the record straight — can contact Tester at the library.

Another point: the deceased may have been born, raised and died in Wells County, but if their obituary did not appear in a Bluffton or Ossian newspaper, their name is not in the index. Only names printed in those papers, including people

CONTINUED PAGE 4

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and much more!

PJ's Flower & Gift Shop
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(260)375-2702

Community Calendar

Items listed here are open to the public. If there is an admission charge or items are for sale or a donation is necessary, there is a one-time \$5 fee to be listed. Events can be listed for as long as 6 months. (If an event is cancelled, please notify WW.) Only event, place, time, and sponsor, for events in Warren, and the surrounding area will be listed.

Sep 17 Van Buren Town Council, 7 p.m.
Sep 19 Warren Recycle Day
Sep 22 Warren Town Council, 6:30 p.m., Town Annex
Oct 2 Mt Zion Conservation Club Fish Fry, 4:30 - 7:30
Bread of Life Food Pantry - Wed 4 - 6pm, Sat 10 - noon at KBC or by appointment - Call 375-2381. **Bargain Basement** - Friday & Saturday 9 - 4 at KBC **Depression Support Group** 2nd & 4th Thurs at Hope Missionary Church, Bluffton 6-7:30 **Salamonie Valley Museum** Open Sundays 1 to 4 p.m. at KBC **Addiction Recovery Support Group** Tuesdays 7pm at Hillcrest Nazarene

Customer Appreciation

Hot Dogs Burgers
Balloons Prizes

Saturday, Sept. 20
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Stop by our office before the 20th to sign up for drawing.

Blue Flame Gas **1-800-875-3565**
1205 Huntington Avenue, Warren, 375-3565

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AREA NEWS CONTINUED

MORE PAGE 3

from out of Wells County, are in the index.

The index is available through the library's website at <http://www.wellscolibrary.org/> or www.wellscolibrary.org/. For more information, you can call the Wells County Public Library at 260-824-1612.

IS YOUR FAMILY TREE LOST?

Learn the Basics of Genealogy at the Library

Are you sure that you want to learn more about your family history?

Genealogy can be a dangerous thing. Sometimes when you shake your family tree, a lot of nuts fall out.

Or, you discover that you're a sap.

But, for those souls still brave enough to continue the search, the Wells County Public Library is offering two genealogy classes to help them get started.

"The Basics" and "After the Basics" will be presented by the Blackford/Wells Genealogy Society at the library. The classes are free, but pre-registration is required and class size is limited to the first 20 people.

The first class — The Basics — is Thursday, Sept. 25 from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. Those attending should bring their three-generation information, which includes: themselves, their parents, and their grandparents. They will learn how to create a three-generation family chart and how to find birth, death and marriage records, along with other basic documentation.

The second class — After the Basics — is Thursday, October 9 from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. One of the topics for the evening is learning how to read and use census information. You do not need to attend the first program if you only want the second program.

For more information or to sign up for the classes, call the Wells County Public Library at 260-824-1612 or stop by at 200 W. Washington Street in Bluffton.

OPERATION ARGUS

In late August and early September of 1958, U.S. Navy Task Force 88, consisting of nine ships and approximately 4,500 men, secretly conducted three high-altitude nuclear tests in the South Atlantic.

The code name of the operation was ARGUS. In each of these tests, the task force launched from the missile trials ship, USS Norton Sound (AVM-1), a specially modified X-17a three-stage ballistic missile carrying a low-yield nuclear warhead, which was detonated high in the Earth's upper atmosphere. Upon completion of these launchings on September 6, the task force departed the operating area for Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and thence to home ports in the United States. The official report provides the details of Department of Defense personnel participation in these tests, and the emphasis on radiological safety. But it's possible that personnel were exposed to

higher doses of radiation than was originally thought.

The tests were conducted in complete secrecy and were not announced until the following year. The organization conducting these tests was Task Force 88, a naval organization consisting of nine ships and approximately 4,500 men. A few specialists from the other services and the Atomic Energy Commission and their contractors were with the fleet.

Coordinated measurement programs using satellite, rocket, aircraft, and surface stations were carried out by the services and other government agencies and contractors throughout the world.

The ships of Task Force 88 were the antisubmarine carrier USS Tarawa (CVS-40), the destroyers USS Bearss (DD-654) and USS Warrington (DD-843), the destroyer escorts USS Courtney (DE-1021) and USS Hammerberg (DE-1015), the fleet oilers USS Neosho (AO-143) and USS Salamonie (AO-26), the missile trials ship, USS Norton Sound (AVM-1), and the seaplane tender USS Albemarle (AV-5).

The low-yield (1- to 2-KT) devices were lifted to about a 300-mile altitude by rockets fired from the Norton Sound. The detonations occurred at such distances above the Earth that it was thought there was no possibility of exposure of the task force personnel to ionizing radiation.

Of the 264 radiation-detection film packets distributed to the task force, 21 had indications of radiation exposure, but the highest exposure recorded by an individual's packet was 0.010 roentgen (R), so low as to be negligible. The highest exposure recorded, 0.025 R, was by a control film packet. Control film packets were located in radiation-free areas within the ships. Even this reading was so low that it could have been spurious or the result of natural background radiation. In any event, both readings were below the accuracy limit of the film, developing system, and dosimeters used.

In 1977, 15 years after the last aboveground nuclear weapon test, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services noted more leukemia cases than would normally be expected among about 3,200 soldiers who had been present at shot SMOKY, a test of the 1957 PLUMBBOB Series. Since that initial report by the CDC, the Veterans Administration (VA) has received a number of claims for medical benefits from former military participation in the weapons testing program.

In late 1977, the DOD began a study that provided data to both the CDC and the VA on potential exposures to ionizing radiation among the military and civilian personnel who participated in the atmospheric testing 15 to 32 years earlier. In early 1978, the DOD also organized a Nuclear Test Personnel Review (NTPR) to:

1. Identify DOD personnel who had taken part in the atmospheric nuclear weapon tests.
2. Determine the extent of the participants' exposure to ionizing

radiation.

3. Provide public disclosure of information concerning participation by DOD personnel in the atmospheric nuclear weapon test.

This report on Operation ARGUS is one of many volumes that are the product of the NTPR. Information from which this report was compiled was primarily extracted from planning and after-action reports of Task Force 88 (TF 88) and its subordinate organizations. What was desired were documents that accurately placed personnel at the test sites so that their degree of exposure to the ionizing radiation resulting from the tests could be assessed. The search for this information was undertaken in archives and libraries of the Federal Government, in special collections supported by the Federal Government, and, where reasonable, by discussion or review with participants. Unfortunately, most of these records cannot be located.

If you were aboard any of the ships mentioned above in late August or Early September 1958 and remember being part of Task Force 88, and especially, if you have noticed health problems which you suspect may have been caused by exposure to radiation, you should immediately contact your closest VA Regional Office (VARO) and be advised as to your next course of action. VA Regional Offices in every state can be contacted by dialing 1-800-827-1000. That number rings in to your closest VARO. If you have the means, print out or copy this article and take it with you to your nearest VA Medical Center. If you have no luck with either of those two VA sources, contact Tom Applegate, Huntington County Veterans' Service Officer, at 358-4863.

This information came from the United States Atmospheric Nuclear Weapons Tests, Nuclear Test Personnel Review, prepared by the Defense Nuclear Agency as Executive Agency for the Department of Defense.

FREE PROSTATE CANCER SCREENING OFFERED

Prostate cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths in men. According to the American Cancer Society, an estimated 220,900 new cases will be diagnosed in 2003. Of those diagnosed, 28,900 will die. However, prostate cancer can often be cured when detected early. Even in advanced stages, it can be effectively treated.

Bluffton Regional Medical Center, Caylor-Nickel Clinic and Caylor-Nickel Foundation are again offering FREE prostate cancer screenings. They will be Monday, September 22 through Friday, September 26 at Bluffton Regional Business Health Services, 1026 South Main, Bluffton. Screenings will be by appointment only. Men may choose a time from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday, or Friday 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

The screenings are recommended annually for men age 50 to 70. Men of African-American descent or those with a family history of prostate cancer should begin screenings around age 40.

The screening consists of a PSA blood test and digital rectal examination. The PSA (prostate-specific antigen) measures the level of a specific protein. Increased levels may indicate prostate cancer or other prostate disease. The digital (with a finger) rectal exam involves a health care provider feeling the prostate through the rectum. Two-thirds of prostate cancer is detected by PSA tests, while one-third is identified by digital exam.

Please call (260) 919-3045 today, to schedule your free appointment. All screenings will be held at Bluffton Regional's Business Health Services, 1026 South Main Street, Bluffton. Parking is available in the lot on West Horton, next to the Business Health building.

MT ETNA UMC ADDS NEW SERVICE

Church isn't about how you dress or how you look. Church is about finding God's answers for your everyday life. Starting September 21, 2003, Mt Etna UMC is offering a new modern service each Sunday at 10:30 AM. This service features relevant messages, modern music, a casual "come as you are" atmosphere and real people — like you.

Join us for our new service and see just how "comfortable" church can be. We also offer a classic more traditional service at 8:30 AM.

The Church is located 1 block south of Hwy 124, ½ mile east of Hwy 9 in beautiful Mt. Etna. Come worship at the Mount! (Come for a visit — stay for a lifetime).

FARM SAFETY

As harvest nears, safety becomes an elevated concern to Indiana farmers. Extreme caution on rural highways should be used, especially during this time of the year.

The fall season is particularly risky as farmers are moving wagons loaded with grain and machinery on the same roads that Hoosiers travel every day. The National Safety Council said that based on crash data compiled from various states, the collision rate may average nearly one per day. "Farmers are trying to get to their place of business as fast and safely as possible," said Carolyn Hegel, IFB 2nd vice president and in charge of farm safety programs. "As farms get bigger, they have to travel further to reach their destinations."

To increase Hoosiers' awareness of this issue, Indiana Farm Bureau joins with The National Safety Council in celebrating its 60th Annual National Farm Safety and Health Week, September 21-27. This year's theme, "Secure Your Farming Future through Safety and Health," focuses on the importance of protecting the lives and livelihood of farmers and securing the safety of the nation's food and water resources.

The NSC reported that the work fatalities in agriculture increased 2 percent in 2002 while other industries declined by 3 percent. Agriculture sees 21 fatalities per 100,000 workers, which equals approximately 730 deaths annually. Last

year, agriculture was second only to the construction industry in deaths due to unintentional injuries.

The risk for farmers also increases with age. Farmers over 75 are more than twice as likely to die on the job than their younger counterparts, according to National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

The NSC reports that tractor incidents remain the number one cause of death in agriculture, with the majority attributed to overturns.

CHAUTAUQUA ARTS FESTIVAL

Chautauqua of the Arts Weekend of Art and Fun in Columbus, Indiana, is planned for Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Sept 20 through 21. Artists will be in Mill Race Park from 10 AM to 5 PM Saturday and Sunday. Other events scheduled throughout the city of Columbus and also the County will be at various times on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Check out our website for more details: www.ChautauquaoftheArts.com or the site of the Columbus Visitors Center: www.columbus.in.us

Chautauqua of the Arts is rated #1 Fine Arts & Crafts Festival in the Midwest. Artisans from across the nation will display their works for sale in the beautiful Mill Race Park near downtown Columbus.

The Featured Artist at this year's Chautauqua of the Arts is Mitchell Tolle. This year he will unveil the fourth of what has become a series of very popular award-winning posters, which have come to symbolize the Columbus Chautauqua of the Arts.

At the Chautauqua of the Arts, each artist will be present with their works. Many artists will demonstrate how they create their works, which may be contemporary, traditional, or folk art. Visitors will find unique creations in acrylic, oil, watercolor, baskets, pen and ink, pencil, clay, glass, jewelry, leather, metal, mixed media, paper, photography, printmaking, sculpture, textiles, and wood.

Chautauqua of the Arts offers a perfect opportunity to shop for high quality Christmas, birthday, or business gifts as well as great additions to the home decor. In addition to the show, families can also enjoy the park's covered bridge, a round pond with paddleboats, and a fantastic playground. Nearby parking makes attending the show very simple.

Chautauqua of the Arts also features musicians, a special entertainment directed toward children, plus an open-air cafe that offers ethnic samplings of German, Polish, Mexican, and American dishes including a country style breakfast, all prepared on location.

Again this year in the park will be a special tent chucked full of entertainment for "Kids of All Ages." In other locations in the city and county will be the Oldies 104.9 Hot Rods & Rock n'Roll show, Art, Architecture, Special glass exhibition and glass blowing demonstrations at

CONTINUED PAGE 6

GENEALOGY REPORT

BOLLENBACHER

Glenn L. Bollenbacher, 84, of Berne, died Thursday, Sept. 11, 2003 at Adams County Memorial Hospital.

Born April 13, 1919 to Daniel and Laura Baker Bollenbacher in Adams County, he married Garni Branstetter in Liberty Center on Feb. 12, 1938; she died Sept. 16, 2000. He was a retired farmer.

Survivors include a son, Wayne Bollenbacher of Celina, Ohio; a daughter, Karen Sue Minnich of Decatur; a brother, Vernon of Geneva; seven grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

Visitation is Saturday from 2 to 8 p.m. at Downing & Glancy Funeral Home in Geneva. Services will be held Sunday at 1:30 p.m. at the funeral home.

GRAY

Mary E. Barner Gray, 87, of Warren, died Saturday, Sept. 13, 2003 at 4:10 a.m. at the United Methodist Memorial Home in Warren.

Born Nov. 21, 1915 in Huntington County to Witmer and Ernie Mock Johnson, she was a beautician and a 50-year member of the Order of Eastern Star Crescent Chapter 48 in Bluffton. She was a member of the Montpelier Brass Latch Art Club. She had lived in Montpelier and Bluffton prior to moving to the Warren home. She was a graduate of Chester Center High School and attended Keystone United Methodist Church.

She is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Allan (Jane) Penrod of Bluffton; a son, John Barner of Montpelier, five grandchildren, five great grandchildren; and two great-great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her first husband, Joy Barner; her second husband, Frank Gray; a brother, Charles Johnson; three sisters, Lena Turner, Maude Kelly and Margaret Kelley; and a grandson.

Visitation was held at Glancy Funeral Home, Walker Chapel in Montpelier, with services at the funeral home officiated by Rev. John Wallace. Burial was in Friends Cemetery in Keystone.

Preferred memorials are to the

United Methodist Memorial Home in Warren.

TROUT

Cary Everett Trout, 93, 505 N. Bradner Ave., died at 1:58 a.m. Sunday, September 14, 2003 in the Bradner Village Nursing Home.

He was born December 9, 1909 in Van Buren Township to the late Witmer Trout and Daisy Butler. He was raised in Van Buren Township where he attended a one-room school. He was a retired farmer.

Mr. Trout married Mildred Baker in 1933. She passed away in 1962. He married Edith Smith in 1963. She passed away in 1994. He lived in Sweetser until he moved to the nursing home 2 1/2 years ago.

He attended Sweetser United Methodist Church and was very active in the church. He was a former member of the Lions Club.

Survivors are children, Darrell, Audra Black; stepsons, Lester Smith, Roger Smith, Converse; stepdaughter, Reva Fitzjarrald, Jonesboro; brothers, Homer, Jonesboro, Lora, Indianapolis; 12 grandchildren, 8 stepgrandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; 4 stepgreat-grandchildren; 3 stepgreat-great-grandchildren.

He also was preceded in death by daughter, Janet Rumble; sisters, Jennie Reed and Vesta Campbell; and brothers, Glen, Lawrence, George and Wayne.

Services were held in Fugerson Funeral Home, 201 W. Main St., Van Buren, with Pastor Mick Wilson officiating. Burial was in Van Buren Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Sweetser Methodist Church, 413 N. Main St., Sweetser, Ind. 46987.

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AREA NEWS CONTINUED

MORE PAGE 4

the IMA, Columbus and Garden tours; plus a performance in the evening by the Columbus Philharmonic.

A complete visitor's overnight package is being offered by the Columbus Visitors Center.

For more detailed information and a preview of the works of several artists who will be exhibiting in Show 2003, visit the web site for Chautauqua of the Arts at: www.ChautauquaOfTheArts.com For lodging information, call 800-468-6564. For show information, call 812-265-5080.

SERVES FOR 16 YEARS

Joan Boyer attended her last Warren Public Library Trustee's meeting on Monday, September 8. Mrs. Boyer as served on the Board for 16 years, the maximum allowed by Indiana Library Law. She has ably served as President and Treasurer of the Board and has volunteered many, many hours at the library as reader for story time, barcoding books, moving and shelving books, tending the landscaping and many other tasks that needed to be done. Her husband Jerry has often accompanied her and also lent a hand. Both of their efforts are greatly appreciated. She has also been a great supporter of the library and its service to the community and an encourager to the librarian and staff.

She will be greatly missed at the meetings, but we wish her restful Monday evenings and thank her very much.

MENTAL NOTES

by B.J. Gray
September is National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month

This year marks the 14th annual Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month. We celebrate the progress that has been made and face the challenges that remain and reaffirm the crucial role of substance abuse treatment in the nation's efforts to reduce illicit drug use and addiction and promote recovery. The following information is from the office report of John P. Walters who is director of the National Drug Control Policy in Washington D.C..

We honor the courage of communities, families, and individuals that have overcome addictions and now serve as an inspiration to all of those struggling with the challenge of substance abuse. As President Bush said in the 2003 State of the Union address, "Addiction crowds out friendship, ambition, moral conviction and reduces all the richness of life to a single destructive desire. For those addicted, the fight against drugs is a fight for their own lives." "Our nation is blessed with recovery programs that do amazing work. Let us bring to all Americans who struggle with addiction this message of hope: The miracle of recovery is possible, and it could be you."

Our country has proposed a new three-year \$600million initiative that puts substance abuse treatment within reach of all Americans who need it. We know that treatment works, but we also know that there are far too many who, for a variety

of reasons, cannot access the treatment they need.

At the local level, let us all band together to see that those needing help to overcome their alcohol and Drug Addiction have access to affordable treatment. They can become contributing members of society again!!

Check the classifieds in the News-Banner for information on Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous meeting times and locations. For depression support, attend the group at Hope Missionary Church the 2nd and 4th Thursday each month at 6:00 p.m. or call 694-6371 or 824-1844 for more information. Help is available—just reach out!

GRANT CO SALON 195

The 8/40 Salon 195 meeting was August 27, 2003 at Van Buren post.

The meeting was opened by Chaplain Rosemary Hammons.

Roll call was answered by 7 officers.

Waneta Linton reported she sent a "thinking of you" card to Mary Wayne.

Ways & Means: Jeanne Conwell reported we are to have a bake sale September 13th at 9:00 a.m. at Sams in Kokomo.

It was announced Fall Pauvior is September 21 at Marriott in Indianapolis. Also departmental chapeau Cindy Winske has t-shirts for sale.

Eagle and Flag pins were passed out to partners to sell for \$3.00 each.

Those attending were: Rosemary Hammons, Kim Hammons, Betty Hiatt, Waneta Linton, Trudy Plummer, Jeanne Conwell, Ruth Bole, Madonna King.

Next meeting at Van Buren Post Sept. 24th.

CLUB NEWS

The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 368 held their meeting Sept. 4, 2003.

President Toni Jones opened the meeting in regular form.

Waneta Linton reported that the new Town Hall will be dedicated soon. We are to present them with the Flag for the Flag pole we bought at the dedication.

Ruth Bole reported that she had a used over-sized wheelchair, the person wants \$40.00 for it. We

voted to buy the chair. This comes out of our poppy fund.

Ruth Bole read our budget for the year 2003-2004. Budget was accepted.

President Toni Jones reported on the things we did this summer.

Sheri Reneer brought up about changing our meeting night. A lot of discussion was on the floor. It was tabled until next meeting.

50/50 President's drawing \$1.00 each or 5 for \$5 was drawn. Grant Finley won the 50/50.

The auxiliary's Fish Fry is Friday September 12 5 to 8 p.m., \$7 each, all you can eat.

Those attending the meeting were Laurel Shook, Debbie Flinn, Royce Holmes, Waneta Linton, Barbara Stevens, Sally Bancroft, Shirley Shinholt, Ruth Bole, Eula Belle Farr, Irene James, Martha Sparks, Irene Pickard, Toni Jones and Sheri Reneer.

EUCHRE CLUB

The Jackson Township Euchre Club met at the home of Jane Lieurance. Mary Jo Zoda had High, Florence Taylor had Low and Jane Lieurance, Carolyn Carroll and Sharron Roush tied with the most Lones. Others playing were Marge Jones, Venita Banter, Jo Banter, Sharon Gebhart, Joan Huffman, Marjorie Michaud and Phyllis Dickey. Next month we will meet at the home of Jo Banter.

IDLE HOUR CLUB

The Idle Hour Club met in the Fahl Dining room for lunch on Monday, September 8, with Maxine Jones as hostess.

The business meeting was held in the Calico Lounge. Edna Alfeld opened the meeting by reading "Hugs." Maxine read "Ancient History" and "Life Before the Computer."

Roll call was answered by "Where you like to shop." Minutes of the last meeting were read and treasurer's report given.

7-Up was played with Jane Haley winning high and Martha Burneau low.

Next meeting will be Oct. 6, 2003 with Jane Haley as hostess.

Those enjoying the day were: Edna Alfeld, Wilodean Birkey, Freda Finley, Mildred Gilbert, Jane Haley, Devonna Leas, Clara

Mossburg, Marjorie Lieurance, Violet Yoars, Jean Boxell, Martha Burneau, Miriam Rice, Ruth Brooks, Georgia Poulson and hostess Maxine Jones.

VISITED

Mr and Mrs Bill Somers and family of New Baltimore, MI visited in the home of Mr and Mrs George Brown.

TALES TOLD

Favorite folk tales was the them for story time on September 12 at the Warren Public Library. Joan Boyer read "Three Billy Goats Gruff" "The Three Bears," "The Three Little Pigs," and "Little Red Hen." She also provided coloring pages to go with the folk tales and teddy graham snacks.

Story time is each Friday morning at 10:00 a.m.

BIBLE STUDY HELD

The Jefferson Center United Methodist Women met at 10:00 a.m. at the church Thursday, August 7, 2003. President Myrna Neff welcomed the 15 members present - Ann Brauchla, Esther Gray, Mary Lou Hanna, Barbara Hart, Mary Emma Holmes, Treva Holt, Marguerite McNany, Mary Neff, Myrna Neff, June Shideler, Norma Smith, Carmen Wilks, Carolyn Winters, Jean Bault, and Marcille Pulley. The president thanked June, Mary Lou and Barbara Hart for serving as hostesses for the luncheon. She shared a devotion entitled "Integrity" from the book Stories of a Man's Heart.

Dates to Remember: September 12-Church Women United Annual Meeting at 9:00 a.m. St. Peter's United Church of Christ.

September 20, Huntington District United Methodist Women Fall Meeting at Rich Valley UMC 8:30 a.m.-12:00 noon.

As the Mission Moment, June shared "Life's Little Instructions", "Giving God Glory," "Blessings" and closed with a prayer.

Our lesson "The Scandalous Message of James" was led by Myrna Neff.

She led the group in singing "Guide My Feet" and in a unison prayer.

The book of James emphasized the importance of action along with faith in the practice of the Christian religion. Bible verses James 5:1-6 were the basis of a reading "Rich Woman, Poor Woman" presented by Carmen and Myrna. Myrna gave a closing prayer and grace for our "picnic" lunch enjoyed by all.

RED HAT ADVENTURE

The Treasured Friends Tea Room in Peru was the Real Elegant Dames destination Friday. It is an elegant old home, delightfully decorated and an appetizing selection of fine foods. It was such an interesting and scenic trip, past the old circus barns, the Circus Hall of Fame and the architecture of the grand old buildings in Peru. Mary Brown, Jo Chatham, Willy Hethcote, Velma Lindstrom, Lilly Nutter, Virginia Olson, Helen Stokes, Helen Jo Strassner and guest, Velva Powell (a Florida Red Hatter) made up the happy group. Such fun, finding all these lovely places to visit.

Learned today from the wife of one of the boys serving in Iraq that he phoned, saying they received our last 4 boxes of goodies in just 11 days! We "adopted" four service men and have been sending "goodie boxes" each month. It's such fun shopping for treats and we take turns packing the boxes. The crew of the famed USS Salamonie (oil frigate) sent us a \$100 check to help with postage. We've also enjoyed volunteering at our beloved Pulse Opera House in Warren this past season; one more to go, "The Diary of Anne Frank". Our hearts stay as happy as our cheerful red hats. "

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AREA NEWS CONTINUED

WARREN IN WW-II -- DATING

(by Dick Smith) crskrs@pacol.net
I don't have a PhD after my name....and I'm not a Sociologist or Psychologist. But I was a young Warren teenager during WW-II. While this doesn't qualify me to be all-knowing in this area, it IS going to be the basis for this short article.

The early 1940's were a very unique time in the life of our young people. I like to think of it as a "Transition Period". A transition from the pre-War moral guidelines of people who grew up in the throes of the Great Depression.....to the Post-War relaxation and intensity of moral feelings developed as a result of years of enforced separation between young women and their men in the Service. BOY!! That sounds like a professor talking!! But it's just me and the way I see the things I lived through. I'll bet there are Senior Readers out there who can understand what I am trying to say.

Added to this Transition Period was the complete upheaval of the young family structure due to the War, and the enforced separation of young people who would normally be planning engagements, weddings, and children. In spite of all these outside influences, I firmly believe that the young teenagers of Warren and the surrounding area, on the whole, maintained a high degree of moral stability.

One of the biggest contributors to our social behavior and dating practices was the availability of transportation. If a boy was under 16, he was limited to those activities in and around Warren. However, these were many. They included High School Basketball games, where post-game dating took us to Shultz's or Ditzler's for sandwiches and cokes. (Remember vanilla and cherry cokes?). Tam's soda fountain was always jammed with post-game couples having cokes or sodas. Our local movie theater, church activities, and even Summer Softball were events that a pre-16 couple could attend. And Warren's relatively small size allowed couples to attend games, have a post-game coke, and yet still allow the young man to walk his date home.

My wife reminded me what young girls wore then.....no jeans or tummies exposed. Girls dressed like young ladies! They wore dresses, blouses, sweaters, and skirts. Most of their clothes were made by themselves, their Mothers, or Grandmothers. They wore plain shoes and ankle sox. And boys didn't have blue jeans and expensive athletic shoes to wear. The rationing of clothes and shoes controlled what we could buy, or what our Mothers could make.

But if one was 16, or had a friend who was 16, a car was usually available. Then the dating procedures changed. If gas was available (and this wasn't always the case), one could take their date to one of the two movies on Jefferson Street in Huntington. They could then go to a drive-in to get a sandwich and a coke. All of the early drive-ins had "car-hops" that came out to take your order. (I see that this is coming

back now!). But such a date was still pretty expensive, even with gas at 15 cents a gallon!

Dating with or without a car had another significant difference. Without a car, a boy was limited to dating town girls in Warren.....so you could walk her home!! But a car made it possible to date girls who lived in the country around Warren.....and there were many!! However, if they didn't go to your school, your chances of meeting them went down considerably without transportation.

But the solution to this problem was one which I have found to be unique to Warren. With the costs of operating a car, a cost-effective method for utilizing one's family car to meet girls from the schools around Warren evolved. As soon as school was out on Wednesday, the boy with the car would rush downtown to get a good parking spot on Wayne Street in front of the stores. Then, after supper, when the girls from the surrounding schools came into town with their folks for the Weekly Drawing or for Saturday shopping, the boys could set in their cars and watch as the girls made the 4-block circuit around the business district.

This technique wasn't as crude as it sounds. It gave the girls from the surrounding schools a chance to check out the town boys, and gave the boys a chance to strike-up a conversation. Many long-term relationships started this way (mine included!). The only problem was that the driver of the car had to get downtown in the afternoon to be assured of a "good" parking place! It became a real contest on Wednesday and Saturday nights. I've been told we were all very naïve then....no TV to tell us how to dress and talk and act. And frank discussions between teenagers and their parents were not always a common occurrence. So we teenagers had to learn what represented correct dating.

Sure, the availability of a car could lead to what is now called "heavy-dating", but double and triple dating managed to provide a control on this. I remember hearing that one of the good "parking places" was the overhead bridge over the railroad east of town. But I've heard that it's gone now.....the end of another era!

Dating was a necessary preliminary in establishing relationships that often lasted a lifetime. I believe that our "small-town" upbringing for both town and farm-area teenagers helped us approach dating with the correct perspective. Remember, this was in an environment where young girls 16-19 were getting engaged or married to their men who were leaving for the Service. I think that the lasting marriages that resulted from our early dating demonstrates that dating in a small town environment could be a constructive way to establish lasting relationships.



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