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Thought for the Week: When you can't have what you want, it's time to start wanting what you have. Kathleen A. Sutton



FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES 2025 HOMETOWN GRANT RECIPIENTS

The Community Foundation is pleased to announce the 2025 Hometown Grant recipients. Hometown Grants serve to support impactful projects, initiatives and community events within Warren, Markle and Andrews.

"This year's grant recipients reflect the heart and creativity of the Hometown Grant Program — local people leading innovative, impactful projects that strengthen their own communities," noted Amber Rensberger, Community Foundation Program Manager. "What makes Hometown Grants truly unique is that they are by the town and for the town — designed, chosen and championed by the people who call it home. It's community-led transformation at its best."

Each program is overseen by a committee of local community leaders responsible for evaluating applications. The application is open to all organizations or projects that will benefit the respective hometown and its residents.

Warren Hometown Grant Recipients

(Pictured above (left to right) is Jeff Souder, Historic Warren Main Street Representative, Ben Warpup, Historic Warren Main Street Board Member, Becky Souder, Historic Warren Main Street Secretary/Treasurer, Olivia Bolinger, Historic Warren Main Street Board Member, Amber Rensberger, Community Foundation Program Manager, Brady Smeckens, Community Foundation Board Member, and Jessica Sunderman, Historic Warren Main Street Board President.

Historic Warren Main Street received \$1,500 to support a unique storytelling photo project, 'Echoes of the Past, A Visual Journey', which will be displayed on the north-facing wall of Warren Service and Supply located at 106 N Wayne Street. The visual narrative project serves to capture the history and moments in time to be shared among the community for generations to come. Photographs will be compiled into a vibrant photo exhibit that highlights the traditions, heritage and life in Warren. This project invites Warren's older generation to share their lived experiences, and community youth will gain inspiration from real-life stories, fostering a stronger connection to the community.

CONTINUED PAGE 4

ART EXHIBIT

Gallery Art Exhibition will be held at Warren Public Library, 123 E 3rd St, Warren on Wednesday, July 30th from 6 to 8 pm

Hors D'oeuvres and Sparkling Grape Juice will be served.

Exhibit will feature the artwork of Warren Public Library Patrons.

Dress code is anything from blue jeans to ball gowns - tiaras and bow ties provided at the door for children.

BOOK SALE

The Friends of the Warren Public Library will have a \$1.00 a bag used book sale, Saturday, August 2 from 10 am to noon. Bags will be provided by the Library.

There will be selections of non-fiction, fiction, children's books, tween books, teen books, graphic novels and DVDs.

The Library is located at 123 E 3rd St, Warren. The phone number of the Library is 375-3450.

SCHOLARSHIPS

AWARDED

The Larry & Janice Jordan Ryan Scholarships were awarded in 2025 to Huntington North High School Seniors Rachel Hill and Kinzie Cobbs.

Academic Scholarships

"Our team members as well as their family members, are the heart of our communities, and we're proud to invest in their growth," said Chod Boxell, Chief Executive Officer of Heritage Pointe Communities. "We have a proud tradition of supporting our team and their dependents, while showing

our gratitude for their great work, and confidence in their futures."

Heritage Pointe of Warren, Heritage Pointe of Huntington, and Heritage Pointe of Fort Wayne senior living communities are owned and operated by the United Methodist Memorial Home (UMMH), a not-for-profit organization in Indiana, founded in 1907. As part of its mission, the charitable foundation of Heritage Pointe Communities awards academic scholarships to employees and their dependents each year.

Earlier this month, Heritage Pointe Communities awarded more than \$21,000 in scholarships to 25 recipients. This was the largest number of scholarships awarded in a single year.

Backgrounds of the Scholarships

The Souder Memorial Education Fund is available to employees of Heritage Pointe Communities and their dependents who are furthering their education.

The Verna W. Johnson Nursing Scholarship Fund is in memory of a Heritage Pointe of Warren resident who hoped to support people pursuing nursing careers.

UMMH Employee/Huntington University Scholarship was established in collaboration with and is awarded by Huntington University. It is awarded to Heritage Pointe senior living communities' employees and their dependents furthering their education at Huntington University. Preference is given to students enrolled in courses or programs leading to careers in health services.

2025 recipients of the scholarships were as follows:

Souder Memorial Education Fund

Heritage Pointe of Warren Recipient and field of study

* Ashlie Needler-Nursing
* Hailey Rains-X-Ray and Radiology

* Makayla Ramsey-Nursing
* Julie Spitler-Nursing
* Marisa Trout-Business
* Abigail Tucker-Nursing
* Kendall Wisel-Advanced Medical Imaging/Radiologic Technology

Vera Johnson Nursing Scholarship

Heritage Pointe of Warren

* Abigail Tucker
United Methodist Memorial Home/Huntington University Scholarship

* Jackson Craft-Heritage Pointe of Ft. Wayne dependent

About Heritage Pointe Communities

Heritage Pointe of Huntington, Heritage Pointe of Warren, and Heritage Pointe of Fort Wayne make up the Heritage Pointe Communities in Indiana. Owned and operated by United Methodist Memorial Home (UMMH), an Indiana not-for-profit organization founded in 1907, the senior living communities offer a rich and engaging lifestyle to older adults. For additional information, visit www.LifeAtHeritage.org.



WARREN WEEKLY • Owner/Publisher: Nicki L. Zoda

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WARREN WEEKLY is a free paper for the Warren, Indiana area. It is available online only by noon on Wednesday. The paper can be read at the Warren Public Library for those who don't have internet access.

Email and Kindle subscriptions are \$24 per year. Mail name, address, and payment to WARREN WEEKLY at: PO Box 695, Warren, IN 46792 or you can subscribe online at www.warrenweeklyindiana.com on the WW Forms tab.

Deadline for news and/or advertising is 10 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 Town Hall or mail to PO Box 695, Warren or email to editor@warrenweeklyindiana.com.

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



Well 2025 Huntington County Fair is in the books and we had some good turn outs.

Kylynn had a great year, she received a plaque for best improved shooter in archery, then she took the whole baked foods class with grand champion with her granola business she had to start. Then she squeezed out a reserve champion in basic crafts and received a state fair entry on it and then reserve champion on her chicken poster. So she had a great year. Now I received all blues on my projects, I took chocolate chip cookies, strawberry bread, color photography and maple corn crunch popcorn.

State fair has been delivered for my items and awaiting results, so we will go down Saturday to see what we got. Tara and I have a great feeling we did well. So let's hope so.

Well it's bed time and 4:30 rolls around quick, so have a great week and keep cool, by the time you read this, it will be cool so enjoy while you can.

Support the businesses who bring you your Hometown News!

Announce your Engagement Wedding Anniversary Birth in the Warren Weekly for FREE

Email: wwkly@citznet.com
Fax: 260/247-2426
Mail: PO Box 695 Warren

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to all your non-internet friends. The Warren Weekly can be read at the Warren Public Library!

Drop off your news and advertising for the Warren Weekly at Town Hall Downtown Warren

BANQUO CHRISTIAN CHURCH

8924S 900W 35
Harold Smith, Pastor
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.

BOEHMER UNITED METHODIST

Steve Nevius, Pastor
Denise Heiniger, S.S. Supt.
Sunday Worship 9:30a.m.
Sunday School 10:45a.m.

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Van Buren, Indiana 765-934-2199
Worship 9:30 a.m.
Youth Group 4:30-7:30pm at SwitchUp
Handicap Accessible

Little Panther Preschool 765.934.2099

HEALING WATERS MINISTRY —

5811 W 600 S, MT ETNA

Pastor Wayne Couch
260/515-2517
Sunday Prayer 9:15 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 6:00 p.m.
Sunday Evening Service 6:00 p.m.

Daycare provided during Worship

DILLMAN UNITED BRETHREN

8888S 1100W-90, Warren 375-2779
Matt Kennedy, Pastor
Worship Service 9:00a.m.
Sunday School 10:00a.m.

HANFIELD GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH

101 N 400 E - Marion 765/664-8726
Curtis Banker, Senior Pastor
Worship..... 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:15 a.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.
Thursday Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.

HERITAGE POINTE

Chaplains Ginny Soultz, John Moyer & Cindy Osgood
Sunday Morning Worship 9:30 a.m.
Mon-Fri Chapel Services 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Catholic Mass 1:00p.m.
Thurs. Catholic Mass 10:30a.m.

WARREN 1st BAPTIST CHURCH

727 N Wayne St, Warren
260-375-2811
office@warrenfirsbaptist.net
Pastor Mark Joyner
Sunday School9:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship10:00 a.m.

HILLCREST

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

375-2510
Pastor Gale Sonny Bloom, Jr.
Bus Service 375-2510
www.warrennaz.org

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

SOLID ROCK CHURCH OF WARREN

485 Bennett Dr, Warren, IN
375-3873
John Boyanowski, Pastor
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Worship Service 10:00 a.m.

LANCASTER WESLEYAN

3147 W 543 S, Huntington
765.251.2322
Ron Forsythe, Pastor
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.

Wednesdays:
Bible Study & Prayer 7:00 p.m.

LIBERTY CENTER BAPTIST CHURCH

694-6622
Aaron Westfall, Pastor
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Fellowship 10:00a.m.
Worship 10:15a.m.
Tues. Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
Wed. Choir 6:30p.m.
Monthly Meetings

1st Mon Ministry Team 7:00 p.m.
3rd Sat Mens Prayer Breakfast 8:00 am
4th Mon ABW 1:30 pm

LIBERTY CENTER

COMMUNITY CHURCH

Pastor Diane Samuels
Fellowship Time9:00a.m.
Morning Worship9:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

THE CHURCH AT MCNATT

375-4359
Daniel Tucker, Pastor
Lois Slusher, Supt.
Brittney Miller, Youth & Family Dir.
Coffee Fellowship..... 8:30 a.m.
Worship 9:15 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
Bible Study - Wed. 6:30 p.m.

MT. ETNA COMMUNITY LIFE CHURCH

260/468-2148 Sr 9 & 124
Rev. Dr. Scotty Murphy
Good Morning Church (Sunday School for all ages9:00 - 9:45
Worship Service10:00 - 11:00

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

SALAMONIE

CHURCH OF BRETHREN

468-2412
Mel Zumbrun, Pastor
Worship9:30 a.m.
Church School 10:45a.m.

1st CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF WARREN

375-2102
www.firstccw.net
Troy Drayer, Senior Pastor
Takarra Myers, Youth Director
office@firstccw.net

Sunday Worship..... 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 6:00 p.m.

Youth Sunday School during
Worship Service

Youth Group-Wed 6:00 p.m.
Communion 1st Sunday of the Month

VB CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

765/934-3321 Parsonage
Jeff Slater, Pastor
Jim Knight, Superintendent
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Adult Worship 10:30 a.m.
Children's Church 10:30a.m.

Evening Praise Hour 6:00p.m.
Hour of Power (Wed) 7:00p.m.

VB CHURCH OF THE VINE

765-934-1431
Pastor Brad Hensley
vanburenchurchofthevine@gmail.com
Worship Service 9:30 am

Sunday School 10:45am
Not Home Alone - Wed 3:00 pm

Prayer Group (Thur)..... 6:30pm
Men Serving God Group ... 4th Sat. 9am

Little Ones Book Club 1st Tue 10:00 am
Just Older Youth 3rd Tue 12:00 pm

WARREN CHURCH OF CHRIST

375-3022
Mickey Strong, Senior Minister
Andrew Fisher, Youth Minister
Liz Richardson, Childrens MinistryAsst.

Tara Bower - Secretary
www.warrenchurchofchrist.org

Fellowship9:15 a.m.
Worship & Communion9:30 a.m.

Sunday School11 to 11:50 a.m.
Youth:

K-6th grade, Mon 6:15-7pm
Jr/Sr Hi, Sunday 6-8pm

FARRVILLE COMMUNITY CHURCH

11044 E 200 N, Marion, IN
765-618-0027
Pastor Al Soultz
Sunday Worship..... 10:30 am

Sunday School Classes9:30 am
Wed. Bible Study7:00 pm



Please Attend The Church of Your Choice

AREA NEWS

A TRIP TO P. E. I., NEW BRUNSWICK, & NOVA SCOTIA

Days 1, 2, 3

by Larry Ryan
It was in the middle of July, 2017 when the bus and its passengers left Fort Wayne, Indiana for an out-of-the-US journey. Canada's east coast was the destination. US Highway # 30 was established as our escape route from Indiana. Van Wert, OH was the first stop to add to the passenger list. Then it was onward past Upper Sandusky and Bucyrus to Mansfield before capturing Interstate Highway # 71 north.

Cleveland was approaching, but I-27 hijacked us and we bypassed that large city which rests beside the shore of Lake Erie. The interchange of I-90 caught the bus driver's attention and the wheels headed northeast which paralleled the curvature of the Great Lake. Regular rest stops and a lunch break near Ashtabula, OH interrupted the momentum.

While watching a video of upcoming attractions, the Pennsylvania state line was accessed. We were now in the "Keystone State" or sometimes known as the "Quaker State" or "State of Independence." 80 minutes later, Lake Erie was still in the left side mirror as the "Empire State's" landscape appeared. The evening meal and overnight stay was in East Syracuse, NY at the Double Tree Hotel.

After a complimentary breakfast at the hotel and with luggage once again stowed in the belly of the bus, the large, passenger vehicle left at 8 am. Once more the sun shone upon us as we passed Utica, Schenectady, and Albany, NY. In route was Springfield, Massachusetts which is the home of The Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame for professional players. In 1891, James Naismith was credited for inventing the game to keep athletes in shape during winter weather. The College Basketball Hall of Fame resides in Kansas City.

Worcester was avoided as the bus churned eastward. Prior to entering Cambridge, I-95 was lassoed and our bus headed north to bypass the busy traffic in Boston. The "Pine Tree State" of Maine was within reach now. Of all the USA states, it is the lowest populated one. A toll was paid to proceed on its turnpike. The state capitol of Augusta was our day's target. Overnight accommodation was reserved at the Quality Inn Evergreen. Luggage was lugged to the room again.

By noon the next day we were in Calais, ME and lunching at the Calais Motor Lodge. Apparently, normal restaurants were not open. After crossing the St. Croix River, the New Brunswick border patrol checked our passports. All passengers were legally admitted. Clocks moved ahead one hour.

The bus traversed on Highway # 1, past St. Stephen, Passamaquoda Bay, Pennfield Ridge, and Lepreau before crossing the Saint John River at Saint John Harbour. We had reached the city of Saint John, New Brunswick. N. B. is one of Canada's thirteen provinces and one of the three Maritime Provinces.

A local tour guide came onboard and the bus stopped at the mouth of the Saint John River. We learned and witnessed the reversing effect of this river during high tide. It is the collision of the water

from the expansive, Bay of Fundy and the Saint John River. Therefore, rapids form again at the river's entrance, peaking at high tide. It was 7 pm. The river was discovered in 1604 by French explorers, Sieur de Monts and Samuel de Champlain.

Our lodging for the night was the Hilton Saint John. It had waterfront harbour and city views. Dinner was served in the hotel's York Bistro & Pub. The Fillet of Seabass was enjoyed along with the crunchy hasselback potatoes and broccoli.

Being well fed helped falling asleep tonight.

SOCIAL SECURITY MATTERS

by Russell Gloor,
National Social Security Advisor at the AMAC Foundation, the non-profit arm of the Association of Mature American Citizens
Ask Rusty – I'm Turning 70. When Should I Apply for Social Security?

Dear Rusty: I have a very simple question: I will turn 70 on September 20th and want to start my Social Security benefits in September. What month should I file my claim? Have there been delays with the reductions in SSA staff? Thank you for your help. Signed: Ready to Claim.

Dear Ready to Claim: Social Security allows you to submit your application for benefits

up to 4 months prior to the month you wish benefits to start (you will specify your desired benefit-start-month on the application). Thus, to have your benefits begin in September (the month you turn 70), you can submit your application as early as May 2025. That will give SS plenty of time to get your benefits started on time. Remember, though, that SS pays benefits in the month following the month earned, so if you start benefits in September, you will receive your first SS payment in October (on the 3rd Wednesday). And, since you will be turning 70 in September you are entitled to full benefits effective from the first of that month. Congratulations on choosing a strategy which maximizes your monthly payment. By claiming at age 70, your monthly SS benefit will be about 31% more than it would have been at your full retirement age, and you will get that higher monthly amount for the rest of your life.

Re your question about possible delays, Social Security staff reductions have not included "front line" agents (those who handle applications), so the SS recent staff adjustments should not likely delay processing your application. Although some back-office staffing turmoil currently exists at SSA, they have been moving more people to front-line positions to try to improve their service. Just be aware, however, that it normally takes the SSA about

2 to 3 months to process new applications, which is why they allow applications up to 4 months in advance. You will specify the month you wish benefits to start on your application. In any case, although your application should be fine if you submit it this month, rest assured that they will pay you starting with the month you requested, even if they must do so retroactively.

FYI, you can apply for Social Security in person by making a telephone appointment to do so at 1.800.772.1213, or you can apply online at www.ssa.gov/apply. To apply online, you need to have first created your "my Social Security" online account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount.

Here is a video which explains the online application process: www.ssa.gov/hlp/video/iclaim_r01.htm.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadviser@amacfoundation.org.



Weekly Specials
July 31 - Aug 6

CANNING TIME SPECIALS!

- Mrs. Wages Tomato & Pickling Mixes
All Varieties - \$2.99 ea.
- Widemouth Canning Lids
13 dozen - \$34.99
- Regular Canning Lids
13 dozen - \$26.99

Outside Stand - Open Dawn to Dusk Inside Store Open Daily
Open Daily

Sunday	1pm-5pm	Thursday	11am-7pm
Monday	4pm-7pm	Friday	11am-6pm
Tue-Wed	11am-6pm	Saturday	9am-5pm

We accept EBT and SNAP

609 E. 1st St. Warren

www.jeffsfarmmarket.com

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 canceled, please notify WW.) Only event, place, time, and sponsor, for events in Warren, and the surrounding area will be listed.

Aug 6	Noon	W - Chamber of Commerce Luncheon @ KBC
Aug 6	7:00p	V - Town Council Meeting @ Town Hall
Aug 7-9		V - Van Buren Popcorn Festival
Aug 11	5:00p	W - Town Council Meeting @ Assembly Hall
Aug 12	6:30p	W - SSF Meeting @ KBC
Aug 18	6:30p	W - KBC Board Meeting @ KBC
Aug 20	7:00p	V - Town Council Meeting @ Town Hall
Aug 29	7:00p	W - Soul Shot & Cannonball Brass @ Riverside Park
Sep 3	Noon	W - Chamber Luncheon @ KBC

Bread of Life Food Pantry - Wednesdays - 2 - 4:00pm at KBC;

Bargain Basement - Friday & Saturday - 9 - 4 at KBC

These Events Can Also Be Found at www.warrenweeklyindiana.com

AREA NEWS CONTINUED

7 Things Doctors Wish Families Knew This Back-to-School Season

(StatePoint) As you prepare children to return to the classroom this fall, the American Medical Association (AMA) has seven tips to help your family have a healthy school year.

“As you purchase school supplies and prepare the students in your family for academic success, you can take concrete steps that prioritize physical and mental health, too,” said AMA President Bobby Mukkamala, M.D. “A healthy start can set the tone for a strong, successful year ahead.”

1. Ultra-processed foods are associated with health risks. Many busy families rely on ultra-processed foods due to their convenience. However, consuming these foods regularly increases the risk of health complications, including cardiovascular disease, certain cancers, obesity and type 2 diabetes. Read nutrition labels carefully with attention to sodium, saturated fat and added sugar, shop the perimeter of the grocery store where fresh, whole foods tend to be located, and prepare meals that prioritize whole foods, including fruits and vegetables, for growing children and adults.

2. Eating disorders are misunderstood. This silent epidemic affects people of all ages and backgrounds, striking at the core of their physical and mental well-being. Despite its widespread impact, the gravity of eating disorders often remains private, leaving many to battle the condition silently. If you believe your child or teenager has an eating disorder, their physician can direct you to helpful resources.

3. Ensure your vaccinations are up to date. Vaccinations help protect you and your family against severe disease and disability, and save millions of lives each year. Check with your physician during the back-to-school season to ensure everyone in the family is up to date on vaccinations. When respiratory virus season starts later in the fall, get up to date

on the influenza vaccine to help reduce time away from school or work.

4. Norovirus is very contagious, but preventable. It seems everyone has experienced the sudden turn of the stomach, causing a mad rush to the bathroom due to vomiting, diarrhea or both. And, unfortunately, remaining near the bathroom may be the only plan for the next day or two. The most likely culprit is norovirus, and it can happen to anyone. When buying school supplies, stock up on cleaning supplies as well so you can keep frequently touched surfaces sanitized.

Model good hand-washing habits for your children. Keep children with norovirus symptoms home from school for at least 2 days (48 hours) after symptoms stop to help prevent the spread of the virus.

5. Too much screen time is bad for health. People are on their devices more than ever before. But too much screen time can have negative mental and physical health effects and increase feelings of loneliness. The start of a new school year is a good time to replace screen time with other activities, such as after school clubs and sports, playdates, quality family time and sleep.

6. Eye health is essential. Don't take eye health for granted. Fall is a good time for an ophthalmologist checkup. Consider consulting a physician for persistent sleep issues to determine whether they're caused by a sleep disorder and to get help. sleep is recommended, and children aged 6-12 should be getting 9-12 hours of sleep. If your tween or teen wears contacts, be sure that they wash their lenses and lens cases at night. Frequent computer breaks, wearing sunglasses, and a healthy diet can also promote good eye health.

7. Sleep is important for overall health. From school stress to illnesses, many factors can interfere with a good night's sleep. Instituting a consistent sleep routine for the entire family is a good start. For teens, 8-10 hours of

MORE PAGE 1

Once installed, the three large display boards will bring a sense of pride and belonging among residents. This also provides another form of public art and advances beautification and revitalization efforts in the downtown Historic District. Historic Warren Main Street hopes to see these storytelling photo boards serve as a blueprint for other communities looking to build connection across generations along with preserving the history of the community. ‘Echoes of the Past, A Visual Journey’ photo exhibition will attract visitors and promote tourism to the Warren area creating a long-term impact for the community.



Warren Health and Fitness: Pictured (left to right) is Diane Carroll, Warren Health and Fitness Gym Director, Amber Rensberger, Community Foundation Program Manager, and Mike Haggerty, Warren Health and Fitness Executive Director.

Warren Health and Fitness was awarded \$2,000 to cover the costs of an exciting snow machine, which will be used to provide snow for the Civic Center Hill during the winter months. The snow machine will allow community members to enjoy the beloved tradition of sledding all winter long, as the weather permits. This project aligns with Warren Health and Fitness' vision of helping people stay active and healthy, while having fun doing so. Thanks to the help of committed volunteers, the snow machine will ensure Warren and surrounding communities have access to a fun local sledding area in the heart of downtown Warren. This will provide an opportunity for families and community members of every age to continue making memories that last a lifetime.

CONTINUED NEXT COLUMN



First Baptist Church of Warren: Front Row: pictured (left to right) is Ashton Ousley, First Baptist Church of Warren Administrative Assistant, Parker Ousley, Amber Rensberger, Community Foundation Program Manager, Kim Park, First Baptist Church of Warren Member, and Porter Ousley. Back Row: pictured (left to right) is Dave Neuenschwander, First Baptist Church of Warren Member, Christy Neuenschwander, First Baptist Church of Warren Member, Steve Park, First Baptist Church of Warren Member, and Brady Smeckens, Community Foundation Board Member.

First Baptist Church of Warren received \$1,500 to support the impactful Salamonie Little Rebel Store. First Baptist Church of Warren and Salamonie Elementary school launched The Little Rebel Store in 2023 with the goal of supplying new shoes, clothing and hygiene items to students completely free of charge. Since its inception, there has been an incredible increase in the number of students visiting the Store. During the 2024-25 school year, the store assisted 72 students and provided 949 clothing items, 50 pairs of shoes and 204 hygiene items.

The grant will allow dedicated volunteers to stock the store with supplies, while Salamonie's committed team serves as ambassadors by identifying students in need of support. This strong partnership has allowed for the Little Rebel Store to have a substantial impact on the Warren community, families and individual children. By allowing students to participate in a confidential and personalized shopping experience, children can take pride in their wardrobe and personal hygiene.

For more information on Community Foundation Grants, visit huntingtonccf.org/grants.

GENEALOGY REPORT

MILLER

Billie J. Miller, born on July 26, 1929, in the town of Warren, began her life's journey with a heart full of love.

She graced this world for nearly 96 years, leaving behind a legacy of warmth, compassion and cherished memories.

It is with profound sorrow and deep reverence that we share of Billie's passing on Monday, July 14, 2025, at home in Lafayette, surrounded by family.

Throughout her life, she wore many hats, but none more cherished than that of a devoted wife and mother.

Billie faced the loss of her husband, Rodney John Miller, whom she married on November 15, 1958, with profound strength and commitment. He preceded her in death on October 5, 2022.

Their relationship exemplified their lifelong commitment to each other.

She was a loving stay-at-home mom until her daughters were in junior high.

Billie then went to work for the Marion Trustee Office and eventually returned to Indiana Bell as a service representative after having worked for them prior to getting married.

She took pride in her work experiences and retired in 1994.

Billie also was an active member of First Christian Church, Hostess House, Kappa Delta Phi and several bridge clubs throughout her life.

Most recently, she attended Gathering Point Church, Lafayette, and joined Bible Study Fellowship which she attended weekly with her daughter, daughter-in-law and grandson, four generations.

Billie's innate ability to nurture those around was seen and felt in both her professional and personal life.

She was fiercely proud of her family, including her daughters and son-in-law, Renee Gerstorff, of Anderson, and Valree (Rex) Kinch, of Lafayette.

In addition to her daughters, Billie also is survived by eight

grandchildren, Cameron Kinch, of Chicago, Ill., Amanda (Chad Buckler) Gerstorff, of Marion, Zachary (Shai) Kinch, of Lafayette, Grant Gerstorff, of Gas City, and Emily (David Semenick), Gerstorff, of Marion; as well as nine great-grandchildren.

She also was blessed with a number of special friends that she remained close to throughout her life.

Those who knew Billie often spoke of her gentle nature, abundant kindness and her sweet smile that conveyed a life rich in love and joy.

Billie was preceded in death by her daughter, Rhonda Miller, Billie's father, Chalmer Weesner, her mother, Iva Weesner, and her sister, Omega Hunt, all of whom left an indelible mark on her heart.

Her brother, Chalmer Weesner Jr., also passed prior to her birth.

As we bid farewell to Billie, we invite her family and friends to gather and celebrate her life during visitation on Saturday, Aug. 2, 2025, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. followed by a funeral service commencing at 1 p.m., both to be at Raven Choate Robinson Funeral Home, 1202 W. Kem Rd., Marion.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested donations be made to Services for the Visually and Hearing Impaired, Marion, Indiana, a non-profit service very close to Billie's and her families' hearts.

In our memories, Billie will forever remain a cherished soul that brightened the lives of all who had the privilege of knowing her. Her kindness and unwavering love will continue to ripple through the lives of her surviving family and friends, as they honor her memory in their hearts and daily lives.

THOMAS

Patricia "Trisha" Arlene Thomas, 42 of Grant County, Indiana, passed away on Friday, July 18, 2025, in Gas City, Indiana.

Trisha was born on December 15, 1982, in

Hartford City, Indiana to Mark Edward Moorman and Elizabeth (Grant) Moorman. She graduated from Blackford High School in Hartford City, Indiana. She loved to color and do crafts like cross-stitching. She enjoyed reading and watching her favorite shows, like "Sister Wives".

Trisha was preceded in death by her father, Mark Moorman, mother, Elizabeth Moorman, and aunt, Melody Smelser.

Loving survivors include her son, Talon Thomas of Marion, IN, ex-husband, Rich Thomas of Marion, IN, uncle, George (Amy) Moorman of Holland, MI, aunt, RuthAnn Moorman of Muncie, IN and special cousin, Millie Buckner of Dunlap, TN.

Friends and family may gather to share and remember at Glancy-H. Brown & Son Funeral Home located at 203 N Matilda St. Warren, IN 46792 on Friday, July 25, 2025, from 12pm to 2pm. A funeral service will be held at 2pm. Burial will follow at Monument City Memorial Cemetery located in rural Andrews, Huntington County, Indiana.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to: American Diabetes Association P.O. Box 7023 Merrifield, VA 22116-7023

educator, community leader, devoted husband, father, and enthusiastic steward of God. He was also known for his infectious smile and love of people.

Born in 1937 near Montpelier, Indiana to a farming family of the late Glenn Schwarzkopf and Careen Schwarzkopf, he was active in 4-H, FFA, and graduated as the valedictorian of the 1955 class of Montpelier High School.

He lived his entire life in Indiana where he earned his B.S. degree in Agriculture Education and Biological Science from Purdue University and his master's degree in Guidance Counseling and in Secondary Administration from Ball State University.

Jim began his career as an agriculture teacher at Eaton High School before becoming the principal of K through 8th grade. He then served as the Jr. Sr. High School principal at Hamilton High School and is best known as the Jr. Sr. High School principal for 30 years at the Southern Wells School Corporation. During that tenure, he was named IASP District 3 Principal of the Year in 1996 and 2003. After retiring in 2006, he continued as an interim principal and substitute teacher for various area schools.

Aside from his educational career, Jim served on the Boards of the Wells County Foundation, Zoning Appeals, and Sheriff's Merit Board. He participated as a facilitator in the Wells County Leadership Academy. He was active with the Gideons International, serving as a speaker at various churches and served in the church leadership in each community of residence.

Jim was a believer in being physically fit and pleased to

have run in all 92 county seats in Indiana, as well as all 50 state capitals. He was honored to be an Indiana Bicentennial torch bearer in Wells County. He was blessed to receive the Betty Erxleben Volunteer of the Year award in 2017. He was named the Grand Marshall of the 2018 Bluffton Street Fair.

Jim leaves behind his wife of 65 years, Sandy Schwarzkopf. Two children, Dennis Schwarzkopf and Denise Schwarzkopf, a brother, Dean (Kathy) Schwarzkopf, grandchildren, great grandchildren, several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by a brother, Donald Schwarzkopf.

Friends and Family may come to share and remember Jim on Thursday, July 31, 2025 from 1:00 PM to 7:00 PM at the Southern Wells School Cafetorium located at 9120 S. 300 W. Poneto, Indiana. Please enter through doors 4 or 15.

A Funeral Service will be held at the Southern Wells School Cafetorium on Friday, August 1, 2025 at 2:00 PM with visitation from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM. A private family burial will take place at the Stahl Cemetery in Wells County.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials to be given to the Bluffton/Southern Wells Dollars for Scholars, Wells County Gideons, or to the donor's choice.

PERSINGER

Franklin "Frank" L. Persinger, 78, passed away on Tuesday, July 22, 2025.

He was born on December 24, 1946, to the late Chet Persinger and Margaret (Hawkins) Smith, in Marion.

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AREA NEWS CONTINUED

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Frank worked for Essex as a maintenance supervisor for 30 years before retiring in 2009.

In his younger days, he worked for the egg plant, and both the fire department and police department in Van Buren.

Frank owned a gas station.

He enjoyed woodworking, camping and playing checkers on his handheld game.

For many years, Frank was known as the tractor man to many of the kids who spent their weekends camping at Hidden Lake.

Even after his health declined, he still liked spending Fridays and Saturdays there talking to his friends and drinking coffee with Mike Clifford.

Frank has moved on, but his silly jokes, off-the-wall comments and his bossiness will always be memories of those who loved him.

He is survived by his soulmate, Deborah "Debbie" Persinger, of Jonesboro; his sons, Jared Persinger, of Jonesboro, Chad Persinger, of Ossian, and Chris (Kathy) Persinger, of Van Buren; his favorite daughter, Vicki (Brad) Zeddis, of Ossian; grandchildren, Chelsea (Brandon) Whitman, Ericka (Chris) Scott, Luke (Mara) Zeddis and Kyle (Emma) Zeddis; great-grandchildren, Cadence, Caroline, Hadley, Michael, Della, Ada, Langston and James; siblings, Gladys (Jim) Amos and Jonathon Persinger; special dog, Dodge.

Frank was preceded in death by his parents, stepdad, Harlan Smith, three brothers and three sisters.

Arrangements for Frank were entrusted to College Park Chapel of Armes-Hunt Life Celebrations Funeral Home and Cremation Services, 4601 S. Western Ave., Marion, where on Sunday, July 27, 2025, there will be a visitation from 2 to 4 p.m. with the funeral beginning at 4 p.m.

Memorial contributions in honor of Frank may be made to Make-A-Wish America - Gift Processing, 1702 E. Highland Ave., Suite 400, Phoenix, AZ 85016 or to Green Township Volunteer Fire Department, 9020 W. 900 S., Fairmount, IN 46928.

SMITH

 Lewis "Bud" A. Smith, 93, of Huntington, passed away at 1:07 a.m. on Friday, July 25, 2025, at his residence.

He was born on November 2, 1931, at home in Lafontaine, the son of Lewis Smith and Agnes (Critchlow) Smith.

Lewis graduated from Banquo High School and Valparaiso Technical Institute.

He retired from Vitro Labs after 32 years of employment as a technical writer.

Lewis married Patricia Ann Woodcock on May 17, 2007, in Huntington. She preceded him in death on November 23, 2023.

He proudly served in the United States Army during the Korean War. He worked in radio communications.

Lewis was forever proud of his time served.

In his high school years, he was known as the Ping Pong champion and played the trumpet in the high school band.

Growing up, Lewis enjoyed his trips to Canada to fish with "Uncle Earl."

He played on the company softball team for many years.

Lewis enjoyed riding motorcycles and reading about World War II or other historical events.

While most who knew him referred to him as "Bud," his most prized title was "Poppi." Spending time with his grandchildren, great-grandchildren and, most recently, his great-great

grandson, was his favorite hobby.

Survivors include his two daughters, Vicki (Roger) Karns, of Huntington, and Launda Ewell, of Pierceton; son, Brian (Magda) Smith, of Pierceton; four granddaughters, Andi Marschland, of Elkhart, Laura (Josh) Bachtel, of New Paris, Lydia (Brandon) Wood, of Fort Wayne, and Natalie (Alyssa Hurley) Smith, of Warsaw; four grandsons, Jason Ewell, of Columbia City, Tyler (Avery) Karns, of Lafayette, Andrew Smith, of Fort Worth, Texas, and Nathan Smith, of Pierceton; 16 great-grandchildren with one on the way; one great-great-grandchild; special nieces, Sharon Mahoney, of Huntington, and Mari Sturm, of Marion.

Lewis is preceded in death by his wife, Patricia Ann Smith, first wife, Suzan (Shuttleworth) Smith, father, Lewis James Smith, mother, Agnes Erma Smith, sisters, Helen Fox and Ruby Cross, great-granddaughter, Angelica, and great-grandson, Bailey.

The family would like to give a special thank you to Cyndy Derby for taking care of Lewis and the rest of the family during this difficult time.

There will be a private service at a later date.

Preferred memorials may be made to Huntington County Humane Society in care of Adkins Bailey-Love Mortuary, 35 W. Park Dr., Huntington, IN 46750.

STICKLER

Alice Marie Plasterer (Jacobs) Stickler, 99, of Huntington, Indiana, passed away at her home on Friday, July 25, 2025, after a lifetime of devotion and service to her family and friends, church and community. Anyone who knew her was inspired by her boundless energy, zest for life and loving nature.

She was born in Huntington on June 20, 1926, the oldest child of parents Eiffel Gray Plasterer (1899-1989) and Inez Marie (Burgett) Plasterer (1901-1988). Seven years later her brother William Eiffel

Plasterer (1931-1997) joined the family.

She was married twice, first to Robert LaVerne Jacobs at Trinity United Methodist Church in Huntington, Indiana, on July 25, 1958, until his death on September 11, 1971. Then, later to Delvia Washington Stickler on April 23, 1992, in North Webster, Indiana, until his death on December 2, 2002.

She had two daughters from her first marriage, Mrs. Robert (Patricia) Simmons of Long Beach, California (1944-2025), and Mrs. Robert (Juanita) Schaeffer of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and three stepdaughters from her second marriage, Mrs. Dan (Marjoria) Dafforn of Fort Wayne, Indiana (1938-2024), Mrs. Ron (Jane) Helzerman of Riverdale, Michigan, and Mrs. Larry (Judith) Park of LaVista, Nebraska. She is also survived by two granddaughters, Mrs. Dave (Shannon Schaeffer) Haefner and Mrs. Mike (Laurie Schaeffer) Horne.

In addition to her parents, brother, husbands, daughter and stepdaughter, she was also preceded in death by her brother's wife Evelyn E. (Goodrich) Plasterer, nephew Robert D. Plasterer, and niece Christine E. (Plasterer) Scher.

She is also survived by nephew and niece-in-law Edward and Teresa (Tackett) Plasterer, nephew and niece-in-law William and Nan (Goldberg) Plasterer, and nephew-in-law and niece Wesley (Amanda Plasterer) Hosier, as well as 12 great nieces/great nephews, plus 13 great great nieces/great great nephews and 5 great great great nieces/great great great nephews.

Alice graduated from Huntington High School in 1944, and from DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana, in 1948 with a major in mathematics and chemistry. She was always learning, and enjoyed bible study, music, reading, history, gardening, birding, animals, travel, antique and vintage cars, raising Monarch butterflies, watching sports, and especially connecting with

family and friends from around the world. She also cared for several treasured pets over the years, the last two being two littermate cats, Timmy and Thumbelina.

She worked for many years in various jobs for the United Methodist Church, both at Trinity United Methodist Church in Huntington and then later alongside her first husband for the UMC denomination. She was a devoted lifetime member of Trinity United Methodist Church and over the years participated in their choir and bell choir, as well as serving on numerous church committees and on the church preschool board. She also played the Trinity bell tower chimes for over 70 years and was the church historian, actively serving in both capacities until her death.

She also was an accomplished bubble artist performing around the country on her own with her Alice's Fun With Bubbles show, and assisting her father with his pioneering bubble performances before that. In that capacity, she and her father made appearances several times on national television on Late Night With David Letterman and the Dick Cavett and Tom Snyder shows, among others. She was an honored member of the Association of International Bubble Artists and made the trip with a friend to attend their convention in Cleveland, Ohio, in 2024. She performed her final bubble show in May of this year for the Trinity UMC Preschool.

Though she, her parents and brother lived in town, her early life was spent helping on her grandparents' farm in Huntington County on Division Road. Later when her parents moved to the farm after her grandparents' deaths, she helped with producing sorghum molasses, with antique steam engine and thrashing demonstrations, and other chores. She loved her time on the farm.

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AREA NEWS CONTINUED

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She was a member of the Samuel Huntington Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution for 79 years, first attending with her grandmother, and was still regularly attending meetings. Over her time in the DAR, she served as Regent (twice), Registrar, Treasurer (for many years), and at different times chairman of the Scholarship, Conservation, Schools, and Good Citizen Committees. She attended the DAR Continental Congress in Washington, D.C., three times.

There were other many clubs and activities, too, including volunteering in the gift shop at the Forks of the Wabash during school tours, helping with the Huntington Pioneer Festival and participating in the Huntington Chapter of the TOPS Club. She had been a member of the Huntington Theatre Guild over the years, and the Sunday before her death attended one of their plays with a friend. That same week she had supper with friends and toured the exhibits at the Huntington County 4-H Fair. And, in May of this year, she made a trip with friends to see The Ark Experience in Kentucky, something that had been on her bucket list.

A memorial service for Alice will be held at the Trinity UMC, 530 Guilford Street, Huntington, Indiana, on Saturday, August 2. Calling is from noon-2 p.m. with the service immediately following. The service will also be livestreamed with a link available on the church's website (<https://tumchuntington.org>).

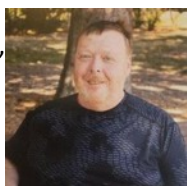
Officiate for the memorial service will be the Trinity UMC pastor Shalimar Holderly. Coffee hour refreshments following the service will be provided by the church membership.

Alice's cremation and arrangements were handled by Myer's Funeral Home in Huntington and online condolences may be offered at <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/>.

Over the years Alice faithfully supported a wide variety worthy causes too numerous to mention individually. For those who wish to do so, charitable donations may be made in Alice's name to the Trinity United Methodist Church music department, the Trinity.

EICHHORN

James Michael "Jim" Eichhorn, 57 of Warren, Indiana,



passed away on Sunday, July 27, 2025, at his home, surrounded by his loved ones.

Jim was born on November 19, 1967 to Jerald and Sandra (Thompson) Eichhorn in Bluffton, Indiana. He went to Huntington North High School and worked as a manager at Wayne Metals LLC for 35 years. As a child, Jim was a boy scout, his father, Jerry, was a Scout Master, and Jim only missed being an eagle scout by 3 merit badges. Jim was a professional "spectator of sports". His favorites were Cubs baseball, Bears football, and Indiana basketball. He liked to cook and made a pretty mean swiss steak, salmon and pasta, and Spanish pork chops.

Jim was preceded in death by his father, Jerald Eichhorn, maternal grandparents, Miriam and Gene Thompson, paternal grandparents, Swangee and Pete Eichhorn, and uncle, Jack Eichhorn.

Loving survivors include his love of 13 years, Mandy Bitzer of Warren, IN, mother, Sandra Eichhorn of Warren, IN, daughter Marissa (Tim) Lee of Columbia City, IN, grandchildren, Elizabeth Vavrek, Eli Lee, and Easton Lee, brother, Kenny Eichhorn of Warren, IN, several nieces, nephews, and great nieces and nephews, and his beloved cat, Skitter.

Friends and family may gather to share and remember at Glancy-H. Brown & Son Funeral Home located at 203 N. Matilda St. Warren, IN 46792, on Thursday, July 31, 2025, from 3pm to 8pm and

again on Friday, August 1, from 10am to 11am. A funeral service will begin at 11am on Friday with Pastor Troy Drayer officiating. Burial will follow at Mt. Etna Cemetery in rural Huntington County.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to: Cancer Services of Northeast Indiana 6316 Mutual Drive Fort Wayne, IN 46825.

PROTECTING KIDS' MENTAL HEALTH THIS SCHOOL YEAR

(StatePoint) From schoolwork and homework to friendships and extracurriculars to potentially dealing with difficult situations like bullying, there is a lot for kids to navigate during the school year.

Fortunately, efforts are being made to provide tools that help protect kids' mental health—and parents and teachers can be proactive about getting involved.

Preventing Bullying

Bullying is a direct cause of mental health issues and can be one of the major stressors kids face both at school and after hours due to the rise in cyberbullying. It's important that children treat each other with compassion, as unkind words and actions can have devastating effects on the long-term wellbeing of classmates.

Celebrating 10 years, Pilot Pen's "Erase Bullying for Good" initiative helps students, parents and teachers understand and stop bullying. Sales from Pilot's FriXion Clicker erasable gel pens support STOMP Out Bullying, the nation's leading nonprofit dedicated to this issue. In fact, Pilot's contributions to anti-bullying organizations between 2015-2025 will equal over \$650,000, helping fund a variety of initiatives that are making communities a safer place for students.

The campaign recommends these tips to help erase bullying before it starts at your child's school:

- Advocate for the adoption of bullying prevention programs. This might include special teacher and faculty training, peer mentoring and "Bullying Boxes," where students can file anonymous reports of bullying.

- Institute wellness rooms, which are safe spaces where students experiencing distress can retreat and relax.

- Ensure your school actively celebrates both diversity and differences, and that all students are respected and valued. Establish programs that teach empathy, tolerance, kindness, acceptance and conflict resolution.

- Ask your school to establish internet use guidelines to educate students and help stop after-hours cyberbullying.

- Teach kids about the difference between being a bystander – someone who watches bullying happen – and being an upstander – someone who intervenes when bullying is taking place. Encourage them to be an upstander when it feels safe to do so and to report bullying when they witness it.

If you're experiencing bullying, or if you have a friend, child or student who is, lean on resources designed to help. Pilot's "Erase Bullying for Good" campaign and STOMP Out Bullying provide tools to help you react effectively to bullying when it happens and learn what to do next. To access these resources, visit powertothepen.com/erase-bullying.

Navigating Emotions

It's easy for students to get overwhelmed by the demands of their classes. Be sure that kids

have the time and space outside of schoolwork to have fun, cultivate friendships and practice self-care.

Encourage hobbies like exercise, meditation, team sports and outlets for their creative expression like journaling, drawing and music. These activities can help kids build self-confidence and manage relationships; skills they need to be resilient in the face of stressful situations.

Parents can help by establishing open lines of communication and equipping kids with tools that can encourage them to express themselves more freely and help eliminate some homework-related frustration. FriXion erasable pens made with thermo-sensitive ink technology write smoothly and erase cleanly, giving students the power to write, erase and rewrite anything from term papers to poetry, without tedious rewrites and with less stress.

Cultivating kindness and compassion in communities and giving kids the tools they need to build their self-confidence helps protect students' mental health and helps ensure everyone has a safe, healthy and successful school year.

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