

Friday, January 23, 2026

Volume 40 Number 48



Warren Weekly

Your Hometown Newspaper

PO Box 695, Warren IN 46792 • 260/375-6290 • email: editor@warrenweeklyindiana.com

Thought for the Week: I finally figured out the only reason to be alive is to enjoy it. Rita Mae Brown

PULSE AWARDS

The BroadwayWorld Fort Wayne awards were announced and the Pulse made the list.

The Boxcar Children was recognized for as the Best Theatre for Young Audiences Production and two of its cast members won as well. Vivian Littell won for Best Performer in a Play and Jamison Dickey won for Best Supporting Performer in a Play. Congratulations to Vivian and Jamison!!!

I also won Best Direction of a Play for Letters Home. So pleased and honored to see Letters Home recognized. This was a project very near and dear to my heart. This recognition is not just about me as this was a group project. I learned so much from all of those in the cast as well as those researching and honoring our soldiers. This warms my heart.

Ralph Tuttle's production for Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat for Wells Community Theatre did well, too. Congratulations for winning Best Musical, Best Dance Production, Best Ensemble and Best Sound Design! Well deserved.

COMMUNITY LUNCHEON

Purdue Extension Huntington County will hold a community luncheon on Wednesday, February 4. The meeting will be held at Beacon Credit Union Heritage Hall at the Huntington County Fair Grounds, 631 E Taylor Street. The meeting time will be from Noon to 1 p.m.

The public is welcome to attend the meeting to learn about community connections in the areas of Health and Human Sciences,

4-H Youth, Community Development and Agriculture/Natural Resources.

There will be a presentation by Gary Moughler from the IN Department of Natural Resources (DNR) on the Spotted Lanternfly (SLF). This pest was first reported in Huntington Co. in July 2022. Purdue Extension and the DNR are working together on identifying, monitoring, and managing this invasive insect. Moughler will share updates on SLF.

The Extension Board invites all citizens of Huntington County to the meeting, including other organizations, individuals, and families. The

Huntington County thru March 6, from 6 to Extension Service is 9pm each Friday night. committed to providing our Absolutely free! No Cost! youth and adults with the Kids 10 and under must be education and life skills accompanied by an adult necessary to build more Basketball, Ping Pong, Big responsible and caring Bounce Castle, Games and citizens within the greater Fun for all ages!

Parents are responsible for Please RSVP by January 29 safety and supervision of to the Huntington County children.

Extension Office by phone, Liability waiver and (260)-358-4826, or email, release form must be pape1@purdue.edu , if you signed! Contact Candace plan to attend the meeting Richardson for more (share any special dietary information 260.224.0179. needs). Anyone under 18

must be accompanied by a **FESTIVAL REPORT**

parent/guardian. For more The Salamonie Summer information about Festival is only 6 months Extension programs, call or away and we have some stop by the office— Purdue fun things in the works for Extension, Huntington your enjoyment July 3-5, County Office, 1340 S 2026 in Warren Indiana. Jefferson St, Huntington, IN. The theme this year is:

Purdue University COURTESY OF RED, WHITE prohibits discrimination & BLUE. America will be against any member of the celebrating 250 years this University community on year and we will be the basis of race, religion, celebrating our wonderful color, sex, age, national town of Warren.

origin or ancestry, genetic Lets take a moment and information, marital status, recognize the Festival parental status, sexual Committee: Cheryl orientation, gender identity Deweese, Melinda Daniels, and expression, disability Joyce Buzzard, Donna or status as a veteran. Beavans are the officers

If you need an and the hard working accommodation, members are: Bonnie Boxell, interpreter, or translator, Kalob Boxell, Cindy Fleeger, contact Ed Farris by Jan. 29 Treva Flemming, Terry at emfarris@purdue.edu . Daniels, Jennifer McDaniels, Jon Forward, Tara Bowman.

OPEN GYM

Mt Etna Community Life on the Festival Committee Church (6383 W 600 S, and they volunteer their Huntington - corner of St time and work extra hard to Rds 9 and 124) will be bring the fantastic festival hosting Open Gym night on to Warren. Thank you Fridays. These Open Gym everyone! nights will be February 6 I would like to let you

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know about some fundraiser events we are having, Saturday, April 25th from 12-8pm we will be having our Texas Tenderloin Dinner at Dash 90 Winery located at 6750 W. 900 S-90 Warren. Friday, May 15th from 4-7pm will be our Drive-Thru Fish & Chicken Dinner at KBC in Warren. SSF Annual Golf Outing at Dogwood June 6th and Rock A Thon on June 20th at Dollar General. These fundraising events help the festival pay for the expenses of the festival, please come out and show your support, thank you!

Here are a few things we have in the works for this years event: Pioneer Breakfast, Antique Tractor Show, Parade, Family Fun Freeway, Princess & Super Hero Party, Face Painting, Food Vendors, Concert after Parade and before fireworks, SSF Bazaar downtown, Car Show, Touch A Truck, Bingo, Waterball Fight, Antique Tractor Pull, Marks Ark, Magician, Fishing Derby for kids, Volleyball Tournament, Pickle Ball, Warren Public Library Book Sale, Art Show, Amazing Race event, Snack & Cake Walk, Hot Dog Eating Contest, Cornhole Tourney, Warrens Biggest & Best Event and more.

We need your monetary support to keep our festival going and this year there will be a QR code available to scan for your donation or you can still mail a donation to PO Box 140, Warren, IN 46792.

WARREN WEEKLY • Owner/Publisher: Nicki L. Zoda
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Phone: (260)375-6290 **e-mail:** editor@warrenweeklyindiana.com
 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.
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 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.
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 The publisher takes no responsibility for statements or claims made in any advertisement.

Kudos, Kicks & Karats



Treva's Recipe Box by Treva Flemming

Last week I noted I was making oven fried chicken in my article for Sunday supper. I was really impressed with this recipe for being baked. It cooked up nice and brown and looked really nice, unlike when I pan fry chicken I always seem to get side tracked and tend to burn the breading on it. So I will share with you this recipe and hope you like it too.

THE BEST OVEN FRIED CHICKEN

2 eggs	2 tsp paprika
1 c. panko bread crumbs	1/2 tsp pepper
3/4 c. flour	2 lbs boneless skinless
chicken breast	
1 tbsp season salt	1/4 c. butter

Preheat oven to 425 degrees. In a shallow dish whisk the eggs. In a second shallow bowl, combine the bread crumbs, flour, seasoning salt, paprika and pepper.

Coat each piece of chicken in the egg, then in the breading mixture, press firmly to adhere. Place the chicken on a plate and repeat until all the chicken is coated

To a rimmed baking sheet, add the butter and put the pan in the oven to melt the butter. You want the pan to be hot but do not burn the butter. Place the chicken on the hot pan, leaving a good amount of space between each piece of meat. Bake 20 minutes, flipping gently halfway through or until cooked through and a meat thermometer reaches at least 165 degrees. Remove from pan and serve immediately.

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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 Bunker, 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@warrenfirsbpastor.net

Pastor Mark Joyner

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Sunday Worship 10:00 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, Huntingdon

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 Time 9:00a.m.

Morning Worship 9:30 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 ages 9:00 - 9:45

Worship Service 10:00 - 11:00

Everyone is Welcome

SALAMONIE

CHURCH OF BRETHREN

468-2412

Mel Zumbrun, Pastor

Worship 9:30 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

AREA NEWS

SIGMA PHI

Beta Delta Chapter of Sigma Phi Gamma Sorority met on Tuesday, January 6, 2026. President Kelly opened the meeting with everyone reciting the Pledge.

We were able to bless several families at Christmas last month with gift cards, gas cards, help with car tires, kid's Christmas gifts, and Cub Scouts weekend camping snacks.

We finalized plans for the Spring Luncheon to be held on March 8th at Knight Bergmann Center with a menu of baked steak, green beans, mashed potatoes, coleslaw and dessert.

Monthly letters from Province and International officers were read by corresponding chapter officers. The Alpha Province Meeting this year will be held March 20 – 22nd in Muncie Indiana. Delegates will be selected at the next meeting.

Our next meeting will be a social meeting on Tuesday, January 20th at 7:30 p.m. at the Knight Bergmann Center. Our next business meeting will be held Tuesday, February 3rd.

HONOR ROLL

Second quarter Honor Roll students from Southern Wells Jr/Sr High School are as follows.

12th grade High Honor - Sydney Alstoft, Kolbie Beavans, Peyton Bertsch, Jailynn Chase, Lexie Fiechter, Jarin Frauhiger, Keith Gartin, Addison Gaskill, Jazlyn Gillum, Levon Goodnight, Lucas Foodrich, Kane Jenkins, Ronan Jump, Isabella Maul, Jonathan McMillan, Hayden Morgan,

Thank You!
Warren Law Enforcement
You Are Appreciated!

Emma Parks, Lillian Pence, Drew Steffen and Abrielle Gracie Reeves, Adeline Zigler Sabinske, Emily Steffen and 10th grade Honor - Kaylee Braden Yencer. 12th grade Honor - Levi Durham, Briggs Fiechter, Josiah Bricker, Savannah Blake, Cambree Coleman, Hallie Frauhiger, Mallory Davis, Ellie DeWeese, Harlie Alden Dollar, Peyton Ellis, Gifford, Seyoah Harris, Alexander Gaskill, Josie Kaitlynn Gardner, Lilly Kameron Hawkins, Mary Goodnight, Aubree Gartin, Shaylinn Geesaman, Huffman, Ian James- Neuenschwander and Isaac Kaiden Gilbert, Leeland McCarty, Bailey Jenkins, VanDeman. Goodnight, Lillian Violet McClain, Sarah 7th grade High Honors - Dear Uncertain Husband: Mahorney, Miley Martin, McFarren, Keely Miller, Raelin Bower, Braelyn Boyer, Well, surely don't want to Miley Michael, Trey Slusher Marianne Pease, Evelyn Charlene Felger, Zane Gates, get in the middle of your and Kyah Thomas Peterson, Abigail Sawin, Olivia Hoffacker, Sophia martial discussion, but I'll and Miranda Slobe Penrod and Grace Rogers. 11th grade High Honor - Mia Vanover and Cadence Kahn, Karla Martinez-Cano, be happy to explain Social Balzhan Adilova, Joshua Watkins. Aulbach, Cash Banter, 9th grade High Honor - Nichols and Elise Schneider. Joseph Ebey, Gavin Howell, Gabriella Hoffacker, 7th grade Honor - Melanie McKenna King, Sophia Gwyneth Howell, Logan Barr, Hunter Baumgartner, still living. And just for Meeks, Jonathan Osborn Leas, Lyla Lyons, Amelia Charlie Benedict, Gavin awareness for both of you, and Miranda Slobe Penrod and Grace Rogers. 11th grade Honor - Kelton 9th grade Honor - Landon Biberstine, Owen Boxell, the rules about spousal Barr, Aliah Carroll, Kaylea Clifton, Alaina Edmonds, Fairchild, Cash Frauhiger, most confusing areas of Coffel, Bento Dantas Rylen Gates, Avery Ellyanna Heim, Branson Kiel, Social Security. Tenorio Barbosa, Dirk Geesaman, Camryn Cooper Reeves, Blakely Per Social Security's rules, Frauhiger, Jakob Gearheart, Hamilton, Adelyn Heim, Schortgen, Layla Shelley, a spouse (e.g., your wife) Miranda Holloway, Landon Kyan Johnson, Case Alexis Sunderman, Ethan can receive a "spousal Johnson, Samantha Kahn, Kirkwood, Rylan Leas, Swartz and Samantha boost" from you – while you are still living – if the SS Carson Liddy, Aubree Meyer, Sawyer McEvoy, David Zavattaro. retirement benefit she is Chanie Mounsey, Gunner McMillan, Lyric McQueary, personally entitled to at her Murray, Reagan Needler, Heath Miller, Olivia full retirement age (FRA) is Lillia Paxson, Elisabeth Newman, Lucille Palmer, Penrod, Catalina Ramirez, Jordan Reynolds, Adelynn less than 50% of the SS Trinidy Robinson, Delinda Robles, Grace Rockwell, Schortgen, Kila Shelley and Annalyse Roe, John A. retirement benefit you are (were) entitled to at your FRA (full retirement age amounts are used to calculate living spouse Emma Shepard. Schneider, Timothy Smith benefits, regardless of 10th grade High Honor - and Louis Velasquez. Ask Rusty - My Wife when each of you actually Robinson, Delinda Robles, Grace Rockwell, Schneider, Timothy Smith Believes She Can Get a Spouse Benefit While I'm Still Alive; Can She? can receive a "spousal boost" from you – while you are still living – if the SS retirement benefit she is personally entitled to at her full retirement age (FRA) is less than 50% of the SS retirement benefit you are (were) entitled to at your FRA (full retirement age amounts are used to calculate living spouse benefits, regardless of when each of you actually claimed your Social Security).

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 - My Wife Believes She Can Get a Spouse Benefit While I'm Still Alive; Can She?

Dear Rusty: A friend of my wife told her, and she believes, she could receive a Social Security benefit

So, if your FRA entitlement benefit amount is more than twice your wife's FRA

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**Jeff's
FARM
MARKET**

**Weekly Specials
Jan 22 - 28**

NO SUNDAY HOURS TILL SPRING

- **Breton Bites Snack Crackers
2 for \$6.00**
- **Williams Cheese
2 for \$6.00**
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Tue-Wed	11am-6pm	Saturday	9am-5pm

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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.

Jan 21	7:00p	V - Town Council Meeting @ Town Hall
Feb 2		GROUNDHOG DAY
Feb 4	Noon	W - Chamber of Commerce Luncheon @ KBC
Feb 4	7:00p	V - Town Council Meeting @ Town Hall
Feb 9	5:00p	W - Town Council Meeting @ Assembly Hall
Feb 10	6:30p	W - SSF Meeting @ KBC
Feb 14		VALENTINE'S DAY
Feb 16		PRESIDENT'S DAY
Feb 16	6:30p	W - KBC Board Meeting @ 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

GENEALOGY REPORT

MARTIN

Fredrick "Rick" Martin, 70, of Wells County, passed away Saturday, Dec. 6, 2025, surrounded by his family.

Rick was born on Nov. 25, 1955, in Grant County, to Raymond and Lois (Sommers) Martin. He grew up in Kokomo, alongside his seven siblings.

Rick attended Taylor University for undergrad and later earned a master's degree from Indiana University. He dedicated his career to education, teaching high school English at Southern Wells Community Schools, where he touched the lives of countless students over the years.

Rick was an incredibly proud father, and becoming a grandfather was one of the greatest joys of his life. He was known for his kindness, generosity and willingness to lend a helping hand to anyone in need. An avid cyclist, Rick loved staying active and enjoyed nearly all sports, especially cheering on Indiana University.

He is survived by his two daughters, Sydney Martin of Ossian, and Elise (Todd) Lewis of Kaneohe, Hawaii; three sisters, Jeanie (Fritz) Miller, Sauni (Tom) Hilligoss and Lyn (Denny) Camden; one brother, Rex Martin; and one brother-in-law, Chuck Bartholomew, all of Kokomo; and four beloved grandchildren. He is also survived by his dear friends, Chris and Naundus Schwartz, and their six

children, who are enjoyed countless

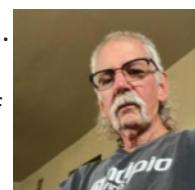
In addition to his parents, Rick was preceded in death by two sisters, Jill Bartholomew and Judy (Tom) Martin; one brother, Merrill Martin; and his nephew, Brook Camden.

A celebration of life will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Warren, Jan. 24, 2026, at C&C Bible Fellowship, 4383 S. 150 E., in Berne. Guests are invited to attend in come-as-you-are attire.

In lieu of flowers or cards, the family asks that memorial contributions be made in Rick's name to Little Eden Camp in Onekama, Michigan, designated for the renovation of the "Juniper" cabin, a church camp where Rick spent many summers with his family. Donations may be mailed to Little Eden Camp, 3721 Portage Point Drive, Onekama, MI 49675, or made online at <https://www.littleeden.org/give.html>.

JENNINGS

Jon E. Jennings, 65, of Warren, passed



away peacefully at his home on Tuesday, Jan. 13, 2026, at 9:50 a.m. surrounded by his family.

He was born on November 9, 1960, in Marion to Larry Jennings and Marilyn Kay (Embree) Jennings.

On June 20, 1992, Jon married the love of his life, Teresa "Terri" Crago, in Huntington. The two

are enjoyed countless memories together.

He was a 1979 graduate of Huntington North High School.

Jon retired from Incipio, where he worked as a CNC lathe operator.

He also spent many years early on working at Hy-Line, Matilda St., Warren, on

Known as a hardworking employee, Jon took pride in providing for his family and in the work he did throughout his career.

He truly loved life to the fullest.

Jon enjoyed fishing, camping and riding his Harley, but more than anything, he loved being surrounded by his family and friends.

He was known for always having a drink in his hand, enjoying good company and making sure everyone around him was having a good time.

Jon's easygoing personality, sense of humor and love for fun made him fun to be around.

He will be missed by all who knew him.

Surviving Jon in addition to his wife, Terri; are his children, Jill (Cory) Worthington, Jon Jr. (Tiffany) Jennings and Brad Jennings; his grandchildren, Taylor Worthington, Hunter Sullivan, Austin Sullivan, Camron Jennings, Gavin Jennings, Asher Jennings and Madelyn Jennings; his

father, Larry Jennings; his siblings, Rex (Connie) Jennings and Jim (Teresa) Bolinger.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Marilyn Kay Jennings.

Calling hours will be at Glancy-H. Brown & Son Funeral Home, 203 N. Tuesday, Jan. 20, 2026, from 2 to 4 p.m. and from 6 to 8 p.m. at Glancy Funeral Home.

To honor Jon's wishes, there will be no sit-down service.

He was a member of American Legion Post #85, Huntington.

Ted enjoyed fishing, guns, yard work, watching westerns and playing his favorite game, Aggravation.

He was a very social guy. Ted loved spending time with his family and friends.

Survivors include his two daughters, Jeanette A. Mygrant, of Huntington, and Amanda Rogers, of Warsaw; two sons, Don (Courtney) Whitney, of Huntington, and John (Dawn) Jackson, of Huntington; six grandchildren, Caleb (Morgan) Jackson, Peyton Jackson, Anna Mygrant, Serayna Whitney, Semaj Whitney and Shacora Whitney; three sisters, Susan (James) Garwood, of Warren, Jackie Riggers, of Huntington, and Patti (Kirk) Strass, of Huntington; brother, Tom Gray, of Roanoke; many loved nieces and nephews; previous spouse, Cheryl Henney, of Columbia City.

Ted attended Huntington High School.

He retired after 27 years of employment as a truck driver, many of those years were with Rock Leasing Inc., Warren.

Ted served in the United States Army from 1976-1981.

Ted is preceded in death by his father, Arthur "Pete" Whitney, mother, Betty Jane Tackett, step-father, Don Tackett, half sister, Gloria Whitney, half brother, Butch Whitney, brother-in-law, **CONTINUED PAGE 5**

WHITNEY

 Theodore "Ted" Jay Whitney, 67, of Huntington, passed away at 5:17 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 16, 2026, at Parkview Regional Medical Center.

He was born on July 19, 1958, in Huntington the son of Arthur "Pete" Whitney and Betty (Young) Tackett.

Ted attended Huntington High School.

He retired after 27 years of employment as a truck driver, many of those years were with Rock Leasing Inc., Warren.

Ted served in the United States Army from 1976-1981.

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EXP. 03/31/26

AREA NEWS CONTINUED

MORE PAGE 4

Gary Riggers, and sister-in-law, Margie L Gray.

Visitation will be from 4 to 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 21, 2026, at Adkins Bailey-Love Mortuary, 35 W. Park Dr., Huntington.

Funeral services will be at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 21, 2026, at Adkins Bailey-Love Mortuary, Huntington, with Pastor Jason Fields officiating.

Private burial will be in Marion National Cemetery at a later date.

Preferred memorials may be made to Honor Flights Northeast Indiana in care of Adkins Bailey-Love Mortuary, 35 W. Park Dr., Huntington, IN 46750.

LOVELL

Carol Joan (Clifton) Lovell, 91 of Bluffton, passed away on Sunday morning Jan. 18, 2026, at her residence.

Carol was born July 19, 1934, in Lebanon, Indiana, to Hershel and Elsie (Wright) Clifton. She graduated from Gray High School in Portland, 1952 class.

Carol married Ralph David Lovell Jr., of Keystone IN in Dunkirk Indiana, in 1952. Ralph passed away at age 53 in 1986.

Survivors include companion of 37 years, Donald A McQueary, her four children, Connie (Tom) Pace of South Carolina, Cheryl Hahn of Warren, David (Peggy) Lovell of Bluffton and Kim Gentis of Ossian. She is also survived by eight grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

Carol worked in medical records at Caylor Nickel in Bluffton and Marion General Hospital in Marion for most of her working career. When she retired she worked out of her home flower shop, Carol's Flowers and Gifts, doing

grave flowers, wedding flowers and floral gifts.

Carol was preceded in death by her parents Hershel and Elsie Clifton and her siblings, Richard Coats, Dorothy Marlene Schell and Patricia Clifton (stillborn) and Robert "Bob" Clifton.

Visitation will take place from 3 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 21, 2026, at the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton and for one hour prior to the service on Thursday.

CONTINUED PAGE 6**MORE PAGE 5**

Funeral services will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 22, 2026, at the funeral home, with Jeff Lemler officiating. Burial will follow at Gravel Hill Cemetery, outside Bryant.

Memorials may be made to The Light, payable to the Wells County Foundation and can be directed to the funeral home.

CONWELL

Karen S. Conwell, 80, of Van Buren, Indiana, passed away on Sunday, January 18, 2026, at Heritage Pointe in Warren, Indiana.

Karen was born on November 4, 1945, in Huntington, Indiana, to Albert Lee Whitesell and Olive (Weinley) Whitesell. She graduated from Huntington High School in 1964 and was a longtime member of the Van Buren Methodist Church, what is now known as Van Buren Church of the Vine.

On June 23, 1968, Karen married Dewaine A. Conwell. He preceded her in death on November 6, 2009.

Karen was involved in her community and enjoyed spending time with others through her memberships, including the Van Buren Lions Club and her church.

She had a special place in her heart for young people and loved supporting and encouraging them. Karen

also worked with youth through South Huntington Youth Canteen, Inc. and The

Switch Up in Van Buren. Her kindness and steady presence made a lasting impact on many young lives.

She is survived by her three sons, Kevin Dewaine (Amanda) Conwell of Indianapolis, Indiana, Ryan Dewaine (Alysha) Conwell of Van Buren, Indiana, and Jason Dewaine (Cara)

Conwell of Huntington, Indiana; six grandchildren, Zachery, Ashton, Everly, Eli Isaac, and Cyrus Conwell; her sister, Marsha (Bob) Bowers of Huntington, Indiana; and her sister-in-law, Diana Whitesell.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by her parents; and her brother, Ronald Whitesell.

Family and friends may gather for calling hours at Glancy-H. Brown & Son Funeral Home in Warren Friday, January 23, 2026, from 10:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M. Funeral services will be held at 12:00 P.M. located at the funeral home with

Pastor Cindy Osgood officiating. Burial will follow at a later date at Van Buren Cemetery.

WEBBER

Petra Christine (Bayne) Webber, 66, of Warren, Indiana, passed away on January 18, 2026, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Petra was born on January 15, 1960, in Germany to Robert Bayne and Judy Bayne. She graduated from Bluffton High School in 1978. Petra worked in nursing homes and restaurants throughout her life, most recently as a server.

She enjoyed horseback riding and motorcycle partner passes away, but riding, and she especially loved spending time with spouse's current benefit (at her friends and family and death) was more than the going camping. surviving spouse is already

She is survived by her mother, Judy Bayne of Bluffton, Indiana, daughter, Christa Shaffer of Bluffton, Indiana; her siblings, Claudia "Jeff" Booher of Warren, Indiana, and Sandra

of "Keith Jones" Bayne of Poneto, Indiana; and her (including a spousal or grandchildren, Nicolas Monk of Woodburn, claimed before the Indiana, and Kammi recipient's full retirement

Robinson, Johnna Robinson, age, the payment amount is Gideon Robinson, all of permanently reduced (both her dad. maximum until the

A graveside service will be determined at a later date. And just to complete Memorial contributions the picture for survivor may be made toward benefits, a surviving spouse is also entitled to a one-time, lump-sum death benefit of \$255 if their marital partner dies, in addition to any other benefit they are entitled to.

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 ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.

And to clarify your wife's options as your possible widow, a surviving spouse can also get a survivor

AREA NEWS CONTINUED

**TAKE EXTRA MEASURES
TO HELP PREVENT
CHECK FRAUD**

(StatePoint) The use of checks may be declining, but check crimes are actually on the rise due to new, creative criminal schemes. Once a check is stolen, it can be altered or signed on your behalf to withdraw money from your account, and there are online marketplaces where criminals will sell stolen checks for other criminals to use for fraud.

Luckily, there are steps you can take to protect yourself:

- Pay Digitally. Reduce the number of checks you send and utilize card or digital payment methods instead. Consider using check fraud prevention services like Positive Pay, if available at your financial institution.

- Go to the Post Office. If you must mail a check, use the secure mailbox inside a USPS facility or hand the envelope over to a postal worker who can mail it for you.

- Follow Up. If you mail a check, confirm with the payee that they received it.

- Monitor Accounts. Set up account alerts and review statements regularly. Most banks will provide an option for an image of each check to be viewable on statements. Cross-reference this image to ensure that the check processed is identical to the one you wrote.

- Report Quickly. Approximately 50% of stolen check images are posted online for sale within eight days of theft. Criminals act fast, and you need to act fast, too, to stop them in their tracks. As soon as you identify an account or payment

anomaly, notify your bank to put a stop payment on the check and a freeze on your account. File a police report and submit a separate report with the Federal Trade Commission. Keep a record of all conversations, reports and correspondence in case later problems arise.

Methods of fraud continue to evolve, and a simple check can be used in a variety of ways to commit theft. For instance, criminals can create fraudulent checks using your account information and sign your name. Or they could copy down your account information and use it for fraudulent purposes digitally or otherwise. Mail theft-related check fraud – where a check is stolen while enroute – accounts for hundreds of millions of dollars in attempted theft annually.

Here are some of the most common fraud methods used:

Account Theft. Checks are used to steal account information details to either steal money directly or fraudulently open additional accounts.

Forgery. Criminals have long forged the legitimate signature or altered the payee or amount on a check. However, artificial intelligence (AI) is making it easier than ever to do so with accuracy.

Check Washing. Criminals “wash” a check, using chemicals like acetone or bleach to erase the payee and amount, then rewrite the check to themselves for their amount of choice.

Counterfeits. Criminals create entirely fake checks that look real using stolen account information.

Check Return Schemes. Criminals will send what they claim is a paycheck or other payment by way of a check where they “overpay.” They ask you to deposit it, then return the “extra” money back before it’s discovered that the check is fake.

For more fraud prevention information, visit PNC’s Security and Privacy Center.

Safe handling of checks may not only protect against theft but also defend against more widespread account compromise.

KEEP YOUR HOME

WARM AND SAFE

DURING COLD FRONTS

(StatePoint) Cold fronts come on fierce and fast. And when they do, having a trusted space heater can keep your living spaces cozy and comfortable, and your energy bills in check. Survive and thrive this winter’s polar vortexes, Arctic blasts, cold fronts and blizzards with these electric heater tips:

Prioritize safety: A high-quality space heater will not only deliver reliable, long-lasting performance, it will also be engineered with your well-being in mind. If you’ve ever hesitated to bring a space heater into your home, keep in mind that many of the latest models have been specially engineered to prioritize safety. Every heater from Lasko, the number one heater brand in the United States, feature smart safeguards, such as overheat protection, tip-over safety switches, and cool touch housing, for ultimate peace of mind. They’re also available at major retailers and online, so

you can also find them on demand before the temperatures plunge.

Choose the right model for your needs: Finding the right model for your needs is important. For example, if portability is a priority because you intend to use one space heater in different rooms, consider the Lasko 22" Ceramic Tower Heater (CT22495), available at Home Depot, which has an easy-grip handle and a 6-foot power cord for flexibility, plus optional oscillation for full room coverage. Its child lock, along with its safety rollover design, make it a good option for those with little ones.

To warm up larger living spaces, opt for a model that utilizes widespread oscillation to ensure consistent and comfortable heat distribution throughout the room, such as the Lasko 22" Oscillating Ceramic Tower Space Heater (CT22850), available at Walmart. With four comfort settings, and an adjustable thermostat, it’s well-suited for anyone seeking personalized temperature control.

Eco-friendly and cost-effective, both models offer Auto Eco Mode, which will maintain the selected room temperature by automatically adjusting heat output to deliver consistent comfort while reducing energy use.

Position electric heaters properly: Keep electric heaters away from areas

where they can be harmed by water or dampness, or, use heaters specially designed for rooms like bathrooms and laundry rooms, which feature safeguards for moist spaces. You should also place typical space heaters a foot or two from the wall. For tighter spaces, consider a model with intake and exhaust vents on the front of the unit so it can be placed at the wall. No matter what, position your electric heater away from flammable materials, and establish a three-foot buffer zone between the heater and foot traffic.

As you face cold fronts this winter, don’t settle for anything less than ultimate comfort. A great space heater is ideal for warming up your home safely and reliably.



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