Hometown News from Warren, Liberty Center, & Van Buren

Friday, April 27, 2007

Volume 22, Number 11



PRESRT STD **SCRWSS U.S. POSTAGE PAID** PERMIT NO. 51 **WARREN. IN 46792**



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Thought for the Week: Dictionary: A place where success comes before work.



COLLINGSWORTH FAMILY

Excitement, family-emphasis and musical excellence are what you can expect when you enter the Applegate Chapel at the Heritage Pointe on May 4th at 2p.m.

Phil and Kim Collingsworth met in 1986 during college days. Their home has seen the addition of four children thru the years. The children are very active in their concerts. The two oldest daughters are quite proficient on the violin. Their daughter Kim is well-known for her phenomenal mastery of the piano. Their son Phil presents trumpet solos plus their vocal music is outstanding.

Their personal appearance schedule shows the broad appeal. They perform in all types of venues across the United States and Cayman Islands.

LAST CALL

Found: White coat with fur collar at the Warren Library.

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

The Warren United Church of Christ will host their annual Spaghetti Supper Saturday, April 28th at the Knight Bergman Center. Serving time is 4:30 to 7:30 pm. With carry-outs available. Delivery within Warren city limits.

The menu fro the meal consists of spaghetti, the famous meat sauce, tossed salad, garlic bread and some of the best homemade pies and cakes you will find. Eat with your friends at the Civic Center or your welcome to call 375-3550 and your carry-out will be ready for your pick-up. Come

make this a family event and visit your old friends and enjoy meeting new ones.

Everyone is welcome at the Knight Bergman Center. All proceeds will benefit the future projects of the church.

Tickets are \$7.00 adult, \$4.00 children, under 4 eat free. Tickets may be purchased from any church member or at the door.

EVERYONE COME

We hope to see you on Sunday, May 6 at the First Baptist Church. We're having a gathering of the First Baptist Church family of believers, and it wouldn't be the same without you! Entitled "Everyone Come" Sunday, this important day will allow our church

family to assemble together to worship God and celebrate our fellowship in Him. Please plan to stay after the worship service so that you can be included in a congregation photograph and enjoy a fellowship meal. If you need a ride to church, someone would be happy to pick you up. Simply call the church office at 375-2811. We look forward to seeing you on May 6!

SUNDAY LUNCH

Sigma Phi Gamma will be hosting a Sunday Luncheon on May 6th from 11am - 1pm at the Knight-Bergman Center in Warren. The menu will include baked steak, baked chicken, mashed potatoes, vegetables, salads, desserts & drinks. \$7.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children 6-12 and free for children 5 and under. Carryouts will be available. Proceeds from the meal will benefit community projects.

LINE DANCE LESSON & DINNER

The Knight's of Columbus Huntington Branch will be holding a Line Dance on Saturday May 5th. They are located at 23 1/2 E. Market St. in Huntington. The dance will last from 7pm to 11pm. The first hour will include a lesson. Gary Bowers from Warsaw will be DJing this event. Price is \$3.00 per person. Be sure to come early for Family Dinner Night. There will be pulled pork, cheesy potatoes, green beans and a brownie. Adults \$6, Kids 7-12 \$4 and Kids under 6 are free. The dinner runs from 5pm until 7pm (or until the food runs out). The dinner is a Bushee-Diffenbaugh sponsored event. This is a wonderful time to come out and give it a try. It's great exercise and a wonderful time to spend with friends!!! If you have any questions you can call Tammy Jackson at 375-3034. Leave a message with your phone number and I will get back with you!!

LET'S MAKE A FLOAT!

Float planning is the job to have right now! With 8 quick weeks left until the Salamonie Summer Festival, the planning and preparation must begin! "A Grand Celebration - 40 Years 1967 to 2007" is the theme! The festival committee encourages every business and ball team to create a "FESTIVE" float. Please contact the parade chairpersons, Karen Campbell @ 375-2424 or Denny Stroud @ 375-4880, if you have any questions.

Donate Blood! The Life you save may be your own.



ALUMNI BANQUET

The alumni of Warren High School will hold their annual banquet at the Knight Bergman Civic Center in Warren on May 12. The social hour will be at 5:30 followed by dinner and program at 6:30. All former students, teachers, and friends of the Warren School are welcome to attend. The classes of 1947 and 1957 will be recognized as honored classes. All graduates from 1937 and before will also be recognized.

Ron & Carol Burns and Barry Jamison will provide the musical entertainment at the banquet.

Reservations are \$10.00 per person and may be made by contacting Jim Howell at 260/375-3048 or email at howelli@citznet.com. Pictured above is the class of 1947, celebrating their 60th year since graduating from good old Warren High School.

Top row: Paul Parker, Richard Smith, Robert Pond, Austin Smith (principal), Marjorie Moore (sponsor), Gordon Laymon, Joann Murray

2nd row: Vivian Richardson Weitcamp, Russell Searles, Richard Stroup, Norine Herring Fuller, Dean Jones, Richard Douglas, Nancy Border Albershardt, William Heinbaugh.

3rd row: Max Andrew, Jerry Ruef, Ann Ruble Brauchla, William Bonewitz, Roger Douglas, Jimmy Dailey, Joan Gibson Ruble, Ester Campbell Shafer.

4th Row: Betty Michael Wible, Roger Ruble, Phylis Sheets Pursiful, Harold Stratton, Becky Musser, Billie Marsh Garrett.

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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 next to the Post Office in downtown Warren. The Warren Weekly is also available in severa businesses in Van Buren. Total circulation is 3200.

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 C 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

KUDOS, KICKS & KARATS

To THE EDITOR:

For the first time in many years, it now appears that the Indiana General Assembly is poised to make real and meaningful reform in this state's complex, complicated and convoluted property tax system. I am sincerely encouraged that our legislative leaders are talking together about a plan that would:

- * Remove school general fund from the property tax rolls.
- * Give local units of government the option to increase income taxes
- * Create a local review board to evaluate large public building projects.

I want to urge the members of Indiana Farm Bureau, as well as all citizens, to contact their legislators and urge them to vote in favor of real property tax reform.

Our property tax system is broken. It cannot be fixed. It must be replaced. If it is not, farmers, homeowners and property taxpayers face the unwanted prospect of ever-increasing property taxes that could eventually force property owners to sell, rather than invest in, their property.

Now that legislators from many areas of Indiana are talking seriously about property tax reform, those same legislators need to hear from you. You don't need to be a property tax expert to talk about property taxes. All you need to do is tell your state representative and state senator how today's property taxes are affecting your pocketbook. That's a message they can easily understand.

To contact your state representative, call toll-free, 800-382-9842. To reach your state senator, call 800-382-9467.

Working together, we can finally achieve the worthy goal of moving away from property taxes.

> Sincerely, Don Villwock, president Indiana Farm Bureau



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BANQUO CHRISTIAN CHURCH

8294S 900W 35

Gary Riley, Pastor

Sunday School9:30 a.m.

Worship 10:30 a.m.

Youth Choir Practice 5:00 p.m.

Wed. Bible Study6:30 p.m.

Thurs. Kings Kids6:30 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.

BOEHMER UNITED METHODIST

Rev. Barry Humble, Pastor

Jerome Markley, S.S. Supt.

Sunday Worship 9:30a.m.

Sunday School 10:30a.m.

BUCKEYECHRISTIANCHURCH

758-2085

Kyle Dahlquist, Pastor

Sandy Keplinger, Supt.

Worship9:30 a.m.

Sunday School10:45 a.m.

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Van Buren, Indiana 765-934-2199

Pastor Anna Kroencke

Youth Minister Lynne Payne

Worship9:30 a.m.

Sunday School10:40 a.m.

Bible Study, Wednesday.....10:00 a.m.

Youth Fellowship Sun6:00 p.m.

Word of Life — Majenica

Rev. Malcolm & Jackie Howell

260/356-1246

DILLMAN UNITED BRETHREN

8888S 1100W-90, Warren 375-2779

Dick Case, Pastor

Sun - 1st Worship Service..... 8:15a.m.

(3yrs old - 5th grade) . 6:30-8p.m.

HANFIELD UNITED METHODIST

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Timothy Helm, Senior Pastor

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Worship 9:30 a.m.

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HILLCREST **CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE** 375-2510

Clyde Gunn, Pastor Bus Service 375-2510 Sunday School9:30 a.m. Sunday School9:30 a.m. Worship10:30 a.m. Evening Worship......6:00 p.m. Youth Group (Wed.).....6:00 p.m. Wed. Midweek Service......6:30 p.m.

> **JEFFERSONCENTER UNITED METHODIST** Corner of 900S & 300W Kathy Newton, Pastor

Sunday School8:45 a.m. Worship Service10:00 a.m. **LANCASTER WESLEYAN** 468-2411

Doug Sharrard, Pastor David Thrift, S.S. Supt. Sunday School9:30 a.m. Worship10:30 a.m. Wednesday:

CYC/Teen/Adult Meetings 7:00 p.m. LIBERTY CENTER BAPTIST CHURCH 694-6622

Pastor Dan Sommer Sunday School9:00 a.m. Fellowship 9:55a.m. Worship 10:15a.m. Wed. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. LIBERTYCENTER

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Dan Helm, Pastor Morning Worship9:30 a.m. Sunday School10:45 a.m.

McNATT UNITED METHODIST

375-4359

Bill VanHaften, Pastor Lois Slusher, Supt. Coffee Fellowship......8:30 a.m. Sunday Evening Service6:00 p.m. Worship9:15 a.m. Tuesday Eve. Bible Study6:30 p.m. Sunday School10:30 a.m. Bible Study - Wed. 7:00 p.m.

MT. ETNA UNITED METHODIST 260/468-2148

Rev. Tom DeFries - Pastor Sunday School......9:30a.m. Trad. Worship 9:00 a.m. 2nd Worship Service10:30a.m. Mdrn Worship 10:30 a.m. Youth Group (6th-12th).6:00p.m. Fellowship & Classes 9:30 a.m. Kids Club, Youth Group & Adult Studies - all Sunday 6:00 p.m.

MOUNT ETNA WESLEYAN Rev. Charles Dederick, Pastor Sunday School 2nd Worship......10:30 a.m. Sunday Evening11:11 a.m. Mid-Week (Wed) ...

THE NEW BEGINNING SR 218, 2 1/8 mile west of Poneto

Steve Sutton, Pastor 765/728-2065 for more info Chapel Services9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship......10:30a.m. ThursdayPrayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.

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PLUM TREE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST 375-2691

Dr. Jeane Spoor, Pastor Sunday School9:30 a.m. Worship10:30 a.m.

SALAMONIE CHURCHOF BRETHREN 468-2412

Mel Zumbrun, Pastor9:30 a.m. Worship Church School10:45a.m.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST 375-2102 Rev. Rick Pulling, Interim 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.

VBCHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 765/934-3321 Parsonage Jeff Wass, Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Adult Worship10:30 a.m. Children's Church 10:30a.m. Evening Praise Hour..... 6:00p.m. Hour of Power (Wed) 7:00p.m.

VBUNITED METHODIST CHURCH 765-934-1431

Pastor Blake J. Neff Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30a.m. Jr/Sr High UMYF (Sun)...... 6:30 p.m. Prayer-Bible Study (Thur).... 7:30 p.m. UMW 2nd Wed 7:00 p.m. www.vanburenumc.org

WARREN CHURCH OF CHRIST 375-3022

Gerald O. Moreland, Minister Todd Winkler, Youth Minister Ruth Moreland, Secretary & BS Supt. Fellowship9:15 a.m. Worship & Communion9:30 a.m. Sunday School10:45 a.m.

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

Rev. Bill Fisher, Pastor of Preaching and Discipleship Rev. Robert Bothast, Pastor of Family Life

Lori Buzzard, S.S. Supt. Sunday School9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship10:00 a.m. Sunday Evening Service 6:00p.m. WARREN UNITED METHODIST

Rev. Mike Malone, Pastor Sunday School9:30 a.m. Worship10:30 a.m. Handicap Accessible & Staff Nursery **WARREN WESLEYAN CHURCH** 375-2330 6th & Nancy Sts. Warren

Rev. Andy Trowbridge, Pastor Wesley Welch, Supt. Sunday School9:30 a.m.

Worship10:15 a.m. Wednesday Prayer Service..7:00p.m.

Attend the Church of Your Choice

AREA NEWS

"FLAMING IDIOTS"

Opens May 4 at the Pulse Opera House

The HOTTEST show in town is about to open at the Pulse Opera House. Flaming Idiots by Tom Rooney is a slam-bam farce with five slamming doors, falling pants, a dead body and an exploding drink (the "flaming idiot"). Belly laughs are guaranteed.

Phil (David Scribner) and Carl (Lucas Esch) are two ordinary guys who left their jobs at the post office to open a restaurant. They are joined in this madcap comedy by an actor/waiter (Matt Stephenson), a mysterious Norwegian (?) busboy (Steve Rodenberger), a hearing impaired natural foods chef (Stacia Brinneman), an officer of the mounted patrol unit (Mark Esch), a reporter for the Daily Local News Dispatch Vigilant Courier (Kim Nedberg), a professional hit-man beyond retirement age (Joe Haney) and a dead body (John Haney).

"Flaming Idiots" runs May 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 17, 18 and 19. The box office opens at 7:00 p.m. on show nights and is located in the lobby. Doors to the theatre open at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. Reservations may be made online at www.pulseoperahouse.org or by phone at (260) 375-7017. All shows start at 8:00 p.m.

BENEFIT SUPPER

A Benefit Hog Roast will be held May 19 at the Van Buren Fire Department for Chris Persinger. The dinner will be from 4 to 7 p.m. Cost will be \$5.00 per adult, \$3.00 for kids 5-12 and under 5 eat free. You may eat in or carry out. There will also be drawings for prizes and a 50/50 Raffle throughout the evening.

Menu for the evening includes Roast Hog by Hog Roasting Specialists, Baked Beans, Sour Kraut, Butter Potatoes, Rolls and dessert.

Some of you may remember Chris from when he worked for Warren Service & Supply. He has Mucoepidermoid Carcinoma, a cancer of the upper pallet in his mouth. The dinner is to help with medical expenses.



MAY FRIENDSHIP DAY

Huntington County CWU will celebrate May Friendship Day on Friday, May 4 at Bethel United Methodist Church in Huntington. The church is located at Riverside Drive at Allen. The theme is "Friends Under God's Wing." The Program Leaders are the Bethel United Methodist Women.

The theme centers on the scripture Matthew 23:37. The program will present two aspects of friendship: the treasured longtime friends and the new friends one makes by intentionally reaching out to others. This celebration also includes the annual ingathering of pennies for Fellowship of the Least Coin, a worldwide movement now in service for more than 50 years. Dues are also payable at the meeting. Reservations for the continental breakfast may be called by May 1st to Johanna Lange, 356-0976.

Church Women United was founded in 1941 as an ecumenical movement involving Protestant, Roman Catholic, Orthodox, and other Christian women in the United States and Puerto Rico.

4-H SCHOLARSHIPS

The Huntington County Extension Office currently has applications available for three local 4-H scholarships. Huntington County 4-H members who are eligible may stop by the Purdue Extension – Huntington County Office or print a copy of the application from the Huntington County 4-H website at http:// 4h.huntingtoncounty.org/. Applications must be received at the Huntington County Extension Office no later than May 31, 2007.

Janell Marie Saunders Memorial Scholarship – open to a current high school senior or Huntington County 4-H alumni who completed their final year of 4-H within the past two years. Applicants need to be pursuing post high school studies in the area of nursing or a health or medical related field. Two \$1,000 scholarships will be presented in 2007.

Ray Vanderspool Memorial Scholarship – applicants must be a current high school senior. One \$1,000 award will be presented in 2007.

Huntington County 4-H – current high school senior or a 4-H alumni not older than 25 years of age. Two \$125 awards will be given.

These scholarships will be presented during the 4-H Awards program during the Huntington County 4-H Fair on Tuesday evening, July 24.

For more information about the Huntington County 4-H scholarships, contact Purdue Extension – Huntington County Office, 354 N Jefferson – Suite 202, Huntington or call 260-358-4826 or email <u>laldridg@purdue.edu</u>.

COUNCIL NOTES

The Van Buren Town Council met on Wednesday evening, April 18, in the Council Room at Town Hall. President Tony Manry opened the meeting at 7 p.m. All in attendance repeated the Pledge to the American Flag.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as submitted.

A representative of Marion Services was in attendance and discussed trash pick up with Council. Plans were made to hold town clean-up May 19 and 20. Roll offs will be placed back of Town Hall. Officer Pat Collins gave the police report. He said there have been a number of break-ins of autos around town. He reported

Superintendent Jim Webb reported on activities of town employees. All meters had been read in March and April. One water leak had been reported.

most of the cars were not locked.

Hydrant flushing was delayed to April 30 due to weather conditions. The new town truck had arrived.

It was reported water meters at the ball diamonds are shut off during winter to prevent freezing. Someone had opened the meters recently causing the diamonds to flood. Ways were discussed to prevent the meters from being opened.

The next Council meeting will be Wednesday, May 2.

SHEEP & GOAT ID DAY

Identification days for Huntington County 4-H Sheep and Goat exhibitors will be held on Saturday, May 5 at Hier's Park. 4-H Goat members will need to bring market wether goats to the Show Arena between the hours of 7–10 am for identification and weighing of these animals. Members with female goats or pet care entries must complete the enrollment paperwork but these animals do not need to be brought to the ID day. 4-H Sheep members are to bring their market lambs to the cattle barns at Hier's Park between the hours of 7:30-10 am for identification and weighing. Members may also bring non-registered ewe lambs and yearlings for identification at the same time.

April 26

April 27

April 28

Animal enrollment forms and specific details about the ID days were mailed directly to 4-H sheep and goat members last week. Members will need to contact the Purdue Extension – Huntington County office if they do not receive the identification materials by the end of this week.

For more information, contact the Purdue Extension – Huntington County Office at (260) 358-4826 or stop by the office located in the County Courthouse Annex, 354 N Jefferson – Suite 202, Huntington.

NEW AT WPL

New books received at the Warren Public Library include:

Fiction—Remember to Forget by D Raney; Quantico by G Bear; Death Pans Out by A Graves; Obsession by J Kellerman; The Woods by H Cohen; Obsession by Robards; Deception by Alcorn; Laced by CH Clark; Back on Blossom Street by Macomber; The River Knows by Quick; Simple Genius by Baldacci; The Marriage Game by F Michaels.

Non-fiction – The Executor's Guide: Settling a Loved One's Estate or Trust; Howto Prepare for the CDL; Once Upon a Farm; 99 Historic Homes of Indiana; Estate Planning Made Easy; The Happiness Myth; Helping the Addict You Love; How to Read a Novel; Religious Literacy; Visual Spanish/English Dictionary

Children's – Can You See What I See?; Good Sports; Lost in the Woods; Bone #5: Rock Jaw; The Higher Power of Lucky (Newbury Medal Winner); Hank the Cow Dog: Case of the Booby-Trapped Pickup; Magic School Bus and the Missing Tooth; Arthur's Tree House; Dora's Sharing Day' Thomas' Milkshake Muddle; Everyone Makes a Difference; A-Z Mysteries; Major Battles of the Civil War

DVD's – Freedom Writers; One Night With the King; Zoom AcademyforSuperheroes; Holiday; The Queen; Night at the Museum

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

Gebharts' Greenhouse Opening

SECRETARIES DAY

Warren Recycle Day

United Church of Christ Spaghetti Supper, 4:30 - 7:30 April 28 p.m., at Knight-Bergman Center May 2 Warren Chamber of Commerce lunch, noon, Assembly Hall May 2 Van Buren Town Council, 7 p.m. May 6 Sigma Phi Gamma Buffet, 11a.m. - 1p.m., at Knight-Bergman Center May 8 Our Town Committee, 7 p.m. Assembly Hall May 11 Warren Recycle Day Knight Bergman Center Board Meeting, 8am at KBC May 12 Warren Alumni Banquet - 5:30 p.m. Jim Howell May 12 May 13 Mother's Day May 14 Warren Town Council, 6:30 p.m., Assembly Hall May 16 Van Buren Town Council 7 p.m. Warren Recycle Day May 25 May 28 **Memorial Day**

Bread of Life Food Pantry - Wed 4 - 5:30pm, Sat 10 - 11:30 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 After School Adventure - Tuesdays & Thursdays, after school till 5:30 p.m. at Hillcrest Church of the Nazarene Preschool Story Time - Warren Library 10:15 Fridays Cancer Support Group - 3rd Tuesday 6:30-8p.m. at Bluffton Regional South Campus

AREA NEWS CONTINUED

HARVEST HOUSE

Ten children were at the Van Buren Public Library after School Story Time on Friday April 13th to learn about our local food pantry.

Our local food pantry, Harvest House, is located across the street form D&S Lubritory in Van Buren. This is an ongoing ministry of our Lord and supported by our local churches and good people who want to serve Harvest House through donations of, goods or monetary funds.

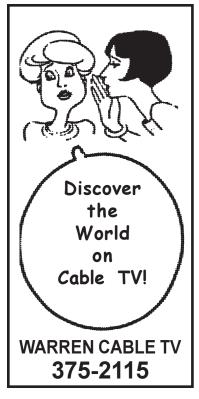
The children listened as Nancy Cook shared some information on our local pantry. Nancy is a volunteer at the Harvest House. She was able to name some of the items that are accepted at the pantry and some food items that are perishable foods that can't be accepted. The children received a shopping list for the food pantry. This list can be taken home and shared with their parents

Amy Smith read the book "The Berenstain Bears and Too Much Junk Food" by Stan & Jan Berenstain. This book made us all think about what we eat.

Karen was in charge of the games. The children had to guess what vegetable was in an UN labeled can. Eddie Quick guessed peas and that was the right answer. Good Job Eddie! Karen had another game; she covered several food items then uncovered them and covered them again. The children had to write down all the items they could remember. Several children were able to name all the items. Good Job!

We want to give a special thankyou to our two volunteer helpers Nancy Cook and Amy Smith.

Those attending were Alie Gray, Cathryne Anderson, Amanda Keifer, Chelsea Cason, Autum Smith, Jarren Griffith, Eddie Quick, Nixon Smith, and Kayla Handshoe.



Next story time will be April 27th. . We will celebrate Earth Day with special guest Robert Turner. Hope to see you.

ASSOCIATE CHAPTER MET

The Associate Chapter of Tri Kappa met in the Calico Lounge at Heritage Pointe on April 17th at 7:00 p.m.

Martha Shafer, Chairman, presented the program introducing Debbie Dyer, Executive Director and Ann Freds, Secretary, from the Huntington LaFontaine Arts Council. The Council presents cultural programs about six times a year to the county school for grades 1 through 12. It reaches 8,000 students and has a budget of \$25,000 yearly. Monthly, selected students are honored for talents in art, music and drama, and pictures are published and has provided cultural enrichment for many young students, called Arts in Education.

Following the program a business meeting was held with president, Jo Spade presiding. Reports were heard from officers. Roll call was answered by Mildred Border, Ann Brauchla, Mary Brown, Ruth Alice Christner, Elaine Eckman, Mary Emma Huffman, Florence Mott, Martha Shafer, Berneice Shideler, Barbara Souder, Jo Spade, Carolyn Sparks, Bertha Turner and Oma Zent

Special refreshments were served to those attending.

CLUB NEWS

5th District American Legion Auxiliary met April 21, 2007 at Fairmount Post 313.

President Rosanna Stoner opened the meeting. Opening prayer by Chaplain Rosemary Hammons. Secretary Creta Arlington called the roll.

Distinguished guest chr Marylou Mullett introduced Past Department President Phyllis Clark, candidate for Department Historian, Nancy Gunning, Past 11th District President Iva Rice, State Commanders wife Jama Delaney.

Rosemary Hammons announced the prayer books are

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due to her May 19, 2007.

Historian Belinda Ritenour asked for history books by June 1st.

Membership Chr. Sue Comerford said a membership contest running from April 9th to May 19th.

Echo Price, president of Unit 313 introduced her officers and thanked the kitchen help.

Children & Youth Chr. Sue Fugitt said we have turned in 1,300 lbs of pop tabs for Ronald McDonald House. If anyone has tabs please get in touch with an auxiliary member.

Education Chr. Donna Baker – 3 applications for scholarship were received. Katrina Blackburn from Montpelier got the scholarship.

Field Service Chr. Judy Cunninham asked to get our hours into her.

Finance Chr. Thelma Butler reported on sales of raffle tickets. Also Girls State Chr, she said Girls State meeting will be May 12, 2007 12:00 to 2:00 pm. at the St James Church, Marion. We have 51 delegates and 38 alternates.

IN Veterans Home Chr Irene Davis said we have 251 residents at the home and they are getting more

Knightstown Home Chr Carolyn Cunningham said she took large easter eggs and filled with candy & \$5.00 and gave each of our kids at the home. 25 will graduate this year. Also Past President Parley Chr said the Past Presidents dinner is June 12th at 6:30 p.m. at Van Buren Post 368.

Leadership Chr Creta Arlington reported on some of the unit presidents.

Poppy Chr Janet Sheets asked to put out our Poppy cans. May is poppy month. Poppy posters for schools were brought to the meeting. Had three first place winners, 2 from N Manchester school and 1 from Kokomo. Our poppy thing in May — Poppy Hats.

Publicity Chr. Irene Pickard asked for write ups with page #, papers name & date. Publicity books to be to her by June 1st.

Nomination of officers: President Sue Comerford, Vice Pres. Rosemary Hammons, Treasurer Virginia Baker, Chaplain Belinda Ritenour, Historian Pat Crago.

Closing prayer by Chaplain

Rosemary Hammons.

Next meeting May 19th at Roanoke Post 160.

HOMEBUYER WORKSHOP

Community Connections, the Housing Division of Pathfinder Services Inc., the City of Fort Wayne, Chase Bank, and Imagine Real Estate will be offering a FREE "Home Ownership is Possible" Homebuyer Workshop on Wednesday May 2nd, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the Chase Auditorium, located on the 2nd floor of One Summit Square in downtown Fort Wayne. This workshop is free to everyone who attends, but registration is required.

Attendees of this FREE "Home Ownership is Possible" workshop will find out if they qualify for up to \$15,000 in Down payment assistance through Community Connections for the purchase of a home within the City of Fort Wayne with typical monthly payments less than rent. Attendees will receive information about receiving a free copy of their credit report, who to contact regarding credit issues, and basic questions that should be asked when applying for a mortgage.

To register for this free workshop, please contact Trish Kraner at Community Connections at (260) 427-6231. Community Connections is the Housing Division of Pathfinder Services Inc., a not for profit Human Services organization with offices in Huntington, Wabash, and Plymouth. Community Connections began in 1997 and has helped over 800 families fulfill the dream of homeownership including 107 families in Allen County. Community Connections has provided those 107 families in Allen County with over \$717,500 dollars in down payment assistance.

ONE ACT FESTIVAL

Huntington University students will present the annual One-Act Play Festival on May 4 and 5, at 7:30 p.m. in the Studio Theatre of the Merillat Center for the Arts. Led by Huntington student directors, two works will showcase the talents of the university's actors and designers. The public is invited to attend, and general admission is \$2.

For tickets, call the Merillat Centre for the Arts Box Office at (260) 359-4261.

Student director Kristen Kohaut will present "Trifles," a play by Susan Glaspell about two wives who accompany their husbands during an investigation of a man who has been murdered. By looking at the details the men deem insignificant, the women discover a surprising motive for the crime and the killer. During this investigation, the women struggle be-

tween turning the killer over to the law and choosing to have compassion for the killer.

"I chose this show because it's a clear deception of a woman's struggle in the world," said Kohaut. "In the play the women discover how important it is to be there for one another."

Kohaut's cast includes Rebekah Posegate, Deanna Repic, Matthias Austin and Christopher Betz. Her crew includes Alicia Bonham as stage manager.

Keeley Lewis will direct "When God Comes to Breakfast, You Don't Burn the Toast," a story about what to do when "The Almighty God" drops in for breakfast. When Harry and Beatrice Katzman are faced with this situation, the commonplace and the totally unexpected come together in a flurry of humor and excitement

The cast includes Cassandra Quinn, Peter Owens and Neil Rupp. Her crew includes Ryan Yoder as stage manager, Cassandra Quinn as props master, Abi Allwein as costume designer, Brad DeYoung as lighting and sound designer and Keeley Lewis as set designer.

READY, SET, GROW - THEN CLICK

Online entry makes it easier than ever to compete at Indiana State Fair

As the unseasonable deep-freeze throughout Indiana finally appears ready to give way to Spring, Hoosier gardeners will be headed back where they belong - digging in the dirt. And now it's easier than ever for folks to get those sunflowers, peppers and tomatoes the recognition they deserve thanks to the Indiana State Fair's online entry system.

The fair started offering limited online entry in 2005, and now it is available for virtually every item in the fair. Online entries have risen steadily since the system's inception, including a 10 percent increase in Open class categories last year.

"It's become a virtual world, and although we are all about tradition at the Indiana State Fair, we are doing our best to keep up with the times," said Cindy Hoye, the fair's executive director. "Clearly, people are responding to the convenience of entering the fair at their computer rather than in person or through the postal system."

Of course, diehard traditionalists can still fill out an entry form by hand and send it through the mail, but many of those people still go online to choose their

CONTINUED PAGE 6

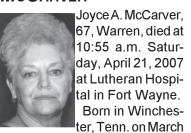
GENEALOGY REPORT

THANK YOU

We would like to thank the Methodist Memorial Home (now called Heritage Pointe) for the years of service and dedication to our mother (Ethel B. Couch). We know that your excellent care of mom contributed to a better life for her. We want to thank all of you who sent cards, flowers, food and memorials, our friends and relatives that attended calling or the funeral, Pastor Gerald Moreland for his words during the funeral, Linda Baller for the beautiful piano music, Otto Lowe for his vocal solos and the ladies of the Church of Christ in Warren for the wonderful funeral dinner.

Larry and Rosalie Couch & family Steve and Sharon Couch & family Alan and Mara Jo Williams & family

McCARVER



10, 1940 to George L. and Annie L. (Gann) Powers, she married James C. McCarver on Nov. 2, 1957 in Winchester, Tenn., he survives.

A 1957 graduate of Franklin Co. High School, she was a homemaker and also worked for the Warren EMS for several years. She was a member of the Gospel Community Church in Hunting-

Other survivors include two sons, Gary McCarver and Trent (Christy) McCarver, both of Warren; two daughters, Angela Hamilton of Huntington and Lisa (Michael) Morris of Estill Springs, Tenn.; three sisters, Connie Lee of Huntland, Tenn., June Hedges of Winchester, Tenn., and Linda Schmucher of Fort Wayne; three brothers, Glen Powers of Huntington, George Powers of Winchester, Tenn., and Donald Powers of Tucson, Ariz.; nine grandchildren; and two great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by two brothers, Jodie and Buddy Powers, and a sister, Patricia Riggs.

A memorial service was held at the Gospel Community Church in Huntington.

Preferred memorials are to the American Cancer Society or the church. Arrangements are being handled by Glancy Funeral Home, H. Brown & Son Chapel in Warren.

McCroskey

Donald L. McCroskey, 76, died at 9:15 a.m. Friday, April 13, 2007, in his residence.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy McCroskey; son, Robert (Brenda) Holt; daughter, Karen Webb; daughter-in-law, Katherine McCroskey; nine grandchildren; and five greatgrandchildren.

A memorial service is at 6:30 p.m. Thursday in Dillman United Brethern in Christ Church, 8888 S. 1100 W-90, Warren, with the Rev. Dick Case officiating.

Memorials may be made to Family Hospice of North East Indiana, Berne, IN 46711; or to Dillman United Brethern in Christ Church, 8888 S. 1100 W-90, Warren, IN 46792.

Ferguson & Glancy Funeral Home, 201 W. Main St., Van Buren, handled arrangements.

VANCE

Patrick Evan Vance, 57, of Goshen, died early Thursday morning, April 12, 2007, at his home after a three year battle with cancer.

He was born June 3, 1949, in Goshen to Allen L. and Neva (Hoke) Vance. He married Susan Laymon (formerly of Warren) on April 26, 1997, in Goshen.

A life long resident of the area, Mr. Vance graduated from Goshen High School in 1968 where he played football and made the all-state football team. He attended Manchester College for two years and also played football there.

He was a member of the First United Methodist Church, Goshen, and most recently had been working with his son at Air Comfort Pros, Elkhart. He had also done mission work in Haiti for 14 years.

He is survived by his wife, Susan; parents, Allen and Neva Vance of Goshen; a son, Evan Eugene (Angela) Vance of Elkhart; three daughters, Leslie Miller of Auburn, Elisabeth (David) Rogers and Monique Vance, both of Elkhart; and 13 grandchildren. He is also survived by three brothers, Jeffrey (Gail) Vance of Elkhart, Michael (Sandy) Vance of New Paris, and Timothy (Patricia) Vance of South Bend; and two sisters, Cheryl Bowman and Debra (Paul) Jones, both of

Services were held at Yoder-Culp Funeral Home with Pastors Ed and Brenda Fritz of First United Methodist Church officiating.

Burial was in West Goshen Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Life Center of the First United Methodist Church or Goshen Care at Home Hospice.

BIRTHS

Seth Williams and Heather Green, Huntington, are the parents of a son, Adain Mykel Williams, born at 6:16 p.m. April 19th, 2007 at Parkview Hospital. The baby weighed 7 pounds 10 ounces at birth and joins sisters, Kyra, Kaylee and Zoey.

Grandparents are Lisa and Rob Williams of Warren and James Green and Brenda Taylor of Huntington. Great-grandparents are Barb and LD Williams of Huntington, Geraldine Sharp of Huntington and the late Marvin and Imogene Nicholson.

David and Lydia (Kyer) Williams of rural Bluffton are the parents of a son, Cameron David Williams, born on March 27, 2007 at 4:39 p.m. at the Lutheran Hospital. He weighed 6 lbs and 14 ounces and was 19 3/4 inches

Grandparents are Alan and Mara Jo Williams of Rural Bluffton and Dave and Diane Kyer of Spencer, WV. Great-grandparents are Mrs. Mary Williams of Warren, IN, Stanley and Maysel Kyer of LeRoy, WV and Darris and Georgia Atkinson of Spencer, WV. **Deceased Great-grandparents** are Clarence Williams and Paul and Ethel Couch.



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AREA NEWS CONTINUED

More Page 4

classes and download the form at www.indianastatefair.com.

Jim Cole, the state fair's director of the Ball State Agriculture/ Horticulture building, is happy that the online system is catching on, potentially bringing more participants to his building.

"It's such a fun thing to take part in," Cole said. "Who wouldn't want to win a ribbon and have bragging rights for growing the best onion or dahlia at the state

Online entry will be available by May 1 for 4-H projects and in mid-May for Open class items. Deadline for entering is June 1 for select 4-H categories and July 1 for all others. Each entrant has the opportunity to win ribbons and cash prizes, and also receives tickets to the fair, August

For more information, contact the Indiana State Fairgrounds entry department at (317) 927-7515 or www.indianastatefair.com.

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Monday

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ECKRICH

Have you been wanting to live a greener lifestyle but don't know how? In honor of Earth Day, last week, Helen DeGennaro provides the following information.

Be picky about produce - Down-

load the "Shoppers' Guide to Pesticides in Produce" at ewg.org. The wallet-size list sorts out the fruits and veggies that tend to be higher in pesticides (like apples and spinach) from produce with a lower count (like bananas and peas).

Choose "certified" coffee - Yuban coffee is Rainforest Alliance Certified (that means it's grown in a way that preserves the ecosystem). A Fair Trade Certified brand is Green Mountain Coffee Roasters. (Both brands are available at many markets.) For more on these certification labels, see the

Support local farms - At eatwellguide.org, you can plug in your zip code and find suppliers of organic and sustainably produced meat, poultry, eggs, and more. If you buy locally, you won't have to rely on farms that ship food nationwide, which helps to decrease our dependence on oil and to cut back on gas emissions.

Tote your own grocery bag -Paper or plastic? Neither! If you're shopping for a small load, bring along a cute sack like the polkadot tote, above, from Cath Kidston (cathkidston.com). Another practical option: the ACME Workhorse Style 1500 (reusablebags.com), which crunches into a tiny pouch that fits in your purse.

Pay attention to packaging -Every American produces about four and a half pounds of garbage a day. So before you buy something, eyeball the amount of cardboard, plastic, and/or other materials used for the box or wrapping. Wal-Mart is one big retailer that is waking up to the problem: The chain is replacing petroleumbased plastic containers with corn-based packaging for precut fruit, herbs, strawberries, and Brussels sprouts.

Save money in the bathroom -Buy water-efficient showerheads. With low-flow models, a family of four can cut water usage by as much as 280 gallons a monthand yet not feel much difference in water pressure. Two we like: Kohler's Master Shower Eco (kohler.com) and Niagara Conservation's Earth Massage (niagaraconservation.com).

Bring home superhero plants -Certain greens can help remove indoor air pollutants like formaldehyde and benzene. Don't have the gardening gene? Golden pothos, English ivy, and peace lilies are all easy-to-grow toxin fighters.

Recycle rechargeables - Cell phones, digital cameras, and camcorders have made these batteries more popular than ever, but in certain states-Florida, Iowa,

Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, New Jersey, and Vermont-it's illegal to throw them away. Wherever you live, you can find a nearby store that will recycle them for you; just go to rbrc.org and type in your zip code.

Adjust fridge and freezer temps Refrigerators eat up the most electricity in the household. Maximize efficiency by keeping the fridge at 37°F and the freezer at 0°F.

Lighten up with energy savings Consider using compact fluorescent lightbulbs (CFLs). They cost a bit more than regular bulbs, but you'll lower your electric bill and pay less in the long run-CFLs last up to ten times longer than traditional ones. (Worried that fluorescents will fill your house with a greenish glow? That's no longer a problem. When we compared a regular bulb with a GE Energy Star Qualified CFL, testers couldn't tell the difference.) You can buy CFLs at most hardware and home stores. To save more on lighting, install dimmer switches and use timers, indoors and out.

Recycle smart - From furniture to electronics, one person's trash is another's treasure-so when you want to dispose of an old item, don't make the dump your first stop. Two sites with alternatives: freecycle.org

earth911.org. The Freecycle Network describes itself as "a place to give or receive what you have and don't need or what you need and don't have-[to keep] stuff out of landfills." The Earth 911 Web site offers community-specific resources, with a focus on recycling. Check out the home page to find out where you can recycle your computer, your cell phoneeven used motor oil.

Protect the earth while you picnic - At your next outdoor party, ask people to write their names on disposable cups so they'll use only one (to make it easy, put out markers). If you use disposable dinnerware, buy the kind that won't clog landfills or kill trees. To try: EarthShell plates and bowls (www.earthshell.com). They're made from corn, potatoes, and limestone-and cost less than 6 cents per plate.

Take paint precautions - Most paint emits VOCs (volatile organic compounds), the same kind of chemicals found in gasoline and nail polish. But manufacturers like Sherwin-Williams have developed water-based products that perform well but give off virtually no VOCs. Krylon's H20 paint is the first low-VOC latex spray paint that can be cleaned up with soap and water. Made from 99

CONTINUED PAGE 8



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Med Fountain Drink Med Fountain Drink

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Mashed Potatoes

Corn

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YOUTH APPRECIATION

The Huntington Optimist Club recently presented two Salamonie Middle School students with the Optimist Youth Appreciation Award for the month of April 2007. Kaylie Dunn and Katie Keen were recognized for demonstrating outstanding dedication and service to their school, the community and its citizens.

Kaylie is the daughter of Angela Dunn and is active with Student Council, basketball, volleyball, softball, 4-H, and the People-to-People program.

Katie is the daughter of William and Lana Keen and is involved with Quiz Bowl, Vacation Bible School, Youth Council and teaching Sunday School classes.

Pictured from left to right: Optimist Club President Rob Paolillo. Kaylie Dunn, Katie Keen, and Salamonie Assistant Principal Becca

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AREA NEWS CONTINUED

More Page 6

percent food-grade ingredients, Anna Sova's Healthy Wall Finish annasova.com) leaves your rooms smelling vaguely like vanilla. To be at least minimally organic, use a water-based latex paint, not an oil-based alkyd paintand remember, exterior paints should never be used indoors.

Raise the roof with recycled materials - If your old shingles need replacing, consider a Classic Metal Roofing System (classicroof.com). It's made from recycled aluminum cans but resembles traditional shakes or tiles. Thanks to the Energy Policy Act of 2005, installing this type of material can qualify you for a \$500 tax credit.

Choose energy-efficient appliances - Look for the Energy Star label, awarded to fridges, washers, and other products that exceed government efficiency standards by using less water or electricity. For Energy Star appliances that have been tested by GHI, visit goodhousekeeping.com.

Dress in eco-chic clothing -Lara Miller's Melissa tunic is 100 percent bamboo, yet it's as soft as silk. (For stores, go to laramiller.net.) Linda Loudermilk, an eco-couture designer, uses fabric made from sasawashi (a Japanese leaf), along with bamboo, soya, and other exotic selfsustaining plants (lindaloudermilk.com).

Make up with Mother Nature - Aveda's All-Sensitive Body Formula moisturizing body oil uses organic jojoba. What's more, most of Aveda's packaging is made from recycled material. A makeup line that's entirely organic: Nvey Eco (econveybeauty.com). We particularly like their eyeshadows.

Be clean (and green) - Pangea Organics soaps, which are made with organic and often Fair Trade Certified ingredients, are scented with oils like lavender and lemongrass. They come in a biodegradable carton that will start disintegrating within 48 hours if you plant it in your garden. Available at Whole Foods Markets.

Become a flexitarian - Swap out one meat dish a week for a veggie plate. Why? Because raising produce is "cheaper," in terms of energy, than raising animals. Log on to vegweb.com to find tasty, meatless recipes (our favorite: the lentil burgers).

Grill corn in its husk - Instead of stripping off the green leaves, soak the ear whole, then place it right on the barbecue-no aluminum foil required.

Go for the gold- coffee filters, that is - Spare trees by replacing paper filters in your coffeemaker with reusables (usually gold colored).

Get the organic habit - Switch to organic for at least one product that you buy every week.

Put it in park - Avoid drivethrough windows, especially if there are long lines.

Compost - Instead of trashing food scraps, toss them into Gardener's Supply Company Kitchen Compost Crock, a ceramic countertop composter that's perfect for first-timers (gardeners.com).

Break out the bamboo - This plant is a far more sustainable natural resource than wood because it grows very quickly. Try the stylish bamboo bowls and cutting boards from TimberGrass(lamsonsharp.com). Buy a laptop - It uses considerably less power than a desktop computer.

Get off junk mail lists - Register with the Direct Marketing Association's Mail Preference Service (dmaconsumers.org) and you'll see a significant reduction in mail after three months.

Double up on printing - Configure your printer so that it prints on both sides of the page. You know those extra pages you get when printing out one simple e-mail? Turn them over and put them back in the printer for reuse.

Mow-ercise!-Today's non-gasoline-powered reel lawn mowers are easier to push than the old models. Their eco-benefit: zero emissions (plus, you're getting great exercise). If you prefer a power mower, consider a quiet, battery-operated model from Black & Decker.

Warm up to solar energy - You may not be ready for a totally sun-powered home, but you can get a taste of the technology by using solar-powered lighting in your yard or on your patio. We like Malibu's Solar Floodlight (intermatic.com).

Go native - Plant flowers and shrubs that are well suited to your climate (the staff at your local nursery can help). The benefit: You'll use less fertilizer and pesticides.

Ask SHIP

Q: I am having trouble paying my Part D drug plan premiums. I have been denied for Social Security Extra Help because of my resources are too high. Is there any other source of help out there?

A: You may qualify for help through Indiana's State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program (SPAP), known as HoosierRx. HoosierRx can help pay the monthly Part D premium for members enrolled in a Medicare Part D plan working with HoosierRx. In order to be eligible you must: * be an Indiana resident 65 years old or older * have a yearly income of \$15,555 or less for a single person, or \$20,775 or less

for a married couple living together * have applied for the Extra Help through Social Security Administration (SSA) and received either a "Notice of Award" (stating that you are receiving partial extra help subsidy) or "Notice of Denial" (stating your resources are above the limit established by law) from SSA.

Companies offering Part D plans working with HoosierRx are as follows: AARP/United Healthcare; Cigna Healthcare; Coventry AdvantraRx; First Health; Humana; MemberHealth; Pennsylvania Life Insurance; SilverScript; WellCare.

If you are currently enrolled in a plan that is not working with HoosierRx, you can still apply for help. As a member of HoosierRx, you would qualify for a Special Enrollment Period. Individuals who belong to a qualified SPAP (such as HoosierRx) may make one enrollment change at any time through the end of each calendar year.

Note: when calling your drug plan or Medicare you should refer to HoosierRx as the Indiana SPAP—the representatives are in national call centers and may not recognize the name HoosierRx.

To apply for HoosierRx or for more information, call a HoosierRx representative at 1-866-267-4679 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Eastern time or visit the website at http://www.IN.gov/HoosierRx

Q: I'm in the donut hole [Coverage Gap] already, and I can't afford the full cost of my drugs. Is there anything that can help me?

A: Begin by talking with your doctor. Check to see if you can switch any brand name drugs you are currently taking to generics. Generic drugs are usually as effective as brand name drugs in treating medical conditions and are generally much less expensive.

Check with your pharmacy to see if they offer a discount program. You may be able to get a lower price for your drugs by using a discount card or pharmacy discount. You may use this discount and have it apply to your Part D plan's out-of-pocket costs. In order to do this you must use a pharmacy that is in the plan's network. Also, be sure to let your pharmacist know that you are in the Donut Hole. You can submit your receipt to have the amount applied to your out-of-pocket expense. Check with your plan for specific details on how to submit your receipt.

Several national pharmacies have announced they are drastically reducing the cost of generic prescription drugs. Meijer offers generic antibiotics at no cost. Target, Wal-Mart and Sam's Club charge \$4 for generic drugs, but the list includes more than antibiotics.

For a complete listing of what each pharmacy offers, log onto

their respective Web sites.

SHIP is a free, unbiased counseling program provided by the Indiana State Department of Insurance. For assistance, call your local SHIP site to make an appointment or call the state office at 1-800-452-4800 to obtain a list of local SHIP sites.

Check with the manufacturer of your medication. Many pharmaceutical companies offer programs that provide free or low cost drugs to those in need regardless of age. Most of these programs have the following requirements:

you do not have insurance that covers prescription drugs;

you do not qualify for government assistance; and your income is within their stated

guidelines.

The application process is different for each company. Usually a

doctor must sign your completed application form and have his/her office submit it for you.

Rx for Indiana can provide assistance with matching your prescriptions with these assistance programs. You can contact Rx for Indiana at 1-877-483-9275 or through their website at www.RxforIndiana.org.

Address your questions to: Ask SHIP, 714 West 53rd Street, Anderson, IN 46013, Or www.Medicare.in.gov

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HOME

There is a plaque that reads, "Home Is Where Your Story Begins," and so as an introduction to this new column I want to tell you my story. I've lived in Jackson Township, Wells County, most of my life. As a child, Warren was where we shopped. As a youth, Warren is where we Jackson kids ran around. In fact, Don Baer taught a good number of us how to swim. My father, Glen "Shorty" Slusher, graduated from Warren High School because at the time Jackson Township had no high school. So while I've never lived in the town, the Warren area has been home to me.

Most of my adult life was spent in education at Southern Wells Schools in various capacities. I began as a physical education/ business teacher and recently retired as the elementary principal. I was the K-12 Curriculum Coordinator when Warren so graciously invited us to use the old Warren High School after our tragic fire. Writing, local history, and genealogy are just some of my interests. I've found that everybody has a story and most people love to hear a good one, so I trust you'll find this new column interesting and perhaps even informative.

Anyone who grew up in this area has known about the Warren Home, until recently called United Methodist Memorial Home, or UMMH for short. Some of my neighbors, classmates and students worked here right out of high school. Some went on into nursing or other specialties and are still employed here. This close association with the community is a good reason why so many people are comfortable with their elder loved ones coming here. In fact, my mother, Violet Banter Slusher, lived here for nine years. Each time I visited her, she would introduce me to someone new and fascinating. Of course, I knew some of the residents already because they were elder neighbors, or friends from the surrounding area.

Lately my husband, Jim, and I have been using the pool and fitness room and have learned to know more about the many engaging folks who live and work here. I can no longer resist the temptation to record and share some of these stories. I've asked permission to speak with people and write about some of the refreshing things that are happening in and around the facilities. No, Heritage Pointe does not employ me, and I don't consider these stories as infomercials, but I do know that there is a heap of living that is ongoing with the many who live here. The founding fathers claimed Psalm 71:9 as the basis for opening that first building. "Cast me not off in my old age, forsake me not when my strength fails." However, life is not as slow as some might assume. Stay tuned to the many wonderful stories from the Pointe.