

Friday, November 24, 2023

Volume 38, Number 40



www.warrenweeklyindiana.com

# Warren Weekly

Your Hometown Newspaper

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Thought for the Week: Have a Very Happy Thanksgiving and share it with the one's you love.

## THE PULSE OPERA HOUSE PRESENTS

### THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER

BY BARBARA ROBINSON

There are some things you can count on every year. Helen Armstrong will always direct the annual church Christmas pageant. Alice Wendelken will always play Mary and Rev. Hopkins' son Elmer will always play Joseph. Until this year. Not only is Helen Armstrong in the hospital, but the horrible Herdman kids show up at rehearsal demanding to play all the good roles.

You won't believe the mayhem - and the fun - when the Herdman's collide with the Christmas story head on! Will the church survive Christmas eve with Wise Men who think it's some kind of spy story and there is a real possibility Mary will run away away with the baby?

This delightful comedy is adapted from the best-selling Young Adult book, and has become a holiday staple for theatres across the United States! Features plenty of children and adults, a few favorite Christmas Carols, and a lot of laughs!

Shows will be November 24, 25 & 26 and December 1, 2, & 3. Friday Shows at 8:00p.m., Saturday Shows 4:00 & 8:00 p.m., Sunday Shows at 4:00 p.m.

For online reservations: [www.pulseoperahouse.org](http://www.pulseoperahouse.org) or 260-375-7017. The Pulse is located at 127 1/2 Wayne Street, Warren, IN.

## TRASH PICK-UP

Van Buren Trash pick-up will be Friday, November 24 due to Thanksgiving.

## GIVING THANKS

May we remember to Give Thanks to the God of Heaven, The Creator the Heavens & Earth, Jesus Christ our Lord, Who has blessed us abundantly, beyond all that we could ask or think. It was for this purpose that this day has been set aside, and we must learn to be thankful for the few privileges and freedoms which we still have left.

Thank God for life & breath, for family & friends, for home & country.

This is the true meaning of Thanks-Giving!

From the Warren Pharmacy

## THANK YOU

What a wonderful, joyful, fun and beautiful Indiana November night we had downtown Warren at the Historic Warren Main Street 12th Annual Holiday Walk & Festival of Trees. Warren was alive with lights, laughter, music, goodies & shopping! Thank you to the 35 Tree entries, the 50 Holiday Walk entries, & the 12 Gingerbread House entries! A stroll through Warren is a must on your Holiday list! Thank you to everyone that helped decorate our downtown for the Holidays and helped to make a special night in downtown Warren! A big Thank you goes out to all of our Volunteers!!!

If you came & enjoyed, we hope you made memories!

Mark your calendars for next year: Friday, November 22, 2024!

Look for pictures of all the Tree and Gingerbread winners throughout this issue of the Warren Weekly.

## GIVING TUESDAY

What is Giving Tuesday?

Giving Tuesday is a global initiative dedicated to fostering giving and kindness. It falls on the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving and aims to create a massive wave of generosity, inspiring people to give, collaborate and celebrate generosity. This year Giving Tuesday falls on Tuesday, November 28th.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Huntington County are using this year's Giving Tuesday funds towards making Christmas special for more than 300 Club Members, from kindergarten to 12th grade. It's a yearly tradition where everyone gets to enjoy a festive meal, have fun decorating cookies, play games, and each Club Member receives a Christmas gift.

Your support on Giving Tuesday will help us create memorable moments for the kids in our community.

Here's how you can get involved.

1. Facebook BINGO Card - We've created a digital Bingo card that you can find on our Boys & Girls of Huntington County Facebook page on Giving Tuesday. You can actively participate by contributing towards our Christmas parties in Both Huntington and Warren, helping fill the boxes on the card and making a positive impact on the youth of Huntington County.

2. Jeans Day - Are you a business owner or manager? Join us in celebrating Giving Tuesday by giving your employees to opportunity to wear jeans in exchange for a \$5 donation to the Boys & Girls Club Giving Tuesday fund. To get your company involved, simply reach out to Virgil@bgchuntington.com via email. Your support and casual attire can truly make a significant difference!

3. Online Donation - Make a difference with just a few clicks. Visit our website to make an online donation. Your support is crucial in helping us to achieve our

community goals. Visit [www.bgchuntington.com](http://www.bgchuntington.com) and click the "Donate" button at the top.

4. In Person Donation - We welcome in-person donations at 608 E State Street, Huntington, IN 46750. Drop by on Giving Tuesday to contribute and be part of something meaningful.

## LITTLE TOWN OF CHRISTMAS

Van Buren's Little Town of Christmas will be held December 1 & 2 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

CONTINUED PAGE 3



QUEEN'S CHOICE BY  
2023 MISS WARREN TAYLOR JORDAN  
MIRANDA BOLINGER - HOOSIER REAL ESTATE GROUP



**WARREN WEEKLY** • Owner/Publisher: Nicki L. Zoda  
**Mailing Address:** P O Box 695, Warren, IN 46792  
**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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**Kudos, Kicks & Karats**



It's Thanksgiving week and I know I'm excited about it. My favorite time of the year to cook. This year we will be celebrating here at home on Thanksgiving and then Saturday at Mom's with the whole family. This year I decided to do a traditional meal at our house with turkey breast and ham, mashed potatoes and gravy, praline sweet potatoes, bread dressing and of course John's oyster dressing and green bean casserole. This year I'll be forgoing on making the dinner rolls but will have Sister Shulbert's rolls instead and then I'll make a pumpkin pie.

At mom's we will be going off the grid on the meal with my sister and I bringing a soup and a charcuterie board to go with the soup. So, I squeaked out the easy way with chili, since I'm already skilled with that one. So my board will consist of onions, cheese, oyster crackers, saltine crackers, corn bread mini muffins, butter, jalapenos, peanut butter and bread.

I also volunteered for the dessert board which will have mini pecan pie tarts, Reeses cookies, orange cranberry mini muffins, donut holes, peanut clusters and maybe some mini cinnamon rolls. So Kendra and I are working on these boards and my sister is bringing corn chowder and a cold cut board with breads. Then Sarah and Annie will bring a veggie and a fruit board. Great Grandma is in charge of the paper products and the Jello jigglers, which is a must.

We always get together for Thanksgiving and then here lately we all do our own thing with our families for Christmas. Then when things calm down from the holidays about mid winter we all congregate at moms again for a meal. Kids going 6 different directions on Christmas, it has been so much easier and we don't buy presents, which makes it so much easier in itself.

Thanksgiving is so much different than in the years past when the whole family, aunts, uncles, cousins and 2nd cousins would get together for a meal. We would spend all day talking about the past and very seldom was the future brought up, but who knew what would happen by the time the next Thanksgiving would come. It was called simpler times; we didn't worry about what was next, we lived in the moment and past moments that were fun. We were thankful for what we had at that time and cherished the memories of the past and in our family, we ate, then ate, then ate some more till we were sick and no it wasn't cause of food poisoning cause the food set out on the table all day it was because we ate too much. It was a good sick, with love behind it.

But in between those big meals, I have shopping to do. Black Friday starts long before the crack of dawn in this

CONTINUED PAGE 5



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|--|---|--|
| <p><b>ASBURY CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST</b><br/>             8013W 1100S-90, Montpelier<br/>             Nick Miller, Pastor<br/>             Sunday School ..... 9:30 a.m.<br/>             Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.</p> <p><b>BANQUO CHRISTIAN CHURCH</b><br/>             8924S 900W 35<br/>             Harold Smith, Pastor<br/>             Sunday School ..... 9:30 a.m.<br/>             Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.</p> <p><b>BOEHMER UNITED METHODIST</b><br/>             Steve Nevius, Pastor<br/>             Denise Heiniger, S.S. Supt.<br/>             Sunday Worship ..... 9:30a.m.<br/>             Sunday School ..... 10:45a.m.</p> <p><b>CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH</b><br/>             Van Buren, Indiana 765-934-2199<br/>             Worship ..... 9:30 a.m.<br/>             Youth Group 4:30-7:30pm at SwitchUp<br/>             Handicap Accessible<br/>             Little Panther Preschool 765.934.2099</p> <p><b>HEALING WATERS MINISTRY —</b><br/> <b>5811 W 600 S, MT ETNA</b><br/>             Pastor Wayne Couch<br/>             260/515-2517<br/>             Sunday Prayer ..... 9:15 a.m.<br/>             Sunday School ..... 9:30 a.m.<br/>             Worship Service ..... 10:30 a.m.<br/>             Wednesday Bible Study ..... 6:00 p.m.<br/>             Sunday Evening Service ..... 6:00 p.m.<br/>             Daycare provided during Worship</p> <p><b>DILLMAN UNITED BRETHREN</b><br/>             888S 1100W-90, Warren 375-2779<br/>             Matt Kennedy, Pastor<br/>             Worship Service ..... 9:00a.m.<br/>             Sunday School ..... 10:00a.m.</p> <p><b>HANFIELD UNITED METHODIST</b><br/>             101 N 400 E - Marion 765/664-8726<br/>             Curtis Banker, Senior Pastor<br/>             Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.<br/>             Sunday School ..... 9:15 a.m.</p> <p><b>THE NEW BEGINNING</b><br/>             SR 218, 2 1/8 mile west of Poneto<br/>             Steve Sutton, Pastor<br/>             765/728-2065 for more info<br/>             Sunday Worship ..... 10:30a.m.<br/>             Thursday Prayer Meeting ..... 7:00 p.m.</p> <p><b>HERITAGE POINTE</b><br/>             Chaplains Gerald Moreland, Ginny Soultz &amp; John Moyer<br/>             Sunday Morning Worship ..... 9:30 a.m.</p> <p><b>OTHER SERVICES BY ANNOUNCEMENT</b><br/>             Monday thru Friday<br/>             Chapel Services ..... 9:00 a.m.</p> <p><b>WARREN 1st BAPTIST CHURCH</b><br/>             727 N Wayne St, Warren<br/>             260-375-2811<br/>             office@warrenfirsbaptist.net<br/>             Pator Rusty Strickler<br/>             Youth Dir: Peter &amp; Mindy Fairchild<br/>             Sunday School ..... 9:00 a.m.<br/>             Sunday Worship ..... 10:00 a.m.<br/>             Youth Group: Grades 5-12 ...Sun 11:30<br/>             Ekklesia ..... Sun 6:30pm</p> | <p><b>HILLCREST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE</b><br/>             375-2510<br/>             Pastor Steven Spencer<br/>             Bus Service 375-2510<br/>             www.warrennaz.org<br/>             Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.<br/>             Wed. Midweek Service ..... 6:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>SOLID ROCK CHURCH OF WARREN</b><br/>             485 Bennett Dr, Warren, IN<br/>             375-3873<br/>             John Boyanowski, Pastor<br/>             Sunday School ..... 9:00 a.m.<br/>             Worship Service ..... 10:00 a.m.</p> <p><b>LANCASTER WESLEYAN</b><br/>             3147 W 543 S, Huntington<br/>             765.524.3390<br/>             Pastor Trevor O'Dell, Pastor<br/>             Sunday School ..... 9:30 a.m.<br/>             Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.<br/>             Wednesdays:<br/>             Bible Study &amp; Prayer ..... 7:00 p.m.</p> <p><b>LIBERTY CENTER BAPTIST CHURCH</b><br/>             694-6622<br/>             Aaron Westfall, Pastor<br/>             Sunday School ..... 9:15 a.m.<br/>             Fellowship ..... 10:00a.m.<br/>             Worship ..... 10:15a.m.<br/>             Tues. Bible Study ..... 7:00 p.m.<br/>             Wed. Choir ..... 6:30p.m.<br/>             Monthly Meetings<br/>             1st Mon Ministry Team ..... 7:00 p.m.<br/>             3rd Sat Mens Prayer Breakfast 8:00 am<br/>             4th Mon ABW ..... 1:30 pm</p> <p><b>LIBERTY CENTER COMMUNITY CHURCH</b><br/>             Pastor Diane Samuels<br/>             Fellowship Time ..... 9:00a.m.<br/>             Morning Worship ..... 9:30 a.m.<br/>             Sunday School ..... 10:45 a.m.</p> <p><b>THE CHURCH AT MCNATT</b><br/>             375-4359<br/>             Bill VanHaften, Pastor<br/>             Lois Slusher, Supt.<br/>             Brittney Miller, Youth &amp; Family Dir.<br/>             Coffee Fellowship ..... 8:30 a.m.<br/>             Worship ..... 9:15 a.m.<br/>             Sunday School ..... 10:30 a.m.<br/>             Bible Study - Wed. .... 7:00 p.m.</p> <p><b>MT. ETNA COMMUNITY LIFE CHURCH</b><br/>             260/468-2148 Sr 9 &amp; 124<br/>             Rev. Michael Gallant - "Pastor Mike"<br/>             Good Morning Church (Sunday School for all ages ..... 9:00 - 9:45<br/>             Worship Service ..... 10:00 - 11:00<br/>             Everyone is Welcome</p> <p><b>SALAMONIE CHURCH OF BRETHREN</b><br/>             468-2412<br/>             Mel Zumbrun, Pastor<br/>             Worship ..... 9:30 a.m.<br/>             Church School ..... 10:45a.m.</p> | <p><b>UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST</b><br/>             375-2102<br/>             www.warrenucc.net<br/>             Troy Drayer, Senior Pastor<br/>             Sunday Worship ..... 9:30 a.m.<br/>             Contemporary Service - Wed 6:30 p.m.<br/>             Youth Sunday School during<br/>             Worship Service<br/>             Youth Group-Wed ..... 6:30 p.m.<br/>             Communion 1st Sunday of the Month</p> <p><b>VB CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE</b><br/>             765/934-3321 Parsonage<br/>             Jeff Slater, Pastor<br/>             Jim Knight, Superintendent<br/>             Sunday School ..... 9:30 a.m.<br/>             Adult Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.<br/>             Children's Church ..... 10:30a.m.<br/>             Evening Praise Hour ..... 6:00p.m.<br/>             Hour of Power (Wed) ..... 7:00p.m.</p> <p><b>VB CHURCH OF THE VINE</b><br/>             765-934-1431<br/>             Pastor Brad Hensley<br/>             vanburenchurchofthevine@gmail.com<br/>             Worship Service ..... 9:30 am<br/>             Sunday School ..... 10:45am<br/>             Not Home Alone - Wed ..... 3:00 pm<br/>             Prayer Group (Thur) ..... 6:30pm<br/>             Men Serving God Grp 2nd &amp; 4th Sat . 9am<br/>             Little Ones Book Club 1st Tue 10:00 am<br/>             Just Older Youth 3rd Tue ..... 12:00 pm</p> <p><b>WARREN CHURCH OF CHRIST</b><br/>             375-3022<br/>             Mickey Strong, Senior Minister<br/>             Andrew Fisher, Youth Minister<br/>             Liz Richardson, Childrens MinistryAsst.<br/>             Tara Bower - Secretary<br/>             www.warrenchurchofchrist.org<br/>             Fellowship ..... 9:15 a.m.<br/>             Worship &amp; Communion ..... 9:30 a.m.<br/>             Sunday School ..... 11 to 11:50 a.m.<br/>             Youth:<br/>             K-6th grade, Mon ..... 6:15-7pm<br/>             Jr/Sr Hi, Sunday ..... 6-8pm</p> <p><b>FARRVILLE COMMUNITY CHURCH</b><br/>             11044 E 200 N, Marion, IN<br/>             765-934-3609<br/>             Pastor Al Soultz<br/>             Sunday Worship ..... 10:30 am<br/>             Sunday School Classes ..... 9:30 am<br/>             Sunday Adult Bible Study ..... 6:00 pm<br/>             Thurs. Bible Study ..... 7:00 pm</p> |
|--|---|--|



*Please Attend The Church of Your Choice*



# AREA NEWS

**MORE PAGE 1**

The First Annual House Decorating Contest for All Van Buren Town Residents.

Decorate your house/yard for Christmas and be a part of Little Town of Christmas.

Anyone within the Van Buren town limits interested in participating in the Little Town of Christmas by decorating their property can sign up at Town Hall or call Linda Long 765-506-6837.

Decorating must be completed by Wednesday, November 29th at 5:00 p.m.

Voting will occur during Little Town of Christmas on December 1 & 2 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. at Town Hall. Votes are 1 cent each. Money collected will be given to the fund to buy Christmas for Van Buren families.

The top three homes getting the most votes will be awarded a choice from the following prizes: \$50 food voucher from Wolfie's Time Out Tavern, \$25 food voucher from Van Buren American Legion, or a \$40 gift basket from Mama Duck's.

Prizes will be awarded on Saturday, December 2 at 8:30 p.m. at the Van Buren Church of the Vine Fellowship Hall. You must be present to choose your prize.

Watch the Warren Weekly next week for more information.

**FEED HUNGRY HOOSIERS**

Indiana First Lady Janet Holcomb today joined the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) at Gleaners Food Bank of Indiana to let hunters know how they can help hungry Hoosiers. This reminder comes as deer firearms hunting season begins and the need for protein donations remains strong across the state.

Updated this year with a new name and website, Indiana Hunt for Hunger turns donated deer into healthy venison that is provided to Hoosiers through food banks like Gleaners across the state.

"Indiana Hunt for Hunger combines two time-honored Hoosier traditions—deer hunting and helping our

neighbors in need," said First Lady Holcomb. "As you're out hunting across Indiana this season, if you're lucky enough to harvest a deer, or possibly even two, please consider donating it to be turned into healthy venison for Hoosiers experiencing hunger."

The program, previously called the Sportsmen's Benevolence Fund, was started by the Indiana DNR and its partners in 2008. Since then, it has grown across the state to collect thousands of deer donations, providing hundreds of thousands of meals for Hoosiers.

"Too many Hoosiers are struggling to put food on the table. Our member food banks around the state are serving record numbers of families," said Emily Weikert Bryant, executive director of Feeding Indiana's Hungry. "Items like protein can be unaffordable on a tight household budget, creating a high demand for it at our food banks. By hunters taking an extra deer and donating it through Hunt for Hunger, Hoosier food banks and pantries will have more healthy protein to share with our friends and neighbors this deer season."

To better explain the program's vital mission and spur even greater participation, it's now called Indiana Hunt for Hunger, with continuing partnerships with

Hoosiers Feeding the Hungry, the Dubois County Sportsmen's Club, and Farmers & Hunters Feeding the Hungry.

"Donations can make a huge difference because the meat from one deer can provide 200 meals for a family," said Dan Bortner, DNR director. "One Hoosier hunter can make an incredible difference."

Here's how it works. Hunters take their field-dressed harvested deer to one of more than 50 participating meat processing sites across the state. The processor takes it from there, processing the meat into healthy venison burgers and donating it to area food banks. Indiana Hunt for Hunger pays the processing fees, so there is no extra cost to the hunter.

"Hoosiers Feeding the Hungry sincerely appreciates the past financial support provided by the Indiana DNR's Sportsmen's Benevolence Fund," said Suzie Jordan, executive director of Hoosiers Feeding the Hungry. "This support has allowed our agency to pay for the deer harvested as part of our program to be processed and provided to food banks and pantries throughout the state. Over 500,000 pounds of venison has been shared through this partnership. As the name changes to Hunt for Hunger, we can increase the awareness of the partnership

CONTINUED PAGE 4




**1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE FESTIVAL OF TREES - YOUTH ORGANIZATION SMALL WORLD PRESCHOOL**



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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.

|        |       |  |
|--------|-------|--|
| Nov 23 |       | THANKSGIVING                             |
| Dec 6  | Noon  | W - Chamber of Commerce Luncheon @ KBC   |
| Dec 6  | 7:00p | V - Town Council Meeting @ Town Hall     |
| Dec 11 | 6:00p | W - Town Council Meeting @ Assembly Hall |
| Dec 12 | 6:30p | W - SSF Meeting @ KBC                    |
| Dec 18 | 6:30p | W - KBC Board Meeting @ KBC              |
| Dec 20 | 7:00p | V - Town Council Meeting @ Town Hall     |
| Dec 21 |       | FIRST DAY OF WINTER                      |
| Dec 24 |       | CHRISTMAS EVE                            |

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](http://www.warrenweeklyindiana.com)



**Happy Thanksgiving!**

**Wishing you and your family all the best this Thanksgiving!**



**Deer Hunters - We carry High Melt Cheese and High Mountain Jerky & Sausage Seasonings!**

**We are Closed Nov 23 & 24**

**Outside Stand Closed for Season**

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

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**[www.jeffsfarmmarket.com](http://www.jeffsfarmmarket.com)**



## AREA NEWS CONTINUED

**MORE PAGE 3**  
between our nonprofit agency and the Indiana DNR to strengthen and expand the knowledge of our mission to Hoosier hunters, our processors, and food banks throughout the state.”

A list of participating vendors is posted at [on.IN.gov/huntforhunger](http://on.IN.gov/huntforhunger). Processors interested in joining the list can contact Capt. Jet Quillen at [jquillen@dnr.IN.gov](mailto:jquillen@dnr.IN.gov) or 317-232-0658 for more information.

W & W Locker in Andrews, Manley Meats in Decatur and Fisher Packing in Pennville are the closest to this area. The are 51 total vendors in the list by following the link above.

### FARMER'S ALMANAC 2024

The Warren Pharmacy has received the new 2024 Farmers Almanac. The Almanac contains tips for gardening, farming, cooking and recipes, along with weather predictions for all of 2024 and many helpful insights that affect your life, including “the best days to get your hair cut”, and the best days to fish. It has astronomy information about the rotation of the Moon and the Planets, along with basic Eclipse information.

Best of all, it is FREE when you fill a prescription at the Warren Pharmacy. Extra copies can be purchased for only \$1.00.

### FREE POCKET PLANNER

The Warren Pharmacy has just received the 2024 Norman Rockwell 12-Month Pocket Planner. Small enough to fit in a purse or pocket, each Calendar starts with January 2024, with room on each day to write the important events that affect you and your family. Each Planner has pages for some of your medical information, and standard medical information for Blood Pressure, BMI and Cholesterol.

They are available as a FREE GIFT at the Warren Pharmacy.

### CHAUTAUQUA

On November 3, 2023, 12 members of the Chautauqua Club met at the First Christian Church (formerly the United Church of Christ) to learn about WPL –Warren Public Library—from the new Assistant Librarian, Sarah Conner. She explained that the 1st Library was set up in 1914 in Warren and with one librarian. Later, Andrew Carnegie built 10,000 libraries all over the country during the War years in 1920. The Carnegie libraries all looked alike.

The WPL is connected to the Evergreen Consortium which means the WPL cardholders can visit any other Evergreen library in the state of Indiana to check out a book and then return the book at the WPL. If you are looking for a special book, a search through all the other Evergreen libraries will find it for you, and send it to you.

The inside of the Library has a cozy adult area with easy chairs and papers etc. There is also a cozy reading area for children downstairs supplied with an assortment of books, puzzles, and games.

The building also offers computers, free Wi-Fi, fax machines, and a laminator, audio books,, DVD's, and apps for kindle books, movies, etc. The WP: has subscriptions for the Fort Wayne Gazette, The Bluffton News Banner, Huntington Herald Press, the Warren Weekly and different magazines to read or check out, Any Salamonie Township residents are eligible for a free library card. If you don't live in the Township a one year card is available for \$66.00.

The WPL offers many programs and events. Friends of the Library is a volunteer organization that provides the extra help as needed. Their Book Sales are the 1st Saturday of the month March through October. Three different Book Clubs all meet on different Wednesdays, and would all love to have all interested persons to come join on Wednesdays from 7 pm. --8p.m. These Book Clubs are “Murder Mystery”, “The

Old Favorites”, and “TBR” Book Club. Snacks are provided! Check at the Library for more timely information. A summer reading program for all ages is provided, and a reading program is being planned for 2024.

The Library provides so many services, community friendships, reading for recreation, news and knowledge, and they are looking to increase the number of members using the Library, Hours are; Mon/Tue/Thurs - 1pm - 6pm; Friday - 10 am - 6pm; Saturday - 10 am - 2pm; Closed Wednesday and Sunday. COME SEE US!

The Business meeting was opened by President Sharon Gebhart with a moment of silence to honor our member Ann Brauchla's passing. Roll call was :“Name a famous lady who you admire, and why”.

Many Mothers and family members were expressed. A \$25 donation was made to Knight Center in memory of Ann Brauchla, cards were sent to Kitty Throop, Ann Spahr, Sandy Schwarzkopf, Janet Beavans, and Bonnie Meyers.

Sharon's Final Thought for the Day;

“How about instead of rushing from Halloween to Christmas we use November as a month of Thanksgiving to properly prepare our hearts to celebrate Christmas for what it really is about, The Birth of our Savior-----Jesus Christ!

Members present were Carmen Anderson, Nancy Bonham, Sharon Gebhart,

Jean Grasmik, Linda Howell, Suellen Jones, Judy Lewis, Bonnie Meyers, Peggy Schweikhardt, Mary Sell, Sandy Thompson, Eva Witkamp and guest Sarah Conner.

Happy Holidays

### PUFFERBELLY TRAIL

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Allen County celebrated the opening of the Pufferbelly Trail extension this morning.

The 4.33-mile asphalt multi-use trail was constructed by Allen County with help from a \$3.2-million Next Level Trails (NLT) grant. The award was announced by Gov. Eric J. Holcomb in May 2019 as part of the first grant round of NLT.

“This extension of the Pufferbelly Trail is a key connection – in the region and as part of our continued growth of trails across the state as part of the Next Level Trails initiative,” said Dan Bortner, DNR director.

The new trail extends the existing Pufferbelly Trail north from the Life Bridge Church Trailhead at Union Chapel Road to Fitch Road near the Allen County and DeKalb County line. The trail is a part of the planned Poka-Bache Trail, an 81.3-mile State Visionary Trail. The Poka-Bache Trail will ultimately connect Pokagon State Park in Angola to Ouabache State Park in Bluffton.

In April 2022, the city of Fort Wayne received a round-three NLT grant to complete the final gap of the Pufferbelly Trail within Allen

**CONTINUED PAGE 6**



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## GENEALOGY REPORT

### FINNELL

Judith "Judy" May (Moran) Finnell, died on November 14, 2023, at Heritage Pointe in Warren, IN.



Judy was born on January 9, 1935, in Wichita, Kansas, to Lewis and Ruby (Oder) Moran. She lived most of her early life in Wichita, and then in eastern Colorado during high school, graduating as valedictorian from Lamar High School in 1952. She attended Colorado State University, graduating in 1956 with a degree in physical education. She married Clyde Finnell in 1956.

Judy's spirit of adventure started young, often inspired by weekend excursions led by her Grandpa Ed to Wichita parks and family road trips. That spirit continued in 1964 when Clyde began working for the Department of Defense Dependent Schools (DoDDS) – offering them the chance to live in Japan, Sicily and Germany. She embraced each new location and its culture, planning weekend and summer travels throughout Europe, all while raising a young family.

After her divorce in 1976, Judy returned to Wichita and to her lifelong love of learning, earning a Master's degree in gerontology from Wichita State University. She began her nonprofit career as Director of Programs at Senior Services of Wichita, eventually retiring as its Executive Director in 2002 after 23 years of service.

During retirement, Judy followed a number of passions, including travel, participating in numerous Elderhostel trips with high school and college pals, and making regular trips to the Outer Banks of North Carolina with her family.

Judy was a devoted fan of Wichita State and Kansas basketball. She seldom missed watching a game and had season tickets to Shockers games for many years.

While in Wichita, Judy lived in the house her grandparents built in the Riverside neighborhood and spent countless hours maintaining the house and yard, and hosting many family Christmas gatherings, as well as spring and summer visits from her grandchildren.

Judy was the family archivist, preserving and documenting a large collection of photos, films and diaries and researching her family's ancestry.

In 2016, Judy moved to Indiana to be closer to family, enabling her to attend her grandchildren's dance recitals and plays and celebrate holidays together.

Judy is survived by son, Michael Finnell and his husband John, Lisbon, Portugal; daughter Brenda Morehead and her husband Jeff, Marion, IN; grandson Samuel Morehead, Indianapolis, IN; and granddaughter, Anna Morehead, Marion, IN. She was preceded in death by her parents and two younger sisters, JoAnne Wilkins and Kathleen Fisher.

A funeral service will be held in Wichita at a later date. Memorial contributions in Judy's memory may be made to Senior Services of Wichita, 200 South Walnut Street, Wichita, Kansas, 67213.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Glancy-H. Brown & Son Funeral Home in Warren, Indiana.

### MILLER

Allison Diane Miller, 35, of Andrews, passed away at 8:01 a.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 15, 2023, at her residence.

She was born on June 7, 1988, in Huntington the daughter of Jeffrey Miller and Linda (Woodward) Hull.

Allison attended Huntington North High and received her GED.

She loved all kinds of music and especially live music.

Allison enjoyed traveling and taking short road trips.

She liked to be outdoors, camping and boating. Allison's favorite animal was

turtles, and she adored her pet turtle, Pablo.

She was most passionate about spending time with her two children, Erika and Michael.

Survivors include her mother and step-father, Linda and Jeffrey Hull, of Andrews; daughter, Erika D. Moreland, of Warren; son, Michael W Simmons, of Huntington; brother, Alan D. Miller, of Bippus; sister, Madison A. Miller, of Andrews; grandparents, Dick and Diane Miller, of Andrews.

Allison is preceded in death by her father, Jeffrey Miller, and grandparents, Norman Hull, Shirley Hull, Larry Woodward and Myrtle Woodward.

Visitation will be from 10 a.m. to noon on Wednesday, Nov. 22, 2023, at Bailey-Love Mortuary, 35 W. Park Dr., Huntington.

Funeral services will be at noon on Wednesday, Nov. 22, 2023, at Bailey-Love Mortuary with Pastor Jason Fields officiating.

Burial will be in Andrews Riverside Cemetery.

Preferred memorials to Linda Hull for Allison's children in care of Bailey-Love Mortuary, 35 W. Park Dr., Huntington, IN 46750.

### OLIVER

On Sunday, Nov. 19, 2023, Lee D. Oliver, 85 of Warren, began his new Adventure with his savior, Jesus!

He was born on July 22, 1938, in Evergreen Park, Ill., to David Henry and Margaret (Ott) Oliver.

Lee graduated from Chicago (Ill.) Vocational High School in 1956.

He honorably served in the United States Navy from 1956 to 1959.

Lee married Marilyn (Hasler) Oliver on June 6, 1970.

He worked as a heavy equipment operator while living in California. Lee and Marilyn moved to Indiana in 1975. He worked as a truck driver for 35 years.

Lee's love for Jesus led him on numerous short term mission trips to Ecuador,

Romania and Uganda. He also took part in many disaster relief trips within the United States.

Survivors include his wife, Marilyn Oliver, of Warren; brother, John Oliver, of California; nieces and nephews, Christine Dunn, Deb Hoagland, Tracy Oliver, Brooke Krupiczewicz, Brad Hasler, April Clopton, Melissa George, Ryan Hasler and Megan Madsen.

Lee is preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Richard Oliver.

Private family services will take place with burial at Marion National Cemetery.

Memorials may be made in Lee's memory to Helping Hands, Alive & Well or Loving Shepherd Ministries, and should be directed to the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Lemler Family of Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home, 308 W. Washington St., Bluffton.

### MORE PAGE 2

house. If you're not ready to go when mom is, you get left behind!! This momma is on a mission and my girls know you better roll if you're going with me. I have caught some glimpses of the sales ads and so far, not impressed but Menards is my go-to with Walmart in 2nd and that's where i usually find my list of stuff at. I really try to avoid the mall, but there is always that one person...."I need to go to the mall" I just cringe every time I hear those words and it's usually for smelly stuff, like bath and body etc. By the time you stand in line to get in the store and in the store your elbow to elbow with people, you need some smelly stuff, thank God for the samples.

lol But there is something about Black Friday shopping that I love, I can't put my finger on why, but I go every year and have been for 14-15 years now.

Enjoy the holidays and time spent with one another. I know I will, Happy Thanksgiving to all and thank you for being my faithful readers of this column, it means so much to me.

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## AREA NEWS CONTINUED

**MORE PAGE 4**  
County. Once complete, the entire trail will extend more than 13 miles from downtown Fort Wayne to the county line.

"There are now over 140 miles of trail in Allen County creating a network of well-used active transportation and recreation opportunities," said Megan McClellan, Fort Wayne Trails executive director. "This new 4.33-mile stretch of the Pufferbelly Trail will connect thousands of additional residents to this system, while also connecting to beautiful natural areas like Payton County Park and Willow Creek."

As part of Gov. Holcomb's Next Level Connections initiative, NLT is the largest infusion of trails funding in state history. The now \$180 million program is administered by the DNR and facilitates critical trail connections within and between Hoosier communities. Including the Pufferbelly Trail, 31 of the 75 NLT projects are complete, totaling more than 95 miles of trail built since the program's inception. An additional 10 projects are under construction, with

many more slated to break ground during the next year.

In May, Gov. Holcomb announced details for the fourth round of NLT, which will dedicate an additional \$30 million to connect communities through more hiking, biking, and riding trails across the state. The DNR anticipates awards to be announced next month.

### DNR GIFT PACKS

Cross those hard-to-buy-for people off your shopping list in a snap by giving them a 2024 holiday gift pack from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

The gift packs, with only a limited quantity available, can be used the whole year, whether the recipient enjoys camping under the stars or sleeping in the comfort of an Indiana State Park Inn after enjoying the outdoors. The gift pack also saves you as much as \$31 compared with buying the items individually.

The \$99 gift pack includes a 2024 resident annual entrance pass to Indiana State Park properties, a one-year subscription to Outdoor Indiana magazine (six issues), and one of two \$65 gift card options. One gift card option can be used at the campgrounds, while the

other is for State Park Inns. You also have the option of upgrading either to \$100 by paying \$35 more.

Indiana has 36 state park properties throughout the state. The annual entrance pass grants gate entrance (a carload) for 2024 to all state park properties beginning Jan. 1.

The inns gift card can be used at any State Park Inn, as well as at the award-winning Pete Dye-designed golf course at Fort Harrison State Park in Indianapolis. The card can also be used for lodging, meals in the dining rooms, or gift purchases.

The camping gift card can be used toward the rental of campsites, cottages, group camps, recreation buildings, rent-a-camp cabins, shelters, youth and rally camps, and cabins (excluding inn-operated cabins). The camping gift card may also be used to purchase daily entrance, lake permits, horse tags, and any other items sold at gatehouses and park-operated stores and gift shops. The camping gift card cannot be used at any privately operated concessions, camp stores, marinas, or saddle barns.

The offer is available through Dec. 31, 2023, or when sold out. Gift packs can be purchased only at shopINStateParks.com.

### HISTORY MATTERS

A feature courtesy of The Grateful American Book Prize Showing our children that their past is a prelude to their future.

by John Grimaldi and David Bruce Smith  
November 16 - 30, 2023

Setting the clocks back used to be effortless; a task that flowed into a routine of rising early, having a midday meal, and retiring at sundown. According to History.com, "as late as the 1880s, most towns in the U.S. had their own local time, generally based on 'high noon,' or the time when the sun was at its highest point in the sky." There was no pressing need for a "uniform time-keeping system."

CONTINUED PAGE 8



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## AREA NEWS CONTINUED

### MORE PAGE 6

But, when the railroads encroached, "travel ... between cities [shrank] from days or months to mere hours ... local times became a scheduling nightmare." They took the liberty of dividing the country into four time zones, but congress did not approve it until 1918.

The Grateful American Book Prize recommends Saving Time: Discovering a Life Beyond the Clock by Jenny Odell.

###

In the annals of history, George Washington is usually named as the first president, but others might disagree—technically:

According to ConstitutionFacts.com, "when we think of the President of the United States, many people do not realize that we are actually referring to presidents elected under the U.S. Constitution. Everybody knows that the first president in that sense was George Washington. But in fact the Articles of Confederation, the predecessor to the Constitution, also called for a president, albeit one with greatly diminished powers. Eight men were appointed to serve one-year terms as president under the Articles of Confederation. In November 1781, John Hanson became the first President of the United States under the Articles of Confederation."

He died on November 22, 1783; Washington took office in 1789.

The Grateful American Book Prize recommends Peter H. Michael's, Remembering John Hanson: A biography of the first president of the original United States government.

###

In 1941 President Franklin Roosevelt designated the fourth Thursday of every November as Thanksgiving.

But the celebration had started much earlier. History.com, says it began "in the autumn of 1621, when Plymouth governor William Bradford invited local members of the Wampanoag tribe to join the Pilgrims in a

festival held in gratitude for the bounty of the season." And so it "became an annual custom throughout New England in the 17th century, and in 1777 the Continental Congress declared the first national American Thanksgiving following the Patriot victory at Saratoga. In 1789, President George Washington became the first president to proclaim a Thanksgiving holiday, when, at the request of Congress, he proclaimed November 26, a Thursday, as a day of national thanksgiving for the U.S. Constitution."

This year, the holiday is on November 23.

The Grateful American Book Prize recommends Thanksgiving: The Biography of an American Holiday by James W. Baker.

### IT'S A BEAUTIFUL DAY

My old friend, Bill, walked into church, and I smiled. It was good to see him. Bill is in his eighties and is one of the most positive people I know.

I went over and shook his hand. "Today is a great day, huh, Bill?"

He shook my hand heartily. "Yes, today is a beautiful day."

I'm sure those standing around us wondered about our unusual conversation, especially since it was freezing cold with a biting wind. But the reason for our strange conversation went back to a previous one that I had had with Bill a few years earlier.

I was having some challenges in my life. I had been given some new assignments at work that were taking a lot of time. I was also the editor of the university research magazine, and some people were quite vocal about their displeasure with me and the articles I chose to include in the publication. As a family, we also had some financial setbacks that were weighing on my mind.

On that particular day, I walked into church and ran into Bill. He shook my hand

vigorously and said, "Isn't it a beautiful day?"

"You think so?" I said, feeling somewhat doubtful.

The day was overcast, a sleety rain was falling, and it was miserably cold.

"Yes," Bill replied, "it's a wonderful day. And do you know how I can tell if it's a wonderful day?"

"How?" I asked, his enthusiasm beginning to rub off on me.

"I get up each morning," Bill said, "and I read the newspaper immediately. The first thing I read is the obituaries. And do you know why I read the obituaries first?"

"Why?" I asked.

"Because if my name isn't there, I know it's going to be a great day."

Bill laughed and laughed at that. I laughed, too, and my problems seemed to disperse. But around a month ago, I found out Bill had an accident. He had been using his tractor to split firewood. It was a cold day, so he was in his shop with the door closed. He began to realize that the air was getting choked with exhaust, and he needed some fresh air. He walked to the switch to open the garage door, but just before he reached it, he passed out face down in the dirt.

Luckily, when Bill didn't come into the house for dinner as expected, his sweet wife went looking for him. She got her son to help, and when they found him, they quickly opened the door and called 911. Miraculously, the first volunteer emergency responders had oxygen. When I learned what had happened, I went to visit Bill. He was home from the hospital but still struggling to breathe, even with oxygen.

He was asleep when I came. I hated to wake him, but his wife said Bill would be disappointed if he missed getting to visit with me, so she gently patted him.

Bill slowly opened his eyes, and when he saw me, he smiled.

"It's still a great day, Bill," I said. "But just barely. It came

close to not being a good one for you."

He smiled weakly. "A little too close."

He wasn't out of the woods yet at that point. But over time, he gradually started to get better. That was the reason I was so happy to see him when he walked into church.

Some of his positive attitude has taken hold of me, especially as his comment has lingered with me and has given me a different perspective about life. Each day when I get up, I say to myself, "It's a beautiful day,"

and I don't even have to read the obituaries to know it.

(Daris Howard, award-winning, syndicated columnist, playwright, and author, can be contacted at daris@darishoward.com; or visit his website at http://www.darishoward.com, to buy his books.)



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