

PO Box 695, Warren, IN 46792 (260)375-3531 • Fax (260)375-7007 • email: wwkly@citznet.com Thought for the Week: Nothing is beneath you if it is in the direction of your life. Ralph Waldo Emerson





## CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Markle Medical Center is holding its 3rd Annual Christmas Cross Stitch Raffle and Bake Sale this year. Up for raffle is a beautiful cross-stitched picture of Jesus (pictured above). It is professionally matted and framed and measures 16" X 20". Tickets are \$1.00 each.

We will draw for the cross stitch on December 17th and contact the winner for pick up after that. Money raised will NOT benefit Markle Medical Center. It will go back into the community for needy people and organizations.

Our Bake Sale will start on December 13th and run all week until the 17th. There will be all kinds of goodies made by different people in the office and from our other offices.

Please stop by and take a peek at the scrumptious delights and donate a \$1.00 for a good cause.

### CHRISTMAS WISHES

The annual Christmas edition of the Warren Weekly is coming up soon (week of 12/24). If you would like to have your special greeting included in this issue, please contact me at 260-375-3531 as soon as possible. Due to my recent health issues, I will begin working on this issue now. Any early requests that are received would be greatly appreciated. Any requests received 10% discount.

SSFF UND RAISER REPORT We are excited to report that our first Salamonie Summer Festival Fundraiser was a huge success! With the participation of forty-three fun loving people and the support of several area businesses we were able to raise \$1,007.50 for the festival.

Everyone aboard the bus to the Horseshoe Casino has requested another trip be scheduled so we have done just that. Watch your newspaper for details; we have booked a return trip on February 19th 2005. Those of you who attended the first trip will receive a notice in the mail.

Once again we could not have provided all the giveaways with out the help of the following businesses, A huge Thank You to National City Bank, Ackley Automotive, Crain Ford, Accent Interiors, Creative Elements, PJ'S Flowers, Bowers Jewelry, Partners In Design, Cadvs Express & The Wagon Wheel Cafe. This very successful fundraiser could not have happened without the committee who planned, organized and completed a great day of fun for all who attended. Thanks to Cindy Ralston, Dave Fleeger, Shari Blinn, Chrystal Buzzard ,Brad Collet & Kelly Gray. Each one of you did an awesome job!

#### HOLIDAY SHOPS

Handcrafter's boutique and the Holiday Shop will be open December 2nd with hours of 10:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M. Thursday thru Saturday and 12:00 TO 4:00 ON Sundays and each weekend until the week of Christmas.

Ruth Herring and Treva Flemming welcome you to stop by their "Holiday Shop" AT 123 West 2nd Street. They will have a wide variety of articles for your shopping needs including Handmade Crafts and wood by December 15 will receive a items, holiday décor and gifts and refinished furniture.

> Nancy and Bob Smyth invite you to shop at their

"Handcrafters Boutique at the courtyard of 109 East 3rd Street. As always Nancy promises very unique items such as Honey and Me rag dolls, Art Glass, Santas, Gifts and decorations for people on your shopping list. Both businesses are located a 1/2 Block off of Wayne Street in downtown Warren.

#### SUPPER PLANNED

The Rebel Booster Chicken Noodle Supper is planned for Thursday, December 9th at Salamonie School. The hours are 5 to 7 pm. It is \$5.00 per person and Children under 5 are Free.

The dinner includes: chicken & noodles, mashed potatoes, green beans, roll, sherbet, and drink. Carry-out meals include: Chicken & Noodles, mashed potatoes, green beans, roll and sherbet.

Also, there is a 7th and 8th Ladv Rebel Basketball game at 6 pm, versus the Crestview Cougars. Basketball tickets \$2.00

## FESTIVAL COOKBOOKS

The 2004 edition of the original Van Buren Popcorn Festival Cook Book has arrived. Copies are available for purchase at the Van Buren Public Library at \$8.00 each. If questions. please call the Library. 765-934-2171. These cookbooks make great holiday gifts.

## First Aid/CPR/AED INSTRUCTOR CLASS

The Huntington County Chapter of the American Red Cross is offering the following instructor class:

Dec. 6th, 2004 6-9 p.m. Fundamentals in Training (a prerequisite to the instructor class) Dec. 11th & 12th, 2004 9am -5pm First Aid/CPR/AED instructor

Upon completing this training **CONTINUED PAGE 3** 



## MARKLEBANK AND GRABILL BANK MERGE

MarBanc Financial Corporation (MarBanc), the bank holding company of MarkleBank, and Grabill Bancorp (Grabill), the bank holding company for Grabill Bank, announced today they have signed a definitive agreement for the consolidation of their respective bank holding companies into a new bank holding company. Independent Alliance Banks, Inc. (IAB). The new holding company will maintain MarkleBank and Grabill Bank, as separately chartered subsidiaries, each governed by its existing bank's Board of Directors.

MarkleBank has \$220 million in assets, 6 locations and 75 employees. Grabill Bank has \$520 million in assets, 7 locations and 175 employees. Both banks have a Trust, Insurance and Investments Division. Grabill Bank also operates a Mortgage Center. With assets of approximately \$750 million after the merger, IAB will be the third largest bank holding company headquartered in Northeastern Indiana with branches in Allen, Huntington and Wells Counties. More information about MarBanc and Grabill can be found at www.marklebank.com and www.Grabillbank.com respectively.

"With no overlaps in branch operations, greater lending capacity and unlimited opportunities to leverage the expertise of both banks, we are looking to grow the organization, not constrict it.)' said Travis Holdman, President and CEO of MarkleBank.

Both Boards of Directors have committed to no layoffs through the merger.

"With the Union of these two great independent community banks, we have created a unique framework for our customers. shareholders and communities," said Brent Clifton. former President and CEO of Grabill Bank.

"MarkleBank and Grabill Bank share similar corporate cultures and philosophies about service excellence, staff development, growth, bank independence and community leadership. The merger of these two bank holding companies will allow the two individual banks to remain strong leaders in community banking well into the future and provide an improved return for our, shareholders." stated Michael C. Marbenke. President and Chief Executive Officer of Grabill Bank.

Both banking cultures and values were originally established in rural communities where they were very close to their customers. CONTINUED PAGE 8

For Hard Water • Rusty Water • Drinking Water Needs Call SOFT WATER & APPLIANCE DEWEESE SALES N. Wayne, Warren -- 375-3828 231 Salt Delivery & Free Water Test Appliance Service and Maytag Sales & Service 1-800-356-4440 For Financial & Budgeting Encouragement Call 1-800-722-1976 www.crownradio.org

#### 2 WARREN WEEKLY Friday, December 3, 2004

WARREN WEEKLY • Owner/Publisher: Nicki L. Zoda Mailing Address: P O Box 695, Warren, IN 46792 Shipping Address: 7920S 900W 90, Warren, IN 46792 Phone: (260)375-3531 or 1-877-811-9089 FAX: (260)-375-7007 e-mail: wwkly@citznet.com

WARREN WEEKLY is a free paper for the Warren, Indiana area. It is distributed every Friday to rural postal patrons of Warren, Liberty Center, and Van Buren Indiana. The Warren Weekly is available at Cady's Express, and next to the Posi 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 POBox

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 typographica errors in advertising, but will gladly reprint without charge that part in which an error may occur, provided that it is reported within five days of publication. The publisher takes no responsibility for statements or claims made in any advertisement

#### THANK YOU

A very special Thank you to the students and staff of Small World Nursery School for our terrific window decorations at Dollar General.

KUDOS, KICKS & KARATS

#### **Recycling Cell Phones**

Less than 1 percent of cell phones in the U.S. are being recycled, according to collectivegood.com. A visit to their Web site shows a number of choices for donating phones.

The charity of your choice can refurbish the phones and sell them in a third-world country for a quarter of the original cost. Certain charities, Redjellyfish.com, for example, will even pay for the shipping and handling of the phones.

In addition to helping third world nations upgrade communication, donating a phone keeps toxic chemicals out of our landfills. Cell phones have failed the Environmental Protection Agency T-Hip test and are classified as hazardous materials.

#### WHAT'S LOST BETWEEN THE PAGES OF A BOOK?

People working in book stores often make a collection of what they find stored and forgotten between the pages of books.

Among the items known to be found in old books: A letter from Mrs. Robert E. Lee: Photos, birth certificates, and ticket stubs. Cash is no an unusual find, and love letters are common.

Novelist David Bowman deliberately filled a first edition of his novel, Let the Dog Drive (Penguin USA), with publishers' rejection letters. He sold it for a good price.

When you sell your books, you have a choice. Either search them for forgotten items to be removed, or leave an anonymous treasure inside to delight the finder!

Is Lasik surgery right for you?

Millions of Americans have chosen vision-correction surgery as an alternative to wearing glasses or contact lenses.

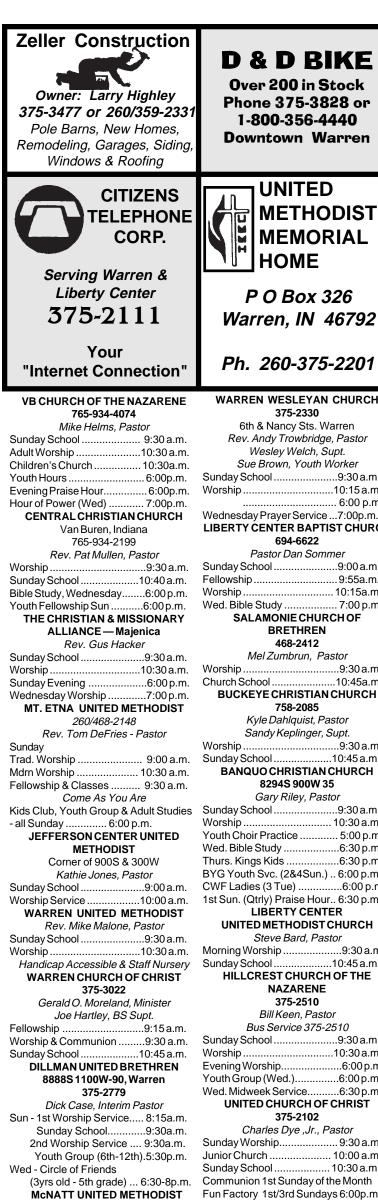
In his book, The Eye Laser Miracle: The Complete Guide to Better Vision (Ballantine), Dr. Andrew Caster says about 95 percent of patients see well enough to pass a driver's license exam.

Lasik is a way of changing the curvature of the cornea. To correct nearsightedness, the cornea is flattened. For farsightedness, the curvature I increased. To correct astigmatism, it is equalized.

The 10-minute outpatient procedure uses pulses of ultraviolet laser light to remove microscopic layers of cells from different parts of the cornea. A computer determines the number of light pulses during the operation. Most patients are able to return to work the following day.

Dr. Caster, a professor of ophthalmology at UCLA, says people with cataracts or certain other eye conditions are pool candidates. LASIK is not recommended for people age 18 or younger because the cornea is still changing shape.

Beyond LASIK: For those whose vision is too poor to be corrected by LASIK, a new procedure implants a tiny plastic corrective lens called Verisyse (amo-inc.com) behind the cornea. The procedure is expected to be approved soon by the FDA.



375-4359 Bill VanHaften, Pastor Lois Slusher, Supt.

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

warren, in	40/92
Ph. 260-37	75-2201
WARREN WESLEY 375-233	
6th & Nancy Sts Rev. Andy Trowbr Wesley Welch	Warren <i>idge, Pastor</i>
Sue Brown, You	th Worker
Sunday School	10:15a.m.
	6:00 p.m.
LIBERTY CENTER BA 694-662 Pastor Dan S	PTIST CHURCH
Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
Fellowship	
Wed. Bible Study SALAMONIE CH	7:00 p.m.
BRETHR	EN
<b>468-241</b> Mel Zumbrun,	Pastor
Worship	9:30 a.m.
BUCKEYE CHRISTI 758-208	AN CHURCH
Kyle Dahlquist Sandy Kepling	
Worship Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
BANQUO CHRISTI	ANCHURCH
<b>8294S 900</b> <i>Gary Riley, F</i>	Pastor
Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
Youth Choir Practice	5:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study Thurs. Kings Kids	6:30 p.m.
BYG Youth Svc. (2&4Su CWF Ladies (3 Tue)	un.) 6:00 p.m.
1st Sun. (Qtrly) Praise H	lour 6:30 p.m.
LIBERTY CE UNITED METHODI Steve Bard, I	STCHURCH
Morning Worship	9:30 a.m.
Sunday School	RCH OF THE
NAZARE 375-251	
Bill Keen, P Bus Service 3	astor
Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
Worship Evening Worship	10:30 a.m. 6:00 n m
Youth Group (Wed.)	6:00 p.m.
Wed. Midweek Service UNITED CHURCH 375-210	OF CHRIST
<i>Charles Dye ,Ji</i> Sunday Worship	r. <i>, Pastor</i> 9:30 a.m
Junior Church	10:00 a.m.
Sunday School Communion 1st Sunday	of the Month
Fun Factory 1st/3rd Sur THE NEW BEG	ndays 6:00p.m.
SR 218, 2 1/8 mile west of Poneto Steve Sutton, Pastor	
765/728-2065 for Sunday Worship	

UNITED

HOME

**METHODIST** 

**MEMORIAL** 

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

Warren Community
Banking Center
U U
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200-373-4330 or 888-738-3111
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Rev. Bill Fisher, Pastor of Preaching
and Discipleship
Rev. Robert Bothast, Pastor of
Family Life
Debbie Wiley, S.S. Supt.
Sunday School9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10.00 a.m. Sunday Evening Service 6:00p.m.
VB UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
765-934-1431
Pastor Blake J. Neff
Youth Pastor Adam Pierce
Worship Service
Sunday School 10:45a.m.
UMYF6-7:30 p.m.
Prayer-Bible Study (Thur)7:30 p.m.
www.vanburenumc.org
<b>BOEHMER UNITED METHODIST</b>
Rev. Barry Humble, Pastor
Joe Kober, S.S. Supt.
Sunday Worship
Sunday School
101 N 400 E - Marion, IN
765/664-8726
Timothy Helm, Senior Pastor
1st Worship8:20 a.m.
2nd Worship9:45 a.m.
3rd Worship11:11 a.m.
Sunday Cabaal Children & Vauth
Sunday School Children & Youth
Programs
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## Area News

#### More Page 1

you will be eligible to teach Community First Aid & Safety, Adult CPR, AED, Adult CPR/ AED. Standard First Aid. First Aid, Child CPR, Infant CPR, Child & Infant CPR, AED Essentials and etc.

To register for this training, please contact the Huntington American Red Cross at 260-356-2910. The cost is \$150 per person (includes the instructor manuals and participant manuals). Candidates much have current CPR & FA certification and each participant will be given a skills test at the beginning of the course.

This course is ideal for companies which provide Health & Safety training to employees. By having an on site Instructor, companies can cut costs and be more flexible with scheduling. If you have any questions. please contact Bendy Mann at 260-356-2910.

#### **DeSalvo to Perform**

Jodie DeSalvo is an exciting, young pianist capturing. International attention as a dynamic and versatile artist noted for her strong, polished technique, superb musicianship, and commanding powers of communication.

Born in Connecticut, MS. DeSalvo made her Carnegie Hall debut as winner of the Artists' International Competition, to such unanimous acclaim that she returned the following season for a command performance at New York's, Merkin Concert Hall.

Her subsequent recitals throughout the United States and Europe have been eloquently praised for their diverse programming, and outstanding execution. Her commitment to

DOLLA

Toys for Tots

TOTS FOR TOTS

be kept locally

women in music has especially made her a champion in the works of Clara Schumann, Amy Beach, Fanny Mendelssohn, and Ellen Taffe Zwilich.

This past season, Ms. DeSalvo has been guest artist with numerous orchestras, including her debut with the famed Orchestra de la Suisse Romande. She most recently gave the world premiere in the Edward Collins Concerto at the Birch Creek Summer Music Festival, and this season will appear as soloist for several Gershwin programs throughout the country honoring the centennial anniversary of the composer's birth.

Ms. DeSalvo was recently lauded for stepping in at the last moment for an ailing Richard Fields to perform the world pre-Heinrich miere of Stuttermeighter's "Concertino" with the Chicago Sinfonietta at Orchestra Hall. Her virtuosic performance led the Chicago Tribune to comment, "Kudos to DeSalvo for not only rescuing a world premiere, but for taking on such a Herculean task and handling it so effortlessly." She returned as soloist with the Chicago Sinfonietta at the Festival de Musica de Canarias in the Canary Islands, and also on a three week tour of Europe.

A frequent guest artist at such outstanding festivals as Chautauqua, Brevard, Taos, and Birch Creek, Ms. DeSalvo has been awarded grants from the Indiana Commission of the Arts, Connecticut Commission of the Arts, Arts United, and the Simone Young Keyboard Artists' Association Competition,

EATING

Boliner's

Artists' International, American Music Competition, and the National Federation of Music Clubs Competition.

Ms. DeSalvo has recorded for both the Millennium label and for Koch Discover International. A graduate of both the Manhattan School of Music and the Hartt School of Music, Ms. DeSalvo currently reside in Florida where she is on the adjunct faculty at the Harid Conservatory in Boca Raton.

Ms. DeSalvo will be performing at 2pm in the Applegate Chapel of the United Methodist Memorial Home on Friday, December 3rd. This program is another in the Fine Arts Series sponsored by the United Methodist Memorial Home.

## **INVITE YOUTHS TO S**TATEHOUSE

State Senator Gary Dillon, M.D. (R-Pierceton) wants to invite local students to take part in the legislative process by serving as a page for a day. Students are encouraged to sign up as soon as possible, as spots are limited. The 2005 session is scheduled to begin January 4 and end by April 29.

Any student in grades 6 through 12 can sign up to be a page. The page office will try to accommodate requests for specific dates. Students will be excused from school for the day. Each page

will need to arrive at the Statehouse by 8:30 a.m. "Young people who are interested in learning how the legislature works should contact my office," Dillon said.

Dillon said that pages spend a day in the Senate assisting their local legislator. Responsibilities include responding to senators' requests, delivering messages and running errands. The day includes a tour of the Statehouse and observation of a session.

"My hope is that the experience will help young people develop an interest in public service," Dillon said.

Those interested in serving as a page should send their name, age, address, phone number and school affiliation to: State Senator Gary Dillon, M.D., 200 W. Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204. You can also e-mail him at S17@in.gov or call 1-800-382-9467 or (317)232-9400.

#### **COUNCIL NOTES**

The Warren Town Council met on Monday evening, Nov. 22 in the Assembly Hall. President Harold Jones called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with all in attendance repeating the Pledge to the American Flag. Minutes of the Nov. 8 meeting

were approved as submitted. Bids for the Ford tractor are scheduled to be opened at the Dec. 14 meeting of Council.

The Wastewater Project was discussed.

Utilities at the Cox building on Wayne Street are scheduled to be turned off Nov. 30 as part of the Wastewater Project.

Council agreed to pay invoices A1 and A2 to Sullivans.

The water main replacement on First Street was reported to be completed although the INDOT portion will not be completed until mid December.

The Dec. 27 Council meeting was rescheduled for Dec. 28 at 6:30 p.m. due to the Christmas holiday.

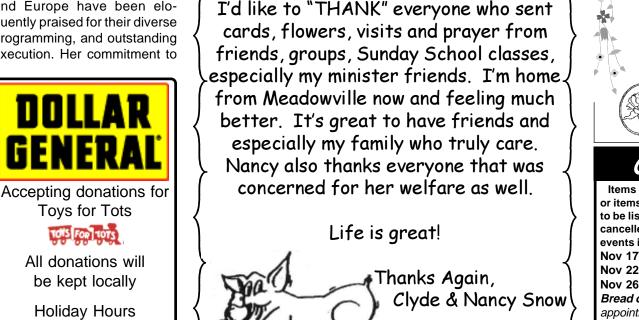
Council voted to give Christmas hams to town employees as in the past.

Council approved forms used in case of termination and employee warnings as part of the employee's handbook.

Council advised that building corporation officers need to be appointed due to a vacancy. President Jones requested that

**CONTINUED** PAGE 4





Holiday Hours 9 a.m. to 8 pm. thru December 23 PLUMBING · WELL SERVICES

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## AREA NEWS CONTINUED

## More Page 3

the board be filled at the next meeting.

The Department of Community Development had sent plans for the Nazarene Church building project.

Application for an "Indiana Downtown" grant is to be completed by Dec. 30.

David Scheib reported on an Executive Board of the DCD meeting he attended on Thursday.

Clerk-Treasurer Marilyn Morrison reported her office had received Keystone Training on Nov. 22.

Council granted permission to pay the remainder of installation cost.

Curtis Day had reported to Council from the Utility/Street Departments. Leaf pick-Up was almost completed with the last pick-Up scheduled after Thanksgiving.

Heaters had been installed at the Utility building.

Fire Chief Tim Ford reported to Council that he expected to get details on Tuesday for a used tanker the Department is interested in purchasing. Further discussion is expected at the next Council meeting.

He also reported there had been maintenance work done on the pumper truck.

Legislative priorities for IACT were discussed.

The next Council meeting will be Dec. 13.

#### **B**E A **M**ASTER **G**ARDENER

If you want to sharpen your gardening skills and you have an interest in sharing your knowledge with others, Purdue University has the ideal program for you.

Beginning January 12, 2005 a Purdue Master Gardener Program training series will be offered for residents of Blackford County and surrounding areas. The Purdue Master Gardener Program is a volunteer training program that provides a learning framework for participants to increase their knowledge on a wide variety of horticultural subjects. In turn, participants volunteer, representing Purdue University. As volunteers, participants grow by sharing knowledge while providing leadership and service in educational gardening activities within their communities.

Training will be held on Wednesday evenings from 5:30-8:30 PM at the Blackford County Courthouse Annex. Participants will be exposed to a wide range of subjects including soil and plant science, diagnosis of plant problems, pesticide safety, and culture of vegetable, flower, landscape, and fruit plants. Materials and expenses for the series of classes cost \$ 70.00 per participant. This expense fee covers such items as reference notebooks, mailings, and name badges. These materials all become part of the Master Gardener's personal collection. While the class will be encouraged to create new educational outreach programs, there are already plenty of opportunities for which volunteers are needed. Some of these projects include the staffing information booths at gardening events, teaching public education classes, speaking to local clubs and organizations, and hands-on demonstration gardens.

If you'd like an application to join our league of volunteers or have questions about the program, give us a call at (765)348-3213 or cluppers@purdue.edu. Registration deadline is December 31, 2004.

#### WINTER CRAFTS

The Upper Wabash Interpretive Services features a Winter Craft Workshop on Saturday, December 4, 2004. Two identical sessions, one from 9 a.m. to noon and one from 12:30 3:30 p.m., feature instructors to help you make three crafts for one fee of\$10.

Marvin McNew, Director of the Interpretive Services, states, "We are excited to offer this half-day experience for the very reasonable cost of \$10. Participants weave their own basket, create a cornhusk wreath, and design their own paint paddle angel. Huntington College students are even providing activities for children ages three and up while their parents are participating in the workshop." Attendance is limited for each session. Call 260-468-2127 to sign up for the morning or the afternoon session. Space is available if you would like to bring your lunch and eat with your fellow workshop attendees.

The Salamonie Interpretive Center is open Wednesday through Friday and Sunday 1 to 5 p.m. and Saturday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. from October through April. The building houses a multipurpose room that is ideal for workshops and programs. This barrier-free center features seasonally changing exhibits, floor to ceiling windows in the wildlife viewing area, and staff to answer your questions. The center is located in Lost Bridge West Recreation Area on Highway 105 in western Huntington County.

Visit our web site at www.in.gov/dnr/uwis/ for more information about available programs. To register for the Winter Craft Workshop, call the Upper Wabash Reservoirs Interpretive Services 260/468-2127.

## ATTENDS CICI

William E. Shuttleworth, President of the Shuttleworth Insurance Agency of Warren, has successfully completed the annual continuing education requirement of the Society of Certified Insurance counselors (CIC), a leading national insurance professional organization. To earn this prestigious designation, Mr. Shuttleworth attended five courses covering all phases of the insurance business and passed five comprehensive examinations. Additionally, the National Alliance requires annual attendance in the program to maintain the designation.

Mr. Shuttleworth, a 25 year veteran of the industry, has been a CIC since 1988. Bill believes the insurance profession is best served by those who acquire and maintain a high standard of professionalism by meeting the continuing education requirements of the Certified Insurance Counselors Program.

The Society of CIC is a not-forprofit organization of The National Alliance for Insurance Education & Research, which is respected throughout the insurance industry for the high standards maintained in the hundreds of institutes conducted annually in all 50 states and Puerto Rico. Other programs conducted through The National Alliance include the Society of Certified Insurance Service Representatives (CISR), Certified Risk Manager (CRM) Courses, James K. Ruble Seminars, and Dynamics of Selling and Sales Management Programs.

## Receives SAP Certification

Ted Ramsey, LCSW, a counselor at Bluffton Regional Medical Center, has recently completed training and testing to receive certification as a Substance Abuse Professional (SAP). The certification meets the requirements of the Department of Transportation and qualifies Ramsey to provide comprehensive substance abuse evaluations and recommend treatment programs for all employees who are covered by DOT regulations. Under DOT regulations, an employee who tests positive for certain substances during a drug screening must have an assessment by an SAP and complete the recommended treatment program prior to returning to 'safety sensitive" work tasks.

"As a designated SAP, I have been trained to recommend treatment for a person based on his or her individual needs," Ramsey said. "The Department of Transportation recognizes that an individualized treatment plan is the best way to address the needs of an employee."

An employer or related resource is able to refer an individual for an SAP assessment.





#### News Continued AREA

#### ARNOLD

In failing health the past seven months, Larry Eugene Arnold, 64, of 4684 State Road 201 East, Bluffton, died at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 23, 2004 at his residence.

A native of Wells County, Mr. Arnold retired from Franklin Electric in March of this year after 46 years of service.

He was a 1958 graduate of Bluffton High School and an avid golfer and sports enthusiast. He attended the First Church of Christ in Bluffton.

Born Oct. 9. 1940 in Bluffton to John and Edith Bowman Arnold, his marriage on Oct. 10, 1987 was to Betty A. Mason, who survives.

Also surviving are two sons, Richard E. Arnold of Ossian and Keith A. Arnold of Bluffton; a daughter, Kellie J. McCart of Indianapolis; two stepsons, David L. Mason of Ossian and Randy L. Mason of Bluffton; two stepdaughters, Joyce L. Crull of Poneto and Judy L. Stewart of Bluffton; five grandchildren, eight step grandchildren; one great grandchild and six step great-grandchildren. Also surviving are a brother, William Arnold of Lafayette, Ga., and three sisters. Mrs. Gerald (Evelyn) Stammen of Fort Recovery, Ohio; Mrs. William (Shirley) Lines of Roanoke and Mrs. Harold (Phyllis) Harness of Plum Tree.

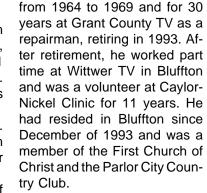
Services were held at the First Church of Christ with Pastor Larry Sprinkle officiating and burial in Elm Grove Cemetery. Calling hours were held at Thoma/Rich, Hewitt & Chaney Funeral Home and one hour prior to services at the church.

Preferred memorials are to Family Hospice of Northeast Indiana.

#### SHAFER

A former television repairman, Louis B. Shafer, 76, of Bluffton, died at 12:18 a.m. Friday, Nov. 26, 2004 at his residence.

Mr. Shafer graduated from Salamonie Township Schools in 1946 and worked at I.T.T. in Fort Wayne from 1952 to 1964. He worked at RCA in Marion



Born July 4, 1928 in Huntington to Howard M. and Mary Eleanor Bonham Shafer, his marriage on Jan. 10, 1947 in Newport, Ky., was to Esther Campbell, who preceded him in death on Jan. 29, 2001.

Surviving are five sons, Kelly L. Shafer of Bluffton, Bruce E. Shafer of New Carrollton, Md., Reed I. Shafer of St. Louis, Mo., Barry A. Shafer of Fort Wayne and Randal K. Shafer of Spring Arbor, Mich. Also surviving are eight grandchildren and two great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a brother, Dean Shafer and a sister, Dorothy Laurila.

A memorial service was held at First Church of Christ in Bluffton with Pastor Larry Sprinkle officiating. A private burial service was held.

Memorials may be made to the church building fund or Family Hospice of Northeast Indiana.

Funeral arrangements were handled by Thoma/Rich, Hewitt & Chaney Funeral Home.

#### BOXELL

Lester A. (Bub) Boxell, 87, Warren, died at 9:20 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 27, 2004 at the United Methodist Memorial Home.

Born in New Hope, Ohio to Albert and Anna Stottler Boxell, he married Winifred Palmer on Dec. 24, 1940 in Bedford, Ky.; she survives.

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Mr. Boxell attended Batson School in Wells County and served in the Army Air Corps during World War II as a gunner on a B-17. He worked for Overhead Door in Hartford City for 25 years, transferring to their plant in Newport, Ky., where he worked for 17 years before retiring in 1982, at which time he returned to Warren.

Other survivors include two sons, Kelly Boxell of Cloverdale and Lyle Boxell of Fort Wayne; a daughter, Mrs. Dan (Pamela) Spahr of Portland; two brothers, Rex Boxell of Kokomo and Robert Boxell of Hartford City; six grandchildren; and eight great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a daughter, Sharon Lee Boxell.

Services were held with burial in Jones Cemetery in Warren. Graveside military honors were performed by American Legion Post 2689, Huntington. Arrangements were handled by Glancy Funeral Homes, H. Brown & Son Chapel, Warren. Preferred memorials to Riley Childrens Hospital.

#### COWENS

John O. Cowens, 76, of Bluffton, died at 7:01 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 28, 2004 at the Bluffton Regional Medical Center.

A native of Bluffton, he was born Nov. 17, 1928 to William F. and Nellie F. Fisher Cowens. and married Floy L. Biddle on Dec. 17, 1949 in Bluffton; she survives.

A 1946 graduate of Petroleum High School, he was a metallurgist for Dana Corp. for 38 years, retiring in 1989. In 1983 he

moved to Milford and resided there until moving back to Bluffton one year ago. A Ham radio operator, he attended the First Church of the Nazarene, was a 50-year member of Bluffton Masonic Lodge 145 and a 50-year member of the Fort Wayne Scottish Rite.

Other survivors include a daughter, Mrs. Bob (Debbie) Landrum of Warren; a son, John W. Cowens of Grant Pass, Ore.; two sisters, Mary Jane Elston of Bluffton, and Alice Ann Lash of Daytona Beach Shores, Fla.; a brother, Charlie Cowens of Bluffton; six grandchildren; and three great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a daughter, Anna Melinda Gerber in 1998; and a sister, Helen Nichols.

Calling hours are Wednesday from 1 to 8 p.m. and for one hour prior to the service, which will begin at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, at Thoma/Rich, Hewitt & Chaney Funeral Home. Officiating will be Rev. Larry Sheets and Rev. Walter Graeflin. Masonic Funeral Rites will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home. Burial will be in Six Mile Cemetery. Preferred memorials to the church's building fund.

#### GINTER

Harold D. Ginter, 78, of Huntington died at 1:48 p.m. Monday, Nov. 29, 2004 at the V.A. Hospital in Marion. He was a former owner and operator of Dyna Kleen Services in Leesburg and had served as a corporal in the U.S. Army from December 1945 to May 1947.

Kosciusko County to Minor L. and Flossie Ginter, he married Mary Jane Miller, who preceded him in death. His second marriage was to Mary Ruth Gorman-Hefner who survives.

Additional survivors include a son, Michael A. Ginter of Kosciusko County; two brothers, Carlisle Ginter of Warsaw and Benjamin Ginter, a former resident of Bluffton who now lives in Winter Haven, Fla.; two sisters, Mrs. Dave (Patricia) Luckenbill of Warsaw and Mrs. Doyle (Imogene) Webb of South Bend; a stepson, Mike Heffner of Huntington; two step daughters, Vickie Randolph of North Webster and Mrs. Phil (Josi) Campbell of Warren. Also surviving are a grandson, nine step grandchildren and eight step great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a granddaughter.

Calling will be Thursday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Myers Funeral Home, Huntington Chapel. Services will be at 10 a.m. Friday at the funeral home with Rev. Brooks Fetters officiating. Interment will be at Pilgrims Rest Cemetery in Huntington.

**Bread of Life** 

Food Pantry Hours

Wednesday 4-5:30 p.m.





## Area News Continued

### **INVESTMENT ADVISOR**

Louanne Kaye will be taking over as investment advisor in the Warren office of MarkleBank. She will be splitting her time between Warren and Huntington. The current plan is for Louanne to be in Warren on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. She will serve the Huntington market on Tuesday and Thursday.

This is a great opportunity for Louanne to expand her current client base and to serve the market where she currently lives. We look forward to having her expertise in investment, retirement, and tax planning for clients in Warren.

#### GOOD SPORTS(MANSHIP)

The Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA) and the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI) have announced that 70 high schools around the state qualified to receive the inaugural IHSAA / ICJI Sportsmanship Award for the 2003-04 school year. The winning schools were selected from a total of 398 high schools that participated in the sportsmanship program last year. Winning schools were determined by their compliance with IHSAA and ICJI program requirements.

Each qualifying school will receive a commemorative 2003-04 IHSAA Sportsmanship Award banner to hang in their gymnasium. The four-color, 4 X 7 feet banner will be personalized and presented during a special banner ceremony. Schools also received official IHSAA sportsmanship patches for all studentathletes to wear on their uniforms or warm-ups during the 2004-05 school year. The banner and patches act to remind every student-athlete, coach and fan about the importance of good sportsmanship.

"One of the goals of the IHSAA and this program is to develop not just 'All-Americans' but good Americans," said Blake Ress, Commissioner of the IHSAA. "By recognizing these schools,

we are emphasizing the importance of a positive attitude, fair play and the development of sportsmanship, citizenship and character - some of the most valuable outcomes of high school athletics.'

In order to be eligible for the award, schools are required to have a written sportsmanship plan in place and a method for sharing that plan with faculty, coaches, parents, fans and student-athletes. Schools cannot have any players or coaches ejected from a game and cannot be on probation or suspension by the IHSAA due to a rules violation. In addition, every Indiana high school receives a sportsmanship kit containing videos and posters to distribute to all coaches, student-athletes and parents.

In a 2003 survey, Indiana high school principals listed sportsmanship as the number one concern in high school athletics. To address the important issue the IHSAA and ICJI partnered to develop a sportsmanship program. The IHSAA and ICJI introduced the program to Indiana high schools during the 2003-04 school year. All IHSAA-member high schools are eligible and encouraged to participate in the sportsmanship

manship program. The IHSAA will consult with all high school principals and officials at the end of the school year to confirm compliance with program requirements and determine the 2004-05 winning schools. For more information on the program and the IHSAA's involvement, call 317-633-1456 or visit www.ihsaa.org.

program. "Sportsmanship is a key component of high school athletics," added Ress. "Partnering with ICJI will enable sportsmanship education and awareness efforts in Indiana to soar and will help us provide a recognition program unlike any other in the country." All IHSAA-member high schools are again invited to participate in the 2004-05 sportsEastbrook and Southern Wells High Schools.

#### YULE LOVE IT

The Banks of the Wabash Chorus is presenting, "Yule Love It!: The Gift of Music", on Saturday, December 11, 2004. The shows will be held at 2PM and 7PM at Harmony Hall, 1257 Lafayette Avenue, Terre Haute, IN, Tickets are \$8 and can be bought at the door or by calling 812.232.4926. Come and enjoy the holiday season with some great music sung in barbershop style!

#### **G**RANT **A**WARDED

Lt. Gov. Kathy Davis awarded a \$441,563 Community Focus Fund grant to the city of Huntington to establish a youth facility for its residents.

The grant will support the acquisition and renovation of an existing building that will be converted into a Boys & Girls Club. "The state of Indiana applauds the efforts of the award recipients for doing their part to enhance their communities," said Davis. "Through the CFF program, we are reaching out to low-and moderate-income Hoosiers by supporting projects that make their communities-and our state-stronger and more competitive. These awards give us an opportunity to celebrate community leadership, resulting in a higher quality of life throughout Indiana."

Having grown out of its existing location, the Boys & Girls Club will relocate to a larger building that formerly housed a church. Renovations will provide for a gymnasium, outdoor recreational area, art room and computer lab. Established in 2001, the club has nearly 300 members and will support the relocation with approximately \$175,000 in funds raised for the

The Community Focus Fund is a federally funded grant program administered by the Indiana Department of Commerce. The funding is available to small cities, towns, and counties for construction projects designed to benefit low- to moderate-income individuals or to eliminate blight in communities. Grants are awarded through competi-

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tive funding rounds to assist small communities in long-term development projects.

Projects eligible for CFF grants include local infrastructure improvements, senior and community centers, downtown revitalization and fire stations and fire trucks. Up to \$500,000 is available per applicant. A match of at least 10 percent is required from the grant recipient.

Thirty-six Hoosier communities shared more than \$15 million for the second round of funding in 2004.

#### AUTHOR TO SPEAK

Jim O'Donnell was a successful mutual-fund expert on Wall Street and family man with a six-figure income when he became an evangelical Christian. After re-examining their hectic lives, he and his wife, Lizzie, and their children moved to Indiana in 1994 where he accepted a job teaching at a Christian institution, Huntington College. Jim admits that it was hard to leave behind the money, family ties, and dear friends, but they felt it was what God called them to do.

Once in Indiana, however, Lizzie's life came under attack. She found a lump in her breast that doctors diagnosed as an aggressive cancer with a frightening, 5-percent survival rate. But, the 42-year-old mother of three proved the doctors wrong. She underwent two surgeries, including a mastectomy, and chemotherapy. Today she is still cancer-free. Jim and Lizzie call

But her survival came at a high cost.

Six weeks after her last chemotherapy session, her heart failed - ironically, a side effect of the drugs used to beat the cancer. She was placed on a heart transplant waiting list with mere weeks to live. In June 1996, she received the heart of a 21-year-old suicide victim.

Again, the O'Donnells consider her survival a miracle.

And yet, the cost is still high. The medication Lizzie takes to ensure her body doesn't reject the heart has weakened her bones, causing spinal deterioration. In the past 18 months she has endured kidney disease, double pneumonia, clots in her pulmonary arteries, and shingles. The high doses of steroids caused her to gain 60 pounds and hair to grow all over her body. The sudden transformation, she says, "was horrifying to me."

It was during these struggles that Jim began writing letters to "friends back East" to build prayer support for his wife. His book, Letters for Lizzie: A Story of Love, Friendship and a Battle for Life, is composed of 13 of these letters.

It's an often-somber book, filled with fear and anguish instead of the usual flowery optimism common in inspirational books. Jim tells the story of her illnesses and their reactions with such stark intimacy that he produces an authentic portrait of faith. His message: Faith is not

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## AREA NEWS CONTINUED

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#### More Page 6

easy. It is not a simple prescription that guards people from woe. But faith sustains.

Letters for Lizzie has been featured in the September '04 edition of Wall Street Journal and in the October, 04 edition of Women's Day Magazine.

Jim O'Donnell will speak and sign books at the Wells County Public Library on Thursday, Dec. 2 at 6:30 p.m. Copies of his book will also be available for purchase. The program is free and open to the public. It is sponsored by the Friends of the Library. For more information, call the library at 260-824-1612.

## CLUB NEWS

Grant County Salon 195 held it's meeting at Post 368, November 23rd, 2004.

It was a carry in for Thanksgiving and also early Christmas Exchange since we don't meet in December.

We are going to do one more order of nuts.

Our next meeting will be March 22nd, 2005 at Jonesboro Post 95. Meeting at 7 pm.

Those attending the meeting were: Rosemary Hammons, Judy Sinclair, Dalena Foster, Irene Pickard, Kim Hammons, Waneta Linton, Margaret Cunningham, Jennifer Gray, Jeanne Conwell, Sue Grindle, Mary Stone, and Louise Grindle.

Since this is my last write up for the year, I want to wish all our partners Happy Holidays and a Prosperous New Year.

# Poinsettia Stories and Facts

Legend has it that long ago, a poor Mexican girl picked weeds from the roadside to place before the nativity scene in her small church. When she placed the bouquet on the altar, the weeks burst into brilliant red blooms. The child ran back to her village proclaiming to have seen a Christmas miracle!

The miracle lives on, though it's mainly in the variety of colors that have been developed. Millions of poinsettias are sold each year in November and December. Red is the most popular color, but they now come in white, pink, rose, and peppermint.

The flower was named after Joel Poinsett, a U. S. ambassador to Mexico who sent the plants to his hothouse in South Carolina in the early 1800's. The rest is history.

Contrary to popular belief, poinsettias are not poisonous unless you or your dog eats a peck of leaves. But they are sensitive. When carrying poinsettias home, be sure they are protected from wind and cold. Keep them out of temperatures below 50 degrees. Commission. Find out about choosing services, the involved costs, and questions you should ask. This publication

#### FLOOD INSURANCE

Did you know that floods are the number one natural disaster in the United States, occurring in all 50 states? And homeowner's insurance doesn't cover flood damages. However, you can protect your family and property with a federal flood insurance policy. Learn more about the National Flood Insurance Program with a free brochure from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. And get helpful tips on how to protect your valuables and reduce potential damage. For your free copy, call toll-free 1 (888) 8 PUEBLO, that's 1 (888) 878-3256 and ask for Item 597M. Or send your name and address to the Federal Citizen Information Center, Dept. 597M, Pueblo, CO 81009. And visit http:// www.pueblo.gsa.gov to place your order online or to read or print out this and hundreds of other FCIC publications for free.

## FUNERALS: A CONSUMERS GUIDE

Planning ahead is difficult, especially when making arrangements for your funeral. But with the cost of funerals increasing each year, many people are thinking ahead and doing pre-need planning. Learn how you can make a wise and well-informed decision with "Funerals: A Consumer Guide" from the Federal Trade



#### HONORED FOR BAND

Heath Ruble (left) and Jeremy Johnson (right) from Salamonie School were chosen for the 2004 North East Indiana All-Region Honors Band. Heath performed with the percussion section and Jeremy played Baritone.

The two day event was held at Carroll High School in Fort Wayne on November 20th and 21st. Saturday the 20th was all day rehearsal and followed on Sunday with a concert in the afternoon. There were 124 students selected from North East Indiana for this Honors Band.

Martin R. Bicker, director of bands at Grace College in Warsaw was the guest conductor.

Heath Ruble and Jeremy Johnson are eighth graders at Salamonie. Their band director is Mr. Dog Hofherr.

#### More Page 1

Our philosophies have always been to help small businesses get started, support the communities we serve and especially work with individuals and families to achieve their goals and improve their quality of life. We are pleased that together our banks will be able to remain leaders and build strong futures for the markets we serve," replied Don Hoopingarner, former CEO of Markle Bank.

Under the terms of the agreement, the new holding company will acquire the two existing bank holding companies by issuing shares in an intra-state stock offering based on an exchange ratio determined by comparing the relative contributions of each bank's earnings, equity and assets. Shareholders owning a small number of shares and outof-state shareholders will be bought back upon completion of the merger.

The agreement calls for MarBanc shareholders to exchange each of their existing shares for one share of IAB. MarBanc shareholders who are not Indiana. residents or own fewer than 200 shares will receive \$71.50 in cash for each share. Grabill shareholders will exchange each of their existing shares for 116.1 shares of the new IAB stock. Grabill shareholders who are not Indiana residents or own fewer than five shares will receive \$7,900.00 in cash for each share. The intrastate offering and stock repurchase provisions are necessary components to the agreement to avoid the significant additional costs of complying with

Securities and Exchange Commission rules. It is anticipated that IAB will have approximately 400 shareholders owning approximately 1.4 million shares upon completion of the merger.

The transaction is expected to be completed at the end of the first quarter of 2005, subject to customary regulatory and shareholder approvals. The combined company is expected to generate higher cash and GAAP basis earnings per share in 2005 than the record earnings projected for 2004 by both MarBanc and Grabill. Financial projections include estimated cost savings to be phased in over a three-year period, culminating in an annual pre-tax savings of \$1.5 million. Dividends are expected to be consistent with or greater than payments prior to the merger. The individual banks and the holding company are projected to be well capitalized by regulatory standards.

IAB's eight-member Board of Directors will include Messrs. Clifton, Holdman and Marhenke and two existing directors of MarBanc and three existing directors of Grabill. IAB officers are to include Mr. Clifton, Chairman of the Board; Mr. Holdman, Vice Chairman and Chief Executive Officer; Mr. Marhenke, President; Mr. Kevin Himmelhaver, Grabill's current Chief Financial Officer (CFO), as CFO of the new holding company; and Mr. Jeff Humbarger, MarBanc's current CFO, as Treasurer. Each officer will retain their current title and role in their respective bank.



