



Welcomed Pastor

The Warren Church of Christ welcomed Gerald and Ruth Moreland last Sunday, January 4th with a nice crowd and a wonderful fellowship meal.

Their daughter, Rachel Smith, provided the special music with a son entitled "Army of the Lord."

The highlight of the service was the decision of the Morelands oldest granddaughter, Megan Denney, to become a Christian and was baptized by Grandpa Gerald.

There were also guests from the Markle Church of Christ as well as all of the Morelands children and grandchildren.

It was a great beginning at Warren

The Morelands look forward to getting to know the good folks of Warren better as time goes by.

Everyone is cordially invited to worship with us at Wayne and 3rd streets at 9:30 a.m. for worship and stay for Bible School at 10:45 a.m.

JOB OPPORTUNITY

The United States Postal Service has announced that it will be accepting applications from the public to take the Rural Carrier Associate examination in the 467 and 468 zip code areas. Interested persons may apply on the internet at www.usps.com/jobs or by using a touch-tone phone by calling 1-866-999-8777 (TTY 1-800-800-8776) and following the prompts. You will be prompted to enter announcement number 80431 for the zip code area

(Editors Note: This article is being reprinted to correct an error in the phone number given last week. To those who called the phone number, please accept my apologies.)

Crimestoppers requests your assistance in solving the following crime

CRIMESTOPPERS

On December 27, 2003, Deputy Tim Farthing responded to a burglary that had taken place to the office at the Vernon Manor trailer park in Andrews. When he arrived he was met by a Kenneth North a representative for the trailer park. The burglary had taken place during the night time hours. Entry was made by busting out one of the windows to the office and the burglars then climbed in through the window. Stolen was a safe belonging to the trailer park. It is described as a Rhino safe, blue and white in color. Inside was numerous keys and an undetermined amount of money. The case is under investigation by the Huntington Co. Sheriffs Department and the Andrew's Police Department.

Crimestoppers assists law enforcement by offering cash rewards for information leading to the arrest and prosecution of crime suspects. If you have information regarding this or any other incident, or if you know the location of a wanted criminal, please contact CrimeStoppers at (800)237-7867 or the Huntington County Police Department, (260)356-8316 for Deputy Chris Newton. We honor your desire to remain anonymous.

Crimestoppers is seeking donations to cover cash rewards. Donations can be made by check to Huntington County Crimestoppers, PO Box 621, Huntington, Indiana 46750.

ANGELS HAVE WHEELS

All Medicare recipients should now be aware that if they suffer from conditions such as arthritis, cardiovascular disease, and respiratory disorders, and have difficulty walking or propelling a standard wheelchair, they maybe eligible to receive an electric wheelchair paid for by Medicare.

For information on Medicare eligibility contact Gregory at 1-800-810-2877.



MODEL/**T**ALENT **S**EARCH

On Saturday, January 24, 2004 at 11:00 A.M. Charmaine Agency will be scouting for models, actors, dancers and singers for the Millie Lewis American Modeling & Talent Conference in Orlando, Florida.

The chosen individuals will meet face to face with Top Model Agents and Casting Directors from Ford, Elite, Next, Jet Set Kids, Maxx Men, MTV, Click, Trump Models, FFT -Funny Face Today, Mattel Toys, Abrams Artists, MGM, Sony Music, Twentieth Century Fox and Record Companies, just to name a few.

The auditions/interviews are for Men, Women and Children, 4 and up. Bring a recent snapshot. 18 years and under should come with a parent. Models should be prepared to walk the runway, singers & dancers will do a 1 minute performance with their own back up music. Actors will do a cold reading.

Audition/Interviews are at 11 :00 A. M. on Saturday, January 24, 2004 at Charmaine Agency - 3535 Stellhorn Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46815. Call 260-485-8421.

GED ON TV

Nearly one million Hoosier adults were not able to complete high school when they were young. GED ON TV provides them a second chance.

GED Connection is a multi-media learning series designed for adults who want to study from home as they prepare to take the GED and earn a State of Indiana GED High School Diploma. The television programs will be broadcast on all Indiana pas stations and many cable systems beginning the week of February 8th. There are 39 halfhour television programs that cover the reading, writing, social studies, science, and math that are on the GED test. Three workbooks go along with the series and learners who have access to the Internet can get extra practice with corresponding online lessons at http:// www.pbs.org/iiteracy.

GED ON TV will take enrollments for the spring semester beginning January 5; 2004. To enroll, adults may call 1.877.433.6688. The \$45 enrollment fee includes a pretest three workbooks, the official GED calculator to practice with at home, a post test, access to the toll-free GED ON TV Helpline and a voucher to pay for the student's GED test at any testing site in Indiana.

Adults who didn't complete high school should call, toll-free, 1.877.433.6688 to enroll soon so that they will have time to complete the pretest and receive their workbooks before the television pro-

The Indiana GED ON TV partners are Indiana Public Broadcasting Stations, Inc.; The Indiana Department of Education, Division of Adult Education; Muncie Community Schools and Learn at Home.

This is a special interest program sponsored by Purdue Cooperative Extension Office of Blackford County. This "Easy Fragranced Soap" program will be presented by Betty Bagley. The date is January 27, 2004, at 1:00 p.m. at Heritage Commons, 100 Independence Parkway, Hartford City. You will need to bring 1 small bar of lvory Soap (grated) and a microwave proof bowl (medium to large). If you don't have a grater, stop by the Extension Office with a plastic bag and use our grater.

The cost of the program is \$1.00 per reservation. To make a reservation, please call the Blackford County Extension Office at 765-348-3213 by January 23, 2004.

ANNOUNCES HOURS

The Interpretive Center at Salamonie offers a warm and friendly atmosphere and a host of activities. Upcoming events include A Day in the Life of the CCC and Building for the Birds for Senior Citizens, preschool programs about adapting to winter, and a kaleidoscope making program.

The Salamonie Interpretive Center hours are 1 to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Friday and Sunday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday from October through April. Featuring 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/parklake/interpretivesservices/ uwis/ for more information about Upper Wabash Interpretive Services programs, or call the Upper Wabash Reservoirs Interpretive Services, 260/468-2127

Host an Exchange STUDENT

World Heritage, a public benefit organization, is seeking local host families for high school boys and girls from Spain, France, Germany, Thailand, Great Britain, Japan, Mexico, Switzerland or Brazil through World Heritage International Student Exchange Program. Students are already awaiting word on their host family for the 2004-2005 academic school year. Host families provide room, board, and guidance for a teenager living thousands of miles from home. Students are well screened and are selected based on academic performance, English proficiency, teacher recommendations, and personal interviews. Couples, single parents, and families with & without children in the home are all encouraged to apply.

The exchange students arrive from their home country shortly before school begins fall 2004. Each World Heritage student is fully insured, brings his/her own personal spending money and expects to bear his/ her share of household responsibilities, as well as being included in normal family activities and lifestyles. At the same time, the student will be teaching their newly adopted host family about their own culture and language.

Families may select the student of their choice from student applications, photo collages, and biographical essays. Once paired, students and families are encouraged to begin corresponding prior to the student's arrival.

Celebrate the New Year by choosing to host an exchange student. For more information, call Nancy Paschal at 1-800-888-9040 or visit our website at www.worldheritage.org.





grams begin.

EASY FRAGRANCED SOAP

2 WARREN WEEKLY Friday, January 9, 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 Gene's Market in downtown Warren. The Warren Weekly is also available in several businesses in Van Buren. Total circulation is 3200.

It is sent anywhere in the Continental United States for three (3) months for \$9.50, six (6) months for \$19 or \$38 for one year. Mail name, address, and payment to WARREN WEEKLY at: PO Box 695, Warren, IN 46792.

Deadline for news and/or advertising is 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, for that week's edition. Call if you need something in but won't have it here on time. Leave news and/or advertising at PJ's Flower and Gift Shop or mail to P O

Box 695, Warren. Van Buren residents may call Mary Jo Zoda at 765-934-3637 WARREN WEEKLY will make every effort to see that all advertising copy is correctly printed. The firm assumes no financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertising, but will gladly reprint without charge that part in which an error may occur, provided that it is reported within five days of publication. The publisher takes no responsibility for statements or claims made in any advertisement.

KUDOS, KICKS & KARATS

An open letter to Warren residents and all of HUNTINGTON COUNTY

The choosing by the Herald Press of the men of Delta Company, 1-293d Infantry as Citizens of the Year made me feel so good. In my book the citizens of Warren, Indiana and Huntington County in general who supported our troops, run a close second.

I want to try and express how thankful I am to all who remembered the 1-293d Infantry Battalion while they served their country in Kuwait and Iraq. All the letters and packages that were sent were so greatly appreciated by the men and their families. I'm sure.

As the Applegate family tried to go about our business as usual, someone was always asking about our son, Chic, who was over there. "How's Chic? Have you heard from him? Tell him our prayers are with him and all the guys over there." Those of us who had loved ones over there will never be able to thank you enough for all the concern that was shown.

On October 17th, 2003, Tom and I were lucky enough to be waiting in our van at the intersection of Indiana 218 and I-69 at 10:30 a.m. when the Indiana Army National Guard bus, filled with the troops of Delta Company and our son, pulled off the interstate onto 218, escorted by a state trooper (who had escorted them all the way from Camp Atterbury, south of Indianapolis). Our Warren Town Marshall led them through Warren, followed by the state trooper and a member of the Huntington County Sheriff's Department, then us in our van. People were lining the street to welcome them home. Even the construction guys and gals at Roush Lake had flags showing their appreciation.

I have never been more proud to be a member of the Warren community and a resident of Huntington County. Thank you, everyone, for the concern and support you showed for our soldiers and their families. Next to my son and the other members of the 1-293d Infantry, you are all Citizens of the Year.

> Louise Applegate Warren, Indiana

Sunday

Coffee Fellowship......8:30 a.m.

Worship9:15 a.m.

Sunday School10:30 a.m.

Bible Study - Wed. 7:00 p.m.

HANDYMAN OR NOT, A FIXER-UPPER COULD BE PROFIT-ABLE

Homes in the "sub-prime" market are widely available right now. They're fixer-uppers and present big profit opportunities for anyone looking for a bargain and willing to do some work.

People who won't be involved in the work can usually do well by choosing contractors wisely, then selling the upgraded property at a profit.

Real estate expert Robert Bruss says there are five reasons such houses and condos are offered at bargain prices:

1. A seller can't afford to fix the house or doesn't want to. It's for sale "as is.

2. It's a foreclosure that hasn't been maintained.

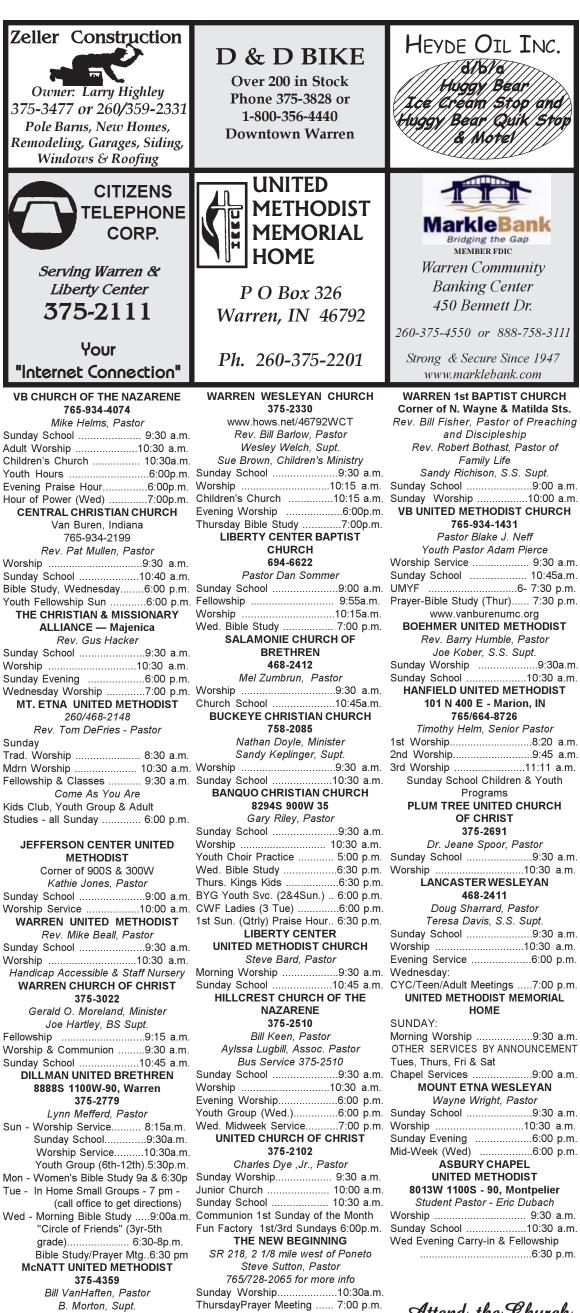
3. The seller inherited the property and wants whatever cash it will bring. 4. The home has never been updated and has very old fixtures, appliances, and paint.

5. It has a structural defect which can't be repaired without huge costs. Whether you want an investment and no involvement in the work, or you are an expert handyman, such properties offer significant profit opportunities. All homes in the first four categories are good prospects. Stay away from a home with a structural defect such as a foundation problem.

You can get tax-free profits when you sell the home if you live in it for at least two of the five years before the sale. The IRS allows up to \$250,000 in tax-free profits (or \$500,000 if you are married and you both lived in the house.)

You can take advantage of the exemption every 24 months.

Read all the Advertisements in the Warren Weekly. They 're full of all kinds of useful information.



Attend the Church of your choice

Make a Kaleidoscope

The Upper Wabash Interpretive Services presents Create Your Own Kaleidoscope on Saturday, January 17 at 10 a.m. The free program includes supplies and instruction to create a working cardboard kaleidoscope. Space is limited and registration is required, call now to sign-up for this event. Beat that gloomy winter feeling by creating a work of art that uses light and color to create designs. Designed for visitors of all ages, young people will need the assistance of an adult.

The Salamonie Interpretive Center houses a multipurpose room that is ideal for workshops and programs. The October through April Interpretive Center hours are 1 to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Friday and Sunday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. Featuring 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 <u>www.in.gov/</u> dnr/parklake/interpretivesservices/ uwis/ for more information about Upper Wabash Interpretive Services programs or to register for this event call the Upper Wabash Reservoirs Interpretive Services, 260/468-2127.

ACCEPTED AT IWU

Jasmine Brianna Bell, Huntington, has been accepted to study nursing at Indiana Wesleyan University, Marion, beginning in the 2004 spring semester.

She is the daughter of Rick and Tina Bell, Huntington.

How to Bridge the GAP **Between Generations**

(NUI) - Is there an older woman in your family who has been a role model, who has a healing way about her - a combination of energy and wisdom? Would you like to share your own stories and help promote women around the world who have devoted their lives to caring causes for the coming generations?

If so, there's a new interactive Web site you should visit www.dearauntpolly.com. If you sponsor, administer or coordinate intergenerational programs, mentor-based services for youth and elders, volunteer organizations or foster grandparent programs, the site could be helpful to you.

Dearauntpolly.com has a Web guide which provides links to sites devoted to caring for children, seniors, communities, animals and the environment.

By clicking on "Women Who Care" on the Web site, you'll find inspirational women including:

* Julia Alvarez, a poet, novelist, teacher and founder of the Alta Gracia Coffee and Alta Gracia

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Foundation. She has built a community business in the Dominican Republic, growing and producing 100 percent shade-grown coffee, which helps improve the soil, retains ground water and protects the habitats of

migratory songbirds.

* Jane Goodall, a scientist, author, lecturer and founder of the Jane Goodall Institute. Grounded in her famous study of chimpanzee behavior, the institute emphasizes the power of the individual to make a difference for all living things. Its research, conservation and education programs have created a worldwide network of individuals joined by their commitment to improving life on Earth.

Simply by clicking on "Share Your Stories," you can interact with the Web site and write about your special aunt, grandmother or another woman you know who has devoted her life to children, elders and generational causes.

The Dear Aunt Polly & Co. was founded by Dr. Nanci-Ames Curtis in honor of her own Aunt Polly who provided her unending acceptance and encouragement. As a psychiatrist with 30 years of experience, Curtis hopes to find new ways to strengthen connections between generations to re-create the support which many of us once found through extended families or small, less hurried communities.

To encourage caring connections between people of all ages, share your own personal stories today by logging on to www.dearauntpolly.com.

At the stroke of midnight on New Years Eve, Cynthia Smyth-Wartzok announced the Pulse Opera House

2004 summer season. A pulse tradition, Pulse supporters gather at the La Quinta hotel to be the first to hear the upcoming run of shows. The solid summer season begins April 23 with "Arsenic and Old Lace". This is followed on July 9th by the version of William full Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream." The season closes with the worlds longest running musical, "The Fantasticks" which begins September 17th.

Area News

2004 SUMMER SEASON

The Pulses Cynthia Smyth-Wartzok is the Indiana Community Theatre League (ICTL) president for 2004. The Pulse will be helping host the ITCL Festival on March 12-14 in Terre Haute, but will not be performing this year.

Once again, The Pulse has been invited to the International Theatre Festival in Fellbach, Germany on November 24-28. The troop will be showcasing "The Fantasticks."

For more information call the box office at 260-375-7017 or visit www.pulseoperahouse.org.

SUPPORT OUR TROOPS

Even though most of our own Huntington County troops have returned home from the War on Terrorism, as of January 5th the Army alone still had 160,200 troops deployed to various places throughout the world, 143,000 of them in Iraq and Kuwait. Total service members deployed probably exceeds 300,000.

There are still many service members to be supported and many

Since 1948

organizations which can help individuals and corporations with their donations. Veterans' Service Officer Tom Applegate wants to remind Huntington County residents that the local American Red Cross and the Salvation Army are still accepting donations. He says there are also several organizations online which have been helping troops since as early as 1995.

Operation Air Conditioner has spent more than \$602,000 on morale items and mailings. They have sent desert boots, space heaters and air conditioners to hundreds of deployed troops. Their web site can contacted at be www.operationac.com. Interested persons can adopt a troop or send items to troops selected by the web site.

Operation Support Our Troops has sent about 118 tons worth about \$2.7 million, "one box at at time", according to its founder Mary Kay Salomone. For the holidays, she and her 500 "angels" around the country are sending close to 2,000 Christmas and Hanukkah boxes.

They can be contacted at Operation Support Our Troops, 325 Laurel Ridge Lane, North Kingstown, RI 02852.

OPERATION GRATITUDE seeks to lift troops' morale, and bring a smile to their faces by sending Care Packages to service members overseas. They can be contacted at www.opgratitude.com or checks can be sent to Operation Gratitude, 16444 Refugio Road, Encino, California 91436, or via credit card online.

The USO is still accepting items and monetary donations at www.uso.org or by calling 1-800-876-7469

The following organizations give out service members' names to the general public, but only if the member gives permission:

Operation Military Pride, www.operationmilitarypride.org, or send donations to Arlyn McClaughry, c/o Operation Military Pride, 16439 W. Cottonwood St., Surprize, AZ 85374.

CONTINUED PAGE 4



$\mathbf{W} \mathbf{I} \mathbf{H}$ By: Dr. Kevin J DeaKyne DDS, PC

A SENSITIVE SUBJECT

If you have sensitive teeth, the dentist may recommend desensitizing toothpaste. It may contain one of the two ingredients that the American Dental Association recognizes as effective in reducing discomfort associated with sensitive teeth - strontium chloride and potassium nitrate. (Examples are Sensodyne or Crest Sensitivity Protection) Both effectively block the tuble like (dentinal) channels that pass through teeth and connected nerves. When these tubes are exposed ex: periodontal disease, recession, hot, or cold, and acidic foods can stimulate nerves causing tooth pain. Desensitizing toothpastes block or reduce the ability of these nerves to transmit pain. There are flouride rinses or gels that are also effective at treating the sensitivity.

The toothpastes or flouride do not work overnight. Expect to notive improvement after about four to six weeks of use. In the meantime, it may help to take hot and cold drinks through a straw or avoid extreme temperatures all together.

* HELPFUL HINT * Sometimes sensitive teeth may be a sign of a problem that needs treatment. See the dentist for any questions.

Compliments of Dr. Kevin J. DeaKyne DDS, PC 470 Bennett Dr Suite A • PO Box 307, Warren, IN (800)236-0891

Bolinger's •

AREA NEWS CONTINUED

More Page 3

HomeFrontHQ, www.homefronthq.com or write or call at Homefront Headquarters, Attention: C Bender, PO Box 307 Bryn Mawr California 92318, (909) 862-6280.

Adopt-a-Platoon Soldier Support Effort, www.adoptaplatoon.org or write to AdoptaPlatoon, PO Box 674, Kingston, N.H. 03848. Please send your name, full ground mailing address, telephone number (day and evening number), your marital status, whether you wish to apply for the adoption or pen pal program, and any other information that will help us consider you for the program.

Operation Shoebox, www.operationshoebox.com or write Operation ShoeBox, P.O. Box 1465, Belleview, FL 34421, or email them at info@operationshoebox.com

Operation Interdependence, www.oidelivers.org, sends civilian rations (candy bars, etc). Send donations to Operation Interdependence, P.O. Box 339, Fallbrook, CA 92088-0339

You can send messages of support to troops at Stars and Stripes, e-mail messages@estripes.com. Limited to 50 words or less and published on a space-available basis.

These are just a few of the many organizations which can help those of us at home in our support of our troops serving overseas and Applegate encourages Huntington county citizens to continue their support.

BEEF ID DAY

The Wells County 4-H Beef Identification Day will be held Saturday, January 10, 2004, 9 AM - 11 AM. The event will take place at the 4-H Park Multi-Purpose Arena located

behind the Horse Barn. Snow date will be January 17th at the same time and place.

All beef steers, dairy steers, and market heifers must be ear tagged, nose printed, and weighed to be eligible to show at the 2004 Wells County 4-H Fair, July 17 - 22 and the Indiana State Fair, August 11 -22

Commercial heifers (excluding those with a tattoo that is verified by a registered paper) must also be brought on January 10th to be ear tagged and nose printed. All steers and commercial market heifers will be weighed for the rate-of-gain contest.

Registered heifers do not need to be brought to the ID Day. These animals will be identified by their registration papers which include the animal ear tattoo number.

Official livestock enrollment forms will be available at the ID Day and may be completed there or turned in to the Extension Office by January 27, 2004.

Members who participated in the Dairy Feeder Steer Calf project are also encouraged to enroll their animals in the Beef project. These animals will show in a dairy steer class at the 4-H Fair. The Beef Show at the Wells County 4-H Fair is scheduled for Wednesday, July 21, 2004,

New last year was a Beef Starter Class for members to exhibit young calves born after January 1st and up until June 1. Forms are now available for this class.

For more information about 4-H or the 4-H Beef project, contact the Wells County Office of the Purdue Cooperative Extension Service, 1240 S. 4-H Road, Bluffton, 260-824-6412 or contact Beef Superintendent Brian Clark, 824-0908.

WORKSHOP FOR Beekeepers

Mark your calendars for three separate opportunities to learn about beekeeping. On January 16 and 17 and January 23 and 24, the Indiana Beekeeping School will present courses on basic beekeeping.

The two day courses, which run on Fridays from 6 to 9 PM and Saturdays from 9 AM to 4 PM will be conducted at two locations. The first is at the Indiana Farm Bureau home office (Indianapolis) and the second at Ivy Tech State College in Kokomo.

The seminars will be led by Rob Green of Bluffwood Creek. Other presenters include Roger Graham of Graham's Beeworks and beekeepers JP Jones and Lynn Bierlin. During the course, participants will construct a Langsroth beehive and learn about hive set-up and location, plants that attract honeybees, honey removal and much more.

The cost for the seminar is \$50 plus materials. For more information or to register online, please visitwww.bluffwoodcreek.com. You can also get information by calling 317-892-4921.

The Indiana Beekeepers' Association will be hosting its Indiana Bee School on February 28. The meeting will take place at the Southport Presbyterian Church, 7525 McFarland Blvd., Indianapolis.

Dr. James Tew, Ohio State University's state beekeeping specialist, will be the keynote speaker. In addition, four breakout sessions are being planned. These handson workshops will be for beekeepers of any skill level.

On-site registration is available starting at 8 AM. The program will

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begin at 9 AM and conclude at 3:30 PM. The pre-registration fee, including lunch, is \$20 for individuals or \$30 per family. Deadline for lunch reservations is February 18.

If you are interested in finding out more information on The Indiana Bee School, please contact Steve Doty at 317-485-5593 or at jsdoty@indy.net.

LIBRARY OFFERS FREE INTERNET CLASSES

Don't cry! It doesn't matter if Santa just delivered your first computer or if you've been lost in cyber space for a long time. The Wells County Public Library is offering free internet classes to help clear up your confusion in a friendly atmosphere.

"You're Doing Fine Online" is for beginners who want to learn to use the internet. The class is offered twice on Tuesday, Jan. 27 at 6:30 p.m. Pam Powell will teach very basic internet use and email. Participants must know the basics of mouse movements to get the most out of:

1) How to send and receive email 2) Finding what you want on the internet

3) Interesting sites to visit.

"Your Chance to Ask the Expert" is an advanced internet class on Friday, Jan. 30 from 1 to 3 p.m. This personalized, hands-on class encourages participants to ask specific internet questions of computer expert Larry Roth, of Only Internet. Roth can help users with advanced searchers and areas of specialized interest while answering their individual questions.

The classes are free and open to all Wells County adults. Class sizes are limited, so pre-registration is

required. Call the library reference desk at 260-824-1612 for information or to sign up.

DAY TRIP COLTS PLAYOFF GAME

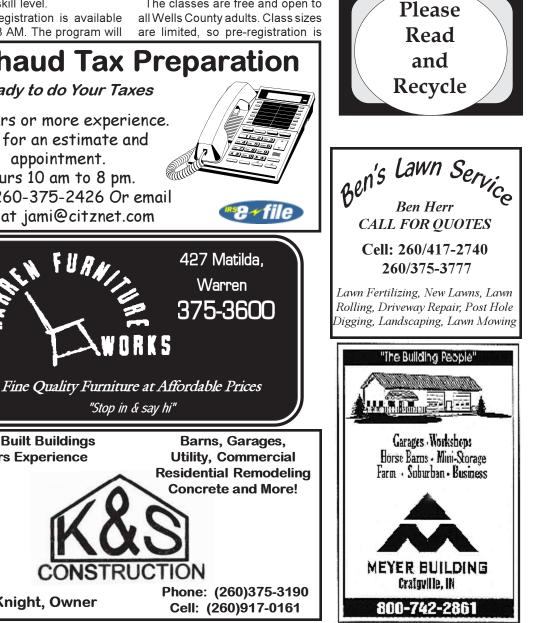
Indianapolis, Ind.-Ambassadair Travel Club has just announced that it will be selling a private Day Trip charter for the Colts vs. Chiefs game in Kansas City, Missouri, on Sunday, January 11. Immediately following the Colts enormous victory over the Denver Broncos, Ambassadair quickly assembled the components necessary to ensure believing Blue fans would be able to cheer their team on toward another win and help get the Colts another step closer to a coveted Super Bowl spot. "The Club has been fielding a number of incoming calls regarding this trip, so we know

Sally Brown. The flight will depart Indianapolis International Airport Sunday morning, January 11 to arrive in Kansas City in plenty of time for the kick-off at Arrowhead Stadium (1:00pm ET). Cost of the trip at \$699 includes roundtrip air fare, transfers to and from the game, tailgate party and game ticket.

the enthusiasm and interest is

there," said Ambassadair president

Reservations can be made by calling 317-248-8102 or 800-225-9919. Full non-refundable payment required at time of reservation. Passengers do not have to be Ambassadair members to take advantage of this trip.



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Michaud Tax Preparation

GENEALOGY REPORT

RIVIR

Morris H. Rivir, 78, Huntington, died Sunday, December 28, 2003 in Hospice Home of North East Indiana, Fort Wayne.

He was born July 11, 1925 in Wabash County to the late Orvin and Cleora (Brown) Rivir.

Survivors include his wife, Kathryn Rivir; sons, Kent, Laotto, and Chris, Warren; daughter Kelly Goken, Huntington; eight grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Services were held in Bailey-Love Mortuary with the Rev. Larry Ray officiating. Burial was in Gardens of Memory cemetery, Marion.

Memorials may be made to Hospice Home of North East Indiana, in care of the funeral home, 35 W. Park Drive, Huntington, Ind. 46750.

SAPP

Emily Elizabeth Sapp, 85, died at 9:35 p.m. Monday, Dec. 29, 2003 at the United Methodist Memorial Home in Warren.

Mrs. Sapp's late husband, Rev. Dr. L.G. Sapp, served at the Bluffton among others in the Northern Indiana Conference of Methodist churches.

Born Oct. 13, 1918 in Fort Valley, Ga. to Homer and Ina Bryant Duke, her marriage on Oct. 24, 1949 to Rev. Sapp was in Fort Valley. He preceded her in death on Oct. 3, 2000.

She was a graduate of Asbury College and served with her husband at churches in Charlottesville, Cleveland, Angola, Fort Wayne, Huntington, New Castle and Marion, in addition to the Bluffton pastorate.

She was devoted to missions work and made trips to Africa and Haiti to work with missionaries. During the 1970s, she worked at the Allen County Public Library, utilizing her degree in library science.

Survivors include a son, Wesley Duke Sapp of Indianapolis, a brother, James Victor Duke of Fort Valley, and two granddaughters.

Services were held at the United Methodist Memorial Home. Preferred memorials are to Epworth Forest Church Camp in North Webster. Contributions will be used to erect a memorial in her memory at the camp. Memorials may be sent to the Emily Sapp Memorial fund in care of United Methodist Memorial Home, 801 Huntington Ave., Warren, Ind. 46792.

Glancy Funeral Homes, H. Brown & Son Chapel of Warren was in charge of arrangements.

King

Miriam E. King, 90, of rural Marion in Grant County, died at 8:12 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 1, 2004, at the Union Methodist Memorial Home in Warren. She had been a resident of Wayne Township in Huntington County until entering the memorial home at Warren 2 1/2 years ago.

Born Oct. 3, 1913 in Jefferson Township of Huntington County, she was the daughter of Frank and Vera Shellhamer Gilbreath. She was a 1932 graduate of Jefferson Township High School and a member of the Jefferson Center United Methodist Church.

Her marriage was on March 18, 1933, at Mt. Etna to Wayne B. King, who preceded her in death.

Surviving, are two daughters, Mrs. Roger (J. Joyce) Trout of Warren, and Mrs. Verlis (Joan) Yarger of Marion, four grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Services were held at the United Methodist Memorial Home in Warren with Pastor Kathie Jones officiating. Burial was in Mt. Etna Cemetery.

Memorials to the Jefferson Center United Methodist Church or the United Methodist Memorial Home Foundation Fund.

KRINN

A native of Warren, Frances I. Krinn, 87, died Thursday, Jan. 1, 2004 at Elmcroft of Muncie.

Previously a resident of Warren and Marion, she was a homemaker and a member of the Swayzee St. United Methodist Church in Marion and its Golden Band Sunday school class. She was also a member of the FOP Women's Auxiliary and had been active in the Washington School PTA.

Born Oct. 2, 1913 to Clyde B. and Edna F. Gephardt Moore, her marriage on March 25, 1935, was to Harry E. Krinn, who preceded her in death on Aug. 27, 1982.

Survivors include a daughter, Mrs. Woody (Yvonne) Brandon of Muncie; two sons, Wendell L. Krinn of Port Richey, Fla., and Keith Krinn of Westerville, Ohio; three sisters, Gertrude Clark of Port Charlotte, Fla., Opal Moore of Marion and Vivian Foudy of Huntington; a brother, Earle Moore of Marion; seven grandchildren and six greatgrandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a son, Jerry D. Krinn, a sister, Esther Pearson and brothers Clarence and Ralph Moore.

Services were held at Needham-Storey-Wampner Funeral Service North Chapel at 1341 N. Baldwin Ave. in Marion. Rev. Don Dexheimer officiated and burial was in Woodlawn Cemetery at Warren. Preferred memorials are to the Swayzee St. United Methodist Church.

Hirons

A native of Warren, Marie (Nash) Hirons, 65, died Jan. 5, 2004 at her residence in Marion, where she had worked at the Indiana Unemployment Office for many years.

Her employment with the state agency was from 1956 to 1958, and later part-time from 1959 to 1963. She also was the secretary of the Van Buren United Methodist Church, of which she was a member, for 10 years and a member of the United Methodist Women. She was a 1956 graduate of Warren High School.

Born Oct. 8, 1938 in Warren to Oscar and Rena M. Beck Nash, her marriage on June 28, 1958 in Warren was to Richard L. Hirons, who survives.

Also surviving are a daughter, Mrs. Chuck (Penny S.) Slayton of Fort Wayne and two grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a daughter, Cindy K. Evers.

Funeral services were held at Glancy Funeral Home H. Brown & Son Chapel in Warren with Dr. Blake J. Neff officiating and burial in Van Buren Cemetery.

Preferred memorials are to the Van Buren United Methodist Church or the donor's choice.

Cole

Retired after working as a server in the dining room for 27 ½ years at the United Methodist Memorial Home in Warren and a resident there since 2000, Florence E. Cole, 90, died at 3:45 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 28, 2003, at that home.

She was born Nov. 27, 1913, at Liberty Center, a daughter of Elza Francis and Emma Bearl Davis Cole. She was a graduate of Liberty Center High School and a member of Boehmer United Methodist Church, Liberty Center.

Miss Cole had come to the Warren area from Marion in Grant County.

Surviving are two brothers, John Cole of Swayzee, Ind., and Ralph Cole of Huntsville, Ala., and one sister, Mrs. James (Annetta) Beckley of Elgin, South Carolina, in addition to 13 nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by two sisters, Dorothea Sutton and Mary Poulson.

Services were held at Glancy Funeral Homes -H. Brown & Son Chapel in Warren, with Rev. John Pattison presiding. Burial was in Woodlawn Cemetery at Warren.

Fox

Technical Sergeant Raymond Scott Fox, 38, passed away unexpectedly on Dec 31, 2003 at his home in Crestview, FL.

TSgt Fox, known by his family and friends as Ray, was a 21-year veteran of the United States Air Force, stationed at Eglin Air Force Base, FL for the past 14 years. Ray was a Fuel Systems Supervisor where he spent the last 21 years protecting the freedom and rights of the country he loved. Ray was deployed to Saudi Arabia during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm for the liberation of Kuwait; Operation Northern Watch at Incerlik AB, Turkey; Operation Southern Watch in Bahrain; supported Operation Enduring Freedom during the Bosnian conflict, and recently returned from Diego Garcia where he provided direct support to Operation Iraqi Freedom. TSqt Fox served a very distinguished and highly decorated career in the United States Air Force. Ray's selfless service to his family, country, and friends was unparalleled.

Ray grew up in Warren, Indiana and graduated from Huntington North H.S. in 1983, prior to getting married and entering the U.S. Air Force. Next to Ray's love and devotion to his family and country, he was a passionate softball player. He participated in as many as three softball leagues during a given season, including semi-professional leagues. Ray will be dearly missed by his family and friends. He is survived by his wife, Lorie, son Zachary (3) and daughter, Kaitlyn (18 mos), Crestview, FL; son Joshua (16) and daughter Audrey (14), South Whitley, IN; his parents, Ernie and Jerry Fox, Warren, IN; sister Debbie Coulter (Husband, Mark), Dayton, OH, and sister Marcy

Rosen (Husband, Troy), Warren, IN. Ray also adored his mother and father in-law, Lawrence and Celia Price, D.F.S, FL, and his brother in-law, Larry Price, Largo, FL.

Friends and family visited Ray at Emerald Coast Funeral Home, Ft. Walton Beach, FL on 5 Jan 2004 from 5:00-7:00pm. Services were held at Emerald Coast on 6 Jan 2004 at 10:00am. Ray was laid to rest in full military tradition at Live Oak Park Memorial Cemetery, Crestview, FL immediately following the funeral services.

Trout

Lawrence O. "Larry" Trout, 91, died Wednesday, December 31, 2003 at Methodist Hospital. He was a resident of Sebring, FL and a former resident of Indianapolis.

He was born on November 18, 1912 in Allen County to William F. and Margaret (Auld) Trout. He married Mary E. Evans Trout on October 9, 1937 in Ohio. She survives.

Other survivors include, 2 daughters, Barbara L Hall and Dianne L Robison; 2 grandchildren, David Hall and Patty Agresta; 3 greatgrandchildren, James, Mikalea & Francesca Agresta; 1 brother, James Trout; 1 sister, Avonelle Duell. He was preceded in death by one son, Robert Eugene Trout in 1943 and one granddaughter, Debbie A Jackson, in 2000, 2 brothers, W. Elmer and Joseph A. Trout and 1 sister, Esther Root.

He was a bus driver for Indianapolis Transit for 39 years, retiring in 1977. He was a member of the Sebring Christian Church. He served as treasurer of the FMO for several years and enjoyed traveling, photography and biking.

Services were held at GH Herrmann Greenwood Funeral Home. A graveside service was held at Woodlawn Cemetery in Warren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Sebring Christian Church.

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Area News Continued

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Births

Mr and Mrs Brian (Julee Brickley) Bradburn II of Ossian are the parents of a daughter, Sydnee Renae, born at 8:39 a.m., Friday, December 19, 2003. She weighed 9 pounds, 2³/₄ ounces and measured 19³/₄ inches. She joins Reagan, age 5 at home.

Grandparents are Clarence "Coon" and Debbie Brickley of Craigville, Jeff and Claudia Booher of Warren and Brian Bradburn of Bluffton. Great-grandparents are Margaret Barger of Craigville and Judy Bayne of Bluffton.

Ian Walters and Amber Sands, Huntington, are the parents of a son, Schuyler Walters, born at 7:45 p.m. December 16, 2003 at Parkview Huntington Hospital. The baby weighed 8 pounds, 2 ounces at birth.

Grandparents are Gary and Bernie Walters, Huntington County, Paula Evans, Markle, Jennifer Sands and Scott Rose, Huntington and Michael and Sue Sands, Roanoke. Greatgrandparents are Wes and Sandy Smith, Warren, Geraldine Snow, Huntington, Stanley and Janet Sands, Florida, Nodiva and Paul Dolby, Markle, Curtis and Peg Garber, Warsaw, Alan and Myrtle Rose, Kentucky and Donnie and Rita Andrew, Bedford. Bernadette Schomberg, Huntington, is the baby's great-great-grandmother.

Rodney Sprinkle and Angie Shope Sprinkle, Warren, are the parents of twin sons, Jarrod Rodney and Jacob William, born at 1:05 and 1:06 p.m. respectively, October 3, 2003 at Lutheran Hospital Fort Wayne. Jarrod Rodney weighed 5 pounds, 1 ounce and Jacob William weighed 5 pounds, 14 ounces at birth. The join a sister, Hope Nelson, 13, and brother, AJ Nelson, 10, Adam Nelson, 9 and Andrew Nelson, 7.

Grandparents are Edna Sprinkle of Huntington and Sue Shope of Van Buren.

Brad and Pauletta Frey Couch, Huntington, are the parents of a son, Wyatt Lee Couch, born at 11:10 p.m. December 4, 2003 at Parkview Huntington Hospital. The baby weighed 8 pounds, 2 ounces at birth.

Grandparents are Gary and Mary Ann Frey, North Manchester, Don and Linda Kissinger, North Manchester and Linda Couch, Huntington. Great-grandparents are Velma Frey Hantleman, Silver Lake, Betty Couch Hagenbuch, Warren, Deward and Beatrice Smith, Wabash, and Robert and Catherine Stonebraker, Leesburg.

John A Stuber and Becky S Losure Stuber, Marion, are the parents of a son, Aidan John Stuber, born at 4:23 a.m. December 26, 2003 at Parkview Huntington Hospital. The baby weighed 6 pounds, 5 1/2 ounces at birth, and joins a sister, Jade Elizabeth Stuber, at home.

Grandparents are Jerry and Sue Losure, Marion, John and Lana Stuber, Van Buren and Dale and Georgia Nierman. Great-grandparents include Maruie and Eldean Losure, Marion, Raymond Ringer, Camden, Ervin and Joan Stuber, Van Buren, and Gerald and Norma Eakins, Van Buren.

Shannon and Karrie Hester Spann, Warren, are the parents of a son, Keegin Allen Spann, born at 5:41 p.m. November 26, 2003 at Parkview Huntington Hospital. The baby weighed 7 pounds, 9.2 ounces at birth and joins a sibling, Shane Spann, 7.

Grandparents are Arlis Hester, Quincy, IL, Bruce and Lisa Spann, Barry, IL, and Bill Hester, New Salem, MO. Great-grandparents are Ed Spann, Barry, IL, Bonnie Jeffers, New Canton, IL, Lilian Hester, Quincy, IL and Dixie Raradon, Strafford, MO. Margery Hall, Barry, IL, is a great-great-grandmother. *Shane Prouty and Teresa Moss*

Bragg, Huntington, are the parents of a daughter, Mary Kate Prouty, born at 9:08 p.m. December 5, 2003 at Parkview Huntington Hospital. The baby weighed 8 pounds, 5 ounces at birth and joins siblings, Alexandra Good, 8 and Cassandra Good, 6.

Grandparents are David Moss, Huntington, Sue Moss, Bluffton, and John and Gail Prouty, Huntington. Great-grandparents are Lucille Prouty, Markle, Mary Katherine Moss, Huntington, Roger and Betty Shaw, Warren, and Jim and Marcia Barrick, Huntington.

Cory and Nicki Hunt Tackett, Warren, are the parents of a son, Logan Chase, born at 7:46 p.m. December 3, 2003 at Parkview Huntington Hospital. The baby weighed 7 pounds, 1 ½ ounces at birth.

Grandparents are Terri and Mike Stobb, Huntington, Kenny Tackett, Warren, and Brenda Dean, Texas. Great-grandparents are Roger Geroux, Janesville, WI, Mae and Delano Tackett, Andrews and Velene Gibler, Huntington.

Slusher – Miller To Wed

Cheris Diane Slusher of McNatt and Nicholas Bruce Miller of Liberty Center, will exchange marriage vows during a 4:30 p.m. ceremony July 31, 2004 at First Church of the Nazarene in Bluffton.

Parents of the couple are Verlis and Lois Slusher of McNatt and Bruce and Mary Alice Miller of Liberty Center.

Miss Slusher is a 2001 graduate of Southern Wells High School She is a junior at Anderson University where her major is family science. She is a member of the Alacritas Social Club and Family Science Honor Society.

Her finance is a 2000 graduate of Southern Wells High School. He is a senior at Anderson University where his major is Bible and Religion. He is a member of the Avanti Boosters Social Club.



MR and Mrs Donald E. Rogers Sr, Montpelier, celebrated 60 years of marriage during an open house, January 4, 2004 at the Lions Club

in Montpelier. Donald and the former Mildred P Smith exchanged vows December 31, 1943 in Marion by Rev. Unger.

Mr Rogers is retired from Anaconda Wire and Cable in Marion in 1972. His wife Mildred retired from Montpelier Glove in 1987.

They have three children, Mrs Robert (Rita) Wagoner of Montpelier, Mrs John (Donna) Sutton of Hartford City and Don Rogers, Jr of Liberty Center. They also have five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. A grandchild is deceased.

2004 OUTSTANDING OLDER WORKER

Experience Works, the country's oldest and largest nonprofit provider of training and employment for older workers, announced today that the search is on for Indiana's 2004 Outstanding Older Worker. For the seventh year, Experience Works will honor one outstanding older worker from each state, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

The nominee must be 65 years of age or older, a resident of Indiana, currently working at least 20 hours per week for pay, and willing and able to travel to Washington, D.C. in October for the Experience Works Prime Time Awards Program. Nominees who are part of a subsidized employment program funded through local, state or national government support programs are not eligible for this award.

The winner will receive an allexpense paid trip to Washington, D.C. The trip will include a weeklong series of events, capped by a gala awards banquet and ceremony at the historic Union Station.

Nominations must include a brief narrative that describes the older worker's overall contribution to the business, including longevity, experience, skill level, work ethic, any disabilities the nominee has overcome to perform his/her job, and a description of his/her community involvement. Official nomination forms may be obtained by calling the Experience Works Regional Office at 1-800-843-0885.

Entries should be mailed to Experience Works; Attn: Carla Rains; P.O. Box 687; Seymour, IN 47274. They may also be faxed to 1-812-522-7684 or emailed to csciarra@hsonline.net. Nominations must be received by April 1, 2004.

GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN

Many people dream about their 'golden years' when the kids are raised and life is filled with traveling and relaxing. In reality, many people won't spend their later life that way. In Indiana, there are over 48,000 grandparents who are responsible for raising their grandchildren. For these individuals, the 'golden years' can be filled with emotional and physical stress.

Grandparents can be left with the responsibility of raising their

grandchildren for various reasons. It could be because the child's parent has died, or is not financially able to care for the child. For others, it is because of the parent's drug use or because the parent has abused the child. Whatever the reason, these grandparents have taken on a huge task, which translates into increased stress. Stress can be reduced if the caregiver has key information. What does a caregiver need to know?

Get help with legal issues. An attorney can provide guidance on many issues.

For instance, grandparents often need advice on whether to get a guardianship or adopt.

Parenting as a grandparent takes different skills than parenting one's own children. A support group can help, as can enrolling in parenting classes that specialize in this situation. Many web sites are also dedicated to this issue.

Make sure the child has medical insurance. Grandparents need to check whether or not their current policy allows them to add their grandchildren. program for children from low-income families if appropriate.

Make sure the child gets counseling services as needed. Depression and anger are just two of the issues children face when their parents have abandoned them. Professional help on these issues will not only help the child, but the caregiver, as well.

The federal government recognized the special needs of grandparents caring for their grandchildren when they began funding the Family Caregiver Program. Aging and In-Home Services receives funds to provide assistance to caregivers. Funds are available to cover services such as individual counseling, support groups, guidance, legal services and respite. Grandparents can refer themselves or be referred by someone.

Caring for grandchildren is a big job, but help is available to make it less stressful. Taking charge and seeking out help and information will go a long way in making it work.

Maureen Widner is the Outreach Coordinator at Aging and In-Home Services of Northeast Indiana, Inc. She can be reached at 1-800-552-3662, 260-745-1200 or mwidner@agingihs.org.

All services are provided without regard to race, age, color, religion, sex, disability, national origin or ancestry.

HOMESCHOOL B-BALL

The Huntington Eagles Varsity boys played 3 games in the Cougar Classic sponsored by Lakeland Christian Academy, Winona Lake (near Warsaw), IN. The Lakeland Cougars, the Kosciusko County Home Educators Eagles & the Trinity Titans of South Bend.

Coming off a 2 week break, the Eagles had 3 members of the team out with sickness, including Josh Rich who averages 9 points & 5 rebounds.

Blake Hitzfield was named an All-Star of the tournament, and was called by one of the Titan coaches "by far the best player of this tournament".

He had a double double in the **CONTINUED PAGE 8**

Get them enrolled in an insurance THE M'EATING PLACE (GEBHART'S) **Now Serving Pizzas** Greenhouse & Floral Barn Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner Specials Hours: Now and 5:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Mon - Sat forever... 116 S First St - Van Buren 765/934-3541 **Carry-outs Available** Complete wedding services, from design Water Softeners Clearly Better Water. consultation to • Free 30 Day Trial custom arrangements, • No Installation Charge!* • First Salt Fill Included both fresh and silk. • All for \$15.95 per month 260-375-4606 260/375-3565 M-F 9-5, Sat. 9-12 **Blue Flame Gas** 1 mile East of 1205 Huntington Avenue Warren on 1000S (3rd St. Ext.) Teleflora Warren, IN 46792 "Free installation based on a pre-plumb install only.





AREA NEWS CONTINUED

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opening game against Lakeland 31 points & 10 rebounds, yet the Cougars prevailed on a foul shot at 8 seconds 51-52. Paul Meehan 8p, 5r; Tim Nei 8p, 3r; Pat Meehan 4p, 4r.

Huntington won their second contest with the KCHE Eagles 69-51, Blake had 29 points & 6 rebounds; Paul Meehan 15p, 6r; Tim Nei 10p, 4r; Pat Meehan 8p, 6r.

The Titans, who won the contest, proved superior to a weary Eagle team 47-61. Blake was held to 11 points, 5r; Tim Nei 11p, 1r; Pat Meehan 12p, 2r, Paul Meehan 9p, 7r, Trent Lloyd 4p, 4r.

The Varsity Eagles are now 11-3 and are coached by Mark Featherston & Mark Shultz.

How CAN A SUPPORT GROUP HELP?

"Sometimes I really resent the amount of time I have to spend caring for my dad. Then I feel guilty for feeling that way."

"It is so stressful trying to balance work and caring for my spouse. I wonder how other people do it." "I need to know what help is avail-

able in this community. Caregivers can often be heard saying phrases similar to these. These statements indicate that these caregivers are in need of information and emotional support. All caregivers have this same need. One place to get information and support is at a caregiver support group meeting. Support groups are really a resource center. These groups can provide "one stop shopping" for advice, information on community resources and an opportunity for socializing. Many people find it reassuring to know they are not alone in facing caregiving issues.

Many support groups exist in this area. Some are disease specific and some are for caregivers. Most follow a similar format and meet monthly. A facilitator plans the meeting and leads the group in discussions. Typically, there is a presentation by an informational speaker at each meeting, and then time for questions and discussion. People are more likely to attend a group regularly if it meets at a time convenient for them and is near their home or office. It's a good idea to take the time to research where and when a group meets, and also what the topics will be month to month. Some support groups also provide adult day care during meetings.

Support groups exist to support caregivers. Utilizing this valuable resource can help alleviate stress. Aging and In-Home Services of Northeast Indiana sponsors a number of caregiver support groups meeting in the area, and has a list

Bread of Life Food Pantry Hours Wed. 4 to 5:30 p.m. Sat. 10 to 11:30 at Knight Bergman Center OR Call for an appointment 375-2381 of other support groups sponsored by various agencies. Please call the Family Caregiver offices at 745-1200 x232 to obtain further information.

YOUR W-2: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

(NAPSI)-By February 2, 2004, every employer that paid you during 2003 must provide you with a Form W-2, Wage and Tax Statementeven if you worked for only one day. The nation's leader in payroll education, the American Payroll Association, offers these tips to help you check your W-2:

• If you haven't received your W-2, contact the company's payroll department. Be prepared with your full name, your Social Security number, and your employee number. If you moved during the past year, be prepared to give any prior addresses, as well as your new address, so your W-2 can be mailed to you.

• Check that your name and Social Security number exactly match those on your Social Security card. If not, contact your payroll department and request a corrected W-2. An exact match is vital to get your eventual Social Security benefits. An exception: it's okay if your Social Security card shows your middle name, but your W-2 only contains your middle initial.

· Locate your last pay stub of the year. If you notice a discrepancy between the pay stub and your W-2, you should note that the amounts entered in W-2 box 1 (Wages, tips, and other compensation), box 3 (Social Security wages), and box 5 (Medicare wages and tips) may differ from your year-to-date gross pay. Deductions from your pay for some employer-sponsored savings plans, such as 401(k), reduce the amount reported in box 1. Payroll deductions for flexible spending accounts (medical, dependent care, etc.) will reduce the amounts in boxes 1, 3, and 5, if you chose pre-tax deductions.

• Make sure that the state and local boxes accurately reflect the states and municipalities for which you have a tax liability. Some of these jurisdictions may calculate taxable wages differently from what is reported in box 1.

• Read the back of the W-2 Copy B to determine if you are eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit, and the back of Copy C for explanations of other boxes.

• If any of the dollar amounts seem incorrect, contact your payroll department.

• If you misplace your W-2, request a "reissued statement" from your payroll department. A fee may be charged for the replacement.

• If, as a freelance or contract worker, you received \$600 or more from any one company in 2003, you should receive a Form 1099-MISC, Miscellaneous Income, from that company. If you haven't, contact the company's accounts payable department.

For more information about your W-2 form and other topics relating to your paycheck and withholding, visit www.national navrollweek.com

payrollweek.com.

STAYING IN TOUCH

(NAPSI)-"Having a good time, wish you were here!"

That sentiment, long associated with postcards sent from exotic destinations, could just as easily be applied to family gatherings that distant relatives are unable to attend. Fortunately, thanks to the advent of online instant messaging and webcam technology, it's now possible for family and friends to visit face-to-face from thousands of miles away, without leaving home.

Whether it's for a special holiday, a milestone birthday, or just an informal "Hi, how are you," people can bridge the distance that separates them anytime, anywhere there is a webcam and an Internet connection. Instant messaging (IM) has quickly become the fastest growing communication tool, and with the addition of video, it has taken on a new face, literally.

For example, Microsoft's MSN Messenger now enables people to add live video to their text-based messages, bringing them even closer-since they can actually share a smile or a virtual hug with a loved one, anytime they IM.

And, it's so easy. The application is free to download from the Web. Once it's installed, you can see when friends are online. After you start a normal text message session, you then select the "webcam" button to invite a friend to view your video. Your friend receives an invitation to view what's on your webcam-and you'll instantly be connected. Friends don't have to have a camera in order to see you-but it is much more fun when both parties can see each other.

One webcam that works especially well for video instant messaging is the Logitech QuickCam Orbit. This stylish looking camera is simple to operate, and actually physically moves to keep your face centered in the field of view. The face-tracking software makes people feel like they have their own cameraman, since the camera can automatically follow a person's face as they move around during video IM sessions. The camera includes a nine-inch stand, so it can be elevated to eye level. A built-in microphone lets you add audio to your instant messaging sessions as well.

"It's not always possible to travel hundreds of miles to see someone," said Spencer Johnson, director of product marketing for Logitech's Video Business Unit. "But today, the webcam, coupled with video instant messaging, brings people closer together-in real time. It is truly the next stage in the 'small world' story."

To download MSN Messenger, visit http://messenger.msn.com. To learn more about Logitech's webcam products, visit www.logitech.com.

Webcams let families share special occasions, even when separated by thousands of miles.

The Power of Focus

(NAPSI)-Today's women face challenges on numerous levels, and often find themselves asking: • "How do I get more balance and more time for me?"

"I'm ready for a change. I feel so stuck."
"How can I make my life more

meaningful?"

• "I'd like to be happy, but how do I let go of the guilt?"

• "How do I become confident enough to pursue my dreams?"

• "I want financial security. No more money problems!"

• "How can I have more love and joy, instead of all this stress?"

After facilitating workshops for years, acclaimed women's specialist Fran Hewitt recognized that certain issues kept resurfacing. As a result, she developed The Power Of Focus For Women (Health Communications Inc., \$12.95) with coauthor Les Hewitt, a leading-edge business coach and bestselling author.

Key to the book's message is learning how to overcome low selfesteem and the fears that hold one back from being successful.

"With healthy self-esteem no matter what life throws your way you will always be able to bounce back," says Hewitt.

Packed with practical techniques and easy-to-implement action steps, the publication also includes inspiring real-life success stories. The book is available at local bookstores and can be ordered through www.hcibooks.com.

A new book may help you come closer to achieving your goals.

Do You QUALIFY?

(NAPSI)-Each year, millions of working Americans qualify for some additional tax relief by claiming the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), tax relief for people who work, but do not earn high incomes. Those who qualify can reduce their federal tax liability and potentially receive a cash refund. The EITC does not affect most other welfare and disability benefits.

For tax year 2002, more than 20 million taxpayers claimed the credit and more than \$36 billion dollars in tax credit payments were distributed to low-income workers around the country.

Before claiming the EITC, it's important to know if you're eligible. Taxpayers do not need to have children to claim the EITC, but must meet certain requirements. If you were employed for at least part of 2003, you may be eligible for the EITC if:

• You earned less than \$12,230, did not have any qualifying children, and were at least age 25 and under age 65 on December 31, 2003, or

You earned less than \$30,666
and have one qualifying child, or
You earned less than \$34,692
and have more than one qualifying child.

"An estimated 25 percent of people who qualify for the EITC don't claim it each year," said David R. Williams, Director, EITC at the IRS. "The credit was designed to help hard-working taxpayers get what they honestly deserve, and there are many resources available to help them with the process." Help is Available If you believe you may qualify for the EITC, check IRS Publication 596, Earned Income Credit, which offers eligibility criteria and instructions on how to claim the tax credit. Copies of the publication are available in English and Spanish, and can be found on the IRS' Web site, www.irs.gov or by calling 1-800-TAX FORM (1-800-829-3676).

Taxpayers also can seek assistance from a tax preparer or from a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance and Tax Counseling for the Elderly site that offers free tax help for those who cannot prepare their own returns.

Operated by trained volunteers, these sites are generally located at community and neighborhood centers, libraries, schools, shopping malls and other convenient locations.

File Federal Taxes for Free

Taxpayers may qualify to have their returns filed electronically for free and receive their refund faster.

Eligibility requirements can be found at www.irs.gov in the free file section.

Free Eye Exams for Uninsured

(NAPSI)-Glaucoma, a leading cause of blindness in the U.S., gradually steals sight without warning or, often, symptoms. Nearly three million people have glaucoma, but half don't know it.

EyeCare America, the public service foundation of the American Academy of Ophthalmology, offers medical eye services through its national Glaucoma EyeCare Program. It promotes early detection and treatment, raises awareness of risk factors, provides free educational materials and facilitates access to a glaucoma eye examination. The program is for U.S. citizens or legal residents who have not had an eye exam in 12 months or more and are at risk for glaucoma.

They get an eye exam and treatment, if necessary. People with insurance will be billed. Uninsured patients get the care free. Call 1-800-391-3937 (EYES) to see if you are eligible for this service.

The eye care for the medically underserved comes from 7,500 volunteer ophthalmologists across the U.S.

Learn more at: www.eyecareamerica.org.

Many uninsured Americans are seeing their way clear to a free eye exam that may save their sight.

