

Friday, December 16, 2005

Volume 20, Number 44



Warren Weekly

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

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WARREN, IN 46792



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Thought for the Week: *There has been only one Christmas. The rest are anniversaries.* W. J. Cameron

CHRISTMAS MUSIC

The Van Buren United Methodist Church Choir is presenting the Christmas Musical "The Gift of Christmas" directed by Jackie Duggan. This musical was written by Clair Cloninger and Gary Rhodes. In addition to some exciting new songs, the musical includes traditional carols, and some well-loved contemporary songs. Soloists include, Warren Brose, David Ferguson, Karen Sue Shane and Amber Stanley. This musical reminds us that Jesus is the Gift of Christmas as well as the giver of the Gift.

The Gift of Christmas will be presented at morning worship (9:30 a.m.) on Sunday, December 18. The message that day will be "No Wonder they Wondered" by Dr. Blake J. Neff.

Van Buren United Methodist Church is located at 105 South 2nd Street in Van Buren.

NEW LIBRARY HOURS

The Warren Public Library will be closed December 24, 25, 26 and January 1 and 2.

To better meet the needs of students and patrons who work until 5:00, the Warren Public Library will have new hours beginning January 3. The library will be open from 1 pm until 6 pm, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and from 10am until 3 pm Friday and Saturday.

This schedule will be tested for three months and public input is welcome. Though the convenience of more hours a day would be ideal, the consistency of hours, times when the greater number of people are free to use the library, resources of a small township library, and adherence to State standards all need to be considered when setting Library hours.

Do You Know?

SAM (Salamonie Active Men) are currently in search of families in need at this special time of year. All names will be kept confidential. If you know of anyone who is in need of assistance, please contact either, Adam Jones at 260/437-3952 or Michael Trosper at 260/375-6031.

TRASH PICK-UP

Recycling/trash pick-up for residents of the Town of Warren has been rescheduled to Thursday, December 22nd due to the Holiday. Pathfinders will resume the regular route the next week, Friday, December 30.

JUST BELIEVE IT!

The Children of the Warren Hillcrest Nazarene Church located at 406 E. First Street, present to you a Christmas Story to Just Believe. All the children of the Church will participate in this joyful play about our Christ Father's Birth. Please join us on Sunday, December 18, 2005, at 6:00 PM to celebrate this wonderful occasion. Immediately following this production light refreshments will be served.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Yes, we are having Sunday Services on CHRISTMAS DAY, December 25! We are dismissing our Sunday School classes and having this special celebration service at the church building located at 3rd and Wayne Street at 10:00 A.M. (different from our normal 9:30 time). This will give families time to have their traditional time with the kids and still come to celebrate the "Reason for the Season" - THE BIRTH OF CHRIST. We can't think of a better day to celebrate his birth than on a Sunday, when the church regularly meets to worship the Lord. We have some special things planned that we feel will make a memory of the day. Come worship with us if

you don't have a place to go! Gerald Moreland and Todd Winkler are the ministers and they, along with the entire church family, give you this special invitation to come share this service together.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

The Warren Church of Christ, at 3rd and Wayne Sts., will be having a CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE at 7:00 P.M., December 24th. A time of congregational singing, special music, special readings, prayer and Candle Lighting service will take place for all who can come. The evening is entitled "A Christmas Eve Story". We encourage you to bring the whole family and share in this time of remembering Jesus and His coming to Earth to be our Savior.

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

The public is invited to come to a new contemporary worship service to be held at the Warren Church of Christ, 302 N. Wayne St., on Wednesday, December 21, at 6:30 P.M. This is the second time the young adult group called EQUIP has led a service like this. Their first service was last month with just an announcement within the church and the response was so good they were encouraged to try in again. This time they would like to invite the public to attend, if you don't have any other place to go and would like to participate with us. This will be a time of singing contemporary Christian music, scriptures, prayer, testimony and a devotional meditation. Power Point is used to add an extra dimension to the meeting. Bring a friend and come to this casual and yet very special time of worship in the middle of our week.

FREE CALENDARS

The Warren Pharmacy of Warren, IN is pleased to announce that the 2006 Pharmacy Sweepstakes Calendars are here!

These calendars are given away FREE by your local independent Pharmacy. They include manufacturer's coupons & a sweepstakes coupon. There is one sweepstakes entry to fill out, so that you will be eligible for 4 quarterly drawings! Every month winners are chosen from Independent Pharmacy entries across the country to receive a 20 inch Flat Screen TV w/DVD player. Stop by now to visit the Warren Pharmacy and pick up a FREE calendar for the year 2006! The Warren Pharmacy has had multiple winners over the past 9 years in this national sweepstakes!

CHRISTMAS CD

CHRISTmas-the way we remember is available at the Warren Pharmacy for the special introductory price of \$12.99 (retail \$15.99). A Christmas CD with 11 traditional Christmas songs, produced by Jeff & Robbyn Apthorp, Terry's sister and brother-in-law. This would make a great gift and will be a blessing for your Christmas season. Check out their website at: www.soundamazing.com.

NEW YEAR'S

RESOLUTIONS

Have you thought about your New Years Resolutions? Make the Most Important One Ever! Join the Warren United Methodist Church in the 40 Days of Purpose Campaign. Learn about all the amazing wonders God can do when you invite him into your life! "According to your faith will it be done to you" Matthew 9:29 and "when a believing person prays, great things happen" James 5:16. Our campaign starts January 15 and goes through February 26. We invite you to be a part of the campaign. Please call the office at 375-3871 to receive more information on this exciting journey!

ALUMNUS HONORED

Warren High School, Class of 1950 graduate, still being honored.

Hiram Adsit's picture hangs in the halls of Plainfield (IL) Central High School.

'The Enterprise' honored Wayne Perry, publisher of the newspaper and Hiram Adsit stating of their devotion to the Plainfield community as "unparalleled" when it came to Plainfield High School Athletics. The two have been honored by the sports department at "The Enterprise" by naming awards after them.

Hiram Adsit, (who was tabbed "Wildcat Superfan") award will be given annually to the District's outstanding female athlete.

The first Hiram Adsit award winner plaque honored Lydia Pond. She was the second Wildcat to compete in four sports basketball, football, soccer and tennis. The first was in 2001. Michael and Shaun Adsit were in attendance for this presentation. Hiram lived in Plainfield for almost twenty five years, a fixture at the Wildcats athletic events for more the twenty of those years. His family attended school there. Being so many High Schools around the sports writers couldn't be at all of the games. They occasionally depended on Adsit to give them the rundown on the Wildcat games for "The Enterprise". Mary Emma Holmes, his sister accompanied him at the last basketball game he attended. That night he had his stroke which led to his death a little more than four months later on March 24, 2002.

Hiram Adsit's family is happy and proud that he will be remembered annually by his adopted community. I say adopted, because Warren was always his place he called home. When he came to Warren, he loved to spend time in his old Alma Mater and in the Museum reminiscing. He had such a vivid

CONTINUED PAGE 3

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Shipping Address: 7920S 900W 90, Warren, IN 46792
Phone: (260)375-3531 or 1-877-811-9089 **FAX:** (260)-375-7007
e-mail: wwklly@citiznet.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 Post Office 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

FOOD PANTRY THANKS

A note with the following kind words was slipped under the door of the Pantry. I am requesting it be published (verbatim) so the kind hearts that donate to us can see how priceless and meaningful their gifts are.

"TO THE WONDERFUL PEOPLE AT THE FOOD PANTRY IN WARREN: Many people pray they will never be hungry or have to go without food, but unfortunately sometimes life makes it difficult to prevent that. How nice and what a blessing it is to live in a town where people care and you don't have to be hungry. Where you never have to choose between paying a bill and buying food. The food pantry in Warren is rightfully named The Bread of Life. There are not enuf thank-you's in the world to say how much it means not to have to be hungry. God Bless. "

Phyllis Harness, Area Coordinator.

WARREN IS CHARMING

Following is a portion of an email received by a local citizen. The senders had recently attended the latest showing at the Pulse Opera House and it is reported that they attend every show.

"How charming Warren is at holiday time! We had never been there at holiday time and it seemed like we had taken a step back in time to see the town all lighted with store windows lit and Christmas decorations. It was truly magical.

Neither of us had ever seen the play before. We had heard of it, but didn't know any of the plot. We were both pleased to see it for the first time with actors we had seen in other productions. It was hilarious, but we were touched by the ending. Storybook material maybe, but the true meaning of Christmas is a message that brings joy no matter how its told."

Bob & Judy
Columbia City



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VB CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 765-934-4074

Mike Helms, Pastor

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

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH Van Buren, Indiana 765-934-2199

Rev. Pat Mullen, Pastor

Worship9:30 a.m.
 Sunday School10:40 a.m.
 Bible Study, Wednesday.....10:00 a.m.
 Youth Fellowship Sun6:00 p.m.

THE CHRISTIAN & MISSIONARY ALLIANCE — Majenica Rev. Gus Hacker

Sunday School9:30 a.m.
 Worship10:30 a.m.
 Sunday Evening6:00 p.m.
 Wednesday Worship7:00 p.m.

MT. ETNA UNITED METHODIST 260/468-2148

Rev. Tom DeFries - Pastor

Sunday
 Trad. Worship 9:00 a.m.
 Mdrn Worship 10:30 a.m.
 Fellowship & Classes 9:30 a.m.

Come As You Are

Kids Club, Youth Group & Adult
 Studies - all Sunday 6:00 p.m.

JEFFERSON CENTER UNITED METHODIST

Corner of 900S & 300W

Kathie Jones, Pastor

Sunday School9:00 a.m.
 Worship Service10:00 a.m.

WARREN UNITED METHODIST Rev. Mike Malone, Pastor

Sunday School9:30 a.m.
 Worship10:30 a.m.

Handicap Accessible & Staff Nursery WARREN CHURCH OF CHRIST 375-3022

Gerald O. Moreland, Minister

Todd Winkler, Youth Minister

Ruth Moreland, Secretary & BS Supt.
 Fellowship9:15 a.m.
 Worship & Communion9:30 a.m.
 Sunday School10:45 a.m.

DILLMAN UNITED BRETHREN 888S 1100W-90, Warren 375-2779

Dick Case, Pastor

Sun - 1st Worship Service..... 8:15a.m.
 Sunday School.....9:30a.m.
 2nd Worship Service10:30a.m.
 Youth Group (6th-12th).5:30p.m.

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

McNATT UNITED METHODIST 375-4359

Bill VanHaften, Pastor

Lois Slusher, Supt.

Coffee Fellowship.....8:30 a.m.
 Worship9:15 a.m.
 Sunday School10:30 a.m.
 Bible Study - Wed. 7:00 p.m.

WARREN WESLEYAN CHURCH 375-2330

6th & Nancy Sts. Warren

Rev. Andy Trowbridge, Pastor
Wesley Welch, Supt.

Sunday School9:30 a.m.
 Worship10:15 a.m.
 Wednesday Prayer Service ...7:00p.m.

LIBERTY CENTER BAPTIST CHURCH 694-6622

Pastor Dan Sommer

Sunday School9:00 a.m.
 Fellowship 9:55a.m.

Worship 10:15a.m.
 Wed. Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

SALAMONIE CHURCH OF BRETHREN 468-2412

Mel Zumbrun, Pastor

Worship9:30 a.m.
 Church School10:45a.m.

BUCKEYE CHRISTIAN CHURCH 758-2085

Kyle Dahlquist, Pastor

Sandy Keplinger, Supt.

Worship9:30 a.m.
 Sunday School10:45 a.m.

BANQUO CHRISTIAN CHURCH 8294S 900W 35

Gary Riley, Pastor

Sunday School9:30 a.m.
 Worship 10:30 a.m.

Youth Choir Practice 5:00 p.m.
 Wed. Bible Study6:30 p.m.

Thurs. Kings Kids6:30 p.m.
 BYG Youth Svc. (2&4Sun.) .. 6:00 p.m.

CWF Ladies (3 Tue)6:00 p.m.
 1st Sun. (Qtrly) Praise Hour.. 6:30 p.m.

LIBERTY CENTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Steve Bard, Pastor

Morning Worship9:30 a.m.
 Sunday School10:45 a.m.

HILLCREST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 375-2510

Bill Keen, Pastor

Bus Service 375-2510

Sunday School9:30 a.m.
 Worship10:30 a.m.

Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.
 Youth Group (Wed.).....6:00 p.m.

Wed. Midweek Service.....6:30 p.m.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST 375-2102

Charles Dye , Jr., Pastor

Sunday Worship..... 9:30 a.m.
 Junior Church 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
 Communion 1st Sunday of the Month

Fun Factory 1st/3rd Sundays 6:00p.m.

THE NEW BEGINNING

SR 218, 2 1/8 mile west of Poneto

Steve Sutton, Pastor

765/728-2065 for more info

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

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

*Rev. Bill Fisher, Pastor of Preaching
and Discipleship*

*Rev. Robert Bothast, Pastor of
Family Life*

Debbie Wiley, S.S. Supt.

Sunday School9:00 a.m.
 Sunday Worship10:00 a.m.

Sunday Evening Service 6:00p.m.

VB UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 765-934-1431

Pastor Blake J. Neff

Worship Service 9:30 a.m.
 Sunday School 10:45a.m.

Jr/Sr High UMYF (Sun)..... 6-7:30 p.m.
 Prayer-Bible Study (Thur)..... 7:30 p.m.

UMW 2nd Wed 7:00 p.m.
 www.vanburennumc.org

BOEHMER UNITED METHODIST Rev. Barry Humble, Pastor

Joe Kober, S.S. Supt.

Sunday Worship 9:30a.m.
 Sunday School 10:30a.m.

HANFIELD UNITED METHODIST 101 N 400 E - Marion, IN 765/664-8726

Timothy Helm, Senior Pastor

1st Worship.....8:20 a.m.
 2nd Worship.....9:45 a.m.

3rd Worship11:11 a.m.
 Sunday School Children & Youth

Programs PLUM TREE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST 375-2691

Dr. Jeane Spoor, Pastor

Sunday School9:30 a.m.
 Worship10:30 a.m.

Evening Service6:00 p.m.
 Wednesday:

CYC/Teen/Adult Meetings 7:00 p.m.

UNITED METHODIST MEMORIAL HOME

SUNDAY:
 Morning Worship9:30 a.m.

OTHER SERVICES BY ANNOUNCEMENT
 Tues, Thurs, Fri & Sat

Chapel Services9:00 a.m.

MOUNT ETNA WESLEYAN Rev. Charles Dederick, Pastor

Sunday School9:30 a.m.
 Worship10:30 a.m.

Sunday Evening6:00 p.m.
 Mid-Week (Wed)6:00 p.m.

ASBURY CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST

8013W 1100S - 90, Montpelier

Rev. John Wallace, Pastor

Worship 9:30 a.m.
 Sunday School10:30 a.m.

Wed Evening Carry-in & Fellowship
6:30 p.m.

Attend the Church of Your Choice

AREA NEWS

MORE PAGE 1

memory, I should have put a tape recorder in his hand. He remembered you! Do you remember him?

DECEMBER ACTIVITIES

The Huntington County 4-H Junior Leaders will hold their December meeting on Saturday, December 17 from 1-4 pm at Christine Pinkerton's home in Jefferson Twp. The group will be sledding, weather permitting, so bring your equipment. If there isn't sufficient snow for sledding, the group will enjoy games, indoor/outdoor activities and food. Each participant is asked to bring a \$5.00 gift for a gift exchange and snack foods to share. Contact the Extension Office to make reservations for this meeting.

The Junior Leaders will also be assisting the Extension Office in collating 4-H Promotion and Recruitment materials to be share with 3rd 4th and 5th grade students in the county during the early part of January. Youth will meet at the Huntington County Extension Office on Wednesday, December 28 from 9:30 am until 1:00 pm.

THE WEEKLY SPECIAL

by Helen @ Natalie Jeanne's
Another week, another Christmas cookie recipe!! This one is actually a two part recipe, as you use the dough for two different kinds of cookies. Both are sure to pack on a few of those holiday pounds we all know and love!

The first step to this recipe is to make the dough, then divide the dough for our two different types of cookies.

Miracle Dough
2 ½ cups flour
1 ½ tsp baking powder
¾ tsp salt
¾ cup vegetable oil
1 cup sugar
2 eggs

Combine sugar and oil. Add eggs and mix well. Sift remaining ingredients together and add all at once. Mix thoroughly.

For nutmeg dainties:

Take ¼ of the dough and add 1 tsp vanilla and ½ tsp nutmeg. Mix well. Roll into 1 inch balls (oil hands if necessary). Dip tops into colored sugar and place on un-greased cookie sheet. Bake at 350 degrees for 8-10 minutes. Do not brown. Cool on paper towels.

I'll show you how to use the rest of the dough next week! Stay

tuned! Until next week, Bon Appetit!

CHRISTMAS IS LOVE

Dillman U B Church is having a Christmas program called "Christmas is Love". It will be Sunday morning, December 18th at both the 8:15 and the 10:30 worship services. The Sanctuary Choir, The All Men Joy Choir, The Ladies Choir and many solos and special combinations will be featured. The public is invited to attend this program. Come and share with us at Dillman on Sunday, December 18th. For more information call 375-2779.

NOTES FROM COUNCIL

On Wednesday evening, Dec. 7, the Van Buren Town Council met in the Council Room at Town Hall. The meeting opened at 7 p.m. with Marvin Surber conducting the meeting in the absence of president Tony Manry.

The Fire Department asked for a two-way radio for the grass buggy and pumper truck.

Council voted to pay 2006 IACT dues.

Officer Pat Collins gave his report. He said all officers had received the necessary training for the year.

Clerk-Treasurer Michelle Sexton asked permission to draw \$7,000 from the SRF fund to pay attorney fees.

Superintendent Jim Webb reported all meters had been read for November.

There had been a water main break on West Chester Street.

Improvements had been made on West Ballard.

A resident on West Plum will be given a warning about trash on the street.

The next Council meeting has been tentatively set for Dec. 21.

SOCIETY MEETING

PLANNED

The Huntington County Historical Society will hold its final public meeting for 2005 on Monday, December 19th. All members and the general public are encouraged to attend for the election of officers and board members for 2006. Great entertainment is scheduled for the evening. Music Americana, "an entertaining exploration of life in America from A.D. 1700 through 1865" will be presented by Mr. Rich McConnell and Mr. Rick Henly. The program promises to

be highly interactive and entertaining. The meeting will begin at 7:00 pm with a short business meeting for the election and announcement of the Volunteer of the Year Award. The entertainment will follow along with light refreshments for the museum guests and members. We hope to see you here!

Rich McConnell and Rick Henly have been involved with music for years.

Only recently have they teamed up to bring unique entertainment to young and old alike.

In early November, they performed the program "American Cultural History through Story and Song" for the elementary schools in the Huntington County Community School System sponsored by the Lafontaine Arts Council.

They brought together a range of music starting with the year 1700 and ending with music from 1865. Using period clothes and multiple instruments enhanced the music.

The highly interactive program had the children laughing and singing the songs of their grandparents and great-grandparents. Among the songs and stories were, "Shenandoah," "The Riddle," "Low Bridge," Civil War songs and several others.

McConnell and Henly are not new to performing. McConnell has done a number of musical interpretations at the Forks of the Wabash and other public schools while Henly has performed in local stage productions.

SENIORS NEED TO ACT

Three things College-bound seniors need to act on before December 31st.

1. Remove all savings from their name. If they cannot remove it from their name due to IRS regulations, then shelter those monies in a non-assessed type of asset.

2. Make sure they have applied to at least 4 to 6 colleges with generous track records.

3. Gather student and parent financial information and prepare the family's best estimate of their taxes in preparation for the FAFSA filing as early in January as possible.

"Time is running out for college-bound, high-school seniors, but there are still actions they can take to reduce their costs for college," says Scott Anderson, author of STOP! Everything You

Thought You Knew About Paying For College Is Wrong and President of RealCollegeSavings.com.

Scott is one of the country's leading authorities on college funding. His passion is to go the common knowledge and get the truth to the families that can use it. He will also tell you:

• Why chasing after scholarships actually costs students money.

• What actions to take if you have unfortunately put money into the most common college savings plans.

• How to identify the critical financial track records of colleges across the country.

• What is student positioning, and why is it so important.

• Why is Dee 31st so critical to Juniors and Sophomores as well.

• What dates are the most critical to getting the maximum amount of money from schools. Miss these and miss thousands of dollars.

Scott Anderson has trained families, high-school guidance

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Community Calendar

Items listed here are open to the public. If there is an admission charge or items are for sale or a donation is necessary, there is a one-time \$5 fee to be listed. Events can be listed for as long as 6 months. (If an event is cancelled, please notify WW.) Only event, place, time, and sponsor, for events in Warren, and the surrounding area will be listed.

Dec 21 Warren Town Council, 8:00 a.m. Assembly Hall
Dec 21 Van Buren Town Council, 7 p.m.
Dec 23 Warren Recycle Day
Dec 25 Merry Christmas to All
Mar 24 Salamonie School Carnival, Food-Games-Fun

Bread of Life Food Pantry - Wed 4 - 5:30pm, Sat 10 - 11:30 at KBC or by appointment - Call 375-2381. **Bargain Basement** - Friday & Saturday 9 - 4 at KBC **Depression Support Group** 2nd & 4th Thurs at Hope Missionary Church, Bluffton 6-7:30 **Walking in the Gym** at KBC 7-11 a.m. Mon-Fri **After School Adventure** - Tuesdays & Thursdays, after school till 5:30 p.m. at Hillcrest Church of the Nazarene

counselors, and financial professionals in the details of college funding; and his strategies have saved college bound students and their families millions. He has been covered in the Los Angeles Times, Miami Herald, Minneapolis-St Paul Star Tribune, and many other news outlets.

WINE, ROSES AND JAZZ

Do you have someone on your gift list who is hard to buy for? Do you know someone who loves wine? Ever wish you knew more about wine, but didn't know where to begin?

We have the answer for you! Join us for "An Evening of Wine, Roses and Jazz" on Saturday, February 4, 2006 from 7:30 PM to 10:30 PM at Lighted Gardens

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AREA NEWS CONTINUED

MORE PAGE 3

Banquet Center, Ossian IN. We will have wines from over 6 different countries to sample, courtesy of Visentin Wines & Spirits. Jazz music throughout the evening will be provided by "Beeler, Steele & Klee". Lighted Gardens will be providing just the right Hors D Oeuvre accompaniment for the wines. To top it off, Country Squire will be providing roses.

These tickets make great promotional or corporate gifts. Included in your ticket price will be a complimentary etched wine goblet. After you've found the wine or wines you like, you will be able to purchase the wines by the bottle to take home. Enjoy this wine on Valentine's Day, or your next special evening.

Our corporate sponsors are Visentin Wines & Spirits, Ossian State Bank, Country Squire Florist, and Lighted Gardens Banquet Center.

Tickets are limited and may be purchased at the following locations: Country Squire Florist in Bluff ton, Visentin Corporate Offices, Ossian State Bank, Ossian Furniture or Lighted Gardens. The cost of your ticket is \$25.00 per person or \$40.00 per couple. For more information call Jerry at Lighted Gardens (260) 622-4023 or Jan at Ossian Furniture (260) 622-4173.

All proceeds will benefit Ossian Downtown Economic Revitalization.

IDLE HOUR CLUB

The Idle Hour Club met in the new Calico Lounge for lunch on Monday, December 5, 2005 with Mildred Gilbert and Miriam Rice as hostesses.

The business meeting in the same room was opened by Edna Alfeld, president, greeting the members and giving the thought for the day. A man never gets lost on a straight road.

Miriam Rice read an article on the origin of the Candy Cane and what it means.

Roll call was answered by "what are you ding for Christmas?"

Collection was taken up. Each member was to pay \$10.00 for the Christmas project. Jean Boxell made motion to give \$100.00 to the Warren Food Bank. Miriam Rice seconded it. Motion carried.

Kings on the Corner was played with Miriam Rice high and Margaret Knight low.

Those enjoying the day were: Edna Alfeld, Ruth Brooks, Mildred Gilbert, Freda Finley, Margaret Knight, Marjorie Lieurance, Clara Mossburg, Miriam Rice, Evelyn Schweikhardt, Helen Trout, Georgia Poulson, Jean Boxell and Devonna Leas.

SIGMA PHI

Beta Delta Chapter of Sigma Phi Gamma International Sorority held a business meeting December 6 at the Knight Bergman Civic Center. Sondra Zabel, president, presided.

Susan Ralston, secretary, read minutes of last meeting. Treasurer Tara Korporal gave treasury report. Dues were collected for our monthly newsletter. Suzette Gephart, service secretary, had several local names for us to give Christmas gifts to. Finance chairman, Rosemary Zeller, reminded us to sell our raffle tickets for the Christmas Longaberger basket. Drawing for it will be December 20. President Sondra read correspondence about 2006 International Convention. Beth Ostermeyer closed the meeting with prayer.

Those present: Rosemary Zeller, Sondra Zabel, Betty Yoder, Shelly Stafford, Elise Smith, Susan Ralston, Jenny Plummer, Beth Ostermeyer, Tara Korporal, Carol Irick, Suzette Gephart, Sharon Gebhart, Sandy Eichhorn, Peggy Sue Clark, Opal Brubaker and Sandy Booher.



GRADUATES BASIC

Air Force Airman 1st Class Benjamin F. Schweikhardt has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

During the six weeks of training, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization, and military customs and courtesies; performed drill and ceremony marches, and received physical training, rifle marksmanship, field training exercises, and special training in human relations.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

He earned distinction as an honor graduate.

Schweikhardt is the son of Gary and Janie Schweikhardt of 11774 West 800 South, Warren, Ind.

The airman graduated in the year 2000 from Southern Wells High School, Poneto, Ind., and received a bachelor's degree in 2004 from the Rose Hulman Institute of Technology, Terre Haute, Ind.

GOLF PRIVILEGE PLUS

Sales are underway for the 2006 Golf Privilege Plus Card. The card gives free and discounted golf at nearly 350 courses in and around Indiana. Additionally, the 2006 card offers discounts on driving ranges and golf instruction at participating courses. Through December 31, the card will be discounted to \$35. The card will return to the regular \$40 rate beginning January 1.

For 22 years, the Golf Privilege Plus Card has been a fundraiser for the American Lung Association of Indiana. Funds raised from the sale of each Golf Card support education, advocacy and research for Hoosiers suffering from lung disease.

In addition to the single card special discount, the Lung Association offers the Foursome Special - buy 3 cards at the regular \$40 rate and get one card free. The 2006 Golf Privilege Plus Card is valid for the entire year. To view a list of courses, visit www.LungIN.org.

To order a Golf Privilege Plus Card, call (800)LUNG USA. Orders can also be placed online at www.LungIN.org.

For 100 years, the American Lung Association of Indiana has been the lead organization working to prevent lung disease and promote lung health. Lung disease death rates continue to increase while other leading causes of death have declined. The ALA of Indiana funds vital research on the causes of and treatments for lung disease.

With the generous support of the public, the American Lung Association of Indiana is "Improving life, one breath at a time." For more information about the ALA or to support the work it does, call 800-LUNG-USA or log on to www.lungin.org.

KIDS' DAY CAMP

Are your kids ready for some "wild" fun over the winter break?

Children ages 8 to 12 are invited to Salamonie Reservoir for a fun and exciting week December 27-30. Each day will provide a variety of activity sessions during the 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. day camp.

Activities will emphasize learning about nature and winter, with a different theme each day. Exciting activities will involve

geocaching (a high-tech scavenger hunt), animals at the reservoir, hunting and target-shooting, snow, and more. Each day features both indoor and outdoor activities, movie time, crafts and games.

The weeks' activities will be guided by interpretive naturalists trained to provide a safe and fun environment. A small snack will be provided; children need to bring a sack lunch with drink each day.

Advance registration is required, and space is limited. Call the Upper Wabash Interpretive Services at 260-468-2127 to register. Parents will be asked to fill out health/participation forms before their child enjoys activities on the first day.

Cost is \$20/child. The property gate will not charge the normal entrance fee for the camp.

For more information about available programs at the Upper Wabash Reservoirs, please visit www.dnr.IN.gov/uwis, or call 260-468-2127.

SVRS LIVE

With less than one month before the much anticipated January 1, 2006 deadline for implementing Indiana's first statewide voter registration system (SVRS) nears, the Secretary of State's office continues its monthly update regarding the implementation of SVRS, powered by FirstTuesday*, a software developed by Quest Information Systems.

As of November 28, Indiana's statewide voter registration system was live in all 92 counties - beating the federally mandated deadline by more than a month.

The massive undertaking to link all 92 Indiana counties began more than two years ago as an initiative by Secretary of State Todd Rokita, Indiana election administrators and legislators, and then as part of Indiana's implementation of the federal Help America Vote Act of 2002. In May, a pilot version of the new system was implemented in ten counties selected from over forty who volunteered to serve as pilot counties, and additional counties were added on a weekly basis until all counties went live with the system.

Today, all 92 counties in Indiana are successfully online

through SVRS and using FirstTuesday* to add voters and maintain voter registration records.

"Even though the Indianapolis Colts are 12-0, they have maintained that their goal is to win the Super Bowl and not just to go undefeated," Rokita said. "We are in a similar situation to the Colts. Though we have beaten the federal deadline and have a HAVA compliant statewide program well ahead of schedule, our ultimate goal is to have the best possible system in place by the next elections. Our state team is not going to sit on its laurels with this recent accomplishment, but use it as motivation to continue to tweak what we have and complete an end product that other states can envy."

Though all counties are live before the deadline, much work remains in fine-tuning the system in advance of the May 2006 primaries. A fully functional SVRS well in advance of the federal deadline will afford the state ample time to gain vital feedback that can be used to continue the streamlining of FirstTuesday's performance and efficiency.

As part of this streamlining effort, the State team is working with Quest Information Systems to rework some aspects of the software in order to reduce downtime and workflow issues that the team's surveying has found to be concerns in some counties.

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GENEALOGY REPORT

THANK YOU

We wish to thank all those who sent cards and for the gifts received on the occasion of our 50th wedding anniversary. Thank you to all who were able to attend our open house. We especially want to thank our wonderful family for a great day!

Frank & Claudine Slusher

BOHUNSKY

In loving memory of a wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Evelyn Mae (Chopson) Bohunsky, born May 28, 1926 died November 27, 2005 at her home in Reese, MI after returning from her Pine Island Florida home.

She is preceded by the death of her husband, Louis E. Bohunsky on June 29, 2004. She was the daughter of John W and Gertrude E Chopson, who were the parents of nine children.

She is survived by her son Robert Lee; sisters Edna Mardel Alfeld; Elnora Mary Dudek; brothers and sister-in-law, Jim Paul; John Martin and Maxine Joy Bohunsky. Grandchildren; Ryan Louis, Kevin Thomas, and Kristy May (Buhunsky) Wilson; great-grandchildren, Julia Ann; Matthew Lee; Kayla May; and Krystal Lynn Wilson and Ashley Marie Bohunsky.

In returning to her childhood residence of Warren, IN, she will be laid to rest in Reverence at the Woodlawn Cemetery and being present at her great uncle's founding of the Methodist Memorial Home for the aged, formerly called the Chopson home early in the 1900's.

Growing up as one of nine children during The Great Depression, she was so dramatized by other families and their children having done without the basic needs of development, that later in life she extended a helping hand wherever the need arose. All in concern for the afflicted by thoughts and associations by her son's request should direct their heartfelt prayers or financial support to the St Jude Children's Research Center for childhood diseases in memory of her concerns at 501 St Jude Plaza; Memphis, TN 38105.

She will be greatly missed, but never forgotten for her unconditional love and undertakings in and outside the family.

ALFORD

Zelda H. Alford, 96, of Huntington, died at 6:20 p.m. Monday, Dec. 5, 2005, at Millers Merry Manor, Huntington. She was a homemaker and a member of Zion United Methodist Church.

Born August 21, 1909, in Huntington, she was a daughter of John F. and Mary B. Smith

Schoeff. Her marriage was on March 8, 1931 to Russell T. Alford, who preceded her in death on Jan. 8, 1994.

Surviving, are two sons, James Alford of Syracuse and Jack Alford of Huntington; three daughters, Mrs. Gene (Barbara) Biberstein of Bluffton, Mrs. Jerry (Sonja) Holloway of Columbia City and Mrs. Dick (Nancy) Rice of Huntington; one brother, Eldon B. Schoeff of Huntington; one sister, Mrs. Betty Fullhart of Warren; seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Five brothers, Christy L., Ernest L., John A., Dwight E. and Clarence L. Schoeff, and one sister, Mildred Schoeff, are deceased.

Services were held at the Deal-Rice Funeral Home, Huntington Chapel, with Rev. Bill Rapp officiating. Burial was in Zion Cemetery. Memorials to Parkview Hospice or Zion United Methodist Church.

BAILEY

Anna E. Bailey, 84, of rural Warren died at 11:45 a.m. Monday, Dec. 12, 2005, at Bluffton Regional Medical Center.

Mrs. Bailey was a homemaker and was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary in Van Buren. She was a 1939 graduate of Rock Creek High School, and was a member of Hillcrest Church of the Nazarene.

She was born May 14, 1921, in Wells County to Forrest and Bertha (Schwartz) Riddle. Her marriage on Aug. 22, 1942, in Uniondale was to Wade E. Bailey, who survives.

Other survivors include a daughter, Janet Sue Smith of Bluffton; a foster son, Martin Collins of Geneva; five grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Rev. Ruth Ann Bailey; three sisters, Martha Clark, Alice Hamish and Joycella Nosier; and two brothers, Lloyd Riddle and Sam Riddle.

Services were held at Glancy Funeral Homes - H. Brown & Son Chapel, Warren with Pastor Bill Keen officiating.

Burial was in Woodlawn Cemetery, Warren.

Preferred memorials are to Hillcrest Church of the Nazarene, Warren.

HIGGINBOTHAM

Edward Lee Higginbotham, 79, Gas City, died at 9:19 p.m. Wednesday, December 7, 2005 in Marion General Hospital.

He was born February 18, 1926 in Comfort, W. Va., to the late Henry and Lucinda (Castle)

Higginbotham. He married Aurie Sue (Putney) Higginbotham on Oct. 3, 1947. She survives. He worked at Haynes International for more than 40 years where he was a group leader over the foundry. He was an Army veteran of World War II. He was a member of Miami Wesleyan Church in Miami, Ind., for 58 years where he was vice chairman, trustee and Sunday school teacher. He was a member of Southside Wesleyan Church, Gas City, and Steel Workers Union.

Additional survivors include children, Daniel L. (Barbara) Higginbotham, Marion, Gwendolyn S. (Leo) Rossel, Crosby, Texas, and Melody A. (the Rev. William R.) Barlow, Gas City; brothers, Burlie (Grace) Higginbotham, Marion, and Lonnie (Mona) Higginbotham, Florida; sister, Violet R. (William) Easter, Marion; grandchildren, Rebecca (Kenneth Sr.) Soriano, Kingwood, Texas, Sandra (Christopher) Montemayor, Pearland, Texas, Angela (Nathan Sr.) Thomas, Colliersville, Tenn., Jodi (Ryan) Small, Marion, Rachel (Richard) Wollan, Clarksville, Mich., Jeni (Curtis) Gongwer, South Bend, Veronica (David) Lorine, Sugar Land, Texas, Kristy (Marcus) Weber, Irondale, Ala., Melissa Higginbotham, Franklin, and Joel Higginbotham, Marion; and 22 great-grandchildren.

He also was preceded in death by son, Keith Higginbotham.

Services were held in Southside Wesleyan Church, 312 E.S. "E" St., with Dr. Harold Bardsley and the Rev. William Barlow officiating. Burial was in Marion National Cemetery. Online condolences may be made at www.nswcares.com.

Visitation was held at Needham Storey Wampner Funeral Service, and prior to services at the church.

SEND YOUR FAVORITE OUT-OF-TOWNER, COLLEGE STUDENT OR RELATIVE A SUBSCRIPTION TO THE WARREN WEEKLY. IT MAKES A TREASURED GIFT EVERY YEAR. (SEE PAGE 7 FOR DETAILS)

Happy Holidays



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AREA NEWS CONTINUED

WINTER PRECAUTIONS

With winter weather upon us, the staff of Parkview Huntington Hospital ER urges those who venture into the cold and snow to take on the strenuous chore of shoveling their sidewalks and driveways to take precautionary measures.

"With cold weather, we are more concerned about the very young and very old — they tend to lose body heat quicker," said Charnjit Pabla, MD, emergency room medical director at Parkview Huntington. "People who work outdoors for a living, however, tend to know how to dress and take preventive measures," he noted, but still recommends that everyone keep the following tips in mind:

- Pace yourself and take frequent breaks.
- Lift smaller loads, rather than large heavy ones.
- Avoid large meals and caffeine both before and after shoveling.
- Alcohol and shoveling/snowblowing do not mix.
- Use a light plastic shovel with a small blade.
- Spray shovel with some kind of lubricant such as WD-40 to keep snow from sticking.
- Establish a rhythm.
- People with a history of heart trouble should not shovel snow without a physician's consent.
- Using a snow blower takes effort, too. Be sure to pace yourself and take breaks when doing this activity as well.

Make sure to dress warmly and:

- Wear layered clothes rather than one heavy layer.
- Keep fingers gloved to avoid frostbite.
- Wear a scarf or a high neck coat to keep flying snow from the neck, chest and back.

It is also important not to get frostbite, which can occur to anyone exposed to very cold temperatures for a sustained period of time (several hours or more).

In severe cases, the flow of blood to the affected area has stopped and blood vessels have been damaged. In many cases, immediate treatment can reverse the damage, but in some instances amputation of the frostbitten area is required.

The best way to prevent frostbite from occurring is to:

- Wear proper clothing. Protect your hands, feet, ears and nose.
- Avoid consuming large quantities of alcohol.

Any and all of the symptoms of frostbite may be present. In the earliest stages skin appears red and pain is often present. Also:

- As frostbite develops, skin becomes white or grayish yellow; it feels waxy and firm.
- Skin feels very cold and numb.

- Pain disappears.
- Blisters may form.
- Often the victim is not aware of frostbite until someone else notices the above symptoms.

If your fingers or other areas are frostbitten, prompt treatment is essential. Cover the affected areas with warm material, such as a blanket, and seek professional care immediately.

It is extremely important to remember to never immerse the affected part in hot water. Severe burning of the skin can occur because it may be difficult to truly judge the water's temperature. Also, do not rub the affected part with snow or anything else.

AGE-APPROPRIATE TOYS

As parents fill malls in search of toys for their children, many may be wondering if they are buying the right toys for their children.

Toys make great gifts if the toy is safe and age appropriate, however, most toy injuries involve minor cuts, bruises and scrapes if they are not safe or age appropriate, according to a "Toy Injury Fact Sheet" published by the National SAFE KIDS Campaign.

"Locally, we see choking, lacerations to the face, lips or mouth and eye injuries," said Parkview Huntington Hospital's ER medical director, Dr. Charnjit Pabla. "Toy parts frequently become lodged in the ear or nose, or are swallowed."

More than half of toy-related deaths are caused by the child choking on a small object such as a marble, ribbon, toy part or balloon, he added.

Duane Hougendobler, MD, of Pediatric Medical Group in Huntington, advises parents to shop very carefully. "Look the toys over thoroughly," he said, "and try to think like the child you are buying the toy for. If a piece of the toy can come off, it will come off."

Dr. Hougendobler also reminds parents to keep older children's toys picked up and out of reach of their younger siblings. "Keep older kids' toys in a safe place, not on the floor," he advised.

Parkview Huntington Hospital's ER staff offers the following advice for buying safely:

- Toys should be matched to a child's abilities. The manufacturer recommendations serve as a useful guide.
- A toy that is too advanced or too simple for a child may be misused, which can lead to injury.
- Think BIG when choosing toys. All toy parts should be larger than the child's mouth to prevent injuries, including choking.
- Before buying a toy, read the instructions to understand the

proper use of the toy.

- To avoid risk of serious eye or ear injury, avoid toys that shoot small objects into the air, or make loud or shrill noises.
- Look for sturdy toy construction. The eyes, nose and other small parts on soft toys and stuffed animals should be securely fastened on the toy. Also avoid toys with sharp edges.

TIPS FOR DECEMBER

The Better Business Bureau of Northeastern Indiana releases these tips monthly to keep consumers and businesses aware of scams occurring in and around northeastern Indiana. They are published for your safety. Thanks to those consumers who call or e-mail us if they feel there is something suspicious going on.

Cyber Holiday Shopping Tips — 1) Before you place an order, check out the company at www.bbb.org. The BBB offers millions of company reports. 2) Unless otherwise stated, a mail order or Internet company has 30 days to send the ordered product after receiving your order. 3) Make sure your personal information is secure. At the point that you are providing your payment information, the beginning of the website address should change from http to https. Your browser may also show a broken key that becomes whole or a padlock that closes. 4) Never enter your personal information in a pop-up screen. Legitimate companies don't ask for personal information via pop-up screens. 5) Keep a copy of your order and the company's name and complete address in case you need to dispute something later. 6) Place your order with a credit card rather than a debit card.

The holiday season brings Christmas trees, presents and burglars. The number of bur-

glaries is usually up during the holidays. If you need to have a lock replaced, more than likely, you're going to call a locksmith. But did you know that anyone, even someone with a criminal record, can become a locksmith? A plumber is required to have a license, but not a locksmith! Make sure to check them out with the BBB at www.indybbb.org.

Children of Fallen Heroes an Indiana non-profit organization, is soliciting for donations online through their website and message boards. The BBB has requested information. The organization has chosen not to disclose information such as governance, finances and fundraising. They state, "The Universal Roman World Church will honor any donor who donates at least \$150 to the Children of Fallen Heroes, Inc. charity with an Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree, Summa Cum Laude, in World Peace Studies!" And our question, "Where is the money going?"

Cosco, a Columbus, Indiana company, sells baby products. Consumers have complained that strollers and car seats are unsafe; new items are incomplete and unable to assemble; company is unresponsive to customers; and Cosco fails to offer comparable replacements for recalled items.

Airleaf, formerly Bookman Marketing, a Martinsville, Indiana company, offers to print, publish and market books that have been written by consumers. Consumers have alleged that their books were not completed, that the contracts to market and advertise their books

were not fulfilled.

Employment Resources, Exam Resources and Occupational Advancement Center are all advertising in help-wanted sections of newspapers. One ad stated, "Entry Level, Paid Training. Green card OK, \$14.50 - \$36.00 per hour, ... Sorters, Clerks, Carriers, Entry Level, No experience required, Full Federal Benefits." Ads also include images of the American flag and bald eagles. Consumers have indicated they thought they were applying for a postal job based on information in the ad. This company is in no way connected to the US Post Office; they simply offer a postal exam study guide for around \$120. These companies have the Bureau's lowest rating. The FTC placed a temporary restraining order against these three companies last month.

Bullzilla, a North Vernon, Indiana company, sells T-shirts with the consumer's requested picture or printing on them. The problem? Consumers are reporting that the shirts are not received. One race team sent \$250, but never received the shirts.

Allied Interstate could be calling you! This company has a pattern of making harassing collection calls. The Minnesota Attorney General filed a suit against them alleging that the company has attempted to collect debts from the wrong person even after the consumers told Allied repeatedly they have the wrong person or that they do not owe the debt.

CONTINUED PAGE 8

TOOTH TIPS

By: Dr. Kevin J DeaKyne DDS, PC

Does the Food I Eat Cause Decay?

The food that you chew and eat leaves a residue in your mouth (plaque) and nothing could make the bacteria that live in your mouth happier. Bacteria love the sugars and starch found in many foods. If you don't brush and floss your teeth thoroughly after eating, bacteria will use the sugars and starch to produce acids that can eat through the enamel (The hardest substance in your body) on your teeth. After a while tooth decay begins. The more often you eat and the longer the food residue stays in your mouth, the greater the potential for damage. This is the reason sipping "pop" all day is such a problem.

There are foods that are good for you but still are high in sugar and starch, such as fruit, milk, bread, cereal and even vegetables. You don't have to avoid these foods. They are a part of a balanced diet but keep in mind those foods eaten as part of a meal as opposed to a snack, cause less harm because you produce more saliva during a meal. The saliva helps wash food residue from the mouth and lessens the impact of acids. Finally, limit your snacks. Each time you eat food or drink pop with sugar or starch, acids attack your teeth for 20 minutes or more.

BRUSH! BRUSH! BRUSH! FLOSS! FLOSS! FLOSS!

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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11
10321 N. Victory, Warren. Phone 260-000-0000.
12 13 14 15 16 17 18

AREA NEWS CONTINUED

MORE PAGE 6

Edifi is sending letters to Hoosier high school seniors regarding a seminar that would assist with college financial aid and scholarships. One Indiana student and her father attended, paid \$995 for the company's services and now are completely dissatisfied. They aren't the only ones. As it turns out the primary service is assistance in filling out financial aid forms. Consumers have reported misleading sales practices and dissatisfaction with the service. This company has the Bureau's lowest rating.

Capital Credit Alliance is sending a misleading mailing to Hoosiers offering a "credit card." The company is actually selling a "membership card" that allows the consumer to purchase items out of the company's catalog. There is a \$200 activation fee and a \$99 annual fee, conveniently debited from the consumer's checking or savings account.

Holiday Reminder: Please, do yourself a big favor. Get into the habit of checking a company out with the BBB before making a purchase. Begin with this holiday season and continue in 2006. And remind loved ones to do the same.

DONATE AND HELP

cars4charities has a unique opportunity for you to get a year-end tax deduction and help one of over 250 respected charities at the same time. Donate your unwanted car to cars4charities and you'll be eligible for a tax deduction of \$500 or what the car is sold for, whichever is greater.

cars4charities will handle the entire donation process, from start to finish. They'll turn your unwanted vehicle into cash and send the entire net proceeds to the charity you select from their impressive list. The

process is effortless. Owners simply log onto www.cars4charities.org or call cars4charities at 1-866-448-3487. Your vehicle will be picked up in a matter of days, free of charge. cars4charities will provide you with all the appropriate tax paperwork you'll need to claim your deduction. To claim your 2005 deduction, your title must be signed and postmarked by December 31, 2005.

"This is a great program for people who want to help a charity, but aren't able to make a significant cash contribution," says Karen Campese, CEO of cars4charities. "They can donate a vehicle they no longer need, receive a valuable tax deduction, and support a respected charity. It's a win-win situation for everyone."

For more information, visit www.cars4charities.org or call 1-866-448-3487 (GIVE-4-US)

BBBONLINE RELIABILITY SEAL

The Better Business Bureau's BBBOnline program, designed to help ensure consumer confidence in shopping on the Internet, has reached a new milestone, just in time for the holiday season. More than 25,000 web sites in the United States and Canada are now qualified to display the BBBOnline Reliability seal.

"By demonstrating that they have met high standards for online business practices, these 25,000 web sites provide an important measure of confidence to consumers looking for trustworthy shopping sites on the Internet," said Michael Coil, president of Northeastern Indiana BBB.

The companies have all been in business for at least one year, are Better Business Bureau members via their headquarters offices, have pledged to meet BBB Code of Online Business Practice standards, and are committed to work with the BBB and their customers to resolve any disputes that may arise. Seal holders range from traditional retailers

like Procter & Gamble and J.C. Penney, to online businesses like eToys and Zappos.com, and a broad variety of smaller, local enterprises.

Tom Ryan, chairman of the CBBB's Board of Directors, said "To have reached 25,000 participants in this program denoting strong business practices and customer service on the web is quite an accomplishment. BBBOnline offers meaningful protection to consumers shopping online, during the holidays and year round."

There are 78 northeast Indiana BBBOnline Reliability program participants.

"Participating merchants are easy to find," said Coil. "Consumers may spot the BBBOnline seal at participating web sites and 'click' to verify the company's participation and check the BBB's report on that merchant. Or, shoppers can access the Safe Shopping Site on www.bbbonline.org and search by company name or keyword."

Merchants participating in BBBOnline report that displaying a recognizable Better Business Bureau mark on their sites helps online shoppers, who may not be familiar with the company and seek confirmation that their shopping experience will be a smooth one.

Businesses that are interested in qualifying to display the BBBOnline Reliability seal may contact their local BBB at 260.423.4433 or toll-free at 800.552.4631 or visit www.bbbonline.org for enrollment information.

LOW VISION READER

So many books...so little time.

But, sometimes it takes more than just time to settle down with a good book...or read the newspaper, research a document, follow a map, browse through a magazine or fill out a form. For people who are visually impaired, reading the fine print is a frustration that requires more than just a little time.

Now, Wells county residents who have certain visual impairments can read the fine print with the Low Vision Reader recently donated to the Wells County Public Library. Thanks to the generosity of Eyecare Associates of Bluffton, the Alladin Classic Closed Circuit Television is available to help everyone get a good look at almost any printed material.

The library decided to keep things simple by calling the unit, the "Low Vision Reader". Imagine a machine that looks like a simple TV or computer monitor. Easy to use, with magnification up to 25x and an option for reverse contrast (white on black background), the Low Vision Reader is already opening up the printed world to library patrons.

Dr. Richard Schamerloh and Dr. Barry Hanlon, of Eyecare Associates, demonstrated the Low Vision Reader's capabilities earlier this week at the library. It was quickly obvious that the unit will be useful for several reading activities.

Three levers easily adjust the focus, contrast and magnification. Once these are set, the rest is hands-free. A sliding tray makes reading a book, newspaper or other flat item easy. Just lay the item on the moveable tray and slide it across your field

of vision at a comfortable reading speed. The magnified print is clearly shown on a large black & white screen. Lock down the tray to study maps, pictures, illustrations, etc.

What if the object isn't flat? There is enough room to hold most items under the viewer.

There is also enough clearance to place an application, legal form, personal stationary or other writing material on the tray and watch as you fill in the blanks or write.

"We are excited to contribute to the community, especially when we are able to share in our area of expertise," Dr. Schamerloh said. "This is a nice opportunity to assist the library, which is a tremendous local asset."

The Low Vision Reader is a welcome addition to the equipment and services that are already useful to visually impaired patrons at the library, such as: ADA Computer that scans print and reads it aloud; audio books; large print books; and the homebound delivery service.

Eyecare Associates of Bluffton also donated several hand-held magnifiers for patron use at the library. All of the low vision items are for use inside the main library and are not for loan.

For more information about using the Low Vision Reader, stop by the Wells County Public Library or call 260-824-1612.

Internet

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