

Friday, October 3, 2025

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PO Box 695, Warren IN 46792 • 260/375-6290 • email: editor@warrenweeklyindiana.com

Thought for the Week: If you can find a path with no obstacles, it probably doesn't lead anywhere. Frank A. Clark

BOOK SALE

The Friends of the Warren Public Library will have a \$1.00 a bag used book sale, Saturday, October 4 from 10am to 12pm. Bags will be provided by the Library.

There will be selections of non-fiction, fiction, children's books, tween books, teen books, graphic novels and DVDs.

The Library is located at 123 E 3rd St, Warren. The phone number is 375-3450.

This will be the last sale of 2025!

COUNCIL NOTES

The Town Council of the Town of Warren met Monday, September 8, 2025 in a Regular Meeting at Assembly Hall, Council Meeting Room, 131 N. Wayne St, in accordance with rules of Council and applicable law.

Those present were: Council Members, Steve Buzzard, Ron Boxell, Michelle Schweikhardt, Jeremy Rufener; Clerk-Treasurer, Marilyn Morrison; Employees, Dennis Spitler, Rob Wade, Others.

President Buzzard announced the opening of a scheduled Public Hearing on the proposed 2026 Municipal Budget. Requesting public input and hearing none, the Hearing was closed. The Budget Ordinance will be considered for adoption at the October 13th Meeting of Council. A public hearing on Ordinance 2025-11, Adjustment to Electric Rates, was opened with the Rate Study and Ordinance being reviewed by Greg Guerrettaz of Financial

Solutions Group. Hearing no input from the Public, the Hearing was closed. Buzzard moved, seconded by Schweikhardt to adopt Ordinance 2025-11. Approved unanimously. The Ordinance provides for a five year increase of rates with the first increase scheduled for the November 1, 2025 billing and will see an increase of \$5 for each of five years.

Guerrettaz reviewed the need to establish a StormWater Utility to open another avenue for potential grant funding in planning. Cost of the study was proposed at a not to exceed cost of \$17,500. Buzzard moved, seconded by Schweikhardt, to accept the proposal. Voting in support: Buzzard, Schweikhardt, Boxell. Voting Against: Rufener.

Jeff Souder of Historic Warren reported the group had been awarded a grant to place a sidewalk at Riverside Park made up of original bricks from downtown sidewalks during projects. The grant is 80/20 with Historic Warren providing the 20% match. In addition, a request was made for closing of Second Street from Wayne to Nancy for the November 22nd Annual Christmas Walk. Approved by consensus.

Marshal Spitler submitted the August Activity Report.

Fire Chief Poulson had submitted a written report and a current roster which the Council approved by consensus.

Utility Manager Fortney's written report was reviewed.

Veterans Park – A Special Meeting has been approximately 25 bricks scheduled for Monday, September 15th at 5:00 pm for discussion of staffing plans. Next Regular Meeting of Morrison Town Council is Monday, October 13th. There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned.

Morrison reported that no response had been received from New Era Railroad in regard to track conditions within the Town. State Senator will be contacted to check for any avenues to address the situation.

A request from an outside interest for waiver of the demolition order on 324 Hendricks was denied. The owner must demolish by September 22nd or bids will be taken by the town to remove the structure with a lien then placed on the property.

The invoice for the chassis of the fire truck was received in the remaining amount of \$110,000 which will be halved by the Township and Town. The company had noted that the chassis could be outfitted and ready possibly in March instead of October due to cancellations.

Jack Barlow of Habitat for Humanity is scheduled to make a presentation at the October 13th Meeting.

Reviewed were two applications for a position on the Warren Public Library Board with Bonnie Meyers being appointed by consensus.

A Special Meeting has been scheduled for Monday, September 15th at 5:00 pm for discussion of staffing plans.

Next Regular Meeting of Morrison Town Council is Monday, October 13th. There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned.

SCARE CROW FESTIVAL

It's that time again. Scarecrows have shown up in the downtown area for the Annual Scarecrow Festival on October 24th sponsored by the Warren Area Chamber of Commerce. It's a time of fun for adults and children alike, many in costumes. Businesses and local groups will provide games and treats and much more. And, of course, the chili cook off will be in full force. Taste them all and vote on your choice. The costume parade will begin at Third Street at 6:00 PM. Flyers will be available at local businesses and Town Hall soon.

TOWN WIDE CLEAN-UP

Annual Cleanup in Warren is scheduled for the week of October 6th through noon on October 11th, weekday hours 7:30 to 4:00. Items can be placed into bins located at 316 W Second, Utility Garages. Nothing should be placed the ground. Bins will be replaced as filled. The area will be monitored as items have been delivered which are not acceptable to the hauling company. No tires, no building material such as concrete, no chemicals, no freon based

appliances, no yard waste, no treated lumber of any kind, no electronics, no items which can be collected during regular trash collection route.

TOWN HALL CLOSING

The Clerk's Office will be closed Monday, October 6th for software training demos as the current software program must be replaced. Notification of any other closings will be made through Reach Alert and Facebook as those dates are scheduled.

CLERK TREASURER

RETIREMENT

The Clerk-Treasurer and Council are announcing the retirement of the Clerk-Treasurer on January 31, 2026. Following Indiana State Statute, the Town Council will appoint the person to fill the remainder of the term – two years. That position will then be up for election in 2027. The hiring process will be completed in November of this year so that the person selected will have December 2025 and January 2026 to job shadow as an employee of the Town and then assume the role of Clerk-Treasurer on February 1, 2026. The person must reside within the Town of Warren and must be a registered voter. A complete resume must be submitted by October 31 at Town Hall or mailed to PO Box 477 or by email to Clerk@townofwarrenindiana.gov. Interviews will be held

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WARREN WEEKLY • Owner/Publisher: Nicki L. Zoda

Mailing Address: P O Box 695, Warren, IN 46792

Phone: (260)375-6290 e-mail: editor@warrenweeklyindiana.com

WARREN WEEKLY is a free paper for the Warren, Indiana area. It is available online only by noon on Wednesday. The paper can be read at the Warren Public Library for those who don't have internet access.

Email and Kindle subscriptions are \$24 per year. Mail name, address, and payment to WARREN WEEKLY at: PO Box 695, Warren, IN 46792 or you can subscribe online at www.warrenweeklyindiana.com on the WW Forms tab.

Deadline for news and/or advertising is 10 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 Town Hall or mail to PO Box 695, Warren or email to editor@warrenweeklyindiana.com.

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



Treva's
Recipe Box
by Treva Flemming

I love apple season and when baking apples it smells so good in the house. But this recipe is a crockpot version. And is equally just as good in the smelling part.

Mom and I will be heading to Phil's U Pick to get her mixed apples so she can make her homemade applesauce to freeze. She loves that stuff and I think she can eat it once a week. Lol.

So here is a recipe for cinnamon spiced apples. They are so yummy.

CINNAMON SPICED APPLES

- 1/3 c. Sugar
- 1/4 c. Brown sugar
- 1 tbsp cornstarch
- 3 tsp. Cinnamon
- 1/8 tsp ground nutmeg
- 6 lg granny smith apples
- 1/4 c. Butter

Peel and slice apples into eights and place in a 5 qt slow cooker. Add the sugars, cornstarch, and seasoning. Toss to coat. Top with butter. Cover and cook on low 3-4 hours or till apples are tender. Stirring halfway through.

Email your News & Advertising to
editor@warrenweeklyindiana.com



Things You Can Find at
WWW.WARRENWEEKLYINDIANA.COM

- * Local Event Calendar * Forms
- * Archives of past Warren Weekly's
- * Classified & Subscription Forms
- * Event Registration Forms

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Downtown Warren

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8924S 900W 35
Harold Smith, Pastor
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.

BOEHMER UNITED METHODIST
Steve Nevius, Pastor
Denise Heiniger, S.S. Supt.
Sunday Worship 9:30a.m.
Sunday School 10:45a.m.

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Van Buren, Indiana 765-934-2199
Worship 9:30 a.m.
Youth Group 4:30-7:30pm at SwitchUp
Handicap Accessible

Little Panther Preschool 765.934.2099
HEALING WATERS MINISTRY —
5811 W 600 S, MT ETNA
Pastor Wayne Couch
260/515-2517

Sunday Prayer 9:15 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 6:00 p.m.
Sunday Evening Service 6:00 p.m.

Daycare provided during Worship
DILLMAN UNITED BRETHREN
8888S 1100W-90, Warren 375-2779
Matt Kennedy, Pastor
Worship Service 9:00a.m.
Sunday School 10:00a.m.

HANFIELD GLOBAL METHODIST
CHURCH
101 N 400 E - Marion 765/664-8726
Curtis Banker, Senior Pastor
Worship..... 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:15 a.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.
Thursday Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.

HERITAGE POINTE
Chaplains Ginny Soultz, John Moyer &
Cindy Osgood
Sunday Morning Worship 9:30 a.m.
Mon-Fri Chapel Services 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Catholic Mass 1:00p.m.
Thurs. Catholic Mass 10:30a.m.

WARREN 1st BAPTIST CHURCH
727 N Wayne St, Warren
260-375-2811
office@warrenfirsbaptist.net
Pastor Mark Joyner
Sunday School9:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship10:00 a.m.

HILLCREST
CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
375-2510
Pastor Gale Sonny Bloom, Jr.
Bus Service 375-2510
www.warrennaz.org

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.
SOLID ROCK CHURCH OF WARREN
485 Bennett Dr, Warren, IN
375-3873

John Boyanowski, Pastor
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Worship Service 10:00 a.m.

LANCASTER WESLEYAN
3147 W 543 S, Huntington
765.251.2322
Ron Forsythe, Pastor
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.
Wednesdays:

Bible Study & Prayer 7:00 p.m.
LIBERTY CENTER BAPTIST CHURCH
694-6622

Aaron Westfall, Pastor
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Fellowship 10:00a.m.
Worship 10:15a.m.
Tues. Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
Wed. Choir 6:30p.m.

Monthly Meetings
1st Mon Ministry Team 7:00 p.m.
3rd Sat Mens Prayer Breakfast 8:00 am
4th Mon ABW 1:30 pm

LIBERTY CENTER
COMMUNITY CHURCH
Pastor Diane Samuels
Fellowship Time9:00a.m.
Morning Worship9:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

THE CHURCH AT MCNATT
375-4359
Daniel Tucker, Pastor
Lois Slusher, Supt.

Brittney Miller, Youth & Family Dir.
Coffee Fellowship..... 8:30 a.m.
Worship 9:15 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
Bible Study - Wed. 6:30 p.m.

MT. ETNA COMMUNITY LIFE CHURCH
260/468-2148 Sr 9 & 124
Rev. Dr. Scotty Murphy
Good Morning Church (Sunday School
for all ages9:00 - 9:45
Worship Service10:00 - 11:00

Everyone is Welcome
SALAMONIE
CHURCH OF BRETHREN
468-2412
Mel Zumbrun, Pastor
Worship9:30 a.m.
Church School 10:45a.m.

1st CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF WARREN
375-2102
www.firstccw.net
Troy Drayer, Senior Pastor
Takarra Myers, Youth Director
office@firstccw.net

Sunday Worship..... 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 6:00 p.m.
Youth Sunday School during
Worship Service

Youth Group-Wed 6:00 p.m.
Communion 1st Sunday of the Month

VB CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
765/934-3321 Parsonage
Jeff Slater, Pastor

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

VB CHURCH OF THE VINE
765-934-1431
Pastor Brad Hensley

vanburenchurchofthevine@gmail.com
Worship Service 9:30 am
Sunday School 10:45am
Not Home Alone - Wed 3:00 pm
Prayer Group (Thur)..... 6:30pm
Men Serving God Group ... 4th Sat. 9am
Little Ones Book Club 1st Tue 10:00 am
Just Older Youth 3rd Tue 12:00 pm

WARREN CHURCH OF CHRIST
375-3022
Mickey Strong, Senior Minister
Andrew Fisher, Youth Minister
Liz Richardson, Childrens MinistryAsst.

Tara Bower - Secretary
www.warrenchurchofchrist.org
Fellowship9:15 a.m.
Worship & Communion9:30 a.m.
Sunday School11 to 11:50 a.m.

Youth:
K-6th grade, Mon 6:15-7pm
Jr/Sr Hi, Sunday 6-8pm

FARRVILLE COMMUNITY CHURCH
11044 E 200 N, Marion, IN
765-618-0027
Pastor Al Soultz
Sunday Worship..... 10:30 am
Sunday School Classes9:30 am
Wed. Bible Study7:00 pm



Please Attend The Church of Your Choice

AREA NEWS

MORE PAGE 1

during the week of November 3rd with decision by November 13th. Salary as an employee of the Town for the two months will be 21.64 per hour. Salary of the position of Clerk-Treasurer will be determined in wage ordinance to be set in December as that salary cannot be set in the same year as service.

VETERANS PARK DEDICATION

Dedication of the Veterans Park is set for Veterans Day, November 11 at 4:00 PM. More details in November.

FLU-LAPALOOZA

Meridian Health Services invites the community to Flu-Lapalooza, a FREE one-day flu shot clinic, on Thursday, October 9 from 1 to 6 p.m., or until supplies last, at Meridian Health Services locations throughout the state of Indiana.

Free seasonal flu shots are for ages 6 months and up at the Warren office. Enter to win a \$50 grocery gift card.

The flu vaccine being provided is Fluarix. This is a normal dose vaccine. No appointment necessary. Walk-ins welcome.

A TRIP TO P. E. I., NEW BRUNSWICK, & NOVA SCOTIA DAYS 11-13

by Larry Ryan
The bus driver and hotel staff had the luggage stowed in the lower compartment of the bus so that we could depart the Hilton Saint John in Saint John, New Brunswick at 9:30 this morning. After one hour of following the westward coastline of the Bay of Fundy and crossing the Magaguadavic River, we arrived in Saint Andrews, NB. It stood firm on the bank of the Passamaquoddy Bay which was an inlet from the Bay of Fundy. The village was founded in 1783 by "United Empire Loyalists" who fled

north during the American Revolution.

Saint Andrews, with its 2,000 residents, was a typical 18th century style British colonial settlement. The original grid layout remained along with its market square and classical architecture. House types varied from salt box, to summer, "shingle" appearance, to elegant Georgian townhouses.

The major attraction in the village was a triangle-shaped, two story fortress that stood at the Saint Andrews Blockhouse National Historic Site. It was built during the War of 1812 by townspeople to protect themselves from American military raids and former American friends! These defensive people remained loyal to the British Crown. They were given land grants by the British Throne to encourage resettlement. The Americans called them, "Tories" which insulted them with the meaning of "outlaw."

After lunch we said "Good Bye" to our Canadian tour guide and our bus traveled the short distance to the border crossing at Calais, Maine. Again the passports were approved, clocks moved back one hour, and the bus headed west on Highway # 9 towards Bangor, ME. I-95 was joined and our motor coach rolled southwest past Pittsfield,

Waterville, the state capital of Augusta, and Brunswick before exiting at Freeport, Maine. The downtown, Hilton Garden Inn was a welcomed relief from a long day of traveling. I think that I had dinner.

We did wake up enough the next morning to include breakfast in the hotel. Most of our group took advantage of the 2-hour free time to browse/shop at the nearby L. L. Bean store. I pretended that I was out of cash and had lost the credit card. Freeport is the original, flagship location for that well-known retailer.

The bus successfully found its way back to the Doubletree Hotel at Syracuse, New York that evening. The next day was uneventful as we motored west on the same roadways that brought us in the opposite direction several days earlier.

Prior to arriving back in Fort Wayne on Friday, the tour director stated that there was a last minute cancellation for the Quebec City trip that departed on the following Monday. He asked if there was any interest from the group on the bus. As a further incentive, the cost would be half price! We looked at each other and raised our hands. The offer was accepted on the spot.

Upon reaching home, the suitcases were emptied, washing machine and dryer put into operations, and suitcases repacked. Yes, the Monday deadline was met! Happy traveling.

RESPONSIBLE GAMBLING

The Indiana Gaming Commission is calling attention to September as National Responsible Gaming Month, and reminding Hoosiers to gamble responsibly particularly as the gaming industry expands and grows geographically and technologically.

"As gaming is on the rise across the country and in Indiana, we want Hoosiers to enjoy gambling in a way that's informed and responsible," said Joe Hoage, IGC executive director. "When gambling, it's important to approach it as entertainment with a mindset of self-control, and to set limits, know the risks, and know where to go for help if ever needed."

Responsible-gambling experts recommend setting a budget, gambling only with money you can lose and not money needed for food, rent or other necessities. It's important to also set a time limit, gambling only for a limited timeframe and keeping to that commitment.

Experts also advise not to gamble while depressed, stressed or anxious or while under the influence, and to

take frequent breaks, don't use ATMs to get more cash while gambling, and not to chase losses by trying to win money back.

"Protecting Hoosiers means more than enforcing laws—it means giving people the tools to make smart choices," said Governor Mike Braun. "We will continue to make sure that as our gaming industry grows, our work toward responsible gaming remains a priority."

To drive home the message about responsible gambling, the IGC will launch a social-media campaign in the fall during football season, which will include podcast episodes, digital posts and videos. The IGC has also worked recently to support the Responsible Online Gaming Association in outreach efforts to Indiana college students, and the IGC partners year-round with the Indiana Council on Problem Gaming.

Last year the IGC invested \$250,000 in outreach to promote responsible gambling and works with licensed operators, community organizations, and health professionals to share responsible gambling information throughout the state. Educational materials are distributed at casinos and online platforms also to help Hoosiers recognize the signs of problem gambling and learn how to get help.

CONTINUED PAGE 6



Weekly Specials
Oct 2 - 8

PUMPKINS AND MUMS NOW!!

- Michigan McIntosh Apples
3 lb bag for \$3.99!
- Aidells Chicken Apple Sausage
\$2.99 ea.
- Always Save BBQ Sauce
\$1.49 ea.

Outside Stand - Open Dawn to Dusk Inside Store Open Daily
Open Daily

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

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www.jeffsfarmmarket.com

Community Calendar

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

Oct 1	Noon	W - Chamber of Commerce Luncheon @ KBC
Oct 1	7:00p	V - Town Council Meeting @ Town Hall
Oct 12		COLUMBUS DAY
Oct 13	5:00p	W - Town Council Meeting @ Assembly Hall
Oct 14	6:30p	W - SSF Meeting
Oct 15	7:00p	V - Town Council Meeting @ Town Hall
Oct 20	6:30p	W - KBC Board Meeting @ KBC
Oct 24	6-8pm	W - Scarecrow Festival
Oct 31		HALLOWEEN

Bread of Life Food Pantry - Wednesdays - 2 - 4:00pm at KBC;

Bargain Basement - Friday & Saturday - 9 - 4 at KBC

These Events Can Also Be Found at www.warrenweeklyindiana.com

AREA NEWS CONTINUED

MORE PAGE 4

Also as part of its efforts to encourage responsible gambling, and prevent problem gambling, the IGC operates two self-exclusion programs.

* The Voluntary Exclusion Program (VEP) allows individuals to exclude themselves from casino, as well as retail and mobile sports wagering for one-year, five-year and lifetime durations. Currently, 6,715 people are enrolled in the VEP program.

* The Internet Self-Restriction Program (ISRP) is another program that applies only to mobile sports wagering. The program allows individuals to enroll to exclude themselves from mobile sports wagering for one-year and five-year durations. The ISRP program has 404 participants currently enrolled.

For more information on responsible gambling tips and resources, visit the American Gaming Association's Play Smart from the Start website.

SOCIAL SECURITY MATTERS

by Russell Gloor, National Social Security Advisor at the AMAC Foundation, the non-profit arm of the Association of Mature American Citizens Ask Rusty – Can I Claim My Own SS Benefit Now and Get Half of My Husband's Benefit Later?

Dear Rusty: I would like to get an answer concerning taking my Social Security benefit soon and switching to my spouse's benefit when he begins to take his. I am 64 years, 9 months old and my husband is 65 years, 7 months. My benefit is low due to the fact that I did not work for about 25 years while raising our children. My benefit would be \$573 at age 65. My husband's benefit at age 67 will be \$3,326. My first question is: can I receive half of my husband's benefit once he

begins drawing his? Secondly, if I draw my benefit now will that reduce the amount I can draw from his benefit later?Signed: Uncertain Spouse

Dear Uncertain:As you may know, the full retirement age (FRA) for both you and your husband is 67. If either of you claim before your FRA your monthly SS retirement amount will be permanently reduced and, if you are currently working, you will be subject to Social Security's Annual Earnings Test (AET) which limits how much you can earn while collecting early benefits. The earnings limit for early filers is \$23,400 for 2025 (changes yearly) and, if that is exceeded, SS will take away some of your benefits (\$1 for every \$2 over the limit). They "take away" by withholding future payments until the penalty is satisfied.

That said, if you claim your personal SS "soon" (e.g., at age 65), you will get about 87% of the amount you would get by waiting until your FRA to claim. You would, indeed, get a "spousal boost" when your husband claims, but you would not get 50% of his age 67 amount. That's because of the way spouse benefits are calculated. When your husband claims, you will get a "spousal boost" added to your early benefit amount (\$573?). The amount of that spousal boost will be computed as ½ of your husband's FRA amount (e.g., \$1663), minus your FRA entitlement (likely about \$661) for a spousal boost of about \$1002. But since you won't have yet reached your FRA when your husband claims, the amount of the spousal boost will also be reduced (to about \$926), which will be added to your age 65 amount of \$573 for a total monthly spousal benefit of about \$1499.

So, the answers to your two questions are:

1. Because you claimed your Social Security retirement benefit early and won't yet be your full retirement age when your husband claims, you will not get half of your husband's benefit when he claims. You would likely get about 45% of his benefit.

2. If you take your own SS retirement benefit now, you will get a higher benefit when your husband claims, but the amount you get will be less than half of his FRA entitlement.

The only way you can get the full 50% of your husband's FRA benefit entitlement is to wait until your own full retirement age to claim Social Security.

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TIPS FOR PROTECTING YOURSELF FROM DEEFAKE FRAUD

(StatePoint) You answer the phone and hear a familiar voice, but are you sure you know who it is on the other end of the line? The correct answer should be "no."

Rapid advancement of artificial intelligence (AI) has armed bad actors with sophisticated tools to enable impersonation fraud using deepfakes. A deepfake can consist of audio, video or imagery that has either been created or altered using AI. The danger is that with a simple sample of audio or video or even a few images, a criminal can create a deepfake that is almost impossible to detect.

A National Institutes of Health study in 2023 found that even when individuals were given a warning that one out of five videos for them to review was a deepfake, only 21.6% were able to correctly identify the fraudulent option.

In today's technological climate, the risks are too high to trust the naked eye to determine truth. Luckily, there are certain things you can do to help reduce your likelihood of getting duped, and they don't require specialized skills or technical aptitude.

One important one is never assuming that someone contacting you is legitimate, even if they share a seemingly legitimate image or video, have a familiar voice, or come under the guise of someone known and trusted. Creating safe words with close family members and friends is also a good idea. That means you have a secret code word only they know. If the caller doesn't know it, that is an easy and effective way to identify a fraud.

Just as important if not more than picking out deepfakes, is protecting your identity against being exploited to create a deepfake. Here are some measures that could help mitigate the risk:

Social Media Management: Don't over-post your face or voice and limit who can view your content by tightening up privacy settings on your accounts.

Watermarks on Images: Consider putting watermarks on imagery you post online to discourage repurposing of it.

Stronger Identity Protection: Subscribe to identity monitoring services that will send alerts if your personal information appears on the dark web

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Lisa M. Garrett

Attorney at Law
Estate Planning &
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GENEALOGY REPORT

DAVIS

Carol K. Davis, 69, of Huntington, passed away at 10:50 a.m. on Sunday, Sept. 21, 2025, at The Waters of Huntington.

She was born on November 2, 1955, in Bluffton the daughter of Paul E. Davis and Patricia J. (Dehne) Davis.

Carol graduated from Huntington North High School Class of 1974.

She worked at Wayne Metals, Markle, and also worked numerous years at Kmart, Bluffton and Huntington.

Carol retired from Square D/Schneider Electric in 2012 after 34 years of employment.

She enjoyed making stained glass and traveling in her younger years.

Survivors include her brother, Reed Davis, of Warren; nephew, Tyson Davis, of Huntington; great-nephew, Bryce Davis, of Huntington; three sisters, Sharon (Mark) Green, of Huntington, Jane (John) Vickrey, of Warren, and Gloria (David) McKuras, of Bourbonnais, Ill.; sister-in-law, Phyllis Davis, of Fort Wayne; numerous nieces and nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, great-great-nieces and great-great-nephews.

Carol is preceded in death by her father, Paul E. Davis, mother, Patricia J. Davis, and brother, John B. Davis.

Per Carol's wishes, there will be no service or viewing.

Private burial will take place in Woodlawn Cemetery, Warren.

Preferred memorials may be made in memory of Carol to Huntington County Humane Society in care of Adkins Bailey-Love Mortuary, 35 W. Park Dr., Huntington, IN 46750.

WILHELM

John Michael "Mike" Wilhelm, 67, of Marion, passed away on Sunday, Sept. 21, 2025, in Marion.

Born on August 26, 1958, in Lancaster, Pa., John, known to many as Mike, was the son of the late John William and Ruth Ellen (Meckley) Wilhelm.

Mike grew up with a strong sense of curiosity and determination that would guide him throughout his life.

In 1971, his family moved to Indiana, where he attended high school and college.

Mike was a 1976 graduate of Eastbrook High School.

He went on to earn his degree from Taylor University, Upland, in 1981.

Mike dedicated his professional life to serving others through technology.

He worked as a supervisor IT Specialist for the VA Northern Indiana Healthcare Systems, Marion, where his expertise and commitment made a lasting impact on both colleagues and veterans alike.

On October 17, 1998, Mike married Susan "Susie" E. Wilhelm. Together they built a life filled with adventure and shared passions.

The couple traveled extensively, visiting family across the country, exploring the beauty of America's National Parks through hiking and camping trips, and even embarking on a pilgrimage to hike the Camino de Santiago.

Their journeys were not just about destinations, but about deepening their bond and embracing life's experiences together.

Mike had a lifelong passion for bicycling. Whether navigating rugged trails or cruising along scenic roads, he found joy and freedom on two wheels.

He owned several bikes suited for different terrains and was an active member of the Marion Bicycle Club.

Mike's love for cycling extended beyond recreation - it was a way to connect with friends and explore the world around him.

He was a compassionate man always lending a quiet support to many.

Mike was endeared by his nieces - Uncle Mike was always willing to help guide them in homework assignments, lend encouragement in their sporting activities and spend quality time nurturing them to be the best they could be.

To Xavi, he was the greatest Pappy anyone could ask for - always showing love and making every visit memorable.

Mike's love for his family was indelible and a true testament to his devotion to them.

He is lovingly remembered by his wife, Susie; step-son, Tony (Cathlyn) Eder; grandson, Xavier Eder; sister, Mickey (Jon) Lazard; nephews, Brad Skinner and Joe Skinner; brother-in-law, Mike (Joanne) Skinner; great-nieces, Rossi Skinner, Reese Skinner and Rikki Skinner; extended family, Todd (Debbie) Eder, Tami (Rob Meier) Eder and Kristin Skinner.

A Memorial Mass will be celebrated on Monday, Sept. 29, 2025, at 11 a.m. at St. Paul Catholic Church, 1031 Kem Rd., Marion, with the Rev. Michael Block officiating.

Visitation will be one hour prior to the mass from 10 to 10:45 a.m. in the narthex of St. Paul Catholic Church.

Please, direct memorial contributions to St. Paul Catholic Church.

LARSEN

Charles "Howard" Larsen, 88, of Muncie, passed away on Wednesday, Sept. 24, 2025.

He was born on September 12, 1937, in Van Buren to L.P. and Emily (Warren) Larsen.

Howard married Joyce Louise (Bowman) Larsen on January 11, 1969. They spent 55 years together before she passed away on February 11, 2024. She was the love of his life, and her passing left a hole that was never quite filled.

He was a simple man who loved the outdoors. He enjoyed fishing and hunting, especially his trips to Canada with friends, which were always a highlight of the year.

Howard also had a soft spot for his dogs, Tinker Bell, Angel and Brownie.

He owned and operated a plating company alongside his wife and grandson, Craig Day, in Muncie for many years and took pride in his work.

Howard believed in doing things right the first time and built a strong reputation in the community.

He is survived by his children, Frieda (Tom) Howard, of Muncie, Danny (Patricia) Crose, of Fredericksburg, Va., Sally Larsen, of Las Vegas, Nev., Peggy (Bill) Badders, of

Muncie, and Penny (Bill) Shearer.

Howard also leaves behind several grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews, who will all miss him dearly.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his sisters, Mannie Southgate, Christine Dickerson, Mary Stroop and Thelma Gail Clay, his brothers, George Larsen and Robert Gene Larsen, and stepbrothers, Orvel Southerd and Dennis Stringer.

A public visitation will be on Thursday, Oct. 2, 2025, from noon to 2 p.m. at Garden View Funeral Home, 10501 N. State Road 3, Muncie.

The funeral service will follow at 2 p.m. officiated by Pastor Josh Johnson.

A graveside service will take place afterward at Gardens of Memory Cemetery, 10703 N. State Road 3, Muncie.

Howard will be remembered as a hardworking man who loved his family, his dogs and the quiet moments in nature. He didn't need much to be happy, just good company, a fishing pole and time with the people he cared about.

WOLF

Mark S. Wolf, 44, of Marion, died on Thursday, Sept. 25, 2025, at Lutheran Hospital, Fort Wayne.

He was born in Warren, son of Gene R. Wolf and Erma L. (Ellis) Wolf.

Mark graduated from Eastbrook High School in 1999.

He served the city of Marion as a rural route post office carrier for the past six years. Known for his love of photography, baseball, fishing, and fireworks, Mark also loved spending endless hours working on cars. He could make anyone laugh with his Dr. Evil impression; Mark will be remembered fondly.

Mark is survived by his children, Hunter Wolf, Madisyn Wolf and Harper Wolf; mother, Erma (Ellis) Wolf; niece, Piper Moore; nephew, Preston Moore.

He was preceded in death by his father, Gene R. Wolf.

A Life Celebration for Mark will be at 1 p.m. on Saturday,

Oct. 4, 2025, at Armes-Hunt Life Celebration Funeral Home and Cremation Services, College Park Chapel, 4601 S. Western Ave., Marion, with Pastor Andrew Heald officiating.

Family and friends may gather for visitation from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. prior to the service.

Interment will take place at Gardens of Memory Cemetery, Marion.

Memorial contributions may be made to Cancer Services of Grant County at <https://www.grantcountycancer.org/>

NORTON

Carrie F. Norton, 48, of Upland, passed away September 27, 2025 peacefully at her home surrounded by her loving family after a courageous battle with cancer.

Her greatest joy in life was her daughter, Tessa, who was the light of her world. She cherished spending time with her family and extended loved ones.

Known for her incredible work ethic, Carrie found purpose and joy in working, gardening, cleaning, thrifting and always keeping busy.

She had a love for volleyball, excelling as a spiker during junior high and senior high school.

Carrie played volleyball for both Heritage Hall Academy, Muncie, and Faith Christian Academy, Berne, and later playing at Taylor University, Upland.

She also enjoyed her time as a cheerleader.

Carrie's education included home schooling, Chapel Heights Academy, Marion, Faith Christian Academy, Berne, Eastbrook High School as a freshman and Heritage Hall Christian School, Muncie, where she graduated.

CONTINUED PAGE 6

Thank You!

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AREA NEWS CONTINUED

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She went on to earn her bachelor's degree in business administration from Taylor University, Upland.

Carrie's faith was central to her life. She received Christ and was baptized at Union Chapel Baptist Church, Marion.

She was a member of First Community Church, Matthews.

Carrie and her husband were owners of Walnut Creek Outdoors, Gas City, where they not only shared a business partnership, but also a deep bond as soulmates, celebrating life together in everything they did.

She was born on April 12, 1977, in Marion to Timothy David and Cindy (Rogers) David Livingston.

On July 29, 2000, Carrie married the love of her life, Jim, and together they built a beautiful life over 25 years of marriage.

She is survived by her husband, Jim; daughter, Tessa; mother, Cindy (Gary) Livingston; father, Timothy David; siblings, Becky David and Jeff David; father- and mother-in-law, Bill and Janie Norton; sister-in-law, Jenny (Matthew) Norton Schamber; nieces and nephews, Zoey, Zaavan, Jarrett, Brady, Brooklyn, Kennedy and Cadence; several aunts and uncles to whom she cared for very much.

Carrie was preceded in death by her grandparents, Gerald "Duke" and Janet David, Earl and Mary Rogers, Vern and Martelle Norton and James and Lucy Doris Moore, and great-grandparents, Paul and Edna Rogers, Jack and Freda David and Russell and Margaret Dunn.

A Life Celebration for Carrie will be at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 1, 2025, at Armes-Hunt Life Celebration Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Jones-Smith Chapel, 259 N. Main St., Upland, with Pastor Doug Rogers, Pastor Devin Miller and Pastor Robert Morrell officiating. Interment will follow at Matthews Cemetery in Matthews, Indiana. Family and friends may gather for visitation from 3:00-6:00 p.m. prior to the service.

Memorial contributions in Carrie's memory may be made to Galloping Greatly, 9164 E. 825 S., Upland, IN 46989 or online at gallopinggreatly.org

SMITH

Brian Kelly Smith, 64, passed away on Monday, Sept. 29, 2025, at IU Health University Hospital, Indianapolis.

He was born on August 12, 1961, in Marion to Richard Smith and Carolyn (Careins) Smith. His mother preceded him in death in November 2024.

Brian graduated from Eastbrook High School in 1979 and graduated from Purdue University, West Lafayette, in 1984.

He married Cindy Sue (Sharp) Smith on June 1, 1985, at First Christian Church, Hartford City. She passed away on December 21, 2022.

Brian retired in March 2024 from Hartford City CVS, where he was a pharmacist for over 40 years. He started at Hooks Drug Store (before it became CVS).

He was very active in the Rotary Club and still coached girls' tennis at Blackford High School, Hartford City.

Brian loved being on the go and traveling.

He also enjoyed going camping up north (Michigan).

Brian's love for his family was the most important thing in his life.

He loved to spend time together making memories.

Brian's dogs, Abby, Betsy, Izzy and Sassy, were always shown love and he was always giving them the attention they deserved.

He could be found supporting his favorite teams, the Green Bay Packers or Purdue Boilermakers. He tried not to miss an opportunity to cheer them on.

Brian will be sadly missed by his son, Timothy L. (wife, Rachel) Walter, of Westfield; daughters, Nicole R. (husband, Matthew) Wheatley, of Louisville, Ky., and Emily A. (husband, Nick) Moore, of Indianapolis; grandchildren, MaKenzie Walter, Brianna Walter, Charlotte Wheatley and Lennon Wheatley; dad, Richard Smith, of Winter

Haven, Fla.; brother, Scott Smith, of Winter Haven, Fla.; sister, Lisa (husband, Jeffrey) Jones, of Greenwood; several nieces and nephews.

His wishes were to be cremated.

Celebration of Life will be from 6 to 9 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 2, 2025, at The Pickle Lounge, 1776 Independence Pkwy., Hartford City. Please, consider wearing your Purdue shirt, Packers shirt or Blackford shirt to the Celebration of Life in honor of Brian.

Keplinger Funeral Home, 509 N. High St., Hartford City, is in charge of arrangements.

Memorials may be made to Blackford Athletics, 2392 N. State Road 3, Hartford City, IN 47348.

MORE PAGE 4

where criminals buy and sell stolen credentials.

Limited Voice Exposure: Screen phone calls and only answer when they come from a known number. It's also recommended to use the factory setting voicemail message rather than recording an outgoing message using your own voice.

Prompt Reporting: If you are contacted by someone you believe is leveraging a deepfake to impersonate a person or brand, report it immediately to that person or brand. They will want to work with the authorities and time is of the essence.

To learn more about tools and techniques to help protect your identity and respond to fraud, visit PNC's Security & Privacy Center.

Technology is providing criminals more sophisticated technologies to commit fraud, but good, old-fashioned caution and common sense are still the best protection, and that applies to deepfakes, too.

TOP HIGH-PAYING JOBS THAT ARE IN DEMAND

(StatePoint) Looking for a high-paying job in a growing profession? Here's what to know about some of today's top professions offering generous compensation and good job security:

Health Care

The U.S. population is aging, and the demand for health-care professionals is growing. The Bureau of Labor and Statistics reports that nurse practitioners and physician assistants are among the top 20 fastest-growing professions nationwide, both earning median pay well over \$100,000 per year. Trusted and valued by patients, peers and physicians, both career paths offer rich intangible rewards, along with long-term job security.

Financial Planning

A growing talent shortage in the financial planning profession means that this career path is likely one that will offer job security for years to come. In fact, a recent study by McKinsey & Co. predicts that by 2034, U.S. wealth management firms could be about 100,000 financial advisors short of the number needed to fulfill customer demand.

In particular, consumers and firms are actively seeking advisors who meet specific requirements; 81% prefer an advisor who takes all areas of their financial life into account and 90% see an advisor's certifications as important. This is why CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER® certification can give financial planners at any stage of their career a leg up. During the certification

process, CFP® professionals develop deep subject matter expertise in everything from tax and estate planning to retirement income analysis and debt management.

With a median annual compensation of \$185,000, financial planning is a job that pays well. And given the rigorous, comprehensive training CFP® professionals undergo, it's no surprise they earn 13% more than other financial planners, and commonly receive generous benefits packages and other perks.

To learn more about the financial planning profession, along with the numerous career advantages CFP® certification affords, visit CFP.net.

Information Technology

With technologies such as machine learning, artificial intelligence (AI) and cloud computing being introduced into workplace processes, organizations will need freshly-minted information technology (IT) professionals with expertise in these areas to seamlessly implement these tools into their business models. At the same time, IT professionals are needed to protect companies from emerging cybersecurity threats. With a median salary of \$169,510 and an unemployment rate at just 1.4%, according to U.S. News and World Report, IT managers are well-compensated and job-secure.

Whether you're a young person investigating post-graduation opportunities or a mid-life career-changer, understanding industry trends can help you align your career goals with greater financial security.



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