

Friday, December 9, 2022

Volume 37, Number 44



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Warren Weekly

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PO Box 695, Warren IN 46792 • 260/375-6290 • Fax 260/247-2426 • email: editor@warrenweeklyindiana.com

Thought for the Week: Genuine goodness is threatening to those at the opposite end of the moral spectrum. Charles Spencer

HUNTER ED OFFERED

A free Indiana Hunter Education Course is scheduled for Friday, Jan. 20 and Saturday, Jan. 21 at the Dubois County 4-H Fairgrounds, which is located at 4157 S. State Road 162, Huntingburg.

Classes will run from 6 to 9 p.m. Jan. 20, and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Jan. 21. Participants must attend both days to complete the course. Completion is required for anyone born after Dec. 31, 1986, to purchase an Indiana hunting license.

All instruction will be by DNR conservation officers and certified Indiana volunteer hunters. The course will cover ethics, safety, laws, survival, and safe handling practices for archery, black powder, and firearms.

Advance registration is required for the course and can be completed at passitonindiana.com. There is a 150-student limit. This course is being sponsored by the Dubois County Shooting Sports Instructor Council. For more information, call Patoka Lake at 812-685-2447.

COOKING MATTERS CLASSES

In partnership with the Parkview Huntington Family YMCA, Purdue Extension Huntington County is hosting Cooking Matters. This free six-week class focuses on how to prepare fast, delicious, and healthy meals on a budget. Each week, participants will eat a healthy meal and take

home a bag of groceries. The next session begins Thursday, January 12th and runs through February 16th. Classes will be held at Love INC starting at 5:00pm each week.

Please reserve a seat by calling the Extension Office at (260) 358-4826 or emailing cneverid@purdue.edu.

GOV. HOLCOMB ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Governor Eric J. Holcomb announced recently that applications will be accepted through Jan. 31 for the 2023–2024 Governor's Fellowship. The Governor's Fellowship is highly selective and provides a unique experience in Indiana state government by placing fellows in various state agencies on a rotating basis throughout the year.

"Our Governor's Fellows are such valuable players on our team," Gov. Holcomb said. "The wide range of expertise and assistance they provide over the course of their fellowship is key to serving Hoosiers in a timely and thorough manner."

The program is open to college graduates who receive a bachelor's degrees in the summer or fall of 2022 or spring of 2023. Fellows are paid, full-time employees who participate in the day-to-day activities of state government. Many Governor's Fellow

participants have gone on to successful careers in both the public and private sectors—with some serving at the highest levels of local, state and federal government.

The application and submission guidelines can be accessed at www.in.gov/gov/governors-office/governors-fellowship-program/. To be eligible, the application and all supporting materials must be postmarked or submitted via email by Jan. 31. Applicants should know if they have been selected for an interview no later than Feb. 14. Recipients of the Fellowship will begin July 1, 2023.

If you have questions about the fellowship, contact Emily Clancy at the Governor's Office at eclancy@gov.in.gov.

SOCIAL SECURITY MATTERS

by National Social Security Advisor at the AMAC Foundation, the non-profit arm of the Association of Mature American Citizens

ASK RUSTY – CAN A WORKING WIDOW COLLECT SURVIVOR BENEFITS?

Dear Rusty: I'm 63 and still employed. My husband passed away 7 years ago at the age of 58. Am I able to collect my husband's Social Security while I'm still working? Signed: **Working Widow**

Dear Working Widow: Technically at age 63 you're eligible to collect a survivor benefit from your husband but, since you're working, we need to dig a bit deeper.

Any time benefits are taken before reaching full retirement age, Social Security's earnings test applies. The earnings test limits how much you can earn from working before they take away some (or even all) of your Social Security benefits. If your annual earnings for 2023 will be more than \$21,240, then Social Security will take away benefits equal to \$1 for every \$2 you are over that limit. If you earn substantially more than the limit, that could even temporarily disqualify you from eligibility to collect your survivor benefit (because your benefit to offset the penalty for exceeding the limit). So, if you're working part time and will not exceed the limit or only slightly exceed it, then you can claim your survivor benefit from your husband now and simply pay the penalty from your benefits. But if you're working full time and will exceed the annual limit by a lot, then you may wish to defer claiming your survivor benefit until you either reach your full retirement age (FRA) or stop working.

If you turned 63 in 2022, your FRA is 66 years and 10 months, and the earnings test applies until you reach that age. Four months earlier is when your survivor benefit from your husband will reach maximum (claimed any earlier it will be reduced by 4.75% per full year early). So, what should you do? I suggest you look at your own estimated maximum (age 70) benefit and compare that to your maximum survivor benefit from your husband. You should strive to maximize whichever benefit will be highest and claim that maximum benefit for the rest of your life. For example, if your survivor benefit at your FRA will be more than your personal age 70 benefit will be, then it would be smart to wait until your FRA to claim your survivor benefit and collect that for the rest of your life. If, instead, your personal age 70 benefit will be higher than your maximum survivor benefit at your FRA, then you may wish to claim the survivor benefit first and allow your personal benefit to reach maximum

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It's getting to be that time of year. Contact the Warren Weekly today to get your Christmas Greeting ordered for the December 23 issue of the Warren Weekly! Contact us at editor@warrenweeklyindiana.com or 260.375.6290 or www.warrenweeklyindiana.com



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



Life has been busy at our house. One thing after the other. We started last week with the water heater going out on us, so we got a new tankless heater and put it in. It's nice and I'm sure it will do the job good. Anything is better than a cold shower. lol Thanks to my momma for allowing us to use her facilities

I managed to get most of my Christmas shopping done so now the fun part is wrapping it all. Kendra, Tara and I went on Black Friday and had a blast. So now I will have something to put under the trees that I finally got up. I think I will just be happy with the 4 I got up this year. I'm gonna hang my wreath outside and call it good. I'm really behind due to not being able to do a whole lot physically. but as of Saturday, I did get in to have the nerves in my hip burnt and so far I am moving pretty good. I just hope the pain is gone, it slowed me down quite a bit and if you know me I don't shut down well.

So as of right now I have some gifts I need to make, wrap and deliver, candy to make, quick breads to make and cookies to bake and for those that think they need a rum cake, I have cakes to make. lol So many things to do, so little time but I'll get it done, I always do.

Sometime this month I get the joys of celebrating another year of life. 54 years and I can say I have enjoyed it. I don't look at it as another year older, I look at it as another year closer to retirement. That's what I like about birthdays, they sneak up on you and like me I swear I just turned 21 yesterday. That might be why my cousin always wishes me a happy 39th birthday, he can't keep it straight either. lol

Have a great week!

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|--|---|---|
| <p>ASBURY CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST
 8013W 1100S -90, Montpelier
 Nick Miller, Pastor
 Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Worship 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>BANQUO CHRISTIAN CHURCH
 8924S 900W 35
 Harold Smith, Pastor
 Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Worship 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>BOEHMER UNITED METHODIST
 Steve Nevius, Pastor
 Denise Heiniger, S.S. Supt.
 Sunday Worship 9:30a.m.
 Sunday School 10:45a.m.</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p> <p>DILLMAN UNITED BRETHREN
 8888S 1100W-90, Warren 375-2779
 Matt Kennedy, Pastor
 Worship Service 9:00a.m.
 Sunday School 10:00a.m.</p> <p>HANFIELD UNITED METHODIST
 101 N 400 E - Marion 765/664-8726
 Curtis Banker, Senior Pastor
 Worship..... 10:30 a.m.
 Sunday School 9:15 a.m.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>HERITAGE POINTE
 Chaplains Gerald Moreland, Ginny Sultz & John Moyer
 Sunday Morning Worship 9:30 a.m.
 OTHER SERVICES BY ANNOUNCEMENT
 Monday thru Friday
 Chapel Services 9:00 a.m.</p> <p>WARREN 1st BAPTIST CHURCH
 727 N Wayne St, Warren
 260-375-2811
 office@warrenfirsbaptist.net
 Pator Rusty Strickler
 Youth Dir: Peter & Mindy Fairchild
 Sunday School9:00 a.m.
 Sunday Worship10:00 a.m.
 Youth Group: Grades 5-12 ..Sun 11:30
 Ekklesia Sun 6:30pm</p> | <p>HILLCREST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
 375-2510
 Pastor Steven Spencer
 Bus Service 375-2510
 www.warrennaz.org
 Worship 10:30 a.m.
 Wed. Midweek Service..... 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>SOLID ROCK UNITED METHODIST
 485 Bennett Dr, Warren, IN
 375-3873
 John Boyanowski, Pastor
 Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
 Worship Service 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>LANCASTER WESLEYAN
 3147 W 543 S, Huntington
 765.524.3390
 Pastor Trevor O'Dell, Pastor
 Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Worship 10:30 a.m.
 Wednesdays:
 Bible Study & Prayer 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>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</p> <p>LIBERTY CENTER COMMUNITY CHURCH
 Pastor Diane Samuels
 Fellowship Time9:00a.m.
 Morning Worship9:30 a.m.
 Sunday School 10:45 a.m.</p> <p>THE CHURCH AT MCNATT
 375-4359
 Bill VanHaften, 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. 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>MT. ETNA UNITED METHODIST
 260/468-2148 Sr 9 & 124
 Rev. Michael Gallant - "Pastor Mike"
 Multi-Generational Worship 9:30 a.m.
 Fellowship 10:30 a.m.
 Sunday Youth 4-6 p.m.
 Everyone is Welcome</p> <p>SALAMONIE CHURCH OF BRETHREN
 468-2412
 Mel Zumbrun, Pastor
 Worship9:30 a.m.
 Church School 10:45a.m.</p> | <p>UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 375-2102
 www.warrenucc.net
 Troy Drayer, Senior Pastor
 Sunday Worship..... 9:30 a.m.
 Contemporary Service - Wed 6:30 p.m.
 Youth Sunday School during
 Worship Service
 Youth Group-Wed 6:30 p.m.
 Communion 1st Sunday of the Month</p> <p>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.</p> <p>VB UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 765-934-1431
 Pastor Brad Hensley
 Worship Service 9:30 am
 Sunday School 10:30am
 Not Home Alone - Wed 3:00 pm
 Prayer-Bible Study (Thur) 7:00 pm
 UMW 2nd Wed 7:00 pm
 Little Ones Book Club 1st Tue 10:00 am
 Just Older Youth 3rd Tue 12:00 pm
 www.vanburenumc.org</p> <p>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</p> <p>WARREN WESLEYAN CHURCH
 6th & Nancy Sts. Warren
 260-228-9084
 Rev. Allen Laws, Pastor
 Wesley Welch, Supt.
 Sunday School9:30 a.m.
 Worship 10:15 a.m.
 Wed Bible Study 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>FARRVILLE COMMUNITY CHURCH
 11044 E 200 N, Marion, IN
 765-934-3609
 Pastor Al Sultz
 Sunday Worship..... 10:30 am
 Sunday School Classes9:30 am
 Sunday Adult Bible Study..... 6:00 pm
 Thurs. Bible Study7:00 pm</p> |
|--|---|---|

Please Attend The Church of Your Choice



AREA NEWS

MORE PAGE 1

and switch to your own higher benefit at age 70.

In any case, because you're working you must be careful of the earnings limit until you reach your full retirement age. The earnings limit goes up a bit each year, and in the year that you reach your FRA it goes way up (by about 2.5 times) and the penalty is less. There is no longer an earnings limit once you reach your full retirement age, but if you decide to claim Social Security before your FRA you should stay keenly aware of whether your earnings will exceed each year's annual limit.

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IS SANTA REAL?

I remember tearing across town on my bike to visit Grandma on the day my brother dropped the bomb: "There is no Santa Claus," he jeered. "Even dummies know that!"

My Grandma was not the gushy kind, never had been. I fled to her that day because I knew she would be straight with me. I knew Grandma always told the truth, and I knew that the truth always went down a whole lot easier when swallowed with one of her "world-famous" cinnamon

buns. I knew they were world-famous, because Grandma said so. It had to be true.

Grandma was home, and the buns were still warm. Between bites, I told her everything. She was ready for me. "No Santa Claus?" she snorted, "Ridiculous! Don't believe it. That rumor has been going around for years, and it makes me mad, plain mad!! Now, put on your coat, and let's go."

"Go? Go where, Grandma?" I asked. I hadn't even finished my second world-famous cinnamon bun. "Where" turned out to be Kirby's General Store, the one store in town that had a little bit of just about everything. As we walked through its doors, Grandma handed me ten dollars. That was a bundle in those days. "Take this money," she said, "and buy something for someone who needs it. I'll wait for you in the car." Then she turned and walked out of Kirby's.

I was only eight years old. I'd often gone shopping with my mother, but never had I shopped for anything all by myself. The store seemed big and crowded, full of people scrambling to finish their Christmas shopping.

For a few moments I just stood there, confused, clutching that ten-dollar bill, wondering what to buy, and who on earth to buy it for.

I thought of everybody I knew: my family, my friends, my neighbors, the kids at school, the people who went to my church.

I was just about thought out, when I suddenly thought of Bobby Decker. He was a kid with bad breath and messy hair, and he sat right behind me in Mrs. Pollock's grade-two class. Bobby Decker didn't have a coat. I knew that because he never went out to recess during the winter. His mother always wrote a note, telling the teacher that he had a cough, but all we kids knew that Bobby Decker didn't have a cough; he didn't have a good coat. I fingered the ten-dollar bill with growing excitement. I would buy Bobby Decker a coat! I settled on a red corduroy one that had a hood to it. It looked real warm, and he would like that.

"Is this a Christmas present for someone?" the lady behind the counter asked kindly, as I laid my ten dollars down. "Yes, ma'am," I replied shyly. "It's for Bobby."

The nice lady smiled at me, as I told her about how Bobby really needed a good winter coat. I didn't get any change, but she put the coat in a bag, smiled again, and wished me a Merry Christmas.

That evening, Grandma helped me wrap the coat (a little tag fell out of the coat, and Grandma tucked it in her Bible) in Christmas paper and ribbons and wrote, "To Bobby, From Santa Claus" on it.

Grandma said that Santa always insisted on secrecy. Then she drove me over to Bobby Decker's house, explaining as we went that I was now and forever officially, one of Santa's helpers.

Grandma parked down the street from Bobby's house, and she and I crept

noiselessly and hid in the bushes by his front walk. Then Grandma gave me a nudge. "All right, Santa Claus," she whispered, "get going."

I took a deep breath, dashed for his front door, threw the present down on his step, pounded his door and flew back to the safety of the bushes and Grandma.

Together we waited breathlessly in the darkness for the front door to open. Finally it did, and there stood Bobby.

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Community Calendar

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

Dec 7	7:00p	V - Town Council Meeting @ Town Hall
Dec 13	6:30p	W - SSF Meeting @ KBC
Dec 19	6:00p	W - Town Council Meeting @ Assembly Hall
Dec 19	6:30p	W - KBC Board Meeting @ KBC
Dec 21	7:00p	V - Town Council Meeting @ Town Hall
Dec 24		CHRISTMAS EVE
Dec 25		CHRISTMAS DAY
Dec 26-30		WARREN WEEKLY CLOSED - NO PAPER THIS WEEK
Dec 31		NEW YEARS EVE

*Bread of Life Food Pantry - Wednesdays - 2 - 4:00pm at KBC;
 Bargain Basement - Friday & Saturday - 9 - 4 at KBC
 These Events Can Also Be Found at www.warrenweeklyindiana.com*

Jeff's FARM MARKET Weekly Specials Dec 8 - 14

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Tue-Wed	11am-6pm	Saturday	9am-5pm

We accept EBT and SNAP
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AREA NEWS CONTINUED

MORE PAGE 3

Fifty years haven't dimmed the thrill of those moments spent shivering, beside my Grandma, in Bobby Decker's bushes. That night, I realized that those awful rumors about Santa Claus were just what Grandma said they were -- ridiculous. Santa was alive and well, and we were on his team.

I still have the Bible, with the coat tag tucked inside: \$19.95.

May you always have LOVE to share,

HEALTH to spare and FRIENDS that care...

And may you always believe in the magic of Santa Claus!

WHAT THE LATEST SCIENCE SAYS ABOUT COVID-19

TESTING AND TREATMENT

(StatePoint) While it can be tempting to think of the pandemic as something that occurred in the past, the reality is that COVID-19 continues to be a significant burden in the United States. As of November 2022, there are more than 39,000 new cases, more than 3,000 hospitalizations and about 350 deaths attributable to COVID-19 each day.

"We're not out of the woods yet," says Albert A. Rizzo, M.D., chief medical officer for the American Lung Association. "That's why it's so important for those at high risk to understand when to test for the disease and to learn more about available treatment options."

In response to the evolving science, the American Lung

Association, with support from Pfizer, aims to encourage older adults, people living with chronic lung disease and other high-risk individuals to speak with their healthcare provider about their treatment options if they test positive for COVID-19.

Testing

Cold and flu season is upon us, and we will continue to see increased cases of infectious respiratory diseases, including flu, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and COVID-19. If you experience symptoms that could be COVID-19, get tested right away. Keep in mind that many infectious respiratory illnesses have similar symptoms, so during flu season, it's especially important to get tested to find out which virus you have and which treatment is right for you.

If you're exposed to COVID-19 but don't experience symptoms, you should also test at least five days after the exposure, with day 0 being the day of contact. You may also consider getting tested prior to visiting someone at high risk for severe COVID-19 illness.

If you test positive for COVID-19 and are high risk, speak with your healthcare provider right away about available treatment options.

Treatment

Treatment may help prevent severe illness and reduce the risk of hospitalization. Depending on your situation, your healthcare provider may

prescribe one of the following:

- * Oral antiviral medications, which may reduce the spread of COVID-19 throughout the body by stopping the virus from making copies of itself. This medication should be taken as soon as possible after diagnosis and within five days of symptom onset.

- * Monoclonal antibody treatment, an IV infusion antiviral medication, can help your immune system fight off the virus by blocking and limiting the amount of virus within the body. This medication should be given as soon as possible, and within seven days of when you started feeling ill.

After treatment, be sure to monitor your condition and report any lingering or worsening symptoms to your healthcare provider. If you begin having difficulty breathing or any other symptom indicating severe illness, seek urgent care.

For more information about COVID-19 testing and treatment, visit [Lung.org/treating-COVID](https://www.lung.org/treating-COVID).

HOLIDAY TECH GIFT IDEAS FOR EVERYONE ON YOUR SHOPPING LIST

(Statepoint) Holiday shopping season is in full swing and making sure everyone gets the best tech gifts while you snag the best deals is likely top of mind for you.

Nearly 80% of Americans plan on gifting tech-related products and services this year – with the top gifts being headphones and

earbuds, smartphones, streaming and downloading services and gaming consoles, according to this year's Consumer Technology Association report.

The good news? You don't need to break your budget in order to make your loved ones' season bright. Here are some affordable tech gift ideas to please everyone on your shopping list.

For Affordable 5G Smartphones: If your loved one has a 5G smartphone on their holiday wish list, you are in luck! T-Mobile and Metro by T-Mobile offer the latest affordable devices. T-Mobile's REVVL 6 PRO 5G is developed in collaboration with Google, making 5G more accessible to everyone at a time when saving is a priority for Americans. Priced at \$219.99, it's free when T-Mobile customers add a line. Another affordable option is the OnePlus Nord N300 5G, retailing for \$228. For a limited time, T-Mobile customers can get the Nord N300 5G for free when adding a line and Metro by T-Mobile customers can get it for free when switching. These are worthwhile gifts to consider this particular holiday season because right now, for a limited time, T-Mobile is bringing back a deal that hasn't been available in more than two years -- four lines for \$25 per line per month with autopay for unlimited talk, text and data, which also includes 5G access.

For the Travel Enthusiast: New tools are making it

easier than ever for globetrotters to stay connected while on the go. T-Mobile's industry-leading travel benefits, which include high speed data and unlimited texting in 215+ countries and destinations around the world, now get a travel companion just in time for the holidays. T-Mobile collaborated with Samsara luggage to create the Un-carrier On, a limited-edition magenta smart suitcase. It's the only carry-on suitcase with wireless charging and includes a removable battery pack with USB-C charging to take the hassle out of hunting for a power outlet at the airport. The smart suitcase also features built-in Bluetooth luggage tracking to locate your belongings no matter where you are. The Un-carrier On suitcase is available for preorder exclusively online at travelmagenta.com.

For Children: The SyncUP KIDS Watch can help curious kids explore and navigate their daily adventures with confidence while giving parents peace of mind. The latest SyncUP KIDS Watch features talk and text with approved contacts, real-time location tracking with virtual boundary alerts and a help and 911 button for emergencies. For a limited time, the SyncUP Watch is free for existing T-Mobile customers when they add a

CONTINUED PAGE 4



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GENEALOGY REPORT

GOENS

Joyce A. Goens, 87, Marion, passed away at 6:20 pm on Monday, November 28, 2022, at Aperia Care in Marion.

She was born in Marion, Indiana, on Saturday, November 16, 1935, to William "Bill" and Madge (Abernathy) Hudson.

Joyce graduated from Marion High School and worked in Assembly at General Motors for 18 years until her retirement. She enjoyed doing crossword puzzles, loving on her dogs, playing Bingo, and spending time at the casino.

Survivors include her nephew, Kenny Hudson of Marion; niece, Marsha Pace of Converse; along with several other nieces and nephews, great-nieces and nephews, and great-great-nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a brother, Jerry Hudson; and sisters, Patty Fannin and Judy Monin.

A graveside service for Joyce will take place at 11:00 am on Tuesday, December 6, 2022, at Van Buren Cemetery. Pastor Dan Van Cise will be officiating.

Memorial contributions may be directed to Wounded Warrior Project, 230 W. Monroe St., Ste. 200, Chicago, IL 60606 or Marion-Grant County Humane Society, P.O. Box 1921, Marion, IN 46952.

AMSTUTZ

Gene D. Amstutz, 90, former Monroe businessman, passed away peacefully on Nov. 29, 2022 at Swiss Village in Berne, Indiana.

He was born on Dec. 03, 1931, in Berne, to Homer and Hilda (Moser) Amstutz. He married Dorothy J. (Farlow) Amstutz on Aug. 03, 1951.

Prior to illness, Gene attended Geneva High

Street Church in Geneva. During his lifetime he served as a trustee and board member at several different churches.

He graduated from Geneva High School as class valedictorian in 1949. He further continued his schooling at Fort Wayne Bible College and with many other professional classes where he earned his Tool and Die Apprenticeship and his Manufacturing Engineer title.

Gene was employed at Felber Machine Shop and at CTS, of Berne, as a machinist, foreman, and tooling engineer. He and his wife Dorothy also owned and managed Triple A, Inc. in Monroe from 1976 until his retirement.

Gene was an avid reader and enjoyed spending time with his extensive family. He loved taking nature walks with his family and his many dogs over the years. He loved music, especially hymns of his faith. Most importantly, he loved and served God faithfully and modeled that for his children and grandchildren.

He is survived by his wife, Dorothy J. Amstutz, Berne; three sons, Leon (Anne) Amstutz, Elkhart, Jerry (Denise) Amstutz, Mishawaka, Brian (Lisa) Amstutz, Danville, Kentucky; two daughters, Suanne (Wayne) Shidler, Shepherd, Michigan and Judy (Jeff) Springer, South Bend; 17 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren, and one great grandchild on the way. Also surviving are one sister, Carol Hill of Huntington; one brother, Larry (Pat) Amstutz, Fort Wayne and one sister-in-law, Norene Bollinger of Waynesville, North Carolina.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Homer and Hilda (Moser) Amstutz; sister, Bernadine Zurcher, and brothers-in-law, John

Zurcher, Bill Hill, and Phil Bollinger.

The body will be cremated and there will be no viewing per Gene's wishes. A memorial service is planned for Dec. 3, 2022 at Swiss Village Chapel at 12 p.m. with the Rev. Wayne Shidler officiating. Visitation with family will be from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to Laurel Mission (77 Cedar Chapel Rd. Big Laurel, KY. 40808) or to Gideon's International.

CRAIG

Zachary Scott Craig, age 32, of Van Buren, passed away on Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2022 at Lutheran Hospital, Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

Zachary was born on Nov. 6, 1990, the son of Scott Craig and Shari (Plummer) Craig. After high school graduation, he studied English and Journalism at Ball State University and Ivy Tech, where he received his Associate's Degree. He was an Optician at WalMart Vision Center in Marion.

Zachary was an avid Denver Broncos, Indiana Pacers and Chicago Cubs fan; and he loved to give his parents a hard time about the Indianapolis Colts. He was a sports enthusiast and had a passion for music. He enjoyed watching wrestling and spending time with his friends and family.

He is survived by his mother Shari Craig; his father and step-mother, Scott (Daphine) Craig; his sister, Megan (Mike) Elliott; his paternal grandparents, Terry (Marianna) Craig and Debbye (Paul) McPhearson; his maternal grandfather, James Plummer; nephews, Austin Smith and Jake Elliott; and many, many other friends and extended family members.

He was preceded in death by his maternal grandmother, Cheryl

Plummer; and great-grandmother, Gloria Craig.

Visitation will be held from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 5, 2022 at Raven-Choate Funeral Home, 1202 W. Kem Road, Marion, Indiana. Funeral Services will begin at 1:00 p.m. with Chaplain Bill Sparks and Pastor Paul McPhearson officiating.



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When it comes to the tech gifts on your holiday shopping list, don't stress. Deals abound this time of year which can make shopping easy and affordable.

HELP BANISH WINTER

BLUES WITH THESE HOME IMPROVEMENT FIXES

(StatePoint) Preparing your home for cold weather can lower your energy bills; promote a more comfortable, healthier environment; and even help banish winter blues. Here's what to know:

* Call a professional: "Waiting until it gets really cold to run your heater is like not stretching before you run," says Mark Woodruff, senior product manager, Outdoor Products at Trane Residential, who advises running your heater early in the season for a good hour or so to ensure it's working. "Scheduling a service appointment now is a much better, and often cheaper option than trying to book an emergency appointment in extreme temperatures or well into winter," he says.

* Change air filters: For better indoor air quality (IAQ) and to extend the life of your HVAC system, change filters every 30-90 days. If you have pets or household members with asthma or allergies, change filters more often.

* Try zoned heating: Zoned HVAC systems let you keep a consistent temperature throughout your home, or heat one zone for individualized comfort that helps you save energy and directs heat where it's desired.

* Consider an upgrade: Forty-five percent of Americans deal with "shockingly high" energy bills, according to a Trane Residential survey conducted by OnePoll. A heating equipment upgrade, however, can help you enjoy consistent warmth without wasted energy. Consider the XC95m furnace from Trane. Its AFUE rating of up to 97.3% means nearly all of the fuel it uses goes to warming the home. When paired with the energy-efficient XV20i Variable Speed Heat Pump, you can enjoy the reliability of a hybrid or dual fuel system. To learn more, visit: trane.com/residential.

* Set your thermostat: Newer technology can help maximize energy savings. With the Trane Home app,

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AREA NEWS CONTINUED

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for example, you can program your smart thermostat and control your home's temperature from anywhere. Its geofencing capabilities regulate temperature based on your location.

* **Monitor indoor air quality:** In the same Trane Residential survey, 57% of respondents said they suffer from indoor stuffiness and lack of fresh air. Improving IAQ can help alleviate allergy and asthma symptoms and reduce the spread of colds and flu.

First, determine what airborne particles may be negatively affecting the air. You can also contact an HVAC dealer who can test your IAQ and offer recommendations to improve it. They may recommend installing a whole-home air cleaner like the Trane CleanEffects, which is certified asthma and allergy friendly by the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America and has been documented to remove 99.9% of the Influenza A (H1N1) virus. The Awair Element is a great way to monitor your IAQ by measuring temperature, humidity, etc.

* **Assess humidity:** Maintaining a home humidity level between 35 and 60% is one key to improving IAQ and ensuring comfort in colder weather. Mold, dust mites and other air pollutants tend to thrive outside that range, and the body's natural immune system can be compromised in dry air. "Monitor humidity with a reliable HVAC thermostat. Then, manage it with a whole-home humidifier or dehumidifier," advises Woodruff. "These units are installed professionally and tie into your HVAC ductwork system."

* **Check insulation:** Poor insulation is an often-

overlooked escape route for heat that forces your heating system to work harder. Homes built in the 1970s or earlier should be checked by an expert, as insulation quality has come a long way since then. Also, foam insulation can settle after a year, so it's best to inspect insulation annually. Certain insulation jobs can be accomplished by a handy homeowner; however, you may prefer hiring a contractor. The average insulation upgrade costs \$2,400, according to the National Association of Realtors, but will save on utility costs in the years ahead.

"For many, wintertime is unpleasant indoors and outside. While we can't control the weather, there are many things we can do to improve conditions at home to feel cozier and more comfortable," says Woodruff.

WHY YOU SHOULD STEP UP YOUR SELF-CARE GAME DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON

(StatePoint) While the holiday season is full of fun, festivities and meaningful time spent with family and friends, it's often accompanied by work and school deadlines, tedious to-do lists and shopping stress. Here are a few reasons to step up your self-care routine during this busy period so you can usher in the new year, happily and healthily:

Catch Some Z's
The holidays come on the heels of the end of Daylight Saving Time, and your body may still be adjusting to the time change. Plus, with all the commitments of the season, you may be more likely to be pulling early mornings and late nights.

These factors combined could be leaving you feeling drowsy during the day. Even more concerning, lack of sleep over time can contribute to a number of chronic health issues. Set yourself up for greater alertness and better health this winter by carving out time for sufficient, high-quality sleep. Having trouble nodding off? Check out sleep aid apps that offer soundtracks, guided meditation and breathing exercises.

Gain Smile Confidence
According to a 2020 Cigna Dental Report, smile satisfaction is one of the top three drivers of self confidence among U.S. adults. So while practicing good oral care and maintaining a solid beauty and self-care routine is always important, it's especially so during a time of year when you may be eating extra sweets and smiling more for the camera.

The good news is that you can give yourself the gift of a healthy, beautiful smile you can feel confident about, starting at an affordable price with the new Oral-B iO4 + iO5 electric toothbrush series. Multiple brushing modes offer a personalized clean, and when you brush for 2 minutes, which is what the American Dental Association recommends, the brush lights up to celebrate the accomplishment. What's more, the iO Series 5 provides you with real-time tracking and coaching via the Oral-B app, helping you commit to better oral care throughout the holidays and beyond.

The many innovative features of an Oral-B iO toothbrush, which include a pressure sensor that helps guide optimal brushing to

protect gums and teeth, will help ensure you get a purifying, clean feel like you just left the dentist. In fact, 96% of Oral-B iO users feel more confident about their oral health when using an iO brush. To learn more, visit oralb.com.

Reduce Stress
The holidays are supposed to be fun, and yet, stress often creeps its way into the festivities. To be more present for all the joyful moments the season has to offer, keep your stress levels in check by

prioritizing a bit of "me time" each day. Whether you use that time to take a brisk walk around the neighborhood, check out that fitness class you've been wanting to try or to curl up with a good book, you'll be giving your mind and spirit the mental refresh that it needs.

During the season of giving, don't neglect your own needs. For greater health and happiness, give your beauty and self-care routine a tune-up over the holidays.



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