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Warren Weekly

Your Hometown Newspaper

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

Thought for the Week: There's only one corner of the universe you can be certain of improving, and that's your own self. Aldous Huxley



RESIDENTS OF HERITAGE POINTE OF WARREN JOIN ALL SENIOR CAST FOR NEW PRODUCTION OF GUYS AND DOLLS

Playing high-stakes gamblers and scene-stealing showgirls, a group of actors age 55 and older from the senior living community, Heritage Pointe of Warren, will take to the stage March 5-7, in partnership with Pulse Opera House, also located in Warren, Ind., to perform the musical Guys and Dolls.

One of the performers from Heritage Pointe, Ken Zuk, 70, plays the role of Benny Southstreet who sings the opening song "Fugue for Tinhorns," in three-part harmony with other actors.

Zuk, a retired sales representative for a cable company, first started acting with the Pulse theater about a year ago. "It was the middle of winter," he recalls. "I saw that the Pulse was putting on a Christmas show, It's a Wonderful Life, and I walked in and auditioned and got the part of Mr. Potter."

"I did well in the show and the children in the audience were scared of me," he jokes about playing the role of the villain in that play.

His interest in theater has only grown since and he's glad to be part of the Guys and Dolls cast along with other Heritage Pointe residents including J.B. Allen, Karen Ottjes, Joe Haney, Louise Applegate, Connie Price, and Mary Sell who helped out with auditions for the play.

Rehearsals are being held currently in the chapel at Heritage Pointe where other residents have been dropping in to see their friends rehearse, says Cynthia Smyth-Wartzok of the Pulse theater who's directing the musical.

She says the theater is pleased to tap into the talents that Heritage Pointe residents offer.

"We work with kids all the time, and that's wonderful but I suddenly realized we were overlooking a whole community of talented, capable seniors," Smyth-Wartzok

CONTINUED PAGE 6

SPRING LUNCHEON

Sigma Phi Gamma Beta Delta Chapter will be hosting their annual Spring Luncheon on March 8, 2026 from 11am to 1pm. Lunch will be served at the Knight Bergman Center in Warren.

Free will donation (proceeds benefit the community).

Menu will include baked steak, mashed potatoes, green beans, coleslaw, dessert and drinks.

BOOK SALE

The Friends of the Warren Public Library will have a \$1.00 a bag used book sale, Saturday, March 7, 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 DVD.

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

UPCOMING CRAFT MARKET

3rd Annual Handmade Heaven Craft Market

Featuring 40 Homebased Crafters & Small Business Owners to shop from. A raffle with donations from the vendors, free will donation lunch, and music!

March 28th 10 AM - 2 PM
Knight Civic Center 132 N Nancy St Warren, IN 46792

Contact Handmade Heaven Craft Organizers Kayla Johnson (260) 517-8645, Jessica Salyer (260) 307-3629 for more information.

FAITH, FOOTBALL, FELLOWSHIP: A COMMUNITY MEN'S BREAKFAST

The Solid Rock Church Men's Fellowship will host a breakfast for men and boys in the community on Saturday, March 14. Breakfast will be served at 8:30 a.m., followed by featured speaker Aaron Mingo, Head Football Coach at Taylor University, talking about the integration of faith and football. A free-will offering will be accepted. Reservations are requested by March 9. (Walk-ins are welcome.) Reservations may be made by calling the Solid Rock Church office at (260) 375-3873 or emailing office@solidrockwarren.org. The church is located at 485 Bennett Drive in Warren.

CLOSING FOR REMODEL

El Guero, Mexican Restaurant is excited to announce that they will be temporarily closing from March 19 to March 29 for a significant series of kitchen infrastructure improvements.

"Since our goal has always been to provide you with the most authentic and high-quality mexican cuisine, we are taking this time to improve our kitchen.

We understand that a 10 day closure is an inconvenience, and we sincerely appreciate your patience as we work to make El Guero better for you. We look forward to welcoming you back on March 30th to experience the faster service and enhanced flavors that these improvements will bring. Thank you for your continued loyalty and for being a part of our journey!"

CONCERTS ANNOUNCED

Final Friday Concerts have been announced for the 2026 season. This year's programs will include:

- May 29 - Hubie Ashcraft Band 7 - 9 pm
- June 26 - Attaboy 6:30 - 9:30 pm
- July 31 - The Time Travelers 7 - 9 pm
- August 28 - Whoa, Man 6:30 - 9:30 pm
- September 25 - Rylie Lynn Music 7 - 9 pm

Food trucks will be on site each night, so come hungry!

Rain backup location will be the Knight Bergman Center.

Great music, great community, and unforgettable nights. Don't forget your chairs and blankets!

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 – I Lost Money as a Widow and Ex-spouse by Not Knowing the Rules

Dear Rusty: I just found out, as someone who was collecting widow's benefits on my second husband (a very small amount) for some time, that I was, all along, entitled to divorce benefits from my first husband which are much more. I thought I had to wait until my first husband passed before I could collect anything from him. Now I learned I have the right to collect as a divorcee. All of these years I have been missing out on a bigger benefit because I didn't know this. Please make this clear and stress it for others in my position. Signed: Lost Benefits

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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
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Kudos, Kicks & Karats



Trevia's
Recipe Box
 by Trevia Flemming

Tonight I tried a new recipe for supper and it was pretty good. John loves pasta and I like it but just can't do a lot of it, but this one I did go back for seconds and as I write this I'm kinda miserable, but it was a keeper in the recipe book and something a little outside our box.

CREAMY TUSCAN SAUSAGE PASTA

- 1 lb penne pasta.
- 1 lb Italian sausage ground
- 1/2 c. Sundried tomatoes, chopped
- 1 tsp Italian seasoning
- 2c. Half and half
- 2c. Baby spinach
- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 1c. Chicken broth
- 1/2 tsp red pepper flakes
- 1c. Parmesan cheese, shredded
- Salt and pepper to taste

Bring a large pot of water to a boil, cook pasta till al dente. Reserve 1c. Pasta water before draining, set both aside

Warm olive oil in a large skillet over medium high heat, add sausage and cook until browned and cooked thoroughly. Transfer to plate and set aside. Drain grease from pan. Add garlic to pan and sauté for 1 minute then stir in the dried tomatoes, chicken broth, Italian seasoning and red pepper flakes. Add half and half bring to a simmer and cook 3-5 minutes to thicken.

Stir in parmesan cheese, sausage crumbles, and baby spinach torn up. Cook until spinach is wilted. Season with salt and pepper. Add the cooked penne and toss to coat sauce on pasta. If to thick add some pasta water to thin. Serve hot and enjoy.

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 to all your non-internet friends. The Warren Weekly can be read at the Warren Public Library!

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BANQUO CHRISTIAN CHURCH
 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 BRETHERN
 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 BRETHERN
 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

Dear Lost Benefits: I am truly saddened that you lost out on benefits from your first husband for such a long time. Although you could not collect an ex-spouse benefit from Husband #1 while you were married to Husband #2, as soon as your current husband died you again became eligible for ex-spouse benefits from Husband #1. Basically, the rules say you cannot collect benefits from an ex-spouse if you have remarried and remain married. In other words, you cannot be "currently married" to collect benefits from an ex-spouse. But the death of Husband #2 meant that you were now eligible to collect ex-spouse benefits from your first husband – husband #1. I hope when you later filed for your ex-spouse benefits you asked for six months of retroactive benefits.

In your situation, when your Husband #2 died, you actually had a choice – either collect your surviving spouse benefit from your recently deceased husband #2, or to collect a regular ex-spouse benefit from your first husband if that is more than your benefit as your second husband's widow. Regular ex-spouse benefits from your first husband are available even though he is still living (and, indeed, even if he remarried) because you are no longer married to husband #2.

This, however, is not always the way things work out for someone who has had multiple marriages. It all depends on the SS benefit each former spouse was entitled to. That's because your survivor benefit as your 2nd husband's widow is based on the full (100%) amount he was receiving from Social Security when he died. In contrast, your benefit as your first husband's ex-spouse

while he is still living will be based upon half (50%) of his full retirement age SS entitlement. And often, 100% of a deceased person's SS benefit is more than 50% of another living person's amount. But not always.

It's important to also know that if you claim any SS benefit before reaching your personal full retirement age (FRA), the monthly amount will be reduced. Benefits as a spouse (or a surviving spouse) do not reach maximum until the spouse reaches FRA, which is somewhere between age 66 and 67 depending on the spouse's year of birth. It's also important to know that if a surviving spouse is working, any SS benefit received will be subject to Social Security's Annual Earnings Test (AET), which limits how much can be earned before SS benefits are affected. For 2026, the earnings limit for those collecting early SS benefits is \$24,480 and, if that limit is exceeded, Social Security will take away some of your benefits. Note that the earnings test goes away when you reach your full retirement age.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association

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CHICK CHECK: WHAT TO KNOW BEFORE BUILDING A BACKYARD CHICKEN FLOCK

(StatePoint) About 20 years ago, chickens—long a staple of farms and homesteads—began showing up in urban and suburban yards. They enabled city dwellers to source homegrown food, provided a touch of nature amid the urban jungle, and have continued to rise in popularity ever since. According to the American Pet Products Association's 2025 State of the Industry report, 11 million U.S. households own backyard chickens, a 28% increase from 2023.

Caroline Komar-Steiner, a Team Lead at the Tractor Supply store in Antioch, Illinois, is a passionate chicken expert who regularly guides individuals into the world of chicken ownership. She and her husband have been raising poultry since 2018, and she

describes it as one of the most rewarding things she has ever done. "Raising those chicks and getting your first eggs is an 'eggperience' unlike any other," she said.

To ensure new chick owners can enjoy that experience, Komar-Steiner hosts regular Chickens 101 sessions at the store. The first thing she always tells people is to find out if their town or neighborhood allows chickens. Some have restrictions, so it's best to find that out on the front end. Then she asks them why they want chickens. Is it for their eggs? For meat? Will they be purely ornamental? "That steers me toward what they're looking for," Komar-Steiner said.

To help you get started, Komar-Steiner is sharing these basics for preparing for and caring for chickens:

1. Assess your space: Chicks need a temperature-controlled space until they are fully feathered, usually about six weeks. Komar-Steiner recommends finding a warm, draft-free area. She sets her brooder up in her basement. The chicks grow quickly, so it's important to determine where you'll put your coop and have it ready to go. The chickens will also need a heat source in winter to stay warm and prevent their water from freezing.

2. Get supplies, then chicks: It's a good idea to buy all your equipment and supplies before bringing chickens home. You'll need a brooder, shavings, heat lamps or brooder plates, a perch so

they can learn how to roost, a feeder and a waterer. Komar-Steiner recommends adding an electrolyte to the chicks' water to give them an extra edge. You'll also need chick grit, feed and a thermometer.

3. Remember, they are living things: People often get excited about the idea of a steady supply of eggs, but like all living things, chickens require care. Before leaving home for an extended time, make sure someone is available to check on their food and water, especially in winter and summer. And like other animals, chickens are at risk of getting sick. Tractor Supply carries a wide variety of products to support chicken health.

Even after having chickens for a time, customers still frequently have questions, especially when it comes to adding to their flock, which leads Komar-Steiner to a critical point. "It is imperative that you do not put baby chicks in with adult birds," she said.

Chickens view new animals as either food or intruders. Komar-Steiner's recommendation is to wait until they are large enough to hold their own, usually around three months. Additionally, introducing new adult birds requires an integration process.

With 30 chickens and five turkeys of her own, Caroline is an excellent resource for poultry advice, especially during Tractor Supply's annual Chick Days event. Customers can purchase baby birds in

CONTINUED PAGE 4



Weekly Specials
Mar 5 - 11

SAVE UP TO 75% ON SHORT DATE

- **Betty Crocker Loaded Casserole Potatoes**
\$2.00 Ea.
- **Hard Salami & Pepperoni**
2 for \$5.00
- **Chips Ahoy Baked Bites**
\$2.29 ea.

Outside Stand - CLOSED **Inside Store Open Mon - Sat**

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

We accept EBT and SNAP
609 E. 1st St. Warren
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.

Mar 4	Noon	W - Chamber of Commerce Luncheon @ KBC
Mar 4	7:00p	V - Town Council Meeting @ Town Hall
Mar 9	5:00p	W - Town Council Meeting @ Assembly Hall
Mar 10	6:30p	W - SSF Meeting @ KBC
Mar 16	6:30p	W - KBC Board Meeting @ KBC
Mar 17		ST PATRICK'S DAY
Mar 18	7:00p	V - Town Council Meeting @ Town Hall
Mar 20		FIRST DAY OF SPRING!!!!!!
Apr 1	Noon	W - Chamber of Commerce Luncheon @ KBC

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

Thank You!
Warren Law Enforcement
You Are Appreciated!

AREA NEWS CONTINUED

MORE PAGE 3
store and enjoy new products, new breeds and special offers until September 13. The products and insight to keep chickens happy and healthy are available year round at Tractor Supply and TractorSupply.com.

Before you build a backyard flock, get the equipment and know-how you need for successful chicken ownership.

WHAT YOUNG PEOPLE NEED TO KNOW ABOUT WORKPLACE

RETIREMENT SAVINGS

(StatePoint) Workplace retirement savings plans are an excellent way to invest in your future, and the earlier you start, the more opportunity your savings have to grow. Typically automated through payroll deductions, contributions to a plan like a 401(k) or 403(b) are tax-advantaged and easy to make.

Recent research by Edward Jones and Morning Consult shows that three in five Americans who have access to a workplace retirement plan contribute, however 59% of all Americans' employers do not offer one, leaving a gap in financial access and education at a critical entry point for investing. For local business owners – who are responsible for creating two out of every three new jobs in the U.S. economy, according to

the National Business Association – implementing retirement savings benefits can be challenging. Fortunately, new efforts are being made to support businesses of all sizes in helping their employees reach their financial goals.

“Edward Jones is in the process of expanding its retirement plan product shelf offered through our more than 20,000 financial advisors to include Nationwide and Voya. The firm has also invested in new technologies like Aboon, which streamlines retirement plan design and administration, and Addition Wealth, a digital financial wellness platform providing personalized financial education for clients. With our vast branch network in 68% of U.S. counties, we are well-positioned to serve small- to mid-size businesses in need of workplace solutions, and ultimately, their employees,” says Alyssa (Lysa) Harper, principal and head of the Workplace Segment at Edward Jones.

“Local business owners are the backbone of communities. We’re hopeful the investments we are making will meet more people where they are and offer more business owners and their employees the advice, products and education they need throughout their financial journey,” Harper adds.

If you are offered a workplace retirement plan, following these tips can help you make the most of it:

Start now. Savings can grow over time, making it valuable to start as early as you can – even if you’re decades away from retirement.

Start with the match. At a minimum, contribute enough to your employer’s retirement savings plan to earn your employer’s matching contribution, if one is offered. Ultimately though, you’ll want to develop a personalized goal, with saving 10% to 15% of your income being a great milestone to work toward.

Make progress. Consider increasing your savings rate by 1% each year. Some plans even offer an auto-escalation option, making this easy.

Leverage windfalls. Reserve a certain dollar amount or percent of future pay raises, bonuses or financial windfalls to go toward your retirement savings.

Get assistance. Fifty-two percent of Americans say advice from a financial advisor would make them more likely to participate in a workplace retirement plan, according to research from Edward Jones and Morning Consult. Reach out to a financial advisor who can review your situation and provide personalized recommendations for you.

A workplace retirement plan can be a key part of a retirement savings strategy. Fortunately, new solutions being offered to businesses of all sizes are expanding access to retirement savings plans to more working Americans.

about how to stay healthy without spending more than they planned.

With a few tips and tricks, staying healthy doesn’t have to be expensive. Here’s what you can do:

Shop ahead. Most people don’t think about cold and flu products until they actually need them. Stocking up ahead of time can help ensure quick access to relief while making it easier to take advantage of savings. Using coupons, price-saving apps and shopping for store promotions can help bring down the cost of everyday health essentials.

Choose generic and save. Store brand over-the-counter (OTC) products offer a more affordable option for common needs, including pain relief and cough and cold care.

Perrigo, a leading provider of store brand OTC products, makes trusted alternatives to name brands across key self-care categories, including ibuprofen, acetaminophen, cough suppressants, decongestants and multi-symptom relief. These store brand OTC products contain the same active ingredients and meet the same FDA standards as national name brands, but at a lower cost.

As health care costs continue to rise, consumers can opt for these store brand OTC products to save money without compromising on quality.

Stay active. Staying active doesn’t have to mean joining a luxury gym membership or having a complicated routine. Research published in the National Library of Medicine suggests that moderate amounts of exercise can help reduce stress and support immune function. Walking, running, free online workout classes or bodyweight exercises at home are all accessible ways to stay active throughout the season.

Adopt healthy habits. Small, everyday habits can also make a difference during cold and flu season. Washing your hands, staying hydrated and getting plenty of sleep are simple steps that support overall wellness and help reduce the risk of getting sick.

As consumers settle into their routines, combining smart shopping choices with healthy habits can help them feel prepared and more in control throughout cold and flu season.

To stock up on affordable store brand self-care and OTC products, stop by your local retailer.

Southern Wells Elementary 2026-2027 Kindergarten Registration Open House



April 7, 2026

3:30pm – 6:00pm

Enter door #20

Bring Birth Certificate & Proof of Residency

★ Students are encouraged to attend ★

★ Tours will be offered ★

★ Sign up for screenings held in May ★



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4 SMART TIPS TO SAVE MONEY AND STAY WELL THIS SEASON

(StatePoint) The beginning of the year is a natural time for a reset, especially when it comes to budgets and better-for-you habits. With cold and flu season still in full swing, it’s also a time when many people start thinking

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GENEALOGY REPORT

FINTON

Betty L. Finton, 86, of Huntington, passed away on Tuesday, Feb. 24, 2026, at Heritage Pointe of Warren.

She was a 1958 graduate of Huntington High School.

After high school, Betty attended beauty college.

During her career she spent several years working for Kmart before retiring from food service at Crestview Middle School, Huntington.

Betty was a member of Bippus Calvary Church.

She loved spending time with family and grandchildren.

Betty was born on June 14, 1939, in Huntington, a daughter of the late Russell and Mildred (Yeater) Baker.

She was united in marriage to Max Schenkel. He preceded her in death in May of 1970. She was then united in marriage to Charles "Bill" Finton on February 15, 1975, in Huntington. He preceded her in death on May 31, 2024.

Survivors include three daughters, Nancy (James) Truitt, of Huntington, Connie (David) Buzzard, of Huntington, and Suzette (Tom) Tallman, of Huntington; a sister, Judi Neuenschwander, of Bluffton; six grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her first husband and second husband.

A visitation will be on Tuesday, March 3, 2026, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Myers Funeral Home, Huntington Chapel, 2901 Guilford St., Huntington.

A funeral service will be on Tuesday, March 3, 2026, at 1 p.m. immediately following the visitation at Myers Funeral Home, Huntington Chapel, Huntington.

Interment will be at Calvary Cemetery, Bippus.

Memorial Donations can be made out to Bippus Calvary Church or to American Cancer Society in care of Myers Funeral Home, 2901 Guilford Street, Huntington, IN 46750.

PROBST

Pamela Sue Probst, 73, of Warren and formerly of Keystone, passed away on Tuesday, Feb. 24, 2026, at her residence.

Pam was born on Aug. 11, 1952, in Fort Wayne to Paul Ambrose and Freeda Kathryn (Shaffer) Kniffen. She was a 1970 graduate of Southside High School. She was one of the first paramedics in Wells County, and continued to work with Wells County for 22 years, along with serving as a volunteer firefighter. Pam facilitated training for new paramedics and worked as the jail nurse at the Wells County Sherriff's Department for many years.

Pam was lovingly known as "Mama" to all of the kids. Her house was always full of her daughters and their friends. She was a proud "MaMaw" to her grandkids and grandkids of love. Pam will be remembered as a loving wife, mother and a fierce advocate for others.

On Oct. 28, 1995, Pam and Tony Beck were married at Petroleum United Methodist Church. He preceded her in death on June 13, 2021.

Survivors include her daughters, Rachel Isley of North Manchester, Lyndsay (Luke) Smith of Warren and Lacey Probst of Carmel. She was a proud "MaMaw" to six grandchildren, Quinten Lee Darling of Warren, Abigail, Scarlett and Logan Zaklikiewicz of Hartford City, Lorelai O'Reilly of Poneto and Derek Rockwell of Poneto. She is also survived by her

sister, Patricia Vohlmerding of Fort Wayne.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Tony Beck and son-in-law, Adam Isley.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 3, 2026, at the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home, with her son-in-law, Luke Smith officiating.

Visitation will take place from 2 to 7 p.m. Monday, March 2, 2026, at the funeral home and for one hour prior to the service on Tuesday.

Memorials may be made to Wells County 4-H Association or American Cancer Society and may be directed through the funeral home.

MOATS

Jean Moats, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, passed away peacefully on February 25, 2026, after a courageous and long battle with Lewy body dementia.

Born on November 20, 1939, Jean lived a life rich in love, faith, service, and creativity. She was a woman of Christian faith whose vibrant spirit and sharp wit endeared her to all who knew her.

Jean's passion for music was evident throughout her life. She sang joyfully in church choirs and at times served as choir director, sharing her voice and leadership with her faith community.

In the 1970s, Jean broke barriers as the first female police officer in Kendallville, Indiana, demonstrating courage and resolve in spaces where women were not the norm. Her example of strength and competence shaped her children's understanding of leadership and perseverance. From law enforcement, Jean went on to build a successful career

in property management and residential real estate.

She embraced life with enthusiasm. Whether hosting unforgettable gatherings for family and friends, capturing beauty through her camera lens, or soaking in the warmth of the sun.

Jean loved sunsets, the beach, and the sunshine she found while living in Texas, Florida, and Colorado before returning home to Indiana in her final years to be close to her children and extended family.

In Colorado, her passion for photography flourished. She sold her award-winning photographs in boutique shops, served as President of her photography club, and participated in artisan markets throughout the Four Corners region of the western United States.

Jean is survived by her devoted husband, Roy Moats; her son, Erich Maxwell; her daughters, Susan Maxwell and Sarah Maxwell; five cherished grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Rev. Marion C. Brown and Rev. Hattie Bell Brown; her sisters, Dorothy Thomas (George), Doris Ann Millhouse (Lewis), and Helen Rogers (David); and her brothers, Harold (Hal) Brown (Lavonda) and Jerry Brown (Barbara).

A memorial service honoring Jean's life will be held in the spring.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly asks that donations be made in Jean's memory to support Lewy body dementia research, such as with the Lewy Body Dementia Association, which funds research to better understand, treat, and eventually cure this disease.

WYATT

Ruth P. Wyatt, 73, of Bluffton, passed away Thursday evening, Feb. 26, 2026, at I.U. Health — University Hospital in Indianapolis.

Ruth was born Sept. 7, 1952, in Norton, Virginia, to Jerald John Nockerts & Juanite (Fritz) Arnold. She attended Liberty Center Schools and worked at Keebler's in Bluffton for many years. She enjoyed bowling in local bowling leagues, camping and going on trips to local casinos! She attended the Liberty Center Baptist Church. Ruth was happiest in life just spending time with family!

Ruth married Gary L. Wyatt on Jan. 8, 1971, in Wells County. Gary preceded her in death on Sept. 18, 2002. She enjoyed spending time with her companion, Carl F. Haler of Bluffton.

Survivors include her children, Hope Worster of Bluffton, Justin Adam (Angela) Haler of Poneto, Sarah Grace Haler of Liberty Center, Douglas Fredrick Haler of Marion, Clarissa Sue Haler and Scarlett Ann (Josh) Premo, both of Bluffton.

She was a loving grandma to 14 grandchildren, Cooper Worster, Cohen Worster, Logan Haler, Andrew Haler, Cameron Haler, Shanda Bookmiller, Marlie Weaver, Nessa Weaver, Gunner Haler, Aurora Anderson, Kairi Van Hyfte, Namine Van Hyfte, Lucas Alexander Haler, Bailey Surbaugh and Elizabeth Premo.

She is also survived by a brother, Tommy Arnold of Virginia and Melody Fritz of Liberty Center and Lucas Fritz.

She is preceded in death by her parents; husband Gary; a grandson, Aiden

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GENEALOGY REPORT

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Nunley; brothers, Tim Arnold and Rickie Nockerts; and sister, Becky Burry.

Funeral services will take place at 10 a.m. Thursday, March 5, 2026, at the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton with Jeff Lemler officiating. Burial will follow at Mossburg Cemetery in Liberty Center.

Visitation will be held from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 4, 2026, at the funeral home and for one hour prior to the service on Thursday at the funeral home.

Memorials may be made in Ruth's memory to the Wells County Council on Aging for the Wells on Wheels Transportation Program.

LOFLAND

Sharon Kay Lofland, age 82, passed away peacefully Tuesday, March 3, 2026, at 6:35 am at Heritage Point of Warren surrounded with love and her family. The first-born child to Bernard Edward and Alma Mae (Correll) Lofland on July 21, 1943, in Huntington Indiana.

A loving mother and a proud grandmother, Sharon was known for her kindness and devotion towards others. She lived in Huntington her whole life, graduating from Huntington North High in 1961. Sharon enjoyed reading, playing euchre, gardening, knitting and traveling.

With her brother being in the Air Force she was fortunate to travel to Paris, Germany, Colorado, Wyoming and many other states to visit him and his family. She also enjoyed traveling to several islands with her church family. She worked at the Credit Bureau, Memcor and then Wabash Technologies as a sales secretary, retiring in March of 2008 after thirty-two years.

Sharon was a life member at the First Presbyterian Church in Huntington where she served as a Sunday school teacher, a Deacon and on Session. She was active in Job's Daughters for over twenty years and was a past Guardian of Bethel #27 in Huntington and served on the State Board for a year.

She's been an active member of Psi Iota Xi Sorority - Phi Chapter since 1962. She held every office in the chapter, including president of the chapter in 1968-1969, 2000-2001 and 2008-2010. She served on Psi Iota Xi Indiana State Board for six years and was the Indiana State President of Psi Iota Xi in 2014. Sharon was honored as the Psi Ote of the Year in 1984 and 2000. She enjoyed attending the National Conventions and State meetings for Psi Iota Xi Sorority.

She was active member of the Forks of the Wabash Pioneer Festival Steering committee for over forty years serving as chairman of the festival for many years and recently on the gate committee. Sharon was presented with the Arrowhead Award in 2007 by the Pioneer Festival Committee.

Sharon previously volunteered at Love, Inc., Friends of the Library book sale, and the Dan Quayle Museum.

She is survived by her daughter, Jennifer Kay (Paul) Scalf, grandchildren, Caleb Edward (Caitlyn) Mauger, Jacob Xander Scalf, Emma Kathleen Scalf and Cameron Michael (Megan) Mauger all of Huntington. Along with her siblings, Yvette Walter of Huntington, Leslie Foust of Niles Michigan, Tyler (Lorraine) Lofland of Cape Canaveral, FL, and Kirk (Patricia) Lofland of Belleville, IL,

brother-in-law, James Thrasher of Biloxi MS. As well as many nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Bernard and Alma Lofland, sisters, Sheila Wall and Marsha Thrasher, brothers-in-law Lynn Walter, Michael Wall, Lynn Foust and nephew, Christopher Thrasher.

Calling hours will be held on Sunday, March 8, 2026, from 1p.m. to 5 p.m., with a Psi Iota Xi Service at 4 p.m., at McElhaney Funeral Home, 715 N. Jefferson St., Huntington, IN.

Additional calling hours will be held on Monday, March 9, 2026, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. followed by the Funeral Service at 11:00 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 50 E. Tipton Street, Huntington, IN with Pastor Lyle Ewing and Pastor Scott Shaffer presiding.

Burial will be at Mt. Hope Cemetery, Huntington, IN.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to Forks of the Wabash Pioneer Festival, Psi Iota Xi Sorority or First Presbyterian Church in care of McElhaney Funeral Home, 715 N. Jefferson Street, Huntington, IN 46750.

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says. "There are so many retired people who still want to perform, stay active, and enjoy the camaraderie of theatre. This show gives them that chance, and the results have been inspiring."

The musical was adapted to suit the abilities of the older actors, which Zuk calls "perfectly designed for older performers."

"They've changed some of the staging and songs and we're not doing a whole lot of scene changes or costume changes," he says.

The performers also carry their scripts and can refer to them if needed.

"Everybody is the audience is like 'That's ok. We get it,'" says Zuk who's previously been in performance that use scripts.

Zuk says being part of a group working together toward a common goal is fun and energizing.

Staying active "is essential," he says. "Living at Heritage Pointe of Warren provides many opportunities to enjoy activities and social events as well as pursue new hobbies."

Zuk has noticed that other performers have a twinkle in their eye and a liveliness in their step as they rehearse.

"It just gives you a great deal of confidence that you can do something like this," he says.

He also appreciates that Heritage Pointe is letting the performers use their space for rehearsals and performances, which means that other residents will easily be able to attend.

"This will be as easy for them to attend the performance as it is for them to go down to the coffee shop at Heritage Pointe," he says.

The show is part of a new program from Music Theatre International designed specifically for senior and residential community casts. Heritage Pointe, described by the director as "a wonderful place, almost like its own community," proved the perfect partner.

He predicts that these productions will become an annual event at Heritage Pointe.

"The people, both the residents and the actors, are really going to appreciate it," he says. "They are going to ask for it."

A performance for residents of Heritage Pointe will take place at 2 p.m. on Thursday, March 5. Performances for the public are at 7 p.m. Friday, March 6 and 2 p.m. Saturday, March 7 in the chapel at Heritage Pointe.

For more information, go to the Pulse Opera House at Pulse Opera House – "Award Winning Theatre!"

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