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www.warrenweeklyindiana.com

# Warren Weekly

Your Hometown Newspaper

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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: Sometimes life is going to hit you in the head with a brick. Don't lose faith. Steve Jobs



### INTRODUCING ...

Welcome to Edgewater Mills of Warren, Indiana – where tradition meets innovation in the realm of animal nutrition. We are thrilled to announce that the mill at the river has transitioned to new ownership, ushering in a new era of excellence in feed products for your beloved livestock and pets, both domestic and exotic.

At Edgewater Mills, our passion for animals and agriculture is at the heart of everything we do. With a lifetime dedicated to farming and agriculture, we understand the importance of quality nutrition for livestock and domestic animals.

Allow us to introduce the dynamic duo at the helm of Edgewater Mills:

Maurice Cossairt, the esteemed owner, embodies a profound connection to the mill and its legacy. Descended from the original settlers of Warren, Indiana, Maurice's family played an integral role in establishing the town's first mill. His roots run deep, and his commitment to serving the community is unwavering.

Heading our team as General Manager is Amy Ward, a seasoned professional with a lifelong passion for agriculture. Amy's expertise stems from her ownership of Serenity Farm, a renowned cattle operation in East Central Indiana. Her dedication to excellence is evident in her Beef Quality Board Certification and her tireless advocacy for livestock welfare.

Together, Maurice and Amy lead a team dedicated to providing you with the highest quality feed products. At Edgewater Mills, we understand the importance of nutrition in ensuring the health and vitality of your animals. Whether you're a large-scale rancher or a backyard hobbyist, we are here to support you in achieving optimal results for your livestock and pets.

Thank you for choosing Edgewater Mills. We are honored to serve you and look forward to exceeding your expectations with our commitment to professionalism, quality, and care.

### PROGRAM TO HELP MANAGERS AND BUSINESS OWNERS BECOME AN 'EMPLOYER OF CHOICE'

In addition to the daily responsibilities of keeping a business running, managers also have to become human resource specialists in their quest to find and retain the best employees.

To help develop those skills, Purdue Extension in Huntington and Whitley Counties will offer the Becoming the Employer of Choice program on April 2, 3, and 4, 2024, from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the Whitley County 4-H Center, 680 West Squawbuck Road, Columbia City, IN. The program is a series, so participants would need to plan on attending all three sessions. The popular program, developed by the University of Wisconsin Extension, is designed to improve human resource skills through hands-on activities and interactive sessions.

"An issue identified across the board for businesses is the tight labor market and lack of skilled labor currently available," said John Woodmansee, Purdue Extension educator in Whitley County. "You have to objectively ask yourself what your strengths and weaknesses are as a manager, and if your farm or business is the kind of place where people want to work." Content will apply to managers of any size business, helping firms become employers of choice who can more effectively compete for the best available employees.

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### IFB CELEBRATES WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE

In honor of National Women's History Month, which recognizes the contribution of women in American history as well as their ongoing impact on society, Indiana Farm Bureau highlights the critical role female leaders play in agriculture.

According to the latest U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Agricultural Statistics Service's Farm Census from 2022, about one third of farmers in Indiana are women, touching over 28,000 farms equating to over 5.7 million acres of land in the state. According to the Purdue University College of Agriculture 2023 student demographics, female students continue to be in the majority, with 62% of undergraduate ag students being female.

A woman in ag doesn't mean they only work on the farm. Women also work in agribusiness, teach the next generation about the importance of ag, and use their voices to educate and raise awareness for agriculture.

One of those women is Janis Highley (pictured), of Huntington County, who serves as INFB 2nd vice president. Highley serves on the board of directors and chairs the INFB Women's Leadership Committee, which is dedicated to educating the public through programs and events. These activities provide women with a platform for leadership, political involvement and professional development.

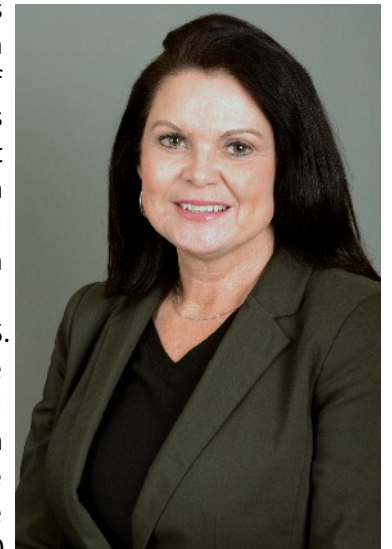
"The WLC is committed to helping women realize their potential in the ag industry and take advantage of leadership opportunities," said Highley. "We want to meet women wherever they may be in their leadership and advocacy journey."

While Highley didn't grow up on a farm, she was raised around agriculture in Warren, Indiana. Her grandparents were dairy farmers and her mother worked for a local fertilizer company.

"My mother showed me that there was a place for women in the ag industry – it was just normal to me," explained Highley. "So, when I was in high school and college, I knew I wanted to be involved in ag too."

After Highley got married and graduated from Huntington University with a degree in business management, she joined her husband's family farm where they produce corn and soybeans. They are fifth-generation farmers, along with their two sons who are the sixth-generation. Highley characterizes herself as a small farmer, as both she and her husband have always worked on and off the farm.

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Drop off your news and advertising for the Warren Weekly at Town Hall Downtown Warren

**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](http://www.warrenweeklyindiana.com) on the WW Forms tab.  
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 The publisher takes no responsibility for statements or claims made in any advertisement.

**Kudos, Kicks & Karats**



*Treva's*  
**Recipe Box**  
 by Treva Hemming

Today I was going through some recipes and came across one that was made by my sister-in-law Patty. She drove with her husband across the country delivering goods all over the USA. Bless her heart when she would come in off the road for a weekend, she would always call everyone in for supper, I mean all the family, and that's a lot of people. That's the last thing I would wanna do after being out for 2-3 weeks at a time, is to cook for everyone, but she did. We just had to bring the side dishes.  
 I miss her calls and would love to hear the " Hey we're home you wanna come in for supper?" Yep, what do you want me to bring? So I'll share with you what a lot of our meals were. They were pretty simple, mainly casserole, but when she made this, it was 2- 9x13 pans full. This is a small version of the casserole. When she made it, there was one with no onion or green pepper and the other had the onion and green pepper. Sometimes she would put in mixed veggies with it to make it stretch.

**QUICK TATER TOT BAKE A.K.A HAMBURGER**

**CASSEROLE**

- 1 lb hamburger
- 1 small onion
- salt and pepper to taste
- 1-16 oz bag of tater tots
- 1 can of cream of mushroom soup
- 2/3 c. milk or water
- 1 c. shredded cheddar cheese

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a large skillet, cook beef and onion and peppers, if using, over medium heat until meat is no longer pink, drain and season with salt and pepper  
 Transfer to a greased 2 qt baking dish. Top with tater tots. Combine soup and milk and pour over potatoes sprinkle with cheese. Bake 30-40 minutes or until heated through.

**Support the businesses who bring you your Hometown News!**

**Bolinger's Propane Service**  
 115 N Wayne St  
 Warren IN  
 260-375-4505

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

**TC**  
**CITIZENS TELEPHONE CORPORATION**  
 375-2111  
 "Your Hometown Connection Partner"

**Things You Can Find at**  
**WWW.WARRENWEEKLYINDIANA.COM**  
 \* Local Event Calendar \* Forms  
 \* Archives of past Warren Weekly's  
 \* Classified & Subscription Forms  
 \* Event Registration Forms

**ASBURY CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST**  
 8013W 1100S-90, Montpelier  
 Nick Miller, Pastor  
 Sunday School ..... 9:30 a.m.  
 Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.

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

**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.

**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 Gerald Moreland, Ginny Soultz & John Moyer  
 Sunday Morning Worship ..... 9:30 a.m.

**OTHER SERVICES BY ANNOUNCEMENT**  
 Monday thru Friday  
 Chapel Services ..... 9:00 a.m.

**WARREN 1st BAPTIST CHURCH**  
 727 N Wayne St, Warren  
 260-375-2811  
 office@warrenfirsbaptist.net  
 Pator Rusty Strickler  
 Youth Dir: Peter & Mindy Fairchild  
 Sunday School ..... 9:00 a.m.  
 Sunday Worship ..... 10:00 a.m.  
 Youth Group: Grades 5-12 ...Sun 11:30  
 Eklesia ..... Sun 6:30pm

**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.

**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  
 765.524.3390  
 Pastor Trevor O'Dell, Pastor  
 Sunday School ..... 9:30 a.m.  
 Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.  
 Wednesdays:  
 Bible Study & Prayer ..... 7:00 p.m.

**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 Time ..... 9:00a.m.  
 Morning Worship ..... 9:30 a.m.  
 Sunday School ..... 10:45 a.m.

**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.

**MT. ETNA COMMUNITY LIFE CHURCH**  
 260/468-2148 Sr 9 & 124  
 Rev. Michael Gallant - "Pastor Mike"  
 Good Morning Church (Sunday School for all ages ..... 9:00 - 9:45  
 Worship Service ..... 10:00 - 11:00  
 Everyone is Welcome

**SALAMONIE CHURCH OF BRETHREN**  
 468-2412  
 Mel Zumbrun, Pastor  
 Worship ..... 9:30 a.m.  
 Church School ..... 10:45a.m.

**FIRST 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  
 Fellowship ..... 9:15 a.m.  
 Worship & Communion ..... 9:30 a.m.  
 Sunday School ..... 11 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  
 765-934-3609  
 Pastor Al Soultz  
 Sunday Worship ..... 10:30 am  
 Sunday School Classes ..... 9:30 am  
 Sunday Adult Bible Study ..... 6:00 pm  
 Thurs. Bible Study ..... 7:00 pm



*Please Attend The Church of Your Choice*

# AREA NEWS

**MORE PAGE 1**

Attendees will gain effective and practical approaches to managing human resource challenges. The program consists of seven modules, addressing topics such as different leadership styles, developing skills to provide effective feedback, and learning ways to address and work through conflict.

The registration deadline is March 28, 2024. The registration form can be downloaded from the Purdue Extension - Whitley County website [www.extension.purdue.edu/whitley](http://www.extension.purdue.edu/whitley) or by contacting [jwoodman@purdue.edu](mailto:jwoodman@purdue.edu) or 260-244-7615. The cost is \$45 for the first registrant and \$10 per person for additional attendees from the same business or farm operation. The fee includes handouts, program resources, and snacks. If you have questions about this event, contact Ed Farris in Huntington County at [emfarris@purdue.edu](mailto:emfarris@purdue.edu), (260) 358-4826.

**BINGO FOR THE ARTS**

The LaFontaine Arts Council (LAC) is holding their first Bingo for the Arts fundraiser on April 9, 2024 at the Huntington PAL Event Center, located at 2099 Riverside Drive in Huntington Indiana. Doors open at 6:30 pm, with Bingo games beginning at 7:00 PM. There will be 15 rounds of bingo with prizes that include unique works of art in various mediums, special experiences, and cash prizes. There will also be raffles running throughout the evening. Wine and Beer along with other beverages and snacks will be available for sale during the event. This event is for 21+.

Tickets are available for presale online at <https://lafontaine-arts-council-inc.square.site/> at a discounted price of \$35 per person and include one game pack. Tickets will be \$40 at the door. Table sponsorships are also available for presale \$300 and include 10 tickets.

All proceeds from Bingo for the Arts will go directly back into arts in education and community arts programming. The LaFontaine Arts Council has been providing Arts in Education programming to the Huntington County Schools for over 30 years. Currently the council is funding programs including the Fort Wayne Philharmonic, Young Artist Awards, along with Grant and Scholarship programs. The LAC Board of Directors meets every fourth Tuesday at 6 pm and board meetings are open to the public. For more information, reach out to [lafontaineartscouncil@gmail.com](mailto:lafontaineartscouncil@gmail.com) or visit their web site at [www.lafontaineartscouncil.org](http://www.lafontaineartscouncil.org).

**SUMMER TRAINING FOR EDUCATORS**

The Indiana Arts Commission (IAC) announced today the opening of registration for the 2024 Summer Institute for Creative Teaching. The Summer Institute for Creative Teaching began in 2023 and is a partnership with the Indiana Department of Education.

The Summer Institute for Creative Teaching is a three-day, in-person learning experience for Indiana educators. Through hands-on experience and collaboration with peers, participants will learn effective and

innovative teaching strategies to implement in their classrooms. The Summer Institute will include engaging artistic activities and opportunities to explore how creative teaching can enhance curriculum and will take place July 10-12, 2024, at the Herman B. Wells Community Center at Lebanon High School.

The conference is designed for both classroom educators who are interested in trying new creative activities and learning how to apply them to their curriculum, as well as arts education programming staff at arts organizations who want to connect with peers and learn new strategies in arts learning.

The conference registration fee is \$75, which includes three days of enriching activities, carefully designed professional development experiences, all materials and supplies, and meals including two lunches and two breakfasts. After May 1, the fee increases to \$110. Scholarships are available for educators to attend at a partially or fully reduced rate.

"Teachers who participated in last year's Summer Institute told us it was one of the most engaging and beneficial training experiences they have completed," said Stephanie Haines, Arts Education and Accessibility Manager for the

IAC. "Educators appreciated the opportunity to dive into creativity in a big way, network with other teachers, and connect with resources that support their classrooms.

We're so grateful for the partnership with the Department of Education that allows us to offer this opportunity."

Registration for the Summer Institute is open now and will remain open until May 15, 2024.

**HIGH SCHOOLERS INVITED**

Registration is open for Northwood University's Learning About Business (LAB) Week, an immersive camp designed to nurture innovation and entrepreneurship in young aspiring individuals.

Scheduled from June 23-28, 2024, the camp will be hosted on the university's campus in Midland, Michigan.

"This week-long experience is an exceptional chance for high school students to delve into their entrepreneurial capabilities and acquire essential skills for their future achievements," stated LAB Week Director Patrick McElgunn, an entrepreneur who also runs the NU Idea Center in downtown Midland. "Our program delivers a concentrated learning environment, blending practical experience, mentorship, and collaborative teamwork."

During LAB Week, participants will engage in a range of interactive activities and workshops, led by

seasoned professionals and faculty members from Northwood University. Through engaging lectures, real-world case studies, and practical exercises, students will develop essential skills such as critical thinking, problem-solving, communication, and leadership.

One of the highlights of LAB Week is the "Shark Tank" event. Throughout the week, participants will work in teams to create a company that seeks to solve a real-world problem and develop an innovative solution. At the end of the week, each team will pitch their start-up idea to a panel of industry experts, who will provide feedback and select a winning proposal just like on TV!

LAB Week attendees will be able to network with successful entrepreneurs, forming connections with industry leaders that can prove to be invaluable as they navigate their future academic and professional endeavors. Moreover, students will gain insight into Northwood University's renowned entrepreneurship programs and learn about resources that are available to aspiring entrepreneurs.

"We are thrilled to offer a stage for youthful individuals to unleash their entrepreneurial drive," McElgunn stated. "Our goal is to empower these students by furnishing them with

**CONTINUED PAGE 4**



**Weekly Specials  
Mar 7 - 13**

**STRETCH YOUR FOOD \$\$\$ HERE**

- **Tyson All Natural Whole Chicken**  
*Save at \$1.19 lb*
- **Honey Sticks**  
*4 for \$1.00*
- **Twizzlers - 1 lb bag**  
*Save at 2 for \$1.00*

Outside Stand Closed for Season    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

We accept EBT and SNAP

**609 E. 1st St. Warren**

**[www.jeffsfarmmarket.com](http://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 6	Noon	W - Chamber of Commerce Luncheon @ KBC
Mar 6	7:00p	VB - Town Council Meeting @ Town Hall
Mar 11	6:00p	W Town Council Meeting @ Assembly Hall
Mar 12	6:30p	W - SSF Meeting @ KBC
Mar 17		ST PATRICK'S DAY - Wear your Green!
Mar 18	6:30p	W - KBC Board Meeting @ KBC
Mar 20		FIRST DAY OF SPRING!!!!
Mar 20	7:00p	VB - Town Council Meeting @ Town Hall
Mar 31		EASTER

**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](http://www.warrenweeklyindiana.com)**

## AREA NEWS CONTINUED

**MORE PAGE 3**

essential skills and a proactive mindset, enabling them to make a constructive difference in their communities and beyond."

LAB Week is open to high school students entering grades 9-12. The program is limited to 56 participants to ensure a personalized and immersive experience. Interested students are encouraged to apply early to secure their spot. The deadline to apply is May 12.

For more information about LAB Week and the application process, visit <https://www.northwood.edu/lab>, or contact Patrick McElgunn at (989) 837-4479 or [mcelgunn@northwood.edu](mailto:mcelgunn@northwood.edu).

**MACKINAC ISLAND & AGAWA CANYON TRIP DAY 6**

by Larry Ryan

The alarm clock made crazy, wake-up noises at 6:30 am. It was our last day on this bus trip. The breakfast buffet opened at 7 am. Luggage was required at 8 am to be loaded in the bus storage area. Our two suitcases were set aside to be added last so John, the bus driver would have them at the first, drop off location; our home. He had been driving for fifty years and handled baggage effortlessly.

The bus left the Bavarian Inn Lodge at 8:45 and arrived shortly at Bronner's Christmas Store in Frankenmuth. It claims to be the largest Christmas venue in the world. I believe it! The store opening was a 10 minute wait. I could have slept in another 10 minutes. We were informed that two million people visit here every year. We were amazed at the vast array of items on display in this huge building. Considering that we are not conventional shoppers, a few Christmas gifts were purchased however.

At 10:45 the bus departed for downtown Frankenmuth. More shopping! We held ourselves to a discipline of window shopping only this time. The day was sunny. For

lunch our selection was outdoor dining at "T. Dub's." We ordered a Reuben sandwich and a Cracked U. P. Burger. The meal was accompanied with a pickle spear and thick, crinkled potato chips. The leftovers journeyed back to the bus. These carry home containers were offered to other passengers who had waited 45, non-served, minutes at their restaurant. They declined. Maybe they had disillusion about the prospect of a Cracked U. P. Burger!

As the bus motored out of Frankenmuth at 1:40 pm, it passed a German Sausage & Meat market and a front yard filled with bright, orange pumpkins and yellow squash. After passing the Comet Diner, we were back on I-75 and heading south towards Flint. An unusual sight was a white Cadillac with its back bumper anchored with a bungee cord. Next, I spotted the first "White Castle" sign. We passed a Herbruck Poultry truck with its side painted, "Where Eggs Happen."

By 4 pm the bus was back in Indiana and passed Lake James before seeing Blackburn signs again. A group picture was taken at the rest stop in front of an "Indiana Welcomes You" sign. The driver delivered us to our front door. Wow!

**HISTORY MATTERS**

by John Grimaldi & David Bruce Smith

March 1 to 15  
In February 1692, two girls from Salem, Massachusetts took ill, and a local doctor surmised they were suffering from the effects of witchcraft. The following month, Sarah Goode, Sarah Osborne and Tituba, a slave from Barbados - professed to be the cause of the nascent epidemic.

According to History.com, "with encouragement from a number of adults in the community, the girls, who were soon joined by other 'afflicted' Salem residents, accused a widening circle of local residents of witchcraft, mostly middle-aged women

but also several men and even one four-year-old child. During the next few months, afflicted area residents incriminated more than 150 women and men from Salem Village and the surrounding areas of Satanic practices."

For more about the witches of Salem, the Grateful American Book Prize recommends *A Break with Charity: A Story about the Salem Witch Trials* Ann Rinaldi.

###

In March of 1876 - three days after receiving his patent - Alexander Graham Bell made the world's first telephone call to his assistant, Thomas Watson.

According to History.com, Bell emigrated to the United States in 1871. Then, he "went to Boston to demonstrate his father's method of teaching speech to the deaf. The next year, he opened a school in Boston for training teachers of the deaf ... In his free time, Bell experimented with sound waves and became convinced that it would be possible to transmit speech over a telegraph-like system. He enlisted the aid of a gifted mechanic, Thomas Watson ... the two spent countless nights trying to convert Bell's ideas into practical form to transmit speech vibrations electrically between two receivers. In June 1875 [he] tested [the] invention."

Now, American processes approximately 2.4 billion cellphone-based calls each

day; 27% come from landlines.

For more information, The Grateful American Book Prize recommends *Reluctant Genius: The Passionate Life and Inventive Mind of Alexander Graham Bell* by Charlotte Gray.

###

America's first baseball pro-Harry Wright - started as a cricket player. On March 15, 1869, he organized--and played for the Cincinnati Red Stockings, the first professional baseball team.

According to History.com, "the Red Stockings finished the season with a 57-0 record -- 64-0 with exhibitions included. Baseball was still in the underhand-pitch iteration ... so the team routinely scored dozens of runs in games. The Red Stockings defeated the Buckeyes of Cincinnati ... Wright, given roughly \$10,000 to assemble the best team money could buy, signed his younger brother, George, to a team-high \$1,400 salary." [\$31,748,78 in 2024 dollars].

The Grateful American Book Prize recommends Stephen D. Guschov's *The Red Stockings of Cincinnati: Base Ball's First All-Professional Team and Its Historic 1869 and 1870 Seasons*.

A feature courtesy of The Grateful American Book Prize - Showing our children that

their past is a prelude to their future.

**HELPING INFANTS, TODDLERS AND FAMILIES THRIVE**

(StatePoint) A bipartisan package that recently passed in the U.S. House of Representatives, would expand the child tax credit (CTC). As the Senate decides whether to follow suit, advocates press that the CTC is a critical policy vehicle to help all infants, toddlers and their families thrive, and it should be implemented as soon as possible.

"Uplifting children out of poverty gives them better chances in life, so it's critical that families advocate for CTCs, as well as understand how they work," says Jacob Pinney-Johnson, trainer with the Early Childhood Investment Corporations, National Center for Family and Parent. "For families like mine that have struggled to make ends meet, a child tax credit will make all the difference in helping them feed, clothe and house their child."

Studies show that inadequate housing, food insecurity and familial stress during the first three years of a child's life pose risks to their rapidly developing

**CONTINUED PAGE 6**

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## GENEALOGY REPORT

### LYONS

Antoinette "Toni" A. Lyons, 85, of Marion, passed away at her home with her family by her side on Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2024.

She was born on July 30, 1938, in Marion to Leroy and Evelyn G. (Tarr) Hosier.

Toni graduated from Hartford City High School in 1956 and continued her education at Ball State University, Muncie.

She married Forrest Dean Lyons Jr. on May 25, 1958. He preceded her in death on May 13, 2009.

Toni was an accomplished bowler. Her averages were between 174 and 180.

She and her husband, Forrest, owned and operated "Lyons Uniforms" in Marion, which started in 1990 until 2010.

Toni enjoyed history and genealogy, reading, gardening, decorating and anything to do with horses. If it had to do with horses, she loved it.

She loved to spend her time shopping and with her family.

Loving survivors include her children, Tracy (Gary) Massard, of Corydon, Steve (Rita) Lyons, of Marion, Kevin (Cathy) Lyons, of Marion, and Andy Lyons (Barbara Kelly), of Marion, grandchildren, Anne (Shawn) Hacker, Andrew "Mitch" (Amanda) Massard, Nichole (Donnie) Lunsford, Joshua (Kate) Lyons, Kayla Korporal, Darroll "Cale" Korporal, Zachary (Lindsay) Lyons, Sara (Nolan) Honeycutt, Matthew Lyons and Noah Lyons; 16 great-grandchildren.

Toni was preceded in death by her parents, Leroy Hosier and Evelyn G. (Tarr) Patanelli, and her husband, Forrest Dean Lyons Jr.

Friends and family may gather to share and remember on Monday, Feb. 5, 2024, at Van Buren Church of the Vine Fellowship Hall, 108 S. Second St., Van Buren, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

A funeral service will begin at 1 p.m. with Pastor Terry Bishir officiating.

Burial will follow next to her husband at Grant Memorial Park Cemetery, Marion.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to Liberty Baptist Church, Missions, 517 Church St., Marion, IN 46952 or Fellowship Baptist Church, Missions, 2040 Corydon Ramsey Rd., Corydon, IN 47112.

### KLEFEKER

Bruce D. Klefeker, 71, of Bluffton, died Tuesday evening, Feb. 13, 2024, at his residence.

Bruce was born in Bluffton on Feb. 1, 1953, to Walter R. and A. Diane (Meadows) Klefeker-Enyart. Both parents preceded him in death.

Survivors include two sons, Justin (Sam) Klefeker of Fairfield, Ohio, and Ryan Klefeker of Carmel; two brothers, Walter (Teri) Klefeker Jr. of Ossian, and Doug (Tammy) Klefeker of Keystone; a sister, Diana (Dave) Collins of Liberty Center; along with five grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, Bruce was preceded in death by a son, Aaron Klefeker; and a brother, Steve Klefeker.

A public graveside service will be held Saturday, Mar. 9, 2024, at 11:00 a.m., at Grove Cemetery, 5200 S. 100 E., Poneto, IN. Goodwin - Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel in Bluffton has been entrusted with the arrangements.

### KELLAM

Janice E. Kellam, 84 of Mt. Etna, Indiana, entered her eternal home with Jesus, on Saturday, February 24, 2024.

Janice was born on June 30, 1939, to Hurshel B. and Anna A. (Butler) Hethcote. She was born in Rock Creek Twp., Huntington County and treasured her eventful childhood with 9 older siblings. Janice attended Andrews High School and married Jon Kellam on June 30, 1956, in Andrews. Janice and Jon were converted in Christianity on February 23, 1958 and started singing in a



little country church together. The Lord blessed their union with a son, Rick, a daughter, Cindy, and a son, Tom.

The Kellam family started traveling across the county in 1968, spreading the Gospel-in-Song, praising, and honoring the Lord Jesus Christ. The Kellam family would go on to travel for over 50 years, singing at many churches and events all across the US. It brought Janice great joy to share her testimony with others, where she touched many lives, and encouraged people to bring Jesus into their hearts. She was very dedicated to the ministry of singing, and was determined to pass her love of the Lord and music onto her children and grandchildren. Janice loved taking care of her family, cooking big meals, gardening and mowing. Her favorite verse was Proverbs 3: 5-6. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will direct your path."

Janice was preceded in death by her parents, Hurshel and Anna Hethcote, and siblings, Hurshel Hethcote Jr., Merrill Hethcote, Max Hethcote, Merritt Hethcote, Claude Dea Hethcote, Wanda Hunnicutt, Melba Milar, Anna Belle Friend, and Arliss Jean Drabenstot.

Loving survivors include her husband, Jon Kellam of Mt. Etna, children, Rick (Carol Myers) Kellam, Cindy (Rick) Elliott and Tom (Stacy) Kellam, 6 grandchildren, and 7 great grandchildren.

Friends and family may gather to share and remember at Healing Waters Ministry, located in Mt. Etna (For GPS directions, use address 5811 W 606 S Huntington, IN 46750) on Friday, March 1, 2024, from 5pm to 7pm and again on Saturday, March 2, 2024, from 11am to 12pm. The funeral service will begin at 12pm Saturday. Burial will follow at Mt. Etna Cemetery.

Janice's family would like to send special thanks to Parkview Hospice for their compassionate care and kindness.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to: Gilead Ministries, 212 N Baldwin Ave. P.O. Box 134 Marion, IN 46952.

### STRINE

Doug Strine, 65, of Hartford City, passed away unexpectedly of heart-related complications at his home on Wednesday evening, Feb. 28, 2024.

He was born in Hartford City on December 20, 1958, to the late John Allen and Norma J. (Darnell) Strine.

Doug graduated from Blackford High School, Hartford City, Class of 1977.

He married the love of his life, Rebecca K. "Becky" (Whitesell) Strine, on May 20, 1995.

They enjoyed traveling the world together, having their weekend breakfast dates and just simply spending time together.

Doug was a faithful employee for many years for Blackford School System, where he worked in the maintenance department.

The highlight of his time working was driving the school bus. He enjoyed the children.

Doug enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren.

He also enjoyed watching football and NASCAR.

Doug took pride in making his yard look nice, with mowing being a favorite past-time.

In addition to his wife of 29 years, Becky, he leaves behind seven children, Dathen (Julie) Strine, Brandy (Doug) Tibbs, Joe (Keisha) Barkdull, Kristy Hedge (Ryan), Josh (Ashley) Barkdull, Misty Barkdull (Warren) and Gavin (Tarick) Strine; 22 grandchildren; one great-grandchild; several nieces and nephews.

Additionally, Doug is survived by his brother, Steve (Amy) Strine; his sister, Nancy (Gary) Soultz; as well

as aunts, uncles and cousins locally.

He is preceded in death by his father on November 7, 2010, his mother on April 12, 2022, and grandparents, John and Daisy H. (Cheney) Strine and Wretha Darnell.

Services will be at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 5, 2024, in Waters Funeral Home, 501 W. Washington St., Hartford City, with Pastor Mark Wilkerson presiding.

Burial will follow at Eaton Union Cemetery.

Visitation for friends and family will be from 4 to 7 p.m. on Monday, March 4, 2024, and after noon on Tuesday at the funeral home.

Memorials may be made to Blackford County Community Foundation to help establish a scholarship in Doug's name. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home.

### DARNELL

Ruby B. Darnell, 97, of Marion, met her Lord and Savior at 8:40 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 29, 2024, at Rolling Meadows Health & Rehabilitation Center, LaFontaine.

She was born in Arkansas on Sunday, Aug. 22, 1926, to Frank and Willie (Reynolds) Becker.

Ruby married the Rev. Edward "Dutch" J. Darnell on December 30, 1944, and he preceded her in death.

She was a homemaker throughout her life.

Ruby was a loving and faithful wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

Being the wife of a minister, she was faithful to be by her husband throughout his time in the ministry, supporting him in any way she could.

Ruby loved quilting.

She also enjoyed fishing and gardening, which were two great passions of hers.

Survivors include her daughter, Judy A. (Glenn) Murphree, of Marion; granddaughters, Kellie (Timothy) Stoffel, of Roanoke, and Stefanie (Mark) Goodman, of Marion; great-grandchildren, Asher,

**CONTINUED PAGE 6**

# AREA NEWS CONTINUED

**MORE PAGE 5**

Spencer and Isaiah; brothers, Kennard (Doris) Becker, of Marion. and Earl (Nancy) Becker, of Warren.

Ruby also was preceded in death by her parents, brothers, Otto Becker and James Becker, sisters, Opal Collier, Fayrene Edgemon, Ruth Young and Evaleen Smallwood, and son-in-law, Richard Speicher.

The family will receive visitors from 10 to 11 a.m. on Monday, March 4, 2024, at Needham-Storey-Wampner Funeral & Cremation Service, North Chapel, 1341 N. Baldwin Ave., Marion.

Immediately following the time of visitation, a service to celebrate Ruby's life will begin at 11 a.m.

Burial will take place at Grant Memorial Park Cemetery, Marion.

Memorial contributions may be directed to Gideons International, P.O. Box 773, Marion, IN 46952 and Alzheimer's Association, 50 E. 91st St., Ste. 100, Indianapolis, IN 46240.

The family would like to express their deepest appreciation to the staff at Rolling Meadows, and especially to those on Loretta's lane, for the care they gave to Ruby.

**SHOOK**

Michael G. "Bub" Shook Jr., 54, of Marion, IN, passed away at 8:38 AM on Thursday, February 29, 2024 at his residence in Marion, IN.



He was born on Saturday, February 28, 1970, in Marion, IN. Mike was a 1988 graduate of Eastbrook High School. He was a member of the Van Buren United Methodist Church and also active at the Hanfield United Methodist Church. After graduation he joined his father in the family business at Amex Tool in Marion, IN. where he became a skilled Tool & Die maker. Mike loved the outdoors, enjoyed hunting, and collecting arrowheads.

He loved sports, especially the Indiana Hoosiers and Chicago Cubs. He enjoyed antiquing and coaching his kids' sports teams. Mike will be remembered most for his big heart for others.

He will be sadly missed by his Mother - Dianne (Fincannon) Shook, Ft. Wayne, IN, Former Wife - Sheryl Brankle, Daughter - Sydney (Ryne) Menefee, Greensburg, IN, Son - Joshua (Vicki) Shook, Ft. Wayne, IN, Daughter - Sierra (Nick) King, Bluffton, IN, Grandchildren - Eliana & Easton King, Brooks Menefee, Rowan & Rhett Shook, Sister - Tracie (Curt) Greene, Nephews - Justin, Jared, and Jordan Greene, Aunts - Angie Fincannon, Barbara Love, and Pat (Terry) Swagger, Uncle - Robert (Shirley) Fincannon, and several Cousins.

He was preceded in death by his Father - Michael G. Shook, Sr. He was also preceded in death by his Grandparents- Robert G. & Helen Fincannon, Herman & Irene Shook, and Uncle Michael Fincannon.

There will be a private memorial service for the family.

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**MORE PAGE 4**

brain and body. These effects can have long-lasting impacts, impairing their ability to be healthy and thrive in adulthood.

If the House version of the federal CTC goes fully into effect, roughly 16 million children under age 17 will benefit in the first year, including nearly 3 million infants and toddlers, according to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. While more modest than the 2021 credit, the measure would lift hundreds of thousands of children above the poverty line in the first year, and include further increases in 2025, along with inflation adjustments in future years.

Given these figures, it's no surprise that the measure is popular with parents across the political spectrum. In a November 2022 poll by the nonprofit Zero to Three, an overwhelming 85% of parents said it's important for Congress to reinstate Child Tax Credit reforms.

The National Collaborative for Infants & Toddlers, or NCIT, an education and advocacy movement committed to ensuring that children prenatal to 3 years old and their families have what they need to thrive, along with thousands of aligned organizations, is supporting strong CTCs that don't simultaneously exclude many families with onerous restrictions. To learn more, visit <https://www.ncit.org/CTC>.

Advocates stress that federal CTCs are critical, but state governments have a role as well. States can institute their own CTCs to help infants, toddlers and their families thrive now.

**MORE PAGE 1**

While Highley drove the grain cart on the farm, she also worked at the fertilizer plant in the spring and the grain elevator plant in the fall.

"I have always had an off-farm job in the agribusiness space and then been able to farm in the evenings and on weekends," said Highley. "I'm proud to be able to balance those two things and do it successfully."

Once her kids were grown, Highley started at Strategic Grain Hedge as a grain analyst assistant where she helps farmers and agribusinesses protect their bottom line through grain sales and hedges on the Chicago Board of Trade.

That is also when Highley became more involved in the Indiana Corn Marketing Council and INFB, where she served at the county level as a PR coordinator and then as District 4 education and outreach coordinator, representing members in Adams, Blackford, Grant, Howard, Huntington, Jay, Miami, Tipton, Wabash and Wells counties. In December 2023, she was elected INFB 2nd vice president.

"My passion is helping farmers," explained Highley. "And this position gives me a platform to do that through advocating and educating about important issues within the industry."

Highley wants other women to know that you don't have to grow up on a farm or rural community to be a part of the ag world.

"Don't get hung up on where you live or your gender - if you have the passion for ag, you can make connections in the community and open doors to new opportunities."

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