

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

Thought for the Week: By desiring little, a poor man makes himself rich. Democritus

VIRTUAL WORKSHOP

The Purdue Extension Succession Planning Team is hosting the virtual workshop, "Succession Planning Transferring the Farm's Legacy," for individuals seeking advice as they look ahead with transferring their family businesses to the next generation.

"Many families strive to have a good succession process in place. Setting goals, seeking legal advice, and considering dynamics are family all important aspects," said Ed Purdue Extension Farris, Educator in Huntington Co., POPCORN PARADE who is a member of the As is our tradition, we will Purdue Extension Succession Planning Team. "This program parade!! Get your spot early is designed to help families because the streets fill up stay focused in their planning fast!!! Make sure to bring a decisions."

virtual workshop will be always lots of candy and Tuesday Aug. 20 (Noon to 1 p.m. EST), Wednesday Aug 21 (Noon to 1 p.m. EST), and Thursday Aug. 22 (11 a.m. – 1 chair at 765-661-9197 or go to p.m. EST). Note the earlier start time on Thursday Aug. en.org to download a parade 22 as the series concludes form! with an attorney presentation.

The series will offer the WORSHIP FESTIVAL following presentations from Purdue Extension Educators and Specialists along with attorneys:

- August 20, 2024, 12:00 p.m. p.m. 1:00 "Management Transfer Speakers: Nick Held and Kyle Weaver

- 1:00 p.m. (EST), "Financial Preparedness" - Speakers: Michael Langemeier and Ed Farris

- 1:00 p.m. (EST), "Conflict Management " - Speakers: Phil Woolery and Renee Wiatt and Considerations "Legal for

Structuring Your Eagle, Attorneys, Eagle and Worship. Fein, P.C.

program series the https://cvent.me/NE0BQg email address. Zoom Links to event, Black Creek Contracting, kids. the programs will be sent to registered participants prior Appliance, Heritage Pointe of to the programs. Registration Warren, Neff Realty, Perry Club questions can be answered by Lambs, Son-Rise Bakery, and contacting Jeff Pell jpell@purdue.edu or 317-745-9260.

begin the festival with the bag for the kids and maybe The three-session lunchtime one for you because there is POPCORN handed out!

> If you want to be part of the parade contact our parade www.popcornfestivalofvanbur

Southern Wells Community Church is organizing a worship music festival to be held at the Riverside Park on August 4th from 4-9 PM. The Overflow (EST), Worship Festival will have four different contemporary worship groups from the Warren Church of Christ, - August 21, 2024, 12:00 p.m. Lighthouse Church, Faith Community Church of God, and SWCC Worship, who each will play for one hour. In the 15 minutes between musical - August 22, 2024, 11:00 a.m. sets, there will be someone giving a testimony of how God has impacted their life.

> Schedule will be: 4:00 pm Warren Church of Christ, 5:15

Farm pm Lighthouse Church, 6:30 every night before heading Succession Plan" - Speakers: pm Faith Community Church out of town to make sure I Scott Linneweber and Brian of God, 7:45 pm SWCC was home safe. I know Rob

Make sure to bring a lawn Participants can register for chair and some money for at food as there will be a food . truck available. Special thank Deweese Soft Water & at Warren Pharmacy.

2024 SEASON ENDS

& The Warren Baseball Softball Kid's Leagues finished up the season with the last championship on July 8th. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Town of Warren for the use of the facilities, and to Town Council for their continued support. I would also like to thank all our sponsors, coaches, umpires, Solid Rock Concessions, the Haggerty's for the nice new scoreboards. Players and fans for another exciting year with the WBSL. Shout out to Dustin Fortney for everything he does at the park, which was a lot this year. Also, to Kenny Bennett and his wife for helping with the fields, and to Laura Mossburg-Wiles, James Loftis, and Jessica Stucky for helping out running the League and being there for me and the kids of the WBSL - not to mention putting on the tribute for Rob, along with Cassie Staley and her girls Autumn and Madysen that was a very big success. Huge shout-out to Rod Sprinkle and his twins Jarrod and Jacob - there were not only here every night to umpire - carrying stuff to and from the car, shutting things down and driving by my house

was looking down on all the Shoppe. Sprinkles who we have known forever and appreciating them all looking out for me.

Special thanks to the parents

The Adult Co-Ed Softball League starts on July 30th and struggle will play on Tuesdays and Wednesdays every week until tourney. The schedule will be posted on the Facebook page in the next few days. So come the ball park but from the out and watch some more entire Town of Warren, and I games.

are as follows:

13) - 1st place Reber's Repair, 2nd place DeWeese Softwater.

Junior Girls Softball (7-12) -1st place Coach's Connection, 2nd place Century 21 Property

Senior Girls Softball (13-17) -1st place Lee Farms, 2nd place Citizen's Telephone

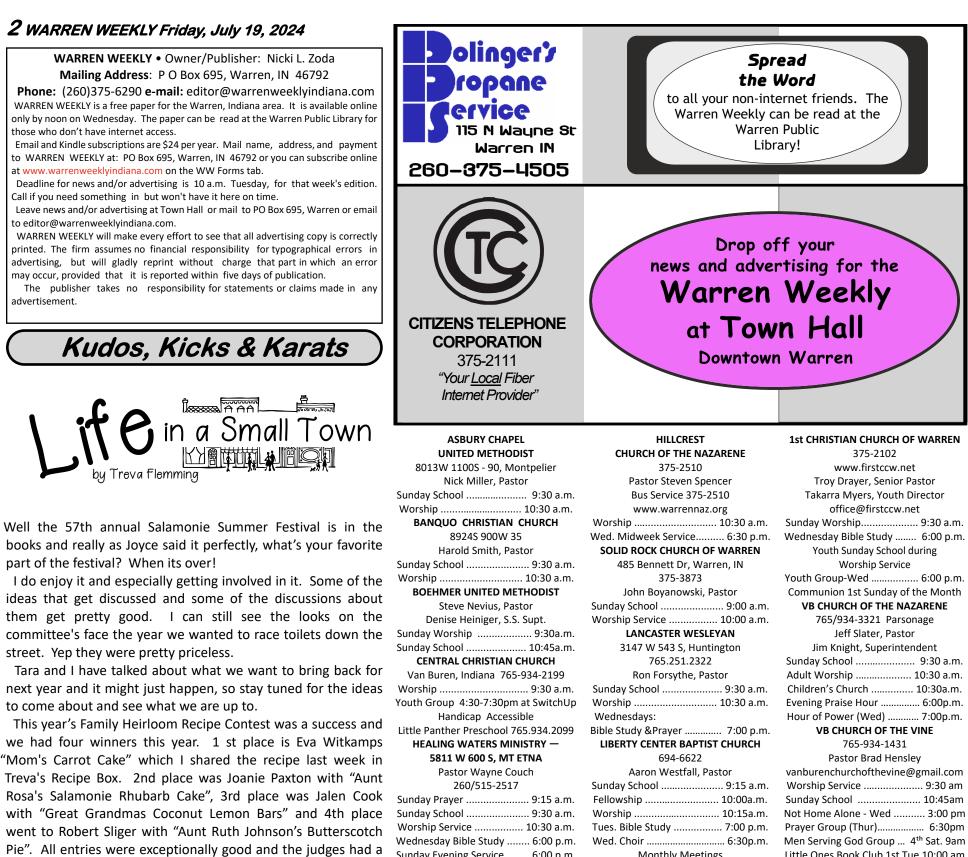
Pony League (14-17) - 1st The program fee is \$40.00 per you to the sponsors of this for allowing us to coach your place HyLine Int's, 2nd place Saturn Wheel.

> This year was definitely a me with for everything that happened in my family and I am so grateful for all the love and support I received. Support not only at will never forget that! My life WBSL Kid's Tourney winner will never be the same, but I was thankful for the league to American Little League (7-10) keep me busy. The league for · 1st place Scuffle Creek Angus, me is a 10 month thing every 2nd place Roush Family Farms. season (starts Feb 1st until National Little League (10- end of October) and I have no

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Operation Back to School is back! This program provides financial assistance to Indiana veteran families experiencing financial difficulty, offering \$500 per qualified dependent for back-to-school supplies and other school-related expenses. Families can begin applying on July 15. The application period closes on August 30.



those who stopped by to see the winning recipes. The history behind these recipes were wonderful. So now we are moving on to 4-H and State Fair week and I'm ready to get this show on the road, then it's wedding week and it is coming quick, or should I say quicker than I want it to. Lots of things to do yet but it's coming together good, now if it goes off without a hitch we are good. The only thing that is getting

hard time picking a winner. Thank you all for entering and to

off without a hitch we are good. The only thing that is getting hitched up is one the daughter and two the horse and buggy she is riding in on. lol John is going back to the doctor for his check up on his neck

and with hopes he gets rid of the brace and starts the therapy soon. His restrictions are getting to be a little annoying for him, he has things to do and I have things for him to do too!! lol I do not want to push him. I want this to heal properly and that's his opinion too but he is getting pretty yancy.

Well better get moving. I still got some things to do before I start my week and hopefully I will get them done. Have a great week and say a little prayer I get those pretty ribbons at the fair!!!



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 Ginny Soultz, John Moyer & Cindy Osgood Sunday Morning Worship 9:30 a.m. Mon-Fri Chapel Services 9:15 a.m. Thurs. Catholic Mass 10:30a.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 School9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship10:00 a.m.

Youth Group: Grades 5-12 ... Sun 11:30

Ekklesia Sun 6:30pm

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 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 Service10:00 - 11:00 Everyone is Welcome

SALAMONIE CHURCH OF BRETHREN 468-2412 Mel Zumbrun, Pastor

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

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plans to stop doing any of it. Rob and I were in our 4th decade and I have no clue what could possibly take it's place in my life and my heart.

Congrats to the teams. See everyone next year. I love you all!

COUNCIL NOTES

The Van Buren Town Council held its regular meeting Wednesday, July 3, 2024 at 7:00 PM at the Van Buren Town Hall. Council President Caudill called Jerry the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance. Council member Katie Freeburn motioned to approve previous council meeting minutes; member Mark Towery seconded. 3-0. Minutes were approved as submitted.

CITIZENS: Waneta Linton asked about letters that were submitted for the grant. Roy Kreigh spoke about solar panels in Grant County. He gave his reasons why he wants solar panels in the county. Gary Duckwall asked if he could put a modular on his property on S. First, the council advised that he would need to reach out to Area Plan. POLICE: Marshal Skyler Beard reported that he is still working on ordinances to clean up properties. There will extra police officers be patrolling for the Block Party this weekend. The department is getting things ready for the Popcorn Festival.

UTILITIES: Utility Supervisor Donnie Plummer reported that both plants are running well. An electrician was in to give a quote for tower mixers. Each mixer would cost \$4.100.00. The OCRA grant forms were submitted on time. Easement paperwork was sent to the town Attorney, Tony Spahr for the storm drain project. A new water line was put in for 509 W. Main. Donnie will begin flushing fire hvdrants soon.

GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR URBAN FORESTRY

PROJECTS

Applications are now open for grants to fund urban forestry projects throughout Indiana.

Projects including tree planting, tree inventories with management plans, urban tree canopy assessments, and storm response planning are fundable through these grants. Funds are awarded on a reimbursable basis and a 1:1 match is required.

Administered by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Division of & Forestry's Community Urban Forestry program, the funding is available through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service Urban & Community Forestry program.

There are three different grant opportunities available. Applicants may apply for more than one grant but receiving funding for more than one grant is not guaranteed.

All application materials are available for download at on.IN.gov/cuf by clicking on CUFA grants at the top of the page. Applications are due 4. Funding Sept. announcements will be made by Oct. 4

Additional information is available from Jacob Roos, community and urban forestry director, DNR Division of Forestry, jroos@dnr.IN.gov.

WILL YOU SOON BE NEW TO MEDICARE?

Turning 65 soon? Retiring after the age of 65? These are just a few life events that can make you eligible for Medicare.

SHIP, the State Health Insurance Assistance Program, wants to help people with Medicare, including people under 65 with disabilities, get more value from their health dollars. SHIP insurance provides consumers with free. impartial and confidential health insurance counseling regarding Medicare, Medicare supplement insurance Medicare (Medigap), Advantage Plans, Long Term Care Plans, and finding help with prescription costs. We can also help you enroll in the program(s) of your choice. SHIP counselors can assist with low-income assistance applications, well as as referrals to other similar programs.

SHIP has more than 147 sites and over 463 trained and certified counselors throughout Indiana. Our counselors can assist you in person, by phone, or virtually. Look for a SHIP site near you www.in.gov/ship/findat anindiana-ship-location.

SHIP offers presentations and educational events throughout Indiana. Look for a SHIP event near you at www.in.gov/ship/ship-317-234-4386, presentations-and-events.

help you?

various Medicare Part D, that we substitute for the Medicare insurance policies (Medigap), predetermined Medicare Advantage, and essential and the buying trip is Long Term Care Insurance for a specific item at a specific policies currently available in store! Hence, NO SHOPPING. Indiana.

* Help you enroll in the plan(s) of your choice.

assistance programs that help costs.

* Inform you of your rights as with a Medicare beneficiary or health insurance policyholder. webinars, materials,

brochures. * Educate you to understand appeal Medicare decisions.

agencies where you can get decision. help with other needs.

presentations to groups.

Learn more about what SHIP can do to help your transition dream, drama series thought. to Medicare www.Medicare.in.gov. You can an eye on him while I called also find us on Facebook, for security. My wife has been YouTube, X, and LinkedIn. known to tackle individuals Contact SHIP directly during who have tried to escape! I standard business hours at had (800) 452-4800.

ANOTHER FICTITIOUS Dream

by Larry Ryan It was late in the overnight sleeping period when this dream occurred. My wife and I were shopping at a department store in a large city. Well, we were actually browsing in this multilevel

What else can SHIP do to shopping mall. Shopping is reserved for the grocery store * Help you evaluate the experience. Another word supplement term shopping is "buying." It is what is No wasted energy.

Now, back to the dream. While browsing, I happened to * Help with applications for witness a young adult, who appeared to be a late pav for uncovered Medicare blooming teenager, striking another person over the head а plastic tube. Immediately my sense of conscientious objection, * Provide educational videos, which was instilled in me by and my scout master and church, kicked in. I grabbed the perpetrator by the arm and Medicare, file claims, and took the weapon from him. He was smaller than me which * Refer you to appropriate added to my aggressive

I seated him on a bench in * Provide speakers to make the mall and gave my wife instructions to shoot him if he moved. No, that was a postat She was charged with keeping confidence that she would be for this up important assignment.

Of course security was not punctual in arriving. I probably interrupted smoking or donut break. There was talk about public behavior and names taken. Finally someone checked on the victim. That person had disappeared. Hopefully not to retrieve a

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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. 7:00p VB - Town Council Meeting @ Town Hall Jul 17

Jul 26	7:00p	W - Sweetwater All Stars @ Riverside Park
Aug 1-3		VB - Van Buren Popcorn Festival
Aug 7	Noon	W - Chamber of Commerce Luncheon @ KBC
Aug 7	7:00p	VB - Town Council Meeting @ Town Hall
Aug 12	6:00p	W - Town Council Meeting @ Assembly Hall
Aug 13	6:30p	W - SSF Meeting @ KBC
Aug 19	6:30p	W - KBC Board Meeting @ KBC
Aug 21	7:00p	VB - Town Council Meeting @ Town Hall
Bread of Life Food Pantry - Wednesdays - 2 - 4:00pm at KBC		
<i>Bargain Basement -</i> Friday & Saturday - 9 - 4 at KBC		

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



www.ieffsfarmmarket.com

and

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gun. I shook hands with the perpetrator for some reason and I woke up thankfully!

ACCEPTING GRANT **APPLICATIONS**

Organizations

communities are encouraged to apply for grants to support developing and expanding public rifle, handgun, shotgun, or archery ranges through the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Shooting Range Grant program.

Projects may include new construction or range expansion of existing range facilities. All grant-funded facilities must be universally designed to accommodate all people. Previously funded shooting range projects included installing new sidewalks, constructing new bathroom facilities, installing trap and skeet houses, and constructing a new modern archery facility.

The annual deadline for submitting letters of intent for the grant is Oct. 1.

The program, which is funded by the federal Wildlife Restoration Program, provides funding to increase public recreational shooting sports opportunities. A manufacturer tax on the purchase of ammunition, firearms, and archery equipment and the sale of hunting licenses is a primary funding source for conservation work led by the DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife.

Grants are awarded based on the respective letters of intent. Applicants selected must provide 10% of the total project cost. Letters of intent must be emailed to Sam Whiteleather at swhiteleather@dnr.IN.gov by Oct. 1.

More information is at bit.ly/dnr-shooting-rangegrants.

LADY HEAD AUCTION The first in a series of online-

only auctions dedicated to the lady head vase collection of Maddy Gordon is slated for Monday, July 22nd, starting at 6 pm Eastern time, by Strawser Auction Group. Bidding will be handled exclusively through HiBid.com. This first sale will feature 214 lots of lady head vases. Bidding will start at just \$1 for each vase up for bid.

To view the catalog, click this link:

https://strawserauctions.hibid .com/catalog/557916/july-22-2024-online-head-vaseauction

Ms. Gordon's collection, in its entirety, comprises more than 3,000 head vases. It will require up to seven auctions and several years to liquidate all of it. The makers include names such as Lefton, Inarco, Relpo, Napco and many others. All are wonderful representations of the figural vases in the form of a head (or bust) of a woman that have captivated collectors for decades.

Ms. Gordon isn't just a collector. She's written books and articles on the subject, and was the founder of the Head Hunters Newsletter and organizer of the annual Head Vase Conventions in Kissimmee, Florida for many years. She became a huge fan of America's first head vase creator, Betty Lou Nichols, and authored the book, Head Vases, Etc., The Artistry of Betty Lou Nichols.

An article in Kovels Antique Trader stated that lady head vases "exude glamour with their perfectly coiffed hairdos, big lush eyelashes and ruby lips, elegant fashions, and sometimes adorned with pearls or other jewelry, a stylish hat or gloves - or

all sometimes three accessories."

Maddy Gordon, a New Yorker all her life, was the daughter of serious antique collectors and, through her training as a medical and psychiatric social worker, was well-equipped to recognize and appreciate the nuances of facial expressions. Not surprisingly, then, she became interested in lady head vases when they first began appearing at shows, shops and flea markets years ago.

While some people limit their collections to beautiful Maddy has been ladies. whole attracted the to universe, one that includes clowns, babies, animals, Madonnas, children, nurses, brides, and characters like Uncle Sam. Some are not vases at all but ashtrays, lipstick holders, head lamps and more. It's estimated over 10,000 different varieties of head vases have been made.

Celebrity head vases have even crept into the mix over the years. Ones created in the likeness of Marilyn Monroe, Ball, Jacqueline Lucille Kennedy Onassis, Grace Kelly, Carmen Miranda and others have found their way into collections. These can include males, too, like Elvis Presley, but those are less common. A 1964 Jackie Kennedy head vase by Inarco sold for just under \$1,000.

And now, a bit of history: lady head vases first appeared in Europe in the 19th century, with the earliest American examples not arriving on the scene until the 1930s. Lady head vases were often made in Japan after World War II, by companies like Enesco. Inarco. Lefton, Napco, Reubens and Relpo. American makers included Betty Lou Nichols, Royal Copley, Ceramic Arts Studio, Shawnee Pottery and Henry Holt. These could be purchased cheaply in packs of 6 or 12.

Jhank You!

Warren Law

Enforcement

You Are Appreciated!

Florist companies produced the head vases as a marketing are distinctive and tend to gimmick to sell bouquets, which is why so '90s style, with big hats and big many ended up in American curls, perfect cheekbones and homes in the 1950s and '60s. skin. The trademark Betty Lou Retailers like Woolworth's also look sold them. By the 1970s lowered thousands of different kinds coquetry." There are no Betty of head vases were made, Lou Nichols lady head vases in which led to a glut in the the Part 1 sale of the Maddy market, a decrease in demand, Gordon collection, but there the end of the craze and a may be some offered in future discontinuation of product.

Fast forward to the new millennium, where a fresh styles of head vases in the crop of appreciative collectors world: plain women, tribal rediscovered lady head vases women, and women in their for the diminutive treasures Sunday best. Many that they are. Most range in realistic facial features, with size 2-14 from although most are seven accessories inches or less. Some collectors necklaces have put them to work, filling them with flowers or other jewelry and stylish hats. Some artful arrangements, using have a perfectly manicured them to hold beauty supplies, hand that frames a side of or even to hold pens.

While all the lady head vases period, collectors need to mainly in gift recent pieces are easy to counterparts, but buyers are still encouraged to purchase from reputable antique dealers and trusted collectors.

As mentioned, Betty Lou Nichols is credited with sparking the lady head vase craze in the U.S., and pieces by her are highly sought after today by collectors. She began making her creations in the 1940s with clay and a rolling pin, on her parents' kitchen table. She opened her first ceramics studio in 1945. She was the only maker to add handmade details, such as ruffles, lace and bows.

Betty Lou Nichols head vases small represent women in the Gay includes eyelashes "in perpetual auctions.

There is a wide variety of have inches, eyes open or closed, with chic like pearl with matching dangling earrings or other their face or a gloved hand.

There is also a variety of in Maddy Gordon's collection hairdos, including curls, updos, are authentic and true to the long hair, bouffants, and short, sassy styles, sometimes know there are reproductions adorned with ceramic flowers in the market that are sold or ribbons. Necklines also vary. shops Head vases can be collected throughout the county. Most by makers, specific sizes, or themes, such as brunettes, distinguish from their older those wearing hats, or those with hands. Vases with teenage faces, from the 1960s, **CONTINUED PAGE 5**



X Pharmacy





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adult versions.

As for pricing, lady head vases can be found for between \$10 to \$1,000 and even more, depending on rarity. It's easy to start collecting head vases, since many can be found at antique shops or online in the \$10 to \$50 range. Ruby Lane has a variety ranging from \$17 to \$2,600. You could also get lucky and find one for far less at a yard sale, flea market, or thrift store.

Many collectors are willing to pav \$50 or more for a head vase they don't have yet, even if it's not rare or a celebrity. Head vases, like all collectibles, fluctuate in value. It's always a good idea to buy head vases that are in good shape, with little or no crazing, chips, or breaks, since the condition adds to the value. And also, as usual, when it comes to collectibles, buy what you like.

Makers like Napco, Enesco, Nichols and other manufacturers included а maker's mark on the bottoms of their pieces. Other companies included a paper label or foil sticker that, over time, wore away. Not every head vase is marked, but that doesn't necessarily make it less valuable or collectible. Sellers, as a general rule, include a photo of the mark on the bottom of the piece.

Michael Strawser operates the most experienced and trusted auction house for The majolica. Strawser Auction Group has handled many of the greatest majolica collections and sold items to the biggest collectors in the world. Mr. Strawser was the founder of the Majolica International Society and served as its very first president at the organization's inception.

To learn more about Strawser Auction Group and the first in a series of onlineonly auctions dedicated to the lady head vase collection of Monday, July 22nd, visit www.strawserauctions.com. Updates are posted often. You

can reach Strawser Auction

email, at michael@strawserauctions.

Снісо

com.

by Daris Howarrd

My daughter, Elli, was going to a music camp in Sun Valley, Idaho. Donna, my wife, would be spending the week with Elli there because I had to work. Sun Valley is an expensive town, so hotels were beyond our means. That meant they would need to camp.

I towed the tent trailer up there on Sunday and helped them set it up. I connected the water and power for them and did everything I could to make sure they were as comfortable as possible before I headed back home. Before I left, a camper pulled into the spot beside ours. We greeted the new neighbors, an older couple, and became instant friends. Their little dog was friendly and seemed to be very smart.

"What's his name?" Elli asked. "Chico," our neighbors answered.

I know limited Spanish, but Elli had taken it in school. She interpreted for me. "That means 'boy' in Spanish."

"He's a little male dog," the husband said. "That's why we chose that name."

I had a three-hour drive home, so I left. When I came back in the middle of the week, Elli had to show me some things.

"Watch this, Dad," Elli said. Elli then held out a little food to Chico and said, "Mendigar."

Chico sat up with his little paws curled in front of him. and the little dog begged. Elli gave him the food.

"Mendigar means 'beg' in Spanish," Elli told me.

Elli said a lot more words I didn't know, and each time she did, the little dog would respond with an action. Chico would roll over, lay down, or play dead. He even danced on his hind paws.

"He's really smart," Elli said. Maddy Gordon, slated for "And our neighbors told us a funny story about him."

> Elli said the neighbors had been vacationing in Mexico when they first saw Chico. The

Group by phone at 260-854- man who owned him had lots daris@darishoward.com; are not as common as the 2859 or 260-336-2204; or via of dogs. He trained the dogs and then sold them to tourists. http://www.darishoward.com, The couple had watched the dogs do all sorts of tricks, and they fell in love with Chico. He SOCIAL SECURITY was smart and cute.

> "He beg, sit, roll, bark, and many other thing," the trainer said in broken English. "You just say word."

The trainer gave them a list of words the dog would obey, then the couple paid the trainer and took the little dog with them. They named the dog Rusty. When they got back into the United States, they decided to test out their new pet's skills.

They tried every word on the list the man had given them, but the little dog just stared at them. The husband grew increasingly frustrated. Finally, he said, "This dog doesn't do anything. Maybe he's not as smart as we thought. We ought to return him and get our money back."

"But we know he does those things," the wife said. "We saw him do them."

They both stared at the list for a moment and then, almost at the same time, they realized the problem. The trainer had struggled speaking English, and they noticed that even though the list contained English words, it was poorly written. They concluded the trainer had probably trained the dog in Spanish, and the list was simply in English for the customer.

They looked up the words in Spanish. "Sentar," the husband said, and the little dog sat.

"Mendigar," the wife said,

Elli told me that some words had more than one Spanish equivalent, and sometimes the couple had to try more than one to get the right word. But eventually, they figured out all the Spanish words.

That was when they decided to change the dog's name to Chico.

"After all," Elli said, "the dog only speaks Spanish."

(Daris Howard, awardwinning, syndicated columnist, playwright, and author, can be contacted at

visit his website to buy his books.)

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 – We Want to Claim SS at 62. When Should we Apply?

Dear Rusty: My wife and I are going to be taking Social Security at 62. She will be 62 on April 15, 2025. I will be 62 August 7, 2025. When should we apply for Social Security? Signed: Ready to file

Dear Ready: Social Security recommends you apply for benefits about 2 – 3 months prior to when you want your benefits to start (to get them time to process your application). You will specify on your application when you wish your benefit to start, so applying early isn't a problem. Just a few things to keep in mind:

Your first month of eligibility will be the first month you are 62 for the entire month. In your wife's case, her first month of eligibility will be May 2025, and in your case your first month of eligibility will be September 2025. Your wife's benefits will be paid on the 3rd Wednesday of every month, and your benefits will be received on the 2nd Wednesday of every month (payment dates depend on when your birthday falls).

Social Security has an earnings test for those collecting early benefits (before your full retirement age). If you are working and exceed the earnings limit, SS will take away some of your benefits. The earning limit for 2024 is \$22,320 and, if that is exceeded, SS will take away \$1 in benefit for every \$2 you are over the limit (the limit changes annually, so the 2025 limit will be more). Thus, if you plan to work after collecting, you must stay aware of the earning test. If

or you earn substantially more at than the earnings limit, you even may be temporarily ineligible to collect benefits (until you either earn less or reach your full retirement age (FRA) when the earning test no longer applies).

> By claiming at 62, you will incur a cut in benefits of about 30% from the amount you would get by waiting until your FRA to claim. And, except for annual cost of living that is adjustments, а permanent reduction. FYI, your benefit will continue to grow if you wait longer to claim.

> Deciding when to claim Social Security should take into account your financial needs, your life expectancy, and your goals as a couple. Claiming at 62 is the right choice for many, but waiting longer, if feasible, will result in a higher monthly amount, which could be beneficial if your life expectancy is long. Of course, we are here for you if you have any additional questions, so please don't hesitate to contact us again if needed.

> This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal financial guidance. It or presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and **CONTINUED PAGE 6**



SCALF

Jerry Scalf, 68, of Huntington, passed away on Monday, July 8, 2024, at Lutheran Hospital, Fort Wayne.

He was born on November 11, 1955, in Pikeville, Ky., to the late Wesley and Leona (Williams) Scalf.

Jerry worked many years in a factory before his retirement.

He is survived by two sons, Carl Scalf, of Warren, and Cody Scalf, of Warren; five grandchildren, Dylan, Mason, Brooklyn, Wesley and Carter.

To honor the wishes of Jerry, there will be no services.

A private interment will be at a later date.

AREA NEWS CONTINUED

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accredited by the National cause damage. Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Forty-three percent of people Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed the Social Security by Administration or any other governmental entity. То submit a question, visit our website

(amacfoundation.org/progra ms/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation. org.

SOFA STAINS TOP THE LIST OF FURNITURE FAILS IN NEW SURVEY

(StatePoint) Perhaps you're Thirty-eight better off not taking that new sofa out of its plastic wrap. Sofas. couches and loveseats top the list of furniture most likely to be damaged, according to the latest survey on furniture damage from Allstate Plans. Protection What's worse, more than half of furniture purchases were damaged in the first two years! A whopping 174.8 million damaged Americans have furniture, and 61% of

accidents occurred in the first two years of ownership. Here are insights from this survey, along with information on what consumers did to repair, replace or hide damage:

 Failure Frequencies: When asked which furniture was damaged most recently, 40% of Americans said sofas, couches and loveseats. People on average spent \$299 repairing or replacing them. 17% And of accidents happened in the first six rugs. months after purchase.

stains were the leading cause of damage, accounting for over half (55%). Rips and tears For both indoor and outdoor were second (25%). Juices accounted for 25% of stains, while people and pet stains accounted for 21%.

Surprisingly, pets and children were less likely to be Factors: Regulate temperature responsible for damage than adults. Forty-five percent of adults blamed spouses for damage. with children

tried to fix damage are themselves, while 38% kept furniture despite using damage. Twenty-three percent hide it, with 14% replacing items and 4% repairing them.

• Fear of Fancy Furniture: Over a third (36%) avoided buying high-priced furniture for fear of damage. While 54% were aware protection plans can cover sofas, only 31% understood they can cover beds, and just 12% knew they can cover area rugs.

 Preventive Measures: percent of Americans have covered furniture with towels or sheets, 29% have used slipcovers and plastic covers, and 20% have used stain prevention treatments. Just over a fifth (22%) currently have a protection plan or extended warranty for furniture.

"While people are used to protecting electronics, many don't know they can protect furniture too. It gives you peace of mind, knowing expert help is there when you need it," says Jason Siciliano, vice president of marketing and creative director at Allstate Protection Plans.

To protect furniture, the experts at Allstate Protection Plans recommend:

 Clean Regularly: Dust and dirt buildup can cause scratches and abrasions, or worse. Cleaning is important for high-traffic items like area

• Use Coasters and Mats: • Drips and Rips: Spills and They can prevent rings and stains from moisture and heat. Invest in Protective Covers: furniture, especially high-use pieces, covers can help.

 Rotate and Rearrange: Rotate cushions periodically • Four Legs Versus Two: to distribute weight and wear.

> • Control Environmental and humidity. Close curtains or blinds to stop fabric or wood from fading in the sun.

• Consider a Protection Plan: responsible for 34%. Dogs The coverage can include

structural issues, and protect to dealing with the culture corporate roles seriously, the • Dealing with Damage: your financial investment.

> More tips and information available www.allstateprotectionplans. com.

Since we're only human, stains and damage will happen. With a few simple steps you can rest easy when sitting on that new sofa.

WHY VETERANS MAKE **GREAT HIRES**

(StatePoint) Honoring members of the military means not only reflecting on their exemplary service, but also appreciating the talents and skills of veterans in the civilian workplace.

Shining a light on how military skills transfer to corporate America is Brian Armstrong, a Marine Corps veteran who now serves as Wells Fargo's head of military recruitment.

Having led the safe transport of equipment and security protection forces, on top of serving as a small unit leader overseeing the well-being of fellow Marines, Armstrong acquired skills that easily transfer to everyday business during his military career. And his experience is not unique to him, but shared amongst the hundreds of thousands who transition out of the military to civilian careers each year.

"In the military, you have to be able to think on your feet," Armstrong said. "We [veterans] span the breadth of the United States, and we can leverage our unique, diverse perspectives to react and deliver under pressure. Add this to the soft skills we gain during service, and I think veterans are an extremely attractive demographic for employers."

In fact, many companies in recent years are catching onto the value veterans bring to the workplace, with veteran employment rates trending upward over the past 10 years, according to Department of Labor Statistics. Nevertheless, veterans do face unique workplace challenges, particularly during the hiring

shift of post-military life.

Where military recruitment at is concerned, Wells Fargo is a good example of а corporation aligning its actions with its words. For more than 170 years, the company has supported military service members and In addition veterans. to initiatives like home and car donations, grants, and supporting veteran-owned businesses, dedicated its Military Talent Sourcing Team how making their workplaces is committed to helping more inclusive to veterans can veterans effectively navigate help both their community the transition to civilian life. and their bottom line. The company's Military Talent Liaisons are committed to recruiting, counseling, and advocating for military job seekers.

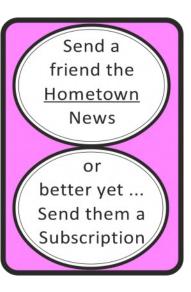
According to Armstrong, other companies can benefit from similar initiatives. The team's programming includes military-specific hiring events, corporate fellowships, apprenticeships through the Department of Labor, and intensive training programs.

"It's not just about supporting veterans, it's also about how veterans can help a company. Their ability to differing thrive in environments and circumstances makes them agile and serious-minded in their endeavors," Armstrong says. "Obviously we're not in a military situation in our typical workplace, but I suspect many

were twice as likely as cats to accidental damage, stains and process, from employer bias veterans, like I do, take their same way they'd get prepared for a mission."

> To learn more about Wells Fargo's military recruitment initiatives, and its more than 170 years of supporting military veterans and their families, visit wellsfargojobs.com. To learn more about why veterans make great leaders, visit https://stories.wf.com/whyveterans-make-great-leaders.

Employers can reflect on



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