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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: When you build bridges you can keep crossing them. Rick Pitino

EMPOWER & INSPIRE

Purdue Extension is proud to announce the upcoming Ag Women Engage Conference, a dynamic event aimed at celebrating women in the agricultural sector. The conference will take place at the Grand Wayne Convention Center in Fort Wayne, Indiana on February 22, 2024.

The Ag Women Engage Conference is designed to bring women together involved in various aspects of agriculture, including farmers, researchers, educators, and industry professionals. Attendees will have the opportunity to network, share experiences, and gain valuable insights into the challenges and opportunities facing women in the agricultural field.

Participants will have the option to participate in four breakout sessions throughout the day which focus on the various areas of risk management. Keynote speaker Amanda Radke, fifth generation rancher and author, will discuss navigating dynamics of multi-generational family agricultural businesses. Amanda's presentation is titled "Plant & Prune the Family Ag Business to Reap a Bountiful Harvest."

To register and learn more about the Ag Women Engage Conference please visit <https://purdue.link/AWE2024>. Registration is now open and available until February 13th. Additionally, individuals are invited to register for two pre-conference programs taking place on February 21st. These programs include a Farm Accounting Workshop with Quicken® and Transferring The Farm's Legacy.

Individuals who will be in the Fort Wayne area on the evening of February 21, 2024 are invited to join the Purdue Women in Ag Team and the Young Ladies of Ag Forum participants for an evening dinner for an additional fee. Hotel accommodations for the conference are available with the Hilton Fort Wayne at the Grand Wayne Convention Center. Room reservations need to be made by January 30, 2024. Whether you're a primary operator on the farm, a farm wife, an agribusiness employee, an extension educator, or have a strong interest in agriculture, we encourage you to take a few minutes to find out more about the Ag Women Engage Conference and consider joining us. Special thanks to our platinum sponsor, Indiana Soybean Alliance.

For questions, concerns, or reasonable accommodations regarding the Ag Women Engage Conference, please contact Jenna Nees at smith535@purdue.edu or 765-653-8411. Purdue University is an equal opportunity/equal access/affirmative action institution.

AG APPLICATOR WORKSHOP SET FOR FEBRUARY 2

An agricultural applicator workshop is set for Friday February 2 from 8:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. The location is Beacon Credit Union Heritage Hall at the Huntington Co. Fairgrounds.

Huntington Co. Farm Bureau is sponsoring a hot breakfast for workshop attendees from 8:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.

The workshop will include the following:

"Safe Transportation of Farm Equipment" - Fred Whitford, Purdue University pesticide programs director
"Manure and Fertilizer Staging/Application Regulations" - Brad Kohlhagen, Purdue Extension - Adams County agriculture and natural resources educator
Pesticide/ Fertilizer Bulk Storage and Pesticide Regulation Update - Ed Farris, Purdue Extension - Huntington County extension director, extension educator
RSVP by Tuesday January 30 @ 260-358-4826 or e-mail emfarris@purdue.edu

This workshop is approved as an Indiana Private Applicator Recertification Program. Commercial Applicator credits (CCHs) and Certified Crop Advisor Credits (CEUs) have been requested. Attendees who wish to obtain credit are reminded to bring their Indiana Private Pesticide Applicator license number with them. There is no cost for private applicator credits thanks to the sponsorship of the Indiana Soybean Alliance & Indiana Corn Marketing Council.

If you have questions, contact Ed Farris, Agriculture and Natural Resource Educator, Purdue Extension - Huntington County Office, 1340 S. Jefferson, Huntington by calling 260-358-4826.

NATIONAL SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK

A majority of U.S. parents (57 percent) say they will look for a new school for one of their children in 2024, and families thinking about making a change have a huge opportunity this month. Today starts National School

Choice Week, featuring 27,112 events and activities across the country, including large-scale school fairs and community events.

NSCW runs until Jan 27th and will be celebrated by 24,875 K-12 schools; including more than 14,000 public-sector schools and more than 7,000 private schools, alongside online, homeschooling, or microschooling options. As more parents actively explore diverse school choices, NSCW remains a positive, inclusive effort to inform and empower families with straightforward information about traditional public, public charter, public magnet, private, online, home, and nontraditional education options.

Over the next six days, NSCW will spotlight a wide range of activities and events, connecting tens of thousands of families to local school options and raising national awareness about school choice through 33 school fairs and over 70 flagship events. These flagship events, characterized by student performances, collaboration between many types of schools, and leading parent voices, bring an additional layer of enthusiasm to statewide celebrations.

"In a single year, school choice options have expanded for parents by a never-before-seen magnitude. With the stage set, National School Choice Week is poised to be the catalyst that helps parents turn new education options into education solutions for their children," said Shelby Doyle, vice president of public awareness at the

National School Choice Awareness Foundation. "Thanks to the imagination and initiative of schools, organizations, and community leaders that celebrate the Week in their communities, countless families will find a great school that changes the trajectory of their children's lives this January."

NSCW, which is nonpartisan and nonpolitical, is organized by the National School Choice Awareness Foundation (NSCAF), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. In addition to hosting NSCW, NSCAF develops and promotes the nation's largest online portfolio of school navigation resources for families, available at schoolchoiceweek.com and through NSCAF's Spanish-language charitable program, Conoce tus Opciones Escolares. In just the last nine months, the resources provided at these sites have served 1.3 million parents.

Photos and videos from NSCW 2024 so far can be found at schoolchoiceweek.com/school-fair-saturday-recap/. More information for families can be found at schoolchoiceweek.com/state-guides/.

INDIANA TAX FILING OPENS JAN. 29

The Indiana Department of Revenue (DOR) will start accepting filings for the 2024 Individual income tax season on Monday, Jan. 29, 2024, along with the Internal Revenue Service.

DOR encourages customers to use electronic filing,

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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



Treva's
Recipe Box
 by Treva Fleming

This week I put momma to work on getting a recipe for the recipe box and as always she pulled one out of the stash she has. I'm sure many of you have bought this at one time or another when visiting Amish country, now you can make it anytime you want it.

AMISH PEANUT BUTTER SPREAD

1c. brown sugar
 1/2c water
 Heat until sugar is melted, do not let it boil. Let it cool then add 1 c. peanut butter, 1c. marshmallow cream, and 1 tsp maple flavoring.
 Mix all together and pour into jars or containers.

SOCIAL SECURITY MATTERS

Ask Rusty – Can Someone Work While Collecting Social Security Disability?

Dear Rusty: If a person is collecting Social Security disability benefits, can they, at any point, work at all? If they can, what is the maximum they can earn and still keep the disability benefit? I am asking because my husband is still young, but his injuries will not allow him to go back to the job he had prior to his injuries and surgeries. He does not just want to sit at home doing nothing! Signed: Concerned Wife

Dear Concerned: Actually, the Social Security Administration (SSA) encourages those collecting SSDI (Social Security Disability Insurance) benefits to attempt to go back to work and they provide considerable leeway for them to do so. The monthly earnings limit for those collecting SSDI benefits in 2024 is \$1,550 and as long as your husband earns less than the limit while working, his SSDI benefits will not be in jeopardy. Your husband should contact Social Security's Ticket to Work program directly to protect his disability status and discuss returning to work while collecting SSDI benefits.

The Ticket to Work program assists those now receiving SSDI benefits who wish to test their ability to return to work without putting their SSDI benefits at risk. The program provides considerable assistance, including new career training opportunities and connection to potential employers, and it is voluntary and costs nothing. Here is a link to Social Security's information on the Ticket to Work program: <https://choosework.ssa.gov/>

It's not mandatory for your husband to enroll in the Ticket

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

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

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 Grp 2nd & 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

online payment and direct deposit to significantly improve the accuracy and speed of the return and refund processes. Customers must file both their state and federal tax returns and pay any taxes owed for 2023 by Monday, April 15, 2024.

DOR reminds Hoosiers they should wait to file their tax returns until they receive all their official tax documents and statements. Employers have until Jan. 31, 2024, to deliver Form W-2s to employees. Attempting to file without all required information can postpone a customer's refund if one is due.

Please take note of these tax-related updates to Indiana Code:

The dependent exemption has increased from \$1,500 to \$3,000 for the first taxable year in which a particular exemption is allowed under Section 151(c)(1)(B) Internal Revenue Code (as effective January 1, 2004). IC 6-3-1-3.5

All military pay for reserve members of the United States armed forces and National Guard is exempt from income tax for taxable years 2023 forward. IC 6-3-1-34

Investors can provide qualified investment capital to veteran-owned businesses and women-owned enterprises and qualify for the higher maximum amount of venture capital investment credit. IC 6-3.1-24-8

The College Choice 529 Plan Credit has increased from a maximum of \$1,000 to \$1,500 for a married couple filing jointly or an unmarried individual, and it increased from \$500 to \$750 for those married filing separately. IC 6-3-2-2.6

The Indiana Earned Income Tax Credit is now 10% of the federal credit, with a prorated credit available for nonresident individuals. IC 6-3.1-21-6

The Career Scholarship Account program has a new income tax deduction for grants received and used

towards qualified expenses under IC 20-51.4. IC 6-3-1-3.5 More credits and exemptions and answers to most questions for Indiana Individual tax returns can be found on DOR's website.

Customers who wish to contact DOR directly can use INTIME's secure messaging for the most efficient service.

DEADLINE APPROACHING

Governor Eric J. Holcomb urges interested Hoosiers to apply for the prestigious 2024-2025 Governor's Fellowship.

The Governor's Fellowship is highly selective and provides a unique experience in Indiana state government by placing fellows in various state agencies on a rotating basis throughout the year.

The program is open to college graduates who receive their bachelor's degrees in either summer or fall of 2023 or spring of 2024. Fellows are paid, full-time employees who participate in the day-to-day activities of state government.

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

The application and submission guidelines can be found online at

www.in.gov/gov/fellowship.htm. To be eligible for consideration, the application and all supporting materials must be postmarked or submitted via email by January 31, 2024.

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

HISTORIC PHOTO CONTEST

The annual DNR Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology photo contest has started.

Open to photographers of any age and skill level, the contest has been held since 2005 to promote Indiana's historic resources.

All structures in photo entries must be at least 50 years old and in Indiana but don't have to be fully restored. Photos of exclusively natural elements will not be accepted.

Photos can be black and white or color and must have been taken within the last two years. New this year is a category highlighting the annual theme of Historic Preservation Month. This year, the theme is Indiana's historic scholastic gymnasiums, so consider sending photos of your favorite community basketball gym that meets the contest criteria.

Each photographer may enter up to three images

along with the required respective entry form for each photo. Images should be emailed to DHPAConnect@dnr.IN.gov and must be JPEG files that are 10MB or smaller. Participants should only send one photo and one entry form per email.

For complete rules and guidelines and for the required entry form, see on.IN.gov/preservation-month. The contest deadline is Friday, April 5.

Follow the DNR Instagram account (@indianadnr) in May where, for a week, the Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology will feature selected photos along with contest winners to celebrate National Historic Preservation Month.

DECEMBER RECALLS

Attorney General Todd Rokita is alerting Hoosiers of important consumer protection concerns for products recalled during the holiday season.

"Christmas may have passed, but our children's gifts could

still be dangerous," Attorney General Rokita said. "As a parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle, or friend, you should not have to worry if a product you purchased for your precious little one could cause harm. Do not allow a flawed product to put your family in danger. Please stop using recalled items immediately and pursue resolution from the manufacturer."

According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, the following consumer products were recalled in December:

- * High-Powered Magnetic Balls Recalled Due to Ingestion Hazard sold exclusively on Walmart.com and through JoyBuy.

- * Litti City and Litti Pritti Dress-up Playsets and Pretext Slime Eggs Recalled

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Jeff's FARM MARKET Weekly Specials Jan 25 - 31

CHECK OUT OUR IN-STORE SPECIALS!

- Family Size Brownie Mix Only \$1.89
- Randall Great Northern Beans 48 oz Only \$4.99
- Oscar Mayer Fully Cooked Bacon Mega Pack - Only \$4.79

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

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www.jeffsfarmmarket.com

Community Calendar

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

Feb 2		GROUNDHOG DAY
Feb 7	Noon	W - Chamber of Commerce Luncheon @ KBC
Feb 7	7:00p	VB - Town Council Meeting @ Town Hall
Feb 12	6:00p	W - Town Council Meeting @ Assembly Hall
Feb 13	6:30p	W - SSF Meeting @ KBC
Feb 14		VALENTINE'S DAY
Feb 19		PRESIDENT'S DAY
Feb 19	6:30p	W - KBC Board Meeting @ KBC
Feb 21	7:00p	VB - Town Council Meeting @ Town Hall

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

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

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

AREA NEWS CONTINUED

MORE PAGE 3

Due to Violations of Federal Phthalates and Lead Content Bans imported by Perch, Amusty, and Bingo Deals.

* Brandline Recalls HEAO High Chairs Due to Risk of Suffocation, Entrapment and Laceration Hazards; Violation of the Federal Safety Standards sold exclusively on Amazon.com.

* Room & Board Recalls Griffin Duo Bunk Beds Due to Risk of Collapse, Fall and Injury Hazards sold exclusively at Room & Board.

* Polaris Industries Recalls RZR 200 Youth Recreational Off-Road Vehicles (ROVs) Due to Crash Hazard and Risk of Serious Injury

* Vornado Expands Recall to Include Additional 1.75 Million Steamfast Travel Steam Irons Due to Fire, Burn and Shock Hazards

There are many more items that need to be double checked before using regularly.

If you believe you recently purchased a recalled product, stop using it, and check its recall notice. Then, follow the notice's instructions, including where to return the product or what steps must be taken to receive a replacement product.

To view recalls issued prior to December, visit the Consumer Protection Safety Commission website at <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls>.

HONOR ROLL

Students Achieving Honor Roll status at Salomonie School for the 2nd quarter are as follows;

All A's Grade 5: Daxton Bailey, Lydia Bolinger, Maddox Bumgardner, Keva-Lynn Christman, Rayna Davenriner, Caden El-Hussein, Cameron Farris, Emma Frame, Izaak Hacker, Brody Jones, Mason Jones, Landon Pursifull, Aubree Salomon, Sukami Sunderman, Ada Updike, and Spencer Yoho.

AB Grade 5: Hunter Chenoweth, Hunter Coleman, Hunter Davenriner, Alainah Hix, Katherine Linker, Hazel

Maag, Ella McDaniel, Taelynn Pike, Addison Scobell, and Amiya Wilson.

All A's Grade 4: Mackenzie Asher, Trinnite Bovie, Bentley Buckland, Briar Buckland, Dalton Coleman, Maxwell Douglas, Gabriel Fornal, Esther Gray, Bo Harris, Ellyanna Heim, Izabelle Helvie, Hanson Hensley, Tucker Jones, Joseph McCool, Change Neiman, Macie Richardson, Avery Seitz, Trey Shenefield, Anson Shuler, Lennon Smith, and Israela Sunderman.

AB Grade 4: Scott Armstead, Kailen Banister, Braden Cale, Amberlee Hix, Sophia Hughes, Gwendolyn Kelsey, Ivy Markley, Benjiman Maze, Degan McNamara, Ryder Nelson, Paesley Pike, Kalia Richardson, Jayla Shuttleworth, Zoey Small, Kelsey Smith, Sullivan Smith, Jaylee Sunderman.

All A's Grade 3: Wyatt Blair, Kaidyn Bolinger, Micah Bolinger, Ella Cady, Nora Forney, Zane Fortney, Breyson Irelan, Ella Leas, Berkley Reece, Dayton Shuttleworth, Chloe Vandall, Callie Walker, Chase Wright, and Ryder Wyatt.

AB Grade 3: Emmalynn Coleman, Danessa Downey, Dottie Hobbs, Harrison Hunnicutt, Myla Kammer, Breeze Kunkel, Miles Malicki, Liam Moon, Kynzlee Newman, Cooper Ralston, Gabriel Roberts, Kendyll Selig, Kolton Smith, Parker Smith-Brock, and Malcolm Voght.

All A's Grade 2: Jesse Bravo Morales, Natalie Briles, Harrison Campbell, Nora Colclasure, Jax Erickson, Eben Fishbaugh, Oliver Fornal, Eden Furnish, Silas Gioe, Brielle Guerrier, Drayven Hack, Oliver Hasser, Rupp Hensley, Elijah Highley, Melody Jones, Hazel Keplinger, Paisley Kuhns, Hayes Leazier, Melody Mayer, Jozen Mcgrath, Rilynn Milledge, Emma Myers, Parker Ousley, Addison Pelsinski, Grady Richardson, Bella Small, Jorja Sunderman, Jace Tedder, and Cooper Townsend.

AB Grade 2: Keeton Boyd, Maxwell Bragg, Katelyn Cale, Magnolia Dawes, Reese Hacker, Rhys Hensel, Jace Hysong, James Koeberlein, Lillie Leazier, Charbel Lopez Angulo, Iva Manning, Calvin Marrero, Malayna Maze, Hugh Roberts, Case Rowe, Braylee Salomon, Carter Scaff, Mason Shafer, Rilyn Shenefield, Reghan Truax, Daxton Wolfe, and Jaspyn Yergan.

MACKINAC ISLAND & AGAWA CANYON TRIP DAY 4

by Larry Ryan

It was difficult to believe this trip itinerary. Breakfast was listed at 6 am today. Why? The train ride was scheduled for 7:30. So, the alarm sounded at 5:15. No luggage to handle this morning since we will return to this room tonight.

Somehow we were dressed and ready early for the first meal, discovered that the buffet breakfast was also ready early, and became first in line! This timely setting allowed me to add oatmeal to the usual eggs, bacon, fruit, and Danish.

Our motor coach left the hotel at 7 am. The sun appeared to show its early, round face in the west. Is Canada turned around? We boarded the designated #3 train car and located four person, facing seats on the left side of the aisle. Two friends joined, facing us. At 8:15, we left the Algoma Rail Station in the 75,000 populated city of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario and headed north. Our 114 mile long

destination was the Agawa Canyon Park. Mile markers were stationed along the route as kilometers had not originated years ago.

With this advancing northern journey, more color appeared in the tree leaves with a predominance of red. The top portions of the pine and deciduous saplings displayed tentacles of bright colors. After passing Lower Island Lake, the train traversed Bellview Valley via the Bellview Trestle.

The train passed the very small community of Searchmont, a former lumber harvesting location. There are a few old, lumberjack roads in the area but no highway near this location. The engine chugged past Trout Lake and Mongoose Lake which was named because of its shape.

The next section of the railway was named, "The Horseshoe" because it climbs 300 feet in four miles and curves in a somewhat horseshoe configuration. This was a 1.3% incline before the ten mile descent into the valley of the Agawa Canyon Park. Box lunches were dispensed prior to arrival at the park. We savored our selection at a picnic table before I hiked the mile to the Bridal Veil Falls and the Black Beaver Falls. Have photos to verify the effort. I returned via the rail ties route. The train's

horn announced the time to board at 2 pm.

The train's combo engines tracked, on a spur track, to the opposite end of the passenger cars for the return trip. We moved to the lesser populated #2 Car for viewing the scenery on the opposite side of the tracks. The other valley crossed, via a trestle during the route, was the Montreal River Valley. Adjacent to the rail line was a few small cabins that were accompanied with stacked firewood. We arrived back at our hotel in time for the 7 pm buffet dinner.

It was a good day. We enjoyed the train ride and the scenery that was observed from our vantage point. The plan for tomorrow is to tour the Bush Plane Museum and return to the USA by way of the International Bridge. Of course the passage through customs on our side of the border is in order.

I watched an episode of the "Rookie" on TV. After all that gun violence, it took me a while to fall asleep!

Check the Classifieds



Lisa M. Garrott
Attorney at Law
Estate Planning &
Business Law



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visit us at: www.hrqlaw.com

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Lisa M. Garrott
Attorney at Law
Estate Planning &
Business Law


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GENEALOGY REPORT

CRENSHAW

 James M. Crenshaw, 94, of Fruitland Park, Florida, passed away at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 6, 2024.

He was born in Shelbyville, Mo., on Monday, Oct. 14, 1929, to Louis and Ida (Claussen) Crenshaw.

On August 24, 1951, James married Betty B. Adams. She preceded him in death on March 27, 2019.

He served in the United States Army during the Korean Conflict. He achieved the rank of Corporal and was honorably discharged.

James worked for 32 years at General Motors as a painter, in welder maintenance and as an OSHA instructor.

He was a member of St. James Lutheran Church, Marion.

While living in Florida, James was a member and Elder at Trinity Lutheran Church, Summerfield. He enjoyed camping, fishing, traveling, gardening, square dancing and playing cards.

Most of all, James loved spending time with his family.

Survivors include his children, Martha E. (Ronald) Grove, of Fruitland Park, Fla., James L. (Rexena) Crenshaw, of Ruskin, Fla., Timothy W. Crenshaw, of Marion, and Ruby Jo (Jerry) Smith, of Van Buren; 18 grandchildren; plus, several great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Louis C. and Ida Crenshaw, wife, Betty B. Crenshaw, daughter, Mary (Joe) Graczyk, son, Jason Crenshaw, grandson, James Nathan Crenshaw, brother, William Crenshaw, sisters, Helen Wilson, Dee Crenshaw and Lola McCain, and daughter-in-law, Stephanie Crenshaw.

The family received visitors on Wednesday, Jan. 17, 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 James' life was conducted.

Burial took place at Gardens of Memory Cemetery, Marion.

Memorial contributions may be made to VITAS Hospice, 6909 Old Highway 441, Suite 105, Mt. Dora, FL 32757.

DISKEY

Zachary L. Diskey, 31, of Marion, passed away on Wednesday, Jan. 17, 2024, at Stillwater Hospice Home, Fort Wayne.

He was born in Marion on June 29, 1992, to Arthur Diskey III, and Brandy Bragg.

He attended Oak Hill High School, Mier.

Zachary enjoyed hunting, especially deer and mushrooms, fishing and spending time with family and friends.

Survivors include his mother, Brandy (Aaron) Bragg; father, Arthur Diskey III; sister, Alex (Jacob) Diskey; grandfathers, Dick Bragg and Ronald Wolf; grandmother, Patty Martin; several special extended family members and friends.

Zachary was preceded in death by his grandparents, Diana Wolf, Ronald Martin, Janet Bragg and Madonna Gonzalez.

The family will receive visitors from 4 to 7 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 26, 2024, as well as one hour prior to the funeral on Saturday, Jan. 27, 2024, from 10 to 11 a.m. at Needham-Storey-Wampner Funeral & Cremation Service, North Chapel, 1341 N. Baldwin Ave., Marion.

A funeral service to celebrate Zachary's life will be at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 27, 2024, at North Chapel.

Pastor John Key will be officiating.

Burial will follow at Thrailkill Cemetery, Swayzee.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be directed to Oak Hill High School Campus Life, 1474 N. 800 W.-27, Converse, IN 46919.

WEBB

Marion Catherine Webb, 91, joined her loved ones in Heaven on Wednesday, Jan. 17, 2024, in Warren.

She was born on September 14, 1932, in Harrison County, Mo., the daughter of Virgil Earl and Ruby (Allen) Mathes.

On May 21, 1950, Marion married Donald Webb. They were married 73 years. He survives in Warren.

She received Christ as her Savior in September 1967, and her desire became that others might see Jesus in her and that all of her children would be saved. As the years progressed, she saw this prayer answered.

Marion worked outside their home some throughout the years, but most of her time was spent in caring for her home and family.

She taught a Ladies Bible Class for over 35 years.

Marion worked for decades as a deaf interpreter.

She was a member of Upland Community Church at the time of her passing.

Marion was a graduate of Eagleville (Mo.) High School.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Virgil Earl and Ruby Mathes, an infant sister, Marilyn, and a son, Allen.

In addition to her husband, Marion leaves a son, John Webb (Marchelle), of Merrillville; two daughters, Kelsie Rodman (Robert), of Upland, and Kayla Meyers (Ron), of Westville; daughter-in-law, Susan Webb, of Minneapolis, Minn.; sister-in-law, Jean Roland, of Springfield, Mo.; 11 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren (with another on the way).

The funeral service will be at 11 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 25, 2024, at Upland Community Church, 439 W. Berry Ave., Upland.

The family will receive friends from 4 to 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2024, at Jones-Smith Chapel Armes-Hunt Life Celebration Funeral Home and Cremation Services, 259 N. Main St., Upland, and for an hour preceding the funeral at the church on Thursday.

Flowers may be sent to the family at Jones-Smith Chapel Armes-Hunt Life Celebration Funeral Home and Cremation Services or in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Marion's name to The Red Barn, 168 S. Second St., Upland, IN 46989 or Upland Community Church, 439 W. Berry Ave., Upland, IN 46989.



EAGLES AT TURKEY RUN

Turkey Run State Park will host its Eagles in Flight Weekend, Jan. 26-28.

Activities include live birds of prey programs, multiple eagle viewing tours, owl prowling night hikes, and songbird banding led by a researcher. Advance registration is required and can be done at: eventbrite.com/e/2024-eagles-in-flight-weekend-tickets-778366995637.

A silent and live auction will be held by the Friends of Turkey Run and Shades state parks during the weekend, with the proceeds going to projects at those parks.

Overnight lodging is available at the Turkey Run

Inn. For reservations, call 877-563-4371 or go to IndianaInns.com and reference group code 0126EI.

Cost for the entire weekend is \$20 for all events for those 16 and older and \$16 for only Saturday events. For ages 6-15, the cost is \$15 for all events and \$10 for Saturday events only.

Children ages 5 and under are free.

Gate fees are \$7 per in-state vehicle and \$9 per out-of-state vehicle.

Turkey Run State Park (on.IN.gov/turkeyrun) is at 8121 East Park Road Marshall, 47859.

SWEET TREATS IN INDIANA

The Indiana Destination Development Corporation (IDDC) and the Indiana Foodways Alliance are inviting pie lovers to indulge in the sweetness of Indiana pies with the annual "Pie Day-to-Pi Day" celebration and contest.

From January 23, 2024 (National Pie Day) through February (National Pie Month) to March 14, 2024 (Pi Day), anyone who checks in at two restaurants on the Hoosier Pie Trail using the

CONTINUED PAGE 6

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AREA NEWS CONTINUED

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free Indiana Culinary Trails Passport will earn custom “Nothing Tastes Sweeter” socks.

Anyone who visits Wick’s Pie/Mrs. Wick’s Cafe in Winchester will be entered to win free pie for a year (one per month) from Mrs. Wick’s Pie, lunch, as well as a VIP tour of Wick’s Pies commercial bakery.

“The Hoosier Pie Trail includes 24 restaurants from the Indiana Foodways Alliance that each have something unique for everyone to savor,” said Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch, Indiana’s Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development. “From Indiana’s favorite sugar cream pie to the classic apple pie, the varieties are endless. I encourage everyone to explore the Hoosier Pie Trail and experience the sweets today!”

Indiana Foodways Alliance has 21 culinary trails, including the Hoosier Pie Trail, which can be found on the Indiana Culinary Trails Passport, an all-inclusive mobile app. All you need to do is sign up online and check in with your smartphone.

“This passport was designed to encourage people to eat at locally-owned restaurants and establishments,” said Elaine Bedel, Secretary and CEO of IDDC. “The Indian

Culinary Trails Passport is a gateway into Indiana’s diverse culinary scene and gives users a roadmap to experience it.”

“Mrs. Wick’s Pie is an Indiana staple for baked goods and has set the gold standard for decades,” said Kristal Painter, Indiana Foodways Alliance Board President. “So they are perfect for our ‘Pie Day-to-Pie Day’ promotion.”

For more information about the Indiana Culinary Trails Passport and the pie promotion, go to VisitIndiana.com/Pie.

BBB TIP: HOW TO CHOOSE A TAX PREPARER

by Rick Walz - President/CEO
BBB Serving Northern Indiana
It is time again to file our taxes. For many people, major life changes, business ownership, or simply a lack of knowledge about the ever-changing tax laws make finding a trustworthy tax preparer a good idea. That said, not all tax preparers have the same level of experience and training. Here are tips for finding someone you can trust with your finances and sensitive personal information.

Which type of tax preparer is right for you? First, it’s important to understand the different types of tax preparers and their qualifications. Only enrolled agents, certified public

accounts, and attorneys may represent their clients to the IRS on matters such as audits, collection issues, and appeals.

Enrolled Agent (EA): An EA is a tax preparer that has been approved by the IRS to represent taxpayers. An EA must either have prior qualifying employment with the IRS or pass an intensive two-day exam on federal taxation and complete a background check. To maintain EA status, they must complete a specified number of credit hours each year of continuing education in accounting methods and tax regulations. An EA may work independently or as part of a firm and specialize in specific areas of tax law.

An EA is a good option if you have a more complex tax situation. However, you’ll want to make sure their area of expertise applies to your personal situation. Fees and availability may vary, but you can expect an EA to charge less than a CPA. An EA is also qualified to help you with financial planning and give you tips that could help you reduce your taxes in the future.

Certified Public Accountants (CPA): CPAs have a college degree (or the equivalent in work experience). They are licensed after passing a state professional qualifying exam. They are highly skilled in accounting. This makes them good candidates for complex tax planning and preparation if they are experienced in handling tax matters and enrolled in continuing education programs that keep them abreast of the constant changes to tax laws. If your return is quite complex, a CPA may be your best choice for tax preparation, but keep in mind they will charge much more than basic tax preparers.

Attorneys: Tax attorneys often charge the highest fees as tax preparers. For taxpayers looking to shelter part of their income legally or for those who need specialized advice on

municipal bonds, estate planning, and the like, hiring a tax attorney is a good option.

Non-Credentialed tax preparers: There are about 700,000 people who work as non-credentialed tax preparers in the United States. They often work part-time or only during the tax season. These preparers must have an active preparer tax identification number (PTIN) through the IRS, but beyond that, regulating tax preparers is done at the state level. In the vast majority of states, anyone can prepare tax returns for others without having to take an exam, get a license, or comply with other government regulations.

Most tax preparers are legitimate and competent,

but keep in mind that without a national license requirement, they may be working off of their own personal research and experience. Because of this, it is important you conduct a thorough interview with the tax preparer before you hire them.

How to choose the right tax preparer: When it comes to choosing the right kind of tax preparer for you personally, much will depend on the complexity of your tax situation. After you’ve decided what qualifications your tax preparer needs, the following tips will help you choose someone who is trustworthy and competent:

Review the tax preparer’s credentials. EAs, CPAs, and tax attorneys are all qualified

CONTINUED PAGE 8

MORE PAGE 2

to Work program but, in addition to other available assistance, he can request a Trial Work Period (TWP) which would allow for 9 months, over a rolling five year period, during which he can earn any amount (even over the normal monthly limit mentioned above) without risking his SSDI benefits. Within the Trial Work Period, only those months he earns over the normal monthly SSDI limit would count as a Trial Work Month. So, for example, your husband could work part time regularly earning under the normal monthly limit and if, in some months (up to nine), he earned more it wouldn’t affect his SSDI benefits.

So, your younger disabled husband can, indeed, work while on Social Security disability, for as long as he wishes while earning under the monthly SSDI limit (the SSDI earnings limit changes yearly). He may also wish to enroll in Social Security’s Ticket to Work program for assistance with developing a new career. Plus, he can take advantage of using trial work months in the event his work earnings will, at times, exceed the monthly SSDI limit. If your husband earns over the SSDI limit for more than the 9 trial work months and his benefits are consequently stopped, he can – within the 5-year Trial Work Period – have his benefits reinstated (without again going through the full application process) if his disability, once more, renders him unable to work full time.

For starters, I suggest your husband contact Social Security’s Ticket to Work program directly at 1.833-889-0108 to discuss returning to work part time. Social Security will guide him through the entire process.

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 (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadviser@amacfoundation.org.




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NOTICE
 Warren Church of Christ will elect Church Trustees on Sunday, January 28th, 2024. It is the duty of the WCC Trustees to represent the congregation in all legal matters pertaining to the affairs and programs of the congregation, and the maintenance of all church properties. 1.26

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AREA NEWS CONTINUED

MORE PAGE 6

to represent their clients to the IRS on all matters. Other preparers can help you with forms and basic matters but cannot represent you in case of an audit. Don't be afraid to ask about these or other qualifications before you hire someone.

* Be wary of spectacular promises. If a tax preparer promises you larger refunds than the competition, this is a red flag. Many such tax preparers base their fees on the amount of your return and may be likely to use shady tax preparation tactics. In addition, it's wise to avoid tax preparers who offer "refund anticipation loans" as you'll probably lose a large percentage of your return to commission fees.

* Get referrals from friends and family. One of the best ways to find a trustworthy tax preparer is to ask your loved ones for recommendations. Once you have a few options, check BBB.org, paying careful attention to other consumers' reviews or complaint details. This will give you a clear view of what you can expect.

* Think about availability. If the IRS finds errors in your tax forms or decides to perform an audit, will your tax preparer be available to help you with the details? Find out whether you can contact the tax preparer all year long or only during tax season.

* Ask about fees ahead of time. Before you agree to any services, read the contracts carefully and understand how much the tax preparer charges for their services. Ask about extra fees for e-filing state, federal, and local returns, as well as fees for any unexpected complications.

* If things don't add up, find someone else. If a tax preparer can't verify their credentials, has a record of bad reviews from previous clients, or their business practices don't seem convincing, don't do business with them. Remember that if you hire them, this individual will handle your sensitive

personal information – request up to four presentations. Registration is now open. Teachers can request a classroom presentation by visiting on.IN.gov/IDEMclassroom.

For more information and to learn how to protect yourself, Google "BBB 10 Steps to Avoid Scams". If you spot a scam, whether you have lost money or not, report it to BBB's Scam Tracker at BBB.org/ScamTracker and the FTC at ReportFraud.ftc.gov. Your story can help protect consumers from similar scams.

IDEM INVITES TEACHERS TO SIGN UP FOR FREE EARTH DAY CLASSROOM PRESENTATIONS

Dates available throughout April. Registration due by February 23.

To help Indiana schools celebrate Earth Day 2024, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) is offering free hands-on classroom presentations to elementary students across the state. Every year, IDEM staff visit schools to talk about their careers and share STEM-based lessons on air, land, water, and recycling.

"I am pleased to have IDEM staff visit classrooms to work with Indiana's leaders of tomorrow. Our STEM-based lessons are a great way to emphasize the importance of taking care of our environment while also introducing them to environmental-related careers," said IDEM Commissioner Brian Rockensuess. "I hope Indiana's teachers will take advantage of this great opportunity!"

Classroom Earth Day presentations are available for elementary schools and vary in length from 30 to 50 minutes. The interactive presentations offer activities such as reduce, reuse, recycle your trash, how long does your trash last, or a demonstration on how water flows through a watershed.

In-person classroom presentations are available on a first-come, first-served basis throughout the month of April, and each school may

request up to four presentations. Registration is now open. Teachers can request a classroom presentation by visiting on.IN.gov/IDEMclassroom.

Educators may direct questions to IDEM's Environmental Education & Outreach Coordinator at education@idem.IN.gov or 800-988-7901.

BIZ TIP: THE TOP 5 CYBERSECURITY PRACTICES EVERY SMALL BUSINESS NEEDS TO DO NOW.

by Rick Walz - President/CEO
BBB Serving Northern Indiana
Cybercrime is a big problem for small businesses, and it's only getting worse. 64% of global organizations have experienced at least one cyber-attack, and for 2024, the cost of cybercrimes is forecasted to reach \$8 trillion, with small businesses being a popular target.

Another study revealed that 88% of small business owners felt their businesses were vulnerable to a cyberattack, stating they didn't believe they had enough resources to protect themselves adequately.

The good news? You can take measures to protect your small business, and you should do so promptly.

Cybersecurity threats are on the rise. According to recent research from Accenture, 43% of cyber-attacks are targeted at small businesses, with only 14% being able to defend themselves against attacks.

These numbers reflect the broader trend of an increasingly unsafe world. As technology advances and becomes more interconnected, cyberattacks are becoming more difficult to defend against, resulting in more and more small businesses becoming the victims of cybercrime.

Some of the trending cybersecurity threats that experts say to be aware of in 2024 include:

Business email attacks
* Malware and ransomware threats

* Crypto scams and "pig butchering"

* Cybercrime cash-out processes with cryptocurrencies

* Crime as-a-service
The only way to protect your

small business from cybercrime is to take preventative action. Cybersecurity is no longer an option – it's a necessity. It's time to gather your team and develop a comprehensive cybersecurity strategy for your small business.

Cyberattacks are a constant threat to businesses of all sizes. Small businesses are particularly susceptible to data breaches and cyberattacks because they are not always equipped with the proper tools and resources to combat these threats. However, there are still some valuable steps you can take to protect your business. Here are five cybersecurity practices every small business should implement right away:

1) Train all employees in cybersecurity best practices

One of the most critical security measures for small businesses is training all employees on the best cybersecurity practices. This ensures that your employees understand the risks associated with accessing company data and systems, and it provides them with the knowledge and tools necessary to protect themselves from cybercrime.

To effectively educate your employees, provide them with clear cybersecurity policies that outline the risks, the defenses in place, and the steps they can take to protect themselves. You can also offer formal cybersecurity training programs to ensure they are up to date on the latest threats and solutions.

2) Implement role-based access control (RBAC)

One of the most effective ways to protect your data and systems from cyberattacks is implementing role-based access control (RBAC). RBAC allows you to assign specific permissions to different employees based on their role in the company, controlling who has access to what data.

For instance, you can grant certain employees access to the company's email system, and grant others access to the company's digital sales platform. This ensures that employees only have access to the systems and data required to do their job. This also prevents employees from accessing sensitive data that they don't need, which reduces their risk of becoming a victim of data theft.

3) Initiate automated remote backup and data recovery

Protecting data is one of the most crucial cybersecurity practices for small businesses. One of the best ways to protect your data from cyberattacks is by initiating automated remote backup and data recovery, which allows you to store an extra copy of your data offsite in a secure location.

An automated remote backup and data recovery solution not only safeguards your data from cyberattacks, but it also provides you with the ability to restore your data in the event of a data breach.

4) Multi-factor authentication (MFA)

MFA requires users to provide additional information to prove their identity when accessing company data and systems beyond just their username and password. This additional information may include a code texted to your mobile device, a thumbprint, etc.

MFA makes it significantly more difficult for cybercriminals to access your data and systems, providing an added layer of security if a cybercriminal circumvents your password. While MFA used to stop at two-factor authentication, it now typically involves several steps to ensure the person trying to gain access is who they claim to be.

5) Secure your Wi-Fi networks

Finally, one of the most crucial cybersecurity practices for small businesses is properly securing your Wi-Fi networks to ensure your employees are connecting to a safe network when they access the internet through your business.

You can secure your Wi-Fi networks by using a VPN to encrypt internet traffic that passes through, using a firewall to block cybercriminals and using a host intrusion prevention system (HIPS) to detect and block cyberattacks.

Prioritize your cybersecurity with help from the BBB: No matter how large or small your business is, cybersecurity needs to be a priority. The BBB recognizes that small businesses face unique cybersecurity challenges, and we are here to help.

To learn more ways to improve your business practices, go to bbb.org and visit the BBB Small Business Resources page. You can also visit BBB.org/get-accredited to learn how to stand out as BBB Accredited business.