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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: Imagination is more important than knowledge... Albert Einstein



NEW CHAPLAIN & A RETIREMENT PARTY AT HERITAGE POINTE

Heritage Pointe of Warren would like to announce that a new Chaplain has been hired to take the place of retiring Gerald Moreland. Her name is Cindy Osgood (second from the right). Pictured are (l-r) Gerald Moreland, who is completing 13 years as one of the three Chaplains; Ginny Soultz; New Chaplain Cindy Osgood and John Moyer. Gerald will remain on staff as Substitute Chaplain if needed. Cindy lives in Dogwood Glen Villas at Heritage Pointe and is well known, having served churches in this area.

Gerald has been serving and living at Heritage Pointe since August of 2010. Heritage Pointe is having a Retirement Party to honor him on Thursday, April 25th in the Fults Recreation Room from 1:30-3:00 and everyone is invited.

Gerald and his wife Ruth (of 60 years) live at 914 Mossburg Dr., Warren and has loved being a Chaplain here but says "it's time to change gears again" since he'll be 80 on May 31! He served the Markle Church of Christ 25 years and the Warren Church of Christ 6 years before coming to Heritage Pointe. He says "We have been so blessed and honored to serve the wonderful family at Heritage Pointe". He hopes to be around for a number of years to serve the Lord in this area.

BINGO

Community Garden Bingo will be held April 20th at Noon at First Christian Church of Warren, Fellowship Hall. The Church is located at 202 E 2nd St, Warren.

Cost is \$20 for 10 games. All proceeds will go directly to the Warren Community Garden. This will allow us to provide a free garden for our entire community to use and enjoy for years to come!

Contact Taylor Wilburn Randall with any questions - 260.228.0640.

LUNCHEON

Beta Delta Chapter of Sigma Phi Gamma is having an Eat in Luncheon this coming Sunday, April 14 from 11 to 1. Dinner will be served at the Knight-Bergman Civic Center in Warren.

For a Free Will Donation there will be Baked Steak,

mashed potatoes, green beans, cole slaw, dessert and drink.

ALUMNI REUNION

The Annual Warren High School Alumni Banquet is just over a month away! We'll all meet May 11, 2024 at the old school, beginning with a social hour from 3 to 5pm in the gym. You are welcome to attend the social hour only if you wish, and there is no cost.

The Salamonie Valley Museum will once again be opened by Denny Stroud, and John Williams' growing display of everything Warren memorabilia will be on display. Light refreshments will be available.

Some exciting news is that the gym floor is being replaced! It is scheduled to be finished in time for our use in May. We will have at the banquet a 4 x 6" piece of floor available to those who wish to make a donation to help offset the cost of floor replacement. Prior to the banquet, we will be auctioning one of the Lightning 5 logos that was painted on the floor. More information will follow on that process.

Just before 5:00 on the 11th, the Honored Classes of 1954, 1959, 1964, 1969 and 1974 will be dismissed from the gym and allowed to enter first to their preferential seating. After they have been seated, the rest of us may enter and find our seats. We appreciate your cooperation in this. Before we eat, attending members from honored classes will be introduced, a few necessary comments will be made and grace will be offered.

We will enjoy a sit-down meal brought to us by Laura Shideler, owner of the Wagon Wheel Cafe. The menu includes baked steak, mashed potatoes, green beans, salad, cookie w/ ice cream, tea and lemonade.

Reservations may be made by calling Bruce Preston @ 260-375-2650 or by email to whslightning5@citiznet.com and are due by April 30th. The cost is \$13, payable in cash at the door.

The committee encourages honored classes to meet and reminisce in addition to attending the banquet. If you are a member of any of these classes, please make every effort to reconnect with old classmates! We look forward to once again enjoying special times together!

CHURCH RUMMAGE

The McNatt church is hosting a Rummage Sale Thurs - Sat, April 25-27. Thursday hours will be 1 to 7pm, Fri 9-7, and Saturday 9-1 with a \$5 bag sale.

There will be lunch and baked items for purchase on Friday and Saturday.

A raffle of a beautiful handmade quilt (made by one of our church members) will also be held. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Proceeds from the quilt raffle will go to a church family for ongoing medical needs.

Donations of items for the rummage sale may be brought to the church on Sunday, April 21 noon to 5:30; Monday, April 22 9-6:30, Tuesday April 23 9-6:30 and Wednesday April 24 9-6:30.

McNatt Church is located 1 mile west of St Rd 3 on 800S in Wells County. The Bridge

CONTINUED PAGE 3



Photo Courtesy of Mandy Surfus Realtor Mike Thomas & Assoc.

2024 ROYALTY

The 2024 Miss Warren Pageant was held Sunday, April 7 at Warren Church of Christ.

This year's Royalty is: (l-r) Little Miss Warren Landyn Haisley, Miss Warren Kelsie Ludemann, and Junior Miss Warren Ella Rose McDaniel.

Watch the Warren Weekly for more information in a future issue.

Photo provided by Greenbear Digital Media.

WARREN WEEKLY • Owner/Publisher: Nicki L. Zoda
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Phone: (260)375-6290 **e-mail:** editor@warrenweeklyindiana.com
 WARREN WEEKLY is a free paper for the Warren, Indiana area. It is available online only by noon on Wednesday. The paper can be read at the Warren Public Library for those who don't have internet access.
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Kudos, Kicks & Karats



As I write this, the Purdue Boilermakers are going to the final game against UConn. I'm sure it is gonna be a good game. I have a lot riding on this game, mainly pride. We have a bracket contest going on at work and it's been pretty much either UConn or Purdue and of course my mouth has been pushing my luck, so we will see if I have to swallow my pride or smile like the Cheshire cat. Lol (Sorry Treva)

I decided this was a good occasion to get to order a new Purdue shirt, so I did. So I got me the "Boiler up Hammer down" shirt and I'm sure I will wear it with pride regardless of the outcome of the game and of course if we win I am definitely buying another one, the good one that says it all.

I have been a Purdue fan from the day I started watching basketball, and that is the team that runs through my veins. Black and gold baby!! I even had black and gold nail polish on.

I hope everyone got to see the eclipse. We are on overtime this week and I asked the boss if we could go out to watch it, not like I have had to listen to all the hype on this and then miss it. So we are allowed to go take part in it in the parking lot. I can't say I have seen totality but I can remember at school we took paper plates and punched holes in them and watched it from that, but I think that was a partial one when we did that. I was gonna do some photography of it but I dont have the filters and I don't want to ruin my new camera. So I'll just leave the camera at home and if I see something cool I'll just use the phone camera, it does pretty good at pictures.

I haven't noticed to much action of outsiders coming in yet, but I'm sure it will happen and I hope the celebration uptown is a good one. They have put a lot of work in it and it sounds like a good time for all who stop in.

Once we get all the hype of the week over its back to the same ole, working on the festival projects, county and state fair projects and wedding. Lots to do and I am slowly falling behind, but I can assure you all I'll get it done, I may be baking bread while Kendra is walking down the aisle but I got this! lol I can hear it now, "is there anyone who objects as to why this man and woman will marry? Uh excuse me, I need to go take my bread out of the oven, I'll only be a few minutes." lol

I hope you all have a great week and enjoy all the festivities that Indiana has to offer this week and if you are traveling be careful and of course don't forget the "hype dance" ,,,,GO BOILERS!!!!

Editors Note: The UConn/ Purdue game ended with a score of 75 UConn/60 Purdue, but Boilermakers all over the state are still proud of the team.

Eclipse: Thank you to all who helped with the Warren Eclipse event downtown. All reports say that there was a good turnout for the day, and Mother Nature played her part as well. It was definitely a historic moment to remember.

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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 School9:00 a.m.
 Sunday Worship10:00 a.m.
 Youth Group: Grades 5-12 ...Sun 11:30
 Ekklesia 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 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 ages9:00 - 9:45
 Worship Service10:00 - 11:00
 Everyone is Welcome

SALAMONIE CHURCH OF BRETHREN
 468-2412
 Mel Zumbrun, Pastor
 Worship9:30 a.m.
 Church School 10:45a.m.

1st CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF WARREN
 375-2102
 www.firstccw.net
 Troy Drayer, Senior Pastor
 Takarra Myers, Youth Director
 office@firstccw.net
 Sunday Worship..... 9:30 a.m.
 Wednesday Bible Study 6:00 p.m.
 Youth Sunday School during
 Worship Service
 Youth Group-Wed 6:00 p.m.
 Communion 1st Sunday of the Month

VB CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
 765/934-3321 Parsonage
 Jeff Slater, Pastor
 Jim Knight, Superintendent
 Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Adult Worship 10:30 a.m.
 Children's Church 10:30a.m.
 Evening Praise Hour 6:00p.m.
 Hour of Power (Wed) 7:00p.m.

VB CHURCH OF THE VINE
 765-934-1431
 Pastor Brad Hensley
 vanburenchurchofthevine@gmail.com
 Worship Service 9:30 am
 Sunday School 10:45am
 Not Home Alone - Wed 3:00 pm
 Prayer Group (Thur)..... 6:30pm
 Men Serving God Group ... 4th Sat. 9am
 Little Ones Book Club 1st Tue 10:00 am
 Just Older Youth 3rd Tue 12:00 pm

WARREN CHURCH OF CHRIST
 375-3022
 Mickey Strong, Senior Minister
 Andrew Fisher, Youth Minister
 Liz Richardson, Childrens MinistryAsst.
 Tara Bower - Secretary
 www.warrenchurchofchrist.org
 Fellowship9:15 a.m.
 Worship & Communion9:30 a.m.
 Sunday School11 to 11:50 a.m.
 Youth:
 K-6th grade, Mon 6:15-7pm
 Jr/Sr Hi, Sunday 6-8pm

FARRVILLE COMMUNITY CHURCH
 11044 E 200 N, Marion, IN
 765-934-3609
 Pastor Al Soultz
 Sunday Worship..... 10:30 am
 Sunday School Classes9:30 am
 Sunday Adult Bible Study..... 6:00 pm
 Thurs. Bible Study7:00 pm



Please Attend The Church of Your Choice

AREA NEWS

MORE PAGE 1

on State Road 3 is being worked on so if you are traveling from Warren, go south (across the bridge) out of Warren and turn left at the big curve on 218. Take the right fork and follow to 800S and turn left. For those using GPS, the address is 9183 W 800 S 90, Montpelier.

T-SHIRTS AVAILABLE

For those who did not get a chance to buy a T-Shirt for the Total Eclipse here in Warren, there is still an opportunity. You may order Youth sizes for \$15 (small, medium & large) and Adult Size for \$15 (small, medium, large and XL), order \$20 for 2X and 3X.

Orders must be prepaid, and can be picked up after they arrive. Shipping will be available for an extra charge.

Melinda Daniels, of the Warren Pharmacy (260.375.2135) in downtown Warren, is coordinating the Total Eclipse Shirt orders.

While you're in the Pharmacy check into the previous SSF t-shirts if interested. All prior year festival shirts are \$5 each, until sold out.

But wait, there's more - you can browse the catalog of Lightning 5 and Historic Warren Main Street T-shirts while you're there as well. You can find links to the Bad-Apple Graphics Store on the Historic Warren Main Street Facebook page to order.

UPCOMING SSF EVENTS

April 19 4:30 - 7, SSF Fish Fry Drive thru.

June 1st - Golf Outing

June 15 - Rock-A-Thon

July 4-7 Salamonie Summer Festival

SENIOR EXPO

The Wells County Council on Aging - Senior Citizens Expo will be held on Thursday, May 9, 9 am to 2 pm at the Wells County 4-H Community Building, 1240 4-H Road, Bluffton, IN. The Expo is open to the public.

There will be over 60 vendors ranging from home health care, assisted living, elder law specialists, and financial

information. Also, mobility specialists, a Disney travel agent, home improvement, numerous health agencies, and much, much more!

FREE Breakfast is provided by Adams Health Network from 9-10 am and a FREE lunch is provided by River Terrace Retirement Community from 11:30-12:30. Peyton's Northern/Kroger has donated a non-perishable food giveaway that will be distributed starting at 1:30 pm.

Bluffton Regional Medical Center will be doing FREE LIPID panel blood work starting at 9 am (requires a 12 hour fast/medications should be taken as prescribed with water) and blood pressure checks all day.

The Friends of the Shelter will have a booth in the hallway and from 11-noon the Bluffton Animal Clinic will be doing basic cat and dog vaccinations (\$30 rabies, \$30 for DRP/Dhlpp) at this booth. Pets must be kept on a leash or in a carrier and are not allowed in the food area.

Attorney David Anthony with Burt, Blee, Dixon, Sutton & Bloom, will do a presentation on probate versus non-probate assets in the dining area from 10-11 am and again from 12:30-1:30 pm

Wells County residents only, call Wells on Wheels (WOW) at 824-4969 to schedule FREE transportation to and from the Expo.

Contact Susie at the Wells County Council on Aging at 260-824-1070 for more information.

SIGMA PHI

Beta Delta Chapter is having a Dine-In Luncheon Sunday April 14th from 11 to 1 pm at the Knight-Bergman Civic Center in Warren IN - Free Will Donation.

President Claudia Boxell called our meeting to order on Tuesday April 2, 2024 at the Knight-Bergman Civic Center with 10 members present and 1 Inactive member: Lorie Fiock, Dawn Fowler, Carol Irick, Kelly Jones, Tara Korporal, Beth Ostermeyer, Carol Fair, Pam Rudy, Jamie Straley and Victoria Thompson with members repeating our Creed. Tara took our roll call and read the minutes of our March Business Meeting.

Dawn read the treasurer's report. Kelly, Vice President, read correspondence from Chris Wilkins, International Vice President. Organizer, Victoria read correspondence from our Province Organizer, Pam McIntyre. Service Secretary, Jamie had nothing to report. It was brought up to help a family in Warren and we did. Also brought up to donate to the Salamonie trip to Chicago and we did. It was mentioned that Rose from the Food Pantry wanted some help with some items. Pam, Scholarship Chairman reported that we have 3

potential recipients to decide. The committee will get together and decide. Lorie, Finance Chairman reported on the Luncheon we are having. Saturday we will cook up the steaks and Sunday set up at 9:30.

Claudia read correspondence from Pam McIntyre, Alpha Province Organizer, that potentially trying to reinstall a Chapter in Kokomo IN. They are having a Brunch April 27th in Kokomo. Correspondence from Misty Clugh, Alpha Province President, Chris Wilkins and Pat Drexler, International President. Kelly held the Election of Officers. They slate of Officers for next year will be: Kelly Jones, President, Dawn Fowler, Vice President, Shelly Melchi, Recording Secretary, Beth Ostermeyer, Treasurer, Jamie Straley, Organizer, Pam Rudy, Editor, Historian, Victoria Thompson and Sondra Zabel, Social/Corresponding Secretary.

Carol and Lorie reported on the 96th Annual Alpha Province which they attended in Peru IN on March 16 and 17. The Theme for the weekend was "Be A Clown". There were 76 members present. Alpha Province consists of 9 Chapters from Bluffton, Dunkirk, Hartford City, Huntington, Lafayette, Marion, Peru, Wabash and Warren. The Province donated a total of 4201 service hours, 8071.5 service miles and a total of \$27,591.63. Next year Eta Chi from Dunkirk will host Alpha Province.

Our next Business Meeting will be May 7, 2024.

JACKSONVILLE & TREASURE ISLAND TRIP DAY 1

by Larry Ryan
It was February 12, 2024. The departure time was 6:30 am with the ground temperature listed at 28 degrees. There was frost on the ground and roofs of buildings as the bus left town. This was a two week, snowbird excursion to Florida. We were happy to escape a small part of Indiana's winter.

The sun rose quickly as the bus headed south on I-69. Both the Salamonie and Mississinawa Rivers were free-flowing and devoid of ice. The sky was mostly blue. The driver cruised past the 30 MILE Church (30 miles from home, by our identification) and stopped at the Daleville exit for more passengers.

After passing a sign for Bourbon Pecan Coffee and two frozen buffalo statues, the bus turned south onto Highway #9 and motored through Maxwell and Greenfield before joining I-74 at Shelbyville. Near Milroy the evaporating frost produced a mysterious-like haze that hovered just above ground level in the fields. Another bewildering site was a large rock in the middle of a field shaped like a buffalo head. These sightings brought back memories of the statue of "Buffalo Bill" in Cody, Wyoming.

By 11:15, the bus was in Boone County Kentucky and stopped at a Culver's in

CONTINUED PAGE 4



**Weekly Specials
Apr 11 - 17**

BIG SAVINGS THROUGHOUT THE STORE!

- **Jack Links Beef Jerky**
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Tue-Wed	11am-6pm	Saturday	9am-5pm

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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.

April 14	11-1	W	Beta Delta Dine-In Luncheon @ KBC
April 15	6:30p	W	Town Council Meeting @ Assembly Hall
April 17	7:00p	VB	Town Council Meeting @ Town Hall
April 22			EARTH DAY
May 1	Noon	W	Chamber of Commerce Luncheon @ KBC
May 1	7:00p	V	Town Council Meeting @ Town Hall
May 13	6:00p	W	Town Council Meeting @ Assembly Hall
May 14	6:30p	W	SSF Meeting @ KBC
May 15	7:00p	V	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

Florence, KY for lunch. As we journeyed toward Lexington, KY and Knoxville, TN, the blue sky was adorned with white, jet streams. This sighting was better than bird watching. This scene was interrupted when a video of the comedian, Jeannie Robertson was shown on the bus monitors. This also interrupted my afternoon nap.

Our driver passed a Smith Brothers of Berne (Indiana) furniture truck twice near Berea, KY. Was he practicing for the upcoming, Daytona 500? A light rain commenced at 2:15. Maybe I could nap now! This period did not last long as "Bus Exercises" were initiated. It was not Macarena gesticulations; that came later. Graduates were awarded cookies!

By 3 pm, fog joined the rain in the mountains of Kentucky. Heavier moisture and limited visibility followed. After traversing the mountains of northern Tennessee and bypassing Knoxville, the bus angled southwest towards Chattanooga. We passed familiar landmarks while crossing the Tennessee & Hiwassee Rivers, a sign for "Lost Sea," Sweetwater exit, and entered Cherokee National Forest.

The bus pulled in at the Fairfield at Marriott Hotel by 6pm in Chattanooga. We used a gift card at the Cracker Barrel Restaurant for the evening meal. A homeless

man came by our table and gave a blessing. We gave him our extra biscuits and offered some money to the waiter to serve him some more food. The management stated that they would take care of the situation. The result is unknown.

More traveling tomorrow.

SQUATTER RIGHTS IS A GROWING SQUATTER SCAM

by John Grimaldi
WASHINGTON DC, April 5 -- If you are planning a lengthy holiday getaway don't leave your home unattended: beware the squatters. In some towns in the U.S. if homeowners take a lengthy vacation and squatters move into their home in the interim the intruders may wind up calling it their own "home sweet home." And "yes," it's legal.

The issue of squatter rights is not something new; squatters have been around since the first European settlers arrived in America. What is new is the emergence of squatters in growing numbers as a result of the Biden administration's open borders policy. Texas Senator John Cornyn tells us that "since President Biden took office, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has logged more than 5.4 million illegal border crossings, plus at least 1.5 million 'gotaways' – that is, border crossers who

were detected by CBP technology, but who were never apprehended." In that same period of time, squatting has become a nationwide issue that is on the rise, thanks to folks like illegal migrant Leonel Moreno who hails from Venezuela and who is encouraging fellow illegals to move into unoccupied homes.

Moreno has an audience in excess of half a million followers and is urging them to move into unoccupied homes, telling them that "if a house is not inhabited, seize it." A recent Newsmax feature National Police Association spokeswoman Betsy Brantner Smith noted that "thanks to social media, [she] worries that the squatting trend will become more formalized. This is extremely concerning because as migrants become aware that this isn't just a big city issue, they will go to suburbs and rural areas and find part-time occupied properties." She said it wouldn't be a surprise if people visiting their hunting cabins, lake homes, or motor homes this spring and summer encounter squatters who took up residence during the winter months."

There don't seem to be existing laws that provide homeowners blanket protections. But it is not too little, too late to enact new laws to protect property owners. In fact, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis recently signed a bill that protects property rights and provides penalties for squatters. "We are putting an end to the squatters' scam in

Florida. While other states are siding with the squatters, we are protecting property owners and punishing criminals looking to game the system. If you're the victim of squatting, you can simply fill out a form, give it to your local sheriff and the sheriff is instructed to go and remove the people who are inhabiting your dwelling illegally. And that will happen very quickly."

DeSantis' Attorney General Ashley Moody noted that "Biden has allowed millions of illegal immigrants to flood across the border. After video evidence of their plan to take over homes emerged, we're ensuring Floridians are protected from this egregious and brazen scheme. I'm grateful to Governor DeSantis for signing this important legislation into law, and to Representative Kevin Steele for carrying this bill through Session."

When a reporter asked White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre to comment on the Florida law, she seemed to dismiss it. She called it "hypothetical" and said, "this is a local issue."

The 2.4 million member Association of Mature American Citizens [AMAC] www.amac.us is a vibrant, vital senior advocacy organization that takes its marching orders from its members. AMAC Action is a non-profit, non-partisan organization representing the

membership in our nation's capital and in local Congressional Districts throughout the country.

HISTORY MATTERS

A feature courtesy of The Grateful American Book Prize Showing our children that their past is a prelude to their future.

by David Bruce Smith
April 1 to April 15, 2024

A year after Woodrow Wilson's presidency opened in 1913, World War I ramped up in Sarajevo; four years later he requested congressional authorization to dispatch troops to Germany.

"Wilson went on to lead what was at the time the largest war-mobilization effort in the country's history," according to History.com. "At first, Wilson asked only for volunteer soldiers, but soon realized voluntary enlistment would not raise a sufficient number of troops and signed the Selective Service Act in May 1917. The Selective Service Act required men between 21 and 35 years of age to register for the draft, increasing the size of the army from 200,000 troops to 4 million by the end of the war. One of the infantrymen who volunteered for active duty was future President Harry S. Truman."

CONTINUED PAGE 6





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





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GENEALOGY REPORT

KOHLER

Linda D. Kohler, 67, of Huntington, passed away at 6:37 a.m. on Monday, April 1, 2024, at her residence.

She was born on September 26, 1956, in Melvin, Ky., the daughter of Ernest Hensley and Dorothy (Little) Hensley.

Linda graduated from Wheelwright (Ky.) High School with the Class of 1974.

She married the Rev. Steve Kohler on June 1, 1974, in Wheelwright, Ky. He preceded her in death on May 26, 2020.

Linda was a homemaker.

She was a member of Wabash Free Will Baptist Church.

Linda loved going to church and her faith was the most intricate part of her life.

She enjoyed watching Kentucky Wildcats basketball and music.

Linda loved to cook.

Survivors include her two sons, Tim D. (Crystal) Kohler, of Huntington, and Kevin A. Kohler, of Huntington; six grandchildren, Sadie, Madalynn, Allison, Michaela, Ruby and Mason; five great-grandchildren, A.J., Braylynn, Selena, Ashton and Caden; three brothers, Cecil (Alpha) Hensley, of Warren, Larry (Myrtle) Hensley, of Nicholasville, Ky., and Ronnie (Teena) Hensley, of Majenica; three sisters, Regina (Ricky) Tackett, of Huntington, Wanda (William) Holbrook, of Pikeville, Ky., and Tammy Mosley, of Melvin, Ky.; three brothers-in-law, Frank Kohler, of Mt. Home, Idaho, Jarvey Vance Jr., of Huntington, and Collie Brahnem, of Melvin, Ky.; sister-in-law, Sue Hensley, of Huntington.

Linda is preceded in death by her husband, Steve Kohler, father, Ernest Hensley, mother, Dorothy Hensley, sisters, Christine Vance, Gloria Moore and Brenda Brahnem, and brother, Jimmy Randall Hensley.

Visitation will be from noon to 2 p.m. on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, at Bailey-Love Mortuary, 35 W. Park Dr., Huntington.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, at Bailey-Love Mortuary with Pastor Bill Crank officiating.

Burial will be in Mt. Hope Cemetery, Huntington.

RUCKMAN

Michael L Ruckman, 61, of Huntington, passed away after a short illness, surrounded by his family at 6:09 pm Monday, April 1, 2024, at Parkview Regional Medical Center in Fort Wayne, IN.

Michael was born on February 20, 1963, in Marion, IN, the son of Murray Wooldridge and Evelyn (Knight) Wooldridge-Ruckman. He attended Eastbrook High School with the class of 1981. Michael married his childhood sweetheart and soulmate Tina E. Lamb on August 31, 1984, in Huntington. They were happily married for many years before she preceded him in death on December 12, 2022. Michael attended Bippus Calvary Church in Bippus, IN. He was a truck driver for most of his career, and formally worked at Novae for almost 11 years.

Michael was a quiet and extremely loyal man - there was no better Dad or friend. He was honored to be his wife's loving caretaker as she battled her illness. Michael loved watching NASCAR, cooking steaks on the grill, and mastering his new pizza oven. He was a man of many talents who could fix anything. Michael enjoyed the simple things in life, like sitting on the front porch with friends and family. His fondest memories included the trips he took with his wife - he especially enjoyed their trips to the casino and the cruises they went on. He loved his beagle Piper, she was his best buddy.

Survivors include his two loving daughters, Christina N. (Rebecca) Ruckman of Huntington, IN, Sydney M. Ray of Roanoke, IN; grandson, Jett R Winters of Roanoke, IN; brother, Wayne Wooldridge of FL; four sisters, Pamela (Mark) Gard of IN, Wanda (Mike) Likens of KY, Karen Cassidy of IN, and Diana (Stub) Kuntz of IN. He is preceded in death by his wife, Tina E. Ruckman, father, Murray F. Wooldridge, mother, Evelyn Wooldridge-Ruckman, and stepfather, George Ruckman.

Visitation will be from 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm Thursday, April 11, 2024, at Bailey-Love Mortuary, 35 West Park Drive, Huntington, IN. Celebration of Life services will follow at 6:00 pm, with his friend, Pastor Jim Hippensteel officiating.

Preferred memorials to the Cancer services of Northeast Indiana, in care of Bailey-Love

Mortuary, 35 West Park Drive, Huntington, IN, 46750.

BOYS

Ruth Ann Boys, 73, of Marion, passed away on Wednesday, April 3, 2024, at Marion Health after a brief illness.

She was born on February 25, 1951, in Shelby, Mich., to Franklin G. and Velma H. (Hux) Howell.

Ruth was a graduate of Marion College (IWU) and did post graduate work at Ball State University, Muncie.

She taught at Marion Seventh-Day-Adventists as well as Anderson Seventh-Day-Adventists elementary schools for the Indiana Conference of Seventh-Day-Adventists.

Ruth retired as an elementary school teacher at Our Lady of the Lake Catholic School, Prudenville, Mich., returning to Marion in 2008.

Following retirement, she had been an academic specialist at Frances Slocum Elementary School, Marion, and also worked at Converse Elementary School.

Ruth was a lifelong teacher and a lifelong learner.

She was a member of Ephesus Seventh-Day Adventist Church, where she was a Sabbath school teacher.

Ruth is survived by her husband, David Lawrence Boys, of Marion; daughter, Anna Elizabeth Campbell, of Marion; brother, Franklin L. (Yolanda) Howell, of Huntington Beach, Calif.; brothers-in-law, Stephen P. (Cheryl) Boys, of Van Buren, and Douglas C. (Janet) Boys, of Gaston; four nieces; five great-nieces; six great-nephews; as well as a number of cousins.

The memorial service will be at 11 a.m. on Friday, April 12, 2024, at Ephesus Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 2424 S. Nebraska St., Marion, with Pastor Kent Nichols and Pastor Jose Torres officiating.

Interment will take place in LaFontaine Cemetery at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be made to the church or St. Jude's Children's Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105, which Ruth, with her students, raised donations for over the years.

RIGNEY

Peggy Ann Rigney, 81, of Marion, passed away at 6:11 a.m. on Wednesday, April 3, 2024, in her home.

She was born in Marion on Thursday, Jan. 14, 1943, to James Richard and Elizabeth Adaline (Colgan) Norman.

Peggy was married to her loving husband, Arnold Rigney, for 60 years.

She attended Van Buren High School.

Peggy was a manager for 30 years with Dairy Queen. She often was recognized by strangers and individuals of all ages due to her time at Dairy Queen.

She was a member of Moose Lodge and Gold Wing Road Riders Association (GWRRA) - Chapter B2.

Peggy was loved and cherished by so many family members and close friends, and she loved each and every one of them just the same.

Aside from her family and friends, she absolutely loved her dogs and granddogs!

Game nights with friends and family was something Peggy loved! It wasn't unusual for just her and her husband to be found playing a game of Aggravation when no one else was around.

Also, when she wasn't playing games herself, you would find her in her chair watching Steve Harvey on Family Feud.

Peggy actively attended her grandchildren's various events and athletic events. In the summer months, when she wasn't riding on the back of her husband's motorcycle, you would find her with her arms and legs stretched out, basking in the hot sun while sitting in her swing.

Survivors include her husband, Arnold Rigney; daughter, Suellen Emery; son, James D. (Debi) Rigney; grandchildren, Eric (Brad Milburn) Emery Jr., Kayla Smith, Devin Aguilar, Ryne (Kilie) Emery, Gator (Jaycee) Emery, Nicole Shoulders, Heather Bagnall and Gavin Rigney; great-granddaughter, Ivy Mae Emery; sister, Sue (Rex) Prather; brother-in-law, Dusty Guy; friends, Connie Lindsey, Dick Cloud and Jim Gause; several nieces and nephews.

Peggy was preceded in death by her parents, sister, Jennifer Guy, and friend, Michael Lindsey.

The family will receive visitors from 5 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, at Needham-Storey-Wampner Funeral & Cremation Service, North Chapel, 1341 N. Baldwin Ave., Marion.

On Wednesday, April 10, 2024, additional visitation will take

place at North Chapel from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. with Peggy's funeral service beginning at 1 p.m.

The Rev. Dr. Tom Mansbarger will be officiating.

Burial will follow at Gardens of Memory Cemetery, Marion.

Memorial contributions may be directed to Cancer Services of Grant County, Tower Suites, 305 S. Norton Ave., Marion, IN 46952.

WILLIAMS

Robert "Rob" J. Williams, 67 of Warren, passed away at Lutheran Hospital, Fort Wayne, on Wednesday, April 3, 2024.

He was born on October 15, 1956, to L.D. and Barbara (Hill) Williams in Huntington.

Rob graduated from Huntington North High School.

He served in the United States Navy on an aircraft carrier.

Rob Married Lisa (Nicholson) Williams on October 14, 1978.

He played baseball as a child and continued his love for the game into adulthood. He played in co-ed leagues and also played a key role in the youth baseball organization.

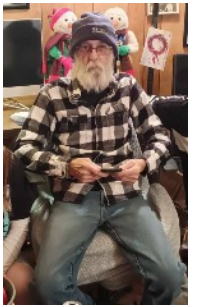
For 35 years, Rob was a member of Warren Baseball and Softball Leagues, which was his passion. He loved music and had a collection of instruments, such as guitars, banjos, mandolins and ukuleles.

Rob was preceded in death by his parents, L.D. and Barbara Williams, and a grandchild.

He will be deeply missed by his wife of 45 years, Lisa Williams; son, Seth (Holly) Williams; daughter, Courtney (Tyrell) Williams; sister, Linda (Max) Blain; brother, Lester (Amy) Williams; many grandchildren; a great-grandchild on the way.

Friends and family may gather to share and remember Rob on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, at Glancy-H. Brown & Son Funeral Home, 203 N. Matilda St., Warren, from 3 to 7 p.m.

In lieu of flowers or gifts, memorial contributions can be made to Glancy-H. Brown & Son Funeral Home to assist with expenses or to Lisa Williams to assist with medical expenses.



AREA NEWS CONTINUED

MORE PAGE 5

CLARK

Richard W. Clark, 72 of Ossian, passed away on Saturday, April 6, 2024, in Warren.



He was born on January 25, 1952, in Fort Wayne, Indiana to John E. & Helen F. (Coddington) Clark. A 1970 graduate of Norwell High School, Richard studied at Purdue University where he obtained an A.S. in Civil Engineering Technology in 1973.

A lifelong farmer, Richard has worked for over 20 years at Nutrien Ag Solutions in Warren. He was a longtime member of Hope Missionary Church and enjoyed going on mission trips through Samaritan's Purse and the Hope Missionary's Disaster Relief Team, traveling to New Orleans, Ecuador, and other locations to serve others. He was an active supporter of the Wells County 4-H Program and could often be found behind the scenes helping others.

On August 26, 1972, in Bluffton, Richard and Connie A. (Beavans) were married.

Survivors include his wife of 51 years, Connie Clark of Ossian and two sons: Brian (Annette) Clark and Steve (Tammy) Clark, both of Bluffton. Richard was a loving grandpa to 7 grandchildren; Lance (Elisse

Huss) Clark of Bluffton, Kayla (Michael Ward) Clark of Warren, Cody (Alisha) Campbell of Bluffton, Caige (Taylor Garr) of Bluffton, Cylee (Blaine) Williams of Hartford City, Cheyenne (Eli Hamrick) Painter of Berne and Celsey Clark of Bluffton, along with 2 great-grandchildren; Lydia and Melany Campbell of Bluffton.

Richard is also survived by his siblings; Marvin D. Clark of Orange Beach, AL., Ruth (Dave) Aeschliman of Rochester and Dr. Carol (Dr. Chris Melin) Clark of Orange Beach, AL., along with many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Funeral Services will be held at 11 A.M. on Saturday, (April 13, 2024) at Hope Missionary Church, 429 East Dustman Road, Bluffton, Indiana. Burial will follow at Horeb Cemetery in rural Uniondale.

Visitation will take place from 12 Noon to 8 P.M. on Friday, (April 12, 2024) at the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton and for one hour prior to the service at the church.

Memorials may be made in Richard's name to Samaritan's Purse or to Hope Missionary Church, Disaster Relief Team, and can be directed to the funeral home.

MORE PAGE 4

The Grateful American Book Prize recommends Nico Mendina's *What Was World War I?*

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The Civil War was the bloodiest in American History—with approximately six hundred and twenty thousand casualties—from the North and the South, combined. The conflict started in 1861 and ended April 9, 1865, with Robert E. Lee's ceding of his armed troops to General Ulysses S. Grant in Appomattox, Virginia.

"Lee and Grant, both holding the highest rank in their respective armies, had known each other slightly during the Mexican War [1846-1848] and exchanged awkward personal inquiries. Characteristically, Grant arrived in his muddy field uniform while Lee had turned out in full dress attire, complete with sash and sword. Lee asked for the terms, and Grant hurriedly wrote them out. All officers and men were to be pardoned, and they would be sent home with their private property—most important, the horses, which could be used for a late spring planting. Officers would keep their side arms, and Lee's starving men would be given Union rations," History.com reports.

The Grateful American Book Prize recommends Ethan S. Rafuse's *Robert E. Lee and the Fall of the Confederacy, 1863-1865*.

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On April 14, 1865, the country's jubilant End-of-War celebration veered into woe. President Lincoln was dead, shot "the night before by John Wilkes Booth, an actor and Confederate sympathizer."

According to History.com, Booth was determined to avenge the outcome of the war. "Learning that Lincoln was to attend Laura Keane's acclaimed performance in *Our American Cousin* at Ford's Theater...Booth plotted the simultaneous assassination[s] of Lincoln, Vice President Andrew Johnson, and Secretary of State William H. Seward. By murdering the

president and two of his possible successors, Booth and his conspirators hoped to throw the U.S. government into a paralyzing disarray ... On the evening of April 14, conspirator Lewis T. Powell burst into Secretary of State Seward's home, seriously wounding him and three others, while George A. Atzerodt, assigned to Vice President Johnson, lost his nerve and fled. Meanwhile, just after 10 p.m., Booth entered Lincoln's private box unnoticed and shot the president with a single bullet in the back of his head."

The Grateful American Book Prize suggests James L. Swanson's *Manhunt: The 12-Day Chase for Lincoln's Killer*.

CLOSING THE STEM SKILLS GAP TO CREATE NEW POSSIBILITIES FOR KIDS

(StatePoint) Over the next decade, it's projected that nearly 3.5 million manufacturing and STEM-related jobs will be available, yet 2 million are expected to go unfilled due to a skills gap, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics. Advocates are addressing systemic educational barriers that impact student success in order to fill this skills gap and expand opportunities for young people.

That's the idea behind Driving Possibilities, a \$110 million STEM career readiness and community engagement initiative of the Toyota USA Foundation. Its unique approach brings industry and academia together, while coordinating nonprofit services that address barriers and societal disparities—all to prepare youth for successful futures.

"From machine learning and connected technologies to autonomous vehicles and electrification, the career opportunities of tomorrow will be boundless for those with STEM skills. During this time of rapid industry advancement, it's more important than ever to give all young people an equal

opportunity to access rewarding careers in high-growth industries tomorrow," says Colleen Casey, executive director, Driving Possibilities.

With the goal of increasing student awareness, excitement and interest in STEM learning, the multi-pronged approach of Driving Possibilities includes innovative, hands-on STEM programming from pre-K to 12th grade levels, professional and leadership development for teachers, and industry exposure and mentorship opportunities for students. The program also addresses students' essential needs to ensure they have the food, transportation, mental health services, after-school programming and early intervention literacy support they need to succeed.

This long-term initiative is already making a huge impact for thousands of families in such high-need locations near Toyota's operations in Michigan, Kentucky, Indiana and Alabama. And while the program looks a little different in each location because it is based on the unique needs of each community, the mission remains the same: to level the playing field for students facing educational barriers. To learn more, visit toyotaeffect.com.

"Young people are tomorrow's problem-solvers, makers and innovators. But they can face many roadblocks on their journey. Listening to what students need and then working within their communities to come up with solutions, will contribute to thriving communities, stronger local economies and limitless possibilities for all," says Casey.

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