Hometown News from Warren, Liberty Center, & Van Buren

Friday, February 1, 2008

Volume 22, Number 50



Warren Warren

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Your Hometown Newspaper

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Thought for the Week: Always forgive your enemies - Nothing annoys them so much. Anonymous



WELCOME TO THE CHOCOLATE CAFÉ

You may have noticed the activity downtown in the former Natalie Jeanne's building. This is the new home of the Chocolate Café.

Clint and Elizabeth (pictured above) invite you to stop in and sample their down home menu. That menu includes breakfast anytime, lunch, lunch specials, sandwiches, salads and ala carte. Their daily lunch special will run for \$4.95 most days.

The Chocolate Café is also the home of the 1.95 Monster Muffin – which looks to be a meal in itself. Gotta be there quick for Monster Muffins – I hear tell that some customers are getting called to they can get them fresh outta the oven.

Elizabeth and Clint are working on turning the old pharmacy building next door into a non-smoking dining room and bakery in the very near future.

While Clint specializes in the restaurant side of things, Elizabeth is handling the bakery and candy making side. She states that, "You don't have to wait for the bakery to open – if you need something now just give me a call." The bakery will have the standard birthday cakes, cookies and lots of her delectable candy. She will do bakery and candy items for weddings, anniversaries, parties and more.

Hours for the restaurant are Tuesday through Saturday, 5 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

The phone number is 375-4655.

Stop in, say hi, and have a slaw burger and fries – hmmm, wonder if they've got a bottle of skeet, too?

AFTER SCHOOL STORYTIME

After school story time has begun at Salamonie School! Children Kindergarten through 2nd grade are invited to attend on Mondays after school until 4:30. January 28th was the first session. The children heard Lefty Righty and stories about groundhogs. Each week a chapter of a Magic Tree House book The Blizzard of the Blue Moon will be read as well as activities and stories shared.

BOATER EDUCATION

There will be an Indiana Boater Education Class held on February 9, 2008, from 9:00 am —3:00 pm, at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum in Fort Wayne, Indiana, during the Fort Wayne Boat Show. Students must pre-register by signing up at the Indiana Conservation Officers Booth at the BoatShow, or by calling the Indiana Conservation Officers District Office at 260-244-3720.

CONCERT PLANNED

HillCrest Church of the Nazarene will host "Redeemed" a Southern Gospel Duet from Southwestern Michigan.

On Sunday, February 17, the concert will be at 10:30 AM. A free will offering will be received.

Everyone Is Welcome!!!

FISH FRY

The Huntington County Council on Aging is having their annual all you can eat, fish fry on Friday, February 8th, 2008. This fund raiser will be at the Knight-Bergman Center in Warren, Indiana from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$7.50 for adults and \$4.25 for children, Age 5 and under are free. Dan's Fish Fry Services will be cooking fish and tenderloins. The popular carry out service will again be available. Tickets are available at the door, at the Huntington Senior Center, or from any Board Member. This year's sponsors are Johnson Realty, Oakbrook Village, MarkleBank, Warren Wagon Wheel and Campbell & Dye Insurance. This is always a fun event, so bring your family and friends for an enjoyable night out.

Angels Have Wheels

All Medicare recipients should now be aware that if they suffer from conditions such as arthritis, cardiovascular disease, and respiratory disorders, and have difficulty walking or propelling a standard wheelchair, they maybe eligible to receive an electric wheelchair paid for by Medicare.

For information on Medicare eligibility contact 1-800-810-2877.

LENTEN STUDY

The Plum Tree United Church of Christ, located at the corner of 300 East and St. Rd. 124 in Huntington County, is offering a six-week Lenten study group entitled "A Journey to Jerusalem" lead by Dr. Jeanne Spoor.

The study group will be offered each Wednesday night from 7 – 8 p.m. from Feb. 5 through March 12. The general public is welcome and there is no charge to participate. For more information contact Verla

Jane Park at 468-2737, Connie Mounsey at 758-2490, Ralph Eltzroth at 375-2691 or Dr. Jeanne Spoor at 260-456-3801.

"Lent is a time for personal reflection as we prepare for the celebration of Easter. Every year we listen to the stories of Jesus' followers who found their lives changed by his presence. In these weekly studies we will join them on their journey to Jerusalem. Instead of giving up something for Lent, think about adding this Bible study to your weekly schedule," suggests Dr. Spoor.

The study each week will focus on the stories found in the gospel of John. The texts for the following week's lessons will be available at the end of each session. Dr. Spoor will give a presentation of the beginning of each lesson, then those attending will divide into smaller study groups for discussion. The study group topics and schedule is as follows:

Feb. 6 Ash Wednesday Worship Service, Holy Communion and "Our Spiritual Journey – Then"

Feb. 13 "Mary Magdalene" Feb. 20 "Nicodemus" Feb. 27 "Peter" March 5 "Thomas" March 12 "Our Spiritual Journey –

FLEA MARKET

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Call 765-348-3213 to rent 4-H building.

BIG BAND CONCERT

Denver & the Mile High Orchestra will bring big band back to Huntington University on March 28. The concert is set for 7:30 p.m. in the Zurcher Auditorium of the Merillat Centre for the Arts.

"They are unique since they are the only nationally promoted Christian group performing and recording in a big band style with a distinctly Christian message," said Steve Pozezanac, director of the Merillat Centre for the Arts.

Denver & the Mile High Orchestra originally was scheduled to appear at the university Nov. 17 but postponed the concert because of the production schedule for "The Next Great American Band," a new competition series that aired on the FOX network. DMHO was one of 12 bands to be chosen as a semifinalist. On the show, the groups performed a song, and then audience called in and voted for their favorite group. The group with the fewest votes was eliminated. DMHO ended up as a top three finalist.

Tickets already purchased will be honored on the new concert date. To purchase tickets, call the Merillat Centre for the Arts Box Office at (260) 359-4261. Ticket prices are \$11-\$15 for reserved seating, \$5 for Huntington University students, discounted by \$2 for students 13 and older as well as seniors, and half price for students 12 and younger.

This concert is underwritten by the Rocky and Carol Strickler Endowment, WLAB Star 88.3 FM, and Compassion International.

Formed by a group of friends at Nashville's Belmont University in 1999, DMHO is comprised of three trumpet players, three saxophone players, two trombone players and a rhythm section. In the nine years since its inception, the group has traveled around the globe, performing at churches, conferences, festivals—even at the Olympics—taking their horn-driven sound to the masses. For more information about the band, log on to www.denvermho.com/.

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WARREN WEEKLY is a free paper for the Warren, Indiana area. It is distributed every Friday to rural postal patrons of Warren, Liberty Center, and Van Buren, Indiana. The Warren Weekly is available at Cady's Express, and next to the Post Office in downtown Warren. The Warren Weekly is also available in several businesses in Van Buren. Total circulation is 3200.

It is sent anywhere in the Continental United States for three (3) months for \$12, six (6) months for \$24 or \$48 for one year. Mail name, address, and payment to WARREN WEEKLY at: PO Box 695, Warren, IN 46792.

Deadline for news and/or advertising is 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, for that week's edition. Call if you need something in but won't have it here on time.

Leave news and/or advertising at PJ's Flower and Gift Shop, mail to P O Box 695, Warren, fax to 260.375.7007 or email to wwkly@citznet.com. Van Buren residents may call Mary Jo Zoda at 765-934-3637.

WARREN WEEKLY will make every effort to see that all advertising copy is correctly printed. The firm assumes no financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertising, but will gladly reprint without charge that part in which an error may occur, provided that it is reported within five days of publication.

The publisher takes no responsibility for statements or claims made in any

KUDOS, KICKS & KARATS

Surprize, Surprize!

If it were not so serious it most certainly would be funny. And "Funny" Ha, Ha, not "Funny" peculiar.

Some of Indiana's Politicians, not all but most, are telling how surprised they are that our property taxes are out of hand and needs fixing. It should not be a surprise unless they have not studied Indiana's last 40 years. A Real Rip Van Winkle.

Back in Dr. Bowen's governorship there was a serious problem with property taxes. From that time up to and including today, the problem remains with us. We have had "Tax Freezes", Tax "Thaws", Tax Levy "Caps", Manipulations of Property Assessments, and several other measures taken to solve the problem, but never really taking the steps

All kinds of people and offices have been blamed, and all Kinds of Stop-Gap measures have been used to "Put It Off" until later. If our State Government, Both Parties, was given a grade in procrastination, they would receive an "A" in implementation and an "F" in results. The problem remains with us and is getting worse and worse.

Now, we are engaged in a process of saving face and doing it without anyone taking a stand, no matter how unpopular, and launch into the solution. (Note, Mitch did take a stand as I wrote this)

The solution will bring some pain. Some pain will come for just about everybody. Everyone's ox will be gored a little bit. It would not have been so severe had we faced the problem a few years ago.

We in Indiana have a super revenue appetite. We want to do all kinds of huge things and we are willing to bond ourselves, borrow temporarily, put off paying until a later time and tampering with Federal and State law. We are in bondage to gambling. We have sold out to the idea that we will "Gamble our way into prosperity." And for the most part this was predicated in passage of laws which made gambling legal because "All the states around us are gambling" and we didn't want to lose the

Now, it is payday. As there always is, we must pay the piper.

And it is so painful. Every newspaper, every news cast, every coffee shop is full of sadness and gloom. "How will we ever solve this tax problem?" We hear it everywhere.

"My taxes went up 28 percent." "My taxes went up only 11 percent." "I don't know how much my taxes went up because we pay it through escrow with our mortgage payment." The story goes on and on. But the question remains with us. Where will the revenue come from?

Now it is suggested that we can raise sales taxes, income taxes, intangible taxes, taxes on services etc, and sometime there will be a decision. But with caution take Note! No matter which tax or taxes are chosen to furnish the revenue, if the growth of expenditures for all governmental agencies are not controlled, including schools, the problem will never be solved. There will never be enough.

The first act in solving the Property Tax situation must be an act of controlling the budget (expenditure) growth of all offices and agencies who spend tax revenue. Without that we will have the same old problem with us in a few months, no matter which tax is used to solve the old property tax problem.

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8294S 900W 35

Gary Riley, Pastor

Sunday School9:30 a.m.

Worship 10:30 a.m.

Youth Choir Practice 5:00 p.m.

Wed. Bible Study6:30 p.m.

Thurs. Kings Kids6:30 p.m.

BYG Youth Svc. (2&4Sun.) .. 6:00 p.m.

CWF Ladies (3 Tue)6:00 p.m. 1st Sun. (Qtrly) Praise Hour.. 6:30 p.m.

BOEHMER UNITED METHODIST

Rev. Barry Humble, Pastor

Jerome Markley, S.S. Supt.

Sunday Worship 9:30a.m.

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Van Buren, Indiana 765-934-2199

Pastor - Interim

Youth Minister Lynne Payne

Worship9:30 a.m.

Sunday School10:40 a.m.

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Rev. Malcolm & Jackie Howell

260/356-1246

Sunday Evening Service6:00 p.m.

Tuesday Eve. Bible Study6:30 p.m.

DILLMAN UNITED BRETHREN

8888S 1100W-90, Warren 375-2779

Dick Case, Pastor

Wed - Circle of Friends

Tues. Thurs. Fri & Sat

Chapel Services

Youth Group (6th-12th).6:00p.m.

(3yrs old - 5th grade) . 6:30-8p.m.

HANFIELD UNITED METHODIST

101 N 400 E - Marion 765/664-8726

Timothy Helm, Senior Pastor

1st Worship......9:00 a.m.

2nd Worship......10:30 a.m.

HERITAGE POINTE

Sunday Morning Worship9:30 a.m.

WARREN UNITED METHODIST

Rev. Mike Malone, Pastor

Sunday School9:30 a.m.

Worship10:30 a.m.

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Rev Mark Davis Worship10:30 a.m. Evening Worship......6:00 p.m. Youth Group (Wed.).....6:00 p.m. Wed. Midweek Service......6:30 p.m.

JEFFERSONCENTER UNITED METHODIST Corner of 900S & 300W Kathy Newton, Pastor

Sunday School8:45 a.m. Worship Service10:00 a.m. **LANCASTER WESLEYAN**

468-2411 Doug Sharrard, Pastor

David Thrift, S.S. Supt. Sunday School9:30 a.m. Worship10:30 a.m. Wednesday:

Sunday School 10:30a.m. CYC/Teen/Adult Meetings 7:00 p.m. LIBERTY CENTER BAPTIST CHURCH 694-6622

> Pastor Dan Sommer Sunday School9:00 a.m. Fellowship 9:55a.m. Worship 10:15a.m. Wed. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. LIBERTYCENTER

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Dan Helm, Pastor Morning Worship9:30 a.m.
Sunday School10:45 a.m.
McNATT UNITED METHODIST

375-4359

Bill VanHaften, Pastor Lois Slusher, Supt. Coffee Fellowship......8:30 a.m. Sun - 1st Worship Service.... 8:15a.m. Worship9:15 a.m. Sunday School.......9:30a.m. Sunday School10:30 a.m.

MT. ETNA UNITED METHODIST 260/468-2148

Rev. Totti Derties - rastor	
Trad. Worship 9:00 a.	m.
Mdrn Worship 10:30 a	.m.
Fellowship & Classes 9:30 a	ı.m.
Kids Club, Youth Group & Adult Stu	dies
- all Sunday 6:00 p.m.	

MOUNT ETNA WESLEYAN Rev. Charles Dederick, Pastor OTHER SERVICES BY ANNOUNCEMENT Sunday School9:30 a.m. Worship10:30 a.m. ..9:00 a.m. Sunday Evening6:00 p.m.

Mid-Week (Wed)

THE NEW BEGINNING SR 218, 2 1/8 mile west of Poneto

....6:00 p.m.

Steve Sutton, Pastor 765/728-2065 for more info Sunday Worship......10:30a.m.

ThursdayPrayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.

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Dr. Jeane Spoor, Pastor Sunday School9:30 a.m. Worship10:30 a.m.

SALAMONIE CHURCH OF BRETHREN 468-2412

Mel Zumbrun, Pastor Worship9:30 a.m. Church School10:45a.m.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST 375-2102

Rev. Rick Pulling, Interim Pastor Sunday Worship...... 9:30 a.m. Junior Church 10:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Communion 1st Sunday of the Month Fun Factory 1st/3rd Sundays ...6:00p.m.

VBCHURCHOFTHENAZARENE 765/934-3321 Parsonage Jeff Wass, Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Adult Worship10:30 a.m. Children's Church 10:30a.m. Evening Praise Hour..... 6:00p.m. Hour of Power (Wed) 7:00p.m.

VBUNITED METHODIST CHURCH 765-934-1431

Pastor Blake J. Neff Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30a.m. Jr/Sr High UMYF (Sun)...... 6:30 p.m. Prayer-Bible Study (Thur).... 7:30 p.m. UMW 2nd Wed 7:00 p.m. www.vanburenumc.org

WARREN CHURCH OF CHRIST 375-3022

Gerald O. Moreland, Minister Todd Winkler, Youth Minister Ruth Moreland, Secretary & BS Supt. Fellowship9:15 a.m. Worship & Communion9:30 a.m. Sunday School10:45 a.m. WARREN 1st BAPTIST CHURCH

Corner of N. Wayne & Matilda Sts. Rev. Bill Fisher, Pastor of

Preaching and Discipleship Rev. Robert Bothast, Pastor of Family Life Lori Buzzard, S.S. Supt.

Sunday School9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship10:00 a.m. Sunday Evening Service 6:00p.m. WARREN WESLEYAN CHURCH 375-2330 6th & Nancy Sts. Warren

Rev. Andy Trowbridge, Pastor Wesley Welch, Supt. Sunday School9:30 a.m.

Worship10:15 a.m. Wednesday Prayer Service..7:00p.m.

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Please Attend the Church of Vour Choice

AREA NEWS

Nongame Fund **DONATIONS**

Gov. Mitch Daniels says Hoosiers can help one of Indiana's rarest wildlife species when they file their state income taxes this year. The special checkoff on Line 35 of the state tax form allows taxpayers to donate a portion of their state tax refund to the Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Fund, which helps fund the return of the bald eagle to Indiana.

'This is an important part of Indiana's wildlife heritage. Funding for conservation efforts for bald eagles and hundreds of other species increases when Hoosiers check the box on their tax form." Daniels said.

DNR director Robert E. Carter Jr. said the return of the bald eagle to Indiana – now 80 nesting pairs – is the most successful example of the program, and the more checkoffs on tax forms, the more matching federal funds become available for the program.

The Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Fund supports research and management activities for the state's estimated 750 species of birds, mammals, fish, mussels, reptiles and amphibians that traditionally are not pursued through hunting and fishing. In fact, nongame species make up more than 90 percent of the wildlife in Indiana.

The Indiana legislature established the Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Fund in 1982. Operating solely on voluntary contributions, the fund has paved the way for reintroducing to the Indiana landscape such onceendangered species as the bald eagle, peregrine falcon and river

The bald eagle, official icon of the nongame program, had been absent in the state since the late 1890s. The DNR launched a sixyear restoration project in 1985 by releasing young eagles, and 20 years later, there are nearly 80 nesting pairs in the state.

"Peregrine falcons and river otters have had similar success stories, but there is still much work to be done," Carter said.

The DNR is working on a wide range of nongame species that need help – lake sturgeon, osprey, Franklin's ground squirrel, Allegheny woodrat – and the fund has been used to help purchase critical wildlife habitat at Pisgah Marsh in Kosciusko County, and Goose Pond Fish and Wildlife Area, an 8,000-acre wetlands complex in Greene County.

In addition to the tax checkoff, direct donations are another option for contributing to the Nongame Fund. For information, write to Nongame Fund, 402 W. Washington St., Room W273, Indianapolis, IN, 46204, visit or endangeredwildlife.IN.gov.

COLD WEATHER SAFETY

When winter temperatures drop, staving warm and dry can be a challenge. And with the cold winter weather already upon us and expected for the days ahead, the Indiana State Department of Health recommends Hoosiers take steps to plan for the cold.

Health officials say serious health problems can result from prolonged exposure to the cold. The most common cold-related problems are hypothermia and frostbite.

Hypothermia occurs when people are exposed to cold temperatures. A person's body begins to lose heat faster than it can be produced and prolonged exposure to the cold will ultimately use up your body's stored energy. This results in hypothermia, or abnormally low bodv temperature. Body temperature that is too low affects the brain, making the victim unable to think clearly or move well. This makes hypothermia particularly dangerous because a person may not know it is happening and won't be able to do anything about it.

Frostbite is an injury to the body that is caused by freezing. Frostbite causes a loss of feeling and color in affected areas. It most often affects the nose, ears, cheeks, chin, fingers, or toes. Frostbite can permanently damage the body, and severe cases can lead to amputation. The risk of frostbite is increased in people with reduced blood circulation and among people who are not dressed properly for extremely cold temperatures.

Exposure to the cold can cause life-threatening health conditions. Avoid serious conditions such as frostbite and hypothermia by keeping warm. Wear the following items when outdoors:

- * A hat or hood as most heat is lost through the head;
- * A scarf or knit mask to cover face and mouth;
- * Sleeves that are snug at the
- * Mittens (they are warmer than gloves);
- * Water-resistant coat and boots;
- * Several layers of loose-fitting clothing

Ensure the outer layer of your clothing is tightly woven, preferably wind resistant, to reduce body-heat loss caused by wind. Wool, silk, or polypropylene inner layers of clothing will hold more body heat than cotton. Most important, stay dry as wet clothing chills the body rapidly. Excess perspiration will increase heat loss, so remove extra layers of clothing whenever you feel too warm. Do not ignore shivering. It's an important first sign that the body is losing heat. Persistent shivering is a signal to return indoors.

Health officials offer the following tips for staying warm and safe while at home:

- Use fireplace, wood stoves, or other combustion heaters only if they are properly vented to the outside;
- * Never use a charcoal or gas grill indoors—the fumes are deadly;
- unattended:
- * Keep as much heat as possible inside your home;
- * Check the temperature in your home often during severely cold weather; and

* Eat well-balanced meals to help you stay warmer.

Improper use of portable heating equipment can lead to fire or dangerous levels of carbon monoxide. Take precautions to ensure you are heating your home safely. Check that you have a working carbon monoxide detector.

4-H OPEN HOUSE

Youth in grades 3 through 12 are invited to attend the 4-H Open House, Saturday, February 9th at the Wells County Community Center at the 4-H Park, Bluffton.

4-H Leaders from around the county will be distributing enrollment forms and answering questions. Youth will be able to pay their club dues for 2008 and obtain their manuals and other supplies. Membership forms are due April 1, 2008

The club schedule for the event will be:

8 - 10 AM Lancaster Township Achievers, Rockcreek Township Rollers (Rockcreek and Union Townships), Liberty Township Happy Go Lucky, Jackson Township Jaguars

10 AM – 12 Noon Hurryin' Harrisons (Harrison Township),

- * Never leave lit candles

Jefferson Township Knightriders, Nottingham Township Nobles, Chester Township Chargers

On Friday, February 8th, the PATRIOTS 4-H Club will hold their Open House from 1:30 - 3 PM at the Community Center at the 4-H Park in Bluffton.

Information will also be available about the 4-H Dog Obedience Club, 4-H Archery Club, and 4-H Jr. Leaders.

The next sign up meeting for the 4-H Horse & Pony Club will be Monday, February 18th, 6:30 PM at the Wells County Community Center at the 4-H Park in Bluffton.

4-H membership forms for Wells County are due April 1, 2008.

Youth may join a township / community club or a county club. Youth may become 4-H members when they enter third grade or become ten (10) years of age sometime during the calendar year (January 1 - December 31) and may continue their membership for a maximum of ten (10) years or through the calendar year they become nineteen (19), whichever comes first.

Mini 4-H membership forms will be distributed through the schools to all 1st and 2nd grade students in March. Home school students may pick up a form at the Extension Office in March. (Exception: The Mini 4-H Horse & Pony project will accept students in Kindergarten with a special signed insurance form. This is only for Mini 4-H Horse & Pony.) Mini 4-H membership forms are due May 1.

If you have questions about any project, please call your 4-H Club Leader or the Wells County Extension Office, 1240 S. 4-H Road, Bluffton IN 46714, 260-824-6412.

HUNTER EDUCATION

A Hunter Educator course will be offered Monday, February 25th, Wednesday, February 27th and Thursday, February 28th, 6 - 9 PM at the Wells County Community Center at the 4-H Park.

Participants completing the class will receive certification which is required to obtain a hunting license in Indiana and other states.

Pre-registration is required by calling 260-824-0692. The class is free and open to the public. Youth who are under age 16 must be accompanied by a guardian. Attendance at all classes is required for completion.

Class instructors will include certified instructors Mike & Jodi Pinkerton, Rich Falk, Tracy Myers, and Indiana Conservation Officer Kenny Wireman. The event is organized by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources. For more information and details, call 260-824-0692.





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 cancelled, please notify WW.) Only event, place, time, and sponsor, for events in Warren, and the surrounding area will be listed.

Warren Town Council, 6:30 p.m. Jan 28 Warren Recycle Day Feb 1 Feb 2 **GROUNDHOGDAY** Feb6 Chamber of Commerce, Noon, Assembly Hall Van Buren Town Council, 7 p.m. Feb6 Feb 11 Warren Town Council, 6:30 p.m, Assembly Hall Feb 12 LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY Feb 12 Knight Bergman Center Board Meeting, 5:30 p.m. Feb 13 Chamber of Commercie Drawing 6:30 p.m. Feb 15 Warren Recycle Day PRESIDENT'S Day eh 18 Van Buren Town Council 7 p.m. Feb 20 Feb 22 WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY Feb 25 Warren Town Council, 6:30 p.m., Assembly Hall Mar 1 Warren Recycle Day Warren Chamber of Commerce lunch, noon, Mar 6

Assembly Hall Van Buren Town Council, 7 p.m. Mar 6

Bread of Life Food Pantry - Wed 4 - 5:30pm, Sat 10 - 11:30 at KBC or by appointment - Call 375-2381. Bargain Basement - Friday & Saturday 9 - 4 at KBC **Depression Support Group** 2nd & 4th Thurs at Hope Missionary Church, Bluffton 6-7:30 Cancer Support Group - 3rd Tuesday 6:30-8p.m. at Bluffton Regional South Campus Walking in the Gym 7-11 a.m. Monday - Friday



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AREA NEWS CONTINUED

TACK AUCTION

The Wells County 4-H Horse & Pony Club will host a Tack Auction on Saturday, February 17 at the Wells County Community Center at the 4-H Park. Doors will open at 5 PM and the Auction will begin at

A complete line of horse equipment will be offered by Chad Bricker. Consignment tables are available and donated items are welcome for the silent auction.

Dinner, snacks, and beverages will be available. All proceeds to benefit the Wells County 4-H Horse & Pony Club. For more information, contact Mindy Martin, 260-273-

FILES FOR RE-ELECTION

State Representative Phyllis Pond (R-New Haven) has filed for reelection to the Indiana House of Representatives in House District 85. "I have fought for issues that are important to my constituents including the reduction of property taxes along with immediate property tax reform and I have appreciated the support of Hoosiers from my district.'

Pond's district represents portions of Allen and DeKalb Counties

Having served on several House Committees, Pond currently serves as a Member of the House Ways and Means and Judiciary Committees. She also serves on the Indiana State Fair Advisory Interim Committee.

While proud of her record while at the Statehouse, Pond noted there is more work to be done. "I want to ensure that the implementation of permanent property tax relief is carried out will be lasting and permanent. Also, fixing our state's system of school funding, attracting jobs through the development of our infrastructure, supporting Indiana agriculture and promoting fiscal responsibility are still at the top of my list of priorities. I will continue to fight for these issues as we continue to make Indiana a better place for Hoosiers

"I would also like to thank the citizens of Allen County and INDOT for their call to action concerning the recent announcement to build the cloverleaf intersections on the Port to Fort. We must be vigilant of our support and continue to monitor the state government's action on this issue."

A retired teacher. Pond received her Bachelor's degree from Ball State University and her Masters from Indiana University. She is a Member of the New Haven Women's Club, the National Order of Women Legislators and is a Precinct Committeeman. She has served as a 4-H leader, Cub Scout den mother, and Girl Scout leader. Representative Pond and her husband George live in New Haven where they attend the Lutheran Church. They have three grown children.

WINTER READING

Whether you like to snuggle up in a warm blanket with a chilling mystery story or prefer to dream of spring with a sunny gardening guide, you can earn a free book in the annual Winter Reading Program at the Wells County Public Library during the month of February. You were going to read anyway, right? Why not make those pages count and take the challenge. Programs for adults, teens and families. Adults and Young Adults who complete the program are registered for drawings of 20 new books and one gift basket.

Sign up anytime during the month of February at the main library or Ossian and Southern Wells Branches. Books must be read Feb. 1-29, 2008. A complete set of rules is available at the library.

Adult Winter Reading: Count the number of pages read during the month of February. Choose your prize: 400 pages = two \$1 coupons to rent videos, pay fines or buy items from the Used Book Cart. 600 pages = one book (valued up to \$10) from our selection. 1,200 pages = one book (valued over \$10) from our selection. One prize per person.

Young Adult Winter Reading: Count the number of pages read during the month of February. Choose your prize: 200 pages = two \$1 coupons to rent videos, pay fines or buy items from the Used Book Cart. 400 pages = one book (valued up to \$10) from our selection. 800 pages = one book (valued over \$10) from our selection. One prize per person.

Family Reading: Families work as a team to earn a keepsake book for their home. This multigenerational program encourages families to read together or alone. Receive a box of hot chocolate just for signing up, then start reading from our wide selection of books.

For more information, stop by the Wells County Public Library or call 260-824-1612

FINANCIAL AID CHAT

Hoosier parents and students interested in learning more about the college financial aid process have an opportunity to interact with financial aid experts during a live, interactive online chat offered by the Indiana Youth Institute's Trip to College Web site.

There is no cost to participate in the chat, which will take place 7-9 p.m. EST/6-8 p.m. CST, Feb. 7 at www.triptocollege.org. Advance registration is not necessary, but those who would like an e-mail reminder for the event can sign-up for one now at the Trip to College Web site.

"This is an effort to help demystify the financial aid process and help parents understand the steps to take to apply for aid, loans and scholarships for their children," said Bill Stanczykiewicz, president and CEO of the Indiana Youth Institute. "The online chat is particularly timely because February is the month many parents of high school seniors are preparing financial applications.

March 10 is the deadline for filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The form is mandatory for students hoping to receive federal financial aid and is used to determine eligibility for the state of Indiana's college aid programs.

The chat also takes place in advance of College Goal Sunday, which is an additional opportunity for parents and students to receive professional help completing the FAFSA form. Locations for the Feb. 17 event can be found at www.collegegoalsunday.org.

More than 100,000 parents have used Trip to College since its creation. A free Web site, "Trip" provides straightforward explanations of various ways to save for a child's education and the practical steps parents can take can during each year of their child's K-12 education to help plan for college.

The Indiana Youth Institute developed Trip to College with funding from Lilly Endowment Inc., along with a companion site, Drive Your Life. www.driveofyourlife.org. Both Web sites provide information for parents and students in Indiana.

"Drive" is aimed at preteens and teenagers who are dreaming of turning 16 and earning a driver's license. The interactive site poses questions that get children thinking about their future and showing them careers that match their interests. A trip through the Web site ends with a student receiving a "driver's license" that lays out an individualized high school curriculum the student could pursue to earn a state-mandated Core 40 diploma.

Drive of Your Life also offers a curriculum based on state educational standards that allows teachers to use it in school as part of career exploration courses.

The Indiana Youth Institute promotes the healthy development of children and youth by serving the institutions and people of Indiana who work on their behalf. For more information, visit www.iyi.org

Colors & Numbers

Twenty-nine children from the Little Panther Preschool attended the Van Buren Public Library on Wed. Jan. 16th. 2008.

The children are studying colors and numbers. Karen read the books "Colors" a Honey Bear Board Book and "Learn About Numbers" an Adventure of Poldy Book. These children's books can be found in the Children's Department of the library.

The morning preschoolers who attended were: Peyton Bennet, Karrlee Bradley, Kayla Dilly, Wyatt Garrison, Kristin Goff, Amazza Jones, Noah Parson, Sean Plasterer, Logan Roush, Abigale Turner, Aidan Dunham, and Ethan McCray.

The afternoon preschoolers who attended where: Luke Boucher, Colton Bradt, Alyssa Corn, Seth Davis, Skyler Harwood, Braxton Helms, Raenah Holt, Allyssah Lahr, Alex Lopez, Chad Lytle, Darren

Ream, Gracie Richardson, Brandon Sargent, Colin Suchcicki, Glen Swanson, Hunter Walters and Jared Richwine.

HAPPY HATTERS

The Van Buren Happy Red Hatters met Fri. Jan 25th for Lunch and a meeting. January birthdays celebrated were Anna Lou Saylor and Helen Fincannon. Discussion was held about the next outing which will be on Feb. 19th, with Lunch at the JOY meeting at the Van Buren United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall at 12:00 noon. The Red Hatters are to have the program. Attendance prize was won by Janet Hunnicutt. Those in attendance were Nancy Cook, Norma Briner, Phyliss Harper, Willadeane Harte, Mary Ellen Hawkins, Janet Hunnicutt, Shirley Shinholt, Helen Fincannon, Rosemary Hammons, Irene Pickard, Waneta Linton, Anna Lou Saylor, Paula Shepherd, Lucille Endsley, and Annie Lucas. The ladies also will meet at the Van Buren Central Christian Church Annex on Feb. 15th at 10:00 A.M. to go over the program.

SCRAPBOOK CLUB

The new Huntington County Extension Homemakers scrapbooking / stamping club met at the home of Teri Shiflett Tuesday January 22 at 6:30 pm. In attendance were Teri Shiflett, Sharon McCoart, Janice Smith, Becky Chenoweth, Debbie Smith and club mentor, Stephanie Jerabek.

The club business for the evening included selecting a name for the new club. The club will be known as "Paper Artisans" and will meet the second Tuesday of the month, January through May and September through November. There will be no club meetings during July and December.

CONTINUED PAGE 6





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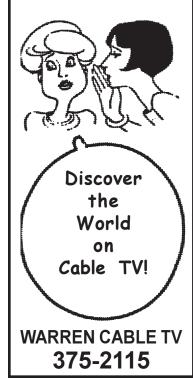
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GENEALOGY REPORT

COLLINS

Norma Jean Collins, 72, of Warren died Jan. 23, 2008, at Heritage Pointe.

Born in Grant County Sept. 8, 1935 to Edwin and Irene (Emerick) Hix, she lived in Huntington County most of her life. She graduated from Van Buren High School in 1953 and worked at the United Methodist Memorial Home in Warren as a bookkeeper for 34 years. She was also a member of the Lancaster Wesleyan Church in Huntington.

Surviving relatives include two sons, Michael A. (Kathy) Collins of La Fontaine and Timothy R. Collins of Marion; one daughter, Susan M. (William) Sunderman of Huntington; one brother, James E. (Marilyn) Hix of Dalton, Ga.; one sister, Barbara (Aurin) Collins of Fort Ogden, Fla.; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at Glancy Funeral Homes H. Brown & Son Chapel. Burial was at Gardens of Memory in Marion. Pastor Doug Sherrard officiated.

Preferred memorials are to Lancaster Wesleyan Church.

HOFFACKER

Marcy Dee Hoffacker, 75, of Liberty Center, died at 5:35 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 23, 2008, at Valley Baptist Hospital in Harlingen, Texas.

Born in Wells County to Erland and Charlotte (Wolfgang) Hoffacker on Dec. 10, 1932, he married Carolyn Hanlin in Liberty Center on May 9, 1951; she survives.

Mr. Hoffacker attended Liberty Center High School and was a truck driver for 30 years, retiring in 1992. He worked for Snyder Transport in Green Bay, Wis. He also worked for Helena Chemical in Liberty Center and Bluffton.

Other surviving relatives include one daughter, Connie Lee Zook of Markle; one son, Larry D. (Vickie) Hoffacker of Liberty Center; two brothers, Von (Johanna) Hoffacker of Monroeville and Stanley (Carol) Hoffacker of Uniondale; four grandchildren, eight greatgrandchildren and three greatgreat-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the Glancy Funeral Homes Walker Chapel in Montpelier, with the Rev. Wilbur Taylor officiating. Burial was at Jones Cemetery, in Warren.

Preferred memorials are to the American Lung Association of Indiana.

Long

Kay Marlene Long, 69, of Montpelier, died at 12:50 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 27, 2008, in Bluffton Regional Medical Center.

Born in Van Buren to Buford Hartman and Gladys Irene (Graham) Beals on Sept. 22, 1938, she married the Rev. Ferrell L. Long in Hartford City on Sept. 1, 1972; he survives.

Mrs. Long attended Monument City and Lancaster High Schools. She was a homemaker, and a former member and church secretary at the Assembly of God Church in Montpelier.

Other surviving relatives include eight children, Gregory M. (Lucy) Robbins of Floyd, Iowa, Anthony Gene (Valerie) Robbins of Stanton, Mich., Eric B. (Cynthia Lee) Robbins of Warren, Leanna K. (Terry) Whitehurst of Hartford City, Robert E. (Yolanda) Long of Warrior, Ala., Tammy (Stan) Stewart) of Texas, Brad A. (Kirsten) Long of Spanish Fork, Ala., and Tina M. Deuster of California; four sisters, Reba Dolby, Colleen Roth and Jackie Preston, all of Huntington, and Arlene Hinen of New Paris; 23 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Long was also preceded in death by three brothers, one sister and three grandchildren.

Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, at the Glancy Funeral Home in Montpelier with

the Rev. Long and the Rev. Clarence Baker officiating. Calling hours will be from 5 to 9 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home. Burial is at Brookside Cemetery, in Montpelier.

Preferred memorials are to the Family Hospice of Northeast Indiana.

BRADBURN

Thomas Junior Bradburn, 89, of Warren, died at 6:20 a.m. Friday, Jan. 25, 2008, at Heritage Pointe.

Born in Wells County to Thomas Jessie and Goldie Mae (Hunt) Bradburn on Nov. 26, 1918; he married Mary Margaret Whitestine in Huntington County on March 9, 1941; she survives.

Mr. Bradburn was a World War II veteran, serving from 1942 to 1944. He worked as an electrician, retiring from Lehman Electric Company in 1980, and his own business in 1990. He was the electrician for the Huntington County 4-H Fair for 40 years. He was a member of the Warren Church of Christ and had formerly served as a deacon and elder for many years at the Markle Church of Christ.

Other surviving relatives include one son, Charles A. (Roma Jean) Bradburn of Fort Wayne; two sisters, Mary Elizabeth Quinn and Janice Ann Price, both of Andrews; two grandchildren and two greatgrandchildren.

Mr. Bradburn was also preceded in death by one son, David Lee Bradburn, and two brothers, Roderick and Brooks Bradburn.

Funeral services were held at Heritage Pointe with Gerald O. Moreland officiating. Burial was at Markle Cemetery.

Preferred memorials are to the Warren Church of Christ.

TAYLOR



Charles 'Rex' Taylor, 77, Van Buren, died at 6:15 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 23, 2008 in Bay Minette

Veterans Home, Bay Minette, Ala. Mr. Taylor was born in Fairmount, Ind. on Dec. 2, 1930. He was a 1949 graduate of Van Buren High School. He was a High School Teacher at Van Buren High School from 1961 to 1965, Juneau-Douglas, AK High School Guidance Counselor, Chapel Heights Academy grades 5-6 Marion, Ind. He graduated in 1961 from Taylor University in Upland, Ind. with a BSEd, University of Illinois in Urbana, III. in 1965 with a BSEd, and spent 35 hours at Boston University in Instruc Media Technology. He retired in 1980 from Office Telecommunications in Alaska. He and his wife Marilyn were married June 14, 1957 in Farville, Ind., and celebrated 50 years of marriage on June 14, 2007. He enjoyed playing basketball for the Van Buren Aces, Photography. and was an avid Alaskan Fisherman. He loved watching grandsons, Matthew and Daniel play soccer and basketball and loved rocking and playing with Scott Jr., Rachel and C.J.

He served in the Navy in the Korean Conflict from 1952 to 1955.

Survivors include his wife, Marilyn (Holloway) Taylor, Spanish Fort, Ala.; sons, Scott (Michell) Taylor, Spanish Fort, Ala., Mark (Ruth) Taylor, Saint Louis, Mo.; brothers, Max (Debbie) Taylor, Howell, Ind, Bobby Joe (Sheila) Taylor, Marion; five grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his father, Barnett Taylor; his mother, Ada Clare (Sue) (Sheppard) Taylor.

Services were held in Union Chapel Baptist Church, Marion with Pastor Stephen Mitchell officiating. Burial was in Gardens of Memory, Marion. Ferguson Glancy Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Memorials may be made to Gilead Ministries, Jonesboro, IN 46953; Gideons Intl., Nashville, TN 37214-0800; Covenant Hospice, Daphne, AL 36526.

BANTER

Martha L. Banter, 66, died at 12:30 AM. Tuesday January 29, 2008 at Heritage Pointe, in Warren, IN.

She was born July 18, 1941 to the late Roscoe and Hazel (Lightfoot) Chapman. She married Ira C. Banter May 13,

1962 in Warren, IN. He survives.

Martha was a 1959 graduate of Jackson High School (Wells County) and graduated from Indiana Business College in Fort Wayne. She was employed in the offices of Essex Wire in Marion and Van Buren for 17 years. She also worked with her husband in the Ira Banter Construction Co., and family farming. She was a member of the United Church of Christ in Warren, where she was very active in the choir and Women's Fellowship. Martha was instrumental in starting the Warren Pre-School Classes where she taught for several years.

She is survived by her husband Ira C. Banter. She was preceded in death by her parents and brother James Allen Chapman and sister Gertrude Chapman.

Services are at 1:00 P.M. Thursday January 31, 2008 in the Glancy Funeral Home-H. Brown & Son Chapel in Warren, IN. with Pastor Rick Pulling officiating. Burial will be in the Woodlawn Cemetery in Warren. Visitation is 1-4 P.M. Wednesday January 30, 2008 at Heritage Pointe and 5:30 P.M. to 8 P.M. at the funeral home. Visitation also on Thursday January 31, 2008 at the funeral home from 10 A.M. until the time of the services.

In lieu of flowers the family has requested that memorials be made to Heritage Pointe-Scholastic Fund 801 Huntington Avenue, Warren, IN. 46792

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AREA NEWS CONTINUED

More Page 4

Officers for the club were elected at the January meeting. They are as follows: President, Sharon McCoart; Vice President, Teri Shiflett; Secretary/Treasurer, Janice Smith. Dues for the club were set at \$20 to remain in the club treasury and \$10 to the **Huntington County Extension** Homemakers for a total of \$30.00 per year. Program fees may be assessed for specific projects but will be announced by the program chairperson, if needed. Guests may attend meetings for two months without paying dues but would still be responsible for program fees.

The club chose a community service project of making cards to be distributed to residents of nursing homes. Dates to work on that project remain to be set by the

Club mentor, Stephanie Jerabek, reviewed the club guidelines with those in attendance and the standing rules were approved by the members.

Teri Shiflett presented the evening program on "mini scrapbooking pages", with each person preparing a page to take home.

The next meeting will be February 26th at 6:30 pm. For more information on Huntington County Extension Homemakers or to join the club, call Karen Hinshaw at the Extension office, 358-4826.

AUXILIARY NEWS

5th District American Legion Auxiliary met January 19, 2008 at Tipton Post.

President Sue Comerford called the meeting to order. Chaplain Belinda Ritenour gave opening Secretary Carolyn Cunningham called the roll of units and officers present. Treasurer Virginia Baker gave finance report.

Chaplain Belinda reported three deaths this month in the district. Membership Rosemary Hammons reported we have moved from 9th to 7th place. February 1, 2008 the goal

Education Chr. Donna Baker put need a lift books in schools and libraries. Please check dates on our scholarships.

Field Service Chr Creta Arlington, visit our veterans in nursing homes. Keep track of hours.

Girls State, should have names at next meeting. Delgates and Alternates will get letters.

Lafayette Home Chr Irene Davis, the motorized scooter the Legion, Auxiliary, Sons of Legion bought was delivered to Eric Southerland at the home. Send cards to our veterans.

Jr Activities – Joyce Yates Chr – turned it over to Julie Webb. The Jr Auxiliary girls, Frankie Flemming, Karlee Laypool, Emily Webb, from Van Buren unit. Kathleen Yates from Peru unit, had crosses draped, lit candles, etc for the "Four Chaplains." Next district meeting for jrs is April 12, 2008 at Montpelier Post. June meeting will be election of officers in Van Buren Post.

Knightstown Home chr Roxy Stoner reported she attended gift wrap, took treats. She asked that we send cards to the boys. Leadership Chr Sue Fugitt - If an unit needs help, just call. Dept Leadership Rosev Newman is to have a workshop in April.

National Security Chr Beverly Swaim - Take pictures of your household things so you will have a record if disaster happens. Anna Pickard turned in ear warmers, slippers & hat she knitted for our

Public Relations Chr Irene Pickard Got write ups tonight. Need anything you have printed, need article, name of paper, date and page number.

VA & R Chr Virginia Baker reported on the Bingo party at the VA last Saunday, the Kokomo gals helped. District 2 is having Party February 10th. An all districts bingo party is March 9, 2008. Need help.

Poppy Chr Annie Briggs -Corsages were the contest for January. Anna Pickard, Unit 368 Van Buren, got first prize. It is to be taken to Washington DC by our Department President. Next month is wall hangings.

Next meeting February 16, 2008 at Jonesboro Post. Department officers will be present.

Ask SHIP

by Mary Phillips

Does Medicare cover cardiovascular screening?

A: Yes, Medicare does cover cardiovascular screening. Cardiovascular screenings check your cholesterol and other blood fat (lipid) levels. High levels of cholesterol can increase your risk for heart attack and stroke. These screenings will tell if you have high cholesterol levels.

All Medicare beneficiaries are eligible for coverage of this preventive service. Medicare will cover all costs for tests to measure cholesterol, lipid and triglyceride levels, once every five years.

Cardiovascular disease and stroke are the #1 and #3 causes of death in the United States. Heart disease is the #1 killer of women over 25 years old. The good news is that heart disease can be largely prevented. February is American Heart Month and Friday, February 1st is National Wear Red Day.

Through American Heart Month and National Wear Red Day, the American Heart Association educates empowers and Americans to reduce their risk of heart disease and stroke.

You might be able to make lifestyle changes to lower your cholesterol and protect your heart. Life style changes include stop smoking, eating a heart healthy diet, managing your weight and diabetes, monitoring your blood pressure, increasing your activity level and exercising more often.

Q: Does Medicare cover any services to help someone quit smoking?

A: People with Medicare who are diagnosed with a smoking-related disease, including heart disease, cerebrovascular disease (stroke), multiple cancers, lung disease, weak bones, blood clots, and cataracts can get coverage for smoking and tobacco use cessation counseling.

These diseases account for the bulk of Medicare spending today. People with Medicare who take any of the many medications whose effectiveness is complicated by tobacco use including— insulin and some medicines for high blood pressure, blood clots, and depression are also eligible for the counseling.

Medicare will cover up to eight face-to-face visits during a 12month period. These visits must be ordered by your doctor and provided by a qualified doctor or Medicare-recognized practitioner. You pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount after you meet the yearly Part B deductible.

Address your questions to:

Ask SHIP, 714 West 53rd Street, Anderson, IN 46013, Or www.Medicare.in.gov 1-800-452-

SHIP is a free, unbiased counseling program provided by the Indiana State Department of Insurance. For assistance, call your local SHIP site to make an appointment or call the state office at 1-800-452-4800 to obtain a list of local SHIP sites.

NEVER GIVE UP!

by The FlyLady, Marla Cilley This morning I woke up with these words on my mind; Never Give Up! What I have noticed over the years is that we give up before we ever get started. This has me thinking about why we do this. I am just going to write till I figure this out. I am not going to give up on you. The answer lies within each of us and all we have to do is figure out this little puzzle.

We have been beaten down for years because of our personalities. We are creative, spontaneous lovers of life. We don't fit the born organized mode. Yet we were probably raised by someone who wanted to make us conform to their way of thinking. That was never going to happen but that didn't stop them from trying.

In their efforts to make us fit their ideal of how we should think they called us names and punished us. We were told we were lazy and were day dreamers. We were accused of being stupid for not thinking like them. If the truth were really known; we are probably much more intelligent than those who tried to beat us down and they were afraid of our creativity and joy. I can't even imagine being scared to have fun! I think you can understand this deep down in your soul. In fact I feel sorry for them. How sad that they did not realize that it take all of us to make this world revolve!

If all of us thought alike there would be no diversity; no new ideas. Just the same old boring thing, day after day; no smiles just stress. Now the tears are starting to come. Those precious little children were told that they were not worthy of being loved unless they fit into that mold. This was not said out loud but we all knew that if we didn't perform to their standards we would be punished. In the scientific world this is called conditioning. In pet terms we were being trained to follow their commands even when they didn't say what they really

CONTINUED PAGE 8





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By: Dr. Kevin J DeaKyne DDS, PC

Is There a Connection Between **Tooth Loss and Heart Disease??**

A study that was published in the journal Stroke reports an association between missing teeth and clogged arteries. The study involved 711 people (Avg age of 66) who did not have cardivascular disease. Researchers found that among people missing between 0 and 9 teeth 46% had a buildup of fatty substances in a major artery, but this percentage rose to approxiamtely 60% among people who were missing 10 or more teeth. Missing teeth make it more difficult to properly chew healthy foods that can help prevent heart disease and other chronic conditions. People with missing teeth should be sure to eat sufficient vegetables and other foods rich in fiber and which keep beneficial soluble fiber even when cooked.

The recommendations by the Institute of Medicine for people over 50 years of age and younger are 38g of total fiber per day. For people older than 50 the recommended levels are 30g for men and 21g for women.1

¹Source:Health News, Massachusetts Medical Socity/Dentistry

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AREA NEWS CONTINUED

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All we ever wanted was to feel loved. If we could not be loved for who we are we would settle for any kind of attention. They told us if we can't do it right don't do it at all. We were force to repeat task after task till it was right. Even then it probably was not good for them and we were left feeling unloved and punished.

All these years of conditioning has gotten us to where we are today; defeated before we ever get started. Our negative thinking that was put in our heads by people who thought they were doing what was right and this was how they were taught. This is why I feel sorry for them. We can learn to be organized because we can make it game and have fun with it. We have to ability to keep changing things with our creativity so we don't get bored. We don't have to push for perfection when good enough is good enough.

I am your cheerleader. I don't want you to give up before you get started. Let's think of this in computer terms. Your operating system has been corrupted by negative thinking. All we have to do is a virus sweep of those bugs that have been causing you to not have fun. When we eliminate the bugs we can accomplish more than we ever dreamed possible.

When I got up this morning the words to a Ryan Shupe song were running through my head. I looked up the words to "Never Give Up" online and listened to them on my Dream Big CD. This whole CD is inspiring. Please don't give up! Never Give Up!

For more help getting rid of your CHAOS; check out her website and join her free mentoring group at www.FlyLady.net or her book, Sink Reflections published by Bantam and her New York Times Best Selling book, Body Clutter published by Fireside. Copyright 2008 Marla Cilley Used by permission in this publication.

THE ADVENTURES OF THE HOUSE FAIRY

She FLIES, she SPIES and she leaves a SURPRISE

by the House Fairy

I was up super early this morning with the birds. Actually I ran into flock of seagulls. I asked them which way they were headed and it turned out they were going my way so I sprinkled some magic fairy dust on them and made them small as a swarm of bees and I let them nestle down in my comfy hair where they could take a rest.

I landed in Florida at Jimmy Partridge's house just after he left for school. All my fast flying paid off. I had quite a few bedrooms to inspect before school got out. Jimmy's mom was busy baking a chocolate cake so I just flew up the stairs.

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I started with his sister, Paige's, room because it is much quicker. I looked around and sure enough, her room was spotless as usual. I put her two concert tickets under her pillow. Boy is she ever going to be surprised.

Then I took a deep breath and entered Jimmy's room. Well, all I can say is it DID look a little better than it had the last time I was there. I wanted so much to leave him his Official Day Off Chores coupon but I can never break my own rules, one of which is to not leave surprises in a room where I cannot even see the floor. There were clothes everywhere. They looked so sad, just lying there, all dirty.

"I'm really sorry you haven't had a bath this week," I told them, pinching my nose, trying my best not to look impolite. I didn't want to continue holding my nose so I put a clothespin on it. I tried to make it look like it was part of my Florida Vacation outfit so I used a bright pink one. It matched my pink and purple flowered shorts and tee shirt. "I'm sure Jimmy wouldn't like to go an entire week without a bath!"

Just then my magic fairy dust wore off and the seagulls returned to their normal size and were they ever thrilled to be in Jimmy's bedroom! The head seagull said, "Hey thank you House Fairy, you delivered us right to a landfill!"

"Unfortunately this is Jimmy's bedroom and you guys need to fly along," I said as I opened the window so they could fly away. Just then all kinds of toys came running out of everywhere. I was caught by such surprise that I stepped backwards onto a toy dump truck and skidded into a pile of dirty clothes.

"Where did you come from?" I asked the toy cars and boats.

"We've been hiding from Jimmy," the little red car explained. "He never puts us back in our home spot when he's finished playing with us so we all decided to hide from him."

"And we help," the clothes said.
"I covered up his favorite action figure last week and made him look for two hours to find it," a blue shirt said. "I've been lying around this floor for the past two weeks so I figured I may as well do something constructive."

Just then a wrestling action figure limped over. "I've been hiding from Jimmy for almost a month now," he said. "He left me laying in the bathroom floor after he took me swimming in the tub with him and his father stepped on me. Owwww! It STILL hurts! You have no idea how it feels to be stepped on by a giant!"

"I'm really sorry that you toys are so unhappy," I told them. I felt very sad for them because some of my very best friends are toys.

"It's not fair that Jimmy gave you a bath and not us," a pair of jeans

with dirt stains on the knees said to the action figure. "I've needed a bath ever since his last soccer practice!"

I could see how unhappy Jimmy's entire room was.

"I'll make you a deal," I told the toys. "I will come back and check in a couple days and if you are still not put back in the places that make you happy, then I will take you to visit the woods with me for awhile until Jimmy gets things under control here."

"Oh, I would love that!" shouted the wrestling figure, jumping up and down on one leg.

"So, if I don't get put back on my favorite shelf by then I can go to your house for a vacation?" another action figure asked.

"Yesiree," I promised him.

"And if I don't get to sleep in my comfy cozy toy bag I can go too?" asked the little red car.

"Yes sir!" I agreed.

I had to hurry on my way before school got out but I left Jimmy a note asking him to please put his clothes in the hamper so that they could get a good bath. I also let him knowthat his toys would stop hiding from him if he put them back in their own places where they were happiest when he was finished with them.

The House Fairy uses children's gift of imagination to empower them to behave, help around the house and keep a neat and tidy room. The House Fairy helps parents to motivate, inspire, reinforce and recognize their children's good behavior in a positive and loving way. You can meet the House Fairy at www.housefairy.org ©copyright 2008 Pamela I. Young

TIPS TO ENSURE YOUR FAMILY HAS A HAPPY, HEALTHY AND MORE ENERGIZED NEW YEAR

(ARA) - Every new year brings New Year's resolutions — most of which are abandoned just a few weeks, and sometimes even days, into January! In 2008, skip resolutions that call for drastic measures. Instead, make a simple pledge that will be a cinch to keep — empower your family to get healthier and happier with easy nutrition tips that work effortlessly with your lifestyle.

"Families are busy — and it can certainly be a challenge to ensure all are as healthy and active as they should be," says Ellie Krieger, registered dietitian and Food Network Host. "However, there are several ways for families to become healthy and fit together — and it can be fun! From cooking with the children to fun, family trips that keep everyone moving — it's easier than most think to improve your health and spend quality time with your loved ones."

The following helpful tips will make it fun and simple for your entire family to stay on track all year long!

* Promise to become healthy as a family

Research shows families who adopt better nutrition and fitness habits together have higher success rates in achieving an overall healthier lifestyle. For example, a good place to start is participating in the Just One More for Healthy Living pledge. The program encourages families to take simple steps each day to yield significant results towards a healthy lifestyle. Families simply pledge online

(www.EatJustOneMore.com) to add just one more serving of fruits and vegetables, including tomatoes daily, one more serving weekly of lean protein, such as tuna, and 30 more minutes of daily activity. Families can also track their progress online and learn additional easy tips to maintain a healthy, realistic lifestyle that works with even the busiest of family schedules.

* Little chefs

Research shows that when children have a role in meal planning, they are more inclined to eat it. Get them excited about the process. Try having the kids create their own menu of healthy snacks to enjoy. Additionally, keeping nutritious options on hand that your child is excited about means they may not be as inclined to reach for the salty or sugary snacks. A great sweet treat to keep stashed in the pantry is Del Monte Healthy Kids. Fortified with vitamins A and C as well as calcium, the peach and fruit cocktail varieties are the first fortified fruit cups on the market (DelMonte.com), and provide the essential vitamins kids need to live happier, healthier lives.

* Teach your kids to "Eat the Rainbow" every day

This is a fun way for kids — and adults — to get the balanced nutrition they need. Kids love to keep track of all the "colors" they eat during the day — even green! Add one additional serving of fruits and vegetables to your family's diet each day to pump up energy levels. Research suggests that only 20 to 30 percent of Americans actually eat the recommended servings of fruits and veggies a day, which the FDA now advises is 9 to 13 servings for optimal health. Eating more fruits and vegetables daily will not only make you feel fuller and more energized, but the vitamins, minerals, and fiber found in them can help prevent heart disease, high blood pressure, certain cancers, type 2 diabetes, and obesity.

* Bring back the family dinner Studies indicate that children who eat with their family develop healthier habits than those who don't. This could decrease risk of obesity and obesity-related diseases in your child's future.

* Family fun day

Get up and get moving — as a family. Whether it is an evening ice skating or an extra long walk with the family dog, incorporate more activities into your routine. Try making this a weekly event and choose a different game or sport to enjoy every week! Consider purchasing a family membership at the community recreation center, YMCA or health club and plan weekly visits. Another alternative is to adopt a family sport. Take tennis or golf lessons together and practice, practice!

* Family vacation

While plenty of relaxation is certainly important during vacations, one of the best ways to relieve stress is to get up and get moving. Plan vacations that will offer your entire family several physical activities that are fun and challenging. Opt for the bicycle tour instead of hours in the car. Try hiking, canoeing, or cross-country skiing instead of going to the movies.

For more information on how to take the pledge, and for more quick and healthy recipes, visit www.EatJustOneMore.com.

FUNERALS

The idea of making funeral arrangements in advance is most likely something you don't want to think about. But with the costs of a traditional funeral, including a casket and vault, running more than \$6,000, you may want to consider pre-need planning. It allows you not only to designate your funeral preferences but also to compare the prices offered by several funeral providers. Find out more with Funerals: A Consumer Guide from the Federal Trade Commission. This informative publication costs \$1.00. For your copy, send your name, address, and a check or money order for \$1.00 to the Federal Citizen Information Center, Dept. 321R, Pueblo, CO 81009. Or call toll-free 1 (888) 8 PUEBLO, that's 1 (888) 878-3256, and ask for Item 321R. Have your credit card handy. And visit www.pueblo.gsa.gov to read or print this and hundreds of other FCIC publications for free.



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