

Friday, December 15, 2006

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# Warren Weekly

Your Hometown Newspaper

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Thought for the Week: *The most utterly lost of all days, is that in which you have not once laughed.* Chamfort

## MEETING RESCHEDULED

The Warren Town Council has rescheduled the regularly scheduled meeting of December 25, 2006 to 8:00 a.m., Thursday, December 21, 2006.

## CHRISTMAS CANTATA

Are you caught up in preparations for Christmas? The combined choirs of Warren and Jefferson Center United Methodist Churches invite you to consider the real meaning of the season as they present a Christmas cantata, "Ready for Christmas?", on December 17 at 2:00 p.m. in the Applegate Chapel at Heritage Pointe in Warren. The choir is under the direction of Myrna Neff. The public is invited to attend. Are you ready?

## FARMER'S MARKET

Saturday December 16 will be market day at the Pulse Opera House lobby.

Hours will be 9a.m. till noon. This will be our last winter pantry market for this year. We will be looking forward to spring and the outdoor market to supply you with the usual market items.

Our regular vendors will be on hand Saturday to help with those special items for your holiday menu. R Bakery, Rabbs meat, Ruth's noodles and jams and jellies, Tri Kappa with the nuts, Treva with candy and baked goods and someone will have cheese balls and perhaps more items will be available.

Stop in and enjoy shopping at our last Pantry Market of this season.

Thank you to all our customers in the past we appreciate your supporting the vendors.

Happy Holidays to all.

**Donate Blood!**  
The Life you save  
may be your own.

## BOOK CLUB

A Little Ones Book Club for ages 0 - 3 years accompanied by an adult will be held from 10:00 - 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Stories, songs, snacks and a free book for each child at Van Buren Untied Methodist Fellowship Hall.

To register call Diana Detamore at 934-4372 or the church office at 934-1431.

## SUPPORT 4-H

Have you heard the news yet? For every ticket purchased to see Paramount Pictures and Walden Media's production of Charlotte's Web through [www.fourhcouncil.edu](http://www.fourhcouncil.edu), a donation of \$1 will be made by Hollywood Movie Money to 4-H to help support your state's 4-H program.

Charlotte's Web features the 4-H Emblem multiple times, and the themes portrayed speak directly to the great work that 4-H does in developing youth—building friendships, commitment to goals and having fun! It stars Dakota Fanning as Fern, and the voices of Julia Roberts and 4-H alumnus Reba McEntire, as well as many other noteworthy actors.

You can help by spreading the word to your friends and family! Charlotte's Web premieres December 15. Ticket sales through [www.fourhcouncil.edu](http://www.fourhcouncil.edu) beginning Friday, December 8 and continue through January 31, 2007.

Tickets to Charlotte's Web may be purchased, by clicking on the Buy Movie Tickets link at the National 4-H Website. This link will take you to a purchase page at Hollywood Movie Money. Here you will enter a ZIP code and purchase as many tickets as you like via credit card. The price of the ticket is determined by your local movie theater. Then you print a ticket voucher that you redeem at the theater. For each ticket purchased, Holly-

wood Movie Money will make a \$1 donation to 4-H. State 4-H programs will receive 100 percent of donations as determined by ZIP codes entered at purchase.

For more information about the movie, Charlotte's Web, contact Purdue Extension—Huntington County Office, 354 N. Jefferson—Suite 202, Huntington. You can call the office at (260) 358-4826 or email at [laldrigg@purdue.edu](mailto:laldrigg@purdue.edu).

## PLAN AHEAD

As happens every seven years, Hoosiers who plan on celebrating the holidays with alcohol beverages need to plan ahead.

This year, liquor stores will be closed on Christmas and New Year's Eve as both fall on a Sunday and Indiana prohibits the sale of alcohol for carry-out on Sundays.

News Year's Eve is traditionally the busiest day of the year for liquor stores. Due to state law liquor stores in Indiana will also be closed on Christmas and New Year's Day.

While carry out is prohibited on New Year's Eve, restaurants and bars will be able to take advantage of a law that allows them to stay open until 3:00 a.m. when New Year's Eve falls on a Sunday instead of the usual Sunday closing hour which is 12:30 a.m.

All alcohol sales are prohibited on Christmas Day.

## CAMPING GIFT CARDS & MORE

Stumped on what to stuff in the stocking of hard-to-please friends or relatives? The DNR Division of State Parks and Reservoirs has your solution.

Kick them outdoors.

In a manner of speaking, of course. Although this gift idea won't rid you of visitors who've worn their welcome thin, it can solve some gift-giving conundrums. The recipients, however, get to choose when they go out-

doors. You'll have to find some other way to shoo away the once-but-no-longer-quite-so-welcome.

So forget the mall hassle. Here's a Christmas list of easy, appropriate DNR holiday options. Take time to check it twice, but don't delay—you must order gift cards and certificates that need to be delivered by mail no later than Wednesday, Dec. 20, to ensure that you get your goods in time for Santa.

· DNR Camp Gift Cards, new this year get the bearer camping, recreation-building reservations, shelter reservations, cabins, group camps, rent-a-camps, or group cottages that are available through DNR's Central Reservation System. These handy answers to your shopping problems are available only through the CRSCall Center, 1-866-6CampIN [(866) 622-6746]. Call Center hours are Monday - Friday, noon - 6 p.m., Eastern Standard Time through April 2007. These cards cannot be purchased online or at local properties.

· Indiana State Park Inn Gift Certificates can be used for lodging, restaurant meals, golfing and gift shop purchases in any of the seven inn locations. To purchase, call 1-877-LODGES1.

· The C52 Raptor Fund at Patoka Lake accepts donations that can be given in someone's name as a gift. The fund supports the care of "C52," the non-releasable bald eagle used in programming at Patoka. Visit [www.dnr.IN.gov/C52](http://www.dnr.IN.gov/C52) for details or call the Patoka visitor center, (812) 685-2447.

· State park or reservoir donations can be made in honor of a certain someone. Call Ginger Murphy, assistant director for stewardship in the Division of State Parks and Reservoirs, (317) 232-4143, or write State Parks and Reservoirs, 402 W. Washington Room W298, Indianapolis, IN 46204.

· Friends Group memberships to a nearby DNR property are

always a great idea. These are available for McCormick's Creek, Spring Mill, Lincoln, Falls of the Ohio, Indiana Dunes, Mounds, Turkey Run/Shades and Brown County state parks, Lieber State Recreation Area and Hardy Lake. For more information, contact Murphy at the phone number listed in the paragraph above.

· Dwight Chamberlain Raptor Rehabilitation Center at Hardy Lake is offering an adopt-a-bird program. Injured hawks and owls receive care and are released when possible. Permanently injured birds are used in programming for schools and families. Call Terry Davis at Hardy Lake, (812) 794-3800.

· The Indiana Natural Resources Foundation supports land acquisition and a variety of other projects throughout the DNR. To donate in someone else's name—or your own, call (317) 233-1002,

e-mail [nheintzelman@dnr.in.gov](mailto:nheintzelman@dnr.in.gov), or write to The Indiana Heritage Trust, 402 W. Washington, W256, Indianapolis, IN 46204.

· The Gift of Time. Not a wristwatch but time set aside to spend with your child or grandchild on a winter hike, a hunting trip or a nature center visit at a state park, reservoir or state forest trail in January.

Written acknowledgements for donations can be provided, but may not be available until after Christmas. For up-to-date information about happenings in the DNR, visit [www.dnr.IN.gov](http://www.dnr.IN.gov).

## BIRD MEETING DEC. 17

The Salamonie Bird Watching Club will hold a meeting at 2 p.m., Dec. 17 at the Salamonie interpretive center. The public is invited to attend the meeting as well as the bird watching afterwards as part of the Christmas open house at the center.

"Our club loves getting out to look for different species of birds,"

**CONTINUED PAGE 3**

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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 \$9.50, six (6) months for \$19 or \$38 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 or mail to P O Box 695, Warren. 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 advertisement.

## KUDOS, KICKS & KARATS

### EDITOR,

One month into the winter heating season, your home heating bill may be lower than last year.

But a word of caution: Despite recent downward trends in wholesale natural gas costs, consumers may not always experience lower bills.

Gas utilities are encouraged to "hedge" portions of their wholesale gas purchases - including buying gas months in advance of when customers use it. The purpose of hedging is to protect consumers from price volatility but not necessarily guarantee the lowest gas prices. Utilities pass wholesale gas costs through to consumers on a dollar-for-dollar basis subject to regulatory review; without price hedging, consumers would be vulnerable to a very volatile wholesale gas market - like the one we experienced following last year's hurricanes.

All consumers should continue to conserve energy whenever possible because reducing long-term demand for natural gas may put downward pressure on wholesale prices. In the meantime, budget billing - available from most gas and electric utilities - is a simple, effective way to take the monthly sting out of winter bills.

Susan L. Macey  
Indiana Utility Consumer Counselor

### UPTOWN GARDNER

by Ruth Herring

With our first real snow of the winter it gives me a little more holiday spirit. I enjoy the snow much more when I can look out the window and not have to be out in it especially this year. Snow and icy days are housebound days for me- Doctors orders. I am recovering nicely from the injury and hope to keep up the good progress.

Christmas shopping will be done this year by personal shoppers by the name of Gayle and Treva. Thank you girls. Shopping is not really my favorite thing anyway so I will gladly pass on it. Don't get me wrong I love the holidays but not the shopping.

I think all of us have fond memories of special Christmas in the past and is wonderful to reflect back on them.

One Christmas I will share with you is when I was 5 or 6 years old. Every year all of us kids received a huge box from our uncle and aunt who lived in New York state. It was the most exciting day when Dad would bring home the box from the post office and the days would sure go slow till we could open our gifts. That year was so special to me I received from them a set of china play dishes. Service for 6. They were so fragile and beautiful I was almost afraid to play with them. From our Mom and Dad we kids got a large slate chalk board. On that chalkboard I learned to print and write my name and also write my numbers and later we all spent a lot of time doing home work and messages passed to one another. The chalkboard hung on the kitchen wall for many years. Today it is on the wall in my home and still is leaving messages and art work of the grandkids.

Growing up after the depression it was tough and we never expected much at Christmas. That year was one I will always remember and how thrilled I was to get those special gifts of which I still have. The china set has its place of honor in the hutch and the chalk board will be hanging its place of honor hopefully for a long time and I will always cherish the memory of my Uncle Lawrence and Aunt Dorothy and the many years they remembered us at Christmas and the summer time visits to our house.

I want to thank each of you who have gave me nice comments on

CONTINUED PAGE 5

<p><b>Zeller Construction</b></p>  <p><b>Owner: Larry Highley</b>  <b>375-3477 or 260/359-2331</b>  Pole Barns, New Homes,  Remodeling, Garages, Siding,  Windows &amp; Roofing</p>	<p><b>D &amp; D BIKE</b></p> <p>Over 200 in Stock  Phone 375-3828 or  1-800-356-4440  Downtown Warren</p>	<p><b>HEYDE OIL INC.</b>  d/b/a  <b>Huggy Bear</b>  <b>Ice Cream Stop and</b>  <b>Huggy Bear Quik Stop</b>  <b>&amp; Motel</b></p>
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<p><b>VB CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE</b>  <b>765/934-3321 Parsonage</b>  Jeff Wass, Pastor</p> <p>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.</p> <p><b>CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH</b>  Van Buren, Indiana  765-934-2199  Pastor Anna Kroencke</p> <p>Worship .....9:30 a.m.  Sunday School .....10:40 a.m.  Bible Study, Wednesday.....10:00 a.m.  Youth Fellowship Sun .....6:00 p.m.</p> <p><b>THE CHRISTIAN &amp; MISSIONARY ALLIANCE — Majenica</b>  Rev. Gus Hacker</p> <p>Sunday School .....9:30 a.m.  Worship .....10:30 a.m.  Sunday Evening .....6:00 p.m.  Wednesday Worship .....7:00 p.m.</p> <p><b>MT. ETNA UNITED METHODIST</b>  260/468-2148  Rev. Tom DeFries - Pastor</p> <p>Sunday  Trad. Worship ..... 9:00 a.m.  Mdrn Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.  Fellowship &amp; Classes ..... 9:30 a.m.</p> <p><i>Come As You Are</i></p> <p>Kids Club, Youth Group &amp; Adult  Studies - all Sunday ..... 6:00 p.m.</p> <p><b>JEFFERSON CENTER UNITED METHODIST</b>  Corner of 900S &amp; 300W  Kathy Newton, Pastor</p> <p>Sunday School .....8:45 a.m.  Worship Service .....10:00 a.m.</p> <p><b>WARREN UNITED METHODIST</b>  Rev. Mike Malone, Pastor</p> <p>Sunday School .....9:30 a.m.  Worship .....10:30 a.m.  Handicap Accessible &amp; Staff Nursery</p> <p><b>WARREN CHURCH OF CHRIST</b>  <b>375-3022</b>  Gerald O. Moreland, Minister  Todd Winkler, Youth Minister  Ruth Moreland, Secretary &amp; BS Supt.</p> <p>Fellowship .....9:15 a.m.  Worship &amp; Communion .....9:30 a.m.  Sunday School .....10:45 a.m.</p> <p><b>DILLMAN UNITED BRETHREN</b>  <b>8888S 1100W-90, Warren</b>  <b>375-2779</b>  Dick Case, Pastor</p> <p>Sun - 1st Worship Service..... 8:15a.m.  Sunday School.....9:30a.m.  2nd Worship Service .....10:30a.m.  Youth Group (6th-12th).5:30p.m.</p> <p>Wed - Circle of Friends  (3yrs old - 5th grade) .. 6:30-8p.m.</p> <p><b>McNATT UNITED METHODIST</b>  <b>375-4359</b>  Bill VanHaften, Pastor  Lois Slusher, Supt.</p> <p>Coffee Fellowship.....8:30 a.m.  Worship .....9:15 a.m.  Sunday School .....10:30 a.m.  Bible Study - Wed. .... 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>WARREN WESLEYAN CHURCH</b>  <b>375-2330</b>  6th &amp; Nancy Sts. Warren  Rev. Andy Trowbridge, Pastor  Wesley Welch, Supt.</p> <p>Sunday School .....9:30 a.m.  Worship .....10:15 a.m.  Wednesday Prayer Service  ...7:00p.m.</p> <p><b>LIBERTY CENTER BAPTIST CHURCH</b>  <b>694-6622</b>  Pastor Dan Sommer</p> <p>Sunday School .....9:00 a.m.  Fellowship ..... 9:55a.m.  Worship ..... 10:15a.m.  Wed. Bible Study ..... 7:00 p.m.</p> <p><b>SALAMONIE CHURCH OF BRETHREN</b>  <b>468-2412</b>  Mel Zumbrun, Pastor</p> <p>Worship .....9:30 a.m.  Church School .....10:45a.m.</p> <p><b>BUCKEYE CHRISTIAN CHURCH</b>  <b>758-2085</b>  Kyle Dahlquist, Pastor  Sandy Keplinger, Supt.</p> <p>Worship .....9:30 a.m.  Sunday School .....10:45 a.m.</p> <p><b>BANQUO CHRISTIAN CHURCH</b>  <b>8294S 900W 35</b>  Gary Riley, Pastor</p> <p>Sunday School .....9:30 a.m.  Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.  Youth Choir Practice ..... 5:00 p.m.  Wed. Bible Study .....6:30 p.m.  Thurs. Kings Kids .....6:30 p.m.  BYG Youth Svc. (2&amp;4Sun.) .. 6:00 p.m.  CWF Ladies (3 Tue) .....6:00 p.m.  1st Sun. (Qtrly) Praise Hour.. 6:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>LIBERTY CENTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b>  Dan Helm, Pastor</p> <p>Morning Worship .....9:30 a.m.  Sunday School .....10:45 a.m.</p> <p><b>HILLCREST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE</b>  <b>375-2510</b>  Clyde Gunn, Pastor  Bus Service 375-2510</p> <p>Sunday School .....9:30 a.m.  Worship .....10:30 a.m.  Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.  Youth Group (Wed.).....6:00 p.m.  Wed. Midweek Service.....6:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST</b>  <b>375-2102</b>  Rev. Rick Pulling, Interim Pastor</p> <p>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.</p> <p><b>THE NEW BEGINNING</b>  SR 218, 2 1/8 mile west of Poneto  Steve Sutton, Pastor  765/728-2065 for more info</p> <p>Sunday Worship.....10:30a.m.  ThursdayPrayer Meeting ..... 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>WARREN 1st BAPTIST CHURCH</b>  <b>Corner of N. Wayne &amp; Matilda Sts.</b>  Rev. Bill Fisher, Pastor of Preaching and Discipleship  Rev. Robert Bothast, Pastor of Family Life  Debbie Wiley, S.S. Supt.</p> <p>Sunday School .....9:00 a.m.  Sunday Worship .....10:00 a.m.  Sunday Evening Service ..... 6:00p.m.</p> <p><b>VB UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b>  <b>765-934-1431</b>  Pastor Blake J. Neff</p> <p>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</p> <p><b>BOEHMER UNITED METHODIST</b>  Rev. Barry Humble, Pastor  Joe Kober, S.S. Supt.</p> <p>Sunday Worship ..... 9:30a.m.  Sunday School ..... 10:30a.m.</p> <p><b>HANFIELD UNITED METHODIST</b>  <b>101 N 400 E - Marion, IN</b>  <b>765/664-8726</b>  Timothy Helm, Senior Pastor</p> <p>1st Worship.....9:00 a.m.  2nd Worship.....10:30 a.m.  3rd Worship .....11:11 a.m.  Sunday School Children &amp; Youth Programs</p> <p><b>PLUM TREE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST</b>  <b>375-2691</b>  Dr. Jeane Spoor, Pastor</p> <p>Sunday School .....9:30 a.m.  Worship .....10:30 a.m.</p> <p><b>LANCASTER WESLEYAN</b>  <b>468-2411</b>  Doug Sharrard, Pastor  David Thrift, S.S. Supt.</p> <p>Sunday School .....9:30 a.m.  Worship .....10:30 a.m.  Wednesday:  CYC/Teen/Adult Meetings .... 7:00 p.m.</p> <p><b>UNITED METHODIST MEMORIAL HOME</b></p> <p>SUNDAY:  Morning Worship .....9:30 a.m.  OTHER SERVICES BY ANNOUNCEMENT  Tues, Thurs, Fri &amp; Sat  Chapel Services .....9:00 a.m.</p> <p><b>MOUNT ETNA WESLEYAN</b>  Rev. Charles Dederick, Pastor</p> <p>Sunday School .....9:30 a.m.  Worship .....10:30 a.m.  Sunday Evening .....6:00 p.m.  Mid-Week (Wed) .....6:00 p.m.</p> <p><b>ASBURY CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST</b>  <b>8013W 1100S - 90, Montpelier</b>  Rev. John Wallace, Pastor</p> <p>Worship ..... 9:30 a.m.  Sunday School .....10:30 a.m.  Wed Evening Carry-in &amp; Fellowship  .....6:30 p.m.</p>
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Attend the Church of Your Choice



## AREA NEWS

### MORE PAGE 1

said Marvin McNew, director of the Upper Wabash Interpretive Services. "It's like finding lost treasure when we spot a bird someone in the group hasn't seen before."

Club members are bringing cookies to share at the open house celebration.

The Bird Watching Club will be participating in the Christmas bird count over New Year's Week-end. For information on how to participate, call (260) 468-2127.

For more information about programs, call (260) 468-2127 or visit [www.dnr.IN.gov/uwis](http://www.dnr.IN.gov/uwis).

### HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Ring in the holidays with music, decorations and snacks at the Salamonie Reservoir interpretive center's open house, Dec. 17 from 1 to 5 p.m.

Visitors are invited to bring a gift for the interpretive center's wildlife operation. The first 50 families will receive a gift.

"We have a wonderful time at this event each year," said Marvin McNew, director of the Upper Wabash Interpretive Services. "Special volunteers from our seniors group make cookies and Marvin McNew Jr. plays holiday music with a small combo."

"The center is decorated inside and out, and visitors often bring cleaning or office supplies, bird food and suet cakes for the center."

Visitors are invited to bring their own holiday gifts and a donation for having them wrapped by Girl Scout Troop 6254 from the Wabash County Council during the open house. The Girl Scouts will donate the proceeds to Upper Wabash Interpretive Services to support its programming.

The interpretive center will also be open Dec. 24, 25 and 26 for those who would like to bring holiday visitors or are interested in an outing themselves.

The interpretive center is regularly open Monday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m. This barrier-free building features exhibits, floor-to-ceiling windows in the wildlife viewing area, and staff to answer your questions. The center is located in Lost Bridge West Recreation Area on Highway 105 in western Huntington County.

More information on other Upper Wabash programs is available at [www.dnr.IN.gov/uwis](http://www.dnr.IN.gov/uwis).

### COUNCIL NOTES

By Bonnie Lloyd  
On Wednesday evening, Dec. 6, the Van Buren Town Council met in the Council Room at Town Hall. President Tony Manry called the meeting to order with all in attendance repeating the Pledge

to the American Flag.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as submitted.

Council was expected to sign Ordinance 7-2006, Area Plan to amend Grant County Area Zoning Ordinance for CAFO. Council tabled signing to the next meeting as the Ordinance contained the name of Bob White as Council member. White is not a member of Council.

George Clupper of the Lions Club was in attendance and presented Kevin Hicks with a donation of \$2,036.45 from the recent Ten-derloin supper sponsored by the Club and Town Council. The donation was for a Tornado siren.

Council approved a pay raise for Rob Reeder for certification for the water plant.

Engineer Dave Lahey talked to Council about a Wastewater Plant project.

Superintendent Jim Webb reported a drain under State Road 5 at the north edge of town has broken down. INDOT is to be contacted about the situation.

The next Council meeting will be Wednesday, Dec. 20.

### GIFT IDEA

Books Make the Perfect Holiday Gift, Reed says

Superintendent of Public Instruction Suellen Reed today encouraged Hoosiers to give books as gifts for the holidays this year.

"There is no better gift than instilling a lifelong love of reading," Dr. Reed said. "We asked Hoosiers to share some of their favorite holiday book titles, and they responded."

Reed's recommendation was accompanied by a list of more than 100 age-appropriate titles submitted by Hoosiers from across the state. The list covers a broad range of subjects and interests, but it is not designed to be all-inclusive. Parents and families are encouraged to preview every title for appropriateness of content, interest and reading level before giving the book to a child. "One of the best ways families can support their students' reading is by setting a good example as adults," Reed said. "While you're out shopping for the people on your list this season, be sure to pick up a book or two for yourself as well as for your child."

Studies by the National Coalition for Literacy have shown that a more literate America means stronger families, and parents with strong literacy skills help their children succeed in school. The Coalition also found:

- \* as the education level of the mother increases, so does the literacy level of the child;
- \* families who participate in family literacy programs showed

a dramatic increase in the children's school attendance during and after the program; and \* oral communication prepares the way for children in learning to read. When adults use a larger vocabulary it affects their children and their ability to learn.

The Holiday Reading List is available from the Department's Web site at [www.doe.state.in.us](http://www.doe.state.in.us).

Additional Reading Selections Individuals interested in finding additional age-appropriate reading materials for students may access the Indiana Reading List at [www.doe.state.in.us/standards/readinglist.html](http://www.doe.state.in.us/standards/readinglist.html).

Designed as a companion piece to Indiana's academic standards for English/language arts, the selections in the Indiana Reading List illustrate the quality and complexity of the materials to be read by students at each grade level. The reading list is a compilation of lists submitted from school districts across Indiana, a wide range of award-winning literature, and lists developed and published by professional associations. Schools are encouraged to use the Indiana Reading List in developing local reading selections, but the list is not required reading for students nor is it meant to be all-inclusive.

**Bread of Life  
Food Pantry Hours**  
Wednesday 4-5:30 p.m.  
Saturday 10 to 11:30  
at Knight Civic Center  
OR  
Call for an appointment  
375-2381

**Dark Moon SIGNS**  
375-3003

It's  
Beginning  
to Look a Lot Like  
Christmas

Have you got your  
Christmas Greeting ready  
for the December 22,  
2006 issue of the  
Warren Weekly?

Call today and order  
yours for next week's  
issue.

New Year's Greetings  
will be published in the  
January 5th issue  
as there will  
not be a  
December 29  
issue.

**MY TOWN  
and Yours**  
BY DENNIS STROUD

When I was growing up, around this time of year, we always waited anxiously for the first big snow fall. In my neighborhood, sledding was down at Shelly's Hill at Nancy and Fifth Street. At the bottom of that hill you had to lean just right or you would go airborne over the side ditch.

Back in the 1890s sleighs, bobsleds and good horses were numerous around Warren. The youngsters would hook their sleds to the back of the bobsleds with long ropes. Now and then one of the boys would hit a bump in the old dirt road and pile out into the snow. Sometimes a farmer would have some fun and speed up his team about the time the youngsters wanted to get off. Then it was usually a pile up in the snow drift or a ride out to the

country and a long walk back to town. They usually ended up in the snow drift.

Back then it was Perdue's Hill that the boys and girls did their sledding on. Perdue's hill is the same hill, at the Civic Center, youngsters and grownups slide on today. The winter season saw an increase of skating on the Salamonie River. Young and old would skate from Warren to the McCoy bridge and even further. They would have big bonfires along the way. In my younger days we played hockey on the river. I hope everybody has a good sledding season.



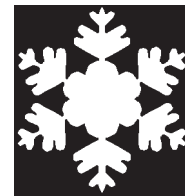
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### Community Calendar

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

Dec 20	Van Buren Town Council, 7p .m.
Dec 22	Warren Recycle Day
Dec 24	Christmas Eve
Dec 25	Christmas Day
Dec 31	New Year's Eve
Jan 1	New Year's Day 2007
Jan 3	Chamber of Commerce Lunch, noon, Assembly Hall
Jan 3	Van Buren Town Council, 7 p.m.
Jan 5	Warren Recycle Day
Jan 8	Warren Town Council, 6:30 p.m. Assembly Hall
Jan 9	Our Town Meeting, 7 p.m., Assembly Hall
Jan 13	Knight Bergman Center Board Meeting, 8 a.m. @KBC
Jan 28	Sunday Lunch, sponsored by PROS at KBC 11-1

**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 **After School Adventure** - Tuesdays & Thursdays, after school till 5:30 p.m. at Hillcrest Church of the Nazarene **Preschool Story Time** - Warren Library 10:30 **Fraturdays Walking in the Gym** - at KBC 7-11a.m. Monday thru Friday.



## AREA NEWS CONTINUED

### EUCHRE CLUB

The Jackson Township Euchre Club met at the home of Phyllis Dickey. Phyllis Dickey won High, Sharon Gebhart and Carolyn Carroll tied for Low. Sharron Roush, Mary Ann Monce, Mary Jo Zoda, Joyce Willman and Joan Huffman tied for most Lones. Others enjoying the evening were Florence Taylor, Venita Banter, Jane Lieurance, Doris Tyler and Marjorie Michaud. After an evening of playing euchre a gift exchange was held with Diane King in charge. An enjoyable evening was had by all. In January we will meet at the home of Joan Huffman at 5:30PM.

### SIGMA PHI

The regular monthly meeting of the Beta Delta Chapter of the Sigma Phi Gamma International Sorority was held Tuesday, Dec. 5th at the KB Center. President, Beth Ostermeyer, presided.

Christmas donations to several area organizations were approved. Those included McKenzie's Hope, Love, Inc., and Friends House in Bluffton. The sorority also will purchase board games for recesses indoors at both Salamonie and Southern Wells Schools.

Members were also reminded that the Christmas social will be held in the sorority room at the KB center on Dec. 19th. Please bring gifts for your secret sister.

Members attending included: Sondra Zabel, Peggy Sue Clark, Sandy Eichorn, Opal Brubaker, Sandy Booher, Jenny Plummer, Beth Ostermeyer, Tara Korporal, Suzette Gephart, Carol Irick, Sharon Gebhart, Betty Yoder, Susan Ralston, and Rosemary Zeller.

### CHAUTAUQUA

The Chautauqua Club met December 1, 2006 at 1:30 p.m. in the Calico Room at Heritage Pointe. President, Jane Ruble led in repeating the creed. Roll call answered by 17 members and 1 guest, with each telling about a favorite Christmas gift or a program they were in.

Secretary report given. Treasurer report given.

Everyone agreed to share the purchase of a coffee pot with Tri Kappa. Carolyn Sparks will store coffee pot.

Peggy Schweikhardt introduced her daughter, Mindy Drayer who sang Christmas Songs and shared about being foster parents to adopt.

Jane closed with reading: I Love Everything About Christmas.

Lovely refreshments were served by Georgina Laymon and Nancy Bonham to: Barbara Baer, Sue Blair, Sharon Gebhart, Linda

Howell, Lu Ellyn Pond, Jane Ruble, Robert St John, Peggy Schweikhardt, Martha Shafer, Carolyn Sparks, Maro Wall, Alice Whitmore, Betty Yoder, Oma Zent, Peg Christner and guest Mindy Drayer.

The next meeting will be January 5, 2007 at Heritage Pointe with Carolyn Sparks.

### PIZZA AND BINGO PARTY

Seventeen children were at the Van Buren Public Library after school story time on Friday December 8th to play Christmas Bingo and eat pizza.

The children were able to sign in and look over all the prizes they could win as they would bingo. We had books, bags, Christmas items and toys they could win for themselves or give as a present.

The letters and Christmas names were called out by our helper Amy Smith. The children would cover the letters on their cards and bingo was called out all over the room. Amy likes to work with and children and the children like Amy too. We had a good time as the children called out Bingo and chose a prize.

Refreshments were home made pizza and lemon-aid.

Those attending were Jacob Clupper, Jaren Clupper, Alie Gray, Emilee Morgan, Kaylee Morgan, Nixon Smith, Caitlin Imhoff, Autumn Smith, Emilee Henning, Autumn Harmon, Brayton Gray, Zach Jones, Elizabeth Bryant, Olivia Bryant, Cathryne Anderson, Zariah and Chelsea Cason.

Next after school story time will be December 15th 2:30 - 3:30 we will have our Christmas Party.

### REMEMBER OUR MILITARY PEOPLE

Eight children were at the Van Buren Public Library after school story time on Friday November 1st to color pictures for our military people.

Amy Smith read from the book "Armed Forces" by John Hamilton. This book can be found in the non fiction section of our Children's Department.

The children had fun as they colored Christmas pictures and other pictures. Some of the children wrote notes to thank are men and women for serving in the military.

We have some nice children in Van Buren.

Refreshments were candy and cool-aid.

Those attending were Autumn Smith, Jacob Clupper, Trevor Brane, Seth Brane, Chelsea Cason, Cathryne Anderson, Eddie Quick and Aurora Follis.

### EAGLES TRAVEL TO ELKHART

The Eagles traveled to Elkhart Monday 12/11/06 to play the E.C.H.S. (Elkhart County Home School) Hawks at the Jimtown North Elementary School Gym.

The Jr. Varsity Huntington Eagles lost 27-31. Austin Abbott 11 points, 4 rebounds; Caleb Featherston 10p, 2r, 1 assist, 1 steal; Vincent Burnworth 4p, 4r; Matt Weaver 2p, 2r; Brian Kelsey 1r, 1a, 3s; Joel Binkerd 2r, 2a, 1s, 1 block; Aaron Robinson 7 rebounds, 1s; Dominic Hubley 6r, 1a, 1s; Jonathon Yarde 2r.

Elkhart Hawks: #4 Logan Springer 15, #21 Satori Stahl 6, #32 John Clark 4, #22 John Granger 4, #42 Andrew Stoltzfus 2.

The Jr. Varsity Eagles were coached by Jeff Humbarger.

The Varsity Huntington Eagles won 74 - Elkhart Hawks 63. The Hawks enthusiasm and motivation was seen with each trip down the court, they were playing to win. Trading leads during the first half, the Eagles seemed to constantly play catch up to the quick shooting Hawks. The Coaches were finally able to reset the Eagles during a timeout, early in the 4thQ, with the Hawks up by 6. In the next few minutes the Eagles were on top by 10 and held out for the last 3 minutes. Joe Weaver 25 points (10 in the 4thQ), 19 rebounds, 3 blocks; Andrew Daniels 16p, 11r, 5 assists, 3 steals, 1b; Kolby Shultz 17 points (5 treys), 2 rebounds, 2 steals; Taylor Frank 8p (all in the 4thQ with 6 of 6 at the line), 5r, 6a; Colin Featherston 7p, 4r, 6a; Vincent Burnworth 1s.

Elkhart Hawks: #1 Micah Horner 27 (13 in the 2ndQ), #11 Shawn Cramer 11, #5 Dean Grass 7, #22 Bryan French 6, #14 Ben Granger 5, #33 Bryant Stoltzfus 4, #41 Ethan Mast 3.

The Varsity Eagles are now 11-2, and are coached by Mark Featherston & Jeff Humbarger. The Elkhart Hawks are 8-4.

The Eagles will travel Friday 12/15/06 to play the Fort Wayne

Hawks at Spiece Fieldhouse, and Saturday 12/16/06 to play the Anderson SonS at the White River Sports and Fitness 1545 S. Scatterfield Rd. Anderson.

### GUIDE TO BURIAL FOR VETERANS

Arlington National Cemetery draws many tourists each year who come to honor America's fallen service members.

Many who served long ago are buried there, but if you or a loved one were in the Armed Forces, you may also be eligible for burial at Arlington. Making inquiries, arranging funerals, and visiting gravesites can all be easier with A Guide to Burial at Arlington National Cemetery from Arlington National Cemetery. Knowing the eligibility requirements, service options, and descriptions of military honors can help you make sure your loved ones can be honored as befits their sacrifice. For your free copy, send your name and address to the Federal Citizen Information Center, Dept. 655N, Pueblo, CO 81009. Or call toll-free 1 (888) 8 PUEBLO, that's 1 (888) 878-3256, and ask for Item 655N. And visit [www.pueblo.gsa.gov](http://www.pueblo.gsa.gov) to place your order online or to read or print this and hundreds of other FCIC publications for free.

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### HOW DO I LOVE MYSELF?

by The FlyLady, Marla Cilley  
Love is a word that is very deceptive maybe even illusive if we look at it as a noun. It is not something that we can buy and hold in our hands, it is a word that is filled with action. Love is a verb. This word is not just a feeling it is a doing. For years all I ever wanted was to feel loved. That did not happen because I was looking for love in all the wrong places; as the song says. I was not going to find this love coming at me and surrounding me as a fog. I was not going to feel this love from other people. I was searching so hard for this love that I never dreamed that it was hiding right inside of me. The reason we have a hard time finding this love is that the clutter we have in our heads is standing in the way. When we can address this most personal of our Body Clutter we will begin finding what we are looking for.

Men and women equate love much differently. For a man to show love he often reveals it in actions; checking our tires, changing the oil, he is doing something. He may not be good at sentimental cards and flowers which is how we women equate love. This is why we need to look at the various ways that love is done. How do you love your children? You feed them, dress them, bathe them, and do things for them. We do the same thing for the critters in our lives. We

**CONTINUED PAGE 6**

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# GENEALOGY REPORT

## SHUTTLEWORTH



Jerry Shuttleworth, of Bluffton died at 10:40 a.m. on Monday, Dec. 4, 2006, at Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis. He had worked at Franklin Electric in Bluffton as a machine operator for 18 years, having retired in 2006. He also served in the Indiana National Guard. He enjoyed fishing.

He was born on Oct. 17, 1944 in Bluffton, a son of Charles A. and Lena Marie (Lauvere) Shuttleworth. He was a 1962 graduate of Warren High School. He was married on July 20, 2006 in Bluffton to Tammy J. (Wyatt) Shuttleworth, who survives.

He is also survived by his son Ben M. Shuttleworth of Montpelier, his daughter Susan M. Myers of Berne, two stepsons Justin R. Whipple of Bluffton and Johnathan T. Whipple of Bluffton, his brothers Bil Shuttleworth of Warren and Tim Shuttleworth of Pennsylvania, and his ex-wife Lynn Shuttleworth of Bluffton along with six grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his brothers Don Shuttleworth, Jim Shuttleworth, Tom Shuttleworth, and Bob Shuttleworth, and his sister Susan Marie Smith.

Services were held at the Glancy Funeral Homes - H. Brown and Son Chapel in Warren with Rev. Arley Higginbotham officiating. Interment took place in the Masonic Cemetery in Warren.

## ODEN

A former owner of Markle Furniture, Harold E. Oden, 79, of Huntington died Tuesday, Dec. 5, 2006, at Manatee Memorial Hospital in Bradenton, Fla.

Mr. Oden was owner of Markle Furniture from 1966 until his retirement in 2005. He was a member of Bethel Assembly of God Church in Huntington and served on the church board for many years. He and his wife spent winter months in Bradenton.

Born on June 13, 1927, in Huntington, he was a son of George and Hazel (Howell) Oden. His first marriage on June 29, 1947, was to Wilma Keplinger, who

preceded him in death on Oct. 25, 1999. His second marriage on June 1, 2003, was to Joan Hereau, who preceded him in death on Sept. 13, 2004. His third marriage on Nov. 26, 2005, in Bradenton was to Jane Parks, who survives.

Other survivors include a daughter, Linda Hutchison of Huntington; a son, Terry E. Oden of Huntington; a sister, Phyllis Keller of Huntington; two brothers, George Oden of Huntington and Don Oden of Cocoa, Fla.; four stepsons; four grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; nine step-grandchildren; and one step-great-grandchild.

Visitation and a Memorial Service were held at Myers Funeral Home, Huntington Chapel with Pastor John Backes officiating.

Interment was at Gardens of Memory Cemetery in Huntington County. Preferred memorials are to Bethel Assembly of God Church Building Fund.

## KRZMARZICK

Barbara Jean Krzmarzick, (74) A beloved wife, cherished mother and adored grandmother died peacefully on November 18, 2006 surrounded by her family. She will forever be in our hearts and remembered for her optimism, energy, devotion to her family, and her many, many interests.

Barbara was born August 26, 1932 in Warren, IN and graduated from Warren High School in 1950. She was a Chi Omega at Indiana University where she graduated in 1954 with a degree in Speech and Language Pathology. She pursued graduate work in her field during the course of her career. She worked with many different populations including deaf children, autistic students, and stroke rehabilitation patients.

She married (Romain) Kris Krzmarzick on December 17, 1955. They had a strong, loving and supportive marriage for over 50 years. Together they had 4 children: David (Michelle) Krzmarzick, Tom (Joyce), Jennifer (Craig Farmer), and Eric (Yvonne Oberle). She was also

the very proud grandmother of Natalie, Tim, Mikayla, Luke, Avery, Bryn, and Sean.

Barbara was past president of the Fallbrook chapter of the American Association of University Women (AAUW), an active member of the Fallbrook Garden Club, and played bridge and Mah Jong. She was politically active in the Democratic Party. Just weeks before her death she worked hard on turning out the vote for Democrats.

She is survived by her husband, children, grandchildren, innumerable dear friends and extended family. She is also survived by a brother Roger Tam of Elwood and a sister, Mary Emma (Tam) Huffman of Heritage Pointe.

A Memorial service and mass was held at Mission St. Luis Rey, Oceanside, CA on December 27, 2006 at 1pm. Memorials may be sent to AAUW, P.O. Box 1061, Fallbrook, CA 92088 in Barbara's name for a college scholarship fund.

An additional memorial service was held in Heritage Pointe Chapel on December 9, 2006.

## MORE PAGE 2

the articles of the Uptown Gardener. It has given me encouragement to try to continue to keep the articles going. This will be the last one for this year, so I wish you a safe and wonderful holiday.

Here is a couple of my Mom's Christmas recipes we could expect every year.

### White Divinity Fudge

2 cups sugar 1/3 cup water 1/2 cup white corn syrup 2 egg whites. Combine the water sugar and corn syrup in 3 quart size pan let set for 20 minutes. Bring to boil and reduce heat a bit and cook to hard boil stage. Beat egg whites till very stiff. Remove syrup from stove and let cool about 3 minutes and very slow pour over egg whites using about 1/2 on the syrup beating on med speed of mixer. Return the rest of syrup back to the stove and bring to boiling again pour slowly over the first mixture beating till firm Add 1 teaspoon Vanilla and nuts if desired. Drop by spoonful on wax paper or pour into a pan to cut in squares.

### Gumdrop Cookies

1 cup shortening or margarine 1 cup brown sugar 1 cup granulated sugar 2 eggs 1 tsp vanilla 1 1/2 cup flour 1 tsp soda 1 tsp baking powder 2 cups rolled oats 1 cup coconut 1 cup gumdrops cut into small pieces and 1/2 cup nuts if desired.

Cream sugar and shortening add eggs and vanilla. Mix all the remaining ingredients together add to the shortening mixture and mix till blended. Drop on greased cookie sheet by teaspoonful bake at 350 for 10- 12 minutes.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

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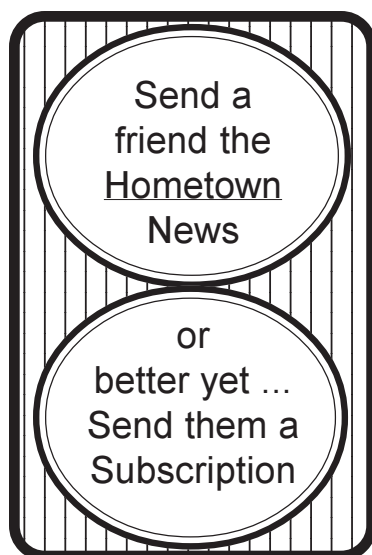
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## AREA NEWS CONTINUED

### MORE PAGE 4

scratch their ears and rub their bellies. Robert explained this to me this morning. Last year our hound dog Lucy died and we got another sweet hound dog.

He said that he could sit in his chair and think about how much he loves this new dog or he could get up and go over and pet her. Then he would be loving on her and she would feel his love for her. It would not be a passive experience just for him but a shared event for both of them.

Then he turned this around. He said when we are loving ourselves we are the giver and the recipient at the same time. That is when he headed out the door to play in the woods. This is one thing that he loves to do. When you are doing things that you love; you are loving yourself. With our FLYing way of life we only surround ourselves with things we love. We turn chores into blessings and release the stress from our lives by using routines to put us on autopilot. These are all forms of love but in our female definition of love this is just stuff we have to do.

We have to find ways to show ourselves love the way we understand it and will recognize it as love. But since we are doing it for ourselves we just don't accept it in the same way we would if it came from someone else. This is why we have a new Pampering habit for December. These are little things that we can do each day to pamper ourselves. They can be anything that you can think of to do something nice for you. You can snuggle with a cup of warmth or curl up with a favorite book or magazine. Settle into a tub of bubbles or put on some of your favorite music. Pick up a flower at the grocery store so that every time you look at it you will smile. Light candles in your home or put crystals in the window so that rainbows dance across your room. These always make me smile.

I was taught many years ago by Rita Davenport to fake it till you make it. I didn't really know what that meant till recently; I just did like she said. Fake it till you make it, is nothing but practicing till a habit becomes automatic. Imagine that, practicing loving ourselves with little habits that tell us we are loved by the person who does those little things that make us feel the love we so deserve. The martyr goes away and you are surrounded by the loving feeling that you have been searching for.

So practice loving yourself first by simple actions and eventually you will not do things that you don't love and you will not have items in your home that do not

put a smile on your face. This act of love is as contagious as your shining sink. You are just shining your heart.

Are you ready to Finally Love Yourself? One little habit at a time.

*For more help getting rid of your CHAOS; check out her website and join her free mentoring group at [www.FlyLady.net](http://www.FlyLady.net) or her book, Sink Reflections published by Bantam and her new book, Body Clutter. Copyright 2006 Marla Cilley Used by permission in this publication.*

### HOLIDAY EATING WITHOUT GUILT

by The Dinner Diva, Leanne Ely  
One thing I have learned, especially around the holidays, is that the process of losing body clutter is a journey...not a destination. It's also a process that doesn't go on holiday when we do. We are either on task or we're not. Being "off" so to speak, is an invitation to trouble. It's putting your guard down and going back to old behaviors. "Just this once" and "this little bit won't hurt" and "well, I'm only eating half" are red flags that you're rationalizing.

You have to make rules for yourself. Oprah does this with mashed potatoes. One bite and that's it. She can't do more because that kind of eating takes her down the wrong path. FlyLady and I order dessert when we travel. We take ONE bite and that's it.

Or it should be. The one bite rule flew out the window the last couple of trips and the next thing you knew; we were practically splitting a dessert! Multiple that by a few nights of going out to dinner and suddenly your jeans start talking to you (as in giving you a massive wedgie) and the scale is less than friendly when reporting your morning weight.

When we set out to do some-

thing that's new to us, it's very rare that we ever have the foresight and/or skill set to accomplish it without looking outside ourselves for help. This is how we get the education we need to make informed decisions on what to do. This is also how we develop skills we may not have had previously.

But there is something we bring to the table-we either have it or we have a lack of it. And that is discipline. The D word. There's a word we all love to hate. Discipline is one of those things we all bristle against, and yet it is one very necessary component to dealing with our body clutter whether it's having only one bite of dessert (and definitely not having dessert every night either!) or moving for just 15 minutes at a time. The requirement is discipline.

There is another thing we either have or don't have. That is consistency. You've experienced how well consistency works already-consistency is what got your house cleaned up, it's what gets dinner on the table night after night. Baby steps becoming routines, performed a couple of times daily, have turned your house from a castle of chaos to a palace of peace. Remember this: it was discipline that got you to execute your routines on a daily basis (consistently) that got you to the place where you now celebrate your home rather than dread it.

And lest you think FlyLady and I have lost our way in regard to dessert. We have a new way of handling desserts when we go

out to dinner. We take our forks, clink them together (as if to "toast" this special occasion) take our bites and throw the forks on the floor! We do fish the forks out from under the table-we don't leave them for the wait staff to retrieve. Others have mentioned that we could put salt and pepper on the dessert and deal with it that way, but the whole idea of clinking forks, eating the bite and throwing the fork on the floor is more fun and will (I'm sure) become a beloved ritual and tradition between the two of us.

Our dessert ritual is a great example of discipline and consistency. The discipline of the one bite rule will help us keep desserts in our lives; the consistency of doing it will prevent the body clutter from creeping back.

Keep these two qualities in mind as you're dealing with your body clutter. The food you eat (or don't eat) and the movement you make (or don't make), all rely on those two things-especially during the holidays where treats are lurking just about everywhere.

*For more help putting dinner on your table check out her website [www.SavingDinner.com](http://www.SavingDinner.com) or her Saving Dinner Book series pub-*

*lished by Ballantine and her new book Body Clutter. Copyright 2006; Leanne Ely Used by permission in this publication.*

### ADOPT A KATRINA FAMILY FOR THE HOLIDAYS

(SPM Wire) Just because Hurricane Katrina hit so many months ago, doesn't mean it's not still impacting the lives of many American families, especially during the holiday season.

Businesses, families, organizations, and individuals are being invited to share their holiday spirit with families still struggling with the hardships caused by Hurricane Katrina through an online program that matches people with families still in desperate need.

Would-be donors can visit [www.adopt-a-katrina-family.com](http://www.adopt-a-katrina-family.com) on the Internet to be electronically matched with families and given their wish lists - which include such basic needs as blankets, school supplies, dishes, baby food or cleaning supplies.

Toy donations also are being accepted to help brighten up bleak

**CONTINUED PAGE 8**

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## AREA NEWS CONTINUED

### MORE PAGE 6

holidays for these families.

The Adopt-a-Katrina-Family Project's Web site is helping meet the needs of Katrina survivors without hassles or long lines. The site instantaneously matches a donor's goodwill with a family's immediate need.

The concept for adopt-a-katrina-family.com is simple: one family helping another.

Those who wish to offer assistance, as well as those in need, can simply register on the Web site. The site easily matches the requests made by Katrina survivors with an appropriate donor, then facilitates contact between the two.

The Adopt-a-Katrina-Family Project also follows-up with both parties to ensure the match is working and the needs are being met.

Ten days after Katrina struck, California businessman Mark McLaughlin commissioned and funded the Adopt-a-Katrina-Family Project because, like most Americans, he was frustrated that help was not reaching those in need.

"Our site is unique because it makes people feel like they're really helping someone in need, and they are," says McLaughlin.

The site also serves up personal stories from survivors. "Some of the requests we've received are heartbreaking," says McLaughlin. "We have survivors who are in need of items as small as cleaning supplies, baby formula or school supplies. They just need to get back on their feet, and most of them are not in a position to wait for other help to come through. This site makes it possible to help people today."

A list of online suppliers is posted on the Web site to assist donors with easily filling a family's needs. For more information visit [www.adopt-a-katrina-family.com](http://www.adopt-a-katrina-family.com) on the Internet.

### BEWARE OF PHONY CHARITIES THIS TIME OF YEAR

(SPM Wire) This is the time of year when more Americans begin to make charitable donations or resolve to give more to charity. Consumers are being advised nationwide to be careful when donating to charitable organizations, especially those groups about which they know little.

Attorneys General in many states are offering tips on how to select a worthy charity and how to go about making your contribution carefully.

Ask questions about the organization soliciting funds. A legitimate charity will be happy to provide information about its work.

Be wary of charities with names that sound impressive or resemble those of other organizations. Some scam artists use names similar to reputable, well-known charities to confuse donors.

Do not give cash. For security and tax record purposes, it is best to pay by check - made payable to the charity itself, not the solicitor.

Ask for a receipt showing the amount of the contribution and stating that it is tax-deductible. If you volunteer your time, remember that, although the value of your time as a volunteer is not deductible, out-of-pocket expenses (including transportation costs) directly related to your volunteer service to a charity are deductible.

Be very skeptical of anyone asking for an immediate donation by requesting your credit card number or bank account information over the phone.

Do not give out personal or financial information - including Social Security, credit card and bank account numbers - to anyone who solicits a contribution from you. Scam artists can use this information to commit fraud against you.

Find out how the charity will use your donation. Ask for information about its programs and for a copy of its financial report. Ask what percentage of your donation will support the organization's programming and how much will be spent on administrative costs. Reputable charities will be happy to provide this information.

Mail appeals should clearly identify the charity and describe its programs in clear and specific language. Beware of appeals that bring tears to your eyes but tell you nothing of the charity or what it's doing about the problem it describes so well.

Be wary of calls soliciting funds that coincide with highly publicized tragedies, such as devastating fires, floods or other dramatic events. Fraudulent fund raisers will try to exploit your sympathy for those who suffered.

Ask for identification if you are approached in person. Many states require paid fundraisers to identify themselves as such and to name the charity for which they are soliciting.

If you have any doubts about a charity, check with your local state government - you can usually check with the Attorney General's office or the Secretary of State - to ensure it is registered as a non-profit.

You can also check out a charity by contacting the Better Business Bureau's Wise Giving Alliance online at [www.give.org](http://www.give.org) or by phone at (703) 276-0100.

If you believe you have been a

victim of fraud, be sure to contact your local Attorney General's office to file a complaint.

### FAMILY DINNERS LEAD TO BETTER GRADES AND LOWER TEEN DRUG USE

(SPM Wire) It's time to drag the kids away from the TV set or computer and to the dining room.

Corralling the whole family to the dinner table several times a week can actually promote better school performance and keep your kids from such risky behaviors as smoking, drinking and using drugs.

Teens who have infrequent family dinners (two or fewer per week) are twice as likely to smoke daily and get drunk monthly, compared to teens who have frequent family dinners (at least five per week), according to a new report from The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA) at Columbia University.

And academic performance also is enhanced by sitting down regularly to the family dinner table, say the researchers.

Of course, sharing a meal is about more than just sharing the mashed potatoes - it's about sharing the events of the day and communicating with each other.

"This year's findings prove that family dinners and the communication that occurs over the course of a meal are critical in building a relationship with your children and to understanding the world in which they live," said Joseph A. Califano, Jr., CASA's chairman and president. "Parents who have frequent family dinners are those who take the time to know their child's friends and the parents of these friends, know their child's teachers and chaperone their parties, and have healthier kids."

Indeed, compared to teens who have five or more family dinners per week, those who have two or fewer are:

- \* More than twice as likely to have tried cigarettes;
- \* One-and-a-half times likelier to have tried alcohol;
- \* Twice as likely to have tried marijuana; and
- \* More than twice as likely to say future drug use is very or somewhat likely.

And teens who have frequent family dinners are likelier to get better grades in school, and higher academic performance is associated with lower substance abuse risk.

"Of course there are no silver bullets; teen substance abuse can strike any family. But one factor that does more to reduce teens' substance abuse risk is parental engagement and one of the simplest and most effective ways for parents to be engaged in their teens' lives is by having

frequent family dinners," Califano concluded.

For more information about keeping teens safe from drugs, alcohol and other harmful substances, visit [www.casacolumbia.org](http://www.casacolumbia.org) on the Internet.

### PARENTS SHOULD BE AWARE OF SIGNS OF BULLYING

(SPM Wire) At some point in childhood most of us have either had to deal with bullies or witnessed bullying of others on the playground or in school. Parents today need to be alert to signs of bullying or evidence that their children are picking on others.

Indeed, nearly 30 percent of U.S. school children will be bullied or bully other children this year.

According to Melissa Holt, research scientist with the University of New Hampshire Crimes Against Children Research Center, bullying is a major problem that tends to peak in middle school and decline throughout high school.

A child who stops engaging academically, is missing school by saying he or she doesn't feel well, and appears withdrawn or depressed might be a victim of bullying, Holt says.

Students who are bullied are repeatedly victimized over an extended period of time. The bullying, which can be perpetrated by one or more students, can be physical or verbal. In general, boys experience more physical bullying, and girls are more likely to be targets of indirect victimization, such as being excluded by social groups and relational bullying (gossip and rumor-spreading).

Certain students are more susceptible to becoming victims. Students who are obese, enrolled in remedial education, have developmental disabilities, and are insecure and anxious are more at risk.

"For some youth there are long-term effects from their involvement in bullying episodes either as victims or bullies," Holt says.

Researchers have found that by age 23, individuals who had been chronically victimized in their youth had lower self-esteem and were more depressed than others. Similarly, long-term outcomes for bullies also can be serious; compared to their peers, bullies are more likely to be convicted of crimes in adulthood.

Holt offers the following suggestions for students dealing with bullying:

- \* Tell someone - school staff, parents, other trusted adults - about the bullying. Often children

are afraid to talk to an adult because they fear retaliation or being viewed as a tattler.

\* Take a friend, or group of friends, along when speaking to a trusted adult. This approach creates a community of support and provides a model for how to address these issues.

\* If students feel comfortable and safe, speak up when a peer is being bullied.

\* Treat peers with respect.

For parents, Holt proffers similarly useful tips:

\* Model respectful interactions.

\* Talk with your child and create a space in which they feel safe to discuss their fears.

\* Be aware of warning signs of bullying and talk to your child about what is going on.

\* Know your children's friends.

\* Take time to connect with your children.

\* If your child is being bullied, alert school officials and help your child get assistance. NEVER tell your child to ignore the bullying as this can increase the seriousness of the problem.

\* Expect the bullying to stop. By setting a high standard, parents are demanding that change and consequences occur. They are also empowering the child to take action and shed the victim role.

If a parent suspects his or her child is bullying other students, Holt says it is critical that parents of bullies be clear that they do not support the behavior. Not only should they contact the school, but they should enforce rules regarding behavior and get their child involved with positive social activities.

"Every child has unique strengths and qualities. Although it's easy to see the bully as 'all bad,' bullies too have contributions to make. Helping a bully recognize their potential for positive contributions and learning how to use their power in healthy and meaningful ways, such as focusing energy on hobbies or causes, will alleviate bullying problems and the long-term consequences associated with bullying," she says.

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