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# Warren Weekly

Your Hometown Newspaper

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Thought for the Week: The opportunity is often lost by deliberating. Syrus

## NEW CENTER FOR YOUTH

The SwitchUp, a new youth center coming to Van Buren, was given this name by the youth council because it expresses the goal of "Switching Up" the lives of teens in a positive way.

The vision for the center began with two Van Buren ministers, Heath Jones and Leon Pomeroy, shortly after relocating to the area. A meeting was held with town board members and a steering committee was formed. The youth have been involved from the beginning and will be running the center themselves with the direction of the steering committee.

"The SwitchUp" will be a safe place for Van Buren and surrounding area teens to go where they can help themselves in a warm and caring environment. Designed primarily for the age group 12-18, the center hopes to change teens' lives. This will be accomplished by offering after-school tutoring, fun activities, mentoring, games, computers, and a weekly Bible study. All are youth (regardless of their denomination or beliefs) will be welcomed.

The building to be used is need of a lot of TLC. Volunteers are greatly needed for the renovations and also for mentoring at the center. The steering committee looks forward to many other area churches and youth getting involved. Please contact Pastor Jones at email [heath.jones7@gmail.com](mailto:heath.jones7@gmail.com) or

call Pastor Jones at 765-618-7900.

Our next fundraiser will be selling Tenderloin Supper on February 22, 2012 at the Van Buren Elementary school. Although there have been several fundraisers, donations are still needed and can be sent to: The SwitchUp, PO Box 394, Van Buren IN 46991.

Watch your newspapers for upcoming information as the plans evolve and be sure to spread the word! Let's make this a community effort to shine a light in these times of darkness and make a difference in our little part of the world.

## THEME CHOSEN

Plans have gotten under way for the 2012 Salamonie Summer Festival. The January meeting was opened by chairman Denny Stroud telling what his vision of the festival should be. The committee chose the theme "IT'S STILL A GRAND OLD FLAG."

After little discussion it was decided to put the stage on Second Street by PNC Bank. Kyle Stroud, parade chairman, announced the parade will be on Friday night June 29. Danielle Shaw volunteered to be chairman of the window decorating contest. A lot of different events and good ideas were discussed. It was decided on Saturday, June 30 the festival committee will have a ranch rodeo.

Next meeting will be February 13, 6:30 at the Warren Sportsman Club House.

## THERMAL TOTE EVENT

The Van Buren United Methodist Church Mission Team presents a Thirty-One Thermal Lunch Tote Fundraiser. Two styles to choose from! The Thermal Totes (zipper) come in a choice of 18 different designs and the Cinch-It-Up thermal totes come in 5 different designs. The Thermal Totes are just \$17, including shipping & tax, and can be personalized for just \$8. The Cinch-It-Up totes will be \$23, including shipping & tax. Both totes are thermally lined (non-mercury containing liner) to keep warm food warm and cold food cold. The Zip-up totes come with a sturdy handle and a front pocket for napkins, utensils, or little notes. The Cinch-It-Up totes have long enough handles you can carry it over your shoulder.

The Mission Team will receive \$5 for each tote sold. Our Thirty-One consultant, Jenny Plummer, has agreed to give back to the Mission Team 20% of her commission from this fundraiser, as well as 5% back from each party that is booked from the fundraiser. Contact Jenny with any questions or to book a party! Orders will be taken through Jan. 27, 2012 and will be back within 2-3 weeks of the order being placed. Payment either by cash or Checks made payable to Jenny Plummer. You can order through any of the Mission Team members or contact Jenny herself.

## HTGN Co BASEBALL/

### SOFTBALL

Warren will field two little league teams in the Huntington County Baseball (HCB) in 2012. Any interested child that will be 9-10 years old on 1 May 2012 are welcome to tryout of the 9-10 year old team that will be coached by Brandon Glasgow. Any interested child that will be 11-12 years old on 1 May 2012 are welcome to try out for the 11-12 year old team that will be coached by Mike Spahr.

I would also like to hear from anyone interested in playing for a Warren girls softball team in HCB (9-11 year old) Girls must be ages 9-11 on 1 May 2012 to participate in this league. If there is enough interest, I will attempt to coordinate for a sponsor and coaches.

HCB online registration can be accomplished online at ; [www.huntingtoncountybaseball.org](http://www.huntingtoncountybaseball.org). You can defer registration/payment until you know if your child has made the team. Mike Spahr will be available to answer any questions regarding Warren area teams on 28 January, from 2-3pm at the Knight Civic Center. If you cannot make the meeting and would like additional information, feel free to call or email Mike Spahr (260-228-0105 / [mmk@citiznet.com](mailto:mmk@citiznet.com))

## PHARMACY PLANS

### AVAILABLE

This year, 2012, a number of Pharmacy Insurance Plans have chosen to, once again, to allow the Warren Pharmacy to fill your prescriptions. The Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield Pharmacy plan administered Medco Medicare, along with the Medco Medicare Prescription Plan will work with us and allow us to process prescription claims!

We are constantly striving to fulfil all of the regulatory requirements and contractual agreements with Pharmacy Benefit Managers and Insurance Companies so that you may receive quality pharmaceutical care from your local Pharmacist, Terry Daniels P.D., and our experienced staff.

It pays to visit the Warren Pharmacy (260) 375-2135.

## PROS LUNCH

PROS (Parents Reaching Out at Salamonie School) is hosting a Sunday Luncheon at the Knight Bergman Center in Warren on Sunday, January 29th from 11AM-1PM. The menu, which is generously prepared by Salamonie parents and staff, includes ham, beef & noodles, chicken & noodles, lasagna, meatballs, hot dogs, mashed potatoes, rolls, corn, green beans, applesauce, assorted salads and desserts. The cost is \$8.00

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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 the Warren Market, Huggy Bear Ice Cream, Dollar General and next to the Post Office in downtown Warren. The Warren Weekly is also available in several businesses in Van Buren. Total circulation is 3000.

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. Email subscriptions are \$24 per 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 260.247.2426 or email to wwky@citiznet.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 advertisement.

## KUDOS, KICKS & KARATS

### THE UPTOWN GARDENER by Ruth Herring

Old man winter has finally caught up with us. We are staying in trying to keep warm and our sanity. Just counting the days till spring.

Received a few new seed catalogs and helped to think spring even though I will probably not plant a garden again this year. I did notice some new varieties of vegetable seeds that looked interesting, but after a thorough reading of the catalogs I very kindly put them into recycling, you know out of sight - out of mind.

My dad and I spent cold winter evenings by the heat stove going over the seed catalogs thinking about what he would choose to plant. My mom who never worked in the garden would always severely disagree with his choices, but dad would just give her a kind smile and order what he wanted. Of course when the seeds came her hair was more red than usual because of "his poor choices". It always worked out at the end of the garden season our cellar was full of jars of food to run us all winter and until the garden produced again. We always had really well prepared food on the table considering the garden was not planted right.

Winter time is a great time for the crock pot and slow cookers to pull extra duty. Ours was a big kettle on top of the heat stove and many a delicious meal was cooked that way. One of the favorites was ham and beans and most time there was fresh made warm bread to go with it. I can not even come close to making bread like she did it, must have been some magic in the coal-oil stove and oven that did it. We kids could smell the bread baking a ways down the road coming home from school. We knew that soon as chores were done we would be treated to a slice or two of bread with fresh butter and jam. So much for the days of yester-year. I have a recipe for a slow cooker you might enjoy having.

#### Slow Cooker Beef

2 pounds beef roast cut onto small pieces, 1 can cream mushroom soup, 1 can cream celery soup, 1 soup can of water, 1 small onion diced fine, 1 small can mushroom pieces drained, 1/2 cup bell pepper diced, 1 carrot cut in small pieces, 1 teaspoon garlic powder or a small garlic clove, salt and pepper to your taste. Lightly flour beef and fry in a bit of oil till just browned, place in the slow cooker, mix the soups and water together add the vegetables and seasonings then pour over the meat. Cook on low for 8 hours or on higher heat for about 4 hours. This is good served over noodles or rice.

Enjoy - stay warm .

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**ASBURY CHAPEL  
UNITED METHODIST**  
8013W 1100S - 90, Montpelier  
Phillip Freel Jr, Pastor

Worship ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School ..... 10:30 a.m.  
Wed Carry-in & Fellowship ... 6:30 p.m.

**BANQUO CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
8294S 900W 35  
Brad Kelly, Pastor

Sunday School ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.  
Wed. Bible Study ..... 6:30 p.m.  
Thurs. Kings Kids ..... 6:30 p.m.  
BYG Youth Svc. (2&4Sun.) ..... 6:00 p.m.  
CWF Ladies (3 Tue) ..... 6:00 p.m.

**BOEHMER UNITED METHODIST**  
Rev. Barry Humble, Pastor  
Jerome Markley, S.S. Supt.

Sunday Worship ..... 9:30a.m.  
Sunday School ..... 10:30a.m.

**CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
Van Buren, Indiana 765-934-2199  
Pastor - Heath Jones

Youth Leaders - Kelly Jones  
Worship ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School ..... 10:40 a.m.  
Adult Bible Study ..... Sun 6:30p.m.  
Youth Group ..... Sun 6:00p.m.  
Handicap Accessible

Little Panther Preschool 765.934.2099  
**HEALING WATERS MINISTRY —  
MAJENICA**

Pastor Richard Evans  
260/224-3736

Sunday Service ..... 10:30 a.m.  
Wednesday ..... 7:00 p.m.

**DILLMAN UNITED BRETHREN**  
8888S 1100W-90, Warren 375-2779  
Dick Case, Pastor

1st Worship Service ..... 8:15a.m.  
Sunday School ..... 9:30a.m.  
2nd Worship Service ..... 10:30a.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 Worship ..... 9:30 a.m.  
OTHER SERVICES BY ANNOUNCEMENT  
Tues, Thurs, Fri & Sat

Chapel Services ..... 9:00 a.m.  
**THE NEW BEGINNING**  
SR 218, 2 1/8 mile west of Poneto  
Steve Sutton, Pastor

765/728-2065 for more info  
Sunday Worship ..... 10:30a.m.  
Thursday Prayer Meeting ..... 7:00 p.m.

**NEW HOPE MINISTRIES**  
9019 E 300 S - Warren Indiana  
Jim Graham, Pastor

260/494-6753 260/489-1456  
260/375-4224

Sunday School ..... 9:30am  
Morning Worship ..... 10:30am

**HILLCREST  
CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**  
375-2510

Rev Mark Davis  
Bus Service 375-2510  
www.hillcrestnazchurch.org

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.  
**SOLID ROCK UNITED METHODIST**

227 N Main St, Warren, IN  
375-3873

Kathy Newton, Pastor  
Sunday School ..... 9:00 a.m.  
Worship Service ..... 10:00 a.m.

**LANCASTER WESLEYAN**  
468-2411

Doug Sharrard, Pastor  
David Thrift, S.S. Supt.

Sunday School ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.  
Wednesday:

CYC/Teen/Adult Meetings .... 7:00 p.m.  
**LIBERTY CENTER BAPTIST CHURCH**  
694-6622

Aaron Westfall, Pastor  
Sunday School ..... 9:00 a.m.  
Fellowship ..... 9:55a.m.

Worship ..... 10:15a.m.  
Wed. Bible Study ..... 7:00 p.m.  
**LIBERTY CENTER**

**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
Pastor Devin Cook

Morning Worship ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School ..... 10:45 a.m.

**MCNATT UNITED METHODIST**  
375-4359

Bill VanHaften, Pastor  
Lois Slusher, Supt.

Coffee Fellowship ..... 8:30 a.m.  
Worship ..... 9:15 a.m.  
Sunday School ..... 10:30 a.m.

Bible Study - Wed. .... 7:00 p.m.  
**MT. ETNA UNITED METHODIST**  
260/468-2148 Sr 9 & 124

Rev. Sam Padgett - Pastor  
Trad. Worship ..... 9:00 a.m.  
Fellowship ..... 10:00 a.m.

Mdrn Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday Youth ..... 6:30 p.m.  
**MOUNT ETNA WESLEYAN**

Pastor Brian Holland  
Sunday School ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.

Mid-Week (Thurs) ..... 6:30 p.m.  
**PLUM TREE**  
**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
375-2691

Dr. Jeane Spoor, Pastor  
Sunday School ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.

**SALAMONIE  
CHURCH OF BRETHREN**  
468-2412

Mel Zumbrun, Pastor  
Worship ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Church School ..... 10:45a.m.

**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
375-2102

Pastor Scott Nedberg  
Youth Pastor - Rev Harold Smith Jr  
Sunday Worship ..... 9:30 a.m.

Contemporary Service ..... 10:30 a.m.  
Junior Church ..... 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday School ..... 10:30 a.m.

Youth Meetings-Wed ..... 7:00 p.m.  
Communion 1st Sunday of the Month  
**VB CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**

765/934-3321 Parsonage  
Jeff Wass, Pastor

Sunday School ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Adult Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.  
Children's Church ..... 10:30a.m.

Evening Praise Hour ..... 6:00p.m.  
Hour of Power (Wed) ..... 7:00p.m.  
**VB UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

765-934-1431  
Pastor Blake J. Neff

Worship Service ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School ..... 10:30a.m.  
Jr/Sr High FLOCK (Sun) ..... 6:00 p.m.

Prayer-Bible Study (Thur) ..... 7:00 p.m.  
UMW 2nd Wed ..... 7:00 p.m.  
www.vanburenumc.org

**WARREN CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
375-3022

Ethan T Stivers, Minister  
Nathan Ratcliff, Youth Minister  
Tara Bower and Melinda Haynes -  
Secretaries

www.warrenchurchofchrist.org  
Fellowship ..... 9:15 a.m.  
Worship & Communion ..... 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School ..... 11 to 11:40 a.m.  
Youth: (Start back up in the fall)  
K-5th grade, Mon ..... 6-7pm

Jr/Sr Hi, Thursday ..... 6-8pm  
**WARREN 1ST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Corner of N. Wayne & Matilda Sts.

Senior Pastor Rev. Bill Fisher  
Asst Pastor for Youth Greg Casserino  
Lori Buzzard, S.S. Supt.

Sunday School ..... 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday Worship ..... 10:00 a.m.

**WARREN WESLEYAN CHURCH**  
375-2330 6th & Nancy Sts. Warren  
Rev. Allen Laws, Pastor

Wesley Welch, Supt.  
Sunday School ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Worship ..... 10:15 a.m.

Wednesday Prayer Service. 7:00p.m.  
www.warrenwesleyan.com

**FARRVILLE COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
11044 E 200 N, Marion, IN  
765-934-3609

Sunday Worship ..... 10:30 am  
Sunday School Classes ..... 9:30 am  
Youth Group ..... 6:00 pm

Sunday Adult Bible Study ..... 6:00 pm  
Thurs. Bible Study ..... 7:00 pm

Please Attend the Church of Your Choice



## AREA NEWS

### MORE PAGE 1

for adults, \$4.00 for kids age 6-12 and children 5 & under are FREE! In previous years funds generated from this lunch have been used for recess equipment, scholarships and improvements to the Salamonie School woods. We hope you will be able to come enjoy lunch with us on January 29th!

### PIZZAS FOR SUPER BOWL

The Solid Rock United Methodist Youth Group will be taking orders for pizzas for Super Bowl Sunday on Feb. 5th. Pizzas will be made and ready for you to bake. Prices are from \$10 - 15. They can be picked up or delivered.

Please call the church office at 260-375-3873 between 9-12, Mon.-Fri. if you would like to order or have any questions. All pizzas must be pre-ordered by Jan. 29.

### BB/RIFLE SAFETY

Teaching safety skills is the main goal of the 4-H BB Gun and Rifle Safety Club. The club will once again offer its series of meetings beginning with sign-up night, Tuesday, January 24, 6:30-8:00 PM, at the Wells County Community Center, 4-H Park, Bluffton. Meetings will continue each Tuesday, 6:30-8:30 PM, until the Awards Night, April 3rd.

Youth in grades 3, 4 and 5 can participate in BB Gun. Youth in Grade 6 and above can participate in Rifle. First time members who are old enough for Rifle will be required to pass a shooting skills proficiency which reviews the positions and range safety

procedures.

Youth may become 4-H members when they enter third grade and may continue their membership through the completion of Grade 12. Each individual may continue membership for a maximum of ten (10) consecutive years.

Members are not allowed to bring their own equipment. Advanced registration is not required. Sign up will be at the first meeting. All participants must have a completed and signed health form before participating in the hands-on activity.

A membership fee of \$20.00 should be paid at registration time. This fee is only paid once each year. Youth in more than one 4-H club only pay the one time. There is a fee cap of \$60.00 per family.

The supply fee for BB Gun will be \$10.00 and \$15.00 for Rifle. This includes a book for new members, ammunition, gun repairs, gun cleaning supplies, targets and member awards. If you have more than one youth in BB Gun or Rifle, the second member supply will be \$5.00.

Scholarships are available for membership and supply fees. No youth will be turned away due to financial reasons. Check with 4-H Leaders or Extension Office for details.

In case of bad weather, listen to radio station K105 FM or check: wellscountyvoice.com for cancellations. Usually, if one of the schools cancel, the 4-H event will be postponed.

Youth may also enroll in the Shooting Sports Fair Exhibit Option. Members may make a poster or a notebook about some aspect of shooting

sports or may exhibit something they have made. Examples might include: Poster or Notebook; Firearm Safety; Cross a Fence with a Gun; Eye Dominance; Muzzleloading; Target Trap; Archery Safety; Types of Arrows; Buying a Bow; Shooting Vests; Hunter Ed; Tree Stand Safety; Percussion or Flintlock; Hunting Wild Turkeys; Handmade Items – Gun Rack; Ammo Box, etc.

The 4-H Shot Gun Safety Club, 4-H Pellet Pistol Safety Club; and the 4-H Archery Club will all begin in April.

For more information about 4-H, contact the Wells County Office of the Purdue Cooperative Extension Service, 260-824-6412 or one of the Shooting Sports Leaders: Don Kiefer, 260-824-1585; Chad Captain, 260-417-6488; Tex Mauger, 260-824-0266; Gregg Palmer, 260-701-2975; and Kevin Springer, 260-565-3323.

### GRADUATES BASIC

Air Force Reserve Airman Thomas Z. Moorman graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied

science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Moorman is the son of Timothy Moorman of East 300 North, Van Buren.

He is a 2006 graduate of Eastbrook High School, Marion.

### 4-H MEETINGS SCHEDULED

Recruitment for the 2012 Huntington County 4-H program is underway. Four-H is a volunteer youth development and education program coordinated by the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service. Its primary objectives are to assist young people in acquiring knowledge, skills, citizenship, and leadership. Youth participants and adult volunteers are the most important assets of 4-H.

The 2012 Huntington County 4-H program has scheduled call-out meetings to help families learn more about the county 4-H program during the month of January. Following are the scheduled dates, times and locations to gain information about 4-H in Huntington County:

4-H Open Houses – information about the county 4-H program and local 4-H clubs will be shared from 4-H club leaders, along with samples of 4-H project manuals will be available for review. Similar 4-H information will be shared at each of the following sites;

\* Thursday, January 26, 6:30-

7:30pm, Roanoke Elementary School cafeteria, 423 West Vine Street, Roanoke

\* Tuesday, January 31, 6:30-7:30pm, Heritage Hall, Hier's Park, 547 South Briant Street, Huntington

At 7 pm during these 4-H open houses, there will be a short presentation explaining more about the new online 4-H enrollment process

Printed information about the Huntington County 4-H program was distributed through the elementary schools in Huntington County during the week of January 9th to all 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students. Families are encouraged to read informational flyer about the Huntington County 4-H program and to respond as to their child's interest in the 4-H program through the "Join 4-H" brochure. The interest form may be returned to the respective elementary school office, mailed to the Purdue Extension – Huntington County office or brought to of the scheduled 4-H open houses as noted above. Youth may also enroll in 4-H through the new online process.

Four-H is one of the largest youth development organizations in the world. Today's 4-H is for all youth, regardless of urban or rural residence, socioeconomic status, or racial or cultural background. Last year in Huntington County, 1,074 youth in grades K-12 were involved in community based 4-H clubs, which emphasize practical, hands-on activities as key aspects of capturing and retaining lifelong interests. A wide range of learning opportunities are available, including such topics as aerospace, agriculture, consumer clothing, computers, electricity, foods, home environment, photography, reading, shooting sports and woodworking. In Huntington County, over 50 projects will be offered for 2012.

Chief characteristic of 4-H is its corps of caring and capable volunteers. 4-H volunteer club and project

**CONTINUED PAGE 4**

## 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.

Jan 18	7:00 p.m.	Van Buren Town Council
Jan 29	11a-1pm	PROS Luncheon at Knight Bergman Center
Feb 1	Noon	Warren Chamber of Commerce, Assembly Hall
Feb 1	7:00 p.m.	Van Buren Town Council
Feb 2		Groundhog Day
Feb 13	6:30 p.m.	Warren Town Council, Assembly Hall
Feb 13	6:30 p.m.	Salamonie Summer Festival Meeting, Sportsmans Club
Feb 14		Valentine's Day

Bread of Life Food Pantry - Wed 2 - 4:00pm & 6 - 8:00p.m. at KBC  
Bargain Basement - Friday & Saturday 9 - 4 at KBC ; Cancer Support  
Group - 3rd Tuesday 6:30-8p.m. at Bluffton Regional South Campus



**Karen S. Campbell, CSA**

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**M-T-W-F 9-5; Th & S 9-12**  
**114 N Wayne St, Warren**  
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## AREA NEWS CONTINUED

### MOR PAGE 3

leaders form the backbone of the educational mission of the 4-H program. Through these committed adults, youth are offered opportunities to develop practical competencies and life skills such as leadership and teamwork.

Youth are helped to establish goals, think intelligently, and become contributing citizens. Through activities that are typically conducted in the homes of members or leaders, churches, or other community facilities, 4-H'ers are encouraged to examine problems in their communities and participate in their solution. Competence and knowledge developed through 4-H work often lead to career choices.

Surveys of graduating 4-H members both locally and nationwide have repeatedly reported participants' acquisition of life skills such as personal responsibility, leadership, motivation, formation of friendships, and practical and vocational skill development as some of the most valuable outcomes of their 4-H experience.

The program combines the resources of Huntington County government, Purdue University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, community donors and sponsors, and the voluntary efforts of members, parents and adult volunteers.

For more information,

the Purdue Extension – Huntington County office at 358-4826, located in the County Courthouse Annex Building, 354 N Jefferson – Suite 202, Huntington or contact Linda Aldridge, Extension Educator 4-H Youth, a t laldrig@purdue.edu.



Robert Van Camp became a barber in 1882 and learned the trade from James Wilmore who owned and operated a barber shop in the old Contesse block which stood where Warren Market is now located. For fifty years he was a barber in the town of Warren. For almost thirty years his shop was in the building that stood in front of P.J.'S Flower Shop.

In 1933, when the legislature passed a law which required all barbers to take an examination to be licensed, Mr. Van Camp decided that he would not take the physical examination that is required to secure a license. Robert marked his calendar on Sept. 1, when the law was to take effect, noting that it would be the end of his shaving, haircuts and shampooing.

When that day came Mr. Van Camp arrived in the morning at six-thirty as had been his custom for a half century and put in his regular day. When night came he picked up his razor and scissors and went home for good. Everybody who knew Mr. Van Camp would expect him to do as he did without any fuss about it. It was all in a day's work and the days work was the most important thing there was to do.

### SIGMA PHI

Beta Delta chapter of Sigma Phi Gamma held their January business meeting at the Sorority Romm on Jan 3rd at 7:30

President Jenny Plummer call the meeting to order. Roll call was answered by your favorite book or movie.

Officer and committee reports were given. Happy birthday was sung to Susan Ruble. We are still searching for a location to hold alpha Province Meeting in March of 2013. We will hold guest night on Jan 17th at 7:00 pm.

Some thank you notes were read from people that we helped at Christmas. The meeting was closed by the Chaplin.

Those attending were Claudia Boxell, Jenny Plummer, Carol Irick, Kathy Ralston, Susan Ralston, Beth Ostermeyer, Sondra Zabel, Opal Brubaker, Sandy Booher, Suzette Gephart, Sandy Eichhorn and Sharon Gebhart.

### GIRLS WIN

Eastbrook 8th grade girls' basketball team improved to 8-3 with a 56-9 win over visiting Southwood. The next game will be this Saturday at Oak Hill vs Madison Grant in the Grant 4 Tournament.

Scoring: Kaley Kitts-16, Amanda Marrs-8, Marissa Gunning-8, Courtney Haynes-6, Carragan Beouy-6, Michaela Gunning-5, Jordan Burman-3, Sierra Colvin-2, Carri Jo Thompson-2

### NEW REGULATIONS

New regulations take effect July 1, 2012 which will apply to both medium- and large-scale livestock operations. The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) regulates confined feeding operations (CFOs), as well as smaller operations which have violated water pollution rules or laws.

It is important to clarify that CFOs are livestock facilities that house at least 300 cattle or 600 swine or sheep or 30,000 fowl, such as chickens, turkeys or other poultry.

The updated regulations from IDEM for CFOs state that soil phosphorus levels on cropland where manure will be applied cannot exceed 200 parts per million, as opposed to old rules that were based on the nitrogen needs of the next planted crop. A seven-year phase-in period is included to provide producers a chance to adjust to the new soil

phosphorus application standard.

Another change for CFOs involves the application of manure to frozen or snow-covered soils.

"The requirements state that applying manure to frozen or snow-covered ground is no longer going to be allowed for most operations," said Purdue Extension dairy specialist, Tamilee Nennich.

The only exceptions will be in cases of emergency or for older, medium-sized farms originally permitted with only 120 days of manure storage capacity.

Beginning with new farms, CFOs will be required to have 180 days of manure storage capacity.

For both larger operations affected by the new rules and smaller livestock farms, Nennich emphasized the importance of keeping records of all manure management and application activities.

"Detailed records are really important for operations of all sizes," she said. "When it comes down to it, nutrient management records are really the only way producers can prove that they are making an effort to protect the environment. It's really hard to tell how many nutrients have been applied after the fact, so maintaining good records, knowing what the nutrient sources were and how much was applied is really the only way producers can prove that they were trying to do the right thing."

To help producers keep better records, Nennich, Purdue Extension, the Indiana Corn Marketing Council and the Indiana Soybean Alliance will once again offer free nutrient management recordkeeping calendars.

"If producers keep the records that appear in the calendar each month, they'll have a pretty complete set of records," she said. "There also are some notes included to remind producers of additional things they should be doing. The calendar can serve as a reminder to keep the records that are required for an operation."

There are about 1,500 CFOs

in Indiana. Details about CFOs in Indiana can be found at the IDEM Web site: <http://www.in.gov/idem/4994.htm>.

For more information, contact Ed Farris, Agriculture and Natural Resource Educator, Purdue Extension – Huntington County Office, 354 N Jefferson – Suite 202, Huntington by calling 260-358-4826.

### THIN ICE

As freezing temperatures approach, Indiana Conservation Officers across the state are advising citizens of the potential hazards of being on frozen lakes, ponds, rivers, and streams this winter.

Every winter, thousands of Hoosiers enjoy fishing, skating, hiking, or just sliding around on frozen ponds and lakes. And every year, people drown after falling through ice. Like driving on snow, Hoosiers need to re-learn how to have safe fun on ice.

Conservation Officers want citizens to put safety first. Here are a few tips to remember when considering standing on or walking on a frozen lake or pond:

1. No ice is safe ice.
2. At least 4 inches of ice is recommended for safe ice fishing; 5 inches for snowmobiling.
3. If you don't know....don't go.
4. Wear lifejackets or flotation coats.
5. Carry ice hooks and rope gear.

Some bodies of water will appear to be frozen solid but actually can have thin ice in several unsuspecting areas. Flowing water, such as rivers and streams, should be avoided when covered by a layer of ice. Water that is surrounded by sand many times freezes with inconsistencies.

Wind, waterfowl and beavers can also keep areas of ice thin.

Indiana Conservation Officers say the best rule of thumb is for everyone to believe they are "walking on thin ice."



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## GENEALOGY REPORT

### RICHISON

K. Dean Richison, 70, of La Fontaine, died Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2012, at 3 a.m., at Parkview Hospital, in Fort Wayne.



Mr. Richison was a lifetime Huntington County farmer and a longtime member of the Warren First Baptist Church. He was a 1959 graduate of Jefferson Township High School in Huntington County.

He was born on Oct. 21, 1941, in Huntington, to Kenneth L. and Ada G. (Hedrick) Richison. He married Sandra Fulcher on June 25, 1965, at the First Baptist Church in Warren. His wife survives.

Additional survivors include three sons, Rodney Dean (Amy) Richison, of Huntington; Brad Richison, of Andrews and Jeff (Nancy) Richison of La Fontaine; a brother, Eldon (Janet) Richison, of Marion; 11 grandchildren, Ryan Richison, Caleb Richison, Cameron Richison, Kai Richison, Cole Richison, Brittany Richison, Ashlynn Richison, Brooke Richison, Morgan Richison, Mia Richison and Naomi Richison and a great-grandson, Xavier Richison.

Services were held Saturday, January 14, 2012 at First Baptist Church, 727 N. Wayne St., Warren, with Rev. Bill Fisher officiating. Interment was at Gardens of Memory in Marion, IN.

Preferred memorials are gifts to First Baptist Church or the Indiana Organ Procurement Organization Foundation, 3760 Guion Rd., Indianapolis, IN 46222.

### PLATT

Clanedia M. Platt, 88 of Huntington passed away at 6:39 a.m. on Wednesday, January 11, 2012 at Parkview Huntington Hospital.

She was a 1941 graduate of West Union High School. She was a farm wife all her married life. She was a sales clerk for Sears & Roebuck Catalog office in Huntington for several years. She was the bookkeeper for Platt Fertilizer Warehouse. She was a lifetime member of the Zion United Methodist

Church where she held various positions over the years. She was a member of the Union Thrifty Home Economics Club. She was an avid sports fan and enjoyed following Purdue, Huntington University and Huntington North High School basketball programs.

She was born on December 31, 1923 in Huntington, a daughter of Cary Ernest and Susan Grace (Hosler) Stetzel.

She was united in marriage to Darl R. Platt on September 25, 1943. He preceded her in death on June 21, 1995.

Survivors include three daughters: Linda (Jerry) Miller of Huntington; Sally (Bob) Buehler of Huntington; Jennie (Jim) Ryan of Huntington; a son: Steve (Peggy) Platt of Huntington; nine grandchildren: Jeff Miller, Pamela Bradley, Tom Buehler, Tammy Buehler, Ty Platt, Polly Grismore, Laura Penrod, Ben Ryan and Sam Ryan; nine great grandchildren: Will Bradley, Jessica Bradley, Nathan Buehler, Brenden Buehler, Kyle Platt, Konner Platt, Kalee Platt, Abbi Grismore and Austin Penrod.

She was preceded in death by three brothers: Curtis Stetzel, James Stetzel, Von Stetzel and a sister: Laura Lahr.

Services were held on Monday, January 16, 2012 at the Myers Funeral Home Huntington Chapel with Rev. Bill Rapp officiating.

Interment was at the Zion Cemetery in Huntington County.

Memorials are to Zion United Methodist Church or Donor's Choice both in care of Myers Funeral Home, 2901 Guilford Street, Huntington, IN 46750.

### ROSEN

Bertha Juanita Rosen, age 85, of Huntington, died at 10:30 p.m. Wednesday (January 11, 2012) at Parkview Huntington Hospital.

Bertha was born on December 27, 1926, in Huntington, the daughter of Julius and Leatha (Kline) Karst. She married Robert H. Rosen on January 28, 1944 in Huntington. He preceded her in death on September 2, 2005.

Bertha retired from Memcor where she worked for over 20

years. Prior to that, she worked for Fisher Engineering. She was a member of Ss. Peter and Paul Catholic Church where she belonged to the Grandmother's Club and the Widows of Prayer Groups. She was also a lifetime member of V.F.W. Post 2689 Ladies Auxiliary.

Bertha is survived by one son – James E. (Judith) Rosen of Andrews; two brothers – William Karst of Cromwell and Donald Karst of Huntington; two sisters – Doris Ann Shaffer of Huntington and Rose Arivett of Huntington; four grandchildren – Troy Rosen of Warren, Gus Rosen of Andrews, Jeremy Rosen of Huntington and Cameron Rosen of Andrews; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Her parents, her husband, son – Thomas Rosen, brothers – Herman Karst and Ralph Karst, and sisters – Mildred Seber, Mary Schoeff and Berniece Householder preceded her in death.

Visitation hours were held at the Bailey-Love Mortuary with a Rosary Service held at 5 p.m. A Mass of Christian Burial was held Monday (January 16, 2012) at Ss. Peter and Paul Catholic Church, 860 Cherry Street, Huntington with Father Ron Rieder officiating. Burial will take place later at Andrews Riverside Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Parkview Huntington Hospice in care of Bailey-Love Mortuary, 35 West Park Drive, Huntington, IN 46750.

### THOMAS

James Lane Thomas, 76, died Sunday, Jan. 15, 2012, at Heritage Pointe, Warren.

Mr. Thomas attended the University of Colorado and graduated from the University of Nebraska in 1958 as a chemical engineer.

He had been employed for 31 years by the 3M Corporation in Hartford City and in St. Paul, MN. He had also owned his own television business. He had been a member and officer of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, an area planning commission, Optimist and Rotary clubs, a barbershop chorus and the

Avion Travelcade Club.

He was born Feb. 9, 1935, in McCook, NE, to James William and Jessie Lane Thomas. He married Della May Jenks, who survives.

Additional survivors include two daughters, Gwen (John) Mays, of Raleigh, NC, and Lane (Allen) Bahney, of Gilead; three granddaughters, Sara (Kyle) Thomas, Melanie Mays and Bailie Martin; and four great-grandchildren.

There are no calling hours. Interment will take place at a later date at Gilead Cemetery in Gilead.

Ferguson & Glancy Funeral Home, Van Buren, is in charge of local arrangements, with cremation and interment handled by Hartzler Funeral Home, Akron.

### VILLANUEVA

Anita S. Villanueva, 90, of South Bend and formerly of Warren, died at 7:20 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2012, at Ironwood Health and Rehabilitation in South Bend.

She was born in McAllen, Texas, on July 25, 1921, to Ramon and Cesaria (Cantu) Salazar Sr. She married Santos C. Villanueva; he preceded her in death on Feb. 12, 1987.

Surviving relatives include one daughter, Irene (Frank) Martinez of South Bend; four sons, Ernesto (Florinda) Villanueva of Edcouch, Texas, Santos (Patricia) Villanueva of Huntington, Joe Louis Villanueva of Casper, Wyo., and Raymond (Linda) Villanueva of Roanoke; three sisters, Cristella Garza and America Bernal, both of Elsa, Texas and Raquel Garcia of South Bend; one brother, Ramon Salazar Jr. of Plymouth; and 19 grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Villanueva was also preceded in death by two sisters, Aurora Saenz and Raquel Garcia; and one brother, Rudy Salazar.

Services were held at the Glancy - H. Brown and Son Funeral Home in Warren. Burial was at Woodlawn Cemetery in Warren.

### STRAW

John Eugene Straw, 61, of Andrews, IN, died Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2012, at his home.

Mr. Straw had been employed by Utrad and M&S Sheet Metal and as a janitor for Executive Management Services at United Technologies. He was a former member of the Mt. Etna Volunteer Fire Department.

He was born Sept. 27, 1950, in Huntington County to John W. and Norma Bedwell Straw. He married Rita Kern on June 26, 1982, in Mt. Etna. His wife survives.

Additional survivors include a daughter, Ragina Straw, of Andrews; a son, Joel Straw, of Andrews; three brothers, Charley (Janelda) Straw, of Lagro; Bob Straw, of Andrews; and Joe (Judy) Straw, of Kendallville; and four sisters, Helen (Roger Sr.) Newsome, of Andrews; Kathryn Pugh, of Warren; Judy Ervin, of Marion; and Sheila (Cary) Cormany, of Andrews.

Services were held Monday, Jan. 16, 2012, at Deal-Rice Funeral Home, Andrews Chapel, 233 N. Main St., Andrews, with Rev. Jerry Felts officiating. Burial was at Gardens of Memory Cemetery.

Gifts to the family may be made in care of Deal-Rice Funeral Home, 233 N. Main St., Andrews, IN 46702.

### JAMES

Phyllis Ann James, 83 years old, of Decatur, IN., Died January 11, 2012 in her residence with her family around her.



She was born Thursday Sept 13, 1928 in Anderson, IN. daughter of the late Loree and Norma (Gray) Heideman.

Phyllis graduated from Van Buren High School April 20, 1947. She married Lewis James May 2, 1947. He survives in Decatur, IN. Phyllis had lived in Van Buren, IN. in the same house for 63 years, built by her loving husband. She had lived in Decatur, IN. since June of 2011. Phyllis and Lewis had been married for 64 years. She

**CONTINUED PAGE 6**

## AREA NEWS CONTINUED

### MORE PAGE 5

adored her husband, loved her boys and took in the daughters in Law as the daughters she never had. Phyllis was always straight forward and opinionated. She was a member of the Van Buren United Methodist Church of Van Buren, IN

Surviving are her Husband: Lewis James of Decatur, IN. Sons: David (Mary Whonsetler) of Fort Wayne, IN. Dennis (Cindy) of Decatur, IN. and Randall (Rita) of Van Buren, IN. 3 Sisters: Jean (Clyde) Stintson of Anderson, IN, Catherine Ruth Minczewski of Plano, TX and Eileen (Dale) West of Anderson, IN. One Daughter-in-Law Tami James of Decatur, IN. 11 Grandchildren and 20 Great-Grandchildren

She was preceded in death by her Mother and Father, A Son Dana James, Brothers: Billy Heideman and twins Kevin & Kenny Heideman. Sister: Helen Conley,. Niece: Sue Pitcock.

Services were held at Ferguson & Glancy Funeral Home, Van Buren, IN. at 6 pm Saturday January 14, 2012., with the Rev. Leon Pomeroy of the Van Buren United Methodist Church officiating.

Memorials may be made to the Hospice of Family Care, at 265 West Water St., Berne, IN. 46711

### LENNON

N. Rosaleen Lennon, 90 died at 8:00 a.m. January 17, 2012 at Heritage Pointe, Warren, IN.

Private services will be held at a later date.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the American Diabetes Association and the Alzheimers Association.

Glancy-H. Brown & Son Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

### TIPS FOR TAKING THE STRESS OUT OF TAX SEASON

They say nothing in life is certain except death and taxes, and with tax season right around the corner, you might be starting to worry about the latter.

But with the help of USA.gov, you don't have to stress about filing your taxes. Here's what you need to know to make the process simple:

1. The deadline to file your taxes this year is April 17. The deadline is pushed back two days because of the weekend and Emancipation Day, a Washington, D.C. holiday. If you can't make this deadline, you can request an extension and file your taxes later, however, if you owe money, you still need to pay by the April 17th deadline.

2. If you think you could use some help filing your taxes, find out if you're eligible for free tax counseling. The elderly, military members and their families and people with low to moderate incomes may be eligible for free tax counseling. The IRS has trained tax counselors who might be able to answer your questions.

3. The IRS makes it easy to file your taxes online using the e-file system. The benefit to online filing is that it's free, it reduces the risk of making a mistake and it lets you get your refund more quickly.

4. If you decide you don't want to file online and would rather submit a paper return, make sure you have all the forms you need. You can download them online from the IRS or may also be able to find them locally at your post office, credit unions, office

supply or grocery stores. You will also find instructions to fill out the forms that you can read online or download to a Kindle device.

5. Once you've filed your taxes, you can track your refund status easily to find out when you'll get your money. If you e-filed you will be able to get your refund information 72 hours after the IRS receives your information. If you filed a paper return, you can check your refund status in three to four weeks. You can also check the status of your refund using IRS2Go, a mobile app available for iPhone and Android devices.

By following these five tips and getting your return in early, you'll be able to watch your refund roll in and avoid that last minute scramble.

### THE CART BEFORE THE HORSE

by The FlyLady,  
Marla Cilley

Have you ever gotten sidetracked painting a room when you had friends coming over for dinner? If you have then you might be a FlyBaby! Let's say company is coming and you need to crisis clean by focusing on the main areas of the house. Instead you are cleaning out closets and scrubbing the bathroom tile with a toothbrush. This is our perfectionism.

If you are planning a party, I want you to fight the urge to tear out carpet and paint walls for now. Big family parties are stressful enough without adding the hassle of tearing up your home and trying to put it back together. Even under to most ideal circumstances, a remodel is tough.

Let me tell you about the easiest remodel of all! It is getting rid of your clutter. For three years; Robert and I would plan and scheme about remodeling our home. We would take paper and pencils to a restaurant and start drawing up plans. Only to walk back in our home and be hit with a room filled with wall to wall clutter!!! I wanted change! I wanted a home that was beautiful and the only way

I knew to get it was to tear out and start over! Guess what friends; you don't have to remodel to love your home or to have people over! You just have to get rid of the clutter that makes your home feel closed in.

When Robert and I married in 1996, I had a houseful of clutter and he had a houseful of clutter. We put our clutter together and went to estate auctions and bought more. We could hardly walk in our home; much less invite anyone in! We would have to meet people on our front porch. I hated our home. I felt closed in and wanted something different. I thought it was a new home but that would have only made matters worse. I would have had to pack up all of our clutter and put it in a bigger house. Even if we added a room on then we would only invade that new space with our old clutter, making it unlivable. I realized that it was not the house that was making me feel bad but the clutter in the house and I had control over that.

In January of 1999 I started establishing my routines one little habit at a time. In the process I was trying to fix our finances by reading or listening to Suze Orman. I thought if only we had enough money we could remodel our house. I told myself that there was not any way we could remodel a house and make it bigger when I couldn't even keep our little house clean. What I learned from Suze was if I will get rid of my clutter and bless others then I would be blessed in return. WOW!!! I never dreamed that releasing clutter was the best and the easiest remodel I could do!

So for the next nine months I got rid of clutter 3 times a day with a 27 Fling Boogie! I took BabySteps and this consistency slowly but surely made a difference in our home. By September of 1999, our home was practically cleaning itself. By Thanksgiving I was able to have our family over for dinner. Then in December our little email group started.

It wasn't until my routines had been in place for way over a year that I finally consented

to explore a real remodel. I was afraid that our cute little home would fall apart and my routines would go by the wayside. For the first time in my life, I was able to keep house without beating myself up and I was so scared that I would forget my routines.

You are going to be so surprised just how nice your home really is without all the clutter blinding you. Please don't start tearing out, fixing up and painting until your clutter is eliminated. Clutter makes the job much harder than it really is. Think about a sparse room. It is much easier to paint than one that is piled to the ceiling with clutter. In fact you can't even see the walls for the clutter. Many times a little soap and water is all your home needs for now. Don't get the cart before the horse.

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 Random House and her New York Times Best Selling book, Body Clutter published by Simon and Schuster. Copyright 2012 Marla Cilley Used by permission in this publication.

### A CHALLENGE TO CHANGE

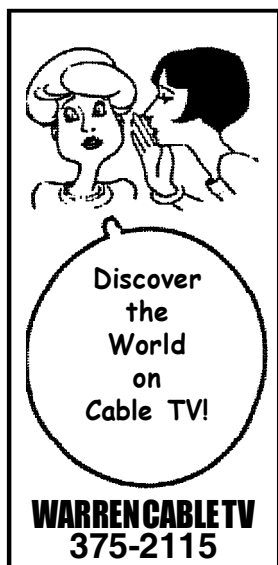
by V Neil Wyrick

There is a classic story of the artist Michelangelo pushing a gigantic rock down a cobbled street and being asked by someone why he is going to such extremes and effort. "Because," answered the great sculptor, "there is an angel inside that rock and I am going to let him out."

Pure and simple, that is a great part of what Lent is all about. The angel inside of all of us wanting to be let out if we are willing to work at gaining spiritual muscles by the exercise of prayer, penitence, almsgiving and self denial.

The journey of Jesus into the wilderness for forty days acknowledged a physical, spiritual and emotional fact; temptation is a reality. It also proved that Jesus was stronger than anything the devil could

**CONTINUED PAGE 8**



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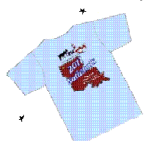
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## AREA NEWS CONTINUED

### MORE PAGE 6

throw at Him. Nor did it fail to emphasize that good can win out over evil and that while the devil is powerful, He is not all powerful.

The weeks of this special, hallowed season begin with Ash Wednesday and end on Holy Saturday. Once, they were that time when new Christians, who were about to be baptized on Easter eve, were taught what being a Christian entailed. And when those who were already Christians considered how well they had remembered and practiced what they had been taught. The six Sundays during Lent are not counted as part of the forty days because they are considered mini-Easters.

Lent emphatically reminds us of our need to conquer temptation rather than be conquered by it because no one escapes the seduction of sins, big or small.

One of the things I like most about Christians is that they are like Avis. They try harder. And, of course, that is what the Apostle Paul tells us is exactly what we must make ourselves prone to do. In his letter to the Ephesians he could not put it more clearly, "You were taught, in regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on a new self..."

A better than average thought every Christianity should hang his hat on is that the purpose of religion is not just to make people nicer - even secular humanism preaches that. Rather Christianity is an aim toward betterment with a Holy Spirit to make it easier and give us forgiveness when we have been determined to make it harder.

What we Christians are saying along with Ben Franklin is that, "If you lie down with dogs you will rise up with fleas." But if you rise up daily with Christ by your side, you will rise up a better man or woman because you will feel eternity poking at your soul.

Therefore during your Lenten reading remember a poem by

Laurence Housman that reads: Light looked down and beheld darkness.

Thither will I go said Light.

Peace looked down and beheld war.

Thither will I go said Peace.

Love looked down and beheld Hatred.

Thither will I go said Love.

So came Light and shone.

So came Peace and gave rest.

So came Love and brought life.

And the Word was made flesh

And dwelt among us.

### WINTER STRESSES ON TREES AND SHRUBS

Winter's heavy snow and ice, as well as frozen soil conditions, can damage cherished trees and shrubs in suburban landscapes. Even areas without major snowfall experience high winds and huge fluctuations in temperatures during winter. But homeowners can lessen the adverse effects of winter weather with preventive maintenance.

What can happen in winter, and how you can avoid it?

"Branches of trees can break due to the excessive weight of ice or snow," says Tchukki Andersen, staff arborist with the Tree Care Industry Association. "Proper pruning encourages the formation of the strongest possible branches and branch attachments. When pruning alone isn't enough, properly installed cables and rigid braces can add support to a weakened part of the tree."

Winter winds cause evergreens to lose moisture from their needles. Even some deciduous trees suffer from winter drying. If water is not available as moisture is drawn from living cells, permanent damage will result. The best prevention consists of planting

only hardy species in areas of prolonged exposure, watering plants adequately in the fall, and mulching to insulate the soil and roots from severe cold.

On sunny days in winter, the tree's trunk and main limbs can warm to 15 degrees higher than the air temperature. As soon as the sun's rays stop reaching the stem, its temperature plummets, causing injury or permanent damage to the bark. The two main types of injury are known as sun scald and frost cracking. The effects of sun scald and frost cracking can be reduced by sound arboricultural practices to maintain overall health, and also by covering the trunks of young, susceptible trees with a suitable tree wrap.

Winter is a good time to prune. "Most skilled arborists prefer pruning when trees are dormant," says Andersen. "With no leaves on the tree, the arborist is better able to evaluate its architecture and spot dead or diseased branches. In addition, since the ground is frozen damage to the turf underneath the tree due to falling limbs and tire tracks is negligible. This is also a good time to check trees for diseases and other damage."

Here are some other ways the Tree Care Industry Association recommends to improve the health of your living landscape:

- Aeration around trees helps improve water and air movement in the soil. This strengthens the tree's root system and reduces soil compaction.

- When planting, choose hardy trees available in your area as they have better chances for survival in severe weather conditions. Choosing the best location and following proper planting procedures

should be your highest priorities.

- Stop fertilizing trees in early fall to allow them to prepare for winter.

- In case of moderate storm damage, restoring the tree to its former health and beauty may take some time, but it generally can make a full recovery. Broken, hazardous limbs should be removed immediately. Pruning to remove broken stubs and restore the balance of the crown can be put off a little while, but shouldn't be delayed more than one growing season.

Hire a Tree Care Professional:

The best advice is to hire a tree care professional with the experience, expertise and equipment to safely take down or prune damaged trees. Require proof of liability insurance and check to see if the cost of the work is covered by your insurance company. Contact the Tree Care Industry Association (TCIA), a public and professional resource on trees and arboriculture since 1938. It has more than 2,000 member companies who recognize stringent safety and performance standards and who are required to carry liability insurance. TCIA has the nation's only Accreditation program that helps consumers find tree care companies that have been inspected and accredited based on: adherence to industry standards for quality and safety; maintenance of trained, professional staff; and dedication to ethics and quality in business practices. An easy way to find a tree care service provider in your area is to use the "Locate Your Local TCIA Member Companies" program. You can use this service by calling 1-800-733-2622 or by doing a ZIP Code search on

[www.treecaretips.org](http://www.treecaretips.org).

### TAX CHANGES

(ARA) - In the way of tax legislation, 2011 was a relatively quiet year. However, that doesn't mean there aren't tax law changes that will affect this year's tax returns.

"The changes enacted at the end of 2010 will still impact this year's and next year's federal tax returns," says TaxACT spokesperson, Jessi Dolmage.

To help you maximize your refund, here are some tax law changes you should know about before filing this year's return.

- \* Your federal return must be filed by Tuesday, April 17, 2012. April 15 is a Sunday and Washington, D.C., is recognizing Emancipation Day April 16. Don't use the extended deadline as an excuse to procrastinate, though.

- \* Amounts for standard mileage, standard deductions, personal exemptions and the Alternative Minimum Tax have increased. Note there are different standard mileage rates for miles driven before July 1 and after June 30. Details about all increases are in IRS Publication 17 at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

- \* Amounts for standard mileage, standard deductions, personal exemptions and the Alternative Minimum Tax have increased.

"Trusted solutions like TaxACT navigate all the tax law changes for you to help maximize your refund, file a return that's 100 percent accurate and provide help when you need it," says Dolmage.

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