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# DOWNTOWN DIGEST

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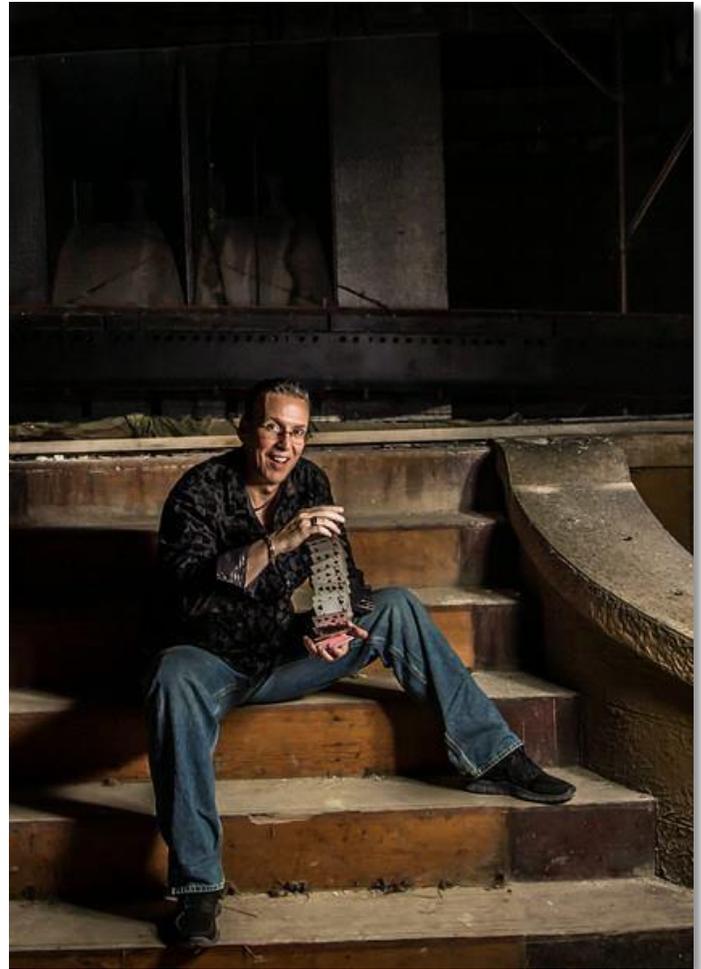
Warren, Ohio

Spring 2015

## Laughs, Magic and Carpet

The endless supply of rolled rugs, wood and tile samples are to be expected upon entering Satolli Carpet and Floor Covering on 361 High Street, but what is most striking are the community service awards, Warren memorabilia and personal mementos displayed by owner Eric Thompson. The classic “Doors of Warren” poster hangs near Thompson’s desk, next to a vintage baseball collection and family photos. Thompson’s talents exceed owning a successful small business, as one will notice by his DVD for sale near the register: The Comedy and Magic of Eric Thompson are his true passion.

Thompson has owned the business for decades, after the store’s namesake, Philip Satolli passed away in 1993. He had never imagined a life of being a carpet salesman— in his youth he travelled to New York City to pursue a career with Saturday Night Live. After accomplishing a dream of performing street magic in Central Park, he quickly realized that big city life was not for him. However, magic had a way of finding its way into Thompson’s life. By chance, an unexpected business opportunity presented itself and Thompson has been able to provide a good life to his family while continuing to make people smile with his humor and tricks.



*Photo Credit: Boko Photo  
www.bokophoto.com*

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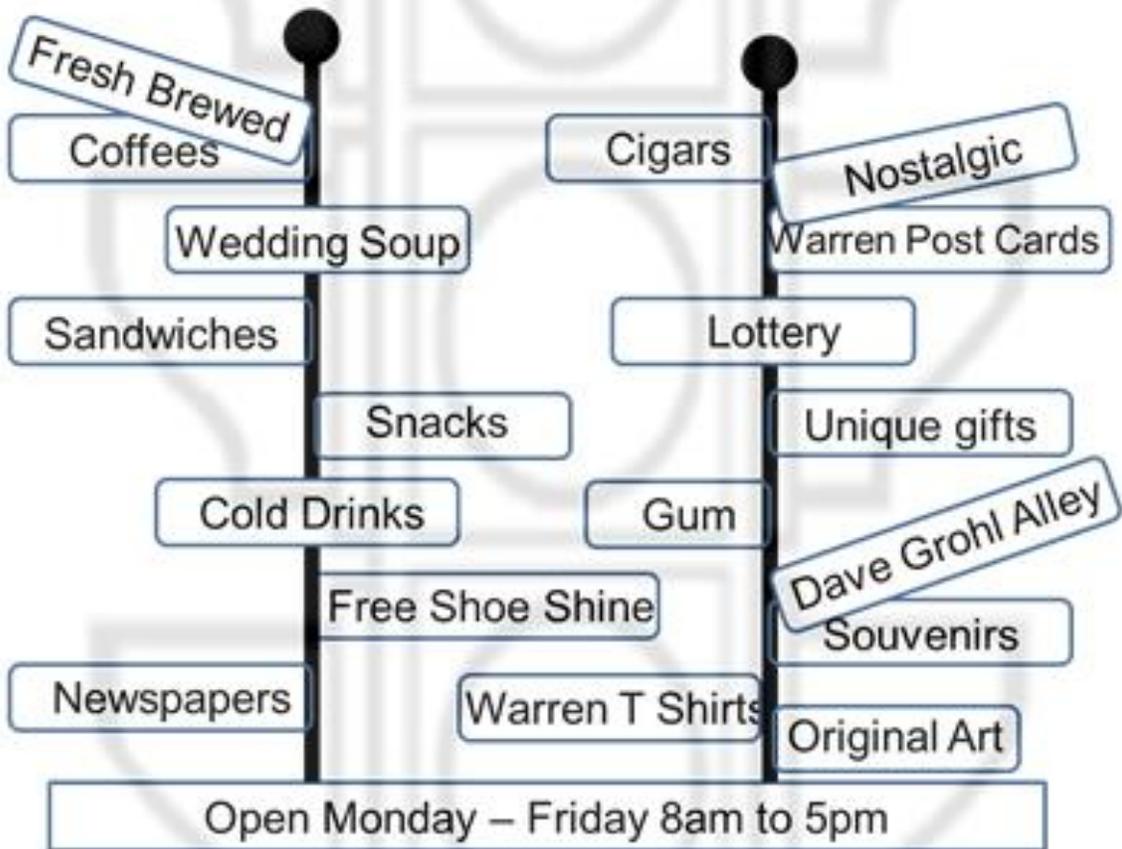
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We often hear the slogan “Shop Local” and are reminded of the importance of supporting the local economy. However, shopping local is more than basic economics— there really is something great about visiting a family-owned business. A simple shopping trip to a local business becomes so much more when you realize that there is indeed, a family at its core. Thompson lights up at the mention of his beloved wife Sue and three kids.

His daughters have remained in the area, so Thompson can barely contain his excitement that his son’s life adventures have recently led him back home. Now all of the kids are just a short car-ride away. He is a proud



*A Convenience Store & More*



Across from Beautiful Courthouse Square at the "Shops at the Short Cut"

(Short cut from Market St. to Dave Grohl Alley & the Parking Deck)

141A W. Market St Suite 1 Warren, OH 44481-1022

# Q&A

## What is the Lots to Love Program?

The Lots to Love program, the first of Trumbull Neighborhood Partnership's new slate of "Warren Enriched" programming, will allow up to \$6,000 worth of labor and materials to install a greening project on a newly vacant lot. Eligible lots will be those that have recently had a demolition completed by the Trumbull County Land Bank. The concept is simple: If you have an idea for a project on a vacant lot, like a pocket

park, and are willing to commit to maintaining the project after it is installed, TNP will provide for the installation of the project. To be considered you must have at least 2 people who agree to maintain the project and you will be required to gather neighborhood signatures showing that people are in support of your idea.

Churches, Businesses, Neighborhood Associations, and other community groups are encouraged to apply. Don't worry if your idea is not fully thought out yet, TNP is happy to help you develop your idea further.



*Residents of the Garden District Jenn Hockman and her daughter Briana brainstorm ideas for their neighborhood.*

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Applications to apply for a lot are due April 17<sup>th</sup>.  
Contact (330) 469-6827 or [info@tnpwarren.org](mailto:info@tnpwarren.org)  
for more information.

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grandpa and has an infectious laugh when he shares silly stories, like how young Grayson who is learning how to talk exclaimed, “Peanut!” during his last visit. “We have no peanuts, “ replied Thompson to his grandson. Grayson looked up at him and smiled, with a peanut in his mouth, a snack Thompson had enjoyed a few days prior...life is full of surprises, so sit back and enjoy the (magic carpet) ride. Thompson reminds us of this and always has a story to tell.

In addition to his stories, Thompson can share with you absolutely anything you want to know about flooring in your home. For example, local businesses get their flooring from the same suppliers as big-box retailers such as Lowe’s and Home Depot and since their overhead is much lower, they can almost always beat the prices of a larger store. For the prices they can’t beat, it’s because the larger retailers are buying cheap flooring laden with toxic chemicals, as detailed in a report by *60 Minutes* on March 1, 2015. Satolli does your homework for you, and nearly 100% of their products are made in the USA— less than 650 miles away from Warren to be exact— by reputable manufacturers.

Another asset to Satolli is that they can bring samples directly to your home or arrange to meet you during off-hours if your schedule needs accommodation. There is no job too large or too small and after your installation, you just might receive a follow-up call from Thompson himself to make sure your new flooring is everything you expected. No surprise, since his in-store bookshelf contains titles such as “Exceptional Customer Service” and “Everyday Greatness”. At Satolli Carpet and Flooring you can expect great service, great products and great people, everyday.

Visit [www.satollicarpet.com](http://www.satollicarpet.com) to learn more about products and services, as well as carpet-care tips and buying guides.

Visit [www.ericthompsonmagic.com](http://www.ericthompsonmagic.com) to book a magic or comedy show for an upcoming event, or to giggle at pictures of a dashing young Eric Thompson.

## Art Shows

### **Juried Photo Show**

*2/24- 4/11; free*

Trumbull Art Gallery, 158 North Park

### **Fairhaven Foundation Art Exhibit: Art Has No Disabilities**

*On display: 2/24- 4/11*

Trumbull Art Gallery, 158 North Park

### **The Warren Arts Center Presents: Works by David Wood**

*On display: 3/14- 4/9*

Artisan Café, 410 South Main

Special feature: David Wood will be displaying his homemade pinhole cameras.

This event is made possible with the proud sponsorship of Renn Insurance Agency

### **“Paint it Blue”,**

#### **Featuring the Works of Children with Autism**

*4/4; 4-8 pm; \$10: all proceeds will be donated to the Mikeyfyed Fund for Adult Autism*

Trumbull Art Gallery, 158 North Park

### **“Tangible/Celebrations/Spiritual”,**

#### **A Retrospective Solo Exhibition of the Art of Bill Barron**

*4/17, 7-10 pm; free*

DNA Studios, 137 South Park

### **Fiber & Quilt Show**

*4/25- 5/5; free*

Trumbull Art Gallery, 158 North Park

Fiber art by Jacki Mountan and Ed Hallahan along with quilts by Pat Workman are featured.

### **The Integral City, Envisioning a Future for The Robins Theater, Downtown and the Garden District**

*5/26-6/10; Opening 5/26; 5-7 pm; \$7 suggested donation*

Trumbull Art Gallery, 158 North Park

Students from the renowned The New School in Greenwich Village will propose design interventions to create a more vibrant downtown.

CONTINUED, NEXT PAGE

# Events

## 15th Annual Antique Motorcycle Show -- "Seldom Seen Cycles"

*On display 1/10-5/31; \$8*

National Packard Museum, 1899 Mahoning

This year's two-wheel show of antique motorcycles features nearly 30 rare, seldom seen motorcycles manufactured from 1905-1979 including the oldest running Harley Davidson from 1905.

## 1956 Packard Showroom

*On display 2/25- 12/31; \$8*

National Packard Museum, 1899 Mahoning

This exhibit features models from 1956 including the Caribbean, Clipper and the Patrician.

## Back at the Pack Broadway Series: The Buddy Holly Story

*4/1, Doors open 7 pm; Tickets range from \$36.50-\$56.50 and may be purchased at [www.backatthepack.com](http://www.backatthepack.com)*

Packard Music Hall, 1703 Mahoning

Now in its 25th year, the "World's Most Successful Rock 'n Roll Musical" continues to thrill audiences on tour around the world and features many classic songs like "Peggy Sue" and "That'll be the Day".

## "Eggs Downtown" Annual Easter Egg Hunt

*4/4; 11:30 am (Registration); free*

City Hall, 391 Mahoning

There will be games, egg hunt, pictures with Bunny (on your own camera) and face-painting. Bags will be provided for the egg hunt. Sponsored by the City of Warren and The Movement Church.

## Dancing with the Cars

*4/11; 7-10 pm; \$10*

National Packard Museum, 1899 Mahoning

Feel the elegance as you dance among beautiful Packards and antique motorcycles! Music provided by TAKE II. Light refreshments and cash bar available.

## Poetry Night at the Tree

*3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month; 4/15, 5/20, 6/17; 7 pm; free*

The Lime Tree Sandwich Gallery, 187 West Market

Poetry Reading put on by Ron Book and S.A.L.T. contributors. Writers of prose and poetry are invited to the monthly "open mic night" to share their works with the public.

## Brunch in a GRAND Way: 5 Grands Fashion Show and Brunch

*4/18, Beginning at noon; \$20 (Available at the door or in advance at 5 Grands Fashions, 164 High)*

Bourbon House 45, 775 Mahoning

## Free Comic Book Day

*5/2; 11 am-5 pm; free*

All American Cards and Comics, 161 West Market

Free Comic Book Day has been a yearly tradition since 2002 and All American Cards and Comics is always pleased to take part. "We happily allow everyone who walks in the door on this day to take a few promotional comics, free of charge!" says Greg Bartholomew, owner.

## Bourbon House 45 Kentucky Derby Party and Grand Opening

*5/2; time TBA*

Bourbon House 45, 775 Mahoning

Enjoy a Chinese auction, hat contest, face-painting, food and drink specials, prizes and giveaways throughout the day and a feature band at night. A portion of proceeds from this event will go to the Historic Perkins Homestead Neighborhood Association.

## ADVERTISEMENT



Visit **5 Grands Fashions** to find the perfect Kentucky Derby Hat!

Located at 164 High Street.

To include your event in our summer issue, contact Melissa Holmes at (330) 841-2566.

**4<sup>th</sup> Annual Bike to Work Day**

5/15; 6-9 am; free

Log Cabin across from Courthouse Square

Leave the car at home and bike to work today. Make a pit stop for breakfast at the Log Cabin in downtown Warren.

**Annual Plant Sale**

5/9, 5/16; 9am- 3 pm

Packard Park Greenhouse

Friends of the Greenhouse Consortium will be selling heirloom tomatoes, peppers, veggies, herbs, annuals and more! Proceeds are dedicated towards the maintenance of the greenhouse and beautification projects in the downtown area.

**31st Annual Trumbull County African American Achievers Festival**

6/5-6/7; 11 am-11 pm; free

Courthouse Square

Weekend filled with African-American culture and heritage, gospel music, carnival rides, games, arts & crafts, entertainment and food.

**Open House at the Upton**

6/7, 7/5, 8/2; 2-4 pm; free

Upton House, 380 Mahoning

Tour the home of woman suffragist Harriet Taylor Upton.

**Chalk on the Walk**

6/26; 11 am; free.

Courthouse Square

Bring the kids to participate in this annual downtown tradition! Chalk will be provided and you are encouraged to draw your masterpiece on the sidewalk surrounding Courthouse Square.

## Music

**Riverhawk Country**

4/4; 9 pm

Bourbon House 45, 775 Mahoning

**Back at the Pack Concert Series: Ronnie Milsap**

4/3; Doors open at 7 pm; Tickets range from \$41.00-\$97.00 and may be purchased at [www.backatthepack.com](http://www.backatthepack.com)

Packard Music Hall, 1703 Mahoning

Hear favorites like “(There's) No Gettin’ Over Me”, “Smoky Mountain Rain”, “I Wouldn't Have Missed It for the World” and many more as part of his final tour.

**Mark Soini,**

4/3, 4/17, 5/8, 5/22; 7-10 pm; free

The Lime Tree Sandwich Gallery, 187 West Market

**Daniel Vankirk**

4/10; 7-10 pm; free

The Lime Tree Sandwich Gallery, 187 West Market-

**Nicholas Grandelis**

4/11; 7-10 pm; free

The Lime Tree Sandwich Gallery, 187 West Market

**Old Skool 80s Dance Music**

4/11; 9 pm

Bourbon House 45, 775 Mahoning

**“The Power of Fate” Concert**

4/12; 3 pm; free

Christ Episcopal Church, 2627 Atlantic

The Warren Philharmonic Orchestra’s annual spring concert.

**There will be a press conference on April 15<sup>th</sup> to announce the upcoming performances for this summer’s River Rock at the Amp.**

**Annual Jazz Fest**

4/16; 6 pm; free

Packard Music Hall, 1703 Mahoning

The Packard Big Band is joined by local high school jazz bands.

**Hoss and Jordan**

4/18; 8-11 pm; free

The Lime Tree Sandwich Gallery, 187 West Market

**Rough Cut Country**

4/18; 9 pm

Bourbon House 45, 775 Mahoning

**WD Packard Concert Band**

4/19, 5/24, 6/14, 6/28, 7-19, 8/16; 3 pm; free

Packard Music Hall, 1703 Mahoning

Monthly concert courtesy of the Packard Trust.

**Colin Dussalt's Blues Project**

4/24; 9 pm

Bourbon House 45, 775 Mahoning

**Jay Byrd**

4/24; 7-10 pm; free

The Lime Tree Sandwich Gallery, 187 West Market

**The Pickups**

4/25, 5/29; 7-10 pm; free

The Lime Tree Sandwich Gallery, 187 West Market

**Back at the Pack Concert Series: Time Traveler**

4/25; Doors open at 7 pm; Tickets range from \$13.00-\$29.00 and may be purchased at [www.backatthepack.com](http://www.backatthepack.com)

Packard Music Hall, 1703 Mahoning

North America's #1 Moody Blues tribute band performs with the Chagrin Falls Studio Orchestra.

**The Vindy's**

5/9; 8-11 pm; free

The Lime Tree Sandwich Gallery, 187 West Market

**Rob Zombie**

6/8; Doors open 6:30 pm; \$45 (balcony)- \$58 (floor)

Packard Music Hall, 1703 Mahoning

**Kidz Bop Kids**

6/19; Doors open at 6 pm; Tickets range from \$25-50 and may be purchased at [packardmusichall.com](http://packardmusichall.com)

Packard Music Hall, 1703 Mahoning

## Warren-Trumbull County Public Library offers online software training database

The Warren-Trumbull County Public Library (W-TCPL) offers a variety of print and online resources designed to help the small business owner build, promote, and grow their business. Many of the electronic databases and research and training sites are available 24/7 online through the library website ([www.wtcpl.org](http://www.wtcpl.org)).

The W-TCPL, in partnership with RBDigital from Recorded Books, recently added Atomic Training, a comprehensive online database of how-to training tutorials covering popular Microsoft, Apple, Adobe, and Google software programs.

Through the library's website ([www.wtcpl.org](http://www.wtcpl.org)), customers have unlimited free access to training videos from within the library or from home or the office. With in-depth software training tutorials to fit users' needs, these videos can help customers of

all ages improve job skills and become more proficient in basic computer applications, such as QuickBooks, Microsoft Word and Excel, Google Docs, and hundreds more.



*Kristina Martinez, Warren-Trumbull County Public Library digital resources supervisor, demonstrates the free online database Atomic Training.*

LIBRARY, CONTINUED PAGE 8

A variety of free professional development resources are also available through Atomic Training's on-demand software training and support tutorials to help businesses and organizations fulfill staff technology training and development goals.

Mobile device training is also available, allowing customers to learn how to get the most out of their smartphones and tablets.

For information about how to access this free service, stop in any library location, visit the library website at [www.wtcpl.org](http://www.wtcpl.org), or call the Main Library at (330) 399-8807 ext. 200.

### **It's Good Business to Use the Library!**

The Warren-Trumbull County Public Library includes a Main Library in Warren, branch libraries in Brookfield, Cortland, Howland, Liberty, and Lordstown; a bookmobile; and outreach services.

**THE**  
*Robins*  
**PROJECT**

**Presents the Summer Box Office Series**

This summer, The Robins Project will be hosting a series of outdoor movies and concerts in collaboration with the Fine Arts Council. More details will be included in the Summer Downtown Digest. Follow The Robins Project on Facebook or visit [therobinsproject.com](http://therobinsproject.com) to stay informed!

## Warren Business Exchange, a resource for local entrepreneurs

Warren Business Exchange, a program of Warren Redevelopment and Planning Corporation, recognizes that small businesses are the economic driver within the city and offers free business-support services to local entrepreneurs.

Although established as an in-house business incubator, recently we have expanded our advising and evaluation services to include existing businesses in the Warren area. If you are an area business owner or employee and need assistance with finances, marketing, needs assessment or just have a general question, call (330) 841-2566 or email [info@thewarrenbusinessexchange.com](mailto:info@thewarrenbusinessexchange.com).

Additionally, we would appreciate any feedback you may have to improve information sharing within our quarterly Downtown Digest series. Please contact us if you would like to be considered for a feature story or to place an advertisement.

The Downtown Digest is written and produced by WRAP Program Consultant Melissa Holmes, edited by WRAP Director Tony Iannucci.

