

The

February 2025 • Vol. 26 Num. 02

Hometown Treasure



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2025 NECC Tourney Champs



2025 North East Corner Conference Basketball Tournament

— Boys Bracket —

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|--|
| West Noble 71 | West Noble 49 | |
| Eastside 33 | Garrett 47 | |
| Garrett 56 (OT) | Garrett 57 | |
| Angola 55 | Central Noble 61 | |
| | Lakeland 52 | |
| Fremont 44 | Churubusco 43 | |
| Churubusco 51 | Churubusco 33 | |
| | Fairfield 38 | |
| | Prairie Heights 42 | |
| | Westview 63 | |
| | Westview 73 | |

2025 NECC Tourney Champs

(Back left to right): Assistant coach Russ Yoder, manager Collin Vandergriff, assistant coach Collin Barker, Milan Miller, Hudson Yoder, Kaden Grau, Austin Schlabach, Pierce Yoder, Laban Bontrager, Owen Brill, manager Zack Fry, head coach Chandler Prible holding his son Klay, and JV coach Karl Grau. (Front): Baron Yoder, Brett Springer, Kamden Yoder, Daniel Yoder, Kaine Reinhold, and manager Mearl Miller.

Photo by Andrew Byler



The Hometown Treasure

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LaGwana Circulation: 6,200

Serving the towns of Shipshewana, Topeka, &
the entire Westview School Corporation since 2000.

Mail: P.O. Box 70, Shipshewana, IN 46565
Located at the SE corner of 250N & 850W
Just west of Shipshewana

Phone: 260-463-4901 • Fax: 260-463-7257
e-mail: news@lagwana.com

You may call or stop by during office hours:
Monday - Friday, 8 am-5 pm

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— ADVERTISING SIZES & RATES —

| Size | width x height | Rate |
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| 1/12 page | 2 ³ / ₈ " x 2 ³ / ₈ " | \$45 |
| 1/6 page (Vertical) | 2 ³ / ₈ " x 4 ⁷ / ₈ " | |
| or (Horizontal) | 4 ⁷ / ₈ " x 2 ³ / ₈ " | \$85 |
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| or (Square) | 4 ⁷ / ₈ " x 4 ⁷ / ₈ " | \$160 |
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| Full Page | 7 ³ / ₈ " x 9 ⁷ / ₈ " | \$400 |
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and/or for running in multiple issues.

Call for details! **260-463-4901**

Or email htads@lagwana.com

Other sponsorships available. Call for details.

— ADVERTISING INFORMATION —

Deadline for March 2025 Issue:

12 noon, Tuesday, February 18

Thursday, February 13 if you need a proof.

March Issue Date is Tuesday, Feb. 25.

— SUBSCRIPTION RATE —

One Year: \$35

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Cover Photo Submitted

Columns

| | |
|---------------------|----|
| Heart and Soul..... | 7 |
| MoneyWise | 11 |
| Smart Choices..... | 9 |

Features

| | |
|------------------------------|-------|
| Historical Feature : | |
| Love Is In The Air..... | 37-38 |
| Shipshewana Pajama Sale..... | 15-20 |

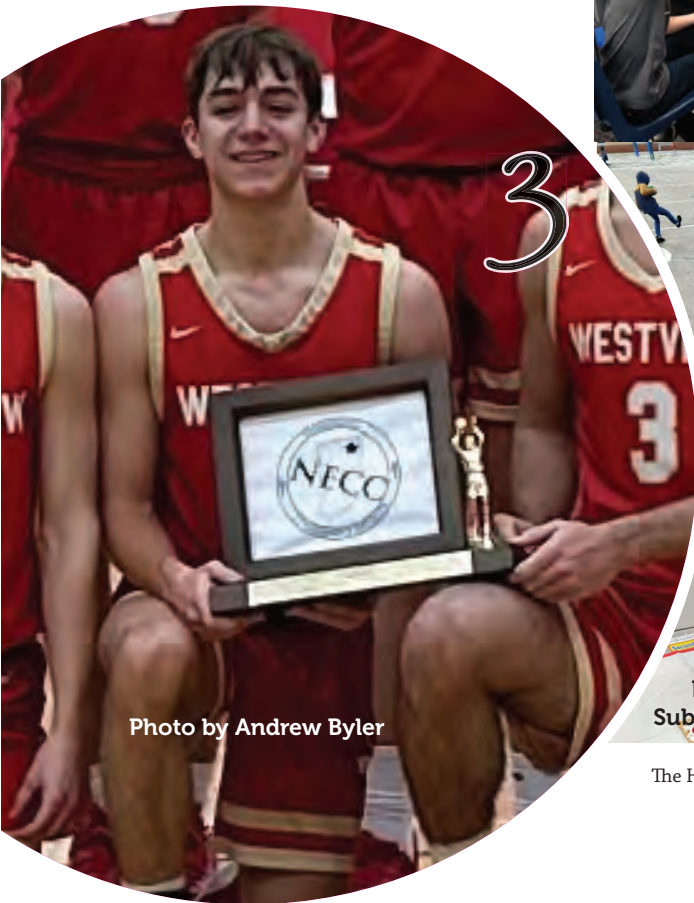


Photo by Andrew Byler



Photos Submitted

Table of Contents

News

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----|
| Ag Women's Conference..... | 31 |
| Community Foundation: | |
| Scholarships | 31 |
| LaGrange County Library | 12 |
| LaGrange Parks Department..... | 13 |
| Newbury Trustee New Location..... | 40 |
| Suicide Prevention Training..... | 19 |

School

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Kids' Club (Birthday Page)..... | 32-33 |
| Kindergarten Enrollment | 40 |
| Meadowview Elementary | 22-23 |
| Shipshewana-Scott Elementary..... | 24-25 |
| Topeka Elementary | 26-27 |
| Westview Elementary | 28-30 |
| Westview Jr/Sr High..... | 30 |
| Sports | 3, 34-36 |

Contests & Puzzles

| | |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Clueless Crossword | 21, 40 |
| Coloring Contest | 14, 41 |
| Mystery Farm Contest..... | 43 |
| Riddle..... | 21, 40 |
| Word Search | 39, 40 |

Everything Else

| | |
|---------------------------------|----|
| Advertiser/Sponsor Listing..... | 42 |
|---------------------------------|----|

Shipshewana

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2025 Shipshewana Swap Meet Dates:

- April 26th
- May 17th
- June 21st
- August 2nd
- September 20th
- October 18th

*Open Daylight - 1pm! Shop all kinds of fowl, poultry,
small animals, pets, produce, baked goods, antiques,
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Shipshewana Auction Restaurant

NEW WEDNESDAY HOURS!

Beginning Wednesday, February 5th, 2025

Open 7AM - 7PM

**Offering the following dinner
specials each week of the month!***

**Dinner specials available from 4PM - 7PM only.
While Supplies Last*

- 1st Wed. - All You Can Eat Fish (Pollock)
- 2nd Wed. - Pork Chop Dinner
- 3rd Wed. - 14 oz. Ribeye Dinner
- 4th Wed. - Will Change Each Month



Picked Over

A giant can of salted mixed nuts is a favorite snack option at my house. My husband is not biased when he dips his hand into the salty goodness. He takes a handful and munches away. I, however, like to pick through the nut assortment and nosh my favorite cashews and almonds, leaving the peanuts and those giant condescending Brazil nuts for the next guy.

It's crazy, really. All the nuts are equally delicious. All are nutty, and all are salty. But I can't help but pick through them when I open the can. Sadly, this is how it is in life sometimes, as well. We might feel "picked over". I was always clumsy, awkward, and nonathletic growing up. I was always the last to get "picked" when grade school kickball teams were being put together. And the look on the face of the one who got stuck with me only emphasized how bad I was. Ah, the memories!

The world comprises all kinds of folks with different personalities, skills, characters, and quirks. No matter where we fit into the list above, there may have been a time or two where you felt like you didn't fit in or where you may have been excluded. Show of hands for all those who have

had their Brazil nut moments, taking second place to all the delicious cashews out there.

Sorry for all my nutty analogies, but we can all relate on some level. You may have felt equally worthy of the promotion the other guy got. Maybe you didn't make the cut for the team, the musical, or the dream job. I may or may not be guilty of choosing someone over another for various reasons I'm not proud of. True confession.

Can you identify with any of this? If so, I encourage you to lift your head, throw your shoulders back, and be reminded of these words from 1 Peter 2:9 that describe just who you are to the only one that matters:


1 Peter 2:9 (NIV)

9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

What encouragement to know that you are chosen and made for a purpose. Friends, this is great news! No matter where you fit in or how hard you must work for the prize, you are a child of God. I have a sticker on my favorite mug that was given to me

by a man who makes it his life mission to inform people just how special they are in God's eyes. He has helped people at their lowest find self-worth and joy.

The sticker says: I am a unique, unrepeatable miracle of God. It serves as a wonderful reminder to me in those times I feel picked over. February is the month of love. Although the emphasis is typically of the romantic kind, what would it be like if we emphasized God's everlasting love for others? I'd venture to say that it could be life-changing for some or, at the very least, a blessed reminder of their value to the world.

Who do you know that could use this kind of encouragement? Who needs to know they are a unique, unrepeatable miracle of God? Will you join me in sharing this good news? You'd be nuts not to! 



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The Hometown Treasure · February '25

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Smart Choices

By Faiz Inamdar, Pharmacy Student at Topeka Pharmacy

Don't Ignore The Signs!

Suicide, the act of ending one's own life on purpose, is a serious public health problem that impacts the lives of many individuals daily. We are proud to report that Lagrange county has one of the lowest suicide rates in Indiana. That being said, we have still seen some in our community silently suffering the loss of loved ones from this unfortunate act. We want to make it clear that safe, private support systems exist and spread awareness of these resources.

What are the Signs?

The signs can vary from person to person. Some signs that a person may be thinking of hurting themselves include:

- A strong desire to be left alone
- Self-destructive behavior, or harming oneself emotionally or physically
- Increased alcohol or drug use
- Taking unnecessary risks
- Extreme Depression
- Feeling a sudden sense of calmness after being extremely depressed
- Giving or throwing away valuable items

I Found a Sign, What Should I Do?

If someone finds signs within themselves or others around them, they can:


- Call or encourage to call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 800-273-8255 (TALK)
- Text or encourage to text "IN" to 741741 for free, 24/7 crisis counseling
- For younger people, call or encourage to call the YouthLine: 877-968-8491
- For veterans, call or encourage to call the Veterans Crisis Line: 800-

273-8255 and press 1

- For the following URGENT situations, please call or text The Suicide & Crisis Lifeline by dialing "988":
 - Talking or thinking about immediate harm to oneself or others
 - Planning to actively harm oneself, such as buying supplies or searching information online
 - Showing unusual behavior that raises concerns for oneself or other's safety

What Do I Say to Someone Struggling?

If somebody is having thoughts of harming themselves or others around them, the best thing somebody can do is be there for them. Repeating back what the person is saying and avoiding "yes" or "no" questions can distract and improve the mood of struggling individuals. It is never okay to argue with someone in this state, as this can cause them to feel worse. Sticking by their side, letting them know of the resources above, and notifying family members are important tools that can lessen harmful results in the long run.

How can I ask for more Help? Topeka Pharmacy can make referrals to local resources to help those who are struggling as well. Please call us at 260-593-2252 or stop by if you need support. 



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LaGrange County Health Department
www.lagrangecountyhealth.com

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www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vfcprogram/
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IMMUNIZATIONS :: LAGRANGE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT (260) 499-4182 Extension 1

LaGrange Clinic

Monday & Wednesday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
Tuesday 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

Shipshewana Clinic

Wolfe Building Community Room

Only 1st & 3rd Thursday

8:30 am to 1:00 pm.

Topeka Clinic

Topeka Fire Station

Only 2nd & 4th Thursday

8:30 am to 1:00 pm.

There are times when HD inspectors, vital records registrar, office staff, and nurses are engaged in field work, taking care of customers, or in satellite clinics. Please, feel free to call us before stopping in to make sure someone will be here to help you. **(260) 499-4182**

Nursing Division: Ext. #1 & #2

WIC Office: Ext. #3 & #4

Vital Records (Birth & Death Certificates): Ext. #5

Food Inspector: Ext. #6

Septic Inspector: Ext. #7

Water/Well Testing Information: Ext. #5 & #6

Put Your Tax Refund to Work

Most of us probably don't enjoy preparing our taxes, but there's often a reward at the end — a tax refund. If you get a refund this year, how can you make the best use of it?

Of course, the answer depends somewhat on the size of your refund. Last year, the average tax refund was \$3,050, according to the Internal Revenue Service.

Whatever the size of your refund, though, you'll want to maximize its benefit. Here are a few suggestions:

- **Contribute to your IRA.** If you were to receive about \$3,000, it would go a long way toward funding your IRA for the year — but any amount would help. You still have until April 15, 2025, to contribute to your IRA for the 2024 tax year, but if you've already "maxed out" on it, you could use your refund for 2025. The annual contribution limit for a traditional and Roth IRA remains \$7,000, or \$8,000 if you're age 50 or older. And by getting an early start toward fully funding your IRA, you can reduce the pressure of having to come up with large amounts later in the year.


- **Build an emergency fund.** Your tax refund could help you start or expand an emergency fund. It's a good idea to keep up to six months' worth of living expenses in such a fund, with the money kept in a

liquid, low-risk account, separate from the funds you use for your daily expenses. You might need to draw on this fund for unexpected expenses, such as a major home or car repair or a medical bill that's not fully covered by your health insurance. Without such an emergency fund in place, you might be forced to dip into your IRA or other retirement accounts to pay for these types of costs, and such a move could be expensive, resulting in taxes, penalties and lost opportunities for growth.

- **Contribute to a 529 plan.** If you have children or grandchildren and you'd like to help them further their education someday, you might consider investing in a 529 education savings plan. With a 529 plan, earnings and withdrawals are federally tax free, provided the money is used for qualified education expenses. Based on where you live, your 529 plan may provide state tax benefits, too. (It is possible, though, that 529 withdrawals could affect financial aid packages, depending on who owns the account.) A 529 plan can be used to help pay for college, accredited trade school programs, some K-12 expenses and even to help repay some student loans.

- **Pay down debts.** Your tax

refund may give you a chance to reduce your debt load. But which debts should you tackle first? You could follow the "snowball" method by paying off the smallest of your loans or debts as quickly as possible. Or you could choose the "avalanche" route by making minimum payments on all debts and using extra funds — such as your tax refund — to pay off the debts that carry the highest interest rates. Either method could help you save money in the long term.

It's not often you receive a financial windfall such as a tax refund — so think carefully about how you to maximize its benefits. 



This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor, Sheldon Q Shrock AAMS®, 120 N Harrison St, Shipshewana, IN 46565, PH: 260-768-4348. Edward Jones, Member SIPC. Edward Jones, its employees and financial advisors cannot provide tax or legal advice. You should consult your attorney or qualified tax advisor regarding your situation.

LaGrange County Library

Below are the events planned for February 2025.

All activities are *In-Person* unless noted. If you have any questions, please call the LaGrange library for further information.

Find more information at www.lagrange.lib.in.us or call 260-463-2841.

Facebook Page- m.facebook.com/lagrange.libraryindiana

Shipshewana Branch

250 Depot St. • 260-768-7444

M - F • 11:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m.

Saturday • 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

LaGrange County Public Library

203 West Spring Street • 260-463-2841

M - Th • 9:00 a.m.—8:00 p.m.

Friday • 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

Saturday • 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

Topeka Branch

133 North Main Street • 260-593-3030

M - F • 11:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m.

Saturday • 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

All LaGrange County library locations will be **CLOSED Monday, February 17** in observance of Presidents Day.

Youth Interest

Preschool Story Time (Ages 0-5) Theme: Wild West!

LaGrange • Tuesdays • 10:30 a.m.

Shipshewana • Tuesdays • 1 p.m.

Topeka • Wednesdays • 11 a.m.

Enjoy stories, songs and rhymes with a fun craft or activity.

Makerspace! (Ages 5+) (Registration not Required)

LaGrange • Wednesday, February 5, 12, 19 • 2:30-7 p.m.

Parents must stay with kids 10 & under. Drop in anytime between 2:30 and 7:00.

Makerspace is a collaborative space with a variety of tools and materials to have fun making and creating!

Lego Play (Ages 5+) (Registration not Required)

LaGrange • Thursdays, February 6, 13, 20 • 2:30-7:00 p.m.

Parents must stay with children ages 10 and under. Drop in anytime between 2:30 and 7:00. Use our collection of Legos to create and build anything you want or to complete the challenges for the month.

Teen Games (Grades 6-12)

LaGrange • Monday, February 10 • 4-7:30 p.m. Drop in anytime, stay as long as you can. Play larger group party type games or settle in for something longer. Switch to the Pokemon Club at six or stay playing other games. Enjoy some non-electronic games while snacking & chatting with other teens

Pokemon Club (Ages 8-18)

LaGrange • Monday, February 10 • 6 - 7:30 p.m.

Have fun playing Pokemon, trading cards, and learning strategies. Bringing cards to trade is optional. Sign up is not required but you can sign up online or call the library to help us know how many are coming.

Homeschool Hangout

LaGrange • Wednesday, February 12 • 1-2:30 p.m. & Friday, February 14 • 10:30-Noon. Join other homeschool families for a time to hang out, play games, share ideas and make new friends. Feel free to come one or both days.

Book Clubs

LaGrange • Tuesday, February 18 • 4-5 p.m.

Elementary: Grades 1-3 Reading *Bad Guys*

You will get your book at the meeting. At each meeting we will begin reading the book together and do a fun activity related to the story, then you will take the book home with you to finish reading and bring back next month.

Mid-Grade: Grades 4-7 Reading *The Swifts*

Come to the library in January to get your book for February. At each meeting we will discuss the book we read over the last month and do a fun activity or craft related to the story.

Teen Advisory Group - TAG (Grades 6-12)

NO MEETING THIS MONTH

We will only be doing the Book-to-Movie Club at 5:00

Teen Book Chat: Book-to-Movie Book Club!

LaGrange • Monday, February 24 • 5-7:30 p.m.

Showing: *Hidden Figures* rated PG. Pick up a copy of the book to read and come to watch the movie and discuss (or complain) about how well the movie matches the book. Free Popcorn! The next book will be passed out at the end. We will be watching a movie adaptation of a book on the 4th Monday all year long!

Youth Interest (cont.)

Family Movie Night! (Rated PG)

LaGrange • Friday, February 28 • 6 p.m. • Movie: Harold and the Purple Crayon

Free popcorn! Bring your own covered drink.

Adult Interest

Beginning Yoga with Liz (All Ages)

LaGrange • Mondays during February & March • 10 a.m.

Wear stretchy, comfortable clothes. If you have a yoga mat, bring it. Thick mats are best. If you don't have a mat, bring a soft rug or a couple of blankets. A \$5 per class donation is suggested.

Walking Well-Read (All Ages) - Free!

LaGrange • Mondays & Thursdays • Noon-12:30

Come to the library for 30 minutes of cardio! We'll walk up and down stairs, around the book stacks, and through some behind-the-scenes areas. It's great exercise. Drop in and join us!

Learn to Knit

LaGrange • Tuesday, February 4 • 6-8 p.m.

This class is for adults who have never knitted before. All materials will be supplied and will be yours to keep. Cost is \$5 to cover materials. Registration is needed by January 28 at the LaGrange Library or by calling 260-463-2841x1030.

Second Saturday Book Club (Ages 16+)

LaGrange • Saturday, February 8 • 11 a.m.

This month we'll discuss "*Uncle Tom's Cabin*" by Harriet Beecher Stowe. This is a classic work of American literature that explores the harsh realities of slavery in the nineteenth century. Copies of the book are available at the LaGrange Adult Services Desk.

Tuesday Night Survival Club: Maple Syrup (Ages 12+)

LaGrange • Tuesday, February 11 • 6 p.m.

Featured speaker: Scott Beam: From sap to syrup! Everyone welcome, no registration needed.

Learn to Crochet (12+)

LaGrange • Tuesday, February 18 • 6-8 p.m.

This class is for adults who have never crocheted before. All materials will be supplied and will be yours to keep. Cost is \$5 to cover materials. Registration is needed by February 11 at the LaGrange Library or by calling 260-463-2841x1030

Make & Take with Deb (Ages 12+)

LaGrange • Wednesday, February 19 • 6 p.m.

Make two original pendants with UV Resin, your choice of dried flowers, fibers, miniature watch parts and other embellishments, then assemble them into necklaces to take home! \$25 per person. Register with non-refundable deposit of \$15 by Feb 14 at the Main Library in LaGrange.

Cookbook Club (Ages 12+)

LaGrange • Saturday, February 22 • 11 a.m.

This month's theme is *Cooking with Canned Soup*! Borrow a cookbook from the library, find a recipe online, or use your own favorite! Make it, and bring it to the Cookbook Club carry-in! Plates, silverware, coffee and tea will be provided. Cookbook Club, meets the 4th Saturday of each month. Families welcome!

Tuesday Night Survival Club: Yarn! (Ages 12+)

LaGrange • Tuesday, February 25 • 6 p.m.

Bring your yarn-based skills to demonstrate, or questions to ask.



The LaGrange County Parks Department is grateful for the community, donors, volunteers, and park visitors for supporting their missions in 2024!

They look forward to sharing 2025 with you, and hope you will continue to enjoy all LaGrange County Parks have to offer.

2024 Trail of Lights

The 2024 "Trail of Lights" had a successful turn out for its inaugural year. They learned what worked and what didn't and are already discussing what next year will look like.

The first-weekend stats: Fawn River Coffee handed out 750 cups of coffee/cocoa and they collected just over \$2000 in donations. On the second weekend: Fawn River Coffee handed out 750 cups and they collected just over \$3500 in donations.

They don't know estimated attendance yet, but are confident that Saturday, December 21, was the busiest evening.

They are also accepting donations for the 2025 Trail of Lights. They would like to hear feedback to help them improve it for next year.


2025 Maple Syrup Days

Sat. & Sun., March 15 & 16

Maple Wood Nature Center

It's Maple Syrup season! Dress warm and enjoy a day with all things maple syrup with the LaGrange County Parks!

Council on Aging Events

The LaGrange County Council on Aging offers many opportunities for local residents to participate in. See the below ongoing events. For more information, feel free to call their office during business hours at 260-463-4161. 



FOOD PANTRY

Mon-Fri 8-4

No age limit or ID required



VETERANS BREAKFAST

Every 3rd Tuesday • 8am

Free • Life Care Center



LOW VISION SUPPORT GROUP

Every 3rd Wednesday • 11am

the-league.org • 260-441-0551



Lake City Bank Announces New Positions

Pruitt Elected to the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago Board of Directors




Kristin Pruitt, Lake City Bank President, has been elected to the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago Board of Directors for a 2025-2027 term.

The Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago is part of the Federal Reserve System.

Farr Is Chief Fiduciary Officer



Melanie L. Farr has joined Lake City Bank as Senior Vice President, Chief Fiduciary Officer.


Farr leads the fiduciary activities of the bank's Wealth Advisory Group, including business development and administration, product development and management, and trust policy development and execution. 

Coloring Contest Winners

Five-year-old Madison Lambright of 250N, Shipshewana was our winner for the January Coloring Contest. She won an ice cream treat of choice at Tiffany's in Topeka.

Everyone else that sent in a page can stop by Tiffany's for a free small ice cream cone through February.

Runners-up were Josiah Troyer, age 6; Jannessa Helmuth, age 5; Jonathan Hostetler, age 4; Mason Slabach, age 3; and Martin Lee Miller, age 2. Honorable Mentions: Keith Yoder, age 6; Luke Bontrager, age 6; Aaron Lynn Bontrager, age 4; Annalise Mullet, age 5; Allyse Miller, age 6; and Derek Frey, age 6. Check out page 12 for this month's coloring page.

Be SURE to include all your information on the coloring page, even your age! ... we do not want you to miss out! Remember, the contest is only for children up to six years old. 



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Pajama Sale

Saturday, February 1, 2025

Sponsored by the Shipshewana Retail Merchants Association



Fabrics • Shoes • Boots • Apparel

Pajama Sale

1205 S Van Buren St. Shipshewana, IN 46565

4am - 5am
25% OFF First Item
10% OFF Balance

5:01am - 6am
20% OFF First Item
10% OFF Balance

6:01am - 7am
15% OFF First Item
10% OFF Balance

7:01am - 10am
10% OFF Storewide

Kids Kreations

150 N Harrison Street • Shipshewana



7am - 4pm
Feb. 1, 2025

10% Off Storewide

Up to 60% Off
Selected Items

Dolls, Furniture, &
Accessories

260-768-7744

Mon-Sat 10am-5pm • Call For Winter Hours: Jan-March

SALE

6AM-9AM BUY ONE GET ONE FREE

9AM-12PM BUY ONE GET ONE 20%

12PM-6PM BUY ONE GET ONE 10%

BAG SIZES ONLY



PAJAMA DAY SALE

Hours: 6am-6pm
100 S Van Buren ST
Shipshewana, IN 46565
260-293-2534



Chocolate Covered Strawberries
Available in 6pk or 12pk
While supplies last.

Must be wearing your Pajamas to get the deals!



Pajama Day Sale




**SATURDAY
FEBRUARY
1, 2025**

**20% OFF REGULAR PRICED ITEMS
IN THE FABRIC DEPARTMENT***

**FINISH THE BOLT - 10% OFF
SALE FABRIC 10% OFF**

**300 S. Van Buren Street
LOCATED IN YODER'S SHOPPING CENTER**

Shipshewana, IN


*some exclusions apply



**133 Harrison St.
Shipshewana, IN**

**20% OFF
In Store
Sheets**

**February 1, 2025
One Day Only**



A Christian Bookstore

Pajama Sale


25% OFF 5-7 am

20% OFF 8 am-12 pm (noon)

15% OFF 12 pm (noon)-5 pm

On All Non-Sale Items

**1055 S. Van Buren St. | Shipshewana
260.336.7925**




**Lolly's
Fabrics Quilts**

**The
LANG
STORE**

Both stores located on the 1ST floor of the DAVIS MERCANTILE

**FEB 1ST 30% OFF
STOREWIDE**

6am to 10am

260-768-4703



**PAJAMA DAY
SPECIAL**

**\$5.00 Special
Cinnamon Roll with
Fresh Brewed Coffee**




**DAS
KAFFEE
HAUS**

est. 2021

**February 1
7-10 am**

250 E Berkshire Dr , Shipshewana

Don't Miss the Fun!
OPEN AT 5:00 AM

PAJAMA DAY

specials



BLUE GATE
RESTAURANT • THEATRE • DIN • SHOPS

RETAIL SALE

Craft Barn / Shippshewana Furniture Co. / Traditions

5-7am **40% OFF**
7-9am **30% OFF**
9-11am **20% OFF**

(Excludes furniture, grandfather clocks, food & consignment items).

FURNITURE SALE

Shippshewana Furniture Co. / Traditions

FURNITURE & CLOCKS
15% OFF All Day!

* Includes Outdoor Furniture & Accessories.





BREAKFAST SALE

Blue Gate Restaurant
- Open at 7am -

One **FREE Beverage** with the purchase of a Breakfast Buffet.

Specials good February 1, 2025 only. May not be combined with other discounts or specials.

105 E. Middlebury St. • Shippshewana, IN
260.768.4725 | TheBlueGate.com



Cornucopia

www.cornucopiaandweb.com

160 Harrison Street, Shippshewana

PAJAMA SALE

FEBRUARY 1, 2025
6am to 4pm

10-60% OFF

STOREWIDE

SAME DISCOUNTS ALL DAY,
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST
IN STOCK, IN STORE ITEMS ONLY
* SALE EXCLUDES SELECT
INDOOR/OUTDOOR RUGS

ALL GREENERY & FLORALS
25-50% OFF

EVERY \$50 SPENT GETS YOU FIVE
SHIPSHEWANA PAJAMA SALE BUCKS!




PAJAMA SALE ONLY

1 Day Only • February 1st • All Day



JOJO'S PRETZELS

\$2 PRETZELS
ALL DAY LONG!

ONLY DURING PAJAMA SALE.
EXCLUDES GLUTEN FREE.

KITCHEN CUPBOARD

COFFEE HOUSE

\$1 DRIP COFFEE
ALL DAY LONG!

Only during Pajama Sale.





Village Boutique

QUILT SETS....\$125
Christmas....50% Off

All Day. Only during Pajama Sale.

Sarah Davis Ltd.

50% Off

retired Vera Bradley & retired Brighton

\$20 Apparel Rack

All Day. Only during Pajama Sale.



Located in **THE DAVIS MERCANTILE | 260.768.7759**



LLAMAS IN PATAMAS
SALE



**15% OFF STOREWIDE
& 20% OFF ACCESSORIES**

Extra Special Deals 6 am-10 am

**Saturday Feb. 1,
2025 All Day!**

**Also visit us in the Lower Level of the
Davis Mercantile 260-768-7159**

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SR 5 & US 20

1/4 mile south & 1/4
mile east of
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**Mattresses, Living
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Bedroom, Office,
Home Décor and
More!**

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Mon - Fri 9-5; Sat 9-4
Closed Sunday
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**Brandenberry
FURNITURE**

PJ Sale

15% OFF in Stock Items!
Saturday February 1, 2025

**OPEN
AT 8 AM
EXTRA 8%
OFF
8-10 AM**

**20% OFF FLOOR MODEL
Dining Sets**



Discounts not valid with warranties, services or other promotions and apply to in stock items only.

**Dining Room Living Room Bedroom Office
Entertainment Children's Accessories**

Open Mon-Sat 9-5 and by Appointment
Junction 5 & 20, Shipshewana (260) 768-3270
BrandenberryFurniture.com

Amish-built for life, Customcrafted for your lifestyle.

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PAJAMA DAY SALE

445 S. Van Buren St. (S.R. 5)



Eminence
HOME + BOUTIQUE

25% Off (5-7 AM) 20% Off (7-9 AM) STOREWIDE



260-768-7399

20% Off (5-8 AM) 10% Off (8-10 AM) STOREWIDE



25% Off (5-6 AM)
20% Off (6-7 AM)
15% Off (7-10 AM)
STOREWIDE

Spend \$10 to
SPIN THE WHEEL
For Great Deals
(5-10 AM)



Wana
Cabinets & Furniture.

30% Off STOREWIDE • (5-10 AM)



20% Off
SELECT TEAS
Fresh Glazed
Pretzels Available
(6-10 AM)



25% Off
(5-10 AM)



20% Off Regular Priced Items • (5-10 AM)

25% Off
(5-8 AM)

20% Off
(8-10 AM)

STOREWIDE



YODER'S
Shipshewana Hardware
inside the
Yoder's Shopping Center
300 South Van Buren St
260.768.4163

February 1, 2025
15% OFF
8am - Noon
Some exclusions may apply

Must be wearing pajamas to receive discount!
www.yodershardware.com

20% OFF STOREWIDE*


*Some exclusions apply.

Pajama Sale Sat, Feb 1 • 7:30am to 4:30pm

CRAFTHOUSE

Fabrics & Gifts
7245 W 200 N • Shipshewana





DUTCHMAN LOG FURNITURE
7275 W 200 N
SHIPSHEWANA, IN
260-768-4140

We also have a large selection of braided rugs & quilts.

PAJAMA SALE!
Saturday, Feb. 1st • 9:00 am - 4:30 pm

15% OFF IN-STOCK ITEMS
Some exclusions may apply.

10% OFF ORDERS PLACED DAY OF PAJAMA SALE



J. FARVER HOME & LEATHER
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FEB 1ST 30% OFF STOREWIDE
260-768-4703
6am to 10am




You Snooze? You Lose!

30% OFF STORE-WIDE

Pajama Sale
Saturday
February 1
7:30am - 4:30pm

- **30% OFF** MSRP on all in-stock furniture **AND** orders.
- Take an additional **30% OFF** already reduced TRUCKLOAD items!

WAKE UP!



Wana
Cabinets & Furniture

7245 W 200 N (Country Store) - Shipshewana
260.768.7850 | WanaFurniture.com



10% off Storewide

No Discount on Butchering & Processing,
Previous Orders or Purchase of Gift Cards.

February 1st 7-11a.m.

SR 5 • Shipshewana • 260-768-4715
Located next to the Red Barn Shoppes



Happy Paws PET SHOP

PET SUPPLIES
PAJAMA SALE SPECIAL

10% OFF

Storewide All Day
9 am - 3 pm

250 E. Berkshire Dr.,
Shipshewana, IN 46565
(Right Beside E & S Sales)

269-625-5099



February 1st



8:00am-1:00pm

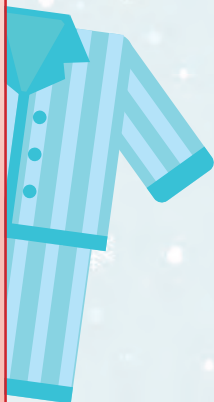
PAJAMA DAY SALE!

10% OFF STOREWIDE

excluding the Stamp Shop

574-849-4424

★ 275 E. Main St • Shipshewana, IN • 46565 ★



Winter Sale



325 South VanBuren Street Shipshewana, IN 46565

Saturday, February 1

6:30-7:30 am **25% Off**

7:30-9 am **20% Off**

9 am-4 pm **15% Off**

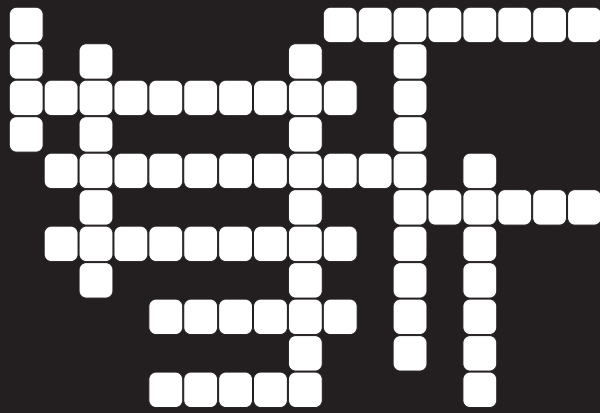


Some
exclusions
apply



Do not need to
wear pajamas to
receive discount

Amethyst
Birthstone
Chocolates
Cupid
Flowers
Groundhog
Hearts
Love
Pajamas
Shadow
Sweethearts
Valentines



Clueless Crossword

Use the words listed
to fill in the spaces!

*Solution to Clueless
Crossword is on pg 40.
by Marsha Patrick*

Want a different way to advertise?

We are looking for sponsors for the Clueless Crossword on a month by month basis. Emily would be happy to use words to do with your business as the words that get put in the puzzle. Call for more details! 260-463-4901.



*Solution
on page 40.*

Francine's
FRIENDS



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Fifteen minutes could save your life.

Francine's Friends is a partnership between Parkview Packnett Family Cancer Institute and Breast Diagnostic Center.

Mammograms and follow-up diagnostics are made possible by funding from the Parkview Health Foundation.

Parkview.com/FrancinesFriends





Mrs. Willard's second graders enjoyed their Polar Express Day before Christmas break. their favorite part was making Polar Express trains out of graham crackers and frosting. ①



Meadowview Elementary

Home of the Mustangs

Mighty Mustangs



Back (left to right): Ruth Miller (4th), Audrey Lambright (4th), Eric Miller (4th), Drew Bontrager (4th).

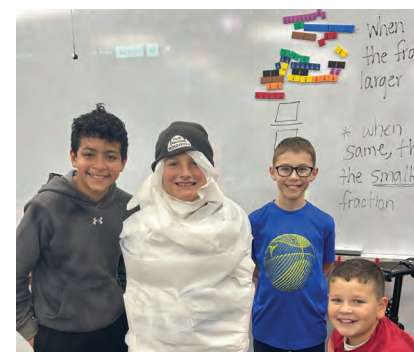
Middle: Lilah Miller (2nd), Leah Mast (2nd), Audrey Bontrager (3rd), Derek Lehman (3rd), Derek Wingard (2nd).

Front: Kent Miller (K), Ethan Bontrager (K), Zachary Schlabach (1st), Arianna Garcia (1st), Benson Schlabach (1st). Not pictured: Jaxyn White (1st).

Each month 15 Meadowview Elementary School students are recognized during the monthly school wide Family Meeting assembly. These students have shown safety, responsibility, and respect throughout the month. Winners receive a certificate, a Mighty Mustang bracelet, and get to participate in a game during the assembly. Pictured are the winners from December of the 2024-2025 school year. Go Mustangs! 🐾



In December, Shipshe-Scott students and staff celebrated the holiday season with all kinds of fun! There were science experiments, crafts, trips around the world, gingerbread houses, STEM activities, ornaments, games, pajamas, rides on the Polar Express, gallons of hot chocolate, Christmas carols, and goodies galore! December also brought a week of visits from Shipshe-Scott's favorite elf, Buddy! A special thanks to Mrs. Cripe and Mrs. Hart for all the preparation and coordination involved in hosting Buddy for the week. Also, thanks to parents and PTO for their help and support in making all these special events possible. 🧑🏻‍🎄

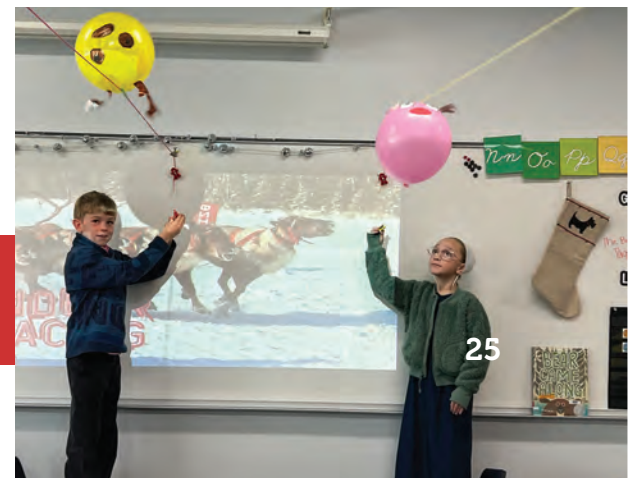


Shipshe-Scott Elementary Home of the Scotties

The Hometown Treasure · February '25



Holiday Fun!





Radical Reader Award Recipients



Lab Leader Awards

Topeka Elementary School celebrated the conclusion of Quarter 2 by honoring students selected by their teachers for “Marvelous Mathematician”, ‘Radical Reader’, ‘Pawsitive Person’, and ‘Lab Leader.’ Officer Conwell joined the celebration with popsicles. 🍷



Marvelous Mathematician Awards



**Students
enjoying
popsicles!**



PAWSitive Person Award Recipients



Candy Cane day at TES was SWEET! The students enjoyed five different candy cane themed stations on December 19. They had the opportunity to create an ornament, create and eat a snack, listen to Christmas stories, exercise in the gym, and watch a Christmas show.

The day ended with a school wide Sing-a-Long and a special visit from Santa. It was a great way to celebrate the season and have fun together!. 🍬



Students and staff bundle up during the winter months to enjoy outdoor recess! 🍬





Fifth Graders (in class order) Sariah Detweiler 5A, Lyndon Wingard 5B, Hadley Keim 5C, Evan Hochstetler 5D, Lucas Raber 5E, Felicity Eash 5F, Jaxton Horner 5G, and Griffin Brohm 5H

Sixth Graders (in class order) Kaleb Liechty 6A, Tarah Hochstetler 6B, Angie Slabach 6C, Jason Miller 6D, Ryleigh Weimer 6E, Jorden Troyer 6G, Kimber Helmuth 6H, and Ava Hochstetler 6I.
Photo submitted.

The Westview Elementary PTO provided coupons to JoJo Pretzels and Topeka Pizza along with various food treats to the Outstanding Citizens for the second grading period. 📌

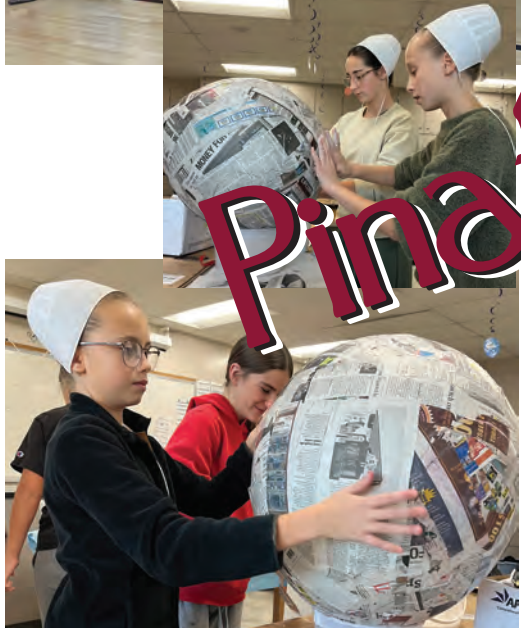


Mr. Davis' 6B class worked on building a snow plow for this year's 6th grade music program "Snow Biz." The 6th grade program took place Monday, December 9th. 📌

Pictured (Back from left) Kate Mauck, Obie Raber and Tarah Hochstetler. (Front) Jace Amsden and Emily Otto. Photos Submitted



Westview Elementary School had a special visitor from up North before Christmas break. Students could get their picture taken with Santa and receive a printed copy for a \$1 donation with all money collected going to help local families this Christmas season. We even had some folks stop by from the Admin building! It was fun to see the smiles on everyone's face! 📌



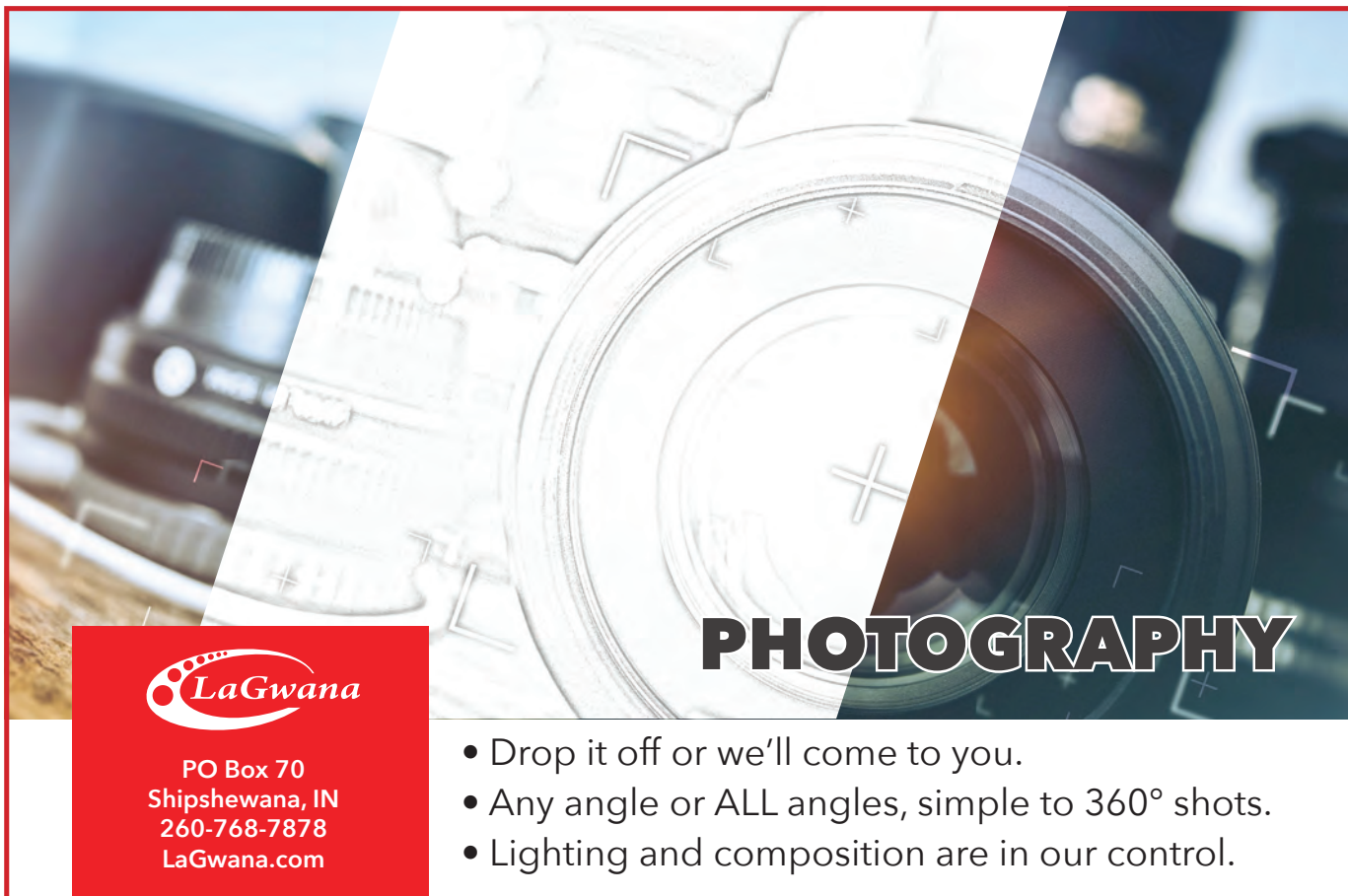
Pinata Time!!


Pinata-making is always lively this time of year! Sixth-grade students work hard pasting on the first layers of newspaper and paste. The end products come to life and the party afterward is an exciting, entertaining, and memorable experience for all students and staff. 📌



Westview Elementary 6th graders performed an amazing program, "Snow Biz" on Dec. 9. Students were featured as hockey players, snow angels, crazy scientists, ice fishermen and a meteorologist to tie the show together. These kids worked so hard to put on a great show! 📌







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Shipshewana, IN
260-768-7878
LaGwana.com

PHOTOGRAPHY

- Drop it off or we'll come to you.
- Any angle or ALL angles, simple to 360° shots.
- Lighting and composition are in our control.



2025 Scholastic Art Award Winners

Four students received high honors at the 2025 Scholastic Art competition.

Alexzander Sanchez (left) received a Gold Key for a multi layered screen print. Charlie Duke (top) received an Honorable Mention for an Etching project. Clarinda Byler (bottom) received two Silver Key awards for her paintings. Amanda Hershberger (right) received an Honorable Mention for a drawing and a Silver Key for an etching project.

Alex's work will go on to be judged at the national level in March. All of the students' work will be displayed at the Fort Wayne Museum of Art as a part of the Scholastic Art Exhibit beginning in February. 📌

Photo Submitted



Westview Jr./Sr. High

Home of the Warriors

Community Scholarship Applications Open at LaGrange County Community Foundation

The LaGrange County Community Foundation's Community Scholarship Program is accepting applications.

The program offers financial support to high school graduating seniors planning to graduate by June 2025. Scholarships are available based on residency, high school attendance, extracurricular and community involvement, and future career plans, with more than \$160,000 available in scholarships for local students.

Students must complete the common application, which will match them to qualifying scholarship opportunities by March 7, 2025.

"The Community Scholarship Program is a vital part of our mission to support the education of LaGrange County students," said Octavia Yoder, Executive Director. "We are proud to offer these scholarships, which help students pursue their dreams and contribute to our community's future."

In addition to the long-standing scholarships, the following new Community Scholarships will be offered for the first time this year:

GO Shine Like Gwen Memorial

Scholarship – Awarded to a Westview senior in memory of Gwendolyn Owsley. Must be involved in extracurricular activities and community service. Submit an essay on how their involvement has positively impacted the lives of others.

Eldon Hostetler Scholarship

Awarded to a LaGrange County student pursuing a degree and/or trade school in the automotive, engineering, or business fields. Must submit an essay on career goals.

PartnersInEducationScholarship


Awarded to a student at a LaGrange County public high school who has positively impacted the quality of life for people in their school and/or community through community

service. Must have a GPA between 3.0 and 3.8 to apply.

Huggins Family Scholarship

Awarded to a student at a LaGrange County public high school pursuing a degree in nursing.

The Community Foundation is offering 49 unique scholarships this year, made possible through generous donations from community members. New scholarship endowments can be established with a minimum donation of \$25,000, ensuring scholarships are available in perpetuity. Donors may specify award criteria and name the fund in honor or memory of a loved one.

For more information on the 2025 Community Scholarship Program or how to establish a scholarship endowment, visit the LaGrange County Community Foundation website at Lccf.net or contact the Foundation at 260-463-4363. 

The LaGrange County Community Foundation strives to enrich the lives of LaGrange County residents by fostering partnerships, supporting nonprofits, empowering local initiatives, and investing in students. Guided by a mission to inspire and sustain generosity, leadership, and service, the Foundation collaborates with individuals, families, businesses to create lasting resources through permanent funds.

Ag Women Engage Conference To Inspire

Purdue Extension announces the 2025 Ag Women Engage Conference, a dynamic event aimed at celebrating women in the agricultural sector. The conference will be at the Grand Wayne Convention Center in Fort Wayne, Indiana Feb. 13, 2025, with pre-conference activities Feb. 12.


The Ag Women Engage Conference brings together women including farmers, researchers, educators, and industry professionals. They can network, share experiences, and gain valuable insights into the challenges and opportunities facing women in agricultural.

Keynote speaker Courtenay DeHoff, is a strong agriculture advocate and has taught tens of thousands in the industry the importance of sharing their story in order to bridge the disconnect between rural and urban communities.

The Conference is offering three different pre-conference sessions for those not able to attend conference. Optional sessions include, a visit to Johnnie Mae Farms to learn more about urban agriculture and canning techniques, "Blossoming Success: Mastering Post-Harvest, Pests, and Profits"

for cut flower growers, or "Grain Marketing: Getting the Basics."

To learn more about the Conference, pre-conference sessions, and more, please visit <https://purdue.link/AWE25>. Conference registration is \$135. Registration can be found at <https://cvent.me/q5GOdw>.

For questions, concerns, or reasonable accommodations regarding the Ag Women Engage Conference, please contact Jenna Nees at smith535@purdue.edu or 765-653-8411. Purdue University is an equal opportunity/equal access/affirmative action institution. 



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- 1 Athena Castetter, Jared Hershberger, Ava J. Miller
- 2 Bryan Bontrager, Tyler Castellon, Carson Hertzler, Evan Miller, Kurtis Miller, Benji Yoder
- 3 Landon Fry, Peyton Lambright, Alyssa Miller, Tanner Troyer
- 4 Lucas Raber
- 5 Daryl Beechy, Jeremiah Borkholder, Kurtis Miller, Harper Raber, Emersyn Wingard
- 6 Evan Bontrager, Avalynn Brandau, Khaled Omer, Marcus Runyan, Rylan Spencer
- 7 Paisley Brandenberger, Kinsley Collier, Mariyah Lambert, Ashlyn Lay, Easton McDonald, Jeryle Miller, Lillith White, Jediah Wingard, Kari Yoder
- 8 Evelyn Brown, Kinley Hershberger, Andrew Martin, Jared Mast, Angela Miller, Isaiah Stickler
- 9 Ava D. Miller, Bailly Yoder
- 10 Colton Beechy, Jason Lehman, Jennifer Lehman, Jeremy Miller, Austin Yoder
- 11 Bowen Short, Kelsey Smith
- 12 Angela Miller
- 13 Kaiden Beechy, Kayla Beechy, Derek Bontrager, Austin Miller, Ethan Miller, Isaac Miller, Jayda Stutzman
- 14 Alayna Hochstetler
- 15 Maverick Hueston, Isaiah Miller, Briana Yoder, Taya Yoder



- 16 Alyse Bontrager, Owen Frey,
Ethan Riehl, Wesson Slattery
- 17 Maddox Bell, Mason Bell, Jada
Hershberger, Jenna Miller, Kinsley
Miller, Treva Miller, Eric Schlabach,
Justin Schlabach
- 18 Isaiah Graber, Raymond Howard,
Isaac Miller
- 19 Jena Bontrager, Sage Fisher,
Makenna Grossman,
Cheyenne Miller, Olivia Miller,
Emmery Spencer
- 20 Sean Slabach, Derek Wingard
- 21 James Lambright, Caleb Lehman,
Avery Mast, Halle Miller, Kenlin
Yoder
- 22 Dixie Altimus, Cameron Bontrager,
Maddex Brohm, Carsyn Haines,
Kyrrie Mauck
- 23 Lillian Berkey, Julie Bontrager,
Bentley Harman, Aaron
Hershberger, Julianna Lambright,
Isaiah Miller, Tidus Schrock
- 24 Sophia Bontrager, Joseph Cowan,
Archer Geigley, Curtis Graber,
Raylan LaForce, Andrew
Unternahrer
- 25 Jariah Lehman, Darin Stutzman,
Kylie Wingard
- 26 Kyle Hershberger, Caleb Mast,
Janae Stutzman, Kara Yoder
- 27 Miles Glassman
- 28 Abel Eudy, Bryson Noble, Kaylee
Yoder

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7TH A BOYS BASKETBALL

Sponsored by



2024-2025 7th Grade A Boys Basketball Team: Back (left to right): Harrison Bontreger, Sammy Miller, Brigham Rahn, and Coach Michael Christner. Middle: Alex Stutzman, Carson Yoder, and Kendall Lambright. Front: Cody Hill, Jared Beechy, Miles Yoder, and Tanner Porter. Photo by Stopher-King Studios



7TH B BOYS BASKETBALL

Sponsored
by



2024-2025 7th Grade B Boys Basketball Team: Back (left to right): Cayden Coleman, Trenton Vilaro, Kellan Winquist, Jacob Miller, Jason Bontrager, and Malachi Lambright. Front: Bentley Miller, Joshua Schlabach, and Adrian Bontrager. Not Pictured: Coach Jeff Marchant. Photo by Stopher-King Studios

WESTVIEW



WARRIORS



8TH A BOYS BASKETBALL

Sponsored by



2024-2025 8th Grade A Boys Basketball Team: Back (left to right): Avery Christner, Lucas Swanson, Lucas Lambright, Evan Roth, Noah Cleveland, and Coach Austin Miller. Middle: Asher Sandquist, Grady Yoder, and Bryce Yoder. Front: Jakoby Whetstone, Justin Wallace, Cooper Schwartz, and Blake Hostetler.

Photo by Stopher-King Studios



8TH B BOYS BASKETBALL

Sponsored by



2024-2025 8th Grade B Boys Basketball Team: Back (left to right): Carter Cranor, Adrian Hostetler, Jaxon Christner, and Coach Paul Baker. Middle: Eric Miller, Caleb Mullet, Josh Slabach, and Britton Miller. Front: Seth Hochstetler, Kameron Meyers, and Timothy Nisley.

Photo by Abby Wenger

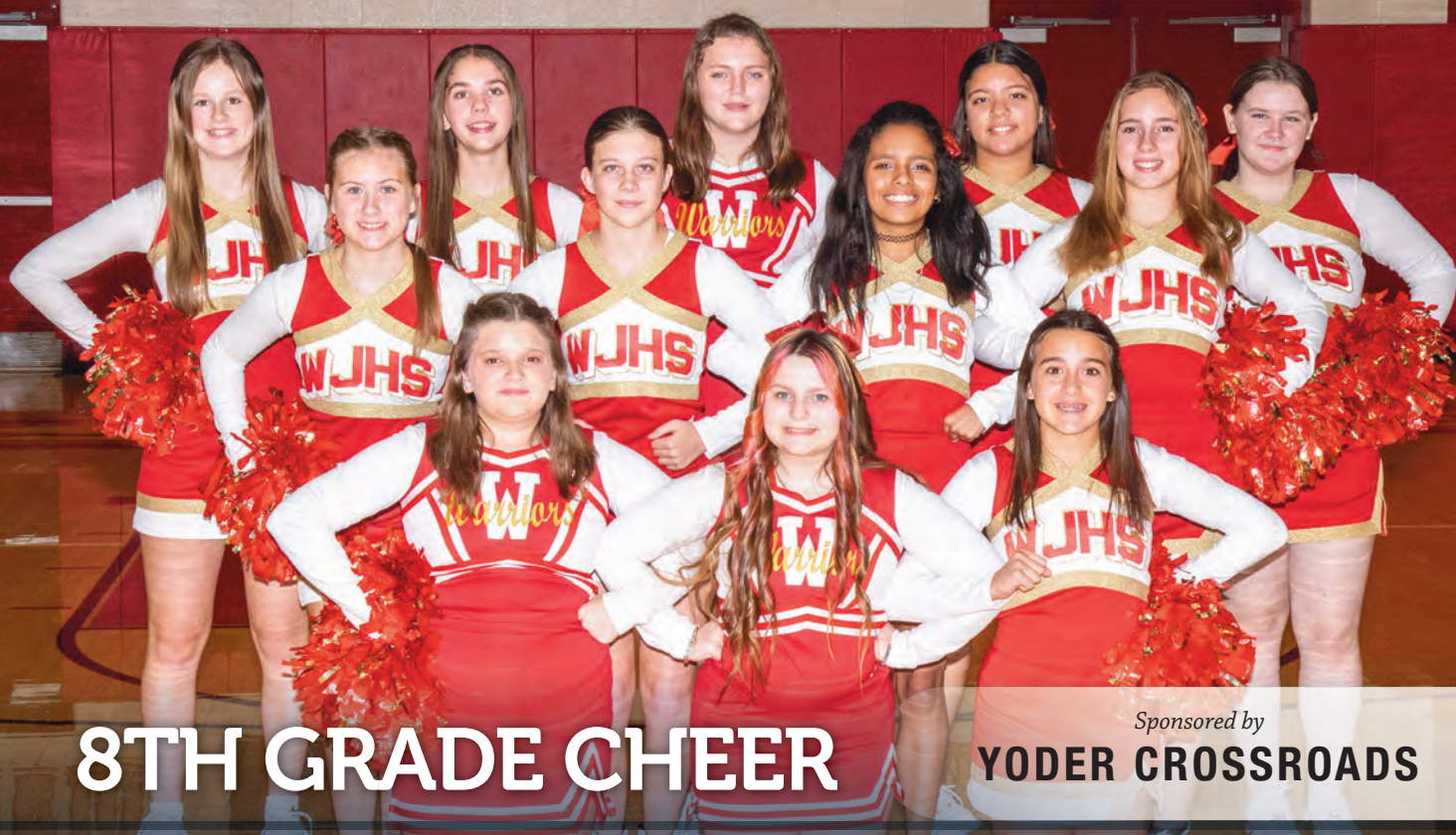


7TH GRADE CHEER

Sponsored by
*Dutch Blessing
Floral*

2024-2025 7th Grade Cheer Team: Back (left to right): Aubrey Young, Kennedy Stutzman, and Morgan Bontrager.

Photo by Stopher-King Studios



8TH GRADE CHEER

Sponsored by
YODER CROSSROADS

2024-2025 8th Grade Cheer Team: Back (left to right): Madi Everage, Sara Bontrager, Tiffany Bontrager, Sofia Ruiz, and Kaori Runyan. Middle: Braylin Leonard, Makayla Slabach, Avionna Duke, and Malia Shaffer. Front: Bella Williams, Kenzie Stormoen, and Bryndle Bontrager. Not Pictured: Katie Martin.

Photo by Abby Wenger

HISTORICAL FEATURE

Love is in the Air... But Not as Some Remember It!

by Harold D. Gingerich

Ah, February! 'Tis the month when romance is in the air. Young men of all ages will be looking for the perfect gift that tells their sweetheart that they really, REALLY do love them. If all else fails, you can never go wrong with flowers, especially red roses, and/or a heart-shaped box of chocolates. It's interesting to observe how courtship and romance has changed over the decades. The older generations long for the "good old days", but the younger generation doesn't seem to mind. Boy meets girl, and things go on from there.

There was a delightful article entitled, "Modern Courtship Not as Some Remember It" tucked away on page four of the February 12, 1925, edition of *The Topeka Journal*. The opening paragraph began with an alert to the readers that, "This will interest nobody except middle-aged men who have a bald spot and a twinge of rheumatism in the left knee. It concerns the way of a man with a maid." Let's face it, with an opening paragraph like that you simply must read the entire article.

The article, written from a male perspective, went on to lament the fact that, "The technique of courtship has changed greatly in three decades. In the old days the maid sat in a parlor to be wooed. Perhaps she sat on a squeaky stool to play an organ or a piano. If she did, you stood beside her to turn the music. You did not hear the music. Your only sensation was one of delight in the beauty of her six-inch pompadour as seen from above." Wait, what in the world is a pompadour?

Well, it turns out that a pompadour is a hairstyle named after Ma-



dame de Pompadour (1721-1764) who had the dubious distinction of being a mistress of King Louis XV of France. The basic style involved having a large portion of hair swept upward from the face and worn high above the forehead to give the hair an appearance of extra volume. Sometimes the hair was also upswept around the sides and back as well. Interestingly enough, the hairstyle had very little in common with



Madame de Pompadour, who generally wore her hair back rather than up. The name coined for the hairstyle was a product of the 20th century.

The Topeka Journal article went on to say that, "If she did not play, you sat on a thing called a sofa and studied her whiskered ancestors in an album. At times your heads almost touched and little shivers ran up and down your back, writes one who knows in the Baltimore Sun."

The delightful humor continued, leading up to the dramatic moment. "Little things meant much in those days. The first time you held her hand you were thrilled as by a visitation of angels. The youngster won't believe this, but it is true. You lost all sense of time, and space, and just sat there numb with ecstasy.

"And then the great event: It was a moonlight night, and the reins slack on the dashboard, and the madness of spring was in you. You kissed her! On, my gosh! Right smack on the mouth! There wasn't any rouge in those days, and very little powder, and you didn't taste a blessed thing but girl! How commonplace - - how paltry and wearisome Paradise would have seemed to you then!"

Listen to the lament that follows. "How long ago! How long ago! The modern maid is just as sweet, for all her shorn dresses and silken legs, but the way of the man has changed. He drives up in front and honks and he doesn't help her in. She doesn't need help. Given a running start, she could jump in without opening the door. They don't hold hands. And a kiss doesn't mean

HISTORICAL FEATURE

very much to either of them. It is just a substitute for conversations. It takes the place of the family album. And it has strange flavors.”

The article concludes with two sentences that require a moment or two before the meaning sinks in. “How wonderful to be wise! But how much more thrilling it was to be green.”

We chuckle and smile reading things like this from one hundred years ago. But, if you have been married for over 25 or 50 years, think about what dating and courtship was like when we were teenagers.

Back in the 1960s, assuming you had the courage to ask a girl out on a date on a Friday night, you first had to ask your father for permission to use the family car. And then, assuming she agreed to go out with you, where were you going to take her?

In an effort to provide young people with a wholesome, spiritual opportunity to meet one another, area Mennonite churches sponsored monthly area hymn sings following the regular Sunday evening service. Youth leaders set up some sort of rotation, so it wasn't always at the same church. So, you could ask a girl from your youth group (MYF) to go to the hymn sing or you flew solo hoping to find someone cute.

On the other hand, about your only other dating options were going to a movie or cruising Goshen at about two miles per hour from South Main Street to Bower's Drive-In. It could take about two hours to make the trip, but nobody cared because gas was only 25 cents a gallon. Truth be told, there are more than a few married couples who met cruising Goshen. Oh, I forgot about parking by the lake on a warm moonlit night to watch the submarine races.

Younger readers will need to ask their parents to explain that.

It went without saying that when you went to pick her up, you always went to the front door generally to be greeted by her father. And of course you had her home before midnight. The good news was that things were a lot cheaper back in the day. You could take a girl out on a date for under \$10.00. After all, a McDonald's hamburger was only 15 cents, as was an order of fries, and a milk shake was 22 cents. Plus, in 1960 a movie ticket was only 75 cents. What a deal! But then again, as a teenager in the 60's, you were really lucky if you could find a job that paid you a dollar an hour.

If the relationship got more serious, you went from dating to “going steady.” Which meant that you gave her your class ring. Unless you were like me. I wasn't allowed to buy a class ring because of the beliefs of the church we attended. But if you did have a ring to give her, she had to wrap the lower part of the knuckle-buster with a bunch of fuzzy yarn, so it didn't fall off her finger. Wearing it on a chain as a necklace also worked, but that wasn't nearly as romantic.


Back in the day at Topeka High School, you knew the couples who were truly in love because they spent most of the lunch hour in the little hallway on the south side of the front doors sharing sweet nothings.

Today young people have their own courting language that most of us over the age of 60 don't even begin to understand. According to one of my teenage friends, couples start out “talking”. Which begs the question, “What are they talking about?” My teenage expert explained “they are just talking

to get to know each other, but it's not exactly dating”. From there, assuming they haven't run out of things to talk about, they move to the dating stage. Or to quote social media posts, they are in “a relationship.”



Apparently gone are the days of guys sitting with a pretty girl on the front porch swing, looking at the moon, and trying to find a way to put his arm around her without coming off as a total “lummo”. Today young people have joined the digital age of FaceTime, Instagram, TikTok, and texting. But it works for them. Boy meets girl; they fall in love, and the story goes on from there. Ah, and what a wonderful thing it is!

It is February, and love is in the air. And so, no matter what your age, keep courtship and romance alive throughout the year. Even if you've been married 50 years or more (like me), celebrate with the one you love. 

This article sponsored by




Left-Over Letters Spell Out A Message From Erika!

Enter remaining letters starting at the top and going left to right.

It is a freezing cold day today! We have a high of a whole whopping 2 degrees today, and are currently sitting at a nice toasty 0. It is on days like today that I am incredibly thankful for the wonders of technology.

Instead of having to trudge to work through the cold and snow, or simply giving up the entire day as a wash, I am snuggled up at home with my cats, a cup of hot tea, and laptop to allow me to keep working, despite the weather.

There are some unique challenges to working from home, however. At work, I don't usually have to worry about a cat walking across my keyboard, or trying to drink my coffee. 

Solution on page 40.

Word Search

(find all the underlined words) by Erika Byler

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| E | S | R | G | N | I | K | R | O | W | T | I |
| A | E | S | N | A | N | T | H | E | U | K | K |
| I | G | T | E | I | G | T | Y | O | I | E | S |
| I | N | C | R | E | D | I | B | L | Y | T | N |
| T | E | D | A | T | R | A | V | B | L | R | L |
| G | L | R | O | E | S | G | O | I | T | U | U |
| E | L | D | L | S | U | A | E | A | N | D | F |
| T | A | O | O | A | R | Q | W | D | E | G | K |
| Y | H | R | L | D | F | H | I | H | R | E | N |
| W | C | L | E | R | E | H | T | N | R | E | A |
| A | O | L | P | E | T | H | R | O | U | G | H |
| W | R | Y | G | O | L | O | N | H | C | E | T |

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New Newbury Township Trustee Office Location

The Newbury Township Office/ Office of Newbury Township Trustee, Brandie Fitch has relocated to 915 N. Van Buren Street, Shipshewana.

You may call 260-768-7330 or email newburytownshiptrustee@gmail.com for more information. 


Parkview Noble's First 2025 Baby

The first baby born at Parkview Noble Hospital in 2025 was a boy:

Name (first/middle): Travis Orvan


Born: 1/1/2025, 11:38 a.m.

Weight: 8 lbs. 12 oz.

To ensure the safety and privacy of the baby and parents, and to remain consistent with ongoing guidance from the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, no additional information will be provided about this child. 

2025 Kindergarten Enrollment Notice

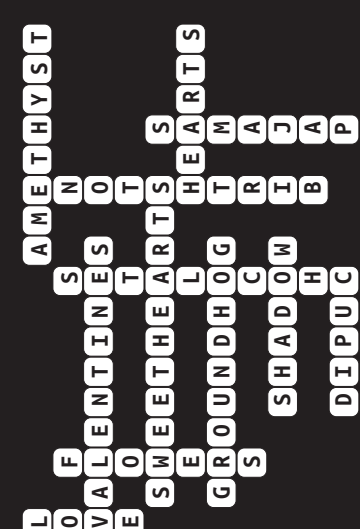
If your child will be five years old by August 1, 2025, and isn't pre-enrolled, the pre-enrollment steps for kindergarten are as follows:

1. Contact school of residence to obtain a pre-enrollment form.
 - Shipshe-Scott Elementary: 260-768-4158
 - Topeka Elementary: 260-593-2897
 - Meadowview Elementary: 260-768-7702
 Out of district parents should contact the school that you wish to enroll your child at.
2. Return enrollment form to the school as soon as possible.
3. Parents will receive a SEEK Screening schedule in the Spring.
4. SEEK Screening will be at the student's school of residence near the end of the 2024-25 school year. 

Clueless Crossword
By Marsha Patrick
Solution
to the puzzle on page 21.

Sponsored by

We are looking for sponsors!
We would be happy to use words related to your business as the words used in the puzzle. Call for more details at 260-463-4901.



TULIPS
(TWO LIPS)



Solution to puzzle on page 39



Left-Over Letters Spell Out A Message From Erika!

Enter remaining letters starting at the top and going left to right.

**ERIANA THE
KITTY ISN'T
A GREAT
WEH HELPER!**

Riddle on page 21.



295 N Van Buren St.
Shipshewana, IN
(260) 768-4923



Name: _____ Age: _____

Coloring Contest: kids age 6 and younger. Sponsored by Wana-Cup in Shipshewana this month! Winner gets a FREE ICE CREAM TREAT OF CHOICE at Wana-Cup, State Rd 5 South, Shipshewana. Winning drawings will be on display at Wana Cup. ALL PARTICIPANTS come in and claim your drawing for A FREE ICE CREAM CONE at Wana-Cup in March. Mail submission to: LaGwana, Coloring Contest, PO Box 70, Shipshewana, IN 46565. **Entry deadline is February 18, 2025.**

Address: _____

Advertiser & Sponsor Index

| <u>Advertiser</u> | <u>Page</u> | <u>Advertiser</u> | <u>Page</u> | <u>Advertiser</u> | <u>Page</u> |
|--|-------------|---|-------------|---|-------------|
| Ace Hardware of Topeka | 8 | Happy Paws Pet Shop..... | 20 | Shipshewana Popcorn Co..... | 15 |
| Brandenberry Furniture | 18 | Hummel Group | 9 | Shipshewana Trading Place | 6 |
| Cariloha | 16 | Integrity Overhead Door | 32 | Southwind Flooring, Inc..... | 4 |
| Cornucopia, LLC..... | 17 | J. Farver Home & Leather/Puzzle's Plus..... | 19 | Springer Dental Care..... | 9 |
| Countryside | 15 | JoJo's Pretzels | 17 | The Blue Gate..... | 17 |
| Crafthouse Fabrics | 19 | Kids Kreations | 15 | The Fancy Farm Girl..... | 18 |
| Das Kaffee Haus | 16 | King Corp..... | 17 | Topeka Together..... | 44 |
| Dutch Blessing Floral | 43 | Kitchen Cupboard | 17 | Town & Country Hdwr/Dollar Discounts..... | 20 |
| Dutchman Log Furniture..... | 19 | LaGrange Co. Health Dept..... | 10, 21 | Triple M Tire & Service | 4 |
| Edward Jones | 33 | LaGwana | 2, 30 | Turtle Town Dental | 33 |
| Eminence Home & Boutique | 18 | Lang Store, The/Lolly's Fabrics..... | 16 | Victorian Candy Company..... | 18 |
| Family Time Variety..... | 20 | Light of Grace..... | 18 | Village Boutique | 17 |
| First State Bank..... | 14 | Midwest Eye Consultants | 32 | Wana Cabinets & Furniture..... | 18, 19 |
| Forks County Line | 33 | Miller's Electrical Service | 9 | Weaver Furniture Sales | 18 |
| Frontline Auto Tech | 33 | Parker's Outlet Center | 18 | Yoder Department Store..... | 16 |
| Fry's Repair Shop | 4 | Precision Turf Care, LLC..... | 42 | Yoder's Meat & Cheese Co. | 20 |
| Gifted Hands Villages | 18 | Red Barn Bargains..... | 18 | Yoder's Red Barn Shoppes | 18 |
| Glow - A Christian Bookstore..... | 16 | Red Bud Gifts | 18 | Yoder's Shipshewana Hardware | 19 |
| Grogg-Martin Realtors - Lantz, Rod | 32 | Rural 1st | 39 | | |
| Gutwein Chiropractic..... | 42 | Sarah Davis, Ltd. | 17 | | |

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| <u>Sponsor</u> | <u>Page</u> | <u>Sponsor</u> | <u>Page</u> | <u>Sponsor</u> | <u>Page</u> |
|------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|-------------|
| Avail | 34 | LaGwana | 3, 7, 30, 43 | Wana Cup..... | 35, 41 |
| Bender Automotive..... | 3, 35 | Northern Nutrition..... | 44 | Weaver Furniture Sales | 3 |
| Douglas G Whitehead DDS..... | 38 | Oak Grove Tax Service | 3 | Westview School Corporation | 22-30 |
| Dutch Blessing Floral | 36 | Shipshe Auto Service | 3 | Yoder Crossroads..... | 36 |
| Eash Sales | 3 | Southwind Flooring | 3 | Yoder's Shipshewana Hardware | 3, 34 |
| Frontline Auto Tech | 3 | Tiffany's Restaurant..... | 43 | | |
| KZ RV..... | 3 | Topeka Pharmacy | 9 | | |

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Mystery Farm

FEBRUARY
CONTEST

OVER \$50 WORTH OF PRIZES!

1st Prize: Tiffany's Restaurant. Topeka, \$25 Gift Certificate, a pen, notepad set, a letter opener, and a copy of *The Way I See It* from LaGwana.

2nd Prize(s): A pen, notepad set, a letter opener, and *The Way I See It* from LaGwana.

3rd Prize(s): *The Way I See It*.

**Additional 2nd and 3rd prizes will be awarded for every 50 entries over 100 received.*

RULES:

- 1) Identify farm shown by owner's name, by address, or by road and nearest intersecting road.
- 2) Mail to *Hometown Treasure - Mystery Farm*, P.O. Box 70, Shipshewana, IN 46565.
Please include your name and address.
- 3) Entry deadline: **February 18, 2025.**
Please allow time for mail delivery.
- 4) Winners will be drawn and prizes mailed.
*Next month's winner will receive a 1 year subscription to *The Connection* and more!*
- 5) Correct entries listed in our next issue!

SPONSORED BY:



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Shipshewana, IN 46565



414 E. Lake Street
Topeka, IN 46571

Next Month Sponsored By: **THE CONNECTION**

LAST MONTH'S WINNERS

Lonnie & Maria Bontrager of SR 120, Shipshewana correctly identified last issue's farm as being owned by **Perry & Marlene Miller, 1000**

W, Topeka. Congratulations! They won a \$25 Gift Certificate from Tiffany's Restaurant, a pen, a notepad set, a letter opener, and a copy of *The Way I See It* from LaGwana. Second prize went to **Daniel & Erma Miller, 200 S, Topeka.** Third prize went to **Devon & Wilma Whetstone, 750 S, Topeka.**



There were 18 correct entries this month. **Others that guessed correctly were:** Rose E Yoder, Dennis & Amy Fry, Dannie & Martha Beechy, Kyle & Lily Lehman, David & Laverta Frey, Alvin & Amanda Bontrager, Christie & Marlene Yoder, Amos Jay & Ida Anna Miller, Paul & Oncita Hochstetler, Devon & Colleen Fry, Myron & Retha Miller, Myron & Kara Wingard, Richard & Esther Miller, Freeman & Velda Bontrager, Lyle & Tina Slabach.

MORE FARMS NEEDED!

Please mail to:
Hometown Treasure - Mystery Farm,
P.O. Box 70,
Shipshewana, IN 46565.
Please include your name and address.

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SECOND SATURDAY
OF THE MONTH

Ceramics WITH Angel

TOPEKA LIBRARY

CLASSES

10AM - 5PM

SMALL FEE TO COVER SUPPLIE
ANGEL CLEVELAND
260.499.1341



Hi!

Connie here again! I hope everyone is keeping warm. Brrrrr! It definitely Winter now.

We do have some future events happening:

Come and enjoy some fun and creative time with Ceramics with Angel on the second Saturday



MONDAY NIGHTS
Topeka Elementary School



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Topeka Farmer's Market

STARTS MAY 8

Date/Time:

Thursdays

Noon - 7 pm

Location:

West (Pond) Park

more
info

Marlynn
Mast

260.508.9837

Angel

Cleveland

260.499.1341

of February and March. There is just a small fee to cover the cost of supplies. Classes will pick up again late Summer or early Fall.

Ping Pong has started up again. It will run every Monday during January & February. Doors open at 5:45pm. It is subject to change due to school closings. It is amazing how much talent we have in the Topeka area.

Starting May 8th Topeka will have its very own Farmer's Market! Location is the West Park (pond) and will be every Thursday, Noon-7pm. Please contact Marlynn Mast or Angel Cleveland if you have any questions. This is an amazing opportunity for Topeka area bakers, farmers, gardeners and artisans.

By the way...as I'm typing this up there are only 57 more days till Spring! We can do this!

Have a Great Day On Purpose!

— Connie Gadson

This page sponsored by

