

October 2026 • Vol. 27 Num. 10

The Hometown Treasure



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Deadline for November 2026 Issue:

12 noon, Tuesday, October 20

Thursday, October 15 if you need a proof.

November Issue Date is Tuesday, Oct. 27.

— SUBSCRIPTION RATE —

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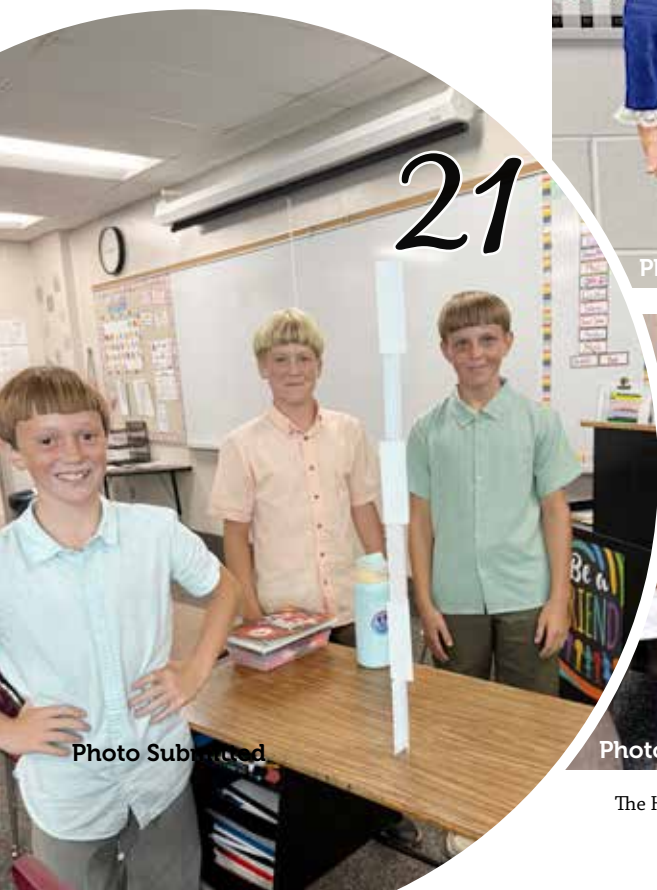


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Control Freak

“Let Go and Let God”. Have you seen or heard this popular catchphrase amongst Christian folk that suggests we let go of our worries and allow God to take care of them? It’s not only a great idea – it has biblical backing. Such as:

• **Proverbs 3:5–6:** “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.”

• **1 Peter 5:7:** “Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.”

I’ve said it myself. When someone is struggling, it’s easy to say, “Let go and let God,” pat myself on the back for offering such a helpful reminder, and move on with my life. But is it really a helpful reminder to someone who is suffering? Is it balm to the soul of one weary in prayer?

From my own experiences, when a well-meaning Christian gives me similar advice, I have more questions. How does one fully surrender great hurt so easily? Tell me how not to worry – please, I beg of you?

As a Christian who truly believes God is more than adequately capable of handling the hardest situation, I think this is my biggest stumbling block. I fret, pray, surrender, worry anyway ...repeat. I have this nasty little habit of picking up that “worry” again and petting it a while. Why, oh why, can’t I just lay it down, trust Him to take care of it, and go on my merry way! WHY?



I recently memorized Psalm 34:17 to help me with this little problem of mine. It says, “The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them. He delivers them from all their trouble.” I pray, then I say the verse- as a way of sealing the deal with God. A reminder that

He hears and acts. And then guess what I do next? I worry again. I’m hopeless!

I can get myself so worked up about something that will most likely not happen. It seems I spend more time trying to resolve the issue on my own than praying to the One who will resolve and restore it in ways I could never have imagined. Am I this much of a control freak?

The answer is yes. Yes, I am! There I said it.

You see, friend, worry is a burden, not a character flaw. My character flaw is an incessant need for control. So, when the burden of worry becomes too heavy, perhaps I need to shift my focus to what I can control instead of what I can’t. A shift, such as...praying without ceasing, thanking God for what he has done and will do, and asking God how I can use this

season of suffering to glorify Him. Instead of overthinking the worst, ask God to help me overthink the best. His best!

Let go of my control and let God be in control. Let go...Let God. His ways are perfect! 🙏

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Build Confidence in your 401(k) Decisions

In its simplest form, saving can mean putting money into a jar, adding to it and letting it grow slowly. A 401(k), or other workplace retirement plan, is a step beyond that. It's more like a garden than a jar. Once you understand the basics of your 401(k), it becomes easier to feel confident in your decisions.

In a jar, your money only grows when you add more. In a garden, what you plant can begin to grow on its own. Your investments can earn returns, and those returns may in turn earn additional returns. That's called compounding, and it can have a meaningful impact over time. Like a garden, however, growth is not guaranteed. Markets can rise and fall, and investments can lose value.

Most workplace retirement plan contributions are made with pre-tax dollars, which lowers today's taxable income; you'll pay taxes when you withdraw it in retirement. Some plans also offer a Roth option: you contribute after-tax dollars and withdrawals in retirement can be tax free. Your plan administrator can provide more information.

Many 401(k) plans include an employer match, either up to a set dollar amount, perhaps \$500, or a percentage of your salary, typically 3%–5%. Contributions you make, as well as those from your employer, can grow

over time. Try to contribute at least enough to capture the full match; anything less means you're leaving money on the table.

Now the question is how to invest your contributions inside your 401(k). The menu of investment options may seem complicated, but most fall into a few common categories.



Stock Photo

• **Stock or equity funds** focus on stocks, which represent ownership in companies. Because they're tied to company performance, they have the potential for higher growth over time, but their value can go up and down in the short term. When you're decades from retirement, that short-term volatility matters less; you have time to ride out the swings.

• **Bond funds** invest in loans made to governments or corporations. These tend to be more stable than stock funds but typically grow more slowly. They can help balance the ups and downs.

• **Balanced or blended funds** hold a mix of stocks and bonds in a

single investment.

• **Target-date funds** combine different types of investments in one fund. As you move toward a specified retirement year, the fund gradually adjusts to focus more on stability and less on growth.

The earlier you start planting, the more time your money has to grow.

Even small contributions early in your career can end up as large amounts later, simply because they had more time to compound.

If you change jobs, keep in mind that your employer's contributions may not be fully yours immediately. It depends on your plan's vesting schedule, so it's worth checking

before you go.

The most important steps in a retirement plan are getting started, contributing consistently and taking advantage of what your plan offers. With a little knowledge, you can feel more confident moving forward. The garden is yours. Start planting. 

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.

LaGrange County Library

Below are the events planned for October 2026.

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.library.indiana

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.

Youth Interest

Preschool Story Time (Ages 0-5) Theme: Alphabet: Letters U, V

LaGrange • Tuesdays • 10:30 a.m.

Shipshewana • Tuesdays • 11:00 a.m.

Topeka • Wednesdays • 11:30 a.m.

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

Makerspace AND Lego Play (Ages 5+) Registration not required

LaGrange • Wednesdays and Thursdays • 2:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Makerspace is a collaborative space where you can use tools and materials to create, learn and share. New special projects and challenges every week! Also we will have all of our Legos out to build what you want or challenge yourself to complete the new challenge each week. Parents must stay with children ages 10 and under.

Teen Games (Grades 6-12)

LaGrange • Monday, October 12 • 4-7:30 p.m.

Drop in anytime and stay as long as you can! Play larger group party-type games or settle in for something longer. Free pizza and water provided!

Book Clubs (Registration not required)

Books & Banter Book Club: (Grade 7-12)

LaGrange • Monday, October 19 • 4:00-5:00 p.m. At each meeting we will discuss the books we read over the last month while we have some snacks and spend some time reading and chatting. This month, choose any book you have read, or would like to read and bring it to the meeting.

Book Buddies Book Club: (Grade 1-3)

LaGrange • Tuesday, October 20 • 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Reading: Maple Ridge: Logan Pryce Makes a Mess by Grace Gilmore. At each meeting we will start reading our 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.

Page Turners Book Club: (Grade 3-7)

LaGrange • Tuesday, October 20 • 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Discussing: Montgomery Bon Bon Murder at the Museum by Alasdair Beckett-King Return to Sender by Vera Brosgol. You will get your book at the meeting. At each meeting we will discuss the book we read this month and do a fun activity or craft related to the story.

Teen Video Games (Grades 7-12)

LaGrange • Monday, October 26 • 4:00-7:30 p.m.

Join us for Nintendo Switch, Wii and VR. We will have snacks and TV's set up to play. Come and go as you are able during this time.

Adult Interest

Second Saturday Book Club (Ages 16+)

LaGrange • Saturday, October 10 • 11 a.m. • At The Rustic Spoon, Emma, IN

This month we'll meet at the restaurant to discuss "*The English Wife*" by Lauren Willig. A scandalous novel set in the Gilded Age full of

family secrets, affairs, and even murder. Food and drink at your own expense. *Copies of the book are available at the LaGrange's Adult Desk.*

Creative Writing Open Readings (No Registration Required)

Tuesday, October 13 • 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Do you write prose, poetry, short stories, and/or enjoy being the first to hear original works read aloud? If so, please come join us! Everyone's work will be recited in an open format that promotes uplifting encouragement for those reading and better understanding of the work for those listening. All ages are welcome (Discretion will be encouraged for those reading their work.) Darrick Brown, facilitator. Free! No registration required.

Culinary Adventures: BBQ (Ages 12+)

Friday, October 20 • Meet at the restaurant at 5:30 p.m.

Jed's Barbeque & Brew • 1801 N Wayne St., Angola. Not only can you choose a homemade sauce, you can order a hot rock to cook your own food on! Please register at the Main Library or by calling 260-463-2841 x 1030 so we'll know how many to expect. Food and drink at your own expense.

Archi-Trek: Niles, MI (Ages 12+)

Depart & Return: LaGrange Co. Public Library

Thursday, October 22 • Depart: 8:30 am - Return 5 pm

Niles has ties to Freedom Seekers, the founders of Notre Dame, the timber industry, a Hollywood-famous train depot, and even the shirt on Scott's back! All of those influences create great opportunity for architecture exploration. Tour the historic Chapin Mansion, constructed in 1882. Cost \$20 per person, pay online at eventbrite.com, or by cash or check at the LaGrange Main Library (payable to Green Bus Tours) Must register at LaGrange or call 260-463-2841 x 1030 as space is very limited.

Cookbook Club (Families Welcome)

LaGrange • Saturday, October 24 • 11 a.m.

This month's cookbook is *Dinner for One* by Melissa Clark. Check out the cookbook at the Adult Services Desk. Choose a recipe, 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.

Make & Take: Decoupage Pumpkins (Ages 12+)

LaGrange • Wednesday, October 28 • 6 p.m.

We will decoupage a set of 3 pumpkins in fall a design of your choice. Cost is \$25 per person, registration & non-refundable \$15 deposit due by October 21 at LaGrange Library Adult services desk.

Coming in October!

Explore the nation's capital in our 250th year on a 6-Day

Motorcoach Trip to Washington D.C. & Gettysburg!

Dates: Monday, October 26 - Saturday, October 31.

Must register with S&S Travel by September 26.

Complete information available at any LaGrange Co. Library location.

October Events

Quilt Class

Saturday, October 24 • 9 am–3 pm

Maple Wood Nature Center

Fee: \$25 (with \$5 supporting the Parks Department). Pattern: Log Cabin Tree. We will be using the traditional technique. Instructions will be provided when you register. Instructors will be available during class to answer questions and offer guidance. Registration is required. To register, call Julia 260-367-1449 or Ira 260-463-1438.

Sew & Tell

Wednesday, October 28 • 9:30 am–3:30 pm

Maple Wood Nature Center

4550E 100S, LaGrange

Fee: \$5 donation for Parks

What is a UFO? If you said Unfinished Object—this sewing group is for you! This gathering is open to everyone. Bring your sewing machine and work on a project while getting help, sharing ideas, and connecting with fellow sewing enthusiasts. Please bring a sack lunch and a snack to share. RSVP with Linda Grobis at 260-351-3609.

Every Park Every Trail

Wednesday, October 21 • 6 pm

Duff Memorial Park

6225N 300E, Howe

Every Park Every Trail Walking Club is an opportunity to walk in one of our parks at least once, improve your health, and hopefully qualify for a fun new reward at the end of the season! Check in at Trailhead by office. All walks begin at 9 am. A park representative will be present for check-in at the specified location. Walk at your own pace. Each trail is approximately 2 miles long. Dress for the weather, trail conditions, and personal comfort. Bring



water. You must walk at least once at each of the five trails (2 repeat) to receive a reward. Rewards will be handed out at the last walk to those who qualify.



Not So Spooky Trail

Friday, October 16 • 5 pm - 7 pm

Maple Wood Nature Center

Bring the kids for a fun, not-so-scary evening of adventure. Crafts, games, light food, and fun! Don't forget to wear your costumes.

Fall Forest School (Ages 6-12) (Free)

October 8 • 9 am - 11 am

David Rogers Memorial Park

2355W 550S, Wolcottville, IN

Meet at David Rogers Park for hands-on outdoor adventures, exploration, and discovery experiences in nature. Bring a snack & water bottle. Designed for younger children. Call 260-854-2225 or email jmartin@lagrangecounty.in.gov to register. Dress for the weather.

Glow-In-The-Dark Disc Golf Tournament

Delt Church Park

6455S 200W, Wolcottville

Saturday, October 10 • 7:30 pm

Illuminated baskets, fun challenges, some glowing discs! Popcorn station available. Cash only.

Go to the link provided for full event information and registration: discgolfscene.com/deepdarkdoubles



Trail of Lights is Coming!

Delt Church Park, 6455S 200 W, Wolcottville, IN

Stay tuned for the upcoming schedule for December at Delt Church Park! Our trail of Lights is getting NEW lights and exciting new displays this year, making it a holiday experience you won't want to miss. Gather your family and friends, bundle up, and come enjoy the magic of the season in the park! More details coming soon!



Park Chili Dog Cart

Where: Corn School, in front of Horizon Bank

When: October 6-10

Time: 4 pm - 8 pm Friday, Open until 10, and Saturday, 11 am - close.

Details: Every purchase helps the Parks Dept. raise funds to send kids to camp for FREE next summer.

Bringing the Bible to Students During the School Day: LifeWise Is Growing in Our Community

What if students in our community could receive Bible-based character education during the school day without missing instructional time? For families across the country, that opportunity already exists through LifeWise Academy. Now it is taking root right here in our own community. LifeWise Topeka Elementary is already serving students at Topeka Elementary, and we have a vision for bringing this opportunity to more students throughout the Westview school system. It is an exciting step, but it is one that will take the involvement of our entire community.

Perhaps you have seen the LifeWise name or heard someone talking about the program and wondered what it actually is. How can students attend Bible classes during the school day? Who pays for it? What are students learning? And most importantly: How can I be part of it?

Those are great questions. Here are some answers.

What is LifeWise Academy?

LifeWise Academy is a nonprofit organization that provides Bible-based character education to public school students during school hours through something called Released Time Religious Instruction (RTRI). The concept may sound new, but released time religious instruction has a long history in the United States. In 1952, the U.S. Supreme Court affirmed in *Zorach v. Clauson* that students may be released from public school during the school day to receive religious instruction as long as three important conditions are met: the program takes place off school property, is privately funded and requires parental permission. LifeWise operates within those

guidelines. Participation is completely voluntary, and parents decide whether their children participate.

LifeWise began in 2018 after leaders involved with an existing released-time program in Van Wert, Ohio, saw an opportunity to create a model that other communities could use. The first LifeWise programs launched in 2019. And now, our community is part of that story!

What happens when students go to LifeWise?

Lessons are designed to teach the Bible while connecting its truths to students' everyday lives. LifeWise curriculum incorporates character education and encourages students to put qualities such as kindness, respect and responsibility into practice at school, at home and throughout their community. LifeWise describes its approach as bible-based and gospel-centered, focusing on the foundational messages of scripture rather than the finer points that may differ among Christian denominations. Students attend only with parental permission. They leave school property for their LifeWise class and return to school afterward. The goal is simple but significant: give families who desire bible education for their children an opportunity to make it part of their child's week.

What is happening here at Westview?

Our local story has already begun and the response from our students and families has been incredible. LifeWise Topeka Elementary launched midway through the last school year with just 11 students. By our final LifeWise session in May, that number had grown to 81 students! In just a few short months, we

watched more and more students walk through our doors. That growth has been incredibly encouraging, and it has shown us something important: our students are eager to learn!

At this time, Topeka Elementary is the only Westview building with a LifeWise program, but we have been working toward expanding LifeWise within the Westview school system. Our hope is that the opportunity we have been providing to children in one building can eventually reach even more students and families throughout our community. The growth we experienced in our very first year gives us an exciting glimpse of what may be possible. But as our program grows, so does the support needed to sustain it and prepare for the future.

Growth requires more than enthusiasm. It requires prayer. It requires volunteers. And it requires financial support.

Does LifeWise cost the school or participating families?

No. This is one of the most important things for our community to understand about LifeWise. LifeWise programs are privately funded. They do not use taxpayer dollars to operate, and there is no cost to the public school or to families whose children participate. Local programs are sustained by people within their own communities who believe the program is worth investing in. For LifeWise Topeka Elementary, our current annual operating cost is approximately \$30,000.

Those funds help make the program possible—from staffing and possible transportation needs to curriculum, supplies and the other expenses involved in providing a safe, high-quality program for our students. Thirty thousand dol-

lars may sound like a large number, but what happens when an entire community decides to carry it together? Suddenly, \$30,000 becomes \$30 a month.

What does it mean to “Sponsor a Student”?

This is where we are inviting our community to become part of the LifeWise story. Through our Sponsor a Student Campaign, individuals, families, businesses, churches and community organizations can commit to giving \$30 per month to Westview’s LifeWise program. For about \$1 a day, you can help sustain an opportunity for local children to receive Bible-based character education during their school week. You can sponsor one student for \$30 a month. Sponsor two for \$60 a month. You can sponsor as many as you wish.

Monthly giving is especially valuable because it provides consistent, dependable support that allows our local program to plan responsibly for the future. However, those who aren’t able to make a recurring commitment can also support LifeWise through a one-time donation. Every gift matters.

I can’t give \$30 a month. Can I still help?

Absolutely. Supporting LifeWise isn’t limited to writing a check. A successful local program depends on people willing to give their time, talents, resources and prayers.

Community members can support LifeWise by volunteering, donating needed supplies, making a one-time financial gift, becoming a recurring monthly donor, sponsoring one or more students, sharing information about LifeWise with others, or praying for the students, teachers, volunteers and leaders involved in the program.

Why now?

Because LifeWise Topeka Elementary isn’t simply an idea anymore. It’s here. Students are participating. Volunteers and leaders are serving. Families are choosing this opportunity for their children and we are beginning to look toward what could come next for the Westview community.

Big things rarely happen because of one person doing everything. They happen when a community decides to do something together. LifeWise Topeka Elementary has begun. Now, we are inviting our community to help us build what comes next.

Will you join us?

Another exciting way to support LifeWise Topeka Elementary is by attending a special Night of Impact on October 16th at New Life Fellowship in Topeka, IN. This is a fall themed evening designed to bring our community together, share the vision and impact of LifeWise, and invite others to become part of what is happening right here in our community.

The evening will include fall dessert and drink options and a guest speaker. Individuals, families, churches and local businesses will have the opportunity to sponsor a table and invite guests to join them. By purchasing a table and filling it with friends, family members, coworkers or others who may be interested in LifeWise, you aren’t just supporting the program, but you are helping us introduce even more people to the mission.

Interested in volunteering, making a one-time donation, donating supplies, getting tickets to our Night of Impact or learning more about LifeWise Topeka Elementary? Reach out to our LifeWise director, Heather Engle at heatherengle@lifewise.org for more information. 

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First State Bank Breaks Ground on New Shipshewana Retail Office

First State Bank officially celebrated the groundbreaking of its newest retail office location in Shipshewana, Indiana. The new facility represents the bank's continued commitment to serving the financial needs of the communities it has proudly supported for generations.

D. Joe Caffee, First State Bank President & CEO shared the significance of the project, stating:

"Community banking is about being present, accessible, and invested in the places we call home. Today's groundbreaking is a tangible expression of our long-term commitment to Shipshewana and the surrounding communities. We are honored by the trust our customers place in us every day, and we're excited to create a new space where those relationships can continue to grow."

The new retail office is being constructed by Nuway Construction, a design-build general contractor based in Goshen, Indiana. "We are honored to partner with First State Bank on this important investment in the Shipshewana community. Our team is excited to bring this vision to life and deliver a facility that will serve the community for years to come," said Andy Nesbitt, president of Nuway Construction.



Todd Wallace, Superintendent Nuway Construction; Mike Christensen K4 Project Manager/Designer; Terry Martin, Shipshewana Town Manager; Joe Smucker, Board Chair of First State Bank; Andy Nesbitt, President of Nuway Construction; Joe Caffee, President/CEO of First State Bank; Jon Miller, VP of First State Bank; Sara Patrick, LaGrange Chamber of Commerce President; Brandon Winkler, K4 Project Manager; Will Gaby, Nuway Construction Project Manager

The architectural design services are provided by K4 Architecture + Design. "The K4 Team is proud to continue our long-standing partnership with First State Bank and to celebrate this important investment in the Shipshewana community," said Mike Christensen, Senior Project Manager with K4 Architecture + Design. "Having partnered with the bank on projects in South Bend and Goshen, we've seen firsthand their commitment to investing in their customers, employees and the communities they serve. Banking is ultimately a relationship business, and

we're honored to be part of First State Bank's continued growth in Indiana."

Construction is expected to begin immediately following the groundbreaking ceremony, with the new retail office anticipated to open in spring of 2027.

For more information about First State Bank, please visit www.bfirst.bank

For more information about Nuway Construction, please visit www.nuwayconstruction.com 

Shipshewana Area Historical Society

The Shipshewana Area Historical Society will meet Monday, Oct. 19, at 6:30 p.m. in the Farver School Museum at 315 N Morton St. in Shipshewana. This is our annual meeting for the year. We will have an election of officers and a review of this past year.

We will have a show and tell for the evening. Bring something that you would like to share; a family item, or something that pertains to the history of the area. Everyone is welcome to attend. 



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ERIC MILLER 260-463-1558

LaGrange County Community Foundation Seeks Nominations for 2026 Heart of Gold Award

Every day, volunteers across LaGrange County give their time, talents and energy to make life better for others. The LaGrange County Community Foundation is seeking nominations for its 17th annual Heart of Gold Award, celebrating individuals whose generosity and volunteer service are making a meaningful difference in our community.

"We're fortunate to have so many people throughout LaGrange County who see a need and step up to help," said Octavia Yoder, Executive Director of the LaGrange County Community Foundation. "They lend a hand, bring people together and give their time simply because they care about their community. The Heart of Gold Award gives us an opportunity to celebrate those volunteers and the difference they make."

The Heart of Gold Award honors LaGrange County individuals who embrace a spirit of volunteerism and serve because they care. The Foundation is looking for people who recognize a need and step up to help, generously share their time and talents, bring people together and inspire others to get involved. Individuals of any age whose volunteer ser-

vice makes a meaningful difference in the lives of others are eligible for nomination.

Nominations are open to individuals who have not previously received the Heart of Gold Award. Group and family nominations are not eligible. Nominations will be accepted through October 9, 2026.

Every nominee will be celebrated. Each Heart of Gold nominee will have the honor of recommending a \$500 grant to an eligible local nonprofit from a list provided by the LaGrange County Community Foundation.

The 2026 Heart of Gold Award recipient will have the honor of recommending a \$1,500 grant to an eligible local nonprofit of their choice.

Nominees and their nominators are invited to Gathered in Gratitude on November 5, 2026, from

4-6 p.m. at Captain's Coffee & Conference in Wolcottville. The nonprofit appreciation event will celebrate local nonprofits and volunteers, recognize 2026 Community Foundation grantees and Heart of Gold nominees, and conclude with the announcement of the 2026 Heart of Gold Award recipient.

Previous Heart of Gold recipients

are Jean Fremion-Litke, 2025; Kent Andrews, 2024; Amy Whited, 2023; Allisa Brown, 2022; Shanon Staton and Dean Domer, 2021; Erica Cook, 2020; Richard Yoder, 2019; Larry Strayer, 2018; Kevin Lambright, 2017; Steve Sherck, 2016; Sue Keenan, 2015; Jack Miller, 2014; Randy Packer, 2013; Colton Strawser, 2012; Rhonda Bartlett, 2011; and Dave Clark, 2010.

The 2026 Heart of Gold Award nomination form is available on the Foundation's website. To nominate a deserving volunteer, visit Lccf.net/Heart-of-Gold-Award.

About LaGrange County Community Foundation

The LaGrange County Community Foundation inspires generosity, leadership, and service by connecting donors to community needs. Through grants, scholarships, and partnerships, the Foundation helps build permanent charitable resources that strengthen LaGrange County now and for generations to come. 



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October Kids Club Birthdays

- 1 Reagan Lambright
- 2 Daxtyn Delagrange, Selina Miller, Seth Miller, Reagan Stone
- 3 Jamel Lacey, Sadie Mast, Macy Matney, Jack Miller, Maverick Turner
- 4 Kylan Beachy, Austin Fry
- 5 Bryan Miller
- 6 Braden Hochstetler, Allie Wolfe
- 7 Scott Bontrager, Sage Fields, Jessica Hershberger, Alanna Hoyt, Sophia Lehman, Ariella Miller, Audrey Miller, Bryleigh Miller
- 8 Delilah Brinager, Alaric Kentaft, Elena Troyer
- 9 Malaya Beechy, Kaylisa Schlabach, Kristopher Schlabach, Landon Stutzman, Weston Troyer
- 10 Walker Berkey, Logan Kaufman, Oliver Lancour, Timothy Miller, Sadie Slabach,
- 11 Skyler Brown, Brielle Detweiler, Hannah Yoder, Nolan Yoder
- 12 Theodore Frey, Wyatt Frey, Max Yoder
- 13 Madison Arbogast, Lane Mullet, Andrea Yoder, Seth Yoder
- 14 Derek Lehman, Sandra Miller, Ahmed Sawal, Nathaneal Wilkins
- 15 Jared Bontrager, Lucas Miller
- 16 Elijah Lambright



- 17 Jake Slabach, Caleb Yoder
- 18 Brooklyn Hochstetler
- 19 Tameem Alrasheed, Rupert Asher, Grayson Beachey, Maxton Diece, Ali Miller, Alice Miller
- 20 Quinn Dixon, Kaia Forbes, Kendra Miller, Layla Miller Kelsey Slabach
- 21 Adrian Bontrager, Ryan Miller
- 22 Alaina Clark, Gregory Gulley
- 23 Aiden Grant, Jenna Yoder
- 24 Mason Bontrager, Knox Cripe, Elyse Mahler, Vonda Mishler
- 25 Elijah Bontrager, Abdulrhman Omar
- 26 Hazel Bontrager, Daria Herr, Gavin Hochstetler, Samuel Kline, Dominic Young
- 27 Christian Bradley, Josiah Lambright, Nicole Lehman, Myah Nordman
- 28 Chester Bloom, Archer Glassman, Joshua Hershberger
- 29 Heidi Bornreger, Tarah Hostetler, June Yoder
- 30 Brandon Bontrager, Jeremiah Miller, Kamdyn Schlabach
- 31 Rowan Bragg, Trenton Hostetler



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MUSTANGS OF THE MONTH

Each month 15 MES 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 medal, and get to participate in a game during the assembly. Pictured are the winners from August of the 2026-2027 school year. Go Mustangs! 📌



Back Row (left to right): Daxtyn Delagrange (4th), Shaylene Miller (4th), Logan Bontrager (4th), Mackenzie Rodriguez (4th), Karissa Hershberger (3rd) **Middle Row**: Sheila Miller (2nd), Jalen Yoder (3rd), Isaiah Troyer (2nd), Audrey Bontrager (2nd), Amy Miller (1st). **Front Row**: Caleb Schwartz (1st), Amy Miller (1st), Brandon Bontrager (K), Hunter Keim (K).

Math Skills Fun

Students in 4C practiced their rounding skills by turning it into a game. Taking turns making a six digit number, students then rounded their number to the nearest hundred thousand. If that number was available on their score card, they earned points. The student with the most points was the winner for that round. Math is always more fun if you play games while learning! 📌



National Lemonade Day

Did you know there is a National Lemonade Day? Students in 4C didn't either, but they learned all about it in their reading comprehension. Then, when your teacher gives you lemons, you make lemonade! Students made lemonade in a bag. Delicious, tart and refreshing on a hot day! 📌



Fairy Tale — Tall Tale

Second graders at Meadowview celebrated the end of their Fairy Tale/Tall Tale unit with a theme party. Students and their teachers enjoyed coming to school dressed as their favorite story-book character. Paul Bunyan and Babe the Blue Ox made their appearance to surprise the students. What a fun day! 📌



Summer Reading Celebration

Throughout the summer, ninety-three Meadowview Elementary students showed their love of reading—and their love for their country—by reading for 600 minutes or more in honor of America’s 250th birthday.

To celebrate these amazing readers, Meadowview held a special celebration on Friday, September 11th. Students gathered together for old-fashioned relay games filled with fun, teamwork,

and American spirit by enjoying a red, white, and blue popsicle.

All 93 students who reached their summer reading goal received a certificate recognizing their accomplishment, along with a coupon for a free Kona Ice slushy donated by Beers Mallers LLP Attorneys at Law. Meadowview thanks them for supporting our students and helping make this patriotic celebration extra special!

The top three readers, who read the most minutes, received special prizes. In addition, the top two readers from each grade level were recognized for their outstanding dedication. From turning pages to celebrating the “Read”, White, and Blue, Meadowview’s young readers proved that reading, learning, and a love of our country can go hand in hand! 📌



Top Winners

Back Row: Grayson Fry, Ruth Helmuth-Top Reader (8,878 Minutes), Julianna Lambright-2nd Place (8,559 Minutes), Samantha Lehman-3rd Place (6,930 Minutes), Leah Mast, Micah Otto, Eden Otto.

Front Row: Kent Miller, Maria Bontrager, Malinda Bontrager, Callie Lehman.



All photos submitted

Camp Scottie

Camp Scottie! This year was our best yet! We had over 200 students, along with their parents and siblings (over 600 total) attend Camp Scottie on September 10, 2026. Students were given a passport to go to different stations which included; building their own trail mix, making a pinwheel, dancing corn science, building a tent, creating giant

bubbles, and making a parachute for a scottie dog. Our wonderful PTO provided Vanilla Bean ice cream and popcorn for all who attended. Those students who completed all the stations received a free book. Thank you for all of those that were able to make our night successful and for those that helped out with the stations! 🙌



This page made possible by the

All photos submitted



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Family Fun Night

Are you ready for the adventure of Family Fun Night? Family Fun Night was a time for everyone to relax and have some fun with teachers, families and friends. Some of the activities were Button Boat Races, Mouse Sized Obstacle Course, Design a Bed, and more! Everyone had a great time! 

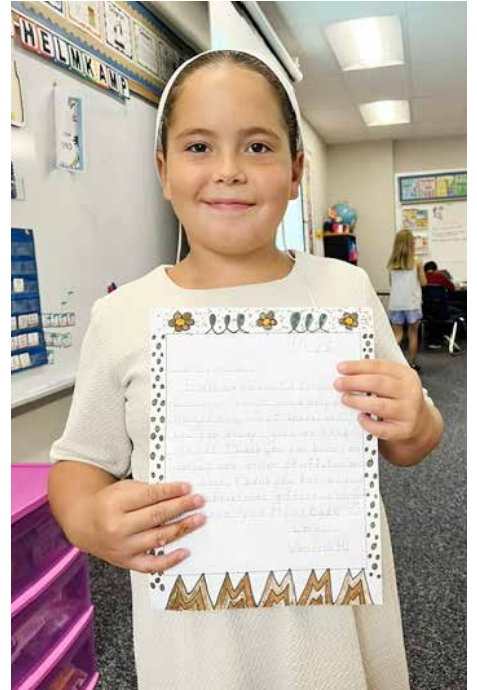
Jordan M. and June Y.



World Letter Writing Day

World Letter Writing Day was a hit! Students used their pens to write letters to staff, family, and community members. We saw a letter that Mrs. Chavis wrote students as we entered the front doors. Students wrote letters back to her also. Fourth grade students took their letter writing outside the building, inviting community members to the time capsule reveal. 

Colleen W. and Dena L.



All photos submitted

Time Capsule

As you may know we have opened a time capsule from 50 years ago. We found a math book, class list with student and teacher's names, safety patrol manual, newspapers, pictures of the school, and more! We are going to put together a time capsule to take its place. We are going to put in a yearbook so that everyone in the future will know who worked and learned at Topeka. The second thing is pictures of the school so that people in the future know what our school looked like. We are also going to put a Math book, magazines, and objects that represent our school. All these items will give the staff and students an idea of what TES was like way back in 2026! 

Makenna G. and Jeryl Y.



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Fall Craft Festival

This fall at Topeka Elementary school on October 10, 2026 we will be holding a Fall Craft Festival. You can sign up to be a vendor to sell homemade items like bookmarks, wooden crafts,

metal crafts, etc. Even if you have nothing to sell you can still come and buy stuff. We hope to see you there! 

Case G. and Wyatt B.

Gaga Ball

Students at Westview Elementary reviewed Gaga Ball rules the first week of school in PE. ⓘ



Chemical Matter

Students in Mrs. Jasso's class learn about chemical matter by investigating some mystery substances. ⓘ



Summer Reading Challenge Celebration

Last spring, 5th turned 6th graders were invited to participate in a summer reading challenge. Eighteen students accepted the challenge and are pictured here at our "Donuts & Discussion" celebration. Each of these students pre-read a WE Read book this summer and are recording a book review to be used to introduce the book to the rest of the student body this fall. ⓘ



This page made possible by the



Westview Elementary

Home of
the Warriors

The Hometown Treasure • October '26

A Good Book

Mrs. Pittenger and Kacin Courtney get captivated by a good book. 📖



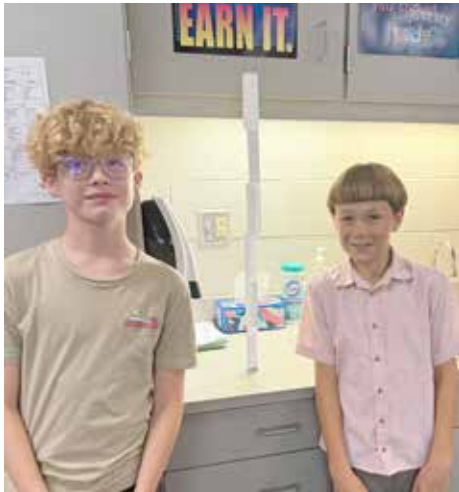
Hands On Science

5C was making observations and drawing sketches of the result of two objects colliding at different speeds, angles, and one being stationary and the other object in motion to see how the forces are affected. We also spent time collecting data and graphing. Lastly, the students got to know each other by playing two truths and a fib snowball fight. 🎲



Engineering Skills

6C students were using their engineering skills and building the tallest tower with just six index cards! 📏



All photos submitted

First Day of School

Students from Westview Elementary entered the building with warm greetings from Dr. Carrol and Mrs. Leeper on the first day of school! 



Acting Skills

Students from Mr. Yoder's class acted out a part of the story in ELA. 



Science Skills

Students in Mrs. McCoy's sixth-grade class recently put their science skills to work during a hands-on experiment involving "no-bake" cookies. Working in small groups, students followed a recipe while observing and discussing the physical changes that occurred throughout the process. The activity also provided students with an opportunity to explore the different states of matter and see how science concepts apply to everyday experiences. 



All photos submitted



JH GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

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2026 JH Girls Cross Country: Back (left to right): Coach Erica Mohr, Mariah Miller, Kate Mauck, Coach Don Williams, Lorraine Nisley, Jessica Hostetler, and Kara Yoder. Middle: Alicia Bontrager, Ellie Bostain, Zienna Yoder, Serena Miller, Allison Miller, and Jennifer Lehman. Front: Joanie Bontrager, Laylah Lambright, Lynsey Yoder, Treva Miller, and Ashlin Rockey.

Photo by Abby Wenger



JH BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

Sponsored by



2026 JH Boys Cross Country: Back (left to right): Jorden Troyer, Jack Stemm, Wes Steider, Micaiah Bontrager, Javon Whetstone, Mason Grossman and Coach Don Williams. Third: Coach Erica Mohr, Nathan Martin, Darin Yoder, Jace Wingard, Derek Hochstetler, Gavin Miller, Elijah Flores, and Ethan Waterman. Second: Tommy Vanderoest, Tyson Yoder, Elijah Wingard, Caleb Yoder, Travis Bontrager, Julian Mast, Austin Schrock, and Lucas Raber. Front: Axle Piran, Jariah Lehman, Austin Schlabach, Aiden Miller, Nic Yutzy, Brent Troyer, Cameron McDonald, Easton Hostetler, and Myles Miller.

Photo by Abby Wenger



7TH GRADE VOLLEYBALL

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by



2026 7th Grade Volleyball: Back (left to right): Coach Stacey Garrett, Melanie Slabach, Preslee Rahn, Audrey Schlabach, Hadley Keim, Avery Mast, and Asst. Coach Haley Brassell. Middle: Jayda Stutzman, Braelee Miles, Lydia Long, Aubrey Garrett, Reagan Wilson, and River Rheinheimer. Front: Chloe Swanson, Kinley Yoder, Kelsey Smith, Krystal Schlabach, and Kensley Schlabach.

Photo by Abby Wenger



8TH GRADE VOLLEYBALL

Sponsored
by



2026 8th Grade Volleyball: Back (left to right): Coach Toni Devers, Tarah Hochstetler, Kalaya Hostetler, Ryleigh Weimer, and Mia Stemm. Middle: Rylan Spencer, Erika Mast, Addy Raber, Ava Hochstetler, and Asst. Coach Haley Brassell. Front: Grace Miller, Reagan Diehl, Kim Mast, Mallory Antal, and Layla Hostetler.

Photo by Abby Wenger



JH BOYS SOCCER (A)

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2026 JH Boys Soccer - A Team: Back (left to right): Coach Bodie Martin, Gusmar Munoz, Travis Ritchie, James Bailey, Lyric Miller, and Griffin Brohm.

Middle: Lycon Ferrera, Kaleb Liechty, Ryan Mast, Asher Kauffman, Sam Ruiz-Gonzalez, Colton Bender, and Austin Yoder. Front: Graesin Lambright, Emmett Niccum, Royce Yoder, Easton McDonald, Andrew Martin, and Jackson Byers.

Photo by Abby Wenger



JH BOYS SOCCER (B)

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2026 JH Boys Soccer - B Team: Back (left to right): Kipton Schrock, Carson Tyler, James Cummins, Jude Gingerich, Raiden Huggins, and Coach Rusty Niccum.

Middle: Evan Byroad, Logan Troxel, Kole Moon, Daniel Schrock, Gage Miller, and Dylan Buckley. Front: Beckett Troxel, Sean Williams, Aydon Eudy, Ryder Lambright, and Johnny Collins.

Photo by Abby Wenger



2026 JH Girls Soccer: Back (left to right): Olivia Rosentreter, Felicity Eash, Coach Ryan Kraft, Harper Yoder, Reese Yoder, Kate Engle, Ariel Miller, Sofia Martinez-Diaz, and Coach Shad Gingerich. Middle: Sadie Hostetler, Adelyn Vandergriff, Paisley Brandenberger, Finley Gingerich, Brinley Kraft, Natalie McDonald, and Sadie Mast. Front: Peyton Lambright, Crystal Miller, Kenady Miller, Ava Bontrager, Naomi Sanchez, and Addison Gray.

Photo by Abby Wenger

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Go To Church Sunday!

1926 Ministerial Association Launches Campaign

By Harold D. Gingerich



All photos submitted

It was front page news beginning with the October 7, 1926, edition of the Topeka Journal. The Ministerial Association, representing the churches in Topeka and the vicinity, had met on Monday evening October 4th of that year and felt the need to launch a "Go to Church Sunday" campaign. Unfortunately, there are no meeting minutes to tell us who proposed the idea or anything about the discussion that followed. What we do have is a series of four news articles, written by various pastors in the community urging people to make church attendance a priority. Keep in mind that the small town weekly newspaper of one hundred years ago was the social media of its day.

How or when the Topeka Ministerial Association started is not known.

Nor do we know who the founding members were. There are bank statements going back to 1954. There is also a deposit book, which I have stored so well for safekeeping that I can't find it, going back to the 1920s or 30s. What is clear is that the Topeka churches came together on a regular basis for union services, especially during Holy Week.

Members of the Topeka Ministerial Association in 1926 were: E.E. DeWitt (Topeka Methodist), president; Ernest Hostetler (Topeka Mennonite), secretary; S. Essick (Baptist Church); R.L. Hartzler (Maple Grove Mennonite); Harold Grabke (Emma Church of God); and A.J. Yontz (Topeka Church of the Brethren).

The Topeka Journal reported that (as it appeared in print), "The Ministerial Association representing the

church both of Topeka and vicinity at a meeting held Monday night, thought it well to emphasize in every way, in the next few weeks from pulpit, press and daily contact, the fact that every one should make it a point to go to Church each Sunday and to be in attendance at each service whenever at all possible to be so." The article went on to say, "They feel that it is important to place the emphasis on that divine commandment to remember the Sabbath day and to keep the day inviolate from the things which tend to detract from the worship which we owe to our God." What followed was a series of articles over the next five weeks written by various pastors in the community.

Harold Grabke had recently accepted the pastorate in the Church of God in Emma. He had the distinction

HISTORICAL FEATURE

of writing the first article in the Topeka Journal. Pastor Grabke had gotten married in late July and was living with his bride on North Harrison Street in Topeka. He was described in a September 1926 Elkhart Truth article as "not only a good preacher, but is also a fine vocalist."

Grabke's article started off by appealing to fathers on behalf of their sons who need proper direction in life. He called on dads to "lay down your Sunday paper, pull off your dressing gown and slippers, spat the ashes out of your pipe, (or better throw it away) get shaved, dressed and take that boy to church." Mothers were then encouraged to consider their daughters and called upon to "lay down that magazine and dig up your Bible...take the jazz music off the piano and put some Hymn books there."

The following week R.L. Hartzler from Maple Grove Mennonite addressed the question "Do Men Need the Church?" Hartzler wrote that the greatest religious shortcoming of the day is not infidelity but indifference. He said, "a man has a soul as well as a woman or a child and his life is dwarfed

and incomplete unless the soul be nurtured. Consequently every man needs the church for:

- a. He needs the church's God.
- b. He needs the association of God-fearing people.
- c. He needs to find and fill a place in the church's program in the world."

The following week, October 28, 1926, E.E. DeWitt from the Methodist Church picked up on the same theme. DeWitt said, "God has always depended upon men to take the lead in His great and good work." Like the other pastors, DeWitt did not mince words. "Men are looked upon as the providers for their household which includes the spiritual as well as material needs and it is only the weakling who will sidestep a part of his responsibility." The article ends with a clear call to the men. "Finally -- Come on men, let's be real MEN in every sense of the word and 'Go to Church next Sunday', taking our families with us."

It was Ernest Hostetler's turn the following week, and he addressed why young people need the church. Hostetler (Topeka Mennonite) wrote, "The visible means through which

God spreads truth and peace on earth is your church." He reminded young people that they "cannot escape the responsibility of choice." He followed that with this:

"That which pleases is for a moment,

That which troubles is for a moment,

That only is important which is for eternity.

Dwarf not your life by neglecting the most important institution on earth."

A.J. Yontz (Topeka Church of the Brethren) rounded out the series of weekly articles. Yontz wrote about the value of church membership. His four-paragraph article began with the fact that when Jesus walked upon the earth, He told Peter and the disciples that "He would build His church and not even the gates of hell could prevail against it" (Yontz's words). Yontz added that, "Since this work is the most valuable work we can engage in, we cannot estimate the value of membership for one soul is worth more than the whole world, but the more spiritual, intelligent, ambitious and obedient, the more

The Value of Church Membership

When Jesus was here upon earth He established His church, when with his disciples he told Peter "He would build His church and not even the gates of hell could prevail against it," its mission is to spread the Gospel to save souls and in order for his valuable work to be carried on, there must be a membership, without them a failure would result and that shall not be as the word teaches "A remnant will be left."

A minister and every lay member should be present at all services if at all possible, as we are commanded to "Forsake not the assembling of ourselves together," this shows we should go to church.

Since this work is the most valuable work we can engage in, we cannot estimate the value of membership for one soul is worth more than the whole world, but the more spiritual, intelligent, ambitious and obedient, the more valuable the member.

The pay checks are sure and begin to come in as soon as the individual accepts Christ and begins to serve, and life eternal and a home in Heaven when we receive our transfer from our cheeks of real enjoyment and satisfaction here to the Mansion beyond. So be wise, go to church and receive the benefits.

A. J. Yontz, Topeka Church of the Brethren.

Why the Young People Need the Church

The church is not a beggar, a mendicant, a spineless, truckling, patronising thing; but rather an important, honored and respected outlet and expression of the highest interests and ideals of the individual and best people of the community, who are organized for action. The visible means through which God spreads truth and peace on earth is your church.

Young people you cannot escape the responsibility of choice.

"That which pleases is for a moment,
That which troubles is for a moment,
That only is important which is for eternity."

Dwarf not your life by neglecting the most important institution on earth.

Statistics prove that the young people need the church, for it is between the ages of fifteen and thirty, when life is tuned to the highest key, that temptations are at their strongest. Youth needs the controlling force of the church; it needs a sort of idealism that is higher than the hope of some day becoming a motion picture star. Young people you miss the end of life by leaving your power quiescent and comatose.

'Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth.'

E. Hostetler, Pastor of Topeka Mennonite Church.

HISTORICAL FEATURE



a ten-day "Community Bible Institute." Rev. Nicodemus from Milford, Indiana, a Bible teacher in North Manchester College for five years, and the Chicago Seminary for nine years, was to conduct a study in the Gospel of John.

Beginning in 1992, October has been recognized as "Pastor Application Month." Wouldn't it be wonderful if, in addition to blessing our pastors, each of us invited and brought someone to church with us? Can you imagine what a blessing it would be to see all of our churches full on a Sunday morning? Just make sure they are not already attending another church! We never want to be guilty of stealing sheep.....

valuable the member."

It is interesting that apparently S. Essick from the Baptist Church did not write an article for this series. Why, we don't know. We are also left to wonder how these articles were received by the Journal readers. Was there an increase in church attendance? That would be interesting to know.

We do know that the following January the Ministerial Association hosted

In 1993, the Topeka Town Council issued a proclamation declaring November 7th as "Fill Our Churches Sunday". The proclamation read: We hereby proclaim the following: that Sunday November 7, 1993, be proclaimed "Fill Our Churches Sunday" and every citizen is encouraged to attend a place of worship of their choice, so that people will find spiritual values and resources for living.

We can learn a lot from our local church leaders of 100 years ago because the spiritual needs of people have not changed.

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Left-Over Letters Spell Out A Message From Erika!

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

----- !

You might think that in October I'd be hard pressed to come up with a blooming flower! Its true there aren't many left this time of year, but that just makes this one all the more important for those late-in-the-year pollinators.

Goldenrod is the name given to over 100 individual species of flowering plants. They have a variety of types of blooms, from showy sprays to little daisy-like flowers, but they are often easily spotted due to their namesake color. Thanks to their diversity, you can find a goldenrod that will thrive in just about any garden!

Goldenrod is a keystone species, which means many local habitats rely on them. Up to 104 butterfly and moth species use them exclusively as host plants! 📌 Solution on page 35.

Word Search

(find all the underlined words) by Erika Byler

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

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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: **October 20, 2026**.
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!

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Shipshewana, IN 46565



414 E. Lake Street
Topeka, IN 46571

Next Month Sponsored By: **THE CONNECTION**

LAST MONTH'S WINNERS

Larry & DeAnna Miller of 500S, Topeka correctly

identified last issue's farm as being owned by **Vernon & Marietta Miller,**

5510W 300S, 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 Honeyville Journal* from LaGwana. Second prize went to **Tim & Marietta Miller of 1200N-57, Topeka**. Third prize went to **LaVerne & Dorothy Whetstone of 550S, Topeka**.



There were 34 correct entries this month. **Others that guessed correctly were:** Edward & Ruby Herschberger, John & Lorene Kurtz, Orla & Sally Bontrager, Lyle & Katie Yoder, William & Amelia Eash, Wilma Yoder, John & Dorothy Beechy, Leroy & Doreen Miller, Alton & Katie Bontrager, Daniel & Erma Miller, Norman & Inez Yutz, Junior & Mary Sue Lehman, Nate & Linda Yoder, David & Susan Miller, James & JoEtta Mullet, Dan & Sue Miller, Loren & Colleen Mullett, Chris Jr. & Edith Lambright, Karl Lambright, Lynn & Susan Miller, Sam & LorEtta Schrock, Daniel & Carolyn Otto, Kyle Bontrager, Mr. & Mrs. Wilbur M. Yoder, Daryl & Karena Yoder, Joe Yoder, Marlin & Vera Yoder, Ryan & Marlene Miller, Jesse & JoElla Lambright, Ruby Hochstetler, Norman & Wanda Otto

Coloring Contest Winners

Six-year-old Jordan Helmuth of CR 41, Middlebury was our winner for the September Coloring Contest. He won a free pretzel at JoJo's Pretzels in Shipshewana.

Everyone else that sent in a page can stop by JoJo's Pretzels for a free pretzel through October.

Runners-up were Ava Yoder, age 6; Kaylee Lehman, age 5; Jonah Borkholder, age 4; Skyler Rhys Miller, age 3; Abigail, age 2. Honorable Mentions: Karla Otto, age 4; Allison Kate Schlabach, age 4; Drew Nissley, age 5; Janae Claire Miller, age 6; and Dawson, age 5. Check out page 33 for this month's coloring page.

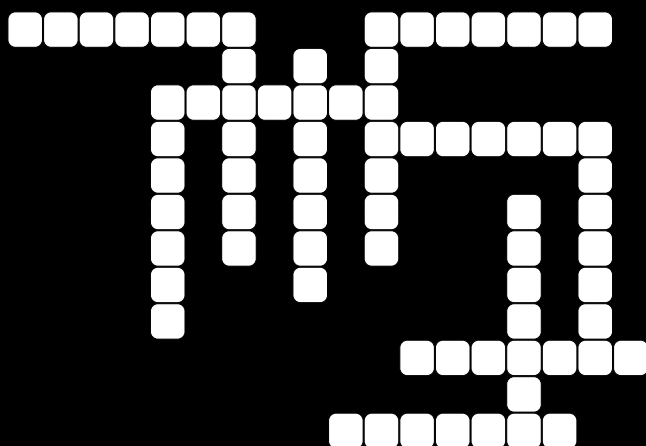
Be SURE to include all your information on the coloring page, even your age! ... we do not want you to miss out! Remember, the contest is only for children up to six years old. 

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Name: Jordan Helmuth Age: 6

Oaktree
Oakwood
Oatmeal
Oblique
Oceanic
October
Octopus
Offbeat
Opinion
Outcast
Outline
Outside



Clueless
Crossword

Solution to Clueless
Crossword is on pg 35.
by Marsha Patrick

Use the words listed
to fill in the spaces!
(Might be backwards)

Want a different way to advertise?

We are looking for sponsors for the Clueless Crossword on a month by month basis. Marsha 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.

WHAT DO
GHOSTS
LIKE TO
EAT FOR
DINNER?



Answer on page 35.

Tiffany's

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Name: _____ Age: _____

Coloring Contest: kids age 6 and younger. Sponsored by Tiffany's in Topeka this month! Winner gets a FREE ICE CREAM TREAT OF CHOICE at Tiffany's. The Winning Drawings will be on display. ALL PARTICIPANTS claim your drawing for A FREE ICE-CREAM CONE at Tiffany's in November. Mail submission to: LaGwana, Coloring Contest, PO Box 70, Shipshewana, IN 46565. **Entry deadline is October 20, 2026.**

Address: _____

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Clueless Crossword
By Marsha Patrick
Solution
to the puzzle on page 32.

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SPOOK-GHETTI!

Riddle on page 32.

Solution to puzzle on page 31

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Spell Out A Message
From Erika!

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

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