

The
Hometown
Treasure

October 2020 • Vol. 21 Num. 10



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P.O. Box 70
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WESTVIEW GRADUATES

Cortney Spencer

Mrs. Spencer is a math teacher at Westview. One of her favorite things about teaching at Westview is that she loves working with the kids. She also likes to know the families of her students. Mrs. Spencer graduated from Westview in 2007, and then graduated from IPFW in 2011. She loved her math classes, taught by Mr. (Ron) Yoder. She said that teaching isn't always a piece of cake; students have their own personal things going on outside of school that can impact their behavior and effort in the classroom. Her most rewarding part is connecting with kids and helping them to see the value in their education.

When she has free time outside Westview, she likes to hang out with her husband and her two daughters. She enjoys photography, going to the lake, and reading books. Her role model was her mother, who is now a great mother, teacher, and friend. Mrs. Spencer hopes to be half the woman she is. She likes volleyball and softball. Advice that she has for both underclassmen and upperclassmen is, "Being a good person and treating others with kindness is much more important than being cool." Her high school experiences were filled with sports and studying. She loved high school and was super sad when it was over. She worked hard in academics and athletics and loved being a social butterfly!



CORTNEY SPENCER (MATH TEACHER AT WESTVIEW)

STUDIES

Hallie Mast

Hallie is a Westview student. She is 18 years old, a Senior, and has a GPA of 4.0. She states that she is able to keep her good grades by using her time wisely in class and study hall. When she was younger, she wanted to go to college to become a vet, but now she wants to study nursing. Her goal is to be an anesthesia nurse. She is playing basketball and volleyball at school, and is very good at it. To stay in shape during the off-season, she usually goes to open gyms and sports camps. Hallie is not planning to play sports in college so she can focus on her school work. She is very hardworking in sports and in school.

Hallie likes Westview because of the community and how everyone gets along. The most challenging part of Westview to Hallie is being dedicated to a sport almost all year around. When she is outside Westview, Hallie likes to draw or paint. She is inspired by her dad. Hallie's father tried to encourage and motivate Hallie to be better in life. She is in some Westview clubs: National Honor Society, National Art Honor Society, and student council.

One piece of advice that she gives to everyone is "To give 110% and have a great attitude with everything you do." She wants to be successful in her life, which is why she tries to work hard. Her favorite movie is *Spiderman*, and *The Blackshirt* is her favorite TV show. Hallie describes herself with three words: "Encouraging, optimistic, and dedicated." One of the funny things that she told us is that no matter what sport she plays at Westview, she always gets hit in the head.



HALLIE MAST
(WESTVIEW HIGH SCHOOL, 12TH GRADE)



Twitter: @wvcorp



Facebook: www.facebook.com/wvcorp

Westview School Corporation Administrative Offices
1545 S 600 W, Topeka, IN 46571
260.768.4404 | eashy@westview.k12.in.us



SPORTS

Spencer Carpenter

Spencer is a Senior at Westview High School and is currently in cross country and track. The top colleges he wants to attend are University of Oregon, Northern Arizona University, or any college out west. Carpenter wants to study physical therapy when he goes to college.

"JUST RUN.

YOU HAVE

NOTHING TO

LOSE."

-MATT JONES

In cross country, he's been able to make it to state 3 years, and in track he has made it to state 2 years. He is hoping to go to state every year of his high school career. His fastest 5k is a 15:42, 1600m is 4:15, and in the 800m is 1:58. When asked what his goal is before leaving Westview High School, he said, "To be the best runner in the nation, to be a good example for others, and to believe that anything is possible if you put your mind to it." He recommends to anyone who wants to become better in a sport to train and practice over and over and don't let people tell you otherwise. The funniest thing that has ever happened to Spencer was when he was competing in the Junior High state cross country race in 8th grade and fell during the race. This was still his first win in a state championship.

Spencer's biggest role model is his cousin Skyler Carpenter because she's won multiple state Championships when in high school, and he wants to follow in her footsteps. He gives advice to all the people who want to join any sport at Westview: "if you have never done it, how do you know if you are good at it?" One of the sayings that motivates Spencer is, "Dreams without goals are just dreams" written by Denzel Washington. Spencer describes himself as "funny and chill to be around." He believes, "If you don't put in the work, you won't get anything out of it."

His favorite movie is *Lone Survivor*, and his favorite book is *The Running Dream*. His favorite teacher is Mrs. Arnold.

SPENCER CARPENTER
(WESTVIEW HIGH SCHOOL, 12TH GRADE)



LAYOUT AND INTERVIEWS PROVIDED BY: REMINGTON CARPENTER AND JORGE MUNOZ JIMENEZ



The Hometown Treasure

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Size	width x height	Rate
1/12 page	2 ³ / ₈ " x 2 ³ / ₈ "	\$36
1/6 page (Vertical)	2 ³ / ₈ " x 4 ⁷ / ₈ "	\$70
or (Horizontal)	4 ⁷ / ₈ " x 2 ³ / ₈ "	
1/3 page (Vertical)	2 ³ / ₈ " x 9 ⁷ / ₈ "	\$135
or (Square)	4 ⁷ / ₈ " x 4 ⁷ / ₈ "	
1/2 page	7 ³ / ₈ " x 4 ⁷ / ₈ "	\$192
2/3 page	4 ⁷ / ₈ " x 9 ⁷ / ₈ "	\$250
Full Page	7 ³ / ₈ " x 9 ⁷ / ₈ "	\$325
Inside Front	7 ³ / ₈ " x 9 ⁷ / ₈ "	\$400
Inside Back	7 ³ / ₈ " x 9 ⁷ / ₈ "	\$400
Back Cover	7 ³ / ₈ " x 9 ⁷ / ₈ "	\$500

*Full bleed requested on full page ads. Add 5/8" background to all sides.

Discounts available for print-ready artwork and/or for running in multiple issues.

Call or email for a complete media kit.

Other sponsorships available. Call for details.

— ADVERTISING INFORMATION —

Deadline for November 2020 Issue:
12 noon, Tuesday, October 20
Thursday, October 15 if you need a proof.


November Issue Date is Tuesday, October 27

Discounts for ads running more than once.
Call for details! **260-463-4901**
Or email htads@lagwana.com

— SUBSCRIPTION RATE —

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A Note from the Naturalist

I have planned programs this fall to give your children, and you, excellent nature-based learning opportunities to get outside, make new friends, and have fun. Research has proven that our children need nature for physical, mental, and emotional growth. Research has also proven that nature, for adults, is a great peace maker. You are never too old to sit quietly at the foot of a tree.

If you are a teacher at any of our awesome LaGrange County schools who is looking for free activities and ideas for outdoor class time, please contact me. I would be happy to assist you.

Happy autumn, I wish you all health and safety.

Leslie A. Arnold, Naturalist



Cover Photo by Abby Wenger

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Shipshewana Area Historical Society

The (SAHS) Shipshewana Area Historical Society will not be holding an annual dinner this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We are holding a telephonic out-reach to vote in the officers for the year 2021. This will be conducted on the third Monday, Oct. 19, 2020. The members that attended the meeting last year will be contacted by telephone on that day for a vote on the officers for the next year. We are all trying to stay safe.

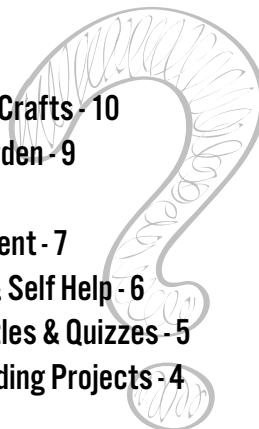
Our King's BBQ Chicken sales were very successful this past summer. We would like to thank all of the people that helped and that purchased the chicken. Our Museum can keep its door open to all that would like to schedule a time to see the contents. Please contact Steve Frisk at 260-336-1501 or Sharon Bowen at 260-768-4777. 



THANK YOU!

Thanks to all who responded! Below are the results. Do you have a fun project/activity that you came across that fits into one of these categories, or a recipe you just have to share? Send it in, we'd love to hear from you!

- Recipes - 11
- DIY Decor & DIY Crafts - 10
- DIY Outdoor/Garden - 9
- DIY - 8
- Home Improvement - 7
- Kids Activities & Self Help - 6
- Contests & Puzzles & Quizzes - 5
- Upcycling & Building Projects - 4
- Parties - 1



Word Search

(find all the underlined words) by Erika Byler

Left-Over Letters Spell Out A Message From Erika!


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

-----!

I know we like to complain about technology, but it really has been a blessing this year. My husband and I normally like to spend a lot of time

playing games and watching movies with friends, but obviously we haven't really been able to do that the last few months.

I'm grateful though, that we found plenty of multiplayer video games and even a board game simulator. Thanks to them, we've managed to play games with even more friends, because now we can play games with friends who live out of town!

I still can't wait to have a big movie night again, because I'm sure it will be a blast, but for now we will be content with what we have. 

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L A I L A R L R N M R N
A L V L F U O A A U R G
Y P B Y M I G G B N T E
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Solution on page 18

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LaGrange County Health Department

www.lagrangecountyhealth.com

Protecting the place where we live!!!...



The LaGrange County Health Department will be collaborating with the Franciscan Alliance to provide special immunization clinic in Topeka. This team will be able to immunize community members, with or without insurance. This special clinic will focus on FLU SHOTS, but is also open for children and adult vaccinations. Parents/patients will need to bring ID's, insurance and vaccine records (if they have them).

Focus of Special Clinics: FLU SHOTS (Children and adults immunizations also available)

Monday, October 19, 2020, Topeka Fire Department, 180 Crossfire Drive, Topeka, IN 46571

TIME: 9 AM to 3 PM

WALK-IN ONLY

COST: Donations \$10/shot are accepted.



Healthy Healthy

by Brenda Yoder, LMHC, Advocate for Elijah Haven, Speaker, Writer & Life Coach

5 Tips For Our Less Than Normal Life

“Pending no major life interruptions, let’s look at a date to get together,” I texted a friend, trying to reestablish a schedule which, a few months ago, I thought was “normal.”

Or one I was trying to make normal. I don’t know about you, but in the last six months, I’ve craved almost anything that seems routine, certain, and has a hint of a pre-COVID life.

Many of us are still struggling with losses from our 2019 life and earlier. As autumn and the winter holidays bring a sense of pending uncertainty, here are a few things to help you adjust to life that’s still disrupted:

1. Focus on what you can control. Rather than focusing on what you don’t have control of, focus on what you can control. Build routines into your daily/weekly/monthly life as much as possible. Consider the areas where you do have control—your attitude, responses, choices, and getting your basic needs met, even if it’s now done differently.

2. Make “okay” good enough. The disruptions around me have forced me to be content with “okay.” I’m unable to do certain things like I’ve done in the past. I’ve told myself it is “okay.” Rather than fretting about how I would like things to be, I’m focusing on how they are, and being okay with those things.

3. Take care of what’s most important. During the pandemic, I’ve rescheduled appointments, put off some responsibilities, and said “no” to many things. During times of crisis or big interruptions, it’s okay to let others step in when they can, or to say no to things that really are not best for you to do during the time of crisis.




Taking care of your basic needs and those people most important to you is appropriate.

4. Speak up for your own mental or emotional health. The mental health of many right now is fragile. Being emotionally tough isn’t the best practice some days, especially if you are a parent, caregiver, teacher, medical worker, or other front line worker who helps others. Being honest

about your needs with those closest to you is a gift you give to them, and yourself. There’s a time to say, “I’m not doing too good today.”

5. Give yourself time to rest, process your losses, and recalibrate. Each of us handles disruptions, crisis, and grief differently. Some jump into routine to bring normalcy to a chaotic situation. Others need time and space to process, recalibrate, and feel grounded before going back to normal routines and responsibilities. Whatever helps you the most between the crisis and the new normal, give yourself permission and grace to come back to “normal” at your pace. If you need rest, then sleep. If you need to cry, then weep. If you need things back in order, then dig in. If you need someone to listen, then seek out the person who will do so.

Regardless of your needs, give yourself grace.

Even after the dust settles from the disruptions of 2020, take the lessons you learn into the new normal. For me, I’m working at a little slower pace. I’m enjoying simple things. I’m spending time with those I love the most. I’m reminding myself “okay” is really the best some days. 

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- 1 Santiago Dominguez, Ryley Havert
- 2 Wilma Fry, Landon Gingerich
- 3 Peyton Daniels, Gabriel Eicher, Sadie Mast, Macy Matney, Jack Miller, Maverick Turner
- 5 Juman Alyaharee, Edward Bower, Aaron Miller
- 6 Noah Cleveland, Lyan Madar, Erik Yoder, Juliana Yoder
- 7 Mason Grossman, Payton Hargrove, Aubrey Young
- 8 Hanan Algaradi, Kaitlyn Bontrager, Katy Mishler
- 9 Ava Hoschstetler, Zachariah Jones, Cash Miller, Jada Mauck
- 10 Hagar Algaradi, Katelyn Martin, Brandon Miller, Joe Dean Miller, Avery VonGunten, Karla Yoder
- 11 Keera Hostetler, Ryan Miller, Hallie Staub
- 12 Durrel Frey, Karina Hochstetler, Helenorah Ripple, Melody Yoder
- 13 Luke Haarer, Lane Mullet, Heather Troyer, Darcia Yoder
- 14 Zylair Barajas-Montoya, Karl Bontrager, Kevin Bontrager, Makayla Slabach
- 15 Lyndon Bontrager, Addyson Gabbard
- 16 Travis Bontrager, Felicity Eash, Elijah Lambright, Keturah Fry, Paige McDonald, Andrea Whetstone

October

- 17 Ana Wingard
- 18 Cassidy Detweiler, Kendall Yoder
- 19 Thomas Harlow, Rayna Jackson, Amy Miller
- 20 Nada Algaradi, Adam Hershberger, Lynn Miller, Keegan Norberg
- 21 Christopher Haskett, Yaritzi Munoz Huerta
- 22 Tennley Amsden, Keith Miller, Akhila Reed, Emily Yoder, Jamin Yoder
- 23 Jaron Bontrager, Aiden Grant
- 24 Serenity Lambright, Kara Lower, Angela Miller, Vonda Misler
- 25 Jake Chupp
- 26 Kylie Bontrager, Janessa Lambright, Landon Raber, Adelyn Vandergriff
- 28 Chester Bloom, Marissa Childers, Jaxon Christner, Keaton Wisniewski
- 29 Natalie Detweiler, Keegan Miller, Blake West, Tyson Yoder
- 30 Kenzie Detweiler, Jeslyn Schwartz
- 31 Jamie Chupp, Savannah Cruz 

Sponsored by



Lagrange County Community Foundation Hosts Groundbreaking Ceremony

The LaGrange County Community Foundation celebrated the groundbreaking of its new headquarters at the intersection of US 20 and 250 W in LaGrange on Thursday.

The Community Foundation purchased a medical office at the end of 2019, with plans to renovate and expand the building as new headquarters.

After delays brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, renovation at the facility has now started. Lehman Construction of Shipshewana will complete the project.

The project will feature a new addition, increased parking space, and complete renovation of the building's office and lobby space. The project is on target to be completed by the end of 2020. The Community Foundation anticipates moving into the new facility in mid-January of next year.

The facility will contain 3,000 square feet of office space, including an 800-square foot community room available for nonprofit use. The community room will be equipped with multi-media technology and will seat 30 people comfortably and provide space to host small gatherings and meetings. The community room will be available free of charge to local nonprofits and civic groups.

"We are excited to provide a community space for our nonprofits," said Octavia Yoder, Executive Director


of the Community Foundation. "The addition will be an asset to the community, handicap accessible, and provide a gathering space for our community."

The Community Foundation had been setting aside funds for several years, which allowed the organization to purchase the property using available cash – no mortgage was required. A portion of the cost of the building was funded using a gift the Foundation received at the beginning of 2019.

Greater visibility, lower costs and enhanced accessibility were the deciding factors in the move.

"The fact that we could finance the purchase and renovation without debt means that this will be a great step forward and help the Community Foundation grow and prosper in the coming years," added Yoder.

"It is important to the Foundation to honor those who have been a vital part of it, it is because of their dedication we are able to fulfill our mission," said Neal Wolheter, Board President. "The new headquarters will be a beacon for LaGrange County not just today but well beyond into the future."

The new headquarters is on track to be open February of 2021. 



LaGrange County Library

LaGrange - Main Branch

203 West Spring Street • 260-463-2841
M - F • 10 am - 12:00 pm, 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Saturday 9 am - 12 pm
Curbside Pickup: M - F • 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Topeka Branch

133 North Main Street • 260-593-3030
M - F • 1:00 - 5:00 pm
Curbside Pickup: M - F • 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Shipshewana Branch

250 Depot St. • 260-768-7444
M - F • 1:00 - 5:00 pm
Curbside Pickup: M - F • 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

The LaGrange County Public Library is gradually adding back programs and services in a safe manner.

Below are the events planned for October.

If you have any questions, please call the library at 260-463-2841 for further information.

Youth Department Multiple Branches

Pre-School Virtual Storytime

on the LaGrange County Public Library Facebook page.

Facebook • Tuesdays, October 6, 13, 20 & 27 • 10 am

Miss Brittany shares a book on-line each Tuesday morning.

This will stay on our Facebook page to be watched at any time.

New Activity Bags out for Pick-up

All library locations - every other Wednesday, October 14 & 28
Each bag contains activity sheets and a simple craft for 2 children.

DIY Sensory Play on Facebook

Facebook • Every other Friday, October 2, 16 & 30 • 11 am

Miss Brittany will be providing ideas for at-home sensory activities.

This will stay on our Facebook page to be watched at any time.

Virtual Home School Activity

Friday, October 9

Please call the library for details.

Virtual T.A.G Meeting on Zoom

Thursday, October 22 • 5 pm

Please call the library to have the Zoom link emailed.

Family Halloween Activity Bags out for Pick-up

All library locations - October 26-31

Each bag contains games, crafts, candy and other goodies.

While supplies last.

(Facebook - m.facebook.com/lagrangelibraryindiana)

Adult Interest

LaGrange County Public Library

Gentle Flow Yoga with Farra

Thursdays, October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 • 10 - 11 am

Mondays, October 5, 12, 19 & 26 • 10 - 11 am

Please bring a yoga mat if you have one. Or, you may bring a rug or blanket instead. The first class is free! For each further class a \$5 donation is suggested. Space is limited. Masks are required, but may be removed once you sit on your mat and begin exercising.

Call 260-463-2841 to register.

Second Saturday Book Club

Saturday, October 10 • 11 am

This month's book: "Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress" by Dai Sijie

Wood Pumpkin Trio Make-N-Take

Wednesday, October 14 • 6 pm

The monthly Make-n-Take classes have returned with a fun fall theme for October. Participants will create a trio of pumpkins from wood.

All materials will be provided. Masks will be required, tables will be properly distanced, and no materials will be shared for safety. The cost of the program is \$12 per participant, ages 12 and up. Registration and deposit of \$5 required by Friday, October 9 with balance due at class.

The following health and safety measures are currently in force at all library locations:

- *Masks must be worn by patrons and staff at all times in the buildings.*
- *Social distancing will be observed.*
- *Children are allowed in the library if accompanied by an adult and must wear a mask if over 2 years old.*
- *Computers and study rooms are available for one-hour sessions by appointment only.*
- *Items may be reserved on-line or by phone and picked up curbside by patron.*

Find more information at:

www.lagrange.lib.in.us/happen.html
or call 260-463-2841

This page sponsored by



Mystery Farm CONTEST



October Contest Sponsored by
Tiffany's Restaurant and LaGwana

Matt & Doretta Bontrager of 700W, Topeka, correctly identified last issue's farm as being owned by **Michael & Emma Weaver, 3905W 700S, Topeka**. Congratulations! They won a 1 Year Subscription from The Connection, a lighted pen, a notepad set, and a copy of *The Honeyville Journal* from LaGwana Printing. Second prize went to **Tobe & Elsie Hochstetler, 6575S 500W, Topeka**. Third prize went to **Steven & Liz Troyer, 7140W 650S, Topeka**.



There were 36 correct entries this month. **Others that guessed correctly were:** Floyd & Wilma Jean Fry, LaVern & Orene Lambright, Fritz & Norma Bontrager, Wilbur & Ida Weaver, Mattie Mullet, Amos & Ida Anna Miller, John Jay & LeAnna Kurtz, Kenny & Dora Miller, Christy & Frieda Mast, Devon J. Miller, Richard & Rachel Fry, Junior & Mabel Miller, Wilbur Lee Hostetler, Perry & Wilma Miller, LaVerda Fry, David Miller, Sara Miller, Darian & Waneta Gingerich, Dennis & Darla Bontrager, Byron & Norma Slabach, Harley & Rosetta Bontrager, Myron & Kara Wingard, Wayne & Wilma Mullet,

OVER \$50 WORTH OF PRIZES!

1st Prize: **Tiffany's Restaurant**, Topeka, \$25 Gift Certificate, lighted pen, notepad set, and a copy of *The Honeyville Journal* from LaGwana Printing.

2nd Prize(s): Lighted pen, notepad set, and *The Honeyville Journal* from LaGwana Printing.

3rd Prize(s): *The Honeyville Journal*.

**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 22, 2019**.
Allow time for mail delivery.
- 4) Winners will be drawn and prizes mailed.
- 5) Correct entries listed in our next issue!

Michael & Sharon Bortrager, Jr & Mary Miller, Derek & SueAnn Lambright, David & Karen Miller, Perry & Thelma Hochstetler, Joe & Leanna Eicher, Perry & Betty Miller, Norman & Rosanna Miller, John & Lorene Kurtz, Mary Ellen Miller, Floyd & Christine Hostetler, Gary & Sara Herschberger, Orla H. & Marilyn Miller.

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IT'S A FACT

There is an uninhabited island in the Bahamas known as Pig Beach, which is populated entirely by swimming pigs.



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Name: _____ Age: _____

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

Entry deadline is October 20, 2020.

Address: _____

Smart Choices

By Christine Cunningham, PharmD Student at Topeka Pharmacy

Benefits of Smoking Cessation

Tobacco use varies by region in the US, with rates of cigarette smoking being the highest among people living in rural areas in the Midwest. Lagrange county has a smoking rate of 20.1%, which is higher than the 15.2% U.S. average. Children are more likely to begin smoking earlier in life and daily if they live in a rural region. Quitting smoking has many benefits and there are options to assist in the process.

1. Benefits to Quitting

There are both short and long-term benefits to quitting smoking. Some short term benefits include a reduction in your heart rate and blood pressure within 20 minutes of not smoking. Additionally, within the first few months your circulation and lung function improve. Within the first year, coughing and shortness of breath decrease. Some long-term benefits to quitting smoking include a 50% reduction of heart disease after the first year and a 50% reduction of lung cancer within 10 years. Within 15 years of quitting smoking, your risk of heart disease and stroke becomes that of a nonsmoker. If you quit smoking after a heart attack, your risk of having another event is cut in half.

2. Benefits by Age

Life expectancy potential increases when you quit smoking, and the sooner you quit the better. If you quit smoking around age 30, you can increase your expected lifespan by almost 10 years. Quitting at the age of 40 increases life expectancy by 9 years. Finally, quitting at the age of 60 can increase life expectancy by 3 years.


3. Other Benefits

Quitting smoking offers many health benefits, but it also offers other benefits to children and those around secondhand smoke. Quitting smoking can decrease the risk of asthma, ear infections, and other respiratory disease in children. Stopping smoking can also decrease the risk of infertility, premature birth, low birth weight, and miscarriage. Finally, quitting smoking can save you a lot of money.

4. Smoking Cessation Products

There are over the counter medications such as nicotine gum, lozenges, and patches. There are also prescription medications available to help you quit.

5. Did You Know?

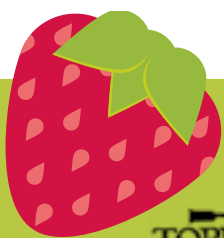
There are many resources to help YOU quit today. Topeka Pharmacy offers a new Tobacco Cessation Program, where a pharmacist can work with you to provide a personalized approach to quitting. Stop by, call the pharmacy at 260-593-2252 or pick up one of our brochures to learn more! Topeka Pharmacy wants to help you be the healthiest you can be! 

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Coloring Contest Winners

Six year old Jenise Eash of 500 S, Topeka was our winner for the September 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 October.

Runners-up were Emily Grace Miller, age 6; Janelle Diane Miller, age 5; Katelyn Jane Otto, age 4; Anne Marielle Fry, age 3. Honorable Mentions: Merle Dean Miller, age 6; Julie Grace Hostetler, age 6; Jedidiah Schlabach, age 6; Emily Yoder, age 6; Derek Graber, age 6; Jethro Otto, age 5. 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 don't want you to miss out! Remember, the contest is only for children up to six years old. 



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MONEY Wise

by Brittney Schori, Extension Educator, Purdue Extension - LaGrange County

3 Ways to Downsize Your Life to Save Money, Time, and Stress

Downsizing? What exactly does it mean? Smaller house, fewer bills, less stuff? Yes, yes and yes.

Many of us think downsizing is moving to a more compact house and it is, but let's not stop there. Following are other areas of life where downsizing can yield serious financial savings, not to mention save you time and stress!

1. Automate Your Finances

Downsize your recurring financial tasks such as paying bills and setting aside savings by automating them. For example, you can: **a) Put bills on auto-pay.** Put a little effort into setting up automatic payments with your bank, credit card company and service providers. I recommend setting up reminders to periodically check on the accounts, so a price hike in your phone bill doesn't put your account in the red! **b) Cancel services you aren't using.** Save more money by canceling unwanted subscriptions and memberships. **c) Automate savings deposits.** Your company's human resources folks can explain whether you can have a percentage of your paycheck automatically sent to a high-interest savings account. Or, set up automatic transfers from your checking account to your savings. **d) Automate retirement contributions.** If your employer has a workplace retirement plan, have money automatically diverted from your paycheck to your retirement account. If you have an individual retirement account (IRA), set up automatic transfers from your bank account to the IRA!

2. Downsize Your Home

Entertainment

As the number of streaming services and plan options continues to grow, so does the number of ways you can downsize your TV and video options! For example, you can: **a) Slim down your cable TV package.** Do you really need 200 channels? Would you even miss them all if you switched to a cheaper package? **b) Cut cable and stream instead.** "Downsizing" from traditional pay-TV to streaming TV lets you cut out the high cost of cable without letting go of live TV. Among the much-cheaper alternatives are Sling TV, Hulu, Philo and CBS All Access. **c) Get rid of TV.** Just think of all the money and time you would free up.

3. Downsize Your Transportation

Rethinking how you get around can make a powerful impact on your financial life. It costs an average of \$9,282 per year to own and operate a new car, according to AAA. The experts at Edmunds.com recommend spending no more than 15% of your monthly take-home pay on car payments! If you lease, keep monthly payments at 10% or under. But, wait. There's more: Fuel and insurance typically eat up another 7% of take-home pay. In total, you could spend 22% of your income on a car! Ask yourself: Do you want to spend nearly one-quarter of take-home pay on your vehicle?

Instead, you can: **a) Ditch one car.** If your household has more than one vehicle, get rid of one. **b) Stop using**


cars. Use a bicycle, walking, public transportation and ride-sharing services. **c) Use your car less often.**

Use other modes of transportation as often as you can. You'll save on gas and wear and tear, and you might qualify for a car insurance discount. **d) Buy used.** Did you know that new vehicles can lose more than 20% of their value after just 12 months? In each of the following four years, they lose roughly another 10%. **e) Stop leasing.** Pay off a car and then enjoy years without car payments.

If nothing else, at least "downsize" to a less expensive car insurance policy. This is easier than you might think. The best ways to quickly put a big dent in your car insurance costs include:

1. Shop around. Comparison shop annually to get the best deal. This doesn't have to mean calling around to insurers for quotes. Using an insurance search engine like The Zebra will take all the work out of comparison shopping.

2. Raise deductibles. "This is the simplest and fastest way to save on car insurance," writes Money Talks News founder Stacy Johnson in "How to Get the Best Possible Deal on Car Insurance."

3. Reduce coverage on older cars. For example, you should consider dropping comprehensive and collision coverage. 

-Source: MoneyTalksNews

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Meadowview Summer Reading Program

Meadowview Elementary School celebrated its Summer Reading Program, "Wild About Reading!" A total of 65 students participated, with each reading 600 minutes or more over the summer. Each participant received a coupon for a free entrance into Dutch Creek Farm Animal Park in Shipshewana, IN and a bag of ZOO Animal Crackers. The top two readers for each grade level received a book, *How to Draw 101 Animals*, and a sketchpad. The top three readers for the school also received the drawing book and sketchpad, along with a fleece throw blanket with African Safari Animals on it

Top 3 Readers for the school:

- Faith Stump – 4C
8,588 mins/~ 143 hours
- Kayla Miller – 4C
7,473 mins/~ 125 hours
- Rachel Troyer – 4A
6,651 mins/~ 111 hours

Top 2 readers for each grade level

First Grade:

1. Natalie McDonald – 1C
1,175 mins/~ 20 hours
2. Amber Miller – 1D
1,020 mins/ 17 hours


Second Grade:

1. Hannah Troyer – 2B
2,120 mins/~ 36 hours
2. Lyndon Borkholder – 2A
1,947 mins/~ 33 hours

Third Grade:

1. James Yoder – 3B
6,424 mins/ 107 hours
2. Dale Bontrager – 3B
5,730 mins/~ 96 hours

Fourth Grade:

1. Melissa Bontrager – 4A
6,637 mins/~ 111 hours
2. Alyssa Miller – 4A
5,054 mins/~ 84 hours 



Top 2 readers from each grade level and top 3 reader in the school.



Participants from 1st grade.



Participants from 2nd grade.




Participants from 3rd grade.



Participants from 4th grade.


Meadowview Elementary Welcomes New Staff Members



Back Row (left to right): Mr. Cramer, Miss Pierce, Mrs. Zimmerly, Mrs. Cupp, Miss Martin, and Mr. Becker. Front: Mrs. Haarer, Miss Christner, Miss Davis, and Miss Hostetler. 

Masking Up



Mrs Cline and a student in Applied Skills all masked up for Westview. 

This page made possible by the

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All Photos Submitted

Solution to puzzle on page 6



**Left-Over Letters
Spell Out A Message
From Erika!**

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

**H A L L E L U J A H
F O R O U R
I N T E R N E T
S P E E D !**

Fall
Frost
Leaves
Treat
Clouds
Encourage
Hailstone
Hailstorm
Excessive
Exclusive
Ghost
Mast
Folk
Fair
Soil

Clueless
Crossword

Solution to Clueless
Crossword is on pg 30.
by Emily Vandevander

Use the words listed to fill in the spaces!

Want a different way to advertise?

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| <p>5 Years or More</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ruby Hochstetler - 2011 Marlene Miller - 2011 Wyman Yoder - 2011 Ruby Knepp - 2012 Kathy Schlabach - 2012 Matthew Schlabach - 2012 Anita Hershberger - 2012 Lavern Yoder - 2012 Markeus Horst - 2012 Urias Schrock - 2012 | <p>Erma Schmucker - 2013</p> <p>Doris Bontrager - 2013</p> <p>Elmer Yoder - 2013</p> <p>Richard Yoder - 2013</p> <p>Dan Yoder - 2013</p> <p>Rick Sedlock - 2013</p> <p>Betty Yoder - 2014</p> <p>Pam Slabaugh - 2014</p> <p>Ervin Hochstetler - 2015</p> <p>Steven Jones - 2015</p> <p>Nettie Miller - 2015</p> | <p>Joni Bontrager - 2015</p> <p>Clara Eash - 2015</p> <p>Levi Hilty - 2015</p> <p>10 Years or More</p> <p>Dewayne Yoder - 2009</p> <p>Jody Yoder - 2010</p> <p>Shari Helmuth - 2010</p> <p>Esther Bontrager - 2010</p> <p>15 Years or More</p> <p>Rosie Miller - 2001</p> | <p>Mary Rose Yoder - 2002</p> <p>Richard Miller - 2003</p> <p>Mary Otto - 2004</p> <p>Barbara Miller - 2005</p> <p>20 Years or More</p> <p>Ada Schrock - 1997</p> <p>Leon Miller - 1997</p> <p>25 Years or More</p> <p>Glen Bontrager - 1991</p> <p>Leah Hostetler - 1994</p> |
|--|---|---|---|

Cheers to the people who make it happen year after year.

Look What Kindergartners Are Learning



Students in KA have been reading the big book Chicka Chicka Boom Boom and participated in lots of fun, hands-on learning activities related to the story. Some of these activities

included sensory exploration of a coconut, art projects, hunting for letter “treasures” and using creativity and problem-solving to build an alphabet tree. 

Ordinal Numbers

Meadowview Elementary first graders in Mrs. Willard’s class work-

ing on putting ordinal numbers in the correct order. 



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Bus Safety



Each fall bus safety is a high priority for students at Topeka Elementary. Bus driver, Barb Geng is shown with kindergarten students explaining to them the proper way to cross in front of a bus. Driver Jessica Mitchell also helped with the safety instruction. ⓘ

Flag Training



Each fall, Topeka veterans Mr. Schlabach and Mr. Thompson work with the school's fourth graders to teach them the reasons for honoring and protecting the American and Indiana flags as well as proper etiquette in handling flags. The 4th graders then take on the responsibility for putting up and bringing down the flags each day. Shown are Mr. Schlabach and Mr. Thompson with some of the 4th grade students. ⓘ

Topeka Elementary

TES News



2nd grade students from Topeka Elementary are shown taking a close look at one of Topeka Fire Department's trucks that was recently parked at the school for the afternoon during school safety week. Fireman, Mike



Turner spent time with the students sharing information about the fire truck and fire safety during his visit. All other grades had the opportunity to learn about and explore the truck as well. ⓘ

Walking Wednesdays



Walking Wednesdays are a dedicated day each month where students walk laps to accumulate steps toward a mile. Laps are accounted for during the am and noon recess as well as an additional afternoon walking time specific to these days. For each mile (4 laps) the students receive a foot charm for their charm necklaces. Other charms



can be earned during the year as well for things such as being a good friend, showing responsibility, doing the right thing, etc. The students are shown on the field where the laps are made and also shown is PE teacher, Tracey Wohlers explaining the procedure to a student. ⓘ

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JH Cross Country Manchester Invitational

The Westview Jr. High boys cross country team won the Manchester Invitational on Saturday. Placing for the warriors were Brandon Schwartz 2nd, Noah Bontrager 4th, Braidon Schwartz 6th, Brian Miller 12th, Jethro Bontrager 16th, Cole Bontrager 21st, and Asher Kennedy 40th. This is the 9th consecutive year the Westview boys have won the Manchester Invitational.

The Westview Jr. High girls cross country team placed 4th at the Manchester Invitational. Placing for the lady warriors were Lynette Miller, 6th, Kiana Mast 15, Gwen Owsley 24, Annagail Warrener 32, Memphis Bontrager 33, Adelyn Rainsberger 37, and Jasmine Litton 39. 

Social Distance Picnic Lunch



Westview Junior High

JH Cross Country West Noble Invitational



The Westview Jr. High boys' cross country team won the West Noble Invitational with a score of 54 points while the boys' JV team placed 10th. The Westview Jr. High girls' cross



country team placed 7th at the West Noble Invitational while the Westview Jr. High JV girls' team placed 8th. Great job Warriors! 

Photo submitted.

Meadowview Elementary

Compare & Contrast with Mrs. Besser



There has been lots of learning taking place in Mrs. Besser's second grade classroom at Meadowview! Students use their 'Compare and Contrast' glasses to find what is the same and what is different in their stories. Kaleb Cupp is busy practicing his keyboarding skills. Students practice finding the missing addend by using a related math fact in the card game "Subtract-O". 

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Park News

All LaGrange County Offices will be closed Monday, October 12 for Columbus Day.

In accordance with the LaGrange County Health Department, you must wear a mask inside Park offices and buildings. You must also wear a mask if you are outdoors and cannot keep a 6-foot distance from strangers. *The trail system at Maple Wood is temporarily closed due to storm damage.* Please check our website, or call, for trail conditions. The Dallas Lake Park Office is open regular business hours and all beaches, playgrounds, shelters, and lodges are open. Remember that maple syrup may be purchased at both Maple Wood Nature Center and the Dallas Lake Park Office.

Hunter's Education Courses

October 9-10: Dallas Lake Park - 161827
October 23-24: Pine Knob Park - 161828
<https://www.register-ed.com/events/view/>

To register, add the class number listed to the end of the web address above.

Birdhouse Build

October 17, 9:30 - 11:30 am
ParGil Natural Resource Learning Center, 2335 N State Road 9, LaGrange, IN.

Learn how to be a "Bluebird landlord" and build a Peterson-style bluebird house. We will use cedar. Cost is \$25 - this includes the pre-cut lumber, hardware, and

instructions. "Build at home" kits can be ordered for \$25 as well. You must RSVP for a take-home kit as well. Space is limited! Hosted by LaGrange County Soil and Water Conservation District.

RSVP by October 14 to (260) 463-4022 or larnold@lagrange-county.org. LIMITED SPACE!

Breakfast with the Birds and Maple Syrup Taste Test

October 21 & October 24,
10:00 - 11:00 am

Maple Wood Nature Center (outside by the campfire)

Finally! Join Nature Leslie for a sweet morning. This is rescheduled from March. We will taste test all the different grades of syrup and discuss why syrup comes in different colors. Go home with recipes!

RSVP to Leslie Arnold at (260) 463-4022. LIMIT OF 25 each day.

MONTHLY

Make - n - Take Crafts

Second Saturday, October 10, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. Come anytime!

Maple Wood Nature Center

Leaf Rubbings

Easy nature crafts for the entire family! Free of charge (donations appreciated).



Maple Wood Fiber Guild

Second Wednesday, October 14,
10:00 am - 3:00 pm.

Maple Wood Nature Center
Open to anyone and any kind of fiber art! Bring a project to work

on. Bring your own sack lunch and snacks. Donations for the Parks is appreciated.

RSVP to Leslie Arnold at (260) 363-4022.

Quilt Classes

October 17, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Maple Wood Nature Center

"Courthouse Steps"

Courthouse Steps is a timeless pattern many make for their first quilt. It can be done very scrappy or it can be sewn in a planned color-way. It is a variation of the popular log cabin pattern.

Registration is required.

Instructions are provided upon registration. To register, call 260-854-2225, or email lagrangeparks@yahoo.com. Fee is \$25 (\$5 is given back to Parks). Contact the instructors Julia Wolhete, 260-367-1449 or Ira Johnson, 260-367-1438 for information.



Sewing Group


Wednesday, October 28,
9:30 am - 3:30 pm. - PENDING

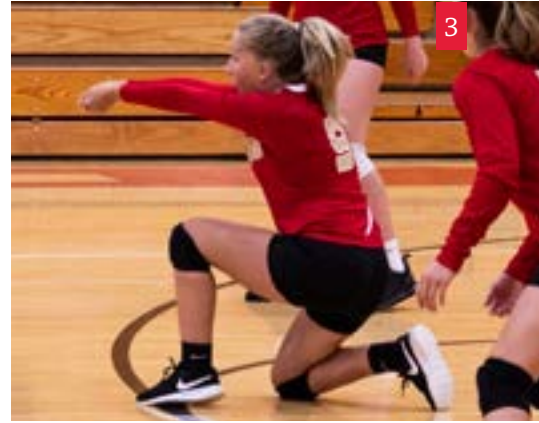
Maple Wood Nature Center

Bring your sewing machine. Get help on current, or unfinished projects. Bring a sack lunch and your own snacks. \$5 donation for Parks.

RSVP to Linda Grobis at (260) 351-3609.

Folk Jams - Postponed

The Folk Jams have been postponed until further notice. Please contact Erv Troyer at (260) 463-2247, for updates about the program. 



- 1) Kayla Gordon moves into position to bump the ball to a teammate.
- 2) Grace Heyerly sends the ball back to the East Noble court.
- 3) Madison Penick goes low and keeps East Noble from gaining a point.

*Sports photos by Abby Wenger
These photos and more are available for purchase at photos.lagwana.com.*

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Boys Tennis

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1



2



3



- 1) Will Clark stretches to keep the ball in play.
- 2) Elijah Hostetler returns the ball with a powerful swing.
- 3) Isaac Rogers serves to his Fairfield opponent.
- 4) Isaiah Hostetler goes low to return the volley from his Fairfield opponent.
- 5) Brady Hostetler delivers a powerful serve to his Fairfield opponent.

*Sports photos by Abby Wenger
These photos and more are available for purchase at photos.lagwana.com.*

4



5





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JH BOYS SOCCER - RED

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2020 Junior High Boys Soccer Red Team: Back (left to right): Jayden Jones, Jaxon Engle, Max Engle, Jack Massey, and Bentley Ryall. Middle: Dylan Schrock, Jacob Watts, Gavin Engle, and Kaine Reinhold. Front: Ian Bontrager, Dallas Yoder, Darin Schlabach, Kaiden Miller, and Brett Springer.

Photo by Abby Wenger



JH BOYS SOCCER - GOLD

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ACE
Hardware

2020 Junior High Boys Soccer Gold Team: Back (left to right): Gurmy Al Gurmi, Dom Sweet, Omar Saleh, Hudhaifa Almhn, Kaiden Schrock, and Coach Allen Bontrager. Front: Kaden Hostetler, Jackson Vaughn, Abraham Alrasheed, Aiden Norberg, Dylan Schrock, and Carson Niccum. Not Pictured: Boe Helmuth, Majid Omer, Bryan Castenada, Sam Miller, and Austin Mullins.

Photo by Abby Wenger

Riley L. Case

Educator, Extension Agent, and Extraordinary Man

by Harold D. Gingerich



In an age when conventional wisdom said, “Go West, Young Man”, a young man from the west came east. That young man was Riley Leander Case. It is a long way from his birthplace in Albany, Oregon, to Shpshewana, Indiana; about 2,300 miles to be more exact. What brought the family to Indiana is not clear, but by the 1910 census, fourteen-year-old Riley Leander Case called LaGrange County home. What is abundantly clear is that no one had as great of a role in making Shpshewana the high school equivalent of Purdue University, in the field of agriculture, than Riley L. Case.

There is not a lot of information about Case’s early years, which only gives rise to numerous questions. We do know that Riley Leander Case was born on February 25, 1896, in Albany, Oregon, to Riley C. Case and Mary Eshelman Case. Riley and Mary had moved to Oregon in 1891 as home-

steads. What transpired over the next few years is veiled in history, but by the 1900 census they were again living in Johnson Township here in LaGrange County.

The 1888 History of LaGrange County (page 328) does provide some interesting Case family history that explains how the family came to LaGrange County and why Riley’s middle name was Leander. Riley’s grandfather was Zopher Case Jr., the grandson of Capt. Charles Case one of George Washington’s bodyguards during the Revolutionary War. Zopher Jr.’s father, Zopher Case Sr., was a Major in the War of 1812. In 1836, the Case family settled in Johnson Township following the death of Zopher Sr. Riley’s grandfather, Zopher Jr., married Nancy Highbargin in 1838. They had 10 children (5 boys, 5 girls), the oldest of which was named Leander. Following the death of his wife in 1866, Zopher married Anna Smith in 1868 with whom he would have four more children. The oldest was Riley Carlin Case. We can only speculate, but there must have been a special relationship between the half-brothers because Riley C. named his son Riley Leander.

Riley’s grandfather was also very financially successful. *The 1888 History* describes Zopher Case Jr. as, “a representative of the self-made man.” He began with nothing, at the age of twelve, working for \$3.00 a month. By labor

and economy, he has acquired one of the largest and finest stock farms in the county, and at present owns 800 acres, having given the remainder to his children. He is an enterprising citizen, a Democrat, and a member of the Masonic fraternity of Wolcottville.”

After completing his early education in Wolcottville, graduating in 1914, Riley L. attended Purdue University’s School of Agriculture. Case’s World War I draft card dated June 5, 1917, lists him as a student at Purdue. It also describes him as tall with dark brown eyes and having dark brown hair. Following his graduation from Purdue in 1918, Riley spent the next two years working on the farm with his father, then it was off to Grafton, North Dakota, to teach school before returning to the area.

The LaGrange County Centennial History 1828 – 1928 (page 103) devotes several paragraphs to Case’s contribution to Shpshewana High School. “Shpshewana High School is one of 40 high schools in the state of Indiana which followed the agricultural colleges in having a department in the school for instruction in both the science and practical part of agriculture. In the fall of 1921, this department in the Shpshewana high school was established by the then trustee, H. J.



Zopher Case
JOHNSON TWP.

Bontrager. He employed Riley L. Case, who is a graduate in the school of agriculture in Purdue University and Mr. Case has been re-employed from year to year since that time, with the exception of two years, and is now in charge of that department.”

“He instructs the boys in the sciences applicable to agriculture, which consist of chemistry, biology, and botany, and also instructs them in agriculture as a science.” Their classroom instruction was followed by practical application during the summer months under Case’s supervision. “There is an average attendance in this department annually of between 15 and 30 and at the present time there are 26 now doing practical work on farms under Mr. Case’s supervision. This work has resulted in improved strains of seed corn being brought on the farm, standard bred poultry flocks replacing the mongrel flocks, the foundations of excellent dairy herds, and excellent swine herds have been started through this work.”

Case was the principal and the vocational teacher at Shipshewana High School for 13 years. He earned his master’s degree from Indiana University in 1929. writing his thesis on *The Status of Smith-Hughes Agriculture Teachers in Indiana*. The Smith-Hughes Act of 1917 set aside federal dollars for high schools to offer vocational education in agriculture, trades, and homemaking. In June of 1932, Case’s leadership was recognized by his fellow agriculture educators when he was elected the president of the Vocational Teachers’ Association of Indiana at the group’s meeting at Purdue University.

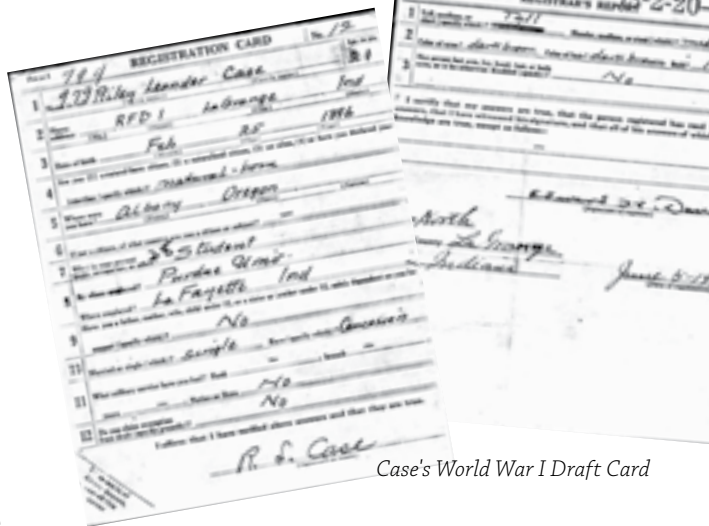
On December 26, 1931, Riley Case married Edna Burkhalter in her hometown of Berne, Indiana. Where they met and fell in love is yet to be dis-

covered. Their marriage would span 50 years and welcome the birth of four children, three daughters Ann Louise (Ulmer) in 1938, Mary Sue (Ryan) in 1940, Nancy Gay in 1943 who lived but two days, and a son Riley B. Case in 1933. Edna died on May 31, 1982.

It was individuals like Riley Case, and his counterpart in Topeka, Edgar Franklin, who played a vital role in the establishment of LaGrange County’s 4-H program. For years, Corn School had been the place where livestock, produce, and other items commonly associated with the 4-H Fair were shown and judged. It was Riley L. Case who coordinated boys and girls club activities across the county, all the while receiving no additional financial compensation. On August 23, 1935, during the height of the Great Depression, a County 4-H Achievement Day was held in Howe with awards being handed out. The first-place division winners received 75 cents and second place 50 cents.


Things really began to change when Riley Case was named Purdue’s LaGrange County Agent on July 28, 1937. Case would serve in that capacity for the next 27 years. In 1937, according to the annual report, there were 254 in school and 37 out of school young people enrolled in 4-H in LaGrange County. In the Shipshewana area, Miss Pauline Metz and R.D. Lutz were the leaders with 22 girls and 18 boys enrolled in 4-H. Miss Lucille Peck and Edgar Franklin were the Topeka leaders. Topeka’s 4-H enrollment was 24 girls and 26 boys.

Riley L. Case’s life was one of faith, faithfulness, and public service.



Case's World War I Draft Card

He died on December 31, 1988, at the age of 92. The funeral, conducted by his son, Rev. Riley B. Case, was held at the First United Methodist Church in LaGrange, where he was a member, with burial in the Woodruff Cemetery. His obituary that appeared in the January 2, 1989, issue of the South Bend Tribune gives us a glimpse into the character and stature of the man. “He was a charter member of LaGrange Rotary Club, past district governor of Rotary International, past president of LaGrange Rotary Club, LaGrange County Republican Central Committee, affiliated with Mental Health Association, American Association of retired Persons, LaGrange County Historical Society, and Senior citizens. In 1972 he was a delegate at the Jurisdictional Conference of the United Methodist Churches.”

This community, this county, owes so much to people like Riley L. Case. They were not perfect, but they did set an example of service beyond themselves. Their memory is to be honored and never forgotten. I regret that I did not have the privilege of knowing this remarkable man. If you did, consider yourself fortunate. 

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A group photograph of the 2020 Junior High Boys Cross Country Team. There are 13 people in total: 11 boys in red and white "WESTVIEW WARRIORS" singlets and shorts, and two coaches in grey polo shirts. They are standing in two rows in front of a brick wall.

JH BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

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2020 Junior High Boys Cross Country Team: Back (left to right): Coach Erin Bontrager, Asher Kennedy, Brandon Schwartz, Brian Miller, Braidon Schwartz, Jethro Bontrager, and Coach Don Williams. Front: Milan Miller, Austin Schlabach, Daniel Yoder, Cole Bontrager, Alex Yoder and Noah Bontrager.
Not Pictured: Curtis Miller.

Photo by Abby Wenger

A group photograph of the 2020 Junior High Girls Cross Country Team. There are 14 people in total: 12 girls in red and white "WESTVIEW WARRIORS" singlets and shorts, and two coaches in grey polo shirts. They are standing in two rows in front of a brick wall.

JH GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

Sponsored by

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2020 Junior High Girls Cross Country Team: Back (left to right): Coach Erin Bontrager, Jasmine Litton, Adelyn Rainsberger, Gwen Owsley, Annagail Warrener, Hannah Miller, and Bailey Manns. Front: Memphis Bontrager, Lynette Miller, Eden Mauck, Gloria Miller, Kiana Mast, Leigha Schrock, Coach Don Williams.

Photo by Abby Wenger



SWEETEST DAY

Saturday, October 17



FACT: Sweetest Day (the third Saturday in October) originated around 1916 as "Candy Day" then confections and sugar were rationed. Soon after the war, around 1921, "Sweetest Day's" theme, of charity and giving became apparent. Bags of candy were given to hospitals, orphanages, shelters, and homes across Michigan. The celebration also included 100 regulation army target balloons, which dropped coupons worth a box of candy. Today it is a day to share romantic deeds or expressions, acts of charity and kindness to the ones you care for.



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Make Ace Your Place for Hardware

By Harold D. Gingerich

I confess the advertising worked; their jingle is stuck in my brain, “Ace is the place with the helpful hardware man!” There is a reason why successful retail advertisers use musical jingles to sell their products or promote their store. In reality it is the music, the jingle, that triggers something in our head reminding us where to shop. But when it comes to Ace Hardware in Topeka, it is not some clever commercial that keeps customers coming back, it’s Lyn Stutzman and his incredibly helpful staff.

For over 100 years, going back to the days when the town was known as Hawpatch, there has been a hardware store on the East side of North Main

Street serving the needs of Topeka residents. In those early years, in addition to hardware, there were such things as farm equipment, coal, furniture, and cars, as well as Studebaker wagons sold at that location. At one point the Greenawalt Brothers used the building to offer both furniture sales and an undertaker service. Evidently the Greenawalt brothers thought that couches and coffins weren’t all that different; after all both do serve a purpose. And just in case you are interested, the elevator that once moved couches and coffins from the first floor to the second is still in operation.

There is some question as to exactly when the building at 118 North

Main Street was constructed. The first owner was most likely Elva Parks who operated a hardware and furniture store as late as 1906. Parks is best remembered for building the Parks Building in 1906, a three-story structure that still stands on the southwest corner of the town’s square. Lyn Stutzman, who purchased the business with his wife Lisa in 2002 says, “I was told that it was built in the 1880s, but that is just word of mouth.”

Over the years the building has had numerous owners such as the Seagly Brothers in 1910, Arthur and Walter Greenawalt, and two sets of Christner brothers. In 1989, after it sat empty for several years, Mervin



Bontrager, Ed Bontrager, and Ben Eicher, the owners of Town & Country Hardware in Shippshewana, converted it back to a hardware store. The trio operated the business until 1992, when Eicher bought out the others. Eicher continued to operate the business until 2002, when it was purchased by the current owners, Lyn and Lisa Stutzman.

Stutzman says that there has been a lot of change over the past 18 years. “Technology has been the biggest,” Lyn noted. “Years ago, the only internet we had available was dial-up and it was so slow you couldn’t do anything.” Today with high speed internet, all the store’s inventory is ordered online. Lyn chuckled and said, “If we don’t have the item a customer needs in the store I can go online; and I’ll do my best to get it for them!”

Ace Hardware in Topeka is also a great place to buy top quality Benjamin Moore paint. “I had been looking on my own for a better quality paint for us to carry,” Lyn said, “so I was very happy when Ace’s corporate made the switch to Benjamin Moore on January 1st

of this year.” No matter what shade or tint you are looking for, the folks at Ace Hardware are ready to help you find that perfect match to your color scheme.

The Covid-19 pandemic has presented its own set of challenges. “We have always been aware of the essential nature of the hardware business,” Stutzman says. “In the days just prior to

the nationwide shutdown I pulled my staff together to discuss the uncertainty of what was to come. During that discussion, I gave each one the



opportunity to take time off if they felt uncomfortable with the risk. Each one continually chose to be here to serve the community ...and (they) have performed heroically. They deserve an immense amount of credit for that. In these days we have put our faith in the Lord, daily praying for His protection over our ‘work family’. He has continued to be

more than faithful, and for that we are extremely grateful!”

Lyn and Lisa have been active in Christian ministry for many years and are committed to operating their business on Biblical principles. Prior to purchasing the business, Lyn worked with Youth for Christ directing the YFC Club at Westview while doing construction and remodeling jobs to support the family. They also started a church in Topeka, Christian Fellowship, which he still pastors.

The Stutzmans have two married children (Brad and his wife Beth, and Karisa and her husband Michael Estleman) living in Ft. Wayne, both of whom graduated from Westview High School. Lyn and Lisa have four grandchildren with two more on the way.

When you ask Lyn what he wants people to know about Ace Hardware of Topeka, his answer is simple, “We’re here to serve you in every way that we can.”

Ace Hardware of Topeka is located at 118 North Main Street in Topeka. Store hours are Monday – Friday from 7am to 5:30pm and Saturdays from 7am to 4pm. You can call them at (260) 593-2212. And be sure to check out their ad in this issue. And don’t forget, “Ace is the place!” 📍





7TH VOLLEYBALL

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2020 7th Grade Girls Volleyball Team: *Back (left to right):* Coach Erica Fair, Kyleigh Hershberger, Ina Miller, and Briana Kaufman. *Front:* Kylie Singleton, Hailey Lambright, Megan Miller, and Lilly Mullet. *Not Pictured:* Katana Bibbee, and Gretchen Bontrager.
Photo by Abby Wenger



8TH GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Sponsored by
 Quality
Floor

2020 8th Grade Girls Volleyball Team: *Back (left to right):* Coach Allyse Yoder, Kylie Yoder, Ella Williams, Sydney Posey, and Madison Penick. *Front:* Kyiah Michels, Grace Heyerly, Kayla Gordon, and Lexi Warren.
Photo by Abby Wenger

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It's A Fact



**THE HUMAN NOSE CAN
REMEMBER 50,000
DIFFERENT SCENTS.**



JH GIRLS SOCCER

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2020 Junior High Girls Soccer Team: Back (left to right): Dena Yoder, Karlie Schrock, Myra Miller, Madison Grossman, Jalayna Whetstone, and Faith Beechy. Middle: Coach Jodi Hostetler, Addison Tester, Janessa Miller, Alyssa Hooley, Olivia Jasso, and Vol. Asst. Ashley Mullett. Front: Olivia Bontrager, Aliyah Fry, MaiCee Orozco, Olivia Lehman, and Morgan Rich. Not Pictured: Breann Cory and Janissa Lehman.

Photo by Abby Wenger



1



2



3



4



5



6

- 1) Senior Cael Misner reaches the ball before his opponent and sends it up the field.
- 2) Braden Rogers, Freshman races to reach the ball first.
- 3) Junior Abder Alrasheed uses a chest trap to gain control of the ball.
- 4) Senior Drew Litwiller gets the ball to a teammate after stopping a goal attempt.
- 5) Gramm Egli, Junior looks for an open teammate.
- 6) Freshman Teague Misner watches the ball slip past the Prairie Heights goalie for Westview's first goal of the game.

*Sports photos by Abby Wenger
These photos and more are available for purchase at photos.lagwana.com.*

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