

WESTVIEW GRADUATES

Justin Schwartz is a freshman at Purdue West Lafayette. He is pursuing a degree in Civil and Structural Engineering. According to Justin, Westview prepared him for college by offering a wide variety of college courses. He also said, "The sense of community at Westview is beyond amazing, and we always looked out for one another." In the next ten years of his life, he wants to "outlast this dumb virus," graduate with a Bachelor's in Civil Engineering, and kick-start his engineering career.

While attending Westview, Justin was involved in jump rope club, PLUS, National Art Honor Society, and tennis. Justin graduated as valedictorian of his class. His favorite memory came from his senior year when the tennis team made it to State.

Justin's advice to any high school student is, "Sometimes, it is just better to listen because you may eatch things others do not."



"Don't make high school something you hate."

-Nathan Miller

STUDIES

Mathan Miller is a Junior this year at Westview who has outstanding grades in his class. In his spare time, he enjoys playing golf, going to youth group, and hanging out with his friends.

According to Nathan, the most challenging part of keeping his grades up is wisely managing his time to do great in school but also having strong relationships with his friends. He appreciates Westview academics because, "the teachers push you to become a better person, and they really prepare you for college." He also appreciates Westview offering college credit classes because he feels being in those college classes now is making him very

prepared to enter into college. He is mainly motivated to do well in school so he can get qualified to earn scholarships for college.

Nathan's favorite

class and teacher are both in the band room. His favorite class is jazz band, and his favorite teacher is Mr. Mike Brown. In jazz band, he feels that he's free from all of the stresses in the rest of his school day. He uses that time to be creative and wind down from whatever is going on in school. Mr. Brown is

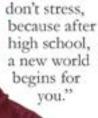
his favorite

teacher

because,

pushes us to become the best musicians we can be." Nathan also says Mr. Brown has a special way of teaching music that is nothing like any other teacher; that's what he likes most about him.

Nathan's advice to underclassmen is, "Do what you love. Don't make high school something you hate. Don't only take hard classes; throw in a couple fun electives. I would also say to just enjoy it, take it slow, and





NATHAN MILLER, JUNIOR WESTVIEW JR-SR HIGH SCHOOL

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



Brennan Beachy is a Junior at Westview this year. He recently finished playing 3 singles for the extremely successful tennis team. This is his fourth year playing tennis since he started playing in 8th grade. When he is not playing tennis during the season, he is usually taking tennis lessons or hanging out with his friends. He typically takes lessons once or twice per week in the off season.

He says his coach, Tyler Miller, is his greatest role model because "He's always been there to talk to and let me know what I need to do to improve for the rest of the

SPORTS

match. He didn't get coach of the year for nothing!" Miller always encourages him to go out on the court confident and play his best match every time. He also uses his placement on the team to motivate himself to be the best player he can be. "Fighting for varsity spots and wanting to perform well for the team is my biggest motivation." His teammates also provide motivation by challenging and encouraging each other all the way through the tennis season. His favorite memory from past seasons was going all the way to state last year because, "nobody expected a school from the middle of nowhere to go all the way to the state championship in an unclassed

sport." The team is always a great, supportive team too. He said, "we are all very close and have lots of fun with each other on and off the court, but at the same time we all take tennis very seriously and are always striving to succeed."

Brennan's main advice to underclassmen that want to get better at their sport is to play as much of it as they can. This way, they can get more out of it when the time comes around to show off their talents.

Written by: Isaac Rogers

Designed by: Will Clark "Fighting for varsity spots and wanting to perform well for the team is my biggest motivation."

-Brennan Beachy



BRENNAN BEACHY, JUNIOR WESTVIEW JR-SR HIGH SCHOOL





The Hometown Treasure

A Monthly Publication by LaGwana Circulation: 6,000

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1/6 page (Vertical)	$1.2^{3/8}$ " x $4^{7/8}$ "	
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1/3 page (Vertical)	$2^{3/8}$ " x $9^{7/8}$ "	
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1/2 page	7 ³ /8" x 4'/8"	\$192
2/3 page	4 ⁷ /8" x 9 ⁷ /8"	\$250
Full Page	7 ³ /8" x 9 ⁷ /8"	\$325
nside Front ⁻	7 ³ /8" x 9 ⁷ /8"	\$400
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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 December 2020 Issue:

12 noon, Tuesday, November 17 Thursday, November 12 if you need a proof.

December Issue Date is Tuesday, Nov. 24

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

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One Year: \$35

The Hometown Treasure reserves the right to not print any submitted advertisement or press release. Refunds for errors on advertising shall be limited to the amount paid for the first insertion for such advertising.



Principal's Dozen WJHS - September 2020

Back Row (left to right): Doretta Fry, Velda Yoder, Madison Grossman, Velma Yoder, and Ina Miller. Front: Ashley Bontrager, Kayla Bontrager, Grace Heyerly, Ava Williams, Jasmine Litton, and Noah Bontrager.

Westview Junior High School recognized the above students during the month of September for their efforts in academics, hard work in class, caring, leadership, citizenship, athletics, or random acts of kindness to others. 0

Are You Ready for Snow? Ariens Snowblower Preseason Sale! **Snowblower Deluxe**



FRY'S REPAIR SHOP

Dan & Glen Fry • 260-593-3228 • 5200 S SR 5, Topeka, IN 46571 • M-F 8-5; Sat. 8-12



Student Ambassadors

WHS - September 2020

<u>Back Row (left to right)</u>: Andrew Baughman, Alyssa Cory, Isaac Rogers, Skyler Donley, and Brighton Hemminger. <u>Front:</u> Kaitlyn Cupp, Hannah Davidson, Katie Whittern, and Hope Bortner. Photo Submitted

Westview High School has selected nine students to receive *Student Ambassa-dor of the Month* honors for September 2020 .These outstanding students were selected by their teachers. Westview strives to promote and acknowledge students doing more than what is expected of them and doing the right thing. •



Gutwein Family CHIROPRACTIC

120 S. Main St. Topeka, IN

260-593-3133

Tuesday 9-5 & Thursday: 9-5





Cover Photo by Abby Wenger

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Solution on page 18

Sponsored by Dale's Dependable HANDYMAN SERVICE

Dale Fry • Licensed & Insured • Cell: 260-336-9364 www.dalesdependablehandyman.com

Searching for clues on how to do your remodeling projects? Call Dale. He's the Right Man for the Job!

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.

It's <u>beginning</u> to look a lot like autumn!

I'm not sure where summer went but all of a sudden I had to turn on our heat!

I get excited for

this time of year <u>because</u> a lot of my <u>favorite</u> foods come out in the fall. I love a good apple pie, apple <u>crisp</u>, spiced apple <u>cider</u>...<u>pretty</u> much <u>anything</u> that <u>combines</u> apples, <u>cinnamon</u>, <u>nutmeg</u>, and <u>cloves</u>.

Now don't get me wrong, I do love a good pumpkin drink or squash pie, I just prefer a nice crisp (or baked and mushy) apple. I will definitely need to pick up some apples the next time I'm at the grocery store so I can bake myself some treats!

* Fitness Membership Not Required





Healthy Hearts Healthy Homes

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

Fall brings us joy and all the feels as we enjoy hot chocolate, campfires, cooler temps and cuddling by the fire. It's refreshing in 2020 that ordinary, predictive events happen, like the turning of the leaves, the upcoming holidays, and change of weather.

As I've been talking to friends, family, and coworkers though, I'm hearing a thread of exhaustion at the forefront. People tired of the political climate, tired of a pandemic that doesn't seem to end, tired of the loneliness, fear, and anxiety that have many of us still on edge. Many are tired with normal things of life...parenting, school schedules and work stress, all of which still aren't "normal."

I was talking with a friend about self-care and false positivity. A bubble bath won't make deep tiredness or melancholy go away. Instead of self-care, I invite you to think of life care instead.

How are you caring for your life?
Not your past life in 2019 when
things were "normal," or your future
life that may or may not get back to
normal. Your life right now. What if
today is as good as it gets? How are
you caring for your life? Here are some
things to think about as you consider
your quality of life rather than a few
extra hours of sleep or a few shots of
that energy drink.

5 Steps for Self Care

1. How is your quality of life? There are so many parts of our lives that changed in 2020. We can't wait for our lives to return to the way they used to be, exactly how they were before. Instead of focusing on what used to be, search out the changes you can make right now to make your life healthy and manageable for you and

#TAKE
CARE OF
YOURSELF

your family. Do you need to make big changes, (your job, new activities, less online time?) or an attitude change?

2. What can you control in your life? With so many things out of our control, focus on what you can control. This is where you have choice about your level of physical or mental exhaustion. Do you need to eat better? Exercise more? Say "no" to activities that are draining you? Omit

relationships in your life that are toxic and unhealthy for you? Blame doesn't do anything for your level of health or physical or mental exhaustion. At the end of the day, no one will take care of you....but you.

3. Focus on positive truth. If you look at the negative things in your life, you'll be tired, grumpy and lack motivation. But when you look more intently at positive truth, your energy levels are fueled with hope and possibilities. Positive truth is not false positivity. It's looking at the

healthy, positive, and growing areas of a situation rather than the negative ones. Everything in life has a positive and negative side. It's up to us which one we will look at.

4. Live today. Anxiety and uncertainty of the times we live in can zap all our energy. Don't be in debt to tomorrow's troubles. Live today. How can you value today and all it holds? Rather than looking behind or too far ahead, what and who is most important to you today?

5. Be bold to make the changes. It's as simple as that.

Take care of your life, today. It's important. Our community needs you. Your family needs you.

This page made possible by LaGwana









- 1 Dhani Munoz
- 2 Heidi Miller, Nolan Privett
- 3 Victoria Grice, Aurora Luttrell, Brent Miller, Zoey Moon, Aleya Schrock, Collin Vandergriff
- 4 Laith Algaradie, Adrian Miller, Jennika Mullet
- 5 Alex Detweiler, Emerson Foust, Lisa Herschberger, Kylie Mast
- 6 Sadie Hostetler, Gia Miller, Lyric Miller, Seth Nissley
- 7 Lucas Miller, Jayce Nichols, Zienna Yoder
- 8 Kathlyn Bontrager, Hope Brandenberger, Derek Miller, Micah Miller, Kane Sells, Lillian Thomas, Curtis Troyer
- 9 Heidi Knepp, Nevaeh Miller, Kaori Runyan, Myron Schlabach
- 11 Keagan Willis, Lynsey Yoder
- 12 Kyle Hahn, Kaylee Hostetler, Karla Miller, Crystal Yoder, Galen Yoder
- 13 Briley Brown, Kaden Hostetler, Brendan Miller, Jerica Slabach
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Parkview Lagrange Hospital Adds A Full-Time General Surgeon



Parkview
LaGrange
Hospital and
Parkview
Physicians
Group-General Surgery
have announced the
addition of

Ariel Spencer, MD, to their surgical staff. Dr. Spencer is board-certified in general surgery, a diplomate of the American Board of Surgery and a fellow of the American College of Surgeons.

Dr. Spencer received his medical degree from Columbia University
College of Physicians & Surgeons in
New York City. He completed residency training in general surgery at the University of Chicago Hospitals in Chicago, Illinois, and Albert Einstein Medical Center in Philadelphia,
Pennsylvania. In addition, he served as a research fellow at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and completed a fellowship in minimally invasive surgery at Johns Hopkins
University School of Medicine in Baltimore, Maryland.

Dr. Spencer has a particular interest in caring for patients with cancer. He works closely with the Parkview Cancer Institute (PCI) and participates in the PCI's virtual case consultations with other cancer surgeons and oncologists. For cancer patients in LaGrange County, Dr. Spencer is able to provide many of the same services offered at the PCI in Fort Wayne while enabling patients to remain near to their families and support systems.

"For me, providing continuity means being available to my patient throughout the duration of their treatment," Dr. Spencer said. "This is a very special relationship, particularly with someone who has cancer and may require surgery. From early in their treatment I work with their oncologist, their primary care doctor, as well as any other specialists that may be involved. Guided by my patients' wishes I also get to know the people who are important to them, such as family members or caretakers, and make sure everyone who needs to be is present for important discussions.'

"One of the most gratifying things about my job is the opportunity to get to know my patients well and provide them with the continuity and attention they may need," he said. "It's very rewarding to be able to do something tangible for them and see them get better. My goal for each of my patients is to avoid unnecessary surgery. When surgery is needed, my goal is to do the least invasive procedure necessary – something that can help to speed their recovery."

"Continuity also means I try to help patients avoid unnecessary testing or duplication of services. I'm familiar with their surgical history and what we have done in the past, and their response to the procedure."

Dr. Spencer is a member of Parkview Physicians Group–General Surgery. He sees surgical outpatients and performs surgeries at Parkview LaGrange Hospital, 207 N. Townline Road, Suite 101, in LaGrange. To arrange an appointment with Dr. Spencer, call 260-463-9335. ①

LaGrange County Library

LaGrange - Main Branch

203 West Spring Street • 260-463-2841 M - F • 9:00 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 pm - 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 pm - 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 November.

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

Youth Department

Multiple Branches

Pre-School Virtual Story Time

on the LaGrange County Public Library Facebook page.

Facebook • Tuesdays, November 3, 10, 17 & 24 • 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 - Thursday, November 12 Each bag contains activity sheets and a simple craft for 2 children.

DIY Sensory Play on Facebook

Facebook • Friday, November 13 • 10 am

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

stay on our Facebook page to be watched any time.

Virtual Home School Activity

Friday, November 13 • 11 am

This will be a **Zoom** event. Please call the main library (260-463-2841) for details and the link.

Adult Interest

LaGrange County Public Library

Second Saturday Book Club

Saturday, November 14 • 11 am

This month's book: "One Thousand White Women"

by Jim Fergus

Copies of the book are available at the Main Library's

s of the book are available at the Main Library s Adult Information Desk.

Adult Interest (Con't.)

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LaGrange County Public Library

Gentle Flow Yoga with Farra

Mondays, November 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 • 10 - 11 am Thursdays, November 5, 12 and 19 • 10 - 11 am

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

Call 260-463-2841 to register.

Make-N-Take: Grateful, Thankful, Blessed

Wednesday, November $4 \cdot 6$ pm \cdot Community Room
Participants will create a seasonal wall decoration from barn wood or
chalkboard. All materials will be provided. Cost: \$15 per participant, ages 12
and up. Registration and a deposit of \$5 is required by *Friday, October 30* with
the balance due at the class.

Painting Class with Carl Mosher

Friday, November 20 • 1 - 4 pm

Participants will create a holiday painting. Even if you have never painted before, you will be amazed at what you can create! All materials will be supplied. Classes fill up fast, so sign up today! Cost: \$20 per person, payable at the class.

Exact change is appreciated.

Call 260-463-2841 ext. 1030 to register.

Calligraphy with Markers

Saturday, November 21 • 2 - 4 pm

Learn how simple the ancient art of calligraphy can be! With calligraphy markers there are no ink spills, no smudges, and no mess. Learn how to draw an italic alphabet. No experience is necessary. All materials will be provided.

Cost: \$5 payable at the class.

Call 260-463-2841 ext. 1030 by November 14 to register.

(Facebook - m. facebook. com/lagrangelibrary in diana)

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.

Find more information at

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

This page sponsored by





November Contest Sponsored by The Connection and LaGwana

Jr & Jeanette Wingard of 1100W, Shipshewana, correctly identified last issue's farm as being owned by Jerry & Orpha Lambright, 9505W US 20, Shipshewana. Congratulations! They won a \$25 Gift Certificate from Tiffany's Restaurant, a lighted pen, a notepad set, and a copy of The Honeyville Journal from LaGwana Printing. Second prize went to Andy & Rachel Mast of 100S, Shipshewana. Third prize went to Freeman & Beth Yoder of US 20, Shipshewana.

OVER \$50 WORTH OF PRIZES!

1st Prize: The Connection, Topeka, 1 Year Subscription, 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. <u>3rd Prize(s)</u>*: The Honeyville Journal.

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

- 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: November 17 2020. Allow time for mail delivery.
- 4) Winners will be drawn and prizes mailed.
- 5) Correct entries listed in our next issue!



There were 52 correct entries this month. Others that guessed correctly were: Lamar & Doretta Miller, Calvin & Sue Miller, Kenny & Dorothy Eash, Floyd Miller, Wilbur & Ida Weaver, Marcus & Lena Yoder, Vernon & Darlene Miller, Dave & Treva Lambright, Michael & Rosanna Lambright, John & Karen Bontrager, Harley Jr & Edna Miller, Dale & JoEllen Yoder, Karl & Glenna Bontrager, Lee & Cheryle Yoder, Jeremy & Norine Hershberger, Daryl & Doretta Kauffman, Glen & Doris Miller, Dan & Sue Miller, Dennis & Anita Lambright, Kennard & Regina Miller, Vernon & Erma Lambright, Elroy & Rachel Miller,

Medicare Part D

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Open enrollment October 15 - December 7

Call to schedule an appointment

Monday - Friday: 8am - 6pm Saturday: 8am - 12:00pm



101 N. Main St. Topeka, IN • 260-593-2252

Marlin & Erma Schrock, Vernon & Elma Lehman, Chris Jr & Norma Lambright, Paul & Susietta Bontrager, Junior & Christina Raber, Aaron D. Fry, Dennis & Lorene Lambright, Orvan Lee & Irma Jen Lambright, Jr & Ruth Miller, Calvin & Laura Yoder, Freeman & Ruby Yoder, Richard & Susie Miller, LaVern & Vera Yoder, Paul & Mary Sue Yutzy, Kenny & Kaylene Miller, Lydia K. Yoder, Galen & Alayna Miller, Glen & Sharon Graber, Steven Fry, Gary & Norma Bontrager, Delbert & Waneta Mast, Ervin & Linda Bontrager, Floyd & Sharon Lehman, Leroy Hochstetler, Marvin & Vera Gingerich, Ruby Hochstetler, Ernest & Erma Bontrager, Wilbur D. Bontrager, Devon & Waneta Miller.





414 E. Lake Street Topeka, IN 46571 260-593-2988



N Carra a :	Λ ~ α
Name:	Aue.

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 December. Mail submission to: LaGwana, Coloring Contest, PO Box 70, Shipshewana, IN 46565. **Entry deadline is November 17, 2020**.

Address:			

Smart Choices

By Connie Lehman, RD, CDE at Topeka Pharmacy

How to Lower Blood Pressure Without Medications

If you are an adult in the US, there is a 45% chance you have high blood pressure, defined as systolic pressure greater than 130 mmHg and/or diastolic pressure greater than 80 mmHg. Since high blood pressure damages the heart and blood vessels and increases the risk for stroke or heart attack, most people would like to lower their blood pressure. At the same time, many do not want to take medication or add more medication.

The good news is that lifestyle changes are often effective in lowering blood pressure! Even slight changes in lifestyle often bring blood pressure down in significant ways. Take a look at the possibilities:

Weight loss The most effective lifestyle change to lower blood pressure is to lose excess weight. Even a small amount of weight loss may bring blood pressure down about 1 point for every 2 pounds lost.

Walking Any exercise done regularly strengthens the heart and lowers blood pressure. Instead of sitting for hours, get up every hour and walk up and down the stairs. Use a push mower. Push a vacuum. Sweep with a broom.



Rake leaves. Make 30 minutes a day your exercise goal!

Reduce the Junk Decide to reduce the unhealthy foods you eat, drink and snack on. Avoid fried foods, desserts, processed food and cut back on eating out. Cutting down on salt and salty foods helps decrease many people's blood pressure all by itself.

Eat Better Eat a fruit, a vegetable and a salad every day. Switch your bread and your cereal to whole grains (1st ingredient should read "whole wheat flour or whole oats"). Eat fish twice weekly, but not deep-fried. Eat smaller portions.

Quit Smoking Almost 22% of adults in Indiana still use tobacco products, one of the highest rates in the nation. Every cigarette raises your blood pressure for a time after it is done, and damages blood vessels. Don't give up trying to quit!

Monitor Since high blood pressure cannot usually be felt, use the free blood pressure monitors found at pharmacies or purchase a home monitor. Monitoring your blood pressure while you are trying to make lifestyle changes is the only way to track your progress. And, as always, consult with your doctor before making any medication changes.

Topeka Pharmacy is here to help you make healthy lifestyle changes, including smoking cessation classes. Call us at 260-593-2252 for more information!



COVID-19 Recovery Grants Now Available

The LaGrange County Community Foundation and United Way of Elkhart and LaGrange Counties are combining efforts to respond to recovery needs that have emerged from COVID-19.

The Community Foundation and United Way will provide COVID-19 Recovery Grants to help address recovery needs for nonprofits.

Together, the organizations will provide one funding round to La-Grange County 501(c) 3 nonprofits who have been directly impacted by the COVID-19 crisis. Grant applications will be due November 5, 2020. The Community Foundation is seeking proposals for COVID-19 recovery.

Funding is available for nonprofits who have established new programs to help with COVID-19 related needs, nonprofits who need help purchasing COVID-19 supplies, nonprofits facing a reduction in operating revenue and general support directly related to COVID-19, and nonprofits who have canceled fundraising events which had a significant impact on their ability to carry out their mission.

To submit an application visit *lccf. net/covid-19* before the November 5, 2020 deadline. Please contact Leanna Martin at *lmartin@lccf.net* or call 260-463-4363 for questions or more information.

The LaGrange County Community Foundation's mission is to inspire and sustain generosity, leadership and service. Founded in 1991, the Community Foundation connects people to charitable causes and provides resources to nonprofits to make a lasting and sustainable impact. •

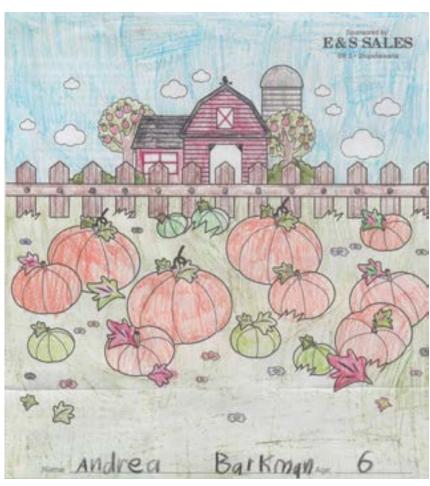
Coloring Contest Winners

Six year old Andrea Barkman of 700 S, Millersburg was our winner for the October Coloring Contest. She won a treat from E & S Sales in Shipshewana.

Everyone else that sent in a page can stop by E & S Sales for a for a treat through November (ask for a manager and mention Coloring Contest Winner).

Runners-up were Lucas Hershberger, age 6; Jameson Miller, age 5; Jenna Yoder, age 4; Alysse Petersheim, age 3. Honorable Mentions: DeAnn Ranae Eash, age 6; Jayna Yoder, age 6; Alayna Joyce Bontrager, age 6; Sara Jean Bontrager age 6; Gabriel Eicher, age 6; Renae Miller, age 5; Ida Ruth Petersheim, 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. ①







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

4 Tips to Help You Financially Prepare for the Holidays

We all know how expensive the holidays can be. Between gift giving, holiday outfits, charitable causes and all that holiday feasting; it all adds up quickly! Luckily, there is enough time to start saving before the holiday season is officially upon us. Here are a few tips that will help you keep your bank account happy and your holiday spirits high!

best way to plan financially for the holidays is to get a head start. I keep a Pinterest board year-round so I am able to pin holiday ideas whenever I come across them. This way, I'm not scrambling at the last minute trying to figure out what to purchase and can take advantage of Black Friday and Cyber Monday deals! Being prepared

best deals are going to be!

3. Download a saving application on your phone or tablet. There are a number of apps that can help you add a bit of savings on the side. Depending on your spending style you may prefer one over the other. I recommend checking out multiple applications, such as Digit, Mint, Qapital and Finance. I personally use Digit. It is a handy automatic app that analyzes spending and deducts reasonable

amounts each week. It only
deducts what the app analyzes you can afford, and
always protects from

overdraft fees.

4. Use the envelope system.

Cash is king and it's much easier to keep track of it when you can physically touch it. Are you someone who likes tangible savings? This method is for you then! It's simple. Create your budget categories, figure out your budget amount and keep track of the page on the front of the engage.

balance on the front of the envelope. When you're out of cash, you're out of cash! It helps you stay on track with your budget and not overspend.

1. Cut back on treating yourself. It can be difficult, but a couple months before the holidays, it's best to cut back on monthly spending habits. Try skipping going to the nail salon and paint them at home! Generally, a gel manicure costs \$30 plus tip. If you get two of those a month, you can save \$120 from now until the holidays! That's the price of a really nice gift for anyone on your list. Instead of eating out multiple times a week, decide a night ahead of time if you will get take-out or eat at home. Make your coffee and prep lunches at home instead of hitting the coffee shop. Get creative and pull back on those extras

2. Do your homework. The

until 2021!

on holiday purchases allows you to have a bird's eye view of the budget you need to set in place. Keep a running list throughout the year and at the end of November you can map out where the

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Extension - LaGrange County 1





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Jellyfish are considered biologically immortal. They don't age and will never die unless they are killed.



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Lunch on the Bus

Meadowview Fourth Graders in Mrs. Sharick's class think that

Shannon Long, their bus driver AND custodian, is WHEELIE great! Since these fourth graders have been working hard and doing their part keeping their classroom orderly and clean. Shannon rewarded them with LUNCH ON THE BUS. Even though this school year has been different than most. Meadowview students are enjoying each other and the little things in life. That's how we ROLL!

Thank you, Shannon, for the special treat. 🤇

Meadowview Elementary











Life Skill Winner



Meadowview Life Skill winner Blake Hochstetler enjoys an ice cream cone from Topeka Pizza. Thank you Topeka Pizza for supporting our students. 🕕

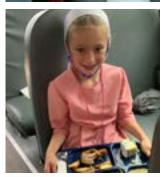












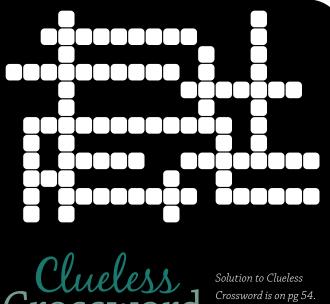
This page made possible by the

WESTVIEW SCHOOL CORPORATION

Acorn Cornucopia Cooking Enjoy Fun Grateful Gratitude Grandparents Gravy Kin Thankful Thanksgiving Tradition Turkey Yellow

Use the words listed

to fill in the spaces!



by Emily Vandevander

Want a different way to advertise?

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



Left-Over Letters Spell Out A Message From Erika!

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

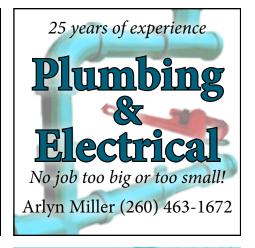
PLUS MY BIRTHDAY IS IN EARLY SEPTEMBER!



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Shipshe-Scott Elementary CITIZENS Shipshe-Scott Elementary First Grading Period



First Grade Back row: Lydia Long, Gia Miller, Jacob Yoder, Jamie Chupp, Hadley Keim, and Isaiah Miller. Front: Kylie Bontrager, Griffin Brohm, Reagan Wilson, Felicity Eash, and Allison Nissley. Not pictured: Myron Troyer.



Third grade Back row: Tyler Mast, Hadley Yoder, Mariah Miller, and Carson Yoder. Front: Hailey Miller, Toby Miller, and Kennedy Stutzman.



Second grade Back row: Ryan Mast, Mariah Miller, Curtis Hershberger, Bethany Raber, Jessica Hostetler, and Tarah Hochstetler. Front: Nolan Miller, Finley Gingerich, Treva Miller, Kenya Munoz, Mia Stemm, and Taiba Aldhuraibi.



Fourth Grade Back row: Tennley Amsden, Jeremy Schlabach, Kacie Troyer, Isaiah Miller, and Kurtis Miller. Front: Lyndora Schrock, Karie Miller, Kirsten Miller, and Caleb Mullet.

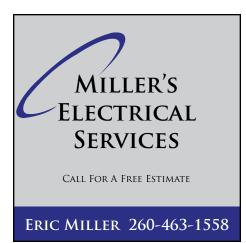
All Photos Submitted

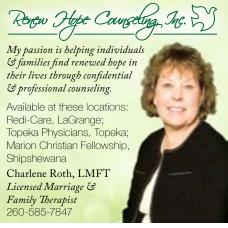


Learning **About Habitats**

First grade students at Shipshewana-Scott have been learning about habitats. Pictured are students with dioramas for the different kinds of habitats. 0

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Every Week Monday - Saturday

Shipshewana Shops

A unique and fun shopping experience with gifts for your loved ones you can't find anywhere else!

Fridays and Saturdays in November

Holidays on Harrison Street

Holiday specials and giveaways.

Festive lights, music, and photo opportunities.

Holiday open houses and street food!

November 20/21 and 27/28

Tues - Sun, December 1 - January 2 (Closed Holidays)

Shipshewana's Lights of Joy Drive Thru

Over two million LED Christmas lights displayed in a newly expanded mile-and-a-half long symphony of light scenes this holiday season. Admission charged.

More info at www.ShipshewanaLightsOfJoy.com

November 17, 2-8pm

Wana Night Out

Look for advertisements in this Tab, on Shipshewana.com and in local newspapers. Store hours may vary.

December 5, 10am-3pm

Kid's Day / Santa Arrives

The fun begins in the Yoder's Red Barn Shoppes, 451 S. Van Buren St. See Elsie Elf and her friends. Kids travel to locations throughout Shipshewana for a day of fun activities and surprises! Santa arrives at noon - 3pm at Yoder Department Store, 300 S. Van Buren St.

This Page Sponsored by

SHIPSHEWANA RETAIL MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION

December 5, 9am-3pm

Ship-Chic Craft & Vintage Show

A unique shopping experience with amazing holiday gifts for creative gift-givers! \$5 till 12 pm, \$3 after 12 pm, Children under 12 FREE admission. Free parking.

Shipshewana Auction Miscellaneous & Antique Barn

December 11-19, 1:30pm and 6:30pm

Shipshewana Majestic Noel

"A Celebration of Christmas"

A festive 90 minute show featuring a life-size nativity, a comedic cow who believes he's a reindeer, a vocalist from this year's The Voice, a dance-off between a ballerina and a horse, and more! www.MichianaEvents.com.

December 29, 10am

Shipshewana Ice Festival

Teams of carvers will create themed sculptures at businesses throughout town.

January 23, 10am

Competitive Ice Carving & Chili Cook-off

Ice carvers compete for the best ice sculpture. Bring your cameras and catch the creation of these masterpieces. Visit the Cook-off to vote for the best chili in Shipshewana!







Kids Kreations

You're invited to visit our store for a hands-on, five step selection doll making experience. We specialize in unique dolls of various sizes, prices & designs. You will cherish this personalized keepsake.

Now offering *Christmas Party Packages! Special Christmas sale on all 20" Adora Dolls now through Dec. 31st.*Lots more in store Christmas specials.

Closing early Christmas Eve & New Year's Eve.

260-768-7744 • KidsKreations.net • 150 N. Harrison St.



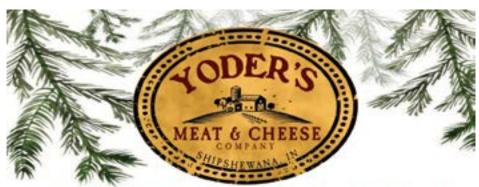
'Tis The Season

by Dan Byler

As fall slowly morphs into full winter, that most glorious time of the year creeps up on us ... Christmas! Even amid the chaos caused by the current COVID-19 pandemic Shipshewana merchants are doing everything they can to still provide great Christmas spirit to help you create your perfect Christmas experience for your loved ones.

Shops are open. The lights are on!
Festivities start during the first
weekend in November and by the
second weekend, pretty much all
the Christmas lights will be on ...
providing a glorious background for
your Christmas shopping.

We invite you slow down and enjoy a Country Style Christmas experience this November and December in Shipshewana.

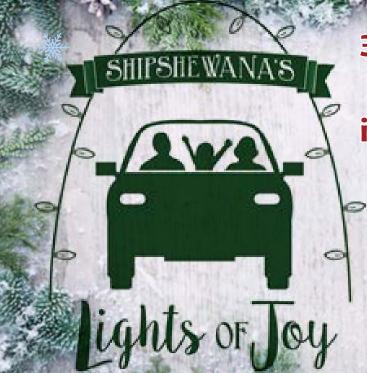


Taste the Difference during the Holidays!

Prime Rib • Hams • Turkeys Gift Boxes



(260)768-4715 S S Van Buren St. (SR 5) • Shipshewana



3rd Annual Drive-Thru Light Display to Open in Shipshewana for the Holiday Season

Shipshewana will once again become home to more than two million LED Christmas lights displayed in a newly expanded mile-and-a-half long symphony of various light scenes this holiday season. Shipshewana's Lights of Joy, a drive-through light display experience, will begin its third season on November 20th & 21st for opening weekend and will also be open on November 27th & 28th, and then every

Tuesday thru Sunday from December

1st - January 2nd (Closed Christmas

Day & New Year's Eve)

Shipshewana Trading Place and Blue Gate Hospitality are partnered with Winterland, Inc. to bring the annual holiday experience to town and are excited to continue the tradition again this year with even more lights than last year. This year's display is an overwhelming mile and half of spectacular displays.

"The annual event is quickly becoming a family tradition for many and we are



pleased

to continue to expand the displays for their enjoyment," said Brian Lambright, Business Development Director of Shipshewana Trading Place. Shipshewana's Lights of Joy will be set up on the grounds of the Shipshewana RV Park and will wind back and forth through dozens of displays. Visitors will enter at the grounds of the Shipshewana Flea Market on SR 5 and drive through the 1.5 mile course of Christmas light scenes, exiting onto CR 200 N. "It is so great to see families and individuals from all over enjoy a unique Shipshewana experience like this and we can't wait to see it continue to get better with each year," said Ryan Riegsecker, president of Blue Gate Hospitality. "Shipshewana already offers some amazing things to do and this adds to the options available for our visitors." The drive-through light display will be open to visitors beginning November 20th & 21st for opening weekend. It will also be open November 27th & 28th and then each Tuesday through Sunday from December 1st - January 2nd. (Closed Christmas Day & New Year's Eve) This year's expanded days gives families even more opportunity to be sure not to miss fitting this amazing experience into

season. The cost is just \$20/vehicle; and hours, when open, are Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 6 pm – 9 pm and Friday and Saturday from 6 pm – 10 pm.



Tickets may be purchased online at ShipshewanaLightsofJoy.com or at the door

Shipshewana's Lights of Joy is committed to continuing to support local non-profit organizations, so this year in lieu of a "community night" event, a portion of the proceeds will be donated to benefit a different featured local non-profit organization each week. For more information on Shipshewana's Lights of Joy, visit Shipshewana-Lightsof Joy.com or find the Shipshewana's Lights of Joy page on Facebook.

This Page Sponsored by
SHIPSHEWANA
TRADING PLACE AND
BLUE GATE HOSPITALITY

their plans this Christmas

325 S Van Buren St. Shipshewana, IN 46565 260.768.4991

December 11th & 12th

20% Off Bag Sale

Items that will fit in the bag provided.

Some exclusions apply.

20% Off All Regular Priced Toys

> 10% Off Orange Stickered Toys

December 1 - January 5





The Majestic Noel Story

Hugh and Chelsi Warren are the producers for Shipshewana's Majestic Noel Equestrian Variety Show. This is their third year producing the show, and they feel it is a very important year for the show. They always strive to create an atmosphere where people can rediscover the magic of Christmas that they felt as a child and feel that this is now more important than ever.

A lot of people have been stuck at home this year "because of all the craziness". Due to the uncertainty and fear that has hit so many people recently, both financially and mentally, prices have been dropped from previous years.

"There's often so much pressure to spend money that people don't have, particularly this year, that they don't get the magic of Christmas," Hugh said. "We want people to feel that celebration of Christmas."

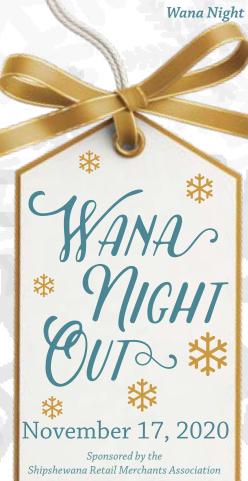
The show is made up of many acts showcasing performers the couple have met throughout their careers including a comedic cow who believes he is a reindeer trying out to be part of Santa's team, a vocalist who will be appearing on this year's season of The Voice, and a ballerina dance off between a ballerina and a horse.

Their main focus every year, though, is the life sized nativity scene.

"We believe [it] is the real reason for Christmas: Jesus's birth." Hugh said. The nativity includes carrying kings and an angel riding a horse to herald the joyful news.

The show runs $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours with a 20 minute intermission with opportunities for face painting, camel rides, and a photo with a 600lb hog. For an additional charge, audience members can have a dinner before the show or purchase the VIP package for a chance to go behind the scenes after the show and meet the cast and animals, including a baby camel. See the back cover of the Countdown Tab (C24) for dates and ticket information.







Fall Appliance Sale November 17 • 8am-6pm



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6 yr warranty on all new Crystal Cold refrigerators and freezers

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• • WANA NIGHT OUT SPECIALS • • 1-DAY ONLY.....NOVEMBER 17 • 9 AM TO 8 PM



• FREE REFRESHMENTS! •
HOMEMADE DONUTS, COFFEE,
PULLED PORK SANDWICHES

Wholesale





LIFETIME

4' Fold-in-Half Table		
6' Fold-in-Half Table		
8' Fold-in-Half Table		
6' Table (white)45.00		
6' Table (black)55.00		
8' Table (white)		
8' Table (black)85.00		
26" Personal Table (white or black) 19.95		
6' Folding Bench		
USA-Made Folding Chair (white or black) . 24.95		
6' Folding Picnic Table (off white)99.00		
Child's Picnic Table (blue, lime)59.00		
Youth Basketball System89.00		
Fish Cleaning Table w/sink & hose attach . 59.00		
37" Square Card Table		
Lifetime Sets with Special Pricing!		

THERE WILL BE LOTS OF OTHER IN-HOUSE SPECIALS NOT ADVERTISED!

GCI Camping Chairs & Rockers

3-Position Hard Arm Camping Chair	8.95
High Peak Folding Camping Chair (300 lb capacity).	4.95
Kickback Folding Camping Rocker4	15.00
Free-Style Folding Camping Rocker4	19,00

Sale Prices on LOTS of Horse Items including Blankets, Halters, Shovels, Brooms, etc.

Diaminets, Harters, Onorters, Brot	string water
3600 PSI Simpson Power Washer with	
Kohler engine, hose & 5 tips	499.00
3800 PSI Simpson Power Washer with	
Honda engine, hose & 5 tips	739.00
DeWalt 1.1hp 4-gallon Air Compressor on	wheels,
125 PSI max	185.00
Fear Point Head Lamps	7.95
Small PonyCycle (4-9 yrs)	129.00
Medium PonyCycle (3-5 yrs)	
Daisy 880 BB/Pellet Gun Combo	29.00
Fire King Safe, 1.23 cu.ft	129.00
Fire King Safe, 2.40 cu.ft	179.00
2'x3' Outdoor Mat with rubber back	5.95
3'x5' Outdoor Mat with rubber back	10.95
4'x6' Outdoor Mat with rubber back	12.95





THIS SPECIAL SALE WILL BE HELD AT THE CHUPP AUCTION CENTER 890 SOUTH VAN BUREN ST (SR 5) • SHIPSHEWANA, IN 46565









20% off Storewide

on regular priced item All Day

> FREE Cookies & Daybreak Coffee

20% Off Storewide

All Dav

Excludes Sale Items



20% OFF SELECTED ITEMS



2 - 8 pm Check Out Yoder's Rolled **Pretzels**

260-768-3013 (Free Coffee)



Free Chocolate Covered pretzel w/ purchase

15% Off All Day!

260.768.3272



OUTLET CENTER



260-768-7399

20% Off Purchases of \$25 Or More

2-8pm

Excludes sale items. No return for discount.

20% Off Storewide

including sale items



10am - 7pm



SAVE SAVE SAVE

2-8 pm

30% Off Storewide

regular priced items

30% Off List Price Storewide

Not valid with any other promotion



9am - 8pm 260-768-4640



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20% Off Storewide



Front Porch

SALES GOOD

ALL DAY

INCLUDING SALE ITEMS



SALES ALL DAY





150 N Harrison St 260-768-7744

Look for In-Store **Holiday Sale Items**

40% OFF 1 item per household

20% Off **Everything Else in Store**

(on regular priced items)

One Day ONLY! November 17th ONLY!



Shipshewana Furniture Co. & Traditions Furniture

15% off furniture

25% off everything else including clocks (stock pieces only)

The Craft Barn

25% off store-wide

Blue Gate Restaurant & Bakery

25% off retail, non-food items in the Blue Gate

260.768.4725 • TheBlueGate.com





Store Hours:

10 am - 7 pm

including sale items

Wana Night Out

November 17, 2020 Only





\$50.00 OFF **ANY QUILT**

November 17 Only



APPAREL 10AM - 8 PM

November 17th Only

Located in The Davis Mercantile | 260.768.7759



20% OFF STOREWIDE Wana Night Out

November 17, 2020 Only

2nd Floor of the Davis Mercantile Building





2nd Floor of the Davis Mercantile Building

Waxa Night Out The









10am-5pm • 10% Off Storewide 5pm-8pm • 30% Off Storewide

Millies Market Cafe Chicken & Noodles Over Mashed Potatoes \$6

Served 11am-3pm

10% Off Storewide • 10am-5pm 25% Off Storewide • 5pm-8pm

5pm-8pm • 30% Off Storewide

SEASONS

10am-8pm • Christmas 50% Off

260-768-7728 Davis Mercantile, 3rd Floor Must have coupon for discount







Upper Level of Wana 7245 W 200 N • Shipshewana, IN **SAVE 30%**

off list price on ALL in-stock inventory at BOTH stores* during Wana Night Out Tues., Nov. 17th 9A - 8P

Home Decor

- Musical Wall Clocks (with changeable tune chips!)
- · Baby Items
- Window Treatments
- · Bedding & Linens
- Luxury Bath Items
 with more arriving daily.

Wana Cabinets Furniture...

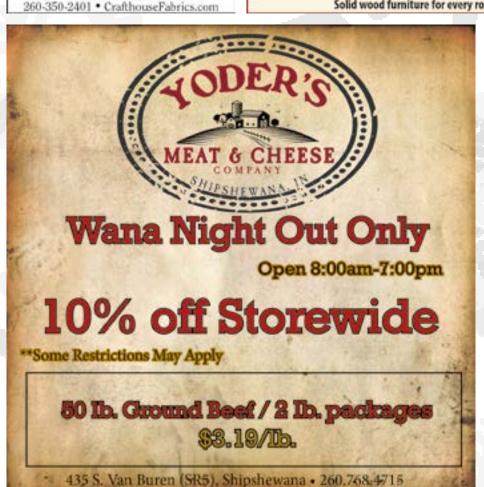
Rugs \$8 to \$400

- · Doormats to 9'X13'
- · Shag · Jute · Plush

Eclectic • Traditional
 Contemporary

Shipshewana 260.768.7850 • WanaFurniture.com
Two locations: Yoder's Red Barn & Rural store at 7245W 200N

Solid wood furniture for every room - Unique gift ideas & more!





20% OFF STOREWIDE

10% OFF ORDERS

(SOME EXCLUSIONS MAY APPLY)



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

One Night Only, Nov. 17



SALE HOURS: 8 AM - 8 PM 15% OFF STOREWIDE

Inverters reg \$130 Sale \$110 Han-D-Lights reg \$85 Sale \$73 (w/bulb)



Millertech Batteries Ledlenser Head Lamps







48 VPower Bike 10% OFF





North Village * Shipshewana One Day Only * November 17, 2020

Troyer's Saddlery

260-768-7135

All Day 20% Off Storewide including other discounts

Up to 50% off! Consigned items excluded.



In Store **Specials!**

260-768-4931

Special Store Hours

Country Corral

Restaurant

260-768-4589

Open All Day **Free Drink** with Meal

END OF SUMMER SPECIAL

\$150.00 (pre-pay)

for one full yr of exercise

-FREE-

Samples of Smoothies, Energy Bomb and Protein Bites

Order Herbalife Products • at 50% off

4:00pm to 7:00 pm



SHIPSHE NUTRITION

505 E North Village Dr. 260.768.4705







Wana Night Out

November 17th

One Day ONLY 25%Off Storewide

some exclusions may apply **Sale Hours**

3pm-8pm

Located in Yoder's Shopping Center

300B South Van Buren StoShipshewana 260-768-4163

Shipshewana Hardware



Fabrics · Shoes · Boots · Apparel

1205 S. Van Buren Street • Shipshewana, IN • 46565 P.260-768-7804 • Hours: M-F 8am-5pm, Sat 8am-4pm



Black Wolverine **Shirt Jack** \$34.99

Cielo **Sweater** \$9.99



Charcoal

Black

Fabric Sale 15% OFF

All In Stock Fabric!

Special Hours November 17th 8am - 6pm

Marble Chase Game \$54.99

Tuesday, November 17, 2020

20% OFF All in stock

Justin

Boot-n-Shoes

• Specials run all day long!



We are open regular business hours 7:30am -5:30pm

Where You'll Find Exceptional Savings

Located at 1265 North State Road 5 Shipshewana, IN 46565 Mon. - Fri. 7:30am - 5:30pm • Sat. 7:30am - 4:00pm • Closed Sun.

	Diced Chicken Breast, 12 oz, fully cooked, frozen	\$0.99
	Butter Quarters, 1 lb, limit 10	
	Sour Cream, 16 oz, Dutch Farms	
1	Chocolate Candy, large bag, name brand	\$1.79/lb
4	Chocolate Flavored Melting Wafers, large bag	\$1.69/lb
	Pecan Pieces, large bag	
	Homemade Style Noodles, large bag	
	White Vinegar, gallon	\$1.99
Ī	TGI Friday's Potato Skin Chips, 18 oz	\$2.99
l,	Corn Snacks, 14 oz, nacho cheese, name brand	\$2.29
d	Salad Dressing, 30 oz, name brand	2/\$3.00
d	Little Debbie Swiss Rolls	
	Foam Plates, 100 ct, 8%"	2/\$5.00
	Rook Cards	2/\$7.00





Holidays on Hairison Street November 2020

Every Friday and Saturday in November, we will be having holiday open houses.

Extended hours in most stores.

Holiday Specials and Giveaways.

Festive Lights, Music, and Photo Opportunities.

Delicious street food and desserts available by Boardwalk Cafe and Shawna Rae's



Looking for crafts, baked goods, Christmas items or amazing holiday gifts? Make plans to be in Shipshewana for the Ship-Chic Craft & Vintage Holiday Market on Saturday, December 5, from 9am to 3pm inside the Shipshewana Auction Miscellaneous & Antique Building.

The show is a curated indoor popup market featuring amazing products for DIY lovers, those obsessed with Pinterest, creative gift-givers, small business supporters, and anyone who just wants a unique holiday shopping experience.

xperience.

The entire auction building will be filled with exceptional vendors who offer holiday gifts, crafts, clothing, sweet treats, collectibles, repurposed items, furniture, signs, home décor and a whole lot more. Food and refreshments will also be available. It will be a day of amazing holiday shopping for everyone on your Christmas list, including yourself! Plus, the first 100 shoppers through the doors will receive a free Shipshewana reusable shopping tote, one of which includes a \$100 shopping certificate usable at the market!

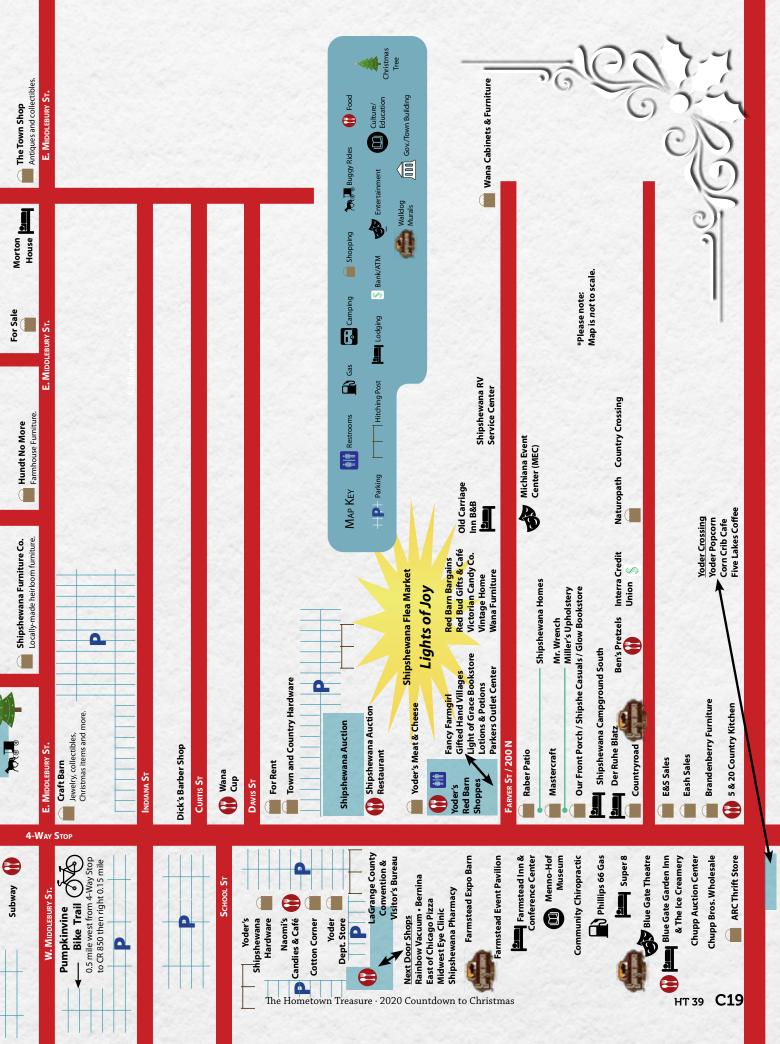
Early Bird Admission is just \$5/ person at the door and is from 9am to 12pm. All early bird shoppers receive a \$5 coupon to use at the Shipshewana Auction Restaurant or Farmstead Inn and entries to win door prizes all of which are donated by our amazing venis only \$3 per person. Children 12 & under are free, and there is no charge for parking. For admission or vendor information, visit http://www.shipshewanatradingplace.com, or call the Shipshewana Auction & Flea Market at 260-768-4129.



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SHIPSHEWANA
TRADING PLACE

dors too. After 12pm, admission







December 5th

10 am - 3 pm

Christmas is the best time of year to be a kid in Shipshewana. Kids Day is a great opportunity to get out and shop and have holiday family fun time. Christmas is a magical time of year and making memories that kids will remember for a lifetime.

Come to Shipshewana December 5 from ten in the morning till three in the afternoon, there are other shoppes around town to visit with fun holiday activities and surprises.

The fun begins at Yoder's Red Barn Shoppes, 445 S. Van Buren St. The kids will receive a bag of items to help get started and a map of the town showing where activities are being held. Some activities will be in the Red Barn, but you'll want to travel around town to see what other fun surprises are in store for you. While in the Red Barn you might have the opportunity to see Elsie Elf the life size mischievous elf of Shipshewana and her friends.

Whether you are a kid or feeling like a kid, or want to be a kid, come join us for a day of fun.

Social distancing and proper protocol will be encouraged so we all stay safe and healthy.

Noon - 3 pm

Santa arrives in Shipshewana at noon till 3:00 at Yoder's Department Store at 300 S. Van Buren St. Children will receive a bag of goodies. He will be set up for photo opportunities, but social distancing protocol will be implemented, and no physical contact will be permitted.

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God With Us By Ashley Ulrich

Early last November, I hauled our large box of Christmas decorations up from the basement, weeks earlier than usual, and watched with contentment as my older four children pulled out strings of lights and gushed over each and every ornament. Christmas carols played in the background and steaming mugs of hot chocolate sat on the coffee table as we decorated the tree with ornaments and the fireplace mantle with stockings. Excitement filled the room as my children talked about how fun it would be when their daddy walked in the door and saw what we had done, and we

laughed as our youngest child, Jackson, crawled up to the tree and tried to pull the lights off. Everything was right, just as it should be, so why was my heart so heavy, so full of anxiety?

That heaviness had hovered over me, like a suffocating weight, for the past nine months, ever since a prenatal appointment where I heard the words that I never thought I would hear. "Your son has developed a rare heart arrhythmia, and he is at risk of going into full heart failure. We need to deliver him immediately." Jackson, our 5th child, was born by emergency C-

section a month before his due date and spent a month in the hospital as the cardiologists worked to get his racing heart under control with powerful drugs that came with their own risks. Finally, we were able to bring him home, and while we were thrilled to start our life as a family of seven, the exhaustion was relentless. My husband and I slowly settled into a constant routine of heart rate checks, medicine doses, and doctor appointments.

In the beginning of our journey with Jackson's health, the concern and worry for our son came with an unexplainable peace, and that peace built a new level of trust in our God. As the months wore on though, I found that my worry and concern took a nosedive straight into anxiety and fear, and many days, panic would set in as I thought through what our future would hold. I wondered if God would heal Jackson the way we, and so many others, were praying that He would, and I considered what it would mean if Jackson did not experience healing. All of this heaviness is what prompted me to drag our tree up the basement stairs that cold November morning; I desperately wanted life to feel normal for a little bit.

Later that night, as my family was sleeping, I sat in the quiet, with the Christmas tree glowing in our living room, thinking about Mary, the mother of Jesus. What was it like to raise a dearly loved child, knowing that he was the Son of God? How did Mary walk through each day, not knowing not changed, but peace overcame what Jesus's future would hold or how He would suffer? Most likely, she walked this earth as the mother of Jesus with the same trust and confidence that she had when the angel appeared to tell her of God's miraculous plan. She trusted God and willingly submitted herself to

His good plan, no matter what the future may hold, and God blessed her for it. I was encouraged as I realized that, in a small way, I also knew what it felt like to trust God's good, sovereign plan for my son's future. I knew what it was like to hold tightly to God, even when I didn't understand what He was doing or where He was taking me. I slowly began to notice that the

GOD WITH U

heaviness in my heart was lifting, and in its place was that familiar peace, peace that passes understanding. Our circumstances had the anxiety until my heart was at rest. I felt keenly aware that I was not alone in this difficult journey, for my God came as a baby to one day give His life on a cross restoring me to a right relationship with Him. He wants to be with us, and nothing can separate us from His love. He

is Immanuel, God with us. I knew then what I know now; if Mary could trust God without knowing what the future may hold and if Jesus could endure the suffering of the cross, then I could make it out of the deep valley I had been asked to walk through. The next year was full of anxious uncertainty, crushing disappointments, and hopeful joy, and we did make it through, by

the grace of God.

This year, I will wait until after Thanksgiving to put up my Christmas tree. This year my son's heart is healthy and whole, and he is off of all of his medication. This year feels like I am standing on a mountain top, finally free from the deep lows of last year. Through all of it, one thing I know to be true is

that God is the God of the valleys, just as much as He is the God of the mountaintops. Sometimes the deep, dark valleys give us the place that we need to open our eyes even wider to the truth that will never change, that Christmas isn't about just one day that we celebrate. No, it reaches endlessly through each day, each year, showing us the truth that Jesus came, but He did not leave. He is, and forever will be, Immanuel, God with us.

13th Annual Shipshewana ICE FESTIVAL

December 29th 10am

This is the 13th year for the Ship-shewana Ice Festival! Ice Carvers will be drilling and shaving blocks of ice all over Shipshewana. The creations they design are submitted by the sponsor or are the carver's choice. These professional carvers enjoy the challenge of creating! Please stop in all over Shipshewana to see them at work... or play!

9anuary 23rd

Come watch as the Ice Carvers compete for the best ice sculpture. The Ice Carvers love to showcase their creativity in this special event with larger pieces of ice. Cash awards for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place will be awarded upon completion. Bring your cameras and video these master carvers at work! Watch for more details as the event gets finalized.



Ice Festival Pin Winners: 1st place: Brian Yoder; 2nd place: Hussein Aldawshan; 3rd place: Eve Niccum. See article on page 54 for the history of the Ice Festival pins.

Peppermint Bark

INGREDIENTS

PEPPERMINT HARD CANDIES: 30 pieces, crushed, divided. **MILK CHOCOLATE CANDY:** 1½ pounds, coarsely chopped. **WHITE CHOCOLATE:** 1½ pounds, chopped.

PEPPERMINT FLAVORING: 1 teaspoon, oil-based, or to taste.

Tips: 1) An easy way to break apart the bark once hardened is to cover the bark and use a hammer to break it into pieces.

2) Do not add water-based or alcohol-based flavorings to melted chocolate, or the chocolate could seize up and become clumpy and hard.

Cooks' Notes: Substitute almonds for candy and substitute almond extract for peppermint extract to make almond bark.

Directions:

Step 1 Spread 1/3 of the peppermint candy over a 9x13-inch baking pan lined with wax paper.

Step 2 Melt the milk chocolate in the top of a double boiler over just-barely simmering water, stirring frequently and scraping down the sides with a rubber spatula to avoid scorching, just until melted. Pour the melted chocolate over peppermint candy in the prepared pan. Sprinkle another 1/3 of the candy on top of the milk chocolate. Refrigerate until the chocolate hardens, about 30 minutes.

Step 3 Melt the white chocolate in the top of a double boiler over just-barely simmering water, stirring frequently and scraping down the sides with a rubber spatula to avoid scorching. Stir in the oil-based peppermint flavoring. Pour the white chocolate over the milk chocolate, then spread the remaining 1/3 peppermint candy on top.

Step 4 Refrigerate until the white chocolate hardens, about 30 minutes Cut or break into pieces to serve.

https://www.allrecipes.com/recipe/217827/peppermint-bark/



Johnny Appleseed

The kindergarten class at Topeka Elementary usually begins the year with their academics focused around the theme of apples. This year was no exception with some of the activities that took place centered around apples including; counting activities, stories, surveys, snacks (applesauce and cooked apples) as well as reading and learning about Johnny Appleseed, and celebrating his birthday.



Kadence Jones paints yellow, red & green apples.



Landry, from Mrs. Kroll's classroom, shows off his Johnny Appleseed cap.

Topeka Elementary

Smokey Bear

Recently kindergarten and first graders from Topeka Elementary had a visit from Smokey Bear and his helper, Jan McGowan, from the LaGrange County Soil and Water Conservation. The two shared Smokey's love of trees and helped children think about how important trees are to humans and wildlife. In addition, going along with fire safety month, Smokey taught students his five rules of fire safety. 1

First grade classes pose with Smokey.



Kindergartner's Regan Hochstetler and Xavier Miller help helping Smokey and Jan.



Miss Molly Wiard's class



Mrs. Christi Miller's class



Mrs. Dawn Miller's class

Fire Drill Safety

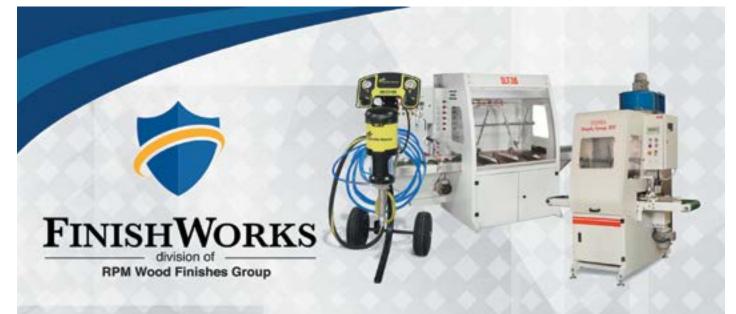
Although many things have changed in schools this year, one thing that hasn't changed is practicing safety procedures. Students of Ms. Sharon Mast's kindergarten class are lined up practicing a fire drill. •

All photos submitted.



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Kindergarten Students Learning Color Words

Shipshe-Scott Elementary

Shipshewana
Scott kindergarten students
spent time learning their color
words in October.
Each day they
wore a different
color.



Mrs. Troxel's class on blue day.

Mrs. Hostetler's class on red day.



Mrs. Sharick's class on orange day.



Miss Mowery's class on green day.

Outstanding Citizens are chosen based on the following: They are responsible for their behavior, are responsible for their assignments, show respect for adults and peers, serve as role models for other students, respect the property and rights of others, display good manners, participate in the classroom and other school activities, are honest and trustworthy, and are courteous and cooperative.

The PTO provided coupons to JoJo Pretzels, E&S, and Kitchen Cupboard. These are the winners for the first grading period (in no particular order): Elizabeth Yutzy, Hannah Miller, Laura Mullett, Elijah Watts, Karla Yoder, JoLinda Otto, Katelyn Hochstetler, Andrea Whetstone, Katelyn Miller, Luke Haarer, Emma Yoder, Olivia Yoder, Jason Wingard, Kaine Reinhold, Kaden Hostetler and Cynthia Yoder.

Westview Elementary

Outstanding Citizens









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JH Girls Cross Country Places Sixth at State

Westview Junior High

The Westview Jr. High Girls' Cross Country Team finished up an extremely successful season with a sixth place finish at the State Championship meet in Terre Haute. Lynette Miller placed second overall in the state with a time that was only 6 seconds off the school record. The rest of the team placements were Gwen Owsley (42nd), Kiana Mast (50th), Jasmine Litton (55th), Memphis Bontrager (57th), Addi Rainsberger (87th), and Annagail Warrener (105th). Coach Don Williams summed it up with, "Great season ladies!" 🕕



JH Girls Soccer Wins NECC Tourney

On October 17, the JH Girls Soccer team won the NECC Tournament. They scored 13-0 in the first round and 6-0 in the championship game.

Back row: Coach Ashley Mullet, Aliyah Fry, Maicee Orozco, Madison Grossman, Olivia Jasso, Myra Miller, Jalayna Whetstone, Janissa Lehman, Janessa Miller, and Breann Cory.

Front row: Addison Tester,
Olivia Bontrager, Karlie Schrock,
Faith Beechy, Dena Miller, Morgan Rich, and Olivia Lehman.
Not pictured: Head Coach Jodi
Hostetler.



Great Events Happening in Shipshewana You Don't Want to Miss!



Day After Thanksgiving Horse Sale Friday, November 27th @ 9:00AM EST

The Shipshewana Day After Thanksgiving Horse Sale is a special yearly auction attracting hundreds of horse lovers from all over the country. It will last well into the evening with up to 400 or more horses sold (about 25-30 horses per hour). There is also up to 5 auction rings of tack, a pony/mini auction, and a large number of vendors who set up and sell tack and miscellaneous items throughout the day.





December 5th, 2020

AMAZING VENDORS SELLING THEIR CRAFTS, DECOR, GIFTS, UPCYCLED, & VINTAGE ITEMS



Weekly Antique & Misc. Auctions EVERY WEDNESDAY YEAR-ROUND at 9:00 AM EST
Check out some of these great items in our upcoming auctions!

Preview Items on AuctionZip.com Auctioneer ID# 1945



60-Year Barware & Alcohol Memorabilia Collection (Part 1 of 2)

SELLING ON:

Wednesday, Oct. 28th



Ovoid Blue Stoneware Collection

SELLING ON:

Wednesday, Nov. 11th



60-Year Barware & Alcohol Memorabilia Collection (Part 2 of 2)

SELLING ON:

Wednesday, Nov. 18th



345 S Van Buren St, Shipshewana, Indiana 46565 260-768-4129 www.shipshewanatradingplace.com

Shipshewana Area Historical Society

The Shipshewana Area Historical Society (SAHS) held a successful telephone out-reach on Monday, Oct. 19, 2020, to all 23 members that attended last years annual dinner meeting. The members voted to accept the officers for the year 2021.

Officers

Steve Frisk (President)
Sharon Bowen (Vice-President)
Mary Jane Friend (Secretary)
Steve Bowen (Treasurer)

SAHS Board Members

Burdette Norris (President)
Andy Cummings
Paul Mishler
Murlyn/Jane Myers
Becky Davis/Richard Ressler

Other Officers

Rachel Everitt/ Ann Glick (Membership Chair)
Andy Cummings (Maintenance)
June Vaughn (Volunteer Chair)
Sharon Bowen (Curator)
Al Yoder (Historian)
Steve Frisk/Sharon Bowen (Education)

We are looking for people interested in becoming members of our historical society. The fee for membership is only \$10.00 per year. Life memberships are available for \$100.

Each year we hold a dinner to elect new officers and volunteers.

From May to September we have short monthly meetings with a presentation. We also hold four chicken barbecues, once a month from May to August.

If you are interested please, contact Steve Frisk (260-336-1501) or Sharon Bowen (260-768-4777).

We hope to hear from you. 🛈

Delt Church Park Habitat Restoration with Envirowatts Grant

Trees are being cut and bushes chopped, all in the name of habitat restoration.

Delt Church County Park, with a Envirowatts grant from LaGrange County REMC, is expanding its native prairie habitat. The prairie was planted many years ago to mimic the prairie that was present before European settlement. With REMC's Envirowatts grant the prairie is being expanded into the adjacent woodland.

Oak and Hickory forestscapes were a dominant woodland type in Northeast Indiana. When woods meets grassy prairie the overlap blends features of both habitats. The resulting lightly-forested grassland is called savanna. The goals of the savanna restoration are to attract more native wildlife and eradicate invasive plants.

The savanna restoration is aggressive at first to remove invasive plants. Woody invasives, such as bush honeysuckle, autumn olive, and even mulberry trees, are cut and removed. Some native trees also must be removed to favor the oak/hickory continuum.

Steps in the restoration and eradication of invasives for this multi-year project are zone treating of invasive plants, prescribed burns, and reseeding. The first step in the restoration of savanna has already begun, the cutting and removal of incompatible trees and shrubs.

LaGrange County Parks is grateful for the support from Envirowatts for the savanna restoration. •

All photos submitted.







LaGrange County Health Department

www.lagrangecountyhealth.com
Protecting the place where we live!!!...



COVID-19















The LaGrange County Health Department (www.lagrangecountyhealth.com), and the Indiana State Department of Health (https://coronavirus.IN.gov) will provide daily updates as new information becomes available.

Soccer Sectional Champs!







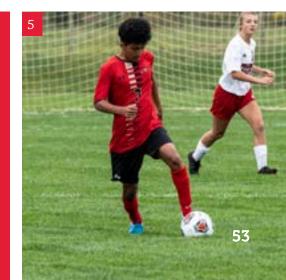


- 1) The Warriors end their dry spell by winning their first Sectional since 2016!
- 2) Chandler Pushman kicks the ball to his waiting teammates.
- 3) Keegan Kohlheim uses a chest trap to gain control of the ball.
- 4) Abdul Saleh puts on a burst of speed and reaches the ball before his opponents.
- 5) Abdulla Omar gains control of the ball.

 Sports photos by Abby Wenger

 These photos and more are available for purchase at photos.lagwana.com.

The Hometown Treasure \cdot November '20







DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS

Flu Vaccines

Monday - Friday: 8am - 6pm Saturday: 8am - 12:00pm

Call ahead for Vaccine Availability 260-593-2252



MOVE YOUR CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR **NOVEMBER 1** 2:00 AM.

Pin Design Winner by Dan Byler

Thirteen years ago Levi King pursued the idea of adding a fun family type event in Shipshewana for the week between Christmas and New Years. A group of ice carvers were invited to come show off their skills in a very family-friendly atmosphere.

To add to the festivities, Levi designed a pin commemorating the event. This pin could be purchased by those attending and it would then give them lots of discounts throughout town.

After the first year, Levi invited the local high school art students to submit designs for a pin. Each year since then, one talented youngster from Westview has had the privilege of having their design be turned into that year's collector pin for the festival.

The Ice Festival, though often the

weather didn't cooperate very well in allowing the beautiful carvings to last very long, was a success. This year does mark a change in the event. The ice carvings in front of the major sponsors will still happen in that Holiday week between Christmas and New Year's Day, but the competition portion of the event as well as the Chili Cook-off contest have been pushed into January of 2021. 0



2020 Pin Design Runner-ups: 3rd place: Eve Niccum; 2nd place: Hussein Aldawshan



2020 Pin Design Winner: Brian Yoder holds up his winning design at the unveiling ceremony. Brian's pin is quite unique in the fact that it's the only pin with two years on it.

The Railroad Darling of Eddy

by Harold D. Gingerich

Thanks to an email from Roger Franke, the Hawpatch History Detective has been on the trail of Laura Ganger, who became the darling of train crews working the Wabash Gary Local. Victor A. Baird's Railroading on the Wabash Fourth District devotes an entire page to her heartwarming story. Trainorders.com also has an article entitled "Eddy, Indiana and the Crippled Girl."

Laura Ganger was born in Concord Township of Elkhart County on February 19, 1912 to Frank and Gladys (Strombeck) Ganger. That same year, on November the 4th, there was a deadly head-on collision between a passenger and a freight train in the tiny town of Eddy, which would years later become Laura's home.

At the age of six, Laura came down with polio, leaving her with a perma-

nent disability. In 1926, when Laura was a teenager, Frank and Gladys moved from Wolcottville to a home they had purchased in Eddy (east of Topeka). Since Frank was a section worker on the Wabash, and with a small depot in Eddy, going to work became much easier.

It is interesting to note that his World War I draft card, dated September 12, 1918, was signed by Dail E. Seagly who was a prominent banker and business leader in Topeka.

Laura loved trains and she loved to wave at train crews as they went by. Eventually she was able to have a toggle switch hooked up to a light in her bedroom so she could signal her greetings to the train crews at night. It did not take long before the railroad crew members were inquiring about their little fan. We can only imagine her delight when the engineers would respond by sounding the steam locomotive's whistle.

One day news got back to the railroaders that their "little darling of Eddy" needed surgery for a condition that was threatening her health. Baird writes that, "They took up a collection





and the Gary Local stopped in Eddy to deliver the purse...an amount that covered the cost of surgery and a little bit more."

Train crews would also drop magazines and newspapers for her to pick up in the mornings. If any of the papers missed their mark, section workers made sure that they were delivered.

"Charlie Hoose," according to Baird, "an engineer on the Gary Local, loved to stop his train at Eddy, drop off a basket of things his wife had made for Laura, let out a big toot from his steam locomotive, then head on his way."

Laura's father, Frank, died on June 30, 1945, in the Wabash hospital at Peru, following a stroke. The Gary Local made another stop in Eddy, this time it was to deliver a floral arrangement. In addition to his wife, Gladys, the Topeka Journal (5 July 1945, page 1) listed the survivors as "a son, Ralph of Wolcottville and two daughters, Laura at home and (Kathryn) Mrs. Harley Middleton of near Helmer." Funeral arrangements were handled by the Greenawalt Brothers in Topeka, with services at the Baptist church in Eddy (presumably at what is now Green Chapel).

Laura, now in her early 30's, and her mother Gladys were left on their own, but the railroaders didn't forget them. The railroaders continued what had become an annual tradition. Every year around Christmas, the local would stop in Eddy to drop off a collection taken up by Wabash railroaders at both ends of the line. Train crews who often stayed at the Smith Hotel in Montpelier, Ohio, donated; many of them didn't even work on the 4th District Line that went through Eddy. The annual tradition continued at least into the mid-1940s. In his book, Baird

listed the names of the 1945 informal committee that was appointed to oversee the yuletide blessing.

Joe Ganger, whose father Ralph (1909-1965) was Laura's older brother, remembers that along with a physical disability, Laura also suffered from mental retardation. "I remember beating Laura in checkers when I was about ten and she would have been around thirty," Joe recalls. "She cried because she

In 1948, when Joe was 10 years old, Ralph and his wife Lela Pearl purchased the family home in Eddy. This may have come about because after

lost the game."

Frank's death, Gladys and her daughter Laura simply needed help. It would also help to explain Laura and Joe's checker game(s). Joe attended school in Topeka from 1948 to 1954. However, he did not graduate from Topeka High School because the Ganger home burned in 1954 and the family was forced to move. Gladys, Laura's mother, died on July 11, 1965, in Milford, Indiana.

Laura Violet Ganger "the little darling of Eddy" never married. She



Laura, Frank and Kathryn, 1918



Laura and Gladys

died on April 1, 1994, at the age of 82. At the time of her death she was a resident of Miller's Merry Manor in Warsaw, Indiana. She was laid to rest in Wolcottville's Woodland Cemetery alongside her parents and other members of the Ganger family.

This article sponsored by





Boys XC Sectional Champs!

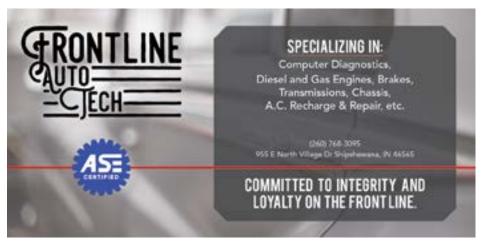


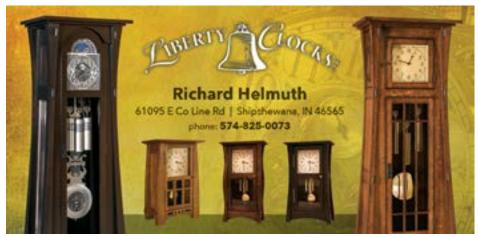




- 1) After winning sectionals, the team placed 5th at Regionals, where they qualified to run at Semi-State.
- 2) Spencer & Remington Carpenter placed 2nd & 5th at Regionals.
- 3) The team celebrates their sectional win. Congrats to all!

Photos submitted







Lily Scholarship Finalists



Back Row (left to right): William Clark, and Hallie Mast. Front: Amelia Johnston, Alexis Miller, and Mary Hostetler. Photo Submitted

The LaGrange County Community Foundation (LCCF) is pleased to announce the five finalists for the 2021 Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship award.

Finalists for the 2021 award are Alexis Miller (Westview), Amelia Johnston (Prairie Heights), Hallie Mast (Westview), Mary Hostetler (Westview), and William Clark (Westview).

The scholarship is awarded to a well-rounded LaGrange County graduating senior who exemplifies service and leadership in their community, while maintaining a commitment to academics. The recipient will receive a full tuition scholarship for eight semesters to the accredited Indiana college or university of his or her choice as well as a \$900 yearly stipend for books and academic fees.

After a competitive application process the LCCF's Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship Committee interviewed five outstanding finalists on October 15, 2020 to determine the 2021 nominee. The recipient will be announced in mid-December. The four remaining finalists will each receive a \$1,000 renewable four-year scholarship from the Lambright Leadership Scholarship Fund, established by Kevin and Carrie Lambright in 2013. 1

FEATURED ADVERTISER

Forks County Line Discount Groceries and So Much More



When Ervin Chupp started the County Line Store on the family farm southeast of Middlebury in 1974, no one could have imaged how successful that home-based business would become. With locations in both Middlebury and Shipshewana, the Forks County Stores continue to serve the community as a primary source for quality discount groceries and bulk foods. Their Shipshewana store is lo-

 $cated\ at\ 305\ East\ North\ Village\ Drive.$

"It actually started in the basement of his house," says nephew Ken Bontrager, who is currently the principle owner of Forks County Line Stores. Ken, who was a high school student at Clinton Christian, graduating in 1976, remembers those early days. "I started out from day one pretty much doing carry-out or whatever. My parents, Levi and Fanny Bontrager, were also

trying to help him out at that time" recalls Bontrager. "We'd carry groceries downstairs, put them on the shelves, customers would come and buy them, and we'd bag them up and carry them back upstairs."

The stores popularity grew rapidly in the first five years. In 1978, Chupp took on two partners and incorporated the

business as Forks County Line Store. Living in the Forks area, with the Forks Mennonite Church and the Forks Feed Mill nearby, made coming up with a corporate name an easy matter.

With a growing need for more space, Chupp converted a calf barn into a store and moved out of the basement of the family home. Not long after that, the store was expanded with a warehouse in the back. The original business was later moved into rented space on the south side of Middlebury. They later moved into their own building on Warren Street, which is their current location, on the east edge of town. A second store was opened in a rented space in Shipshewana in the early 1980s. In 1993, the current Shipshewana store on North Village Drive was built.

Bontrager began the move from



Chupp farm and store

employee to ownership in 1980, when Chupp sold his share of the business to Levi and Fanny Bontrager. One year later, Ken bought out Chupp's other partners. The family partnership between Ken and his parents continued until 1990, when Ken bought his parents' share of the business. In 1995, Jeff James joined the business and became a part owner.

"We are unique because we are not a first line grocery store," Bontrager says. "We deal with second line items whether it's salvage or close outs." Ken went on to say that by buying in bulk, by the trailer load, they can pass on the savings for quality items to their customers. Being known in the industry as a secondary market, they frequently have major vendors from across the country calling in hopes that the Forks stores might become an outlet for their products. "We have people tell us that

they often find things here that they haven't seen in a long time or can't find anywhere else."

The Covid-19 pandemic highlighted the value of Forks County Line stores to local shoppers. "We're not trying to be a tourist stop even though many tourists do shop at our stores," Bontrager says, "we are here primarily to serve the local people." The stay at home order associated with the pandemic has resulted in an up-tick in sales because people have been prepar-

ing and eating more meals at home.

Ken Bontrager and his wife Liz have been married for 35 years. They have one son, David, who also works in the family business. The Bontrager family are active members of an Elkhart Presbyterian church.

If you are looking to save money on your family's grocery bill, be sure to stop by one of their customer-friendly stores. Forks County Line is a great place to buy bulk foods and discounted groceries. They also have fresh produce, meat, and a large array of weekly specials.

Forks County Line Stores are open Monday-Thursdays from 8:00 am to 5:30 pm, Fridays from 8:00 am to 7:00 pm, and Saturdays from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. ①





Erica Cook Named 2020 Heart of Gold Recipient

The LaGrange County Community Foundation named Erica Cook of Wolcottville the recipient of the 2020 Heart of Gold Award on October 16.

Since 2010, the Community
Foundation has honored an individual in LaGrange County who goes beyond the call and embraces a commitment to service. In honor of the award, Cook will be able to direct a \$1,000 grant to her selected LaGrange County non-profit, Reason 4 Hope.

Community Foundation Executive Director Octavia Yoder and staff made the surprise announcement to Erica Cook. Unlike in years past when the announcement was made at a special dinner celebration, the 2020 Heart

of Gold Award was announced with an in-person surprise entourage and released to the public via video.

Nominated by Tami Maxey, "Erica thinks of others before herself and... she is continually looking for ways to make LaGrange County a better place."

A long-time volunteer, Cook is most recognized as a person serving individuals, often providing basic needs and words of encouragement. Cook volunteers in youth activities, fundraisers and spearheaded Shine La-Grange, a positivity campaign to bring awareness to businesses and non-profits affected by COVID-19.

She has served as a guardian for children in need, serves at the La-Grange Church of God, and is a past board member of the LaGrange County Chamber of Commerce. Cook established the non-profit, Kingdom Road Project, Inc., who spreads the love of Christ to those in need.

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Cook was one of five nominations for the eleventh annual award. The other nominees were Brittany Cowley of LaGrange, Larry Miller of Wolcottville, Stan Clark of Wolcottville, and Terry Andrews of Howe.

"We thank all of the 2020 nominees for the work they continue to embrace in LaGrange County. They are all great examples of individuals who give of their time to help others. They embrace what it means to be a selfless leader," added Yoder.

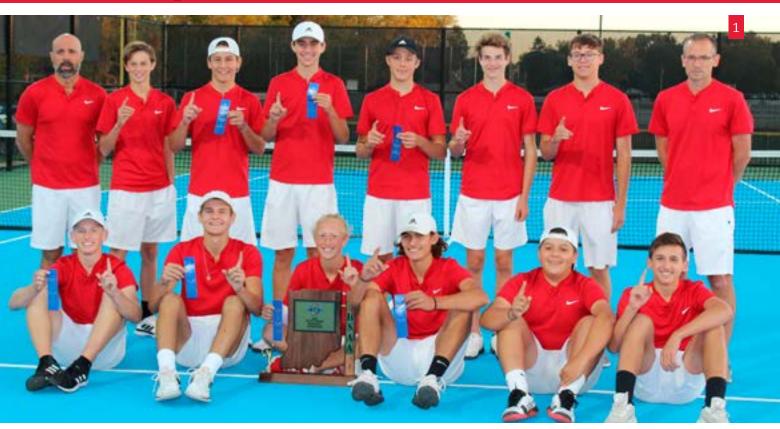
Cook and her husband, Peter, own and operate, Cook's Bison Ranch. ①

Photo Submitted

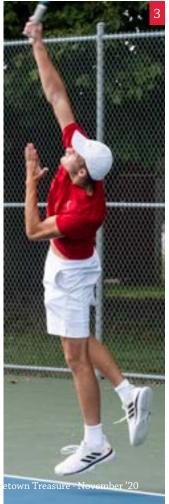


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- 1) The Boys Tennis Team did it again...Back to Back Regional Champions!
- 2) Kendall Schwartz returns a volley from his Fairfield opponent.
- 3) Tim Brandenberger delivers a powerful serve.
- 4) Dawson Shrock serves to his Fairfield opponent.

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

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The Westview Jr. High Boys' Cross Country Team won the State Championship in Terre Haute on October 3, beating the second place team by 33 points. Placing for Westview in the state meet were Noah Bontrager (4th), Brandon Schwartz (6th), Braidon Schwartz (9th), Daniel Yoder (16th), Jethro Bontrager (28th), Brian Miller (41st), and Cole Bontrager (59th). This is the sixth State Championship in the last seven years for the Westview Jr. High Boys' Cross Country Team, which is the most cross country state championships in Indiana Middle School history for any school.

Coach Don Williams commented, "As the coach, I'd like to say that this was a highly motivated and hard working team. The main point I tried to get across to the team this whole season was having confidence. I told the team that whenever someone has ability, knowledge of what they're doing, and confidence, they're unstoppable. It was fun to see the boys put that mantra on full display at the state meet. Really super proud of this group."

- 1) The team poses for a photo after winning the State Championship.
- 2) Noah Bontrager.
- 3) Brandon Schwartz.

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

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