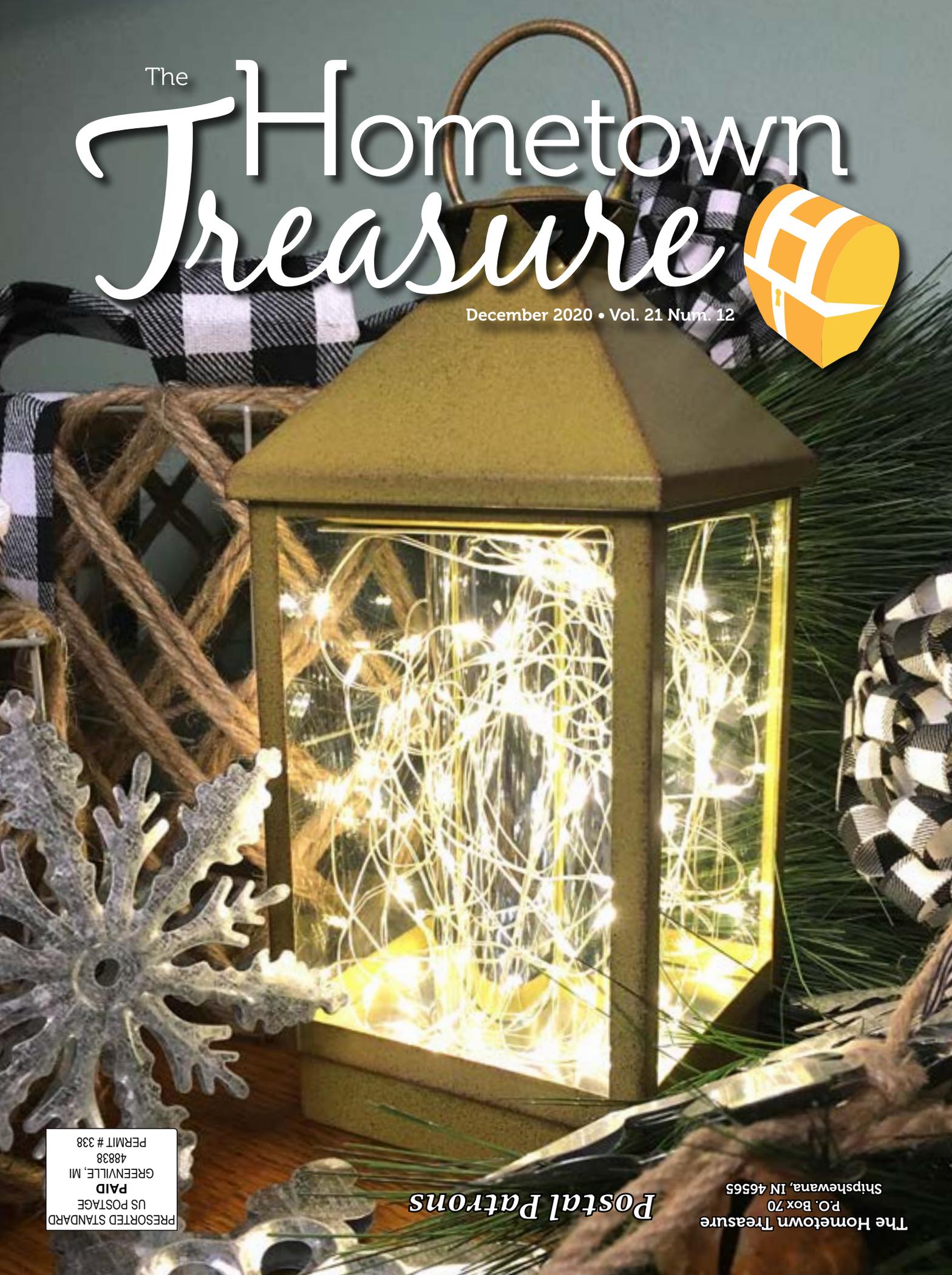


# The Hometown Treasure

December 2020 • Vol. 21 Num. 12



*Postal Patrons*

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Shipsheana, IN 46565

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## Coaches' Quotes

We asked Head Coach Lyle Bontrager a few questions about what to expect by participating in cross country. He answered, "I get all my kids in the best shape of their life, which puts them through a lot of hard work to achieve it."



*Head Coach Lyle Bontrager*

We also asked Coach Matt Jones what motivates him to coach cross country. He replied, "Helping kids improve themselves to their very best is what makes me come back every year."



*Coach Matt Jones*

# CROSS

**T**he cross country team starts training during the summer months before the start of the season, running up to 500 miles during that period. Not only do they focus on running, they also work to stay hydrated through the entire experience. Andrew Cupp was one cross country runner who participated in the summer practice, running an impressive 589 miles over the summer and up to 50 miles per week during the season. Andrew has had to train as hard as he could to get to where he is now. We asked Andrew a couple of questions such as, "What helps you stay motivated when you don't want to run?" He replied with "The grace and mercy God has shown me." Andrew had to have knee surgery in December of 2014 and he basically had to relearn how to walk again. "It's amazing how great God has been this past year." Andrew has proven that with hard work and strong dedication you can do anything you put your mind to.

**E**very runner has their up's and down's. We asked Andrew if he had ever contemplated quitting cross country. He responded with "If I'm completely honest, yes I have. However, once I started racing and training right, I love it." Now, Andrew is one of the fastest runners on the team. In order to continue his progress and stay healthy, he has to keep his diet in check to make sure he is always prepared for his upcoming events. So we asked him, "As an athlete, what do you do to prepare for upcoming events?" Andrew said, "I always try and sleep well two nights before, and I eat pasta or pizza both those nights. The night before, I usually stretch and ice. The day of the event, I usually eat waffles or toast with jam and I drink lots of water."



Twitter: @wvcorp



Facebook: [www.facebook.com/wvcorp](http://www.facebook.com/wvcorp)

Westview School Corporation Administrative Offices  
1545 S 600 W, Topeka, IN 46571  
260.768.4404 | [eashy@westview.k12.in.us](mailto:eashy@westview.k12.in.us)

# COUNTRY

**A**lso a runner for the cross country team, Anthony Sanchez answered a few questions for us. We asked, "What made you want to become a cross country runner?" Anthony answered with, "As I was growing up, I used to play other sports but one day I decided to run cross country. I was pretty good, so I decided to switch to this sport." In sports, it's always good to have at least one person who helps motivate you. We asked Anthony, "Who's your biggest supporter?" Anthony said, "My biggest supporter is probably my mom because she comes and watches most of my meets." Unfortunately, because of Covid-19 things have been different because of the limited spectators they can have, and some could not have any at all. Regardless, the cross country team finished the season strong.

**M**any people can inspire you to do the things you enjoy in order to do better in life or sports. We asked Anthony, "Who inspired you to keep participating in cross country?" Anthony said "My coach and teammates inspire me to keep on participating in cross because they need me, and it also helps to keep in shape for each cross country season." To prepare for the cross country season, Anthony said, "I start to prepare by working out a bit in the weight room, and I get some miles in along with the other guys on the team." Anthony is also one of the many people on the team who worked hard to get to the level he competes at today.

## *Runners*



*Runner Anthony Sanchez*



*Runner Andrew Cupp*

***Written, designed, and edited by: Dennis Vitali & Taven Schrock***

## The Hometown Treasure

A Monthly Publication by  
LaGwana Circulation: 6,000

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

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

Phone: 260-463-4901 • Fax: 888-439-6528  
e-mail: [news@lagwana.com](mailto:news@lagwana.com)

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

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### — ADVERTISING SIZES & RATES —

Size	width x height	Rate
1/12 page	2 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub> " x 2 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub> "	\$36
1/6 page (Vertical)	2 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub> " x 4 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>8</sub> "	\$70
or (Horizontal)	4 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>8</sub> " x 2 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub> "	
1/3 page (Vertical)	2 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub> " x 9 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>8</sub> "	\$135
or (Square)	4 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>8</sub> " x 4 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>8</sub> "	
1/2 page	7 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub> " x 4 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>8</sub> "	\$192
2/3 page	4 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>8</sub> " x 9 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>8</sub> "	\$250
Full Page	7 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub> " x 9 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>8</sub> "	\$325
Inside Front	7 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub> " x 9 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>8</sub> "	\$400
Inside Back	7 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub> " x 9 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>8</sub> "	\$400
Back Cover	7 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub> " x 9 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>8</sub> "	\$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 January 2021 Issue:

**12 noon, Tuesday, Dec 15**

Thursday, Dec 10 if you need a proof.

**January Issue Date is Tuesday, Dec 22**

Discounts for ads running more than once.

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

Or email [htads@lagwana.com](mailto:htads@lagwana.com)

### — SUBSCRIPTION RATE —

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 - October 2020

*Back Row (left to right):* Gavin Engle, Kailey Nissley, Silas Haarer, and Cole Bontrager. *Front:* Alyssa Bontrager, Shawn Raber, Tristan Pearson, Katie Miller, and Bailey Manns. *Not Pictured:* Bryan M. Yoder, Austyn Miller, and Ava Hostetler.

*Photo Submitted*

Westview Junior High School recognized the above students during the month of October for their efforts in academics, hard work in class, caring, leadership, citizenship, athletics, or random acts of kindness to others. **1**

## INVESTMENT STRATEGIES. ONE-ON-ONE ADVICE



**STEVEN M. WEIGEL** FINANCIAL ADVISOR  
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**Edward Jones**®  
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# Student Ambassadors

WHS - October 2020

*Left to right:* Drew Walker, Lucy Rensberger and Hailee Caldwell. *Not Pictured:* Ella Clark, Blake Diehl, and Madison Hooley.

Photo Submitted

Westview High School has selected six students to receive *Student Ambassador of the Month* honors for October 2020. These outstanding students were selected by their teachers for doing a noteworthy accomplishment, a generous act, displaying great improvements or having an outstanding individual achievement. Students like these make Westview a great place to attend! 



Cover Photo by Abby Wenger

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**FARMVIEW Landscape Center**

*Seasons Greetings*

Thank you for a great season.  
Looking forward to seeing you in the spring!

**700 S 900 W, Topeka, IN**  
**260.593.3003**  
Only 3 miles West of town on CR 700S  
(Just West of SR 5)

Hours: M-F 9 am - 5 pm, Sat. 8 am - 1 pm

**Forks County Line**

*Discount Groceries*

With locations in Shipshewana and Middlebury to serve you best.

On the east edge of Middlebury at 508 E. Warren Street

In Shipshewana North Village just east of SR 5

Hrs: Mon.-Thur. 8-5:30, Fri. 8-7:00, Sat. 8-4:30

*Renew Hope Counseling, Inc.* 

*My passion is helping individuals & families find renewed hope in their lives through confidential & professional counseling.*

Available at these locations:  
Redi-Care, LaGrange;  
Topeka Physicians, Topeka;  
Marion Christian Fellowship, Shipshewana

**Charlene Roth, LMFT**  
*Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist*  
260-585-7847



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

Solution on page 18

It's pumpkin season!

I've baked pumpkin pie before, but I've always used canned puree in previous years. This year, while picking

up ingredients for a couple pies, I was confronted by a massive box of pie pumpkins.

Now, I appreciate the convenience of pre-prepared ingredients, but I absolutely love cooking and baking from scratch as much as possible, so I knew I had to use fresh puree this time. Unfortunately, I'm terrible at estimating how much I will get from a piece of fruit, so I decided to get two pumpkins. As it turns out, one would have been plenty.

Needless to say, I had a lot of pumpkin puree left over. **!**



Sponsored by



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!**



*Sherman E. Miller*  
 0485 W. 200 S. • LaGrange, IN  
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 Drop Off Every Thursday at:  
 Eash Sales - Shipshewana, IN  
 Sara's Attic - Topeka, IN  
 Hours: Mon., Tue., Wed.,  
 Fri. 8 am - 5 pm; Sat. 8 am - 12 pm;  
 closed Thur. & Sun.

## Christmas Sale December 7<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup>



**Optional  
 Battery Direct  
 Hook Up**



**JANOME**

**5% OFF**

Sewing Machine Cabinets  
*Ordered Now Through Christmas.*

**10% OFF**

All Sewing Machines  
 & Supplies

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

## Perseverance: Your End of Year Gift

Are you fatigued, scared, or just done? I think most of us have hit a wall of some sort.

I know I have. It is a strange place to be approaching the holidays. After a summer of some predictability, it is hard to face a winter with rising illness and the negativity of an unknown future. How are you handling the trials before you?

A word came to mind when I was fatigued and wanting to give up. Persevere. We do not hear this word much. We lived a life of prosperity and leisure before 2020. What does it look like to persevere through tough times?

Perseverance is to continue in a course of action even in the face of difficulty or with little or no prospect of success. The caveat of *little or no prospect of success* is the quality we have been missing. We have been conditioned that hard work pays off with a great reward.

Reality is proving we can persevere and difficulty may still be ahead. As we look forward to the holidays, the word persevere is an exceptionally hard one to focus on. I challenge you to consider the positive attributes of perseverance, and why it is the grit you need to grab.

1. Perseverance helps our physical, emotional, and mental health as it propels us to push through the obstacles in our way. We are persevering through the pandemic

because we must do what is safe and healthy for ourselves, our family, and community.

2. Perseverance builds strength. Weak muscles collapse under weight and pressure. The same is true for mental and emotional muscles. Your thoughts, attitudes, and abilities to solve problems strengthen under pressure when you persevere. Always



giving up creates weak mental and emotional muscles. There is a scale of options to consider when it is time to give something up. Usually that time is when you have exhausted your choices and know your limits. Perseverance takes you to those ends.

3. Perseverance guides you through pain. Whether it is physical, mental, emotional, or relational pain, we have got to push through it to get to the other side of hope and respite.

Perseverance naturally provides a pathway of options through adversity. Think of a war zone and needing to get out safely. You consider and try at every possible option. You learn what works and what does not. You acquire new skills you did not think you had through perseverance. The same is true of any situation.

4. Hope is present while persevering. There is a fallacy that you get through something hard until it finally goes away and life is good. The American culture has been lulled into a prosperous life while most residents on earth live in adverse circumstances. They learn how to live and love. They have hope and joy in midst of adversity. Along with learning perseverance, we may need to develop true joy in hard times. It is possible. Look around at all you have. Give thanks and enjoy what is in front of you.

A year from now when I am writing the 2021 end of year column, it will be good to look back and see where we have been, where we have persevered. Between now and then, let us roll up our sleeves and be strong. Do not give up. Look around you and be thankful. Dig deep and be strong. We can get through this together. 

This page made possible by



Think you may have the

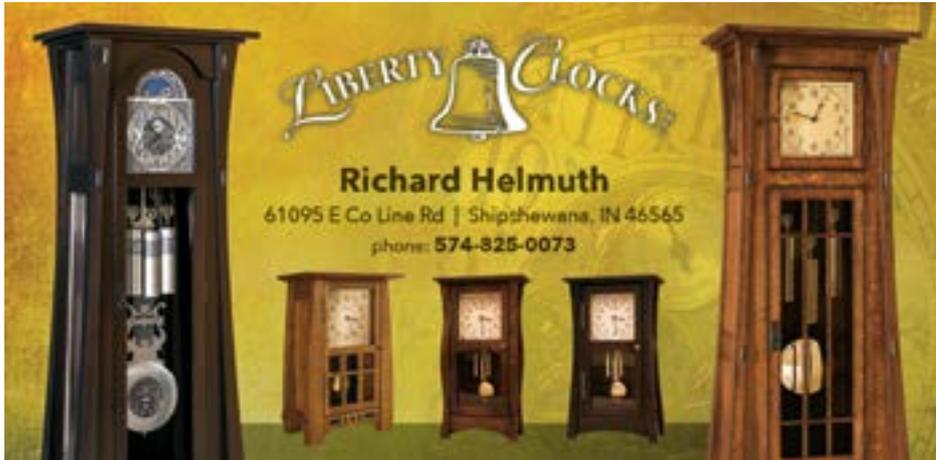
# Flu or Strep Throat?

• Get tested now at Topeka Pharmacy • Walk-ins Welcome!

All prescription treatments will be at the discretion of your primary care provider.



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



## Makita EA5600F Chainsaw

Sale Price - \$449.00

• Includes extra chain and sharpening kit

- 55 cc Easy Start
- 20" 3/8 Pitch Chain



## FRY'S REPAIR SHOP

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

## Kids Club

### Birthdays

- 1 Shaylee Heintzeman, Cody Hill, Gusmar Munoz Huerta
- 2 Brantley Miller, Marsha Miller, Sophia Wingard
- 3 Noelle Amsden, Lyndon Borkholder, Evan Mast, Cindy Schwartz
- 4 Karl Hershberger, Elijah Kemp, Jeremy Nisley
- 5 Kathleen Bontrager, Abigail Hershberger, Kate Mauck, Destiney Osmun
- 6 Abigail Lehmer, Seth Whetstone
- 7 Jared Beechy, Miranda Carmona, Mazie Siples
- 8 Lydia Bloom, Jolisa Fry, Kurtis Miller
- 11 Jace Amsden, Luke Lambright, Madelyn Miller, Michael Miller
- 12 Cesar Flores, Bradon Lambright, Zachary Mullins, Josie Vaughn
- 13 Deborah Weaver
- 14 Bryleigh Bailey, Graesin Lambright, Allison Miller, Landon Miller, Karson Plank
- 15 Olivia Bontrager, Adam Miller, Peyton Raber, Hallie Stults, Julian Warrener

*Birthdays for children in the area up through sixth grade may be submitted free of charge. Suggestion: Send in your complete list a year at a time. Hometown Treasure, Kids' Birthday List, PO Box 70, Shipshewana, IN 46565*

December



## Community Leadership Grant

LaGrange County Community Foundation (LCCF) has received a Community Leadership Grant of \$100,000 as part of Lilly Endowment Inc.'s Giving Indiana Funds for Tomorrow (GIFT VII) initiative. The grant will support the development and implementation of one unified county-wide comprehensive community plan.

LCCF is one of 84 foundations in Indiana receiving grants through this round of GIFT VII grant-making. Lilly Endowment created GIFT to help local communities identify needs and challenges. It launched GIFT VII in 2018 to help foundations strengthen their leadership capacities in the area they serve.

"We are grateful for Lilly Endowment's continued support. This grant will allow our county to develop strategies to improve the quality of life in LaGrange County," said Octavia Yoder, executive director of the LaGrange County Community.

In 2019, LCCF was awarded a planning grant of \$50,000 to identify, prioritize and assess opportunities and challenges in LaGrange County. "Through our project 'Envision LaGrange County' in 2019, the Founda-

tion identified various needs across the county: broadband access, downtown revitalization, planning, housing, child care, education, workforce development, substance abuse, bike trail development, and bike and transportation safety. Among the issues and opportunities identified, there was a strong theme of bringing our communities together to work toward common goals," Yoder added.

The Community Foundation is partnering with the LaGrange County Plan Commission, the County, the Towns, and Region 3-A Regional Planning Commission to develop a county-wide comprehensive plan that will provide strategic direction for LaGrange County's future. The county has provided an additional \$100,000 toward the project.

"A comprehensive plan provides a vision for the future of our community, along with the steps needed to make that a reality – a roadmap to our future," said Robbie Miller, Planning and Zoning Administrator for LaGrange County. "The last roadmap is 15 years old. There have been significant changes since 2005. It's time to update our roadmap," Miller added.

The group is seeking a qualified consultant to lead the planning process, which is slated to begin in April 2021.

Once a consultant is selected, the steering committee will be focused on engaging residents in decisions about the future direction of LaGrange County. "The landscape of our community has changed swiftly in the last 10 years. Planning is an important part of a community's development – it helps us identify who we are and what we want to be. LaGrange County has a wealth of opportunities," Yoder added. 

- 16 Angie Al Yahiri, Ava Bontrager, Jarius Lambright, Trace Trittipio, Kylan Yoder
- 18 Abdulrahman Alyaharee, Rahaf Alyaharee, Elizabeth Yutzky
- 19 Janie Fry, Logan Troxel
- 20 Zarien Campos, Adrian Hostetler, Tori Taylor, Gavin Yoder
- 22 Kyle Mullett
- 23 Landon Hochstetler, Kadrian Miller, Sharon Miller, Braydon Sargent, Krystal Schlabach, Micah Schrock
- 24 Jayni Drake, Beverly Foulk, Sydney Yoquelet
- 25 Lebron Schwartz
- 26 Lexy Bennett, Hailey Otto
- 27 Loren Bontrager, Emma Miller, Nolan Miller, Jace Wingard, Bryce Yoder
- 28 Hannah Miller, Kenlin Miller
- 29 Andrea Barkman, Brianna Gingerich, Xayne Mercer, Bella Williams
- 30 Allison Bontrager, Austin Bontrager, Sara Chupp, Derek Frey, James Wingard
- 31 Joshua Otto, Brenton Parker

Sponsored by



# 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 December.**

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

*Annual Friends of the Library Book Sale will take place on December 2-5 at the Main Library in LaGrange.  
Dec. 2 • Members only. Dec. 3-5 • Open to the Public. Dec. 4 & 5 • Bag Sale Days!*

## Youth Department

### Multiple Branches

#### Pre-School Virtual Story Time

on the LaGrange County Public Library **Facebook** page.  
Tuesdays, December 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 • 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 - Wednesdays, December 2 & 16  
Each bag contains activity sheets and a simple craft for 2 children.

#### Virtual Home School Activity

Friday, December 11 • 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, December 12 • 11 am  
This month's book: "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone"  
by J.K. Rowling  
*Copies of the book are available at the Main Library's  
Adult Information Desk.*

## Adult Interest (Con't.)

### LaGrange County Public Library

#### Gentle Flow Yoga with Farra

Mondays, December 14, 21 & 28 • 10 - 11 am  
Thursdays, December 10 & 17 • 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: Grapevine Table-top Tree

Tuesday, December 8 • 6 pm • Community Room  
Participants will create a seasonal table top tree from grapevine  
and natural accents. All materials will be provided. Cost: \$15 per  
participant, ages 12 and up. Registration and a deposit of \$5 is required  
by Tuesday, December 1 with the balance due at the class.

#### Book Signing With Michelle Bachman

Saturday, December 19 • 10:30 - 11:30 am  
*Ms. Bachman is the author of "Tarnished Penny".*

## HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

*All library locations will be closed December 24 - 25 and December 31 - January 1.*

### **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 while 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.lagrangelib.in.us](http://www.lagrangelib.in.us) or call 260-463-2841.**

(Facebook - [m.facebook.com/lagrangelibraryindiana](https://m.facebook.com/lagrangelibraryindiana))

*This page sponsored by*



# Mystery Farm CONTEST



*December Contest* Sponsored by  
Tiffany's Restaurant and LaGwana

**Elva & Velma Miller of 6450S 1050N**, Wawaka, 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 **Kyle & Delores Yutzy, 600S, Topeka**. Third prize went to **Steven & Karen Fry, 3945N 850W, Shipshewana**.



There were 11 correct entries this month. **Others that guessed correctly were:** Amos Jay & Ida Anna Miller, Dan & Sue Miller, John Jay & LeAnna Kurtz, Amos Hochstetler, Leon & Karen Hostetler, Fritz & Norma Bontrager, David & Mary Bontrager, Joe & Leanna Eicher, Wilbur & Ida Weaver, Gary & Sara Herschberger, Delmar & Polly Bontrager.

## 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: **December 15, 2020**.  
*Allow time for mail delivery.*
- 4) Winners will be drawn and prizes mailed.
- 5) Correct entries listed in our next issue!

## 7th Grade Volleyball



1



2



3

- 1) Hailey Lambright returns a hit from the Prairie Heights' side of the court.
- 2) Gretchen Bontrager goes low to keep the ball from hitting the floor.
- 3) Lilly Mullet serves to Prairie Heights.

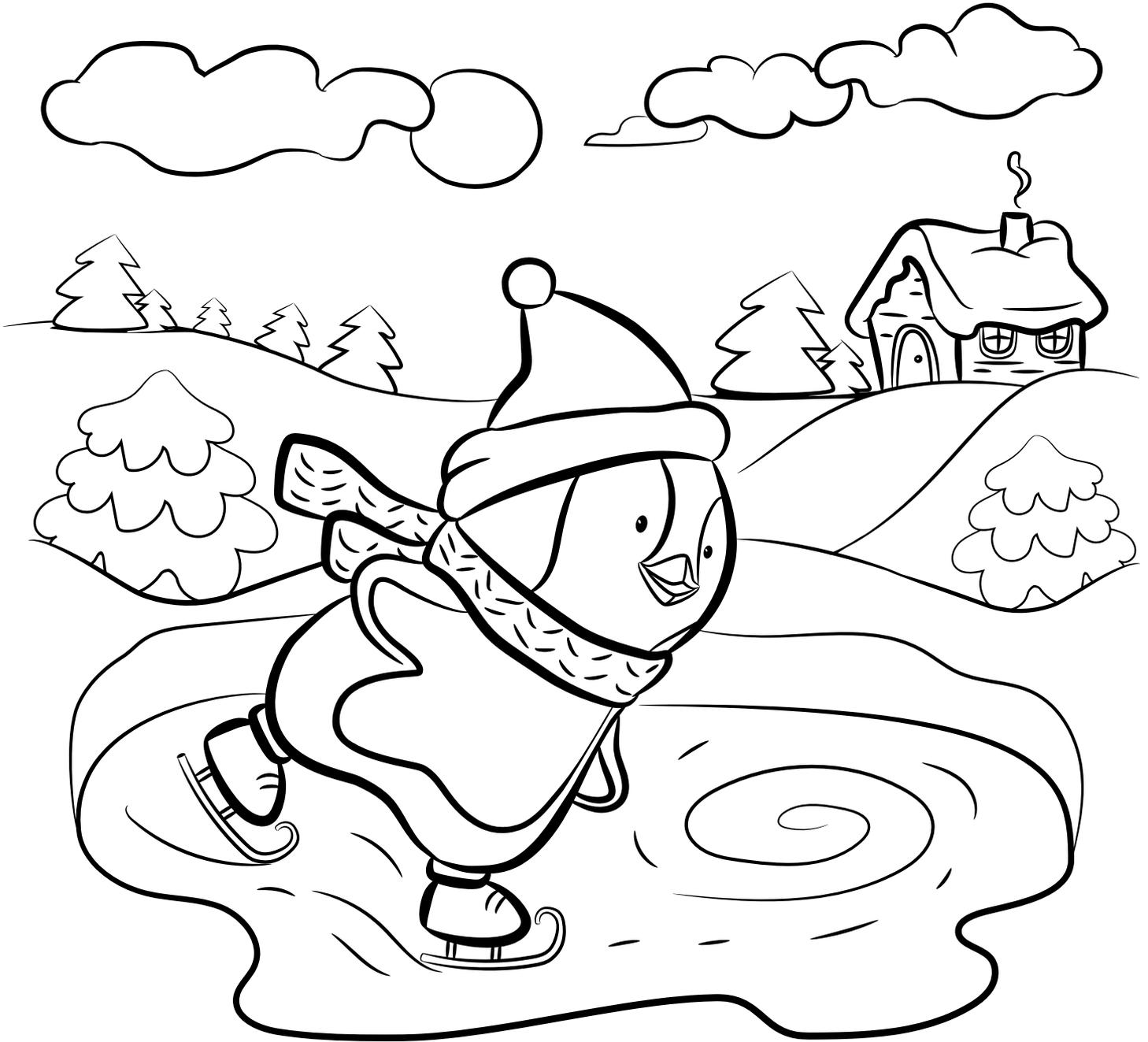
*Sports photos by Abby Wenger*  
*These photos and more are available for purchase at [photos.lagwana.com](http://photos.lagwana.com).*

The Hometown Treasure · December '20

Sponsored by:

**YODER'S**  
Shipshewana Hardware

SR 5 • Shipshewana



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

**Coloring Contest: kids age 6 and younger.** Sponsored by Yoder's Shipshewana Hardware this month! Winner gets a **SPECIAL SURPRISE** at Yoder's Shipshewana Hardware, State Rd 5 South, Shipshewana. Winning drawings will be on display at Yoder's Hardware. **ALL PARTICIPANTS** come in and claim your drawing for A **FREE SURPRISE** at Yoder's Shipshewana Hardware in January. Mail submission to: LaGwana, Coloring Contest, PO Box 70, Shipshewana, IN 46565. **Entry deadline is December 15, 2020.**

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

# Smart Choices

By Austin Bodle, PharmD Candidate at Topeka Pharmacy

## Whooping the Whooping Cough!

Have you ever heard the noise that is generated by whooping cough? It is enough to scare anyone. When a person with this illness is trying to breathe, they make a “whoop” sound after coughing. Whooping cough can be prevented with vaccines. When enough people get vaccinated, the community can build *herd immunity*. Herd immunity occurs when enough people of a population become immune to a disease. Being immune means you can't get the disease. With enough people being immune, the disease is unable to spread as easily because there are less people that can get it. For example, before vaccines, 8,000 people a year died from whooping cough in the US. Now with vaccines and most people being vaccinated, less than 20 people die yearly due to this illness.

### What is Whooping cough?

Whooping cough is an illness that can cause fever and severe coughing. This cough may cause vomiting. This illness sometimes starts off similar to the common cold but usually gets worse. Unvaccinated people have an 80% chance of getting whooping cough if they are around a person with the illness. After developing a cough, the person can infect others for up to 21 days if left untreated.

### Who is most impacted by Whooping cough?

Anyone can get whooping cough at any age, but the younger a person is, generally the more severe it can be. On average, half of children under the age of one that get whooping cough will end up in the hospital.

### How can you prevent Whooping Cough?

The only way to prevent whooping cough is to get vaccinated.

### How can you treat Whooping Cough?

The treatment of whooping cough requires antibiotics, not only for the person with the illness but also for everyone in the household. This prevents them from getting it, even if they were vaccinated previously. Natural home remedies do NOT prevent or cure the spread of whooping cough. If treated with antibiotics, whooping cough is only contagious for five days.

### What Vaccines are available and how to get them?

For children younger than 7 years old get the DTaP vaccine. Children older than 7 years old and adults would get Tdap. Both vaccines also offer protection from Tetanus and Lockjaw. People can get these vaccines at any pharmacy, including here at Topeka Pharmacy. If uninsured, call the phone number below for assistance.

Call Topeka Pharmacy if you have any questions or would like a vaccination. We are available to help at 260-593-2252. 



## Maple Syrup School Tours

Mid-February to Mid-March  
Maple Wood Nature Center  
4550 E 100 S, LaGrange, IN

It is not too early to schedule your school or organization tour! 2-hour field trip; morning or afternoon

### Introduction

Why do leaves change color? Seasonal changes, photosynthesis, chlorophyll

### Sugar Bush Hike

Why does sap flow? Abiotic factors, measuring trees, and tapping process

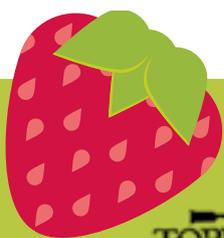
### Sugar Shack Tour

How does sap become syrup?

### Storytelling and Maple Syrup Tasting!

Maple Syrup Tours are FREE to all LaGrange County Schools. \$3 per student for schools not in LaGrange County.

To schedule your visit, call the Park Office at (260) 854-2225 or email Leslie Arnold at [larnold@lagrangeparks.org](mailto:larnold@lagrangeparks.org). **Spaces are limited and will fill up!** 



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# Coloring Contest Winners

Six year old Sara Jean Bontrager of 500 S, Topeka was our winner for the November 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 December.

Runners-up were Lucas Hershberger, age 6; Alayna Lambright, age 5; Katelyn Otto, age 4, Danae Ann Byler, age 2. Honorable Mentions: Amanda Kay Yoder, age 6; Melissa Miller, age 6; Abra Lanae Miller, age 6; Carson Miller, age 6; Myra Jo Bontrager, age 6; Luke Lambright, 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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We have an in-house bakery specializing in cookies & breads, a large variety of fresh produce and home-style noodles, made right here at E & S Sales!

# MONEY Wise

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

## 12 Ways to Get Smart About Personal Finance

Financial literacy is a lifelong pursuit. Research studies have shown that many people get smarter about personal finance through financial experiences (e.g., investing) and life events (e.g., home-buying). People also learn a lot through self-directed learning. One small step to get “money smarter” is to learn a new financial fact every day! Here are a few resources to help you learn more about how you can incorporate personal finance into your daily routine!

**Blogs:** There are hundreds, maybe thousands, of personal finance blogs. Search for “personal finance blogs” online to find lists for “best personal finance blogs.” Try subscribing to a few free blogs that you are interested in!

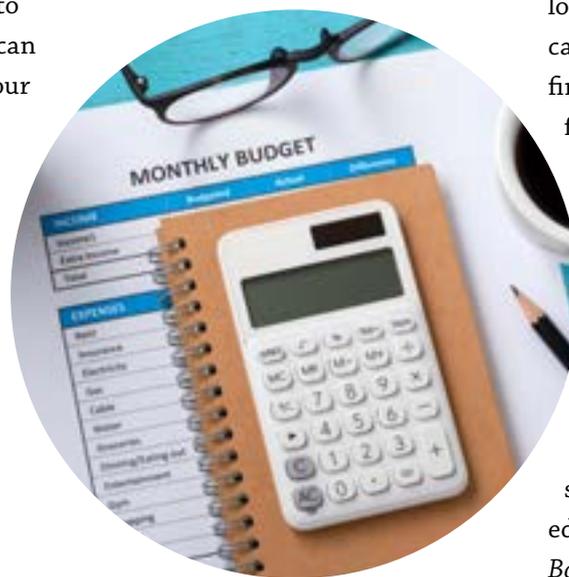
**Books:** There are thousands of personal finance books. Search for “personal finance books” and find lists for “best personal finance books.” Check out your local library to see what options they have!

**E-Learning Courses & Webinars:** Again, search online for lists of online personal finance courses such as *Investing for Your Future* (Cooperative Extension), *Personal Finance 101* (Udemy), and *Smart about Money* (NEFE). Find free personal finance webinars via the websites and/or social media posts of webinar sponsors. Many public libraries, such as the New York Public Library (NYPL), have been offering free webinars and archiving them.

**Financial Advisors:** Contact cur-

rent or potential advisors with questions within their area of expertise. Some advisors provide free community programs at libraries (without a sales pitch!) or free initial consultations.

**Government Resources:** Federal and state government agencies have high-quality financial education materials. A good place to start looking



is [www.MyMoney.gov](http://www.MyMoney.gov), the website of the Financial Literacy and Education Commission.

**Magazines:** Personal finance magazines include *Barron's*, *Business Week*, *The Economist*, *Kiplinger's Personal Finance*, *Forbes*, and *Money* (available in digital format). Free copies to borrow may be available at your local library.

**Newspapers:** *The Wall Street Journal* is America's leading personal finance newspaper. Large city newspapers also include significant personal finance content. Links to key stories are typically posted on social media.

**Online Quizzes and Calculators:** Hundreds, if not thousands, of financial quizzes and calculators are available online to test financial knowledge and “personalize” financial information (e.g., calculate potential savings).

**Podcasts:** There are more than 550,000 podcasts available to download. Search for “personal finance podcasts” to find lists for “best personal finance podcasts.” Try subscribing to a free podcast that you find interesting!

**Apps:** Search for “personal finance apps” to find lists with recommended options. With many tools to choose from, these lists are usually organized by category (e.g., budgeting or taxes).

**Television Shows:** Search for “personal finance television shows” to find lists with recommended options. Examples include *Squawk Box* and *The Profit* (CNBC), *Your Money* (CNN), and *Money Matters* (RLTV).

**Websites:** Sometimes the best way to find information that you need is to simply search key words online and see what you find. Websites that are not useful may ultimately lead to those that are. The Rutgers Cooperative Extension *Personal Finance* website has dozens of worksheets, publications, and other educational resources. Check it out! 

---

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# Christmas Sale

**December 3, 4, 5,  
7 & 8, 2020**

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## All About Bats

Mrs. Helmuth's and Mrs. Zimmerman's second grade students enjoyed learning about bats by flashlight inside their bat cave! 🦇



# Meadowview Elementary

## Election Day

Mrs. Rostochak's fourth grade class ran Meadowview's polling precinct on election day! 🗳️

All photos submitted



This page made possible by the

# WESTVIEW SCHOOL CORPORATION

## Girls Soccer



1



2



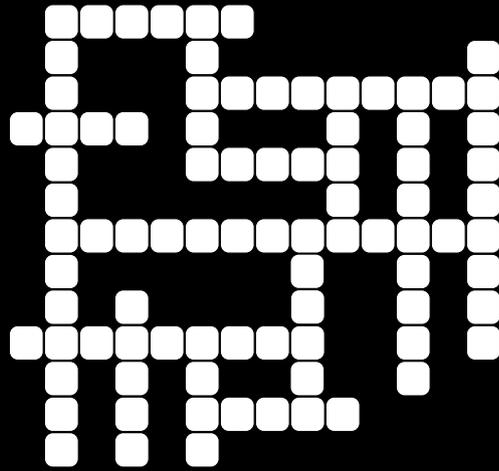
3

- 1) Senior Erika Miller moves the ball down the field.
- 2) Senior Alexis Miller gains control of the ball, beating out her Argos opponent.
- 3) Senior Mary Beth Hostetler keeps her Argos opponent from getting the ball.

*Sports photos by Abby Wenger*

*These photos and more are available for purchase at [photos.lagwana.com](https://photos.lagwana.com).*

- Advent
- Angels
- Announcements
- Bethlehem
- Celebrate
- Christmastide
- Gifts
- Lambs
- Lists
- Mistletoe
- Noel
- Peace
- Rags
- Sings
- Tradition



# Clueless Crossword

Use the words listed to fill in the spaces!

Solution to Clueless  
Crossword is on pg 24.  
by Emily Vandevander

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.

**I LOVE  
DELICIOUS PIE  
NO MATTER  
THE SEASON!**

## 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.



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# Young Readers' Week

Students at Shipshewana-Scott participated in Young Readers' Week. The theme for the day was "Crazy about reading!" Students and staff dressed in crazy clothes and had crazy hair. So far this year students at Shipshewana-Scott have read 13,282 books!!  All photos submitted.

# Shipshewana-Scott Elementary



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# CHECK OUT THESE GREAT EVENTS AT SHIPSEHWANA TRADING PLACE!



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Wednesday, Dec. 16th @ 9AM EST

Preview Items on [AuctionZip.com](http://AuctionZip.com) Auctioneer ID# 1945



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(260) 768-4129 [www.shipshewanatradingplace.com](http://www.shipshewanatradingplace.com)



# Topeka Elementary

## Red Ribbon Spirit Week

Red Ribbon (Drug Free) Week was recently observed at Topeka Elementary with a spirit week. Students and staff participated in several dress up days such as Hat and Crazy Sock Day,

Pajama Day and Neon Day. Students enjoyed the week while also becoming better educated about staying healthy.  All photos submitted



Hat Day - First graders: Nyanchai Sornross, Audrey Yoder and Jonathan Collins.



Neon Day - Miss Cripe's fourth grade class.



Hat and Sock Day - Mr. Reinhardt's third grade class



Pajama Day - Miss Dues' fourth grade class.

Right: Remington and Spencer with their mother, Topeka Elementary kindergarten teacher, Linda Carpenter.

Below: Remington and Spencer run down the line of students and staff along the sidewalk.



## Senior Runners Visit Topeka

As is Westview tradition, when students are competing in a state competition, prior to leaving for the event the high school students visit each elementary school and are cheered on and congratulated. Recently, Topeka Elementary alumni Remington and Spencer Carpenter, senior cross country runners, visited prior to going off to state. 

This page made possible by the

# WESTVIEW SCHOOL CORPORATION



# COVID-19

**6 ft**

Stay at least 6 feet (about 2 arms' length) from other people.

Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands.

When in public, wear a cloth face covering over your nose and mouth.

Do not touch your eyes, nose, and mouth.

Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

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

# Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Our office will be closed from noon on Dec. 24 until Jan. 4.



Thank you for your business!

# Westview Elementary

## Carver Stump Wins Contest



Westview Elementary congratulates Carver Stump for being selected as the Indiana State Winner, the East Central Division Winner, and the National Third Place Winner in the 2019-2020 American History Essay Contest. The contest was sponsored by the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution. Nearly 38,000 students in grades 5-8 from across the nation entered the essay contest "The Voyage of the Mayflower".

Great Job Carver!! 

*This page made possible by the*

## WESTVIEW SCHOOL CORPORATION



# HS WRESTLING

**2020-21 Varsity Boys Wrestling Team:** Back (left to right): Assistant Coach Austin Bontrager, Doug Calvillo, Anthony Stevens, Chandler Pushman and Head Coach David Schragg. Middle: Manager Hailee Caldwell, Colin Yoder, and Izaak Moore. Front: Aidan Kolheim, Nick Bontrager, and Keegan Kohlheim.

Not Pictured: Jayce Brandenberger, Josh Heidorn, Cedric Bontrager, Taven Schrock, Julian Dominquez, and Manager Hannah Sprunger. Photo by Abby Wenger

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Clueless  
Crossword  
Solution

By Emily Vandevander

to the puzzle on page 18.

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# V BOYS BASKETBALL

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**2020-21 Varsity Boys Basketball Team:** Back (left to right): Head Coach Ed Bentley, Brandon Lehman, Drew Litwiller, Caleb Cory, and Assistant Coach Jon Jantzi. Middle: Assistant Caleb Logan, Drew Miller, Ben Byrnett, Brady Yoder, and JV Coach Kenton Weaver. Front: Jordan Schrock, Lyndon Miller, Luke Miller, and Mason Yoder.

Photo by Abby Wenger



# JV BOYS BASKETBALL

Sponsored by



**2020-21 JV Boys Basketball Team:** Back (left to right): Adrian Miller, Hunter Porter, Evan Litwiller, and Braden Eash. Middle: Isaac Heyerly, Wade Springer, Christien Noward, and Coach Kenton Weaver. Front: Doug Minix and Maleek Myers. Not Pictured: Riley Helman, Luke Helmuth, Brady Lehman, Jordan Stahly, Brandt Norberg, and Scott Yoder.

Photo by Abby Wenger

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# V GIRLS BASKETBALL

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**2020-21 Varsity Girls Basketball Team:** Back (left to right): Assistant Coach Adam Christner, Inah Miller, Hailey Miller, Hallie Mast, and Head Coach Ryan J. Yoder. Middle: Manager Andrew Byler, Manager Rochelle Miller, Erika Miller, Andrea Miller, and Katrina Schwartz. Front: Hope Bortner, Kamryn Miller, Sara Lapp, and Allie Springer.

Photo by Abby Wenger



# JV GIRLS BASKETBALL

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**2020-21 JV Girls Basketball Team:** Back (left to right): Coach Kellie Bontrager, Samantha Stump, and Precious Litton. Middle: Sara Lapp, Kamryn Miller, Maria Miller, and Abbie Ponce. Front: Manager Andrew Byler, Skye Stump, Hope Bortner, Audrey Taylor, and Manager Rochelle Miller. Photo by Abby Wenger

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**Seed Bombs**

**Tuesday, Dec. 8, 10:00 – 11:00 am**

**Dallas Lake Park Maint. Barn**

This is a great project for children of all ages! Using pottery clay and native prairie seeds, we will create seed bombs or seed snakes to toss into an area that you would like to have native wildflowers grow. These make an excellent gift for a gardener or nature nut! This program will be inside a pole barn with doors open, so dress for cold weather. Family units will be spaced six feet apart.

RSVP to Leslie Arnold at (260) 363-4022 or [larnold@lagrangecounty.org](mailto:larnold@lagrangecounty.org). **Space is limited.**

**Stocking Stuffer Saturday!**

**Sat., Dec. 12, 11:00 am – 4:00 pm**

**Maple Wood Nature Center**

Here is a chance to get some special Christmas gifts, enjoy horse-drawn wagon rides through the woods, make and children's crafts.

Pure Maple Syrup • Maple Cotton Candy • Maple Suckers

Masks are strongly recommended on wagon rides and required inside all buildings. Pay with cash or check please. Thank you for your patience and cooperation.

**Christmas Bird Feeder Count**

**Wed., Dec. 16, 8:30 am – 3:00 pm**

**Maple Wood Nature Center**

Become a citizen scientist! Gather up a team of family or friends and register for a time to count birds at Maple Wood Nature

Center. Learn to identify common feeder birds from inside the cozy nature center and/or take a walk on the trails. Sign up for 30- or 60-minute time blocks. To properly social distance, teams will not overlap. High counts of species will be submitted to eBird.

RSVP to Leslie Arnold at (260) 363-4022 or [larnold@lagrangecounty.org](mailto:larnold@lagrangecounty.org).

**Max size of one team is 25.**

**First Day Hike! Sunset Walk**

**Friday, January 1, 2021, 4:30 pm**

**Maple Wood Nature Center**

Join thousands of people across America hiking their way to a healthy new year! First Day Hikes were started to promote outdoor recreation. Make a resolution to get outside more in 2021!

Meet on the porch and dress for cold, wet weather! There will be a campfire going as a warming station. Free cocoa will be served while supplies last.

Take a romantic stroll with your sweetie or enjoy a walk in the woods with your family.

Masks are optional unless you plan to socialize at a distance less than six feet apart.

**MONTHLY**

**Quilt Class**

**Sat., Dec. 5, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm**

**Maple Wood Nature Center**



**“Disappearing Shoo Fly”**

Make a quick project just in

time to be a holiday gift. It is a new twist on the old standard Shoo Fly block. Registration is required. Instructions are provided upon registration. Please bring a sack lunch. To register, call the Parks office 260-854-2225, or email [lagrangecountyparks@yahoo.com](mailto:lagrangecountyparks@yahoo.com). Fee is \$25 (\$5 is given to LaGrange County Parks). Call instructors Julia Wolhether 260-367-1449 or Ira Johnson 260-367-1438 for information.

**Maple Wood Fiber Guild**

**Wed., Dec. 9, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm**

**Maple Wood Nature Center**

Open to anyone and any kind of fiber art! Knitting, crocheting, spinning, weaving, dyeing, tatting, embroidery, and more! Bring projects to work on, get inspiration from others, or learn a new hobby.

Bring your own sack lunch and snacks. Donations for the Parks is appreciated. Meets at Maple Wood Nature Center.

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

**Make - n - Take Crafts**

**Magic Reindeer Food**

**Sat., Dec. 12, 10:00 am or 2:00 pm**

**Maple Wood Nature Center**

Easy nature crafts for the entire family!

**Folk Jam**

**Sunday, Dec. 27, 1:30 - 5:00 pm**

**Maple Wood Nature Center**

Jams are mostly folk, country, and bluegrass music, with other styles occasionally added.

For more information, contact Erv Troyer, at (260) 463-2247 or [reo43@aol.com](mailto:reo43@aol.com).

**Sewing Group**

There is no meeting in December due to the holidays.



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# 'Twas a Purple Heart Christmas

## Pfc Henry B. Elliott: K.I.A.

*by Harold D. Gingerich*

Holidays are often difficult for families, especially when they have loved ones who are far away and unable to come home for Christmas. That certainly had to be the case for Arlene Elliott in December of 1944. Her husband, Henry, was somewhere in Europe fighting in General George Patton's Third Army. She had received a letter from Henry dated December 16 that no doubt warmed her heart but also gave her reason for a greater level of concern. Arlene had no way of knowing that, only two days after Christmas, Henry would be killed in action leaving her a widow with an infant son.

Henry Brice Elliott was born on April 23, 1919, in the home of his maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Tobias Valentine and Magdalena

(Mattie) Yoder. He was the third child of Timothy Uriah Brice Elliott (1893-1918) and Rosa Ann Yoder Elliott (1896-1977) who were married on November 14, 1914. Tragically his father "Brice" died on October 14, 1918 from the Spanish Influenza, which swept across Indiana claiming thousands of lives, without seeing the birth of their third son. The birth certificate, signed by Dr. A.J. Hostetler, says that Henry's middle name was "Claud" and that he was born at 1:45 a.m. We do not know if Dr. Hostetler assisted with the birth or if he stopped in to check on mother and baby later in the morning.

Henry's middle name poses an interesting question because there is no legal record of his middle name being legally changed. All legal documents that have been discovered thus far have his middle name listed as "Brice" or with just the letter "B". We are left to wonder if the change was his mother's idea to honor her late husband or if Dr. Hostetler made a clerical mistake.

It is worth noting that, following her husband's death in 1918, Rosa Ann married a widower by the name of James "Elmer" Miller on October 18, 1922. The children from their blended family would become prominent members of the Emma, Shipshewana,

and Topeka communities. Rosa Ann's brothers, Rufus, Valentine, Amzie and Milo F. Yoder, were also well known in the area.

Henry Elliott graduated from Shipshewana High School in 1937. On Saturday evening, February 18, 1939, in the Goshen home of a Rev. Zeigler, he married Arlene Marie Oesch (1920-1991). At the time of their marriage, Henry was working at the IGA grocery store in Topeka for D.E. Seagly and Son in Topeka. That may be where they met. Arlene, who graduated from Topeka High School in 1938, was the daughter of William and Goldie Oesch from Topeka, both of whom are buried in the Eden Cemetery. Arlene had an older brother, Stanley (THS Class of 1935), whose wife was also named Arlene; she worked at the Topeka Post Office for many years.



SERIAL NUMBER 766	1. NAME (Print) HENRY BRICE ELLIOTT	2. ORANGE CO IND	ORDER NUMBER 12
3. ADDRESS (Print) TOPEKA LAGRANGE IND			
4. OCCUPATION None	5. AGE IN YEARS 21	6. PLACE OF BIRTH Lagrange Ind.	7. COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP U.S.A.
8. DATE OF BIRTH Apr 23 1919			
9. NAME OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS Mrs. Arlene Marie Elliott		10. RELATIONSHIP OF THAT PERSON Wife	
11. ADDRESS OF THAT PERSON Topeka Lagrange Ind.			
12. EMPLOYER'S NAME D.E. Heagly & Son			
13. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS Topeka Lagrange Ind.			
14. SIGNATURE Henry Brice Elliott			

On December 13, 1943, Henry was inducted into the US Army. One source of comfort was that Arlene and their 11-month-old son, Patrick, had family close by to support them. The following June, Henry was deployed to the European theater. His last letter home was dated December 16, 1944. The family learned that he had been wounded and had been in the hospital but was later discharged. But then on Sunday evening, January 14, Arlene received the telegram that every wife and mother dreads. "We regret to inform you ....," Pfc Henry B. Elliott had been killed in action on Wednesday, December 27th, 1944, in the Battle of the Bulge.

The front page of the Topeka Journal from January 18, 1945 ran the headline *Pfc. Henry Elliot Killed in Battle*



General Patton's 3rd Army, and that he had received a purple heart.

It would be five long years before Henry's body would be returned from its temporary resting place in the American Cemetery in Ardennes, Belgium, to LaGrange County for final burial. What all took place allowing that to happen is something we just do not know. During those years of waiting, Arlene married a farmer from Cromwell by the name of Ralph L. Iden (1911-1978). Both Ralph and Arlene are buried in the Indian Village Cemetery near Cromwell in Noble County.

The front page of the Topeka Journal (May 25, 1949) carried the story "Pfc Henry B. Elliott Buried Saturday in Yoder Cemetery". Rev.

Percy J. Miller and Rev. Lee Miller officiated at the 2:30 p.m. service at the Shore Mennonite Church. Listed among the survivors, in addition to his mother, Arlene and son Patrick, were "two brothers, George Elliott of New York and Arthur Elliott from Milford; five half-sisters, three half-brothers, three step-sisters, and two step-brothers." The January 1945 news article which reported on Henry's death had an interesting detail about his brother Arthur who settled in Milford by 1949. The 1945

of Luxemburg. The article reported that the telegram had not provided any details about how he had been killed. The newspaper did say that Pfc Elliott had been a member of the



Arlene and Patrick

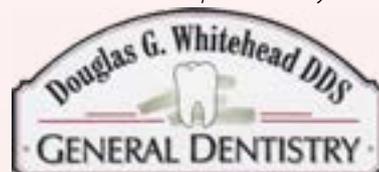


Ralph and Arlene Oesch Iden

article lists him as Henry's survivor with these words, "Arthur with the US Army in Italy".

Henry's son, Patrick, who was too young to have ever really known his father, died in 2015 at the age of 72. On November 30, 1963, he married Janice Lynn Herl. Together they raised a family. Patrick served four years in the US Air Force and was a very active member of the St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Ligonier, the Cromwell-Kimmell Lions Club, and the American Legion Post 243 Honor Guard. Patrick Elliott was laid to rest in the Indian Village Cemetery near his mother. **i**

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# VARSITY CHEER

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**2020-21 Varsity Cheer Team:** Back (left to right): Kelsey Rich, Doug Calvillo, and Lillian Eash. Middle: Kaylyn Gates and Drew Walker. Front: Amber McHenry, Alexis Miller, and Isabelle Helmuth.

Photo by Abby Wenger



# JV CHEER

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**2020-21 JV Cheer Team:** Back (left to right): Skye Growcock and Kayli Mahon. Front: Brianna Caldwell, Danika Yoder, and Abby Bontrager. Not Pictured: Ireley Sherman.

Photo by Abby Wenger

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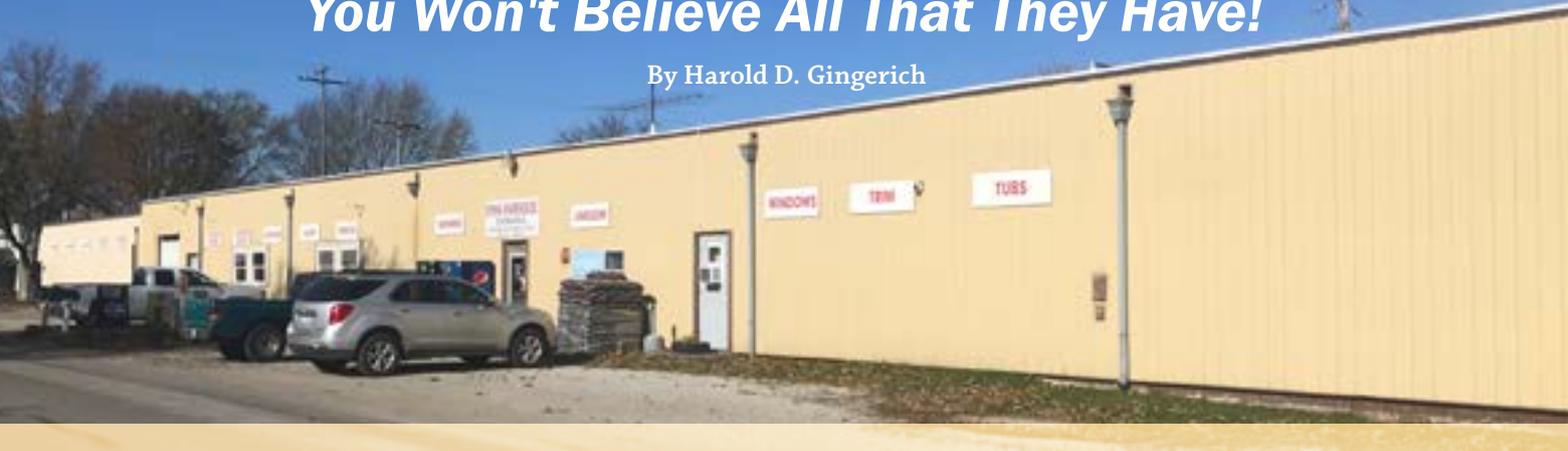
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# Emma Warehouse

*You Won't Believe All That They Have!*

By Harold D. Gingerich



What started out as just another place to pick up salvage items left over from the recreational vehicle industry; Emma Warehouse has become so much more. Joe Billman, and his father Duane, along with his sister Kari Lipscomb, have transformed what was once the old Starcraft sewing building into a 20,000 square foot home improvement paradise. Located on the northeast corner of the intersection in Emma (5995 W 200 S), the Emma Warehouse has everything you can imagine from traditional hardware and plumbing supplies, to doors, countertops and cabinets, to vinyl flooring, and the full line of Valspar paints; they even have that new mattress you have been looking for.

The Billman name is well recognized around LaGrange County. Billman Propane has been serving the community since 1930. Duane has been involved in countless community projects. His son Joe, who graduated from Lakeland High School in 1983, is married to Anne who is also a Lakeland graduate (Class of 1981). Kari Billman

Lipscomb graduated from Lakeland in 1998 and married Bill Lipscomb in 2002.

Community involvement and service have been a priority. Joe said, "Our family is always trying to find ways to serve." One example of that has been the tradition of serving as a member of the fire department. Joe is currently the fire chief for Johnson Township and prior to that he was the fire chief in LaGrange.

It was almost 30 years ago that Joe, and his father Duane, opened Topeka Quality Salvage on SR 5 two miles west and a quarter mile south of Topeka in one end of what is now Overhead Door. They primarily carried salvage items from the manufactured home and recreational vehicle industry. In 2003 the business was moved to its current location in Emma. While the corporate name remained Topeka Quality Salvage, the store's name was changed to Emma Warehouse.

Their new location had originally been owned by Starcraft and was the site of the Starcraft sewing factory.

Many ladies from the community, including my wife and mother-in-law, worked there sewing the curtains and fabric for Starcraft's line of pop-up campers and travel trailers.

For their first few years in Emma, the store continued primarily as a salvage outlet. But things began to change when Ben Eicher came on board. "Ben knows everybody, and everybody knows Ben," smiles Kari Lipscomb who has worked in the family business for 15 years. And with almost 40 years in the business, Ben knows hardware. With Ben's expertise, Emma Warehouse has been transformed from a salvage outlet into a top-notch



Ben Eicher

hardware store with a premier line of Valspar paints.

Ben enjoys telling the story about the day a local Amish man came into the store looking for a pipe fitting. "I helped him find what he needed," Ben said with a bit of a grin, "and then he said to me, 'This is the best thing that has happened to Emma. If you weren't here I would have had to drive my horse and buggy all the way to Shipshe, Topeka, or Goshen!'" Truth be told, it's not just the local folks who are thankful for Emma Warehouse. There are a lot of people who make the drive to

Emma because they know that they will find what they need.

So, if you are looking for quality salvage, a new vanity, flooring or a freezer, Joe, Kari, Ben and the friendly folks at Emma Warehouse are ready to help. For the Billmans' it's not just about operating a business. Joe summed it up well, "The family motto for all of our businesses is that we are just trying to serve our friends and neighbors."

And when you stop by the store, they just might let you take a peek at the old fire truck and the vintage

1921 Scripps-Booth touring car that is stored in the back of the building. According to the Scripps-Booth Register there are only five known 1920 built cars and two 1921 models in existence.



Emma Warehouse is open Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Saturday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. You can reach them at (260) 593-2769, email them at emmawarehouse@yahoo.com, or send them a fax at (260) 593-2728. Make sure you "like" their Facebook page and thank them for advertising in the Hometown Treasure! 



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## **COVID-19: We need you to #MaskUpHoosiers**

Indiana is slowly reopening for business, but the fight against **COVID-19** is far from over. Wearing a face mask is one of the simplest, most effective ways to slow the spread of the virus, but we need everyone to do their part to keep our state safe. That's why we are asking all Hoosiers to mask up — and speak up about how wearing your mask can save lives.



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



<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/more/masking-science-sars-cov2.html>

### **Background**

SARS-CoV-2 infection is transmitted predominately by respiratory droplets generated when people cough, sneeze, sing, talk, or breathe. CDC recommends community use of [masks](#), specifically non-valved multi-layer cloth masks, to prevent transmission of SARS-CoV-2. Masks are primarily intended to reduce the emission of virus-laden droplets ("source control"), which is especially relevant for asymptomatic or presymptomatic infected wearers who feel well and may be unaware of their infectiousness to others, and who are estimated to account for more than 50% of transmissions. Masks also help reduce inhalation of these droplets by the wearer ("filtration for personal protection"). The community benefit of masking for SARS-CoV-2 control is due to the combination of these effects; individual prevention benefit increases with increasing numbers of people using masks consistently and correctly.

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## Varsity Volleyball



1



2



3

- 1) Senior Kyla Smart spikes the ball.
- 2) Senior Hallie Mast goes low and keeps Eastside from gaining a point.
- 3) Senior Hannah Martin delivers a powerful serve.

*Sports photos by Abby Wenger*  
These photos and more are available for purchase at [photos.lagwana.com](http://photos.lagwana.com).

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## COVID-19 Related Tax Scam

The Indiana Department of Revenue (DOR) would like to alert all Hoosiers of a tax scam reported by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). This scam is sent through text message and is trying to trick individuals into providing personal information in order to receive a \$1,200 Economic Impact Payment.

The scam text message reads:

"You have received a direct deposit of \$1,200 from COVID-19 TREAS FUND. Further action is required to accept this payment into your account. Continue here to accept this payment ..."

The text includes a link to a fake web address.

The IRS has advised people who receive this text scam to take a screenshot of the text message and then send an email to [phishing@irs.gov](mailto:phishing@irs.gov) with the following information:

- A copy of the screenshot.
- Date/Time/Timezone that they received the text message.
- The number that appeared on their Caller ID.
- The number that received the text message.

More information in regards to the scam can be found on the IRS website. 

## Cancer Services Virtual Presentations

LaGrange County Council on Aging Cancer Services is offering several virtual presentations focused on nutrition throughout the month of December. Interested parties call Sue Delagrance at 260-484-9560 x 357. 

## New Physician in Shipshewana

Parkview Physicians Group-Family Medicine has announced the addition of Milad Hanna, MD, to their medical staff. Dr. Hanna is board-certified in family medicine by the American Board of Family Medicine and is a member of the Indiana Academy of Family Physicians, the Christian Medical and Dental Association and the Mennonite Health Fellowship. He is fluent in English and Arabic.

"I grew up in Egypt and knew from childhood that health care there is very poor, that there is limited access to health care in different parts of the country," said Dr. Hanna. "I experienced how important physicians are, how much of a difference they make, as several of my relatives, including my mother, became very ill. I think it

was then that I knew I wanted to be a physician."

"As a family physician, each patient is unique," Dr. Hanna continued. "Each one's life is impacted in a different way by their illness. It is important to me to be able to listen to each of them and learn what is important to them. I like being able to work with my patients to develop a treatment plan that also addresses what is important in their lives."

Dr. Hanna is a member of Parkview Physicians Group and sees patients at Parkview Physicians Group-Family Medicine, 8175 W. US 20, Shipshewana, Indiana. For an appointment with Dr. Hanna, call 260-768-7432. 

## Blue Blazers Finish First

The Goshen Blue Blazers home school volleyball team finished first in the Gold Division at the national tournament in Iowa. Two local members of the team, Lauren Vaughn, a senior

from LaGrange, and Abby Weaver, a junior from Shipshewana, were selected to the All-Tourney team. Lauren Vaughn was named MVP of the entire tournament. 



*Top: (Left to Right): Hanah Weiss, Liz Reimer, Dahlia Goeglein, Ashley Hallam, Makaya Cooper, Kimmy Stoltzfus, Abby Weaver, Liah Ostrom, Hannah Reimer, Lauren Vaughn, and Melany Weaver.*

*Right: Lauren Vaughn, and Abby Weaver.*

*Photos submitted.*





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