

The
Hometown
Treasure

January 2021 • Vol. 22 Num. 1



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STUDIES



Inah Miller is a senior at Westview high school. Inah started her high school career halfway through freshman year. When asked if it was difficult coming back to school halfway through freshman year, Inah explained, "It was difficult just because I had no idea what to expect, and I had no idea what classes I should be taking." Inah knew it would be challenging and that she would have to make up for the classes she missed for that semester, but she pushed through because she never thought she wanted the chance to further her education. Inah is currently ranked number seven in her class and holds a cumulative GPA of 4.055. Inah talked about her life after high



school saying, "my future plan is to go to a college in Indiana and get a bachelor's degree in elementary education. I want to become a third or fourth grade teacher in an Indiana school." Inah continued to say how the process to reach her goal will not be easy, but she has the support system and motivation to reach it. Through it all, Inah has had adversity in her life, which made everything a little bit harder for her. Inah explained that she didn't know what

**"My future plan is to go to a college in Indiana and get a bachelor's degree in elementary education."
—Inah Miller**

to expect in high school, as that was not originally in her plans, how to get involved, and how to fit in. Even though it was challenging at times, Inah was able to maintain good grades throughout high school. Inah is now on track to graduate high school and reach her goal of becoming a teacher in an Indiana school.

WESTVIEW GRADUATE

Westview graduate, Tyler Miller, is a fifth grade teacher at Westview Elementary. He attended Goshen College and started teaching as a second grade aide at Topeka in 1996-97. The following two years, Tyler taught sixth grade at Westview Elementary, and moved on to teach fifth grade for the past 22 years. Tyler Miller remembers helping grade papers with his teacher in third grade and thinking, "this is so much fun." When asked what his favorite part about teaching was, Tyler responded with, "My favorite part about

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



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SPORTS

Isaiah Hostetler is a sophomore tennis player at Westview High school. Isaiah started playing tennis in fifth grade, and fell in love with the sport ever since he started playing. Isaiah started growing as a player when his dad, Marian Hostetler, took Isaiah and his older brother, Elijah Hostetler out to the court and started giving them lessons. During both of Isaiah's first two tennis seasons, he managed to keep his GPA at a 4.0. Isaiah said this was done by, "working hard on schoolwork right after tennis practice." Isaiah

has had an incredible start to his high school career by starting out on Varsity freshman year playing the three singles spot, and only losing three matches all year. Isaiah felt like all his hard work had paid off after accomplishing a great freshman year. Isaiah was part of the history making team at Westview by winning back-to-back Regional championships and winning Westview's first ever semi-state championship. When asked how he felt about making Westview tennis history Isaiah answered with, "It feels great starting my

high school tennis career and making this tennis history. I'm just really thankful that I got to play with the wonderful team I did and I'm glad that I could play a part in bringing the Westview tennis team to these accomplishments." Isaiah's biggest accomplishment on the court was beating Penn's number one singles player at the Concord Invitational. He was down a set losing 0-5 in the second set. Down match point, Isaiah managed to come back and win the match after winning the second set tiebreaker. With all the accolades Isaiah has achieved he plans to play his last two seasons of high school tennis and everyone is excited to see what will happen next.

teaching is tracking the academic/emotional growth of the students and interacting with them throughout the year." On top of teaching, Tyler Miller has been coaching Westview High school tennis for four years. Within those four years, Tyler has led the team to four Sectional titles, two back-to-back Regional titles, and Westview's first Tennis Semi-State Championship. In addition to all of the team's accomplishments, he was named Indiana tennis coach of the year in 2019. Tyler Miller has impacted his students and his players through his hard work and dedication to them, and it is greatly appreciated.



Written and designed by
Brady Hostetler and
Hannah Schwartz

The Hometown Treasure

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1/3 page (Vertical)	2 ³ / ₈ " x 9 ⁷ / ₈ "	\$135
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February Issue Date is Tuesday, Jan 26

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Principal's Dozen

WJHS - November 2020

Back Row (left to right): Annette Whetstone, Luis Osorio Luna, Annagail Warrener, Jacob Watts, Micia Yoder, and Grace Hochstetler. Front: Landon Miller, Dena Miller, Brett Springer, Elyse Wingard, Alyssa Bontrager, and Gwenda Lambright.

Photo Submitted

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

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Remember Jesus
is the reason for the season

*Thanks to all our customers
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Student Ambassadors

WHS - November 2020

Back Row (left to right): Braden Rogers, Bryan Hernandez-Ballines, Braden Eash, Nathan Miller, and Chase Miller. Front: Jethro Hostetler, Penelope Eash, and Ireley Sherman. Photo Submitted

Westview High School has selected eight students to receive *Student Ambassador of the Month* honors for November 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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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 getting cold out! I finally had to swap my jacket out for my winter coat. The jacket is leather and had been doing pretty

well at keeping me warm, but the coat is longer and keeps more of my core all nice, snuggly, and warm.

Thankfully, it's not too cold for walks in the afternoons after work. The Millrace path along the Elkhart River is just around the corner from our house, so we've started meeting up with a couple friends for walks to get out of the house.

Now I just have to find a way to keep my mask from fogging my glasses up while we are walking! 

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Solution on page 18

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

Five Steps When Taking A Risk

A few years ago, I walked across the Lake Michigan shoreline. As I approached a curve in the landscape, the only way to get to the other side was to walk on large rocks hugging the cliff. Alone and with a torn ACL, I was unsure about making it safely across the rocks. I walked cautiously, aware that any slip or misstep would immediately buckle my knee and I would be unable to get up. My strength would be gone. I had to choose whether to risk the unsure walk, or to turn around and forego the beauty on the other side of the coast.

I decided to take the risk.

Life presents us with similar situations. Have you ever had the chance to explore new experiences or opportunities, but you fail to take the risk because your handicaps, weaknesses, and insecurities hold you back? I have. Even the start of 2021 is full of uncertainty and risks after the year we have experienced in 2020. When you are confronted with scary, unknown next-step-options, you might feel insecure, minuscule, and ill-equipped. Fear paralyzes you. Uncertainty makes you to shrink back. You feel vulnerable when you are not equipped for what is ahead. If you have felt this way, you are not alone.

How can you move forward in life, or even 2021, when it's scary?

1. Seek God's wisdom and embrace

His strength. 1 Corinthians 1:25 says "For the foolishness of God is wiser than man's wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than man's strength." There's no greater wisdom than God's. If you are not religious, seek the wisdom of people you trust who have experienced life and have insight to share.

2. Tap into the strength you already have. Unsure situations make you feel out of place and insecure. Before



stepping out in rocky and unsure settings, spend time with people and places where your confidence is strengthened. When strengthened, you're ready to take the next step.

3. Be prepared. Ask questions, research, and prepare yourself as much as you can. Doing your homework gives you the best opportunity available.


4. Accept your insecurities. In any situation, most people aren't

fully knowledgeable or experienced. Experience comes through trial and error. Give yourself grace to not know it all. Then, see every opportunity as a teachable moment.

5. Look like you know what you're doing. I learned a lesson from a teacher with whom I once worked. He taught kids with cognitive disabilities. He told them that they were smart, and when they went anywhere in the school, they were to look "smart," so they wouldn't perpetuate the stereotype of being the "dumb" class. It's a valuable life lesson. The kids exuded a confidence like no other. So can you. Look like you know what you're doing and people will never know how scared you are.

Sometimes it's called "fake it until you make it."

No matter what's on the horizon for you, uncertainty is guaranteed. Risk might be involved. Whether it's a job, a relationship, a new business you're starting, or moving forward in your personal journey, there will be rocky places. Growth happens when you prepare, are honest with yourself, seek God, use your strengths, and put your best foot forward.

The opportunities on the other side are well worth the risk. 

This page made possible by



Westview Jr./Sr. High Quarter 1 High Honor Roll

In addition to the GPA requirements (3.5 or above) for High Honor Roll, students must be enrolled in at least 5 credit hours and have no grades lower than a C-.

Grade 7

Hyde Al Yahiri, Kara Beechy, Kristen Bender, Adrian Bontrager, Alyssa Bontrager, Jalayna Bontrager, Janessa Bontrager, Lisa Bontrager, Loraine Bontrager, Noah Bontrager, Darin Borkholder, Breann Cory, Chayenne Diaz, Hunter Egli, Doretta Fry, Eric Fry, Madison Grossman, Marla Hochstetler, Ava Hostetler, Alyssa Kauffman, Briana Kaufman, Brayden Lambright, Hailey Lambright, Janell Lambright, Aaron Lehman, Ashley Lehman, Austin Lehman, Janae Lehman, Janissa Lehman, Jenna Lehman, Keith Lehman, Bailey Manns, Audrianna Martin, Lanita Mast, Miley Mast, Mykayla Mast, Eden Mauck, Ava Miller, Hannah Miller, Ina Miller, Jacob Miller, Jana Miller, Katie Miller, Kevin Miller, Kristen Miller, Landon Miller, Logan Miller, Lynette Miller, Megan Miller, Milan Miller, Wendall Miller, Isaac Nissley, Shawn Raber, Aaron Roth, Bentley Ryall, Darin Schlabach, Nora Schlabach, Brett Springer, Alex Troyer, Lucas Troyer, Melody Troyer, Jordynn Wasson, Annette Whetstone, Jalayna Whetstone, Brina Williams, Benjamin Wingard, Elyse Wingard, Angela Yoder, Jared Yoder, Kaitlyn Yoder, Katurah Yoder, Kurtis Yoder, and Miciah Yoder.

Grade 8

Hussein Aldawshan, Derek Beechy, Ashley Bontrager, Cole Bontrager, Ian Bontrager, Isaiah Bontrager, Jethro Bontrager, Lilly Bontrager, Michelle Bontrager, Natalie Bontrager, Clarinda Byler, Brittney Chupp, Mason Clark, Audrey Eash, Jolene Eash, Loren Eash, Caden Engle, Gavin Engle, Jaxon Engle, Lakota Everitt, Kyle Frey, Eric Fry, Kyla Fryer, Micah Geyer, Kara Gingerich, Silas Haarer, Michael Hargrove, Grace Heyerly, Grace Hochstetler, Olivia Jasso, Asher Kennedy, Gwenda Lambright, Serena Lambright, Sierra Lambright,

continued on page 9



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- 3 Sireena Gill, Betty Halferty, Addison Hershberger, Lucas Hershberger, Kara Miller, Merrill Warrener
- 4 Olivia Everage, Kari Miller, Kirsten Miller, Jakob Seneca, Christopher Yoder
- 5 Farrah Blankenship, Jenna Miller, Aaron Riehl, Adrian Riehl
- 7 Lucy Alwine, Andrea Lehman, Lucas Yoder
- 8 Isaiah Bontrager, Elijah Flores, Richelle Lapp, Brandon Miller, Izaak Musser
- 9 Adam Frey, Gage Miller, Daryl Schwartz, Hannah Troyer
- 10 Rahaf Aldawshan, Elliott Chupp, Curtis Hershberger, Damon Lambright, Vada Miller
- 11 Hadley Keim, Azriel Lehman, Katy Miller, Lacey Ramey, Easton Workman, Kameron Yoder
- 12 Kenlyn Lambright
- 13 Kaleb Cupp, David Hilty, Seth Lambright, Charles Lassen, Bayli Smith
- 15 Abdulrahman Algeradi, Tyson Bontrager, Larion Mullet, Ryan Otto, Reagan Wilson

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

January

- 16 Brian Bontrager, Braylin Leonard, Alex Troyer
- 17 Gabriel Miller, Janice Miller, Mariah Miller
- 18 Grant Bontrager, Janae Frey, Erica Lambright, Alexis Lambright, Jacob McAninch, John Neal
- 19 Abrar Saleh
- 20 Josiah Lambright, Heidi Lehman
- 21 Kyla Miller, Michael Miller, Elijah Watts, Caleb Wingard
- 22 Mallory Antal, Kimber Helmuth, Justin Miller
- 23 Justin Bontrager, Caedmon Gates, Ellisynn Hamm, Caiden Marks, Steven Miller, Natalie Stutzman, Dominique Troyer
- 24 Evan Beechy, Kailen Myers, Shawn Schmucker, Estelle Zabona
- 25 Alyssa Hooley, Julie Hostetler, Alayna Miller, Micah Miller
- 26 Deric Fry, Luke Tormanen
- 27 Ava Mishler, Jaylen Rennick, Hannah Riehl, Joshua Troyer
- 28 Allyse Hostetler, Kari Kurtz, Ryan Miller, Alexandria Sweet, Amber Yoder
- 29 Karleen Bender, Drew Bontrager, Madalyn Everage, Averie Stutzman
- 30 Julian Flores, Kristen Chupp, Benji Miller, Twila Schwartz, Elijah Wingard, Emily Yoder
- 31 Vonda Bontrager



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H. Honor Roll ... cont. from page 8

Alvin Lehman, JoAda Lehman, Joshua Lehman, Karl Lehman, Aydan Leis, Jackson Massey, Janell Mast, Kiana Mast, Brian Miller, Caleb Miller, Curtis Miller, Daryl Miller, Derek Miller, Heidi Miller, Ida Miller, Jane Miller, Leah Miller, Marla Miller, Norma Miller, Sara Miller, Brianna Munoz, Isaiah Otto, Gwendolynn Owsley, Matthew Raber, Morgan Rich, Morgan Riegsecker, Jonathan Roth, Alexzander Sanchez, Sharla Schmucker, Brandon Schwartz, Lindsey Schwartz, Dylan Shrock, Matthew Slabach, Sorcha Stewart, Sheila Stoltzfus, Amy Troyer, Alexis Warren, Annagail Warrener, Jacob Watts, Ava Williams, Ella Williams, Jordan Williams, Katura Wingard, Kerry Wingard, Laurene Wingard, Megan Wingard, Bryan M. Yoder, Bryan R. Yoder, Derek Yoder, Erika Yoder, Jacob Yoder, Kamden Yoder, Kylie Yoder, Nicole Yoder, Tyler Yoder, Velda Yoder, Velma Yoder, and Benjamin Yutzky.

Grade 9

Eli Atra, Kristie Bolling, Caleb Bontrager, Mia Bontrager, Nicholas Bontrager, Hope Bortner, Jayce Brandenberger, Carson Brown, Tyson Christner, Katie Engelage, Sharla Frey, Joshua Heidorn, Luke Helmuth, Benton Hershberger, Judson Hershberger, Cayden Hunsberger, Braden Kauffman, Brady Lehman, Kaylin Mahon, Ciara Mikel, Adam Miller, Karli Miller, Douglas Minix, Teague Misner, Izaak Moore, Christien Noward, Kaitlin Nuzum, Luna Osorio, KeeLee Palmer, Jacob Peruski, Braden Rogers, Mackenzie Smith, Wade Springer, Madeline Stults, Sierra Stump, Kirstin Stutzman, Abriana Suddarth, Audrey Taylor, Westan Walker, Nevaeh White, Mason Wire, Kjersten Yater, Melissa Yoder, and Scott Yoder.

Grade 10

Ashwaq Aldhuraibi, Kylen Bender, Ava Brown, Brianna Caldwell, Ella Clark, Jordi Cochs Clapers, Alyssa Collier, Alyssa Cory, Kaitlyn Cupp, Skye Growcock, Hope Haarer, Chadwick Hershberger, Ethan Hibbs, Savannah Hoover, Isaiah Hostetler, Bailey Kenner, Aidan Koehler, Ethan Konkle, Sara Lapp, Evan

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LaGrange County Library

LaGrange - Main Branch

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

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS:

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

Below are the events planned for January.

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

Youth Department

Multiple Branches or Virtual Activities

Pre-School Virtual Story Time

Facebook • Tuesdays, January 5, 12, 19 & 26 • 10 am

Theme: Travel the World: Learn the continents

Miss Brittany shares a book on-line each Tuesday morning.
This will stay on our Facebook page to be watched at any time.

Virtual Home School Activity

Zoom • Friday, January 8 • 11 am
The theme is Art.

Please call the main library (260-463-2841) by January 4 to register and for details and the link.

New Activity Bags out for Pick-up

All Locations • Monday, January 11
Painting Snowflakes!

Each bag contains activity sheets and a simple craft for 2 children.

Virtual Book Club via Zoom

Zoom • Mondays, January 11, 18, & 25 • 11 am
The book is *The BFG!*

Please call the main library (260-463-2841) by January 4 to get the book and Zoom link.

Virtual STEM via Zoom

Zoom • Wednesday January 13 • 4 pm
Theme: Polar Bear Adventures

Please call the main library (260-463-2841) by January 6 to get the link and bag of activities that go along with it.

Virtual Art via Zoom

Zoom • Wednesday, January 20 • 4 pm
Theme: Mitten Art

Please call the main library (260-463-2841) by January 12 to get the link and supplies for the craft.

Teen Advisory Group (TAG)

In person • Wednesday, January 14 • 4 pm
Activity: Making Hot Chocolate Bombs!
Limited to 10 participants.

Please call the main library (260-463-2841) by January 8 to register.

(Facebook - m.facebook.com/lagrangelibraryindiana)

Adult Interest

Multiple Branches

2021 Adult Winter Reading Challenge

All Locations • January 2 - February 27

"Imagine Your Story"

Pick up an entry form at any branch. Complete all five reading challenges, then return the entry to any branch by February 27. You will win an elegant pen & pencil set.

eReader Help Sessions

Main • Saturday, January 2 • 10 - 11 am

Main • Tuesday, January 5 • 3 - 5 pm

Shipshewana • Tuesday, January 12 • 2 - 3 pm

Topeka • Friday, January 22 • 4 - 5 pm

Did you get a new tablet for Christmas? Do you want to download free eBooks, music, movies & more? We can help!

LaGrange County Public Library

Gentle Flow Yoga with Farra

Main • Mondays, January 4, 11, 18 & 25 • 10 - 11 am

Main • Thursdays, January 7, 14, 21 & 28 • 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 at your mat.
Call 260-463-2841 to register.

Second Saturday Book Club

Main • Saturday, January 9 • 11 am

This month's book: "The Call of the Wild" by Jack London

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

Adult Information Desk. Masks and social distancing required.

Make-N-Take: Wine Glass Painting

Main • Community Room • Wednesday, January 13 • 6 pm

Participants will paint a pair of stemless wine glasses. All materials provided. The cost of the program is \$12 per participant, ages 12 and up. Registration and deposit of \$5 required by Wednesday, Jan. 6 with balance due at class.

Painting Class with Carl Mosher • Deer in the Mist

Main • Friday, January 15 • 1 - 4 pm

All materials will be supplied. Cost: \$25 per person, payable at the class.
Classes fill fast so register soon at 260-463-2841 ext. 1030.

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

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This page sponsored by



Mystery Farm CONTEST



January Contest Sponsored by The Connection and LaGwana

James Whetstone of 200S, Topeka, correctly identified last issue's farm as being owned by **Paul and Malinda Miller, 8300W 750S, Topeka**. Congratulations! He 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 **Marc & Mary Wingard of 500N, Shipshewana**. Third prize went to **Michael & Rosanna Lambright, 550W, Shipshewana**.



There were 33 correct entries this month. **Others that guessed correctly were:** Wilbur & Ida Weaver, Tim & Marietta Miller, Ferman & Rachel Miller, Karl Yoder, Karl & Glenna Bontrager, Kenny & Lanita Yoder, James & Marlene Miller, Samuel & LeAnna Bontrager, Nathan Lynn Yoder, Dennis & Niva Helmuth, Wayne & Leona Miller, Dale & JoEllen Yoder, Sam & Ruby Beechy, Maria Yoder, Zeb Harris, Gary & Sara Bontrager, Harley & Wilma Schlabachs, Mike & Ruth Schrock, Jerold & Esther Mast, Ernest & Ruth Miller, Orla & Diana Yoder, LeVern & Danita Miller, Lamar & Sharon Miller, Nathan & LuElla Miller,

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.

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: **September 22, 2020**.
Allow time for mail delivery.
- 4) Winners will be drawn and prizes mailed.
- 5) Correct entries listed in our next issue!

Harley Miller, Cletus & Rosetta Miller, David & Katie Byler, Richard & Wilma Schlabach, Nate & Lanita Slabach, Ernest & Erma Bontrager, Glen Graber, Harley R. Bontrager, Devon & Wilma Whetstone.

Thank you to
Tiffany's &
The Connection
for Sponsoring!


Breaking News! Hostetler is 2021 Lilly Scholar



As this month's issue was preparing to go to print, it was announced that Mary Beth Hostetler, a senior at Westview Jr.-Sr. High School, has been named the recipient of the LaGrange County Community Foundation's 2021 Lilly Endowment Community Scholar-

ship. Hostetler will receive a four-year, full-tuition scholarship to the accredited public or private college or university in Indiana of her choice, along with an annual \$900 stipend for books and required equipment. Hostetler is the daughter of Douglas and Delores (Dee) Hostetler of Topeka. Hostetler will graduate with academic honors and plans to pursue a career in the field of animal science at Huntington University.

Three other finalists from Westview Jr.- Sr. High School, William Clark, Alexis Miller and Hallie Mast, will each receive a \$1,000 four-year renewable scholarship from the Lam-bright Leadership Scholarship Fund established by Kevin and Carrie Lam-bright in 2013.

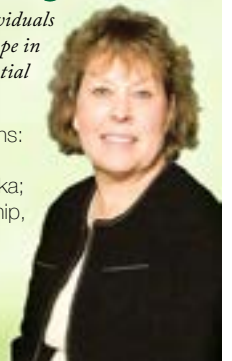
The Hometown Treasure will have more information on this in next month's issue. 

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Name: _____ Age: _____

Coloring Contest: kids age 6 and younger. Sponsored by Tiffany's in Topeka this month! Winner gets a **FREE ICE CREAM TREAT OF CHOICE** at Tiffany's. The Winning Drawings will be on display. **ALL PARTICIPANTS claim your drawing for A FREE ICE-CREAM CONE** at Tiffany's in February. Mail submission to: LaGwana, Coloring Contest, PO Box 70, Shipshewana, IN 46565. **Entry deadline is January 19, 2021.**

Address: _____

Smart Choices

By Connie Lehman, RD, CDE at Topeka Pharmacy Diabetes Education Program


21 Resolutions to Make in 2021

Will you be glad to turn the page on the year 2020? What if you used Jan 1 to turn a confusing, confounding old year into a New Year full of opportunities and possibilities? Look through the list below and pick one, two or three ideas to plan for yourself this year. As you start, here are four tips to being successful at resolutions: Start Small, Keep Track of Progress, Reward Steps Forward and Practice Positive Self Talk.

1. Take a class: art, exercise, financial planning, craft, language.
2. Create a 15 minute self care routine which you will feel good about: exercise, organize, meditate, pray, etc.
3. Read more books: reading aids in sleep, reduces stress, fights depression.
4. Volunteer in your community: Increases connections and provides a sense of accomplishment.
5. Plan something monthly to make a good memory. Take pictures.
6. Resolve to delight in your children. Share with them your discoveries.
7. Practice mindfulness: every day take some time to be in the moment, with all of your senses. Feel the calm.
8. Learn to breathe properly (deeply, from the diaphragm). This simple act can decrease

anxiety and lower blood pressure.

9. Make lists of things and people for which you are thankful.
10. Create spiritual growth: Contemplate the wonder of creation, spend more time with God, start a Bible study.
11. Spend time on a hobby: pick something new or renew an old one!
12. Tackle an organizing project: start small, succeed and repeat.
13. Pick one relationship to focus on strengthening: make a plan and talk about it.
14. Pick one character trait you would like to strengthen. Write it down and journal progress.
15. Plan to travel: if you can't go far, go near. There are interesting places to visit everywhere!
16. Visit those who cannot get out: if you cannot visit, send cards, photos, letters, small gifts.
17. Every month send a small donation to a ministry which is meaningful to you.
18. Plan a garden: try growing a new vegetable or flower.
19. Buy an indoor plant to care for. Become an expert in its care. Talk to it and enjoy its beauty.
20. Teach your dog a new trick. Give lots of hugs.
21. Make time to write that note you have been thinking about, to encourage someone. Repeat.

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H. Honor Roll ... cont. from page 9

Litwiller, Jaxon May, Adrian Miller, Adrian Miller, Chase Miller, Gaven Miller, Justin Miller, Kamryn Miller, Lyndon Miller, Maria Miller, Katelyn Mishler, Matthew Mortrud, Linda Mullett, Evangeline Niccum, Natalie Privett, Lucille Rensberger, Paige Riegsecker, Haluh Saleh, Dawson Shrock, Emily Stutzman, Stacy Stutzman, and Ella Yoder.

Grade 11

Mukhammadamin Abdurakhmonov, Alexys Antal, Mason Atra, Andrew Baughman, Brennan Beachy, Landon Bennett, Bohdy Bontrager, Easton Bontrager, Jasmine Bontrager, Spencer Conatser, Lillian Eash, Penelope Eash, Gramm Egli, Kaylyn Gates, Isaac Heyerly, Elijah Hostetler, Megan Kauffman, Brookelyn Lambright, Alana Miller, Hailey Miller, Nathan Miller, Jackson Minix, Isaac Niccum, Alayna Nissley, Sean Nordman, Hunter Porter, Alexander Rial, Isaac Rogers, Anthony Sanchez, Allie Springer, Brandon Tester, Elaine Troyer, Drew Walker, Aiden Wisler, Caleb Yater, and Alexander Yoder.

Grade 12

Kaylee Adelmann, Belal Al Yahiri, Hadel Alammari, Younis Algaradi, Braden Barton, Addison Bender, Raegan Bender, Timothy Brandenberger, Hailie Caldwell, Douglas Calvillo, Spencer Carpenter, Samantha Castillo, Emily Christner, William Clark, McKenna Collier, Caleb Cory, Andrew Cupp, Hannah Davidson, Blake Diehl, Deann Fry, Isabelle Helmuth, Brady Hostetler, Mary Hostetler, Savannah Huddleston, Keegan Kohlheim, Drew Litwiller, Hannah Martin, Hallie Mast, Alexis Miller, Andrew Miller, Ava Miller, Erika Miller, Inah Miller, Luke Miller, Lyndon Miller, Melissa Miller, Nicole Miller, Rochelle Miller, Cael Misner, Briceida Mojica, Cassandra Moreno, Nicholas Mortrud, Janice Mullett, Joseph Mullett, Hannah Neff, Page Nowicki, Payton Oliver, Kelsey Rich, Abdul-Rahman Saleh, Hannah Schwartz, Katrina Schwartz, Peyton Schwartz, Takota Sharick, Katherine Stutzman, Nicole Stutzman, Macy Swihart, and Kiyilee Thibos.

continued on page 24



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Coloring Contest Winners

Six year old Jariah Lehman of 850 W, Shipshewana was our winner for the December Coloring Contest. Jariah won a special prize at Yoder's Shipshewana Hardware.

Everyone else that sent in a page can stop by Yoder's Shipshewana Hardware for a prize through January.

Runners-up were Bryan Bontrager, age 6; Dale Glen Yoder, age 5; Isaiah Yoder, age 4; Alysse Lanae Petersheim, age 3. Honorable Mentions: Kayla Diane Bontrager, age 6; Marlene Grace Miller, age 6; Sophie Chapman, age 6; Amanda Kay Yoder, age 6; Alayna Joyce Bontrager, age 6; Lindsey Wingard, age 5. Check out page 12 for this month's coloring page.

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



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MONEY Wise

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

Tips to Build Back Your Finances in 2021

Often times, January is a month of reflection on the previous year. 2020 was one of the most eventful years in recent memory. Many of us dealt with hardships and heartaches brought on by the pandemic. Some of us were riding in the front seat of an emotional and financial rollercoaster. Now that the holidays have come to a close, I challenge you to think about how you can improve your finances in 2021. A New Year means new beginnings and a fresh start. Here are a few financial tips to help you start off 2021 and financially get on track!

1. *Build Back Your Savings!*



2020 was a tough year financially. You might have had to take money

from your savings

more than you would have liked to make ends meet. Make 2021 the year where you build back your savings! To help you save more and spend less, ask yourself "Will this purchase make my life better?" If the answer is no, or if it will just add clutter to your home, then rethink the purchase! To help you save better, start small by doing things such as eliminating your morning coffee run and brewing a pot at home instead, preparing and cooking meals at home rather than getting take-out, or evaluating your cell phone plan and researching to see if there is a better bargain. I recommend that you take

the money that you would normally spend for these activities and place it in your saving account! You will be pleasantly surprised at how quickly your balance will grow! For example, if you spend \$4 every morning on coffee, you could have \$1,460 in savings by the end of the year!

2. *Establish an Emergency Fund.*

This does not sound like fun because you cannot enjoy it. However, an emergency fund is one of the most important things that you can save for. This fund can help provide you with peace of mind. Knowing that if your car unexpectedly breaks down, you will have the money to pay for it and you will not have to dig yourself into a deeper financial hole by having to pay for the unexpected expense out-of-pocket! Living through a pandemic has made many of us think more about our emergency funds, am I right? What does yours look like?


3. *Commit to Reducing Your Debt!*

Reducing your debt is like losing weight: it is difficult to do, but so satisfying when you accomplish your weight loss goal. If you have multiple credit cards, which one do you focus on first? Instead of focusing on the credit card with the highest balance, I recommend focusing on paying off the credit cards that have the highest interest rate first! Just like seeing pounds shed off, making small changes can start becoming a positive habit and can make it easier for you to continue with the program!

4. *Understand Where Your Money Goes!* If you track exactly where your

money is going, it will give you a better idea of where your overall financial picture stands. This will help you determine what areas you should cut to help trim your debt and increase your savings. A simple understanding of where your money is going can help reduce anxiety, which in turn can start to reduce financial stress. Last month, I provided several different ways applications can help you track spending (Mint, YNAB, etc.). Of course, there is still the old-fashioned paper and pencil method for those of you who prefer this way of tracking your spending!

5. *Focus on Experiences Instead of "Things!"* Rather than buying a new pair of shoes or an outfit, revisit all your options. What experience are you going to get from purchasing the new pair of shoes? You could sign up for a virtual cooking class, learn a new language, attend a group fitness class, register for an event, or go on a day-long or weekend road trip! These options will provide you with experiences, rather than "things." Some of these options still require spending money but focusing on experiences can help reduce stress and burnout while providing you with positive experiences.

The past year has been extremely stressful on a personal, professional, and financial level. How can you reduce your financial anxiety and get back on track to building back your finances better in 2021? 

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Meadowview Elementary



Back Row (left to right): Luke Lambricht, Brandon Miller, Adrian Troyer, and Haiden Garcia. Front: Kaylin Smith, Brenna Mauck, Crystal Yoder, and Samantha Yoder.

1st Quarter Mighty Mustang Club

Winners are chosen based on their display of the following characteristics: effort, attitude, improvement, respect, and responsibility. Winners receive a Mighty Mustang tag on a chain and their choice of a Meadowview bag. 

Photos Submitted



Back Row (left to right): Adam Hershberger, Jaxon Stutzman, Evan Hochstetler, and Zachary Detweiler. Front: Brenda Miller, Kenady Miller, Kaylee Yoder, and Julie Yoder.



Back Row (left to right): Arick Miller, Jeryle Miller, David Bontrager, and Travis Bontrager. Front: Kyla Thompson, Jeslyn Miller, Kirsten Slabach, Faith Bontrager, and Miranda Carmona.




Back Row (left to right): Alvin Hilty, Joshua Troyer, Beckham Mishner, and Jaydon Herschberger. Front: Sophia Haarer, Amy Yoder, and Elyannah Miller.



Back Row (left to right): John Yoder, Adrian Beechy, Tyler Schlabach, and Darin Yoder. Front: Jessica Miller, Karla Miller, Megan Lambricht, and Kathy Miller.

LaGrange County Food & Clothes Basket Donations

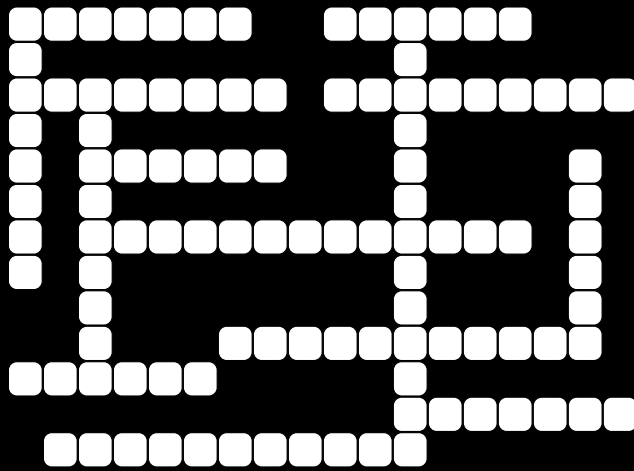
Meadowview Mustangs wrangled up 1,213 items for the LaGrange County Food and Clothes Basket. Way to go everyone! Thank you for your generous donations, Mustangs. Mrs. Sharick's fourth grade class (pictured) collected the most items by contributing a total of 225 items. 



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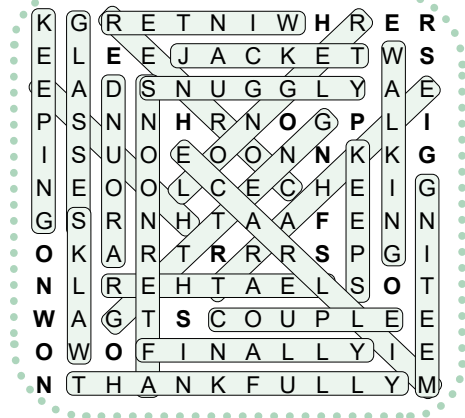


Clueless Crossword

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.

**HERE'S HOPING
FOR SNOW
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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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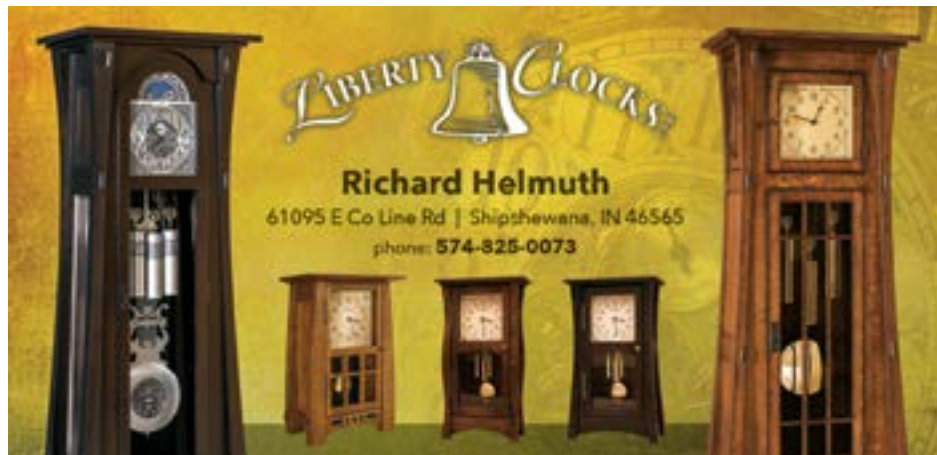
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Christmas Around the World

First grade is learning how other countries celebrate Christmas. The students boarded Shipshe-Scott Airlines, hosted by their teachers. The students worked on a packet of information about each country. 📄

Photos submitted

Shipshe-Scott Elementary



Westview High School

Westview Students Selected to Honor Bands

Several Westview Jr./Sr. High School Band members were selected this past fall to be a part of the Indiana Bandmasters Association (IBA) honor band program. These students were chosen from hundreds of applicants by the area IBA selection committees.

The IBA All-Region Honor Band weekend and the IBA All-District Honor Band would have taken place in November. However, due to COVID-19 restrictions, both events were cancelled. The IBA still wanted to recognize those students who were chosen, so each student was sent a certificate of recognition for being selected.

The Westview students selected to the IBA All-Region Honor Band were Nicholas Bontrager (alto saxophone) and Braden Rogers (alto saxophone). Westview students selected to the IBA All-District Honor Band included Landon Bennett (trumpet), Kaitlyn Cupp (flute), Braden Helman (trumpet), Mary Hostetler (flute), Rosamaria McMahon (alto saxophone), Nathan Miller (trombone), Isaac Rogers (per-

cussion), Stacy Stutzman (clarinet), and Caleb Yater (trumpet).

In a normal year, these students would have been given the opportunity to work with a guest clinician during a seven-hour rehearsal on Saturday, followed by a public concert given the next day. Each honor band is comprised of students from schools located in the northern region of Indiana. 📄

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Topeka Elementary



Holiday Spirit

The holidays filled the halls of Topeka Elementary. 📍



Left: Third graders Sharon Miller and Mahweensa Marks with their class' Christmas tree. Below: Mrs. Christi Miller's first grade class. (All photos submitted)



Terra Harlow and Ava Wingard in front of second grade class art work.



Fourth graders Dunia Al Gurmi, Caydon Miller, and Thomas Harlow show off the fourth grade display board on kindness.

Thank you Heroes!

Topeka Elementary student representatives from each of the kindergarten - fourth grade classrooms took part in a Westview School Corporation project to thank local health care workers. Together the letters they are holding read "Westview Sees You" to let the local professionals know that the work they are doing for our community has not gone unnoticed and that each of them are so appreciated. 📍



Those participating, in no particular order, are: Kindergartners: Shayla Strater, Olivia Everage, Carson Miller, and Aleasha Miller. First graders: Cameron Bontrager, River Rheinheimer, and Josie Vaughn. Second graders: Landon Nissley, Mallory Antal, and Austin Yoder. Third graders: Kevin Lehman, Trinity Antal, and Jaxon Marks, and Fourth graders: Lyndon Yoder, Tori Taylor, and Sandra Miller.



Patterns & Counting

Students in Mrs. Stacey Egli's classroom focused on patterns and counting and worked on this skill with a paper chain. 📍

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7TH A BOYS BASKETBALL

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2020-21 7th Boys Basketball A Team: Back (left to right): Jayden Salisbury, Bentley Ryall, and Coach Drew Ryall. Middle: Brett Springer, Noah Bontrager, Hunter Egli, and Brayden Lambricht. Front: Alex Troyer, Milan Müller, and Darin Schlabach.
Photo by Abby Wenger



7TH B BOYS BASKETBALL

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2020-21 7th Boys Basketball B Team: Back (left to right): Coach Paul Baker, Nate Stump, Tyler Trittippo, and Ben Detwiler. Middle: Caleb Miller, Jayden Schrock, and Keith Troyer. Front: Caiden Schrock and Jaden Yoder. Not Pictured: Aiden Norberg.
Photo by Abby Wenger

Topeka Elementary



Guided Exercises

Making sure to end each day on a positive note, Ms. Kendra Helmkamp's 3rd grade class enjoys guided exercises just prior to dismissal. **i**



Slagle Receives Jim Marks Service Award

Roger Slagle was presented the James Marks Lifetime of Distinguished Service Award at Westview School Corporation's December board meeting. Mr. Slagle was nominated by Paul Baker and Jan Hardesty. The James Marks award recognizes a lifetime of achievement at Westview for over 25 years, not just a single contribution. It honors an individual who has contributed in significant ways to the development of the Westview School Corporation as an outstanding citizen, and exemplar to students, staff, and the school community. Mr. Slagle is still substitute teaching for Westview, and his continued service is appreciated. **i**



Back row (left to right): Rick Hostetler, Thurston Jones, and Larry Watson. Front: Verena Schwartz, Rhoda Brandenberger, and Shilo Flowers. Not pictured: Jerold Mishler, Shannon Long and Nancy Helmer



Thanksgiving

While learning about Thanksgiving and its history, the kindergarten class of Mrs. Jennifer Warrener

enjoyed working on some art work and costumes. **i**

(All photos submitted)

Westview Schools

Substitute Drivers

Westview School Corporation (WSC) gave a shout out to their substitute bus drivers who have gone above and beyond in helping cover for routes since the start of the school year! WSC appreciates and recognizes them for their willingness to work and their flexibility.

For information about job openings to be a substitute bus driver, contact Yvonne Eash at 260-768-4404

or eashy@westview.k12

in.us. **i**

Miller Recognized for Board Service

At the December board meeting, the Westview School Board recognized outgoing board member, Jim Miller, for 12 years of board ser-



vice. Jim spent his previous career at Westview in many roles as a teacher, administrator, director, and coach. The Westview School Board thanks Jim for his service to the Westview community. **i**

This page sponsored by


Westview Jr./Sr. High Quarter 1 Regular Honor Roll

In addition to the GPA requirements (3.0 - 3.499) for Honor Roll, students must be enrolled in at least 5 credit hours and have no grades lower than a C-.

Grade 7

Gurmi Al Gurmi, Noriah Aldhuraibi, Jayden Beachy, Jason Bontrager, Kevin Borntrager, Benjamin Detweiler, Makenna Feipel, Marc Fry, Luke Hall, Landon Harris, Kyleigh Hershberger, Dakota Hubbard, Kaleb Iddings, Lora Mast, Clarence McAninch, Amanda Miller, Carter Miller, Hailey Miller, Isaiah Miller, Myra Miller, Becky Moore, Lilly Mullet, Kailey Nissley, Corra Owens, Nathan Peruski, Jina Slabach, Savannah Vliet, Kurtis Whetstone, Brylee White, and Jaden Yoder.

Grade 8

Sarah Alshuga, Bethany Bontrager, Emily Bontrager, Kayla Bontrager, Micah Bontrager, Owen Brill, Patricia Clemens, Aaron Fry, Kara Fry, Titus Fry, Tyler Fry, Ryan Gingerich, Sara Herschberger, Beau Jackson, Ethan Lambright, Jared Lambright, Nicholas Mahon, Dena Miller, LaWayne Miller, MaKayla Miller, Shanna Miller, Tristan Pearson, Madison Penick, Adelyn Rainsberger, Kyle Schlabach, Karlie Schrock, Leigha Schrock, Tyler Schrock, Janessa Stutzman, Alayna Troyer, Keith Troyer, Brandon Yoder, and Ryan Yoder.

Grade 9

Maryah Bontrager, Chloe Hagerman, Keylei Harman, Harper Klein, Precious Litton, Hope Miller, Shelby Penick, Taven Schrock, Lauren Vanderpool, Lilly Voris, Danika Yoder, Laura Yoder, Mathew Yoder, and Quinton Yoder.

Grade 10

Mohamed Aamer, Kaylee Barger, Andrew Byler, Isabella Carmona, Faith Christner, Jordan Collyer, Braden Eash, Jace Everitt, Courtney Hall, Gabriel Harville, Austin Hedges, Brighton Hemminger, Kyle Hochstetler, Jethro Hostetler, Aidan Kohlheim, Collin

continued on page 38

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Clueless Crossword
 By Emily Vandevander
Solution
 to the puzzle on page 18.

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Thank You Heroes!

Westview Elementary and the Westview School Corporation are recognizing all the hard work that we “SEE OUR HEROES” during in this difficult time. Thank you for your hard work and dedication to our community! 📌

(Photos submitted)



Resist Chalk Leaves

Students in sixth grade learned that some materials used in art can resist another which creates a blocked area of medium, leaving the color of the paper to show from behind. Students first rubbed and imprinted leaves onto a black paper with a black wax crayon, then carefully traced the outlines in glue. After drying, they used different colors of colorful chalk to create their art piece. Each work of art was a unique and creative way to celebrate the changing of seasons. 📌

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- 1) Luke Miller moves around his Central Noble opponent.
- 2) Drew Litwiller heads for the basket in the last minutes of the game.
- 3) Brady Yoder shoots for three and scores!
- 4) Caleb Cory looks for an open teammate.
- 5) Ben Byrckett makes his way closer to the basket, looking for an open teammate.

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



Varsity Girls Basketball



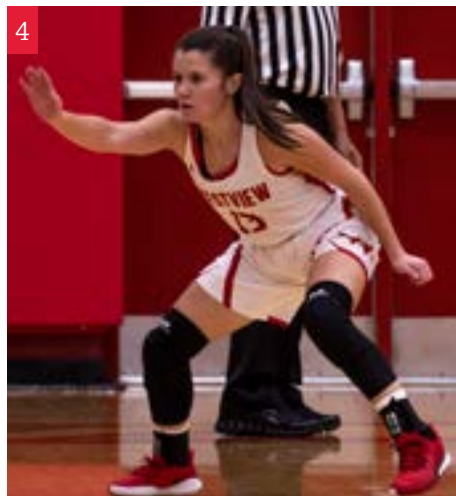
1



2



3



4



5

- 1) Erika Miller faces off with her opponent.
- 2) Hallie Mast moves closer to the basket.
- 3) Inah Miller looks for an open teammate.
- 4) Katrina Schwartz follows her opponents' every move, guarding against a shot.
- 5) Allie Springer works to get around her Garrett opponent.

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



Photos and Layout by Abby Wenger.

JOSEPH and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat



November 6-8, 2020

The Hometown Treasure · January '21

WELCOME TO THE TEAM!



Cynthia Hostetler & Kara Rosentreter are **excited** to announce that they are joining **GROGG-MARTIN REALTY** in Topeka. Their contact information and exceptional teamwork will remain the same. They bring over 20 years of combined real estate knowledge.

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The Hawpatch History Detective -Investigative Updates

by Harold D. Gingerich

The Hawpatch History Detective has discovered some fascinating information related to several recent investigations that resulted in articles that were published in the Hometown Treasure. The “Tips Hotline” has been buzzing with information regarding Henry Elliott (“Twas a Purple Heart Christmas, December 2020) and Col. Louise A. Marshall (Louise Marshall: Topeka’s First Air Force Colonel, September 2020). One of the confidential informants is a 101-year-old Air Force veteran who served in World War II, the Korean Conflict, and who graduated from Topeka High School in 1936 at the age of 16.

Case #2020-9: Col. Louise A Marshall

The call came in at 6:30 pm on the evening of December 3, 2020. The screen on my cell phone simply said, “Unknown”. Normally I would have just let it go to voicemail; after a while you get tired of answering all those “robo” calls. But for some reason I decided to answer... at the other end was a man who identified himself as Dave Lower. What followed was a 1 hour and 2-minute conversation, with him doing most of the talking. It did not take long for me to regret that I didn’t know how

to record the conversation.

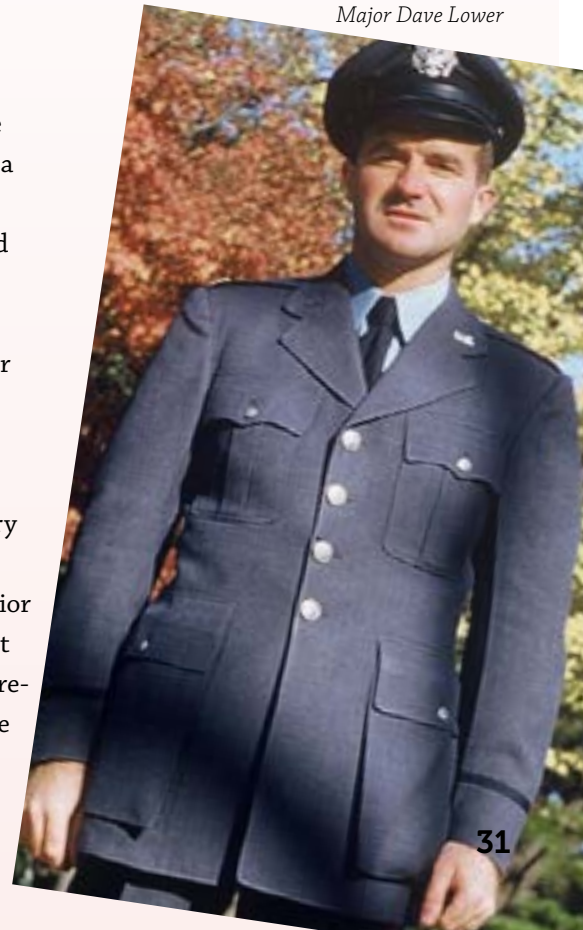
At the age of 101, Dave Lower’s mind is as clear and as sharp as the proverbial tack! The Lowers lived east of Topeka in Eddy, and while David attended school in Topeka, their mailing address was Rome City. One of their neighbors was Ashley Marshall, who told Lower numerous stories about being in World War I.

Ashley Marshall served in the trenches during World War I. “He told me that for six weeks they lived in the trenches and were gassed several times,” Dave said. Marshall also told him that while they were digging the trenches, they unearthed the foot of a dead soldier that was sticking up out of the ground. Dave said, “Ashley told me that they didn’t remove it, they just had to be careful as they walked around it!” Marshall survived the war and on July 20, 1919, he boarded the USS Roanoke in Brest, France for the voyage home.

“I remember Louise Marshall very well,” Lower recalled, “we rode the school bus together when I was a senior and she was a first grader”. Dave went on to recall that the boys on the bus really liked to tease Louise because “she was feisty and would fight back”.

It should be noted that, in addition to living to the age of 101, which is an accomplishment in itself, Dave Lower has also had a sorted military career. After graduating from Topeka High School in 1936 he attended Manchester College where he earned his degree in 1941. After working only one semester as an Athletic Director in a high school in southern Indiana, he received his draft notice and joined the Air Force on February 12, 1942.

Major Dave Lower



REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that in accordance with the
Selective Service Proclamation of the President of the United States

David Elbert Lower

(First name) (Middle name) (Last name)
R.R. 1/Box 52, Rome City, Indiana

(No. and street or R. F. D. No.; city or town, county and State)

has been duly registered this *16* day of *October*, 19*40*

Thurman Gilbert

(Signature of registrar)

Registrar for *4* -----
(Precinct) (Ward) (City or county) (State)
Wabash Ind

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Notify Local Board immediately of change of address.

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D. S. S. Form 2

16-17105

David Elbert Lower
(Registrant must sign here)

Lower was sent to radio school. "I was a Second Lieutenant and they made me an OSS agent (pre C.I.A.). I was an 'internal spy'", he mused, "who does that to a 23-year-old kid?" He was given a supply of preaddressed stamped envelopes with a secret code inside the flap that he used to pass on information. During the Korean War, he was a Special Weapons Officer with the 452nd and had earned the rank of Major.

Dave Lower now lives in Wildomar, California.

Case #2020-12 PFC Henry B. Elliott: K.I.A.

There are still a few Topeka folks who remember Henry Elliott and his wife Arlene. Two of those are Phyllis Oesch Hartzler and Olive Oesch, both of whom were able to provide valuable bits of information. Phyllis was a first cousin to Arlene, Henry's wife. Their fathers were brothers. Olive Oesch was married to Arlene's younger brother, Billie.

Phyllis remembers how shocked the community was at the news that Elliott had been killed in action.


"Everybody knew him as Hank and everybody really like him, so we were all in shock."

Olive remembered that Hank drove a truck for Bill Miller at the grocery store, Millers Cash Grocery, which was an IGA, selling groceries and buying eggs from local farmers that could be sold in the store. What Olive remembers was the conflict with Henry's draft registration card. On the blank marked 'Employer' it clearly read "D.E. Seagly & Son". Both her memory and Henry's draft card may have been true; Henry may have worked for both employers.

There is a fascinating connection between William E. "Bill" Miller (1904-1992) and Henry Elliott. In Miller's obituary, among the survivors, was listed "stepbrother, George Elliott of Corfu, NY". George Elliott was a brother to Henry "Hank" Elliott. Their mother, Rosa Ann (Yoder) Elliott, had

remarried after the death of her first husband. She married James "Elmer" Miller in October of 1922, who was a widower with several children, among whom were William and Francis. Both William "Bill", who married Delsie "Fern" Frey, and Francis, who married Evelyn Baker, were active members at the Maple Grove Mennonite Church in Topeka.

Report Summary: Both cases are still under active investigation. The hope is that new information will come in and that, once the COVID-19 pandemic is over, full case studies can be presented at future Topeka Area Historical Society meetings.

The Hawpatch History Detective remains on alert and welcomes all cold case inquiries. He can be reached at (260) 499-0126. 

This article sponsored by



Cummins Graduates Marshal's Academy as Top Gun

It was a milestone for Topeka Deputy Marshal Ryan J. Cummins. On Tuesday, December 1, 2020, Cummins not only graduated from the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) Marshal's Academy, but he also took home "Top Gun" honors. Deputy Cum-




Cummings Family: Leah (12), James (7), Ryan, Cassidy, Emma (10), and Cara (17).

mins graduated with a 94% academy score average and earned the prestigious Firearms Proficiency Award with three qualifying rounds of 100.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, graduation ceremonies were held virtually, but Cummins' wife Cassidy and his family watched from a nearby motel. "He never told me that he was getting the Firearms Award," Cassidy beamed, "we are all so proud of him." Following the graduation ceremony there was ample time for family photos.

After about 18 years with the LaGrange County Sheriff's Office, Cummins joined the Topeka Police Department as a reserve on November 11, 2019. The following March he was appointed to a full-time position and was sworn in on April 6, 2020.

"Ryan represented the Topeka Police Department well," observed Topeka Town Marshal Stan Strater, Jr., "especially with all the challenges that COVID-19 presented." "We are glad to have him back home and happy to have him as a member of the department."  (Photos submitted)



Cassidy congratulates her husband Ryan with a kiss.

8TH B BOYS BASKETBALL

Sponsored by 

2020-21 8th Boys Basketball B Team: Back (left to right): Alvin Lehman, Isaiah Bontrager, Brian Miller, and Coach Josh Hostetler. Middle: Brandon Schwartz, Kyle Schlabach, Jared Lambright, Karl Lehman, and Derek Beechy. Front: Ben Yutzky, Micah Bontrager, Caleb Hochstetler, and Brandon Yoder. Not Pictured: Austin Miller and Braidon Schwartz.

Photo by Abby Wenger

JV Basketball

Sponsored by



2



- 1) Sara Lapp makes her way around her opponent toward the basket.
 - 2) Audrey Taylor fights to break away from her Garrett opponent.
 - 3) Precious Litton shoots for three.
 - 4) Samantha Stump puts up a shot over her opponents.
 - 5) Maria Miller brings the ball across the time line looking for an open teammate.
- Sports photos by Abby Wenger
These photos and more are available for purchase at photos.lagwana.com.*





County Line Bicycle Shop

By Harold D. Gingerich

One of this area's hidden gems is the family-owned County Line Bicycle Shop on the LaGrange-Elkhart county line at 5305 S 1200 W, Millersburg, IN. At their countryside shop, John and Dorothy Mullett have that new bike you have been looking for, or they can repair and tune-up your old reliable one. With almost 20 years in the business, County Line has earned the trust of a multitude of satisfied customers from across Elkhart, LaGrange, and Noble counties.

"I had no idea that the business would grow the way it has," John says. After 20 years in a factory putting on graphics for Dutchmen, and with a growing family, Mullett was looking for a way to supplement the family's income. Looking back, John recalls that, "I just wanted a side job where we could work together as a family and make a little extra."

John was raised one mile and a half west of LaGrange. Dorothy was

from the Topeka area and her last name was also Mullett, but with only one "t". John playfully chuckled and said, "I remind her that when we got married, she didn't lose anything; she just gained a little bit!" John and Dorothy were married on August 26, 1981. They have four sons, two daughters, and 20 grandchildren.

It was during the 12 years that the Mullett's were living in Honeyville, across from the feed mill, that the opportunity presented itself. Fry's Bicycle Shop, in Shipshewana, had opened a branch in Topeka, and one in Honeyville that was operated by Jr. Hostetler. During the summers of 1994, 1995, and 1996, John worked on bicycles as well as working full time in the factory. When Fry sold the bicycle business to Norman Miller, John's first cousin, and when Jr. Hostetler decided to move, the door opened for John and Dorothy to take over the Honeyville shop. Initially, John worked on a per-

centage basis.

From the beginning, it has been a true partnership and family business. "When my cousin asked us to take over the shop, I wasn't sure, but the boys seemed to really like it," John said, "and I thought it would be a good side job for us." And then, with a wide grin he added, "My wife does a lot in the shop, she builds almost all the new bikes. I tune them up, but she is the one who puts them together."

In the fall of 1997, John and Dorothy moved to their present location, but he continued to work at the Honeyville shop. When Miller decided to sell the business near the end of 2004, John and Dorothy purchased the Honeyville portion. They moved the bike shop to its present location and opened for business in February of 2005. They started off in a 40 x 60-foot shop that was a combination showroom and service area. Before long they enclosed a portion of the porch because

they needed more space, but that was only a temporary solution. So, in 2018, they added a 40 x 40-foot addition to the building, complete with kitchen and a restroom.

“Today, we probably have six times the inventory as over when we started,” John noted. County Line carries a wide variety of Fuji, Jamis, Bacchetta, and Sun bicycles, along with MillWood bicycle trailers. They also carry a large selection of accessories and reflective safety items. In addition to offering bikes and accessories, they also repair and service over 1,000 bikes a year.




The COVID-19 pandemic has had a positive effect on the bicycle industry. Many people outside the Amish community have a renewed interest in cycling. “Bikes are hard to get right now,” according to John, “people need to plan ahead if they want a new bike.” County Line does have a good supply in stock for people who are looking to buy a new bike for Christmas. But the Mullets are also planning ahead. This past June, County Line ordered a container of 265 new bikes which John hopes will arrive in January or early February.

County Line Bicycle Shop holds an annual Open House the third week of April. During that week all the family comes home to lend a hand. “The grandchildren can hardly wait for when we have an open house,” John said, “they just love working here and meeting all the people.”

The sincerity of John and Doro-

thy’s Amish faith and heritage shines in their approach to the business. John was quick to point out both the blessing of God and how humbling it is to have the trust of others. “People come in to the shop and ask us, ‘What bike they should get?’ They are putting their trust in us and I don’t want to ever break that trust! I keep telling my wife and the family that, “We just want to be here for the community and serve people...and, with the blessing of God, we can also make a living.”

Stop in at County Line Bicycle Shop and see it for yourself. Make sure that you pick up one of their 2021 calendars. They are open Monday – Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm and Saturday from 8:00 am until 12 noon. You can reach their voice mail at 574-642-9987 x2. Be sure to tell them that you read about them in the Hometown Treasure! 



LaGrange County Health Department

www.lagrangecountyhealth.com

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



<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.



January Park News

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 6 feet apart.

Owl Pellets

Wednesday, January 6,
9:00 am – 3:00 pm – OR –
Wednesday, January 20,
9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Maple Wood Nature Center

Have you ever wanted to dissect an owl pellet? Come as a family, or gather a group of friends, and join the Naturalist at Maple Wood Nature Center for a private owl pellet party! Groups can choose a one-hour time on either day. The one-hour time must be between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. First come, first served. Nature Leslie will provide the owl pellets. Learn how an owl is such an amazing nocturnal hunter, and how an owl pellet is created. This workshop is perfect for families schooling at home. All

ages are welcome, but this activity does require fine motor skills and an eye for detail. Participants will be spaced 6 feet apart and have separate workspaces. Groups will not overlap.

Maximum size of one group is 20; minimum size is 2.

To reserve your hour block, RSVP to Leslie Arnold at (260) 363-4022 or larnold@lagrangeparks.org.

MONTHLY

Make - n - Take Crafts

Pinecone Birdfeeders

Saturday, January 9,
10:00 am or 2:00 pm

Maple Wood Nature Center
(*may contain peanuts)

Easy nature crafts for the entire family.

Maple Wood Fiber Guild

Wednesday, January 13,
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.
RSVP to Leslie Arnold at (260) 363-4022.

Quilt Class

Saturday, January 16,
9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Maple Wood Nature Center

“Dreamcatcher”

This quilt is like a string block. It is a good way to use up some scraps of fabric and partner them

with a plain or solid looking 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 lagrangeparks@yahoo.com. Fee is \$25 (\$5 is given to Lagrange County Parks). Call Instructors Julia Wolhuter 260-367-1449 or Ira Johnson 260-367-1438 for information.



Folk Jam

Sunday, January 24,
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 463-2247 or reo43@aol.com

Sewing Group

Wednesday, January 27,
9:30 am - 3:30 pm

Maple Wood Nature Center

What is a UFO? If you answered an un-finished object...this is the perfect sewing group for you! Open to anyone! Bring your sewing machine. Get help and direction with a project, share ideas with others, and make new friends. Please bring a sack lunch and munchie to share. Please bring a \$5.00 donation for LaGrange County Parks.

RSVP to Linda Grobis 260-351-3609. 

Honor Roll ... cont. from page 24

Martin, Norah Massey, Cole Mast, Maleek Myers, Nathaniel Nissley, Paige Schwartz, Samantha Stump, Brady Yoder, and Regina Yoder.

Grade 11

Abigail Bontrager, Wyatt Cranor, Sarahbeth Drew, Tylar Glick, George Harris, Maddison Mishler, Amina Omarouf, Lillian Schlabach, Corben Vandergriff, Jadon Yoder, and Mason Yoder.

Grade 12

Jason Al-Faisal, Kaitlyn Burton, Benjamin Byrnett, Remington Carpenter, Dominic Hostetler, Amber McHenry, Rosamaria McMahon, Andrea Mendoza, Gloria Miller, Chandler Pushman, and Jordan Schrock.

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Scholarship Opportunities

Graduating LaGrange County high school seniors who are looking for ways to support post-high school education have numerous opportunities available through their local community foundation. More than 45 one-time and several renewable scholarships are being offered through the LaGrange County Community Foundation (LCCF) to graduating students who are planning to pursue a full-time education at a college, university, technical or trade school. Students may apply online at LCCF.net/scholarships beginning December 1. **The deadline to apply is Monday, Feb. 15, 2021, at 5 p.m.**

Scholarship opportunities vary according to residency, career fields, current high school attendance, anticipated college enrollment, extra-curricular involvement and academic performance. Applicants should read the criteria carefully, as each scholarship is unique. Scholarship awards range from \$400 to \$2,000, and may be used for educational expenses. A new 2021 scholarship, the Beverly J. Todd Memorial Scholarship (\$1000) was established to benefit a Prairie Heights graduating senior or a home-school student pursuing a career in the education field.

A full list of scholarships, criteria, and their award amounts is available at lccf.net/availablescholarships. Scholarship questions should be directed to Scholarship Manager, Laurie Sherck at lscherck@lccf.net, or by calling 463-4363. 


Grants for Youth Programming

The LaGrange County Community Foundation (LCCF) is now accepting applications for its LIFE Grants program. LIFE Grants are available for educational and youth projects serving LaGrange County. These grants are made possible through the generosity of donors who have supported the LIFE funds at the Community Foundation.

LIFE is a youth philanthropy program of LCCF that provides an opportunity for young people to gain experience in community service and charitable giving. Members represent Lakeland, Westview, and Prairie Heights Schools. The students engage in a variety of community projects and provide oversight of the LIFE funds held at the community foundation.

LIFE seeks proposals for innovative or creative projects with significant impact on the youth community. A priority focus area of Health and Wellness has been established for the 2020-2021 school year. Nonprofit organizations serving LaGrange County youth, government agencies, and public schools are eligible to apply.

The Community Foundation will be conducting one funding round for the 2020-2021 school year. Grant applications will be **due January 5, 2021**.

To submit an application visit lccf.net/life-grants. Contact Leanna Martin at lmartin@lccf.net or call 260-463-4363 for questions or more information. 

(Left to Right): Octavia Yoder, Executive Director of the LaGrange County Community Foundation presents a grant award of \$10,000 to Linda Simmons, Volunteer of Paws & Claws Bookstore and Sue Keenan, President of Ark Animal Rescue & Adoption. Also pictured is Jack, a rescue dog from Ark Animal Rescue & Adoption.

Impact Grants Awarded


The LaGrange County Community Foundation (LCCF) awarded \$21,920 in Community Impact Grants in November to five projects and programs benefiting LaGrange County.

Through its Community Impact Grant program, the foundation aims to support nonprofit needs and provide innovative programs and services in LaGrange County.

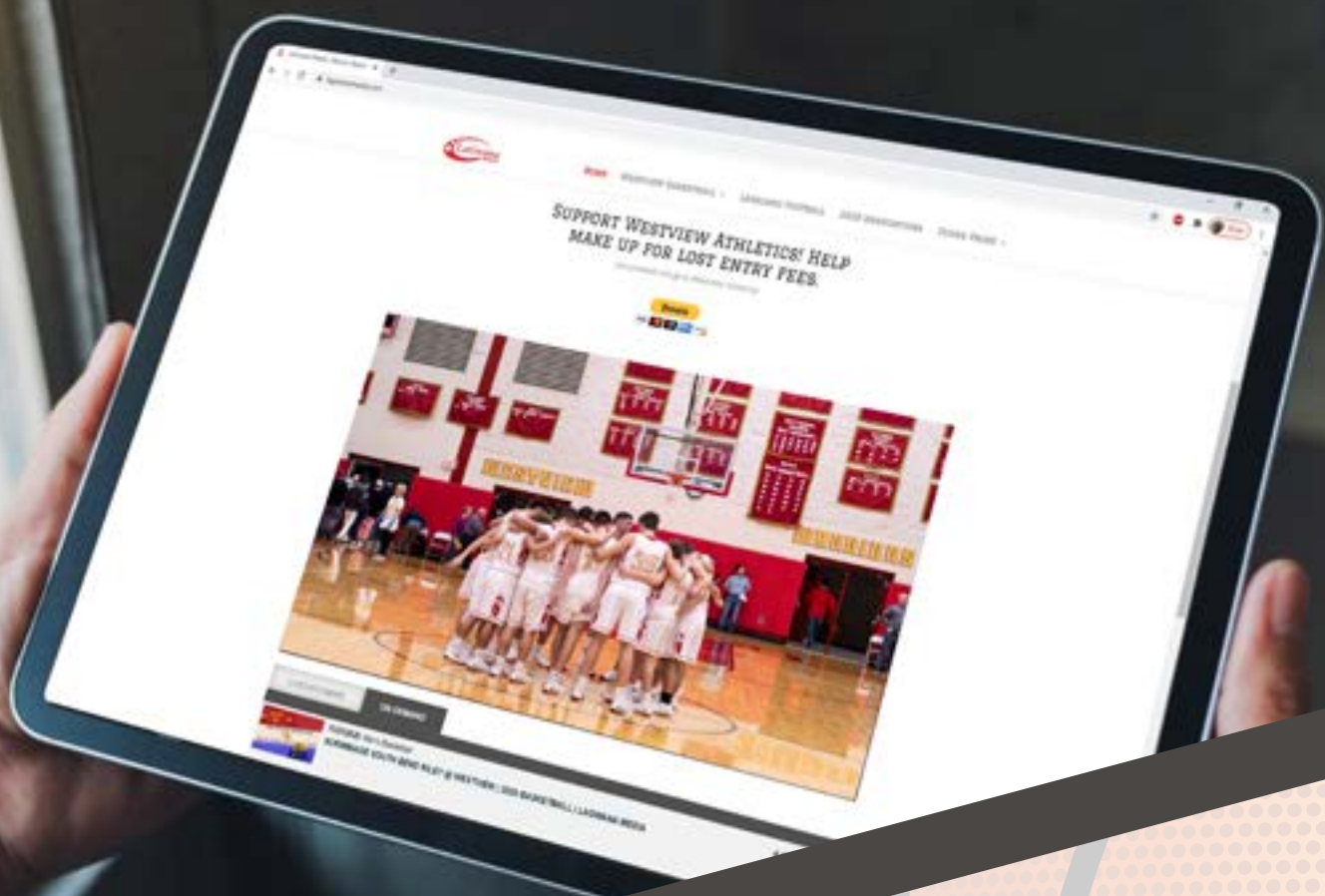
Ark Animal Rescue and Adoption received \$10,000 for the new roof at the Paws and Claws Bookstore in Howe. They were among five organizations who received funding this fall. The bookstore provides slightly used books to readers of all ages. All books sold are on a donation basis and all donations directly benefit the Ark Animal Rescue and Adoption.

Four other organizations receiving fall grants include:

- Early Childhood Alliance, SparKits, \$2,000.
- LaGrange County Department of Parks & Recreation, Forest School, \$5,420.
- Rainbow Years Learning Ministry, #Kindness Campaign, \$2,000.
- Community Harvest Food Bank of Northeast Indiana, LaGrange County Farm Mobile Pantry, \$2,500.

The grants are made possible through the generosity of donors who have supported the unrestricted and field of interest charitable funds at the Community Foundation. 





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JV/V Boys @ Angola (New Date)
Jan 5 | 6:00 PM, 7:30 PM

JV/V Boys @ East Noble
Jan 5 | 6:00 PM, 7:30 PM

JV/V Girls vs South Bend Career @ Westview
Jan 7 | 6:00 PM, 7:30 PM

Varsity Girls & Boys @ Hamilton
Jan 8 | 5:00 PM, 6:30 PM

NECC Tournament
V Girls & Boys @ Hamilton
Jan 13 | 6:00 PM, 7:30 PM

V Girls & Boys Semi Final @ TBD
Jan 15 | *regardless of who plays*

V Girls & Boys Finals @ WV
Jan 16 | *regardless of who plays*

JV/V Girls vs Angola @ Westview
Jan 19 | 6:00, 7:30 PM

JV/V Girls & Boys vs Fairfield @ WV
Jan 22 | 4:30, 6:00, 7:30 PM

JV/V Boys vs Garrett @ Westview
Jan 23 | 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM

JV/V Boys vs Eastside @ Westview
Jan 29 | 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Watch LaGwanaMedia.com for a current schedule -- it's changing often!

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Thousands of great items every week!



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No Auction on Wednesday, Dec. 23rd. Auctions will resume on Wednesday, Dec. 30th

NOTE: Due to current State and County mandates, masks are required for entry into the Auction Building.

Preview Items on AuctionZip.com Auctioneer ID# 1945



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Merry Christmas
& Happy New Year

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