

The Hometown Treasure

December 2021 • Vol. 22 Num. 12



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The Hometown Treasure
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Teacher



Paul Baker is the son of Richard and Geralee Baker of Fremont, IN. He has been married to Crystal Baker for 34 years. He has two sons, Aaron and Kyle. Aaron is a fireman in Durham, NC, and Kyle is an electrical engineer for AEP in Fort Wayne, IN. Mr. Baker has an older brother, Chris, who is a farmer, and an

older sister, Pam, who is a massage therapist. He also has younger brother, Andy, who is a teacher at Hamilton.

Mr. Baker teaches Agriculture at Westview Jr.-Sr. High School. He currently teaches Advanced Life Science Animals, Agribusiness Management, Principles of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, and the eighth grade class that he team-teaches with Mr. Bender called Introduction to Agriculture. In all, he teaches eighth through twelfth graders.

Mr. Baker is a graduate of Fremont High School in his hometown of Fremont, IN. He participated in 4-H, FFA, musicals, plays, NHS, and sports such as track, football, basketball, golf, and cheerleading.

He attended Purdue University at West Lafayette. His major was in Agricultural Education with endorsements in Biological Sciences and Computer Programming.

His youth was spent on a home produce farm, working at his family's roadside market. He worked the fields and market up through college and then started teaching at Westview. The reason he started teaching is, "My grandmother and father were teachers. I always knew what the profession was all about. I always liked working with people. I also like the variety of each day and each year."

He spends his time outside of

school gardening, bike riding, doing home improvement, participating in triathlons, and doing sheep and alpaca farming. He enjoys going on long walks with his wife and dog, digging into his flowerbeds, going on long bike rides, kayaking with Jeff Whitmer, traveling with his friends, the Lees, attending dinner parties with his retired teacher friends, and hanging out with Thad Hart.

Mr. Baker has helped students graduate and start fantastic careers, win athletic awards, win FFA contest state titles, and negotiate teacher contracts.

When asked who inspires him, he said, "Students inspire me. I love to see the vision in their eyes as they look forward in their life. When a student has hopes and dreams and I, through my teaching or influence, get to be a part of that process, that keeps me moving forward."

His advice to everyone is, "you only have once to make a first impression."

Molly Manns is the daughter of Earl and Mary Marlatt. She is married to Tony Manns, and they have two children. Mrs. Manns has four sisters—Jennifer, Sabrina, Hillary, and Sarah. She also has a brother Kevin. She is the third oldest of six.

This year, she teaches Principles of Digital Design, Interactive Media, Tech Support, AP Computer Science and seventh-grade Computers. In the past she has taught Marketing, Entrepreneurship and New Ventures, and Business Management. She teaches grades seven through twelve.

Mrs. Manns went to Rushville Consolidated High School, in her hometown of Rush County, Indiana. As a teenager, she worked at the hospital in record keeping.



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

Spotlights

In school, she was involved with Varsity Scholars, Spanish Club, National Honor Society, theater, and SADD.

She attended Indiana University Bloomington where she received a business degree from the Kelley School of Business with concentrations in Marketing and International Studies. When she decided to teach, she went to Taylor University for her license.

In college, Mrs. Manns worked for IU, sold floor coverings at Menards, and waited tables at Chili's. She worked for the Indiana Business Research Center at Indiana University from 2001 to 2014.

At the moment, her hobbies include running her children around to their activities and training her new puppy. She also enjoys reading a good book and baking. She loves to travel and enjoys the outdoors.

When asked who inspires her, she stated, "My students inspire me to keep learning and being a better version of myself; my colleagues inspire me to be a better teacher; my family inspires me to be a better mom, wife, sister, and daughter."

She started teaching because she wanted to share information and ideas that students can use both in school and outside of it. She thinks it is both exciting and humbling to know that she can have even the smallest impact on the future of the students who walk through the doors.

When asked which accomplishment she is most proud of, she stated, "Rather than a single accomplishment, I would say the quality I'm pretty proud of is that I'm prepared to work for what I want, whether it's personal or career related, and I do not give up easily."

Her advice is to be aware of the fact that there is always room to know more.



Mr. Troy Neely, son of Robert and Lela Neely, is married to Sharron and has three kids. He has two boys, Ryan and Dominique, and one girl named Terri.

Mr. Neely is from Elkhart, Indiana and grew up with seven brothers and one sister.

He attended Jimtown High School and played on the basketball team, and later, Tri-State University (now Trine University).

Mr. Neely now teaches both seventh- and eighth-grade Physical Education as well as eighth-grade Health.

His hobbies include: working out, spending time with grandchildren and visiting family, playing card games, and board games.



Mr. Neely would also like to travel and sightsee in Hawaii. His wife and grandchildren inspire him. Mr. Neely also coached the winning teams in the 1999 and 2000 2A Indiana basketball State Championship.

Mr. Neely attends Shore Church in Shipshewana. He feels as though, "God led me into teaching at a young age, and He then directed me to Westview for my entire career! I enjoy teaching just as much or more today as I did when I started in 1985. I thoroughly enjoy working with one of God's most precious people, His children. I plan to do that as long as He will have me do so. I am most proud of reading the Bible several times from cover to cover and developing a strong desire to learn more about my heavenly father." His favorite Bible verse is "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me," Philippians 4:13.



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The Hometown Treasure

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Just west of Shipshewana

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— ADVERTISING INFORMATION —

Deadline for January 2022 Issue:

12 noon, Tuesday, December 14

Thursday, December 9 if you need a proof.

January Issue Date is Tuesday, December 21

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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 2021

Back Row (left to right): Jaryl Yoder, Milan Miller, Landon Gingerich, Madison Grossman, Addison Kauffman, and Lanita Mast. Front: Jason Wingard, Caedmon Gates, Lilyan Bennett, Selena Martin, Ina Miller, and Lilly Mullet.

Photo Submitted

Westview Junior High School recognized the above students during the month of October 2021 for their efforts in academics, hard work in class, caring, leadership, citizenship, athletics, or random acts of kindness to others. 📌



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Student Ambassadors

WHS - October 2021

Back Row (left to right): Shane Wood, Elijah Hostetler, and Brady Lehman. *Front:* Gramm Egli, Andrew Baughman, and Sarabeth Drew. *Not Pictured:* Joslyn Marnier *Photo Submitted*

Westview High School has selected seven students to receive Student Ambassador of the Month honors for October 2021. 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.

____ _ ____ _ ____ _ ____ _
 ____ _ ____ _ ____ _ ____ _

I have had the joy of joining a local choir this fall. I was in choirs all through high school and college and I am very excited to be back in one now. I am in the

Goshen Community Chorale, and as of writing this, our concert is less than a week away, on Sunday, November 21. I am extra excited about this choir because it is under the direction of Bradley Kauffman, who directed the choir, Bel Canto, which I was in at Hesston College. He also recently headed up the creation of the brand-new Mennonite hymnal. Overall, it has been a fantastic experience, and I am thrilled to be singing under Bradley's direction again. 🎵



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Solution on page 18

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Finding Home

December brings hopes and expectations of good things. There is a longing to come home for the Christmas holidays with gatherings of family and friends; you anticipate building memories filled with warmth and security. It is one reason Hallmark Christmas movies are popular.

But warmth and security do not reside in all homes, especially at Christmas time.

Rather than focusing on home as a place, there is comfort in thinking about home as a feeling. It can be a feeling you have when you are with a person or have a safe and secure experience. Below are re-



sponses I received when asking others to describe the meaning of home.

- *Home is love and laughter, noise, heartache, tears, and family.*
- *Home is freedom.*
- *Home is my safe base; my nest.*
- *Home is where I retreat after doing battle all day.*
- *Home is where you can live, where memories are made.*
- *Home is where I am unconditionally loved.*
- *Home means having a safe place to land.*
- *Home is my sanctuary.*
- *Home is people, safety, relief.*
- *Home is where I am comfortable, the place I feel free to relax, un-*

wind, and be with those I love.

- *Home is where my life seems at peace and at rest, where my heart yearns to be, and where my family thrives.*
- *Home is where I can be myself without fear of being judged or misunderstood.*
- *Home is where your loved ones are.*


- *Home is where you can relax, reconnect, and recharge.*
- *Home is your soft place to fall.*
- *Home is wherever we can all be together.*
- *Home is a shelter customized to provide spiritual and emotional comfort. It is as unique as the persons inhabiting it.*
- *Home is where we give thanks, recharge, and help each other handle what the fallen world has dealt us.*
- *Home has never been a house. Home is where I know and feel I belong.*
- *Home is where I can be my whole self.*

- *Home is anywhere I hear my mother's voice.*
- *Home is a place many long for. Our home will be with Christ in eternity. Only then will that longing be filled.*
- *There is truly no place like home.*

As you read those descriptions of home, what phrase is meaningful to you? What description is your

“home,” the place or person with whom you feel safe, secure, free, and at peace? It is an important thought to consider heading into the holidays. We look to the holidays to fill our longing for security, but when holiday experiences or expectations disappoint us, we can feel depressed,

angry, or sad.

This holiday season, rather than putting your needs for security and safety into a holiday, focus on the people or places in your life that are “home” to you all year round. Invest in those relationships or spend time at those places. Unmet holiday expectations are less about temporary disappointment and more about unmet needs of safety and security. Rather than yearning for a home for the holidays, find where or who home is and dwell there all year long. 

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Holiday Season!*




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wishes you a
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Holiday!**

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Thomas D. Morlan, O.D. **Charles M. Craig, O.D.**



- 1 Shaylee Heintzelman, Jennica Hershberger, Cody Hill, Gusmar Munoz Huerta, Christopher Yoder
- 2 Rakan Algaradie, Brantley Miller, Marsha Miller, Dallas Stemm
- 3 Noelle Amsden, Lyndon Borkholder, Alana Donat, Evan Mast, Cindy Schwartz
- 4 Karl Hershberger, Elijah Kemp, Jeremy Nisley
- 5 Kathleen Bontrager, Abigail Hershberger, Kate Mauck, Destiney Osmun
- 6 Abigail Lehmer, Ian Scott, Seth Whetstone
- 7 Jared Beechy, Miranda Carmona, Mazie Siples
- 8 Lydia Bloom, Jolisa Fry
- 9 Emily Smith
- 10 Ava Hostetler, Ina Miller
- 11 Jace Amsden, Luke Lambright, Madelyn Miller, Michael Miller
- 12 Cesar Flores, Zachary Mullins, Sarah Omar, Josie Vaughn
- 13 Breann Riehl
- 14 Derek Bontrager, Bryleigh Bailey, Graesin Lambright, Landon Miller, Karson Plank

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

- 15 Adam Miller, Peyton Raber, Hallie Stults, Julian Warrener, Sarah Yoder
- 16 Angie Al Yahiri, Ava Bontrager, Trace Trittippo, Kylan Yoder
- 18 Abdulrahman Alyaharee, Rahaf Alyaharee
- 19 Logan Troxel, Isaac Yoder
- 20 Zarien Campos, Adrian Hostetler, Tori Taylor
- 22 Adrian Miller, Amelia Scott
- 23 Landon Hochstetler, Kadrian Miller, Sharon Miller, Braydon Sargent, Krystal Schlabach, Micah Schrock
- 24 Jayni Drake, Beverly Foulk, Sydney Yoquelet
- 26 Hailey Otto
- 27 Emma Miller, Nolan Miller, Jace Wingard, Lindsey Wingard, Bryce Yoder
- 28 Hannah Miller, Kenlin Miller
- 29 Andrea Barkman, Xayne Mercer, Bella Williams
- 30 Allison Bontrager, Austin Bontrager, Sara Chupp, Derek Frey, James Wingard
- 31 Joshua Otto, Brenton Parker, Kole Moon, Serena Miller


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PLH Receives Recognition

Parkview LaGrange Hospital (PLH) was recently recognized by the Indiana Hospital Association (IHA), in partnership with Governor Eric J. Holcomb and State Health Commissioner Kris Box, MD, FACOG, for its commitment to infant and maternal health. The announcement was made at the second annual *INspire Hospital of Distinction* recognition program.

INspire, funded by the Indiana Department of Health's Safety PIN grant, was developed to implement the delivery of best-practice care for Hoosier moms and babies and recognize hospitals for excellence in addressing key drivers of infant and maternal health. Parkview LaGrange Hospital was recognized in the 2021 Category of Excellence for demonstrating success in infant safe sleep, breastfeeding, and perinatal substance use.

"It's wonderful to receive this recognition of our Family Birthing Center team's diligence and commitment in taking care of the needs of our moms and babies," said Jordi Disler, president of PLH. "Getting little ones and their moms off to a great start means prioritizing their safety and getting them on a healthy track together." 

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Westview Jr./Sr. High 1st Quarter 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

Ibraheem Aldawshan, Nada Algaradi, Grace Atwater, Eva Bates, Evan Beechy, Lexy Bennett, Caleb Bontrager, Emily Bontrager, Janae Bontrager, Kaitlyn Bontrager, Memphis Bontrager, Olivia Bontrager, Seth Bontrager, Camryn Christner, Ava Chupp, Jarrett Dunker, Josephine Eash, Graci Engle, Janie Fry, Caedmon Gates, Landon Gingerich, Luke Haarer, Makenna Helman, Boe Helmuth, Amanda Hershberger, Karl Hershberger, Keegan Hershberger, Carly Hicks, Angela Hochstetler, Daron Hochstetler, Faron Hochstetler, Alyssa Hooley, Kaden Hostetler, Addison Kauffman, Erica Lambright, Jarius Lambright, Lisa Lambright, Seth Lambright, Tresa Lambright, Andrea Lehman, Ashlyn Martin, Selena Martin, Kaitlyn Mast, Jacob McCoy, Emilia Mendoza, Alivia Miller, Allison Miller, Austin Miller, Benji Miller, Coleen Miller, Diane Miller, Ethan Miller, Eva Miller, Gloria Miller, Jared Miller, Jenna E. Miller, Jenna E. Miller, Jerold Miller, Kaitlyn Miller, Karen Miller, Katelyn Miller, Krista Miller, Lachelle Miller, Luke Miller, Peyton Miller, Lucas Mullet, Kendra Nisley, Wafa Omarouf, Jeremy Otto, Ryan Otto, Kaine Reinhold, Duaa Saleh, Marc Schlabach, Jeniece Schrock, Jaylen Schwartz, Carver Stump, Kianna Stutzman, Kristin Stutzman, Alex Troyer, Jackson Vaughn, Owen Weinberg, Braydon Wingard, Jared Wingard, Jason Wingard, Micah Wingard, Sophia Wingard, Cameron Yoder, Christopher Yoder, Cynthia Yoder, Daniel Yoder, Emily G. Yoder, Emma Yoder, Gavin Yoder, Janel Yoder, Jaryl Yoder, Olivia Yoder, Pierce Yoder, Ryan Yoder, Savannah Yoder, and Sherri Yoder.

Grade 8

Hyde Al Yahiri, Noriah Aldhuraibi, Jayden Beachy, Kara Beechy, Kristen Bender, Lilyan Bennett, Katana Bibbee, Adrian Bontrager, Alyssa Bontrager, Jalayna Bontrager, Janessa Bontrager,

continued on page 13

LaGrange County Library

Shipshewana Branch

250 Depot St. • 260-768-7444
T - F • 11:00 am—5:00 pm
Saturday • 9:00 am—12 pm

LaGrange County Public Library

203 West Spring Street • 260-463-2841
M - Th • 10:00 am—6:00 pm
Friday • 10:00 am—5:00 pm
Saturday • 9 am—12 pm

Topeka Branch

133 North Main Street • 260-593-3030
T - F • 11:00 am—5:00 pm
Saturday • 9:00 am—12:00 pm

Below are the events planned for December 2021.

All activities are **In-Person** unless noted. If you have any questions, please call the LaGrange library at 260-463-2841 for further information.

Youth Department

Preschool Story Time (Ages 0-5)

Topeka • Wednesdays, December 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 • 11 am
LaGrange • Tuesdays, December 7, 14, 21, and 28 • 10:30 am
Shipshewana • Tuesdays, December 7, 14, 21, and 28 • 1 pm
Theme: Learning the Alphabet

Registration is appreciated but is not required.

Home School Group (All ages welcome)

Shipshewana • Wednesday, December 8 • 1 pm
LaGrange • Friday, December 10 • 10 am
Topeka • Friday, December 10 • 1 pm

Christmas Around the World. Choose a country to learn about and make a snack or drink from that country to share with the group.

MUST call the LaGrange library (260-463-2841) by **December 1** to register.

Teen Games and Crafts (Grades 6-12)

LaGrange • Monday, December 13 • 4 pm

Theme: Playing games, making hot chocolate bombs, and enjoying Christmas snacks.

Limited Registration.

MUST register by **December 6** to ensure we have enough supplies.

Lego Free Play (Grades K-12)

LaGrange • Wednesday, December 15 • 4 pm

ALL of the Legos will be out for you to create whatever you want! Your creations will be displayed at the Library for the month of January.

MUST call the LaGrange library (260-463-2841) by **December 8** to register.

New Activity Bags out for Pick-up (While supplies last)

All Locations • Monday, December 20
Theme: Reindeer Take-n-Make

Elementary Book Club (Grades 2-5)

No meeting this month.

Pick up the book for the January meeting beginning December 20.

Teen Book Chat and Craft (Grades 6-12)

No meeting this month.

Pick up the book for the January meeting beginning December 20.

Winter Reading Challenge

All Locations • Monday, December 20 through Saturday, February 26, 2022

Pick up a reading log to participate.

Keep track of minutes read, earn charms, and receive entries for a drawing for several grand prizes!

All
Library
Locations will be
closed December
24 and 25 for
Christmas!

All
Library
Locations will be
closed December
31 and January 1
for New Years!

Adult Interest

Gentle Flow Yoga with Farra

LaGrange • Thursdays, December 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 • 10 - 11 am

LaGrange • Mondays, December 6, 13, 20, and 27 • 10 - 11 am

Please bring a yoga mat, a rug, or a blanket. Gentle flow yoga combines gentle stretching and strengthening movements. The first class is free! For each further class, a \$5 donation is suggested.

Make-N-Take

LaGrange • Wednesday, December 8 • 6 pm

Project: Christmas Tree Trio Porch Leaners

We will paint a set of three porch leaner trees for the holiday season!

Cost is \$20 per person. *Space is limited.*

Reservation and \$10 deposit due by Friday, December 3 at the LaGrange library.

Due Date Stitch Club

Shipshewana • Thursday, December 9 and 30 • 4 - 5 pm

Learn a new stitch at every meeting or bring a project you are working on. Library books are checked out for three weeks at a time, so just remember Stitch Club meets the same day your books are due. Participants must know basics of how to knit (knit and purl) or crochet (single and double). Bring your own yarn/materials.

Second Saturday Book Club

Shipshewana • December 11 • 11 am

Millie's Market Café (Third Floor, Davis Mercantile)

225 N Harrison St, Shipshewana

This month's book is *Little House on the Prairie* by Laura Ingalls Wilder. We will meet at the restaurant to discuss the book. Based on the real-life adventures of the author, *Little House on the Prairie* is the third book in the award-winning *Little House* series, which has captivated generations of readers.

Copies of the book are available at the LaGrange library's Adult Information Desk.

Adult Winter Reading Challenge

All Locations • Monday, December 20 through Saturday, February 26, 2022

Theme: Bucket List Books

Read three books from our list of classics to earn:

An 18-in-1 Stainless Steel Snowflake Multi-Tool.

Plus, a chance to win an Instant Pot Duo Crisp 11-in-1 Electric Pressure Cooker with Air Fryer Lid.

Winner will be announced March 5, 2022.

Bullet Journaling

LaGrange • Monday, December 27 • 2 pm

Topeka • Tuesday, December 28 • 2 pm

A bullet journal is an organizer, a diary, a to-do list, and a wish list all in one. It is a simple, completely personalized method that will change the way you organize time and tasks! Learn how to set up and use a basic bullet journal at one of these free classes!

MUST call the LaGrange library (260-463-2841 x1030) by **December 13** to register.

Find more information at www.lagrangelib.in.us or call 260-463-2841.

Facebook Page- m.facebook.com/lagrangelibraryindiana

This page sponsored by



Mystery Farm CONTEST



OVER \$50 WORTH OF PRIZES!

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

2nd Prize(s): Pen, letter opener, 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 14, 2021.**
Allow time for mail delivery.
- 4) Winners will be drawn and prizes mailed.
- 5) Correct entries listed in our next issue!

December Contest Sponsored by Tiffany's Restaurant and LaGwana

Devon & LaVera Yoder of 6805W 400S, of Topeka, correctly identified last issue's farm as being owned by **Willie & Kate Miller, 4575S 600W, Topeka**. Congratulations! They won a 1 Year Subscription from The Connection, a pen, a letter opener, a notepad set, and a copy of *The Honeyville Journal* from LaGwana Printing. Second prize went to **Karl & Kris Miller, 4950S 600W, Topeka**. Third prize went to **Dan & Sue Miller, 4445N 750W, Shipshewana**.



There were 17 correct entries this month. **Others that guessed correctly were:** Mark & MaryAlice Bontrager, Merv & Treva Miller, Daniel & Erma Miller, Merv & Sue Miller, Dave & Loretta Yoder, Marlin & Laura Miller, Darin Miller, Viola S. Eash, Wayne & Wilma Mullet, Joe P. & Lenora Miller, Tobe & Elsie Hochstetler, Joe & Orpha Lambright, Myron & Kara Wingard, Karl & Karen Yoder.

Sponsored by



JV Girls Basketball



- 1) Shanna Miller fends off her Lakewood Park opponent.
- 2) Leigha Schrock moves down the court.
- 3) Audrey Taylor takes a free throw shot.

Sports photos by Roger Wenger
These photos and more are available for purchase at lagwanaphotos.com.

Kids Kreations

150 N. Harrison St.
Shipshewana, IN 46565
260-768-7744



Name: _____ Age: _____

Coloring Contest: kids age 6 and younger. Sponsored by Kids Kreations this month! Winner gets a **SPECIAL SURPRISE** at Kids Kreations, Harrison St., Shipshewana. Winning drawings will be on display at Kids Kreations. **ALL PARTICIPANTS** come in and claim your drawing for **A FREE SURPRISE** at Kids Kreations in January. Mail submission to: LaGwana, Coloring Contest, PO Box 70, Shipshewana, IN 46565. **Entry deadline is December 14, 2021.**

Address: _____

Smart Choices

By Lucas Shelly—Pharmacy student at Topeka Pharmacy

Over-the-Counter Cold Remedies: What Works?

As the leaves start to drop and a morning frost becomes our new reality, another change is upon us, cold and flu season. Both the common cold and the flu are primarily caused by viruses. Unlike bacterial infections, antibiotics do not have any effect on viral germs. So what options are available to assist your recovery from a case of the common cold? Here is a handful that are available over-the-counter (OTC) without needing a prescription.


Zinc is an essential trace mineral that is available in various formulations. A study conducted by the Cleveland Clinic in 2011 showed that zinc, if taken within 24 hours of symptom onset, can reduce the length of a cold by anywhere from 12–48%. Zicam® is an OTC product that provides zinc supplementation intended to reduce the length of a cold when taken as symptoms first appear.

Vitamin C is a compound that has been linked to immune health, gaining significant publicity in 1970 when chemist Linus Pauling published the book *Vitamin C and the Common Cold*. While research is inconclusive about potential benefits, the relative safety of taking vitamin C suggests it would not hurt to

try it out. Emergen-C® is one of many OTC products that provide vitamin C supplementation intended to boost immune support.

Vitamin D has also been shown to play a beneficial role in immune health. In particular, deficiency in this vitamin has shown strong links to increased risk for infection. Our body's primary vitamin D production occurs in our skin cells when they are exposed to sunlight. It is common to become deficient in this mineral during the winter months since we tend to stay indoors more often. Several OTC products can offer vitamin D supplementation. Your local pharmacist would be happy to point you in the right direction!

Quercetin is a lesser-known dietary supplement that has burst onto the immune-health scene over the last decade. There is a significant amount of data that suggests this compound has anti-viral properties. There is also some evidence that quercetin may work best when combined with vitamin C as it may last longer in your body. OrthoMune® is an OTC product that contains zinc, vitamin C, vitamin D, and quercetin to provide broad-spectrum support for healthy immune function.

Topeka Pharmacy offers the products listed above, as well as many others, to help give your immune system the support it needs to keep you healthy this winter. Please call us at 260-593-2252 with any additional questions! 

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

Jason Bontrager, Lisa Bontrager, Loraine Bontrager, Noah Bontrager, Darin Borkholder, Breann Cory, Benjamin Dettweiler, Hunter Egli, Doretta Fry, Marc Fry, Madison Grossman, Marla Hostetler, Ava Hostetler, Dakota Hubbard, Kaleb Iddings, 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, Amanda Miller, Ava Miller, Ina Miller, Jacob Miller, Jana Miller, Katie Miller, Kevin Miller, Kristen Miller, Lynette Miller, Megan Miller, Milan Miller, Myra Miller, Wendall Miller, Becky Moore, Lilly Mullet, Isaac Nissley, Kailey Nissley, Corra Owens, Nathan Peruski, Shawn Raber, Aaron Roth, Bentley Ryall, Darin Schlabach, Nora Schlabach, Kylie Singleton, Jina Slabach, Brett Springer, Alex Troyer, Lucas Troyer, Melody Troyer, Jordynn Wasson, Annette Whetstone, Jalayna Whetstone, Brina Williams, Benjamin Wingard, Elyse Wingard, Angela Yoder, Jaden Yoder, Jared Yoder, Kaitlyn Yoder, Katurah Yoder, Kurtis Yoder, and Miciah Yoder.

Grade 9

Hussein Aldawshan, Cole Bontrager, Emily Bontrager, Ian Bontrager, Lilly Bontrager, Clarinda Byler, Mason Clark, Gavin Engle, Jaxon Engle, Max Engle, Lakota Everitt, Zackary Fry, Micah Geyer, Silas Haarer, Michael Hargrove, Grace Heyerly, Olivia Jasso, Asher Kennedy, Jackson Massey, Kiana Mast, Rylie Metz, Curtis Miller, Brianna Munoz, Diamond Noe, Gwendolynn Owsley, Tristan Pearson, Morgan Rich, Morgan Riegsecker, Jonathan Roth, Alexander Sanchez, Kason Schrock, Lindsey Schwartz, Dylan Shrock, Kelsie Ward, Alexis Warren, Annagail Warrenner, Jacob Watts, Ava Williams, Ella Williams, Bryan M. Yoder, Kamden Yoder, Kylie Yoder, and Ryan Yoder.

Grade 10

Mohammed Alziadi, Eli Atra, Kristie Bolling, Caleb Bontrager, Maryah Bontrager, Nicholas Bontrager, Hope Bortner, Jayce Brandenberger, Carson Brown, Katie Engelage, Sharla Frey,

continued on page 30



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Coloring Contest Winners

Five year old Adra Kate Miller of 850 W, Shipshewana 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 Seth Slabach, age 6; Miciah Lynn Slabach, age 5; Joyce Barkman, age 4; and Halle Brooke Stutzman, age 3. Honorable Mentions: Lori Lambright, age 6; Lanita Bontrager, age 6; Alayna Dianne Lambright, age 6; Mandi Miller, age 6; Janelle Diane Miller, age 6; and Kristen Mast, 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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Rebuilding Your Credit

You cannot write your credit history, but you can rebuild it! Whether you have undergone a significant life event or filed for bankruptcy, reestablishing your credit rating takes time and discipline. It is helpful to create a plan that you can stick with. You will need to demonstrate that you can pay your bills on time every month and make regular repayments to a credit line.

Here are four ways you can begin to rebuild your financial credibility.

1. Apply for a credit builder loan.

This is a short-term loan, usually no more than \$1,000, offered by banks and credit unions to consumers who want to boost their credit score. The money borrowed is deposited into an interest-bearing account but cannot be accessed until it has been repaid. Once the loan has been repaid, the financial institution sends a good report to the credit bureaus. At the end of the loan term, you receive the money and a better credit score. However, if you miss payments, it will also be reported.

2. Use a secured credit card account.

This is a line of credit that is 50 to 100 percent of a cash savings deposit. For example, if you put \$500 in the account, you can charge up to \$500 on your secured card. If you consistently make your payments on time, it could be possible to transform your secured card into an unsecured card from a credit card issuer, boosting your credit score.

- **Secured Card** – These are cards given to customers with bad credit or without credit. They require an initial deposit (usually equal to the credit limit) if cardholders cannot pay off their cards.
- **Unsecured Card** – Most credit cards are unsecured, so there is no deposit required for cardholders to obtain one.

3. Become an authorized user.


As an authorized user, you can make charges on someone else's credit card account using a credit card that bears your name. The card account history of the original cardholder will appear on your credit report, helping to improve your credit score.

4. Make payments on time.

Even as you are tackling existing debt, make sure you do not add to it by missing credit card and loan payments. If you are not sure that you will make a minimum payment by the deadline, contact your creditors ahead of time

and explain your situation. Give them an estimate of when you will be able to repay your debt. If you let your creditors know in advance rather than skipping a payment, you will demonstrate responsibility and creditability. Creditors may be more likely to trust that you will pay them back.

Once you are on the right track again, be sure to create an emergency fund to deal with difficult, unforeseen financial situations. Building an emergency fund with three to six months of living expenses will enable you to cover many of the unexpected expenses you may face!

Confirm that your financial activity is reported to the three major credit bureaus—Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion—to ensure that your repayments are positively affecting your credit score. 

Source: Practical Money Skills



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Robert's Farm

Second graders at Meadowview Elementary had an enjoyable field trip to Robert's Farm in Wawaka. They explored the pumpkin patch, sunflower field, and the goat barn. Then they enjoyed all the fun activities around the farm and ended with a wagon ride before picking a pumpkin to take home. 🍂 *Photos Submitted*

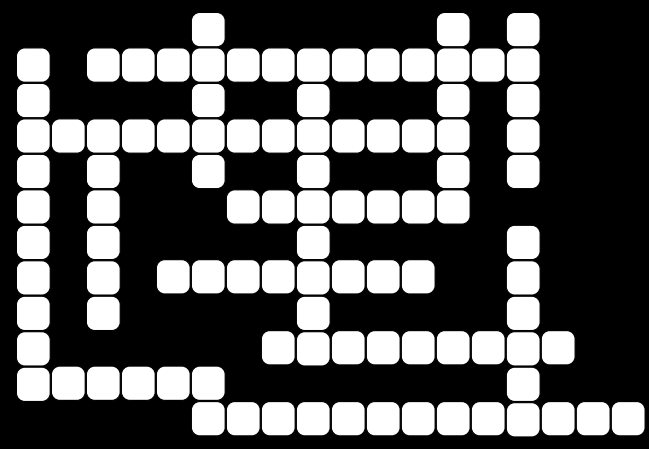
Meadowview Elementary



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- Advent
- Bethlehem
- ChristmasTime
- EvergreenTree
- Holiday
- Jesus
- Mistletoe
- NativityScene
- SantaClaus
- Sleigh
- Tiding
- Timely
- Visit
- Yuletide

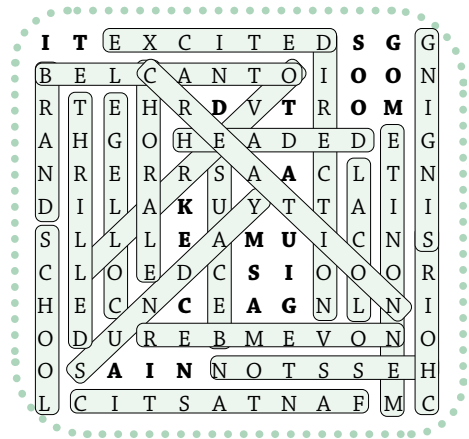


Clueless Crossword

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

Use the words listed to fill in the spaces!

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 T'S G O O D
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Goodbye, Mr. McDonald



Photo Submitted

Meadowview's fourth graders said goodbye to Steve McDonald and wished him well on his retirement. Steve shared memories and also gave the students wise advice. Mr. McDonald said that what he would miss the most about Meadowview is getting to see all the students every day. 📌

Hot Off the Press

Meadowview Elementary fourth graders put on their thinking caps while they dove into writing a narrative essay, from brainstorming to publishing in one school day. HATS OFF to their amazing perseverance! 📌



Photos Submitted

Meadowview Elementary

Fashion Farm

Kindergarteners from Meadowview Elementary had the opportunity to enjoy Pumpkin Fantasy Land at Fashion Farm near Ligonier. They had the chance to enjoy a wagon ride out to the pumpkin patch and warm up with some home-made pumpkin donuts. 📌



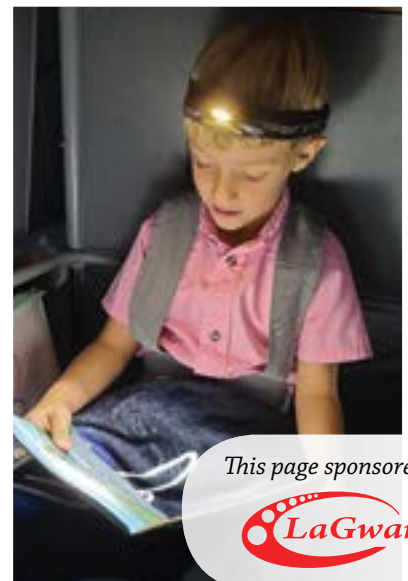
Photos Submitted



Flashlight Friday

Mrs. McDonald's first-grade students at Meadowview Elementary enjoyed their first "Flashlight Friday" of the year! Students read during silent reading time with their flashlights. 📌

Photos Submitted



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ANIMAL Habitats

Shipshe-Scott Elementary

First graders at Shipshewana-Scott Elementary studied different animal habitats. They made various dioramas to show the diverse types of habitats in which animals live. Excellent job, students! 📌

Photos Submitted



First Quarter Shining Citizens Awards

Shipshewana Elementary has named their selection of Shining Citizens for the first quarter of the 2021-2022 school year. Congratulations students! 📌

Photos Submitted

Top: Second and Third graders. Back Row (left to right): Kendray Yoder, Lisa Hershberger, Jordan Troyer, Jace Amsden, Mia Stemm, Tarah Hochstetler, and Alex Detweiler. Front: Gage Miller, Krystal Schlabach, Lydia Long, Kylie Bontrager, Jamie Chupp, Gia Miller, Allison Miller, Caleb Yoder, Isabella Marcum, Harper Yoder, and Chloe Swanson.

Bottom: First and Fourth Graders. Back Row (left to right): Hadley Yoder, Carson Yoder, Janessa Caldwell, Toby Miller, Kalyn Bontrager, and Hailey Miller. Front: Jared Yoder, Alayna Schlabach, Colin Troyer, Dhani Munoz, Ryan Schwartz, Noelle Amsden, Kylie Wingard, Evan Miller, and Dax Tormanen.



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Pumpkin Project

Students from Ms. Rose's kindergarten class spent some time learning about pumpkins. The students worked on carving pumpkins, where they learned and experienced activities that involved sorting and classifying, counting, and problem-solving. ①



Photos Submitted

A student reaches inside their pumpkin, pulling out the seeds and pulp.

After carefully removing the stem, students spent time studying the insides of the pumpkin.

Apples for Learning

Kindergarten classes have been learning many of their quarterly skills through the study of apples. They read the story of Johnny Appleseed and learned about counting, sorting, shapes, and their senses using various apple activities. ①

Photo Submitted



Grandparents Day

On Monday, October 18, Topeka Elementary had Grandparents Day. Each classroom was open for grandparents to go in and see how and where their grandchildren spend their school days. Activities were different in the

classrooms ranging from prepared readings or performances, interactive activities, playing board games, and reading books together. ①

Photos Submitted



A student looks on as his grandmother works with him on an activity.



Students spend time showing their grandparents what they do each day.


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Cub Connection

On November 4, Topeka Elementary hosted families for its annual Title Night–Cub Connection. During the evening, parents, students, and siblings had an opportunity to come in and experience several hands-on learning activities. There were thirteen different STEM activities available throughout the building, along with a snack area, puzzle giveaway, and raffle. 📍

Photos Submitted



Fourth Row (Left to right): Abood Alyaharee, Marissa Childers, Kendall Lambright, Austin Miller, Justin Miller, Hannah Miller, Krista Miller, and Rugger Altimus. Third: Alayah Hankins, Kelsey Smith, Rory Lambright, Jenise Eash, and Kyleigh Schwartz. Second: Emma Graber, Aleasha Miller, Maverick Graber, Elliana Kaufmann, Maciah Miller, Max Reffett, Braelynn Neff, and Lucas Bontrager. First: Jamie Miller, Alyse Bontrager, Seth Slabach, Evelyn Brown, Kailey Miller, and Edison Martin. Not Pictured: Anna Spillers, Nyanchai Sornross, and Kathlyn Bontrager.

Photos Submitted

Topeka Elementary

Topeka First Quarter Awards

Topeka Elementary honored students with awards in Math, Reading, and Life Skills. 📍



Math Awards: Fourth Row (Left to right): Landon Nissley, Josie Vaughn, Ethan Eash, Jerel Bontrager, Austin Yoder, Nasser Yaya, Abrar Saleh, Julie Yoder, and Kayla Bontrager. Third: Aden Whetstone, Gabriel Eicher, Angie Slabach, Serenity Lambright, Hannah Miller, Jared Miller, Emily Yoder, and Maverick Turner. Second: Derek Bontrager, Eric Riehl, Macy Matney, Aryanna Case, Vincent Vogt, Sawyer Hamm, and Lyric Miller. First: Amy Miller, Jaron Yoder, Amiah Hankins, Melody Drake, Kadian Good, and Gavin Bauman.



Reading Awards: Third Row (Left to right): Mason Grossman, Wesam Algaradie, Jennifer Miller, Aiden Birch, Kevin Lehman, Black West, Sofia Martinez-Diaz, Caleb Miller, Stella Zabona, and Landyn Honyoust. Second: Max Yoder, Melissa Miller, Xavier Miller, Lucas Hershberger, Allen Childers, Jaena Miller, Gatlin Hochstetler, Nathan Martin, Andrea Barkman, Ashlin Rockey, and Lila Wingard. First: Jada Nissley, Krista Bontrager, Samuel Reffett, Jolisa Hochstetler, Rakan Algaradie, Riley Beechy, Easton McDonald, Bryleigh Miller, and Adaleigha Yoder.



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We Rise By Lifting Others

All students in both fifth and sixth grade contributed to a collaborative art mural displayed in the halls of Westview Elementary. Each student created a 5" x 5" square piece in art class that combined to make a colorful masterpiece. The mural represents how each student is an integral part of a bigger picture. As individuals, we are special and unique in our own way, but when we work together, we can make a positive impact and change lives in a positive way. 📍

Photo Submitted

Westview Elementary



Westview Junior High

Parent Shadow Day Postponed

Parent Shadow Day, which had been scheduled for November 4, was postponed to Spring 2022. In a statement, Mr. Rojos, Westview Jr. High Principal, said, "We want to provide a

day that is enjoyable for all as parents get an insight into the school day for their child." The school plans to reach out to parents in the spring with a new date. 📍



Westview High School

All-Conference Volleyball Team

Congratulations to Alexys Antal for being named to the All-Conference Volleyball Team. Additional congratulations to Kylie Yoder for receiving an honorable mention. These two players were part of a group of twenty-eight players that were named to the team! 📍

Photos Submitted



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Congrats 2021 Boys Soccer Team!



In the hallway running between the two gyms are cases of trophies and photos on the wall displaying great moments in Westview's sports history. A new trophy with a brand new title, not seen before in Westview's class action history, will make its way to this hall of history. The title? Boys Soccer State

Champion. This year's team overcame many challenges and emerged at the top of their class in double overtime.

The community was invited to share the celebration with a pep rally ending with a parade through several Topeka and Shipshewana communities. Principal Rich Cory, Head Coach Jamie Martin, and Assistant Coach Ehren Misner spoke of the team's accomplishment. Cory thanked the team "for building on our history of our success." Martin said it was a "special season for

a special team. How did they do it? In dramatic fashion, of course!" Misner spoke of the recipe for a winning team and concluded with, "It takes more than an individual to win, it takes an entire community."

Congratulations to the 2021 Boys Soccer team on your class 2A State Championship title. **1**



This page sponsored by



H. Honor Roll ... cont. from page 13

Chloe Hagerman, Joshua Heidorn, Luke Helmuth, Benton Hershberger, Judson Hershberger, Stephen Jones, Braden Kauffman, Jace Lang, Brady Lehman, Kaylin Mahon, Karly Miller, Wiley Minix, Teague Misner, Christien Noward, Kaitlin Nuzum, Jacob Peruski, Braden Rogers, Wade Springer, Madeline Stults, Skye Stump, Kirstin Stutzman, Audrey Taylor, Nevaeh White, Mason Wire, Kjersten Yater, Melissa Yoder, and Scott Yoder.

Grade 11

Ashwaq Aldhuraibi, Kylan Bender, Asher Bontrager, Leilyn Bradley, Ava Brown, Brianna Caldwell, Isabella Carmona, Faith Christner, Ella Clark, Alyssa Collier, Jordan Collyer, Alyssa Cory, Kaitlyn Cupp, Braden Eash, Skye Growcock, Hope Haarer, Chadwick Hershberger, Ethan Hibbs, Savannah Hoover, Isaiah Hostetler, Bailey Kenner, Aidan Koehler, Ethan Konkle, Sara Lapp, Evan Litwiller, Collin Martin, Adrian Miller, Adrian L. Miller, Chase Miller, Dayshayla Miller, Gaven Miller, Justin Miller, Kaci Miller, Kamryn Miller, Lyndon Miller, Maria Miller, Katelyn Mishler, Matthew Mortrud, Linda Mullett, Natalie Privett, Lucille Rensberger, Paige Riegsecker, Dawson Shrock, Emily Stutzman, Stacy Stutzman, Caden Sudarth, Christian Uresti, Brady Yoder, and Ella Yoder.

Grade 12

Mukhammadamin Abdurakhmonov, Hoyda Al Yahiri, Abderahman Alrashheed, Alexys Antal, Mason Atra, Andrew Baughman, Brennan Beachy, Landon Bennett, Hailey Bibbee, Abigail Bontrager, Bohdy Bontrager, Easton Bontrager, Jasmine Bontrager, Spencer Conatser, Sarabeth Drew, Lillian Eash, Penelope Eash, Gramm Egli, Kaylyn Gates, Isaac Heyerly, Elijah Hostetler, Corey Johnson, Megan Kauffman, Brookelyn Lambright, Brandon Lehman, Jaxon May, Kaelee Michels, Alana Miller, Hailey Miller, Nathan Miller, Zachary Miller, Jackson Minix, Jaime Mullett, Isaac Niccum, Alayna Nissley, Sean Nordman, Amina Omarouf, Hunter Porter, Isaac Rogers, Anthony Sanchez, Kendall Schwartz, Allie Springer, Savana Strater, Brandon Tester, Drew Walker, Aiden Wisler, Caleb Yater, Alexander Yoder, and Mason Yoder.

continued on page 56

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

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Every family has a story WELCOME TO OURS



by Harold D. Gingerich

The DNA Journey Continues: Face-to-Face at Last

Earlier this year, in the February issue of The Hometown Treasure, “When The ‘Someone’ You’ve Heard About...Turns out to be You,” I shared with you the adventure of discovery that began with a simple DNA test. Reader response was beyond anything I could have imagined. One lady called me to apologize because her relative (King Richard III) had beheaded my relative (Sir William Hastings) in the Tower of London. Many of you stopped me on the street or in the grocery store to tell me how much you had enjoyed the article. The conversations always ended with the exact words, “Oh, I hope you do another article after you have met your family face-to-face because I want to hear the story.” Well, on Saturday morning, October 16, I met my sister LeAnn face-to-face for the first time in American Fork, Utah.

The journey of discovery began almost two years ago when my wife, Janice, convinced me to take the Ancestry DNA test. My mother had been adopted, and she had me before she married Dad (Joe Gingerich). Mom would never tell me about my birth father. I was “ok” with that because I loved my Eicher-Gingerich family and my Dad, who chose to adopt me. Besides, I always figured that I was a chapter in my birth father’s life that needed to remain closed. However, not knowing my birth family left me totally at a loss when it came to medical history.

Little did we realize that one simple DNA test would lead us to where we are today. When the DNA results came back, Ancestry was able to link my lineage to Norway (41%), England (25%), Scotland (16%), Sweden (10%), as well as Ireland and Western Europe. And then, shared centimorgan matches started to appear on my Ancestry webpage.

My first challenge was to do a web search to find out what a centimorgan is. Centimorgans are genetic units of measure in our DNA that identify specific family genetics and settle paternity questions. My results eventually led me to the discovery of three half-sisters and a half-brother.

In the February article, I



The first meeting; LeAnn and Harold

shared the details of our initial emails and how I started having regular communication with my newly discovered half-sister, LeAnn, and her married daughter, Chantel, who live in Utah. COVID-19 restrictions made travel impossible, but LeAnn and I did have several Zoom calls. In-person face-to-face meetings were impossible until several weeks ago.

Janice’s fifty-fifth Fredonia High School homecoming-class reunion in Southeast Kansas, over the weekend of October 9, provided the perfect opportunity for a road trip. Following the reunion, we spent a couple of days with Janice’s sister and then made the two-day drive to Utah, checking into the hotel we had reserved for the weekend. Since having a long day of driving over the mountains, and my sister LeAnn had to work until 9



Harold with his Aunt Delores and Uncle Norman

pm, we decided to wait and meet for breakfast in the morning.

When we arrived at the designated restaurant in the morning, the hostess was immediately ready to seat us. I said, "Well, we need to wait because we are meeting my newly discovered half-sister for the very first time." The hostess was overjoyed and almost burst into tears. It did not take her long to spread the word through the whole place about what was about to happen. I must confess that I was not prepared for the flood of emotions with our first face-to-face meeting. Fortunately, my wife Janice preserved it all on video. Numerous members of the restaurant staff found their way to our table to offer congratulations. And there were countless smiles and approving nods from our fellow patrons.

LeAnn had planned a special day for us. Following our two-hour breakfast, she took us to the beautiful Ashton Gardens in neighboring Lehi, UT, to see the magnificent sculptures of Light of the World Garden. That evening we had the joy of meeting LeAnn's daughter Chantel and her family, as well as LeAnn's son, Dustan, over dinner at a local Japanese hibachi-style restaurant.

Sunday evening LeAnn picked us up for the "Great Pumpkin Carving Contest" at Chantel's house, which has become an annual tradition. When LeAnn sent me a text message saying she was waiting for us in the hotel parking lot, I could not believe what I was reading. I had to read it aloud to Janice because it was word for word what I have said (texted) to people

I was picking up, "Your chariot awaits!" What are the chances of that—amazing! We had a great time; I even got in on the pumpkin carving.

As the evening ended, there was another emotional moment. LeAnn's other daughter, Misty, who lives in San Antonio, TX, had sent a small package for me. Inside were two duplicate pictures of my birth father, Donald Copeland, one for me and one for LeAnn. There was also a handwritten two-page letter welcoming me to the family and a small hand towel with words printed on it reading "Every Family Has a Story WELCOME to Ours." I will admit it; my eyes more than welled up with tears.

Equally touching was when we went to leave, each of Chantel's children, including her nineteen-year-old son, gave us each a hug without being prompted. There are no words to describe the sense of acceptance and welcome that we felt.

The journey continued with a two-day drive to Yuma, Arizona, to visit our granddaughter Miriam and her husband, Josiah, who is a Marine. Spending several days in Yuma provided the perfect opportunity for a day trip (two and a half hours) to Alpine, California, to meet my aunt Delores Kling and Norman, her husband of sixty-three years. Uncle Norm fired up the Model T he had personally restored and drove us to a local Mexican restaurant for a fabulous lunch, and then gave us a tour of Alpine.

Aunt Delores was only six or seven years old when she knew my mother, Shirley. But Delores had family pictures, stories to tell, and a wealth of family history to share. One of the many interesting stories had to do with my ninth great-grandmother, Rebecca Towne Nurse (1621-1692). According to the family's version, Rebecca was an herbalist, and one day



the neighbor's pig got into her garden. She yelled at the pig, which then fell over dead. They convicted her as a witch; she was one of the first to be hung in the infamous Salem Witch Trials. Arthur Miller's well-known play, *The Crucible*, is about her trial.

As of this writing, there has been no communication with my other half-sisters and brother. We have communicated with Aunt Delores and Uncle Norm's daughter, who has family in Indiana, through her husband. She plans a road trip to Indiana within the next year, so we plan to meet her then. And we will most definitely stay in touch with LeAnn and her family.

At so many points along the way on this journey of discovery, I have been reminded of the sovereign grace of God. It has been exciting to discover the family I never knew. But PRAISE GOD for the Eicher family that adopted my mother as a baby and then welcomed me into the world as a child born out of wedlock. They poured God's Word into me; I would not be the man I am today without them. And then for Joe Gingerich, who married my mother and got me as part of the package. He adopted me and loved me and will forever be "Dad."

While the next steps in this journey are not clear—I promise to keep you posted. 📌

This article sponsored by





Quality is in Our Nature

By Harold D. Gingerich

What started out as just a couple of guys seeding lawns has grown into one of the most respected and in-demand landscaping companies in Northeast Indiana. Dave's Lawnscaping is there to help you design the patio, an outdoor fireplace that you have always dreamed of, build an eye-pleasing retaining wall, or create a picture-perfect landscape for your property. Dave's Lawnscaping is located at 59504-B on County Road 33 in Middlebury. If you live in the Topeka area, their retail outlet is Farmview Landscape Center at 7035 South 900 West.

When Dave Miller decided to leave the cold winters of Indiana for the warm sunshine of Florida, he never imagined that it would result in him finding a wife and his own business. But that is precisely what happened. Today, in partnership with his younger brother Maynard, Dave operates Dave's Lawnscaping and the Farmview Landscape Center.

Growing up on an Amish dairy farm three miles west of Topeka, Dave says, "I had a chance to go down there

(Florida) and, with milking cows day in and day out, I was just tired of the winters, so I went." While living in the Sarasota area, he got a job doing lawn care. "I worked for a guy in Florida for three years—it was like going to college for me; that's how I learned the trade."

In 1992, he married Brenda, who had grown up in Florida, about three miles east of Pinecraft. Dave says that the move back to Indiana was at Brenda's urging. The Millers moved north into a trailer on a four-acre tract, which they purchased from Dave's father, Wilbur. That trailer would be their home for the next ten years.

When they first arrived in Indiana, Dave got a job operating a bulldozer. But to supplement the family's income, he started tilling gardens, rolling lawns, and doing some seeding. By the fall of 1993, Dave's Seeding Service was up and running, specializing in seeding lawns.

The timing could not have been better because local construction began to boom and, along with it,

Miller's business. Consumers began requesting more services than just the seeding of lawns. In 1995, Maynard began working for his brother and within a couple of years became a partner. With the company's continued growth also came a name change to Dave's Lawnscaping. In 2017, Dave and Brenda's son, Jed, who had worked in the family business growing up, came on board full time.

Farmview Landscaping Center was added in the year 2000. Several factors influenced the Miller brothers' decision to expand. "We felt like there was a need for a lot of those 'do it yourself' homeowners, so why not create a place out there in the country near Topeka where they could buy what they need," Dave said. "And Dad needed something to do!" he chuckled. The elder Miller



Photos Submitted

had recently retired from farming. The other factor was that the new location would allow the brothers to save money by buying and stockpiling landscaping materials in larger quantities. The landscaping center was constructed on the four acres Dave had purchased from his father years earlier. A small store and several greenhouses provide space where customers can buy a wide variety of plants, fertilizer, trees and shrubs, bag and bulk mulch, and landscaping stones.

When you talk individually with Wilbur, Dave, or Maynard, it does not take long for each of them to bring up the subject of working together. "It doesn't get any better than this," beams Dave, "I hope my sons will help too, in fact, they are." The extended family, including their


four sisters, get to hear about what is going on when they get together every month for a meal. "Believe you me, my sisters have to listen to all the stories from Dad, me, and my brother!"

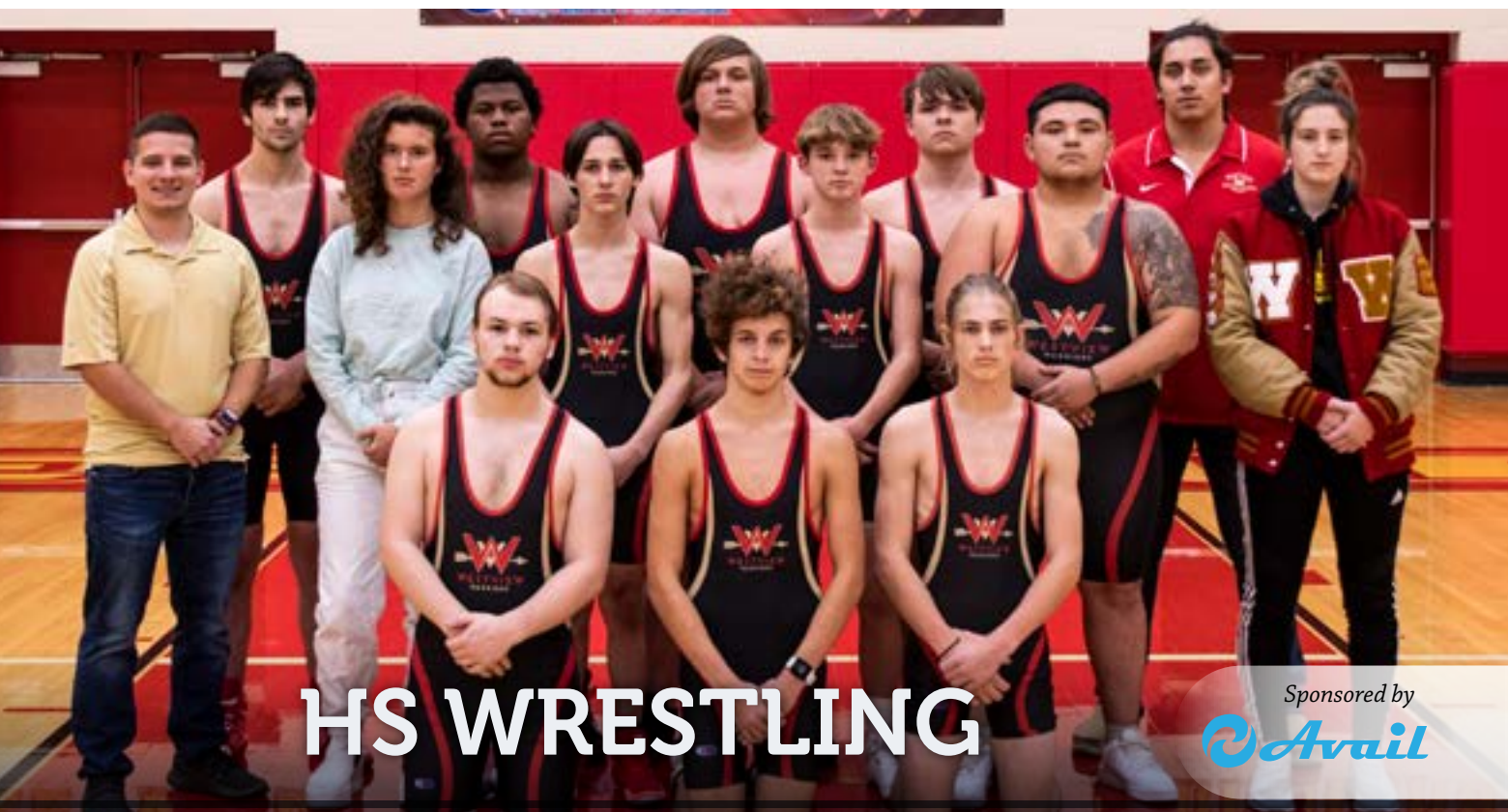
The business continues to grow, with 85% of its work being residential. Miller is quick to give credit to his dad, brother, their employees, and community support for the business's success.

One of the sources of satisfaction for Dave has been the development of many of their young workers. "To see them come in as skinny as a rail and then in a couple of years fill out and take responsibility as adults is pretty cool!" Another area of satisfaction has been sitting down to dream and plan with homeowners, whether it is a landscaping project or an outdoor kitchen.

It is not too early to 'Think Spring!' is the phrase on their Hometown Treasure ad. Jed said, "People should start thinking about their landscaping project now, and then come talk with us at the Midwest Home and Yard Show that will be held at the MEC in February. The Michiana Events Center (MEC) is located in Shipshewana and will be hosting the home and yard show February 11-12, 2022.

They have an easy-to-navigate website: daveslandscaping.com. Or better yet, give them a call at (574) 825-8873. They have a wealth of experience and are ready to help you turn your dreams into reality.

Dave says, "My goal is not to get really big; I just want to stay as efficient as possible, do quality work, and enjoy it... that's what I'm after." 



HS WRESTLING

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2021-22 Varsity Boys Wrestling Team: *Back (left to right): Thomas Raley, Julyan Dominguez, Taven Schrock, Joshua Heidorn, and Asst. Coach Austin Bontrager. Middle: Head Coach Jonathan Fennell, Manager Katie Engelage, Colin Yoder, Ian Bontrager, Brandon Hernández, and Bri Caldwell. Front: Chris Yankosky, Izaak Moore, and Aidan Kohlheim.*

Photo by Abby Wenger



V BOYS BASKETBALL

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2021-22 Varsity Boys Basketball Team: Back (left to right): Asst. Coach Jon Jantzi, Hunter Porter, Brandon Lehman, Mason Yoder, and Brady Lehman. Middle: Head Coach Rob Yoder, and JV Coach Kenton Weaver. Front: Brady Yoder, Luke Helmuth, Wiley Minix, and Wade Springer. Not pictured: Braden Eash.

Photo by Abby Wenger



JV BOYS BASKETBALL

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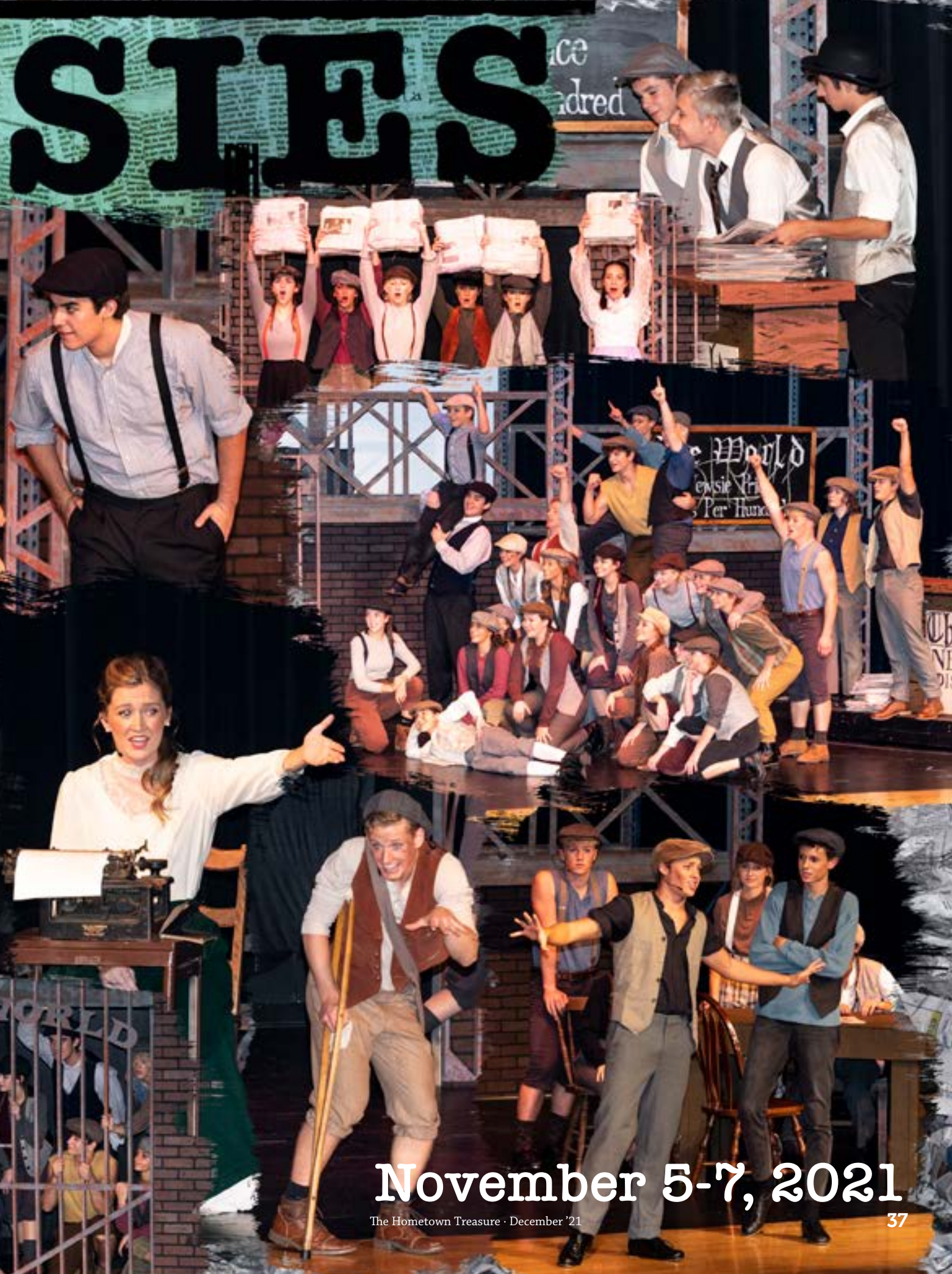
2021-22 JV Boys Basketball Team: Back (left to right): Christien Noward, Juraj Hurmy, Quinton Yoder, and Jethro Hostetler. Middle: Coach Kenton Weaver, Kamden Yoder, and Brandt Norberg. Front: Max Engle, Jacob Watts, Riley Helman, and Owen Brill.

Photo by Abby Wenger



NEWS

Photos & Layout by Abby Wenger



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November 5-7, 2021

The Hometown Treasure · December '21



VARSITY CHEER

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2021-22 Varsity Cheer Team: Back (left to right): Kaylynn Gates, Drew Walker, and Lillian Eash. Middle: Zack Miller, Jackson Minix, and Bohdy Bontrager. Front: Jocelynn Schrock, Skye Growcock, and Abby Bontrager.

Photo by Abby Wenger



JV CHEER

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2021-22 JV Cheer Team: Back (left to right): Danika Yoder, Coach Kaylee Kauffman, and Kaylin Mahon. Front: Precious Litton, Karlie Schrock, and Skye Stump.

Photo by Abby Wenger



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WANA NIGHT OUT

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November 30, 2021

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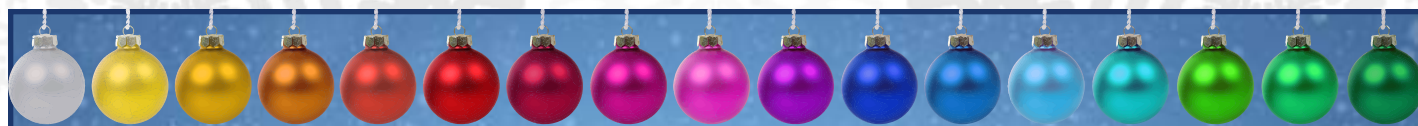
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Sales Good All Day!

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November 30, 2021

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November 30, 2021 Only
10:00am - 7:00pm

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STOREWIDE
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115 N Harrison St.

Wana Night Out
 November 30, 2021 Only

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 Served 11am-3pm

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 Must have coupon for discount

20% OFF STOREWIDE
 sale from 10am - 8pm
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The LANG STORE
 1st floor of the Davis Mercantile

Shipshe Casuals
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20% OFF STOREWIDE
Wana Night Out
 November 30, 2021 Only
 2nd Floor of the Davis Mercantile Building

Sales Good All Day! 10am - 8pm
Wana Night Out
 Only on November 30, 2021
20% OFF STOREWIDE
OPTIONS
 2nd Floor of the Davis Mercantile Building

Wana-Night Out
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20% Off STOREWIDE
 10 am - 8 pm
 Sale is valid on In-Stock, Regular Priced Items

SIMPLE SOUNDS
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Lolly's
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In Davis Mercantile
Wana Night Out
 November 30, 2021 Only

Headover Heels
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Wana Night Out
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20% OFF
 REGULAR PRICE MERCHANDISE - ALL DAY
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 Lower Level Davis Mercantile

Back Home Again
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 November 30, 2021
 Sales Good All Day!
 10:00 am to 8:00 pm

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1-DAY ONLY....NOVEMBER 30
9:00 AM - 8:00 PM
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November 30th, 11-9

Soups - Sandwiches

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Drinks

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NOVEMBER 30, 2021 • ONE DAY ONLY!

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WANA NIGHT OUT

Tuesday November 30, 2021

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3 PM to 8 PM



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Regular Priced Items**



**25% off storewide
on all in-stock product***



**25% off storewide
on all in-stock product***

**Shop all stores & register to win
one of twenty, \$20 gift certificates**

*some exclusions apply

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MERRY
CHRISTMAS
&
HAPPY
NEW YEAR



From the
staff at



Wana Night Out

**20% OFF
Storewide**

Nov 30 • 2-8pm

INSIDE YODER'S RED BARN SHOPPES

"Thoughtfully Curated for your Home"



November 30, 2021

One Night Only!

WANA NIGHT OUT AT

One Night Only!

Yoder's Red Barn Shoppes

20% off Storewide
on regular priced item
2-8 pm

20% Off Storewide All Day
Excludes Sale Items

10% OFF STOREWIDE
Café excluded
2 - 8 pm
Check Out
Yoder's Rolled Pretzels
(Free Coffee)

260-768-3013

15% Off All Day!
Free Chocolate Covered treat w/ purchase
260.768.3272

20% Off Purchases of \$25 Or More
(in-stock only)
2-8pm
Excludes sale items. No return for discount.

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20% Off Storewide
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SAVE SAVE SAVE
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Not valid with any other promotion
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2-8 pm

20% Off 1 item
2-8pm

1055 S. Van Buren St. | Shipshewana
260.336.7925

Wana Night Out
9 am – 8 pm
Tuesday, November 30, 2021
One Day Only

20% Off Storewide
on all non-sale items

SALES GOOD ALL DAY
20% Off STOREWIDE
INCLUDING SALE ITEMS

Wana Night Out
November 30th, 2021 Only

Store Hours: 9:00 am - 8:00 pm
PH: 260-768-4290 x109
1055 S Van Buren St.



Wana Night Out

Open 8:00am-7:00pm

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Wana

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7245 W 200 N | Shipshewana | 260.768.7850 | WanaFurniture.com

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TUESDAY, NOV. 30, 2021

Wana Night Out

9AM-8PM

*Some exclusions apply ~ see details in store

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Upper Level of **Wana**
7245 W 200 N • Shipshewana, IN
260-350-2401 • CraffthouseFabrics.com

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1ST PRIZE: \$500 2ND PRIZE: \$250 3RD PRIZE: \$100

•• WANA NIGHT OUT SPECIALS ••
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30 • 9 AM - 8 PM



THERE WILL BE OTHER IN-HOUSE SPECIALS NOT ADVERTISED!



LIFETIME

'WHITE' LIFETIME	
4' Fold-in-Half Table	45.00
6' Fold-in-Half Table	49.00
8' Fold-in-Half Table	69.00
6' Table	49.00
8' Table	85.00
37" Square Card Table	52.50
37" Square Fold-in-Half Card Table	45.00
26" Personal Table	19.00
USA-Made Commercial Chair	32.50
Child's Picnic Table	55.00
Fish Cleaning Table w/sink & hose attach	69.00
6' Fold-in-Half Bench	(20+ @ \$39 ea.) 42.50
'BLACK' LIFETIME	
6' Table	59.00
8' Table	109.00
33" Round Folding Table	32.50
26" Personal Table	19.00
USA-Made Commercial Chair	32.50
OTHER LIFETIME	
Youth Basketball System	85.00
52" Shatterproof Basketball System	329.00
<i>Speed Shift, Slam-It Rim</i>	
10' Kayak	239.00
10' Fishing Angler Kayak	269.00



FREE! CHEESEBURGERS, CHIPS, DONUTS & COFFEE

• HORSE BLANKETS •

Shaft Loop Blanket - Waterproof	69.00
Shaft Loop Blanket	59.00
Stall Blanket	59.00
USA Stall Blanket	69.00
USA Turn-Out Blanket	79.00
USA Horse Sheet	49.00
Wool Buggy Robe	59.00
46" to 50" Pony Blanket	24.95

• FARM & TACK •

Bull Snaps, string of 10	15.00
4 3/4" Double End Snaps, string of 10	10.00
Draft Halter	10.00
Standardbred Halter	7.50
USA 3/4" Leather Halter, Standardbred	22.50
Bull Snap Lead	5.00
Regular Neck Rope	6.50
No-Chew Neck Rope with SS hardware	16.00
49" Buggy Whip, various colors	5.00
Heavy Duty Future Fork	19.00
Poly Barn Shovel	25.00
6 cu.ft. Poly Double Wheel Wheelbarrow	89.00
10 cu.ft. Poly Double Wheel Wheelbarrow	109.00
24" Bulldozer Push Broom	15.95
Heavy Seed & Feed Storage Tubs with Locking Lids	
50 lb.....	25.00 130 lb.....35.00
80 lb.....	27.50 220 lb.....45.00

• OUTDOOR & MISC. ITEMS •

Trike & Trailer Set (green or red)	139.00
Child-size Wheelbarrow	29.00
High Peak Camping Chair	15.00
Free Form Zero-Gravity Lounger	99.00
Zero-Gravity Lounger	39.00
Free-Style Camping Rocker	59.95
Brute Force Heavy Duty Camping Chair	85.00
PVC Play Buggy	179.00
Office Chair, cushion seat, mesh back, adj. height	79.00
2.4 cu.ft. Fire King Safe	179.00
6'x8' Heavy Duty Outdoor Carpets, various colors	39.00
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We don't guess-we test!

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30% Off
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EXTRA SPECIAL! Buy one "I Disagree Book" and get a front row seat to hear the author, Dr. Patrick Flynn, in his Hormone Connection Talk at the Midwest Health & Wellness Expo at the MEC January 28, 2022

Who We Are
The Wellness Way is a network of health restoration clinics that think and act differently to solve the health challenges others can't.

Ask questions and get a different perspective of health from our main health practitioner who will be available all evening.
250 E Berkshire Dr., Unit 4 • Shipshewana, IN 46565 • 260-593-1560




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Hot or Iced
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- Committed to wholesome A-2 Milk
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Wana Night Out Specials

Special Hours • November 30th • 8am - 7pm

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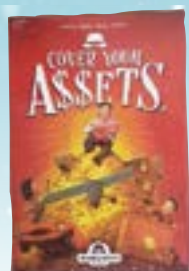
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P.260-768-7804 • Hours: M-F 8am-5pm, Sat 8am-3:30pm



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\$15.99



Tuesday,
November 30, 2021
Specials run
all day long!



We are open extended
business hours for
this day only!
7:30am -7:00pm

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Mon. - Fri. 7:30am - 5:00pm • Sat. 7:30am - 3:30pm • Closed Sun.

Salted Butter Quarters, 1 lb.....	\$1.99
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Chicken Breast, 5 lb, Italian Marinated, individually quick frozen.....	\$4.99
Oats, bulk, regular or quick.....	\$0.59/lb
Fruit Rings Cereal, bulk.....	\$0.99/lb
Salad Dressing, 30 oz, name brand	\$0.99
White Sugar, 4 lb	\$1.79
School Lunch Trays, 125 ct.....	\$6.99
Toilet Tissue, 24 pack, 297 sheets, 3-ply	\$7.99

Due to several of our employees taking a few well deserved days off, we will have a very limited supply of Fresh Meat available.

November
30, 2021
8am-6pm

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One Night
Only!

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Now carrying
GE Washers, Dryers & Electric Freezers
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WANA NIGHT OUT
ONE DAY ONLY! • NOVEMBER 30, 2021
8AM - 6PM

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DISCOUNTS!
10% OFF**

Excluding-Select Kitchen Items • Lifetime Products • Immergood Freezers • Pony Cycles Heating • Fridges • Freezers • Kitchen Ranges

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Storewide**

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WANA NIGHT OUT

November 30, 2021

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Pellet Grills



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NOVEMBER 30, 2021
OPEN 1:00-8:00PM

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CONTACT US:

Jerry Otto
(260) 768-4977 EXT. 4

STORE HOURS:

Mon-Thurs 1 - 5pm
Fri 1 - 4:30pm • Sat 8am - Noon

VISIT OUR STORE:

10460 W US 20
Shpshewana, IN 46565

Varsity Girls Basketball



1



2



3



4



5

- 1) Hope Bortner shoots for three and scores!
- 2) Alexys Antal readies to move around her Lakewood Park opponent.
- 3) Sara Lapp brings the ball past half court.
- 4) Andrea Miller makes a break for the basket.
- 5) Hailey Miller looks for an open teammate.

Photos by Abby Wenger

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

The Hometown Treasure · December '21



V GIRLS BASKETBALL

Sponsored by



2021-22 Varsity Girls Basketball Team: Back (left to right): Asst. Coach Adam Christner, Morgan Riegsecker, Hailey Miller, Sara Lapp, and Head Coach Ryan J. Yoder. Middle: Allie Springer, Kamryn Miller, and Andrea Miller. Front: Manager Andrew Byler, Hope Bortner, Alexys Antal, Audrey Taylor, and Manager Jocelyn Domínguez.

Photo by Abby Wenger



JV GIRLS BASKETBALL

Sponsored by



2021-22 JV Girls Basketball Team: Back (left to right): Samantha Stump, and Morgan Riegsecker. Middle: Coach Sidney Bontrager, Audrey Taylor, Leigha Schrock, Manager Jocelyn Domínguez, and Asst. Coach Amber Radermacher. Front: Rebecca Miller, Grace Heyerly, Shanna Miller, and Karis Weinberg.

Photo by Abby Wenger

Honor Roll ... cont. from page 30

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

Ibrahem Alrasheed, Karleen Bender, Matthew Bibbee, Loren Bontrager, Mark Bontrager, Vonda Bontrager, Isaac Drake, Alyssa Hochstetler, Seth Hochstetler, Adrian Miller, Caleb Miller, Janessa Miller, Kenlin Miller, Kevin Miller, Ryan Miller, Angelina Mishler, Seth Nissley, Keegan Norberg, Austin Schlabach, Jayden Schrock, Daryl Schwartz, Luke Stults, Perseus Treadway, Devyn Whetstone, Ashlie Yoder, Diane Yoder, Emily R. Yoder, Hailey Yoder, Kloie Yoder, Marilyn Yoder, Cameron Yoder-Martin

Grade 8

Gurmi Al Gurmi, Rachael Bender, Isaiah Bontrager, Kristen Bontrager, Kevin Borntreger, Chayenne Diaz, Makenna Feipel, Eric Fry, Michelle Fry, Luke Hall, Landon Harris, Jasmine Litton, Lora Mast, Raylynn Meyers, Braxton Miller, Carter Miller, Hailey Miller, Isaiah Miller, Kaiden Miller, Lyndon Miller, Samuel Miller, Hannah Schlabach, Adrian Slabach, Dominic Sweet, Savannah Vliet, Alex Yoder, Colleen Yoder, and Dallas Yoder.

Grade 9

Maram Algaradi, Hudhaifa Almhn, Faith Beechy, Owen Brill, Dawson Crittendon, Tetiana Jones, Cheyanne Kloth, Caleb Lambright, Kyiah Michels, Dena Miller, Kyle Miller, Rebecca Miller, Shanna Miller, Noor Omar, Luis Osorio, Madison Penick, Adelyn Rainsberger, Karlie Schrock, Leigha Schrock, Karis Weinberg, and Bryan R. Yoder.

Grade 10

Jocelyn Dominguez, Khatab Fadil, Samuel Gutierrez, Harper Klein, Precious Litton, Ciara Mikel, Mahasen Omarouf, Luna Osorio, KeeLee Palmer, Taven Schrock, Ireley Sherman, Westan Walker, and Mathew Yoder.

continued on page 57

Board Hires New Director

In early 2021, Chamber of LaGrange County Director Beth Sherman announced to the Board of Directors her intention to retire at the end of the year. A hiring committee was formed to find a suitable replacement for Ms. Sherman and the position was advertised through local print and social media.

After interviews with the top candidates, Sara Patrick of LaGrange was selected to fill Sherman's position and started work on November 1. Patrick worked for the Chamber in 2019 as an executive assistant to Ms. Sherman, which provided her with invaluable insight into the inner workings of the Chamber.

"Beth Sherman is leaving some big shoes to fill," said Patrick. "She has served this community well and

has built the Chamber into a family of members."

Before working for the Chamber, Ms. Patrick received her bachelor's degree from Anderson University, then earned an MBA from Western Governors University. She spent five years working as an associate pastor, and for the past two years, she served as Group Sales Manager at Blue Gate Hospitality. Her roots run deep in LaGrange County. "My four grandparents still live in LaGrange and call this home, as do my parents and in-laws," she said.


Chamber board president Mike Patka said, "Sara brings an incredible amount to the table. The hiring committee and executive team all were unanimous in the decision." 

Photo Submitted



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December Park News

122nd National Audubon Society Christmas Bird Count

Pigeon River CBC
Sunday, December 19

Contact compiler Dave Messman
at powersmessmann@gmail.com or
260-602-2601 to join the count.

Maple Wood Nature Center Feeder Watch

Sunday, December 19,
2:00–5:00 pm

Come anytime and stay as long
as you like! Our feeder count will be
added to the Pigeon River CBC.

Pokagon CBC

Tuesday, December 28

Contact compiler Fred Wooley at
fwwooley@frontier.com or 260-243-
0513 to join the count.

Save the Date: First Day Hike! Off the Beaten Path!

Saturday, January 1, 4:30 pm
Maple Wood Nature Center

More information to come in
the January Issue!

MONTHLY

Make-n-Take Crafts

Saturday, December 11,
10:00 am or 2:00 pm

Maple Wood Nature Center

Handprint Reindeer Ornaments

Easy nature crafts for the entire
family!

Maple Wood Fiber Guild

Wednesday, December 8,
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 a proj-
ect to work on. Bring your own sack
lunch and snacks. Donations for the
Parks are appreciated.

RSVP to the Naturalist at
260-854-2225.

Folk Jam

Sunday, December 26,
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

This group is not meeting in the
months of November, December, or
January.

Please contact Linda Grobis at
(260) 351-3609 for spring news.

Quilt Class

There will not be a Quilt Class
this month. Happy Holidays! 📅

**Please note that
LaGrange County
Offices will be closed on
December 23, 24, and 31.**

Honor Roll ... cont. from page 56

Grade 11

Andrew Byler, Travis Compton, Cour-
ney Hall, Kyle Hochstetler, Jethro
Hostetler, Aidan Kohlheim, Bianca
Leonard, Keyera Martin, Andrea Miller,
Cora Miller, Evangeline Niccum, Wy-
att Nissley, Taylor Sherman, Saman-
tha Stump, Julia Trethewey, Alexander
Trittipo, and Shane Wood.

Grade 12

Bryce Barton, Julyan Dominguez, Na-
than Eichelberger, Juraj Hurny, Madi-
son Marks, Joslyn Marnier, Bodie Mar-
tin, Saleh Omar, Emilee Rodriguez,
Corben Vandergriff, and Jadon Yoder.



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Contact Marty with
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and Middlebury to serve you best.

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In Shipshewana North Village just east of SR 5

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

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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



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Shipshewana Light Parade November 6, 2021



Photos & Layout by Abby Wenger

'tis the season

Merry Christmas
and a very
Happy New Year

from all of us at
LaGwana

