

The Hometown Treasure

September 2022 • Vol. 23 Num. 9



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Skyler Carpenter

Indiana Track Hall of Famer


Skyler Carpenter, Westview track star, was inducted into the Indiana Track Hall of Fame on June 25, 2022. During Skyler's track and field career at Westview Jr.-Sr. High School, she earned eight school records, numerous sectional and regional titles and was awarded seven individual state championship titles. Of those titles, Carpenter defended the title in the 300-meter hurdles in her sophomore through senior years and breaking the state record in her junior year performance with a time of 42.03 seconds. She also defended her 100-meter hurdles and her long jump titles in her junior and senior years.

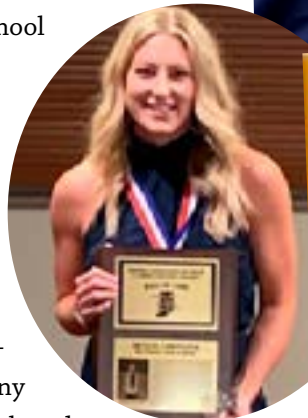
In her senior year, Carpenter was awarded the state-level Mental Attitude Award given to student athletes for excellence in attitude, scholarship, leadership and athletic ability. She was also awarded Indiana's Gatorade Player of the Year Award and was nominated for Wendy's High School Heisman national award. After the completion of the state finals, Carpenter participated at the Midwest Meet of Champions, taking first place in Indiana's 4-by-100-meter relay, winning the long jump and placing second in the 300-meter hurdles.

At the national level, during her high school career, Skyler won the U.S. Track and Field Amateur Athletic Union Junior Olympics national title in the 400-meter hurdles as a sophomore with a time of 59.96 seconds. In her junior year, she placed in the top eight nationally in both the 400-meter and the 100-meter hurdles. At the end

of her high school career, Skyler was ranked third in the nation in the 300-meter hurdles, which attracted the attention of many university track and field programs.

Skyler went on to Vanderbilt University on a full athletic scholarship and double majored in Medicine, Health and Society and Child Development. She continued her winning ways by putting herself in the Vanderbilt record books, competing in the school's 4-by-400 meter relay team, the 800-meter run and her specialty, the 400-meter hurdles. Skyler competed in numerous SEC championships and qualified for the regionals every year of her collegiate career and was awarded the United States Track and Field Coaches Association Academic All-American award.

Skyler went on to receive a Masters in Nurse Midwifery at the Vanderbilt School of Nursing and now works as a Certified Nurse Midwife in Atlanta, Georgia. 



The Hometown Treasure

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LaGwana Circulation: 6,000

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

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Located at the SE corner of 250N & 850W

Just west of Shipshewana

Phone: 260-463-4901 • Fax: 260-463-7257

e-mail: news@lagwana.com

You may call or stop by during office hours:

Monday - Friday, 8 am - 5 pm

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

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

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

Call or email for a complete media kit.

Other sponsorships available. Call for details.

— ADVERTISING INFORMATION —

Deadline for October 2022 Issue:

12 noon, Tuesday, September 20

Thursday, September 15 if you need a proof.

October Issue Date is Tuesday, September 27

Discounts for ads running more than once.

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

Or email htads@lagwana.com

— SUBSCRIPTION RATE —

One Year: \$35

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

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KZ Recreational Vehicles Donates School Supplies to Westview Teachers

On Monday, August 8, 2022, KZ Recreational Vehicles donated school supplies and gift cards to the teachers of seventy-three K-4 classrooms to give back to the teachers who are passionate about their jobs and commit their lives to the development of the community's children.

Backpacks filled with classroom essentials and a \$200 gift card each were brought to Meadowview Elementary School to be distributed amongst three schools in the Westview School Corporation: Meadowview Elementary School, Topeka Elementary School, and Shipshewana-Scott Elementary School. The backpacks will be given to the teachers of seventy-three K-4 classrooms to show appreciation for their dedication and commitment to the well-being and education of the future's youth.

Aram Koltookian, president of KZ Recreational Vehicles, stated, "Teachers already give so much to our com-

munities. They give their whole hearts to the kids, including their own personal time and money. We are grateful that we have been able to take this small step toward making a difference, and we hope that this will inspire other businesses and companies to also show their appreciation for the hard work that these teachers put in to prepare the children of our communities to live full, enriched lives."

KZ Recreational Vehicles, a subsidiary of Thor Industries, Inc., is headquartered in Shipshewana, Indiana, and was founded in 1972 on the principles of quality, fairness, courtesy and integrity. KZ produces several widely-recognized brands of recreational vehicles, including Classic, Connect, Durango, Escape, Sportsmen, Sportster, Venom, and Venture RV, including Sonic, Stratus and SportTrek. For more information concerning KZ and its products, please visit www.kz-rv.com, or call (888) 829-6320. 



The Hometown Treasure - September '22



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 discovered a new nemesis: bagworms. If you are unfamiliar with them, bagworms are the larval stage of a specific kind of moth. They build

their cocoons from bits and pieces of leaves and attach themselves to a tree. They can very quickly infest and kill a tree if you don't know what you are looking for. The cocoons just look like a bunch of little pinecones. The top recommended way to get rid of them is to pick them off by hand and drawn them in a bucket of soapy water. We tried some sprays and soaks first, but that didn't work so last week I spent about eight hours doing just that: picking bagworms off the trees lining the drive out front. **!**



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Solution on page 18.

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Divine Detours

“Relax. Your unexpected detour could lead to unexpected moments of beauty that otherwise you would’ve missed.” This quote, written by Laura Hoffman, became a reality to me recently.

One summer evening, my husband and I took a detour in an unfamiliar town. Feeling a bit discombobulated, we flagged down a couple driving on a back road for directions. They graciously offered to let us follow them to our ice cream shop destination. This detour ended with them joining us for ice cream and a good conversation for nearly two hours. It turned out that we had many things and many friends in common! A detour that led to new friends was, indeed, an unexpected

moment of beauty.

I think it’s safe to say that no one likes detours. They slow us down, get us off track, make us late, and mix us up.

In our thirty-two years of marriage, this might be the first time my husband and I can say we were thankful to have been detoured. I’ve been calling it a “divine” detour, as it surely felt the meeting of these new friends was orchestrated by God himself.

I’ve contemplated this situation a lot in my mind lately. Perhaps God was trying to teach me something in this unique circumstance. You see, I’ve been feeling kind of “detoured” in my life lately. Maybe you’re in a season of life where you are confused about

the direction you’re going as well. Perhaps you’ve been forced to change jobs or rearrange your life due to a health crisis. Maybe you’re contemplating retirement or nursing the wound of a broken relationship. Perhaps

what you once knew to be normal has suddenly become abnormal. You’re left wondering how to get back on Normal Street again.


Life can undoubtedly take a lot of twists and turns. Things can happen in an instant that can change the course of our life for a while—or forever. We’re often left overwhelmed and bewildered.

Proverbs 16:9 says we can make our plans, but the Lord

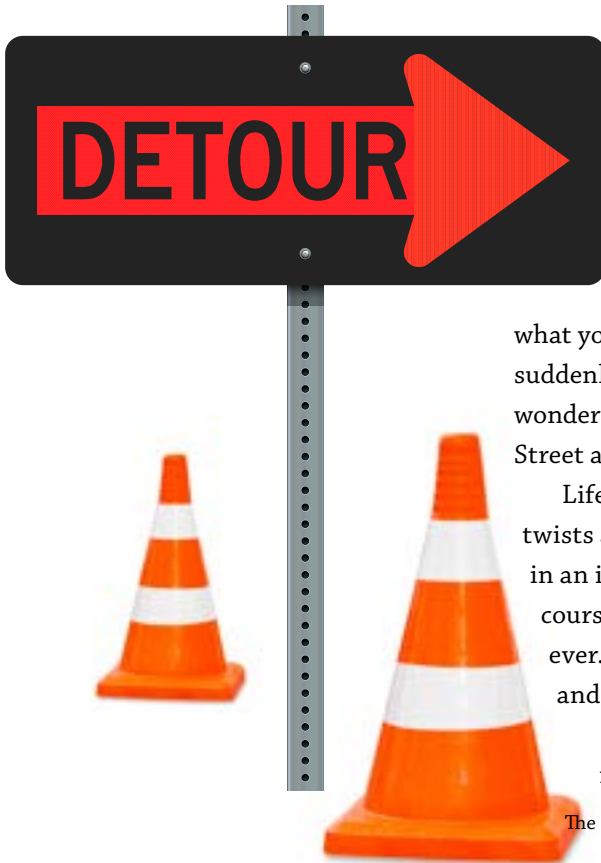
determines our steps. My husband and I made plans to get ice cream on that warm summer evening. We hit a detour along the way and got lost. We asked for help and ended up with a double treat—ice cream and newfound friends. Not only did we get back on the right path, but we also received another blessing.

But what if we hadn’t asked for help? I’m guessing we would have ended up frustrated and maybe not even stopped for ice cream. It’s my sincere belief that we were intended to be on that detour. I believe God placed that couple in our path and gave us the nudge to ask for help. I don’t feel it was a chance meeting. I think it was the Lord determining our steps.

When I’m faced with a detour in life, how often do I ask for help? More importantly, how often do I ask God to determine my steps? I’m guilty of aimlessly weaving in and out on my own. I’m usually looking for signs instead of simply asking God to show me the unexpected beauty he has intended for me at that moment.

What about you? Do you embrace the detours of life and see them as an opportunity to experience something new? Or do you throw your hands up in frustration and give up? Perhaps we should ask for directions more often—we may be destined for a sweet treat! 

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- 1 Rebah Williams
- 2 Jonathan Collins, Charlie Double,
Dixon Mast
- 3 Karla Fry, Austin Lehman, Bryan Lehman,
Lydia Mosher, Jemeila Reed
- 4 Adam Bontrager, Ashley Miller,
Ethan Miller, Sammy Miller,
Sovanda Schrock
- 5 Malachi Lambright, Audrey Schlabach
- 7 Wesam Algaradie, Sofia Martinez Diaz,
Raiden Huggins, Merle Miller,
Quinleigh Miller, Mia Stemm
- 8 Jesse Lambright, Delanie Lehman
- 9 Kacin Courtney, Lucille Duzan,
Vera Scroggins, Oliver Treadway
- 10 Megan Lambright, Jethro Otto
- 11 Sawyer Hamm, Evan Hochstetler,
Roma-Freya Robles, Norah Smith
- 12 Dale Bontrager, Emmett Niccum,
Kianna Yoder
- 13 Regan Hochstetler, Michael Kline,
Brimley Kraft, Emmalee Pierson
- 14 Miranda Cochrane, Sherri Kauffman,
Alayna Kurtz, Myles Miller, Lisa Troyer
- 15 Gabriela Bontrager, Zachariah Johnloz,
Jalayna Penick, Samantha Yoder
- 16 Micaiah Bontrager, Brayden Graber,
Larry Lambright
- 17 Kailey Mast
- 18 Marshall Bauder, Jaydon Herschberger,
Wyatt Hooley, Ava Hufnagle, Benjamin
Kline, Adrian Lehman, James Mast,
Landon Slabach, Graison Yoder



September

- 19 Benjamin Bontrager, Tyler Lambricht, Bethany Miller, Vanessa Miller, Brendon Yoder
- 20 Casper Hershberger, Jamie Miller, Jakoby Whetstone
- 21 Kari Hochstetler, Cameron McDonald
- 23 Jewel Lambricht, Hannah Miller, Mariah Yoder
- 24 Maverick Geigley, Valentina Mendoza, Amber Miller, Jordan Yoder
- 25 Abigail King
- 26 Muna Omar, David Schrock, Aliyah Watts
- 27 Cheyanne Daniels, Derek Hochstetler
- 28 Michael Bontrager, Keanan Byroad, Kenlyn Schlabach, Drew Schrock, Weslee Steider
- 29 Larson Frey, Molly Long, Bently Miller, Ashby Yoder
- 30 Trevor Detweiler, Lincoln Miller, Aurora Randolph, Brooklyn Schlabach, Jayden Tucker, Matthew Yoder

EMS Team to Teach CPR Skills

Life is unpredictable, so it's important to be prepared. You keep first-aid items on hand for minor injuries, an emergency kit with supplies in case of extreme weather and power outages, and jumper cables and a spare tire in your vehicle for road emergencies. So why not learn CPR?

CPR, short for cardiopulmonary resuscitation, is an easy-to-pick-up skill that could help you save a life in an emergency. And beginning in September, you can learn it from EMS personnel who are experts.

Parkview LaGrange Hospital's EMS team will begin offering quarterly CPR classes for the public this fall, starting Monday, September 19. The class will be held from 9 to 11 a.m. at the EMS station, 0982 N. 00 EW., LaGrange.


Instructors will help participants

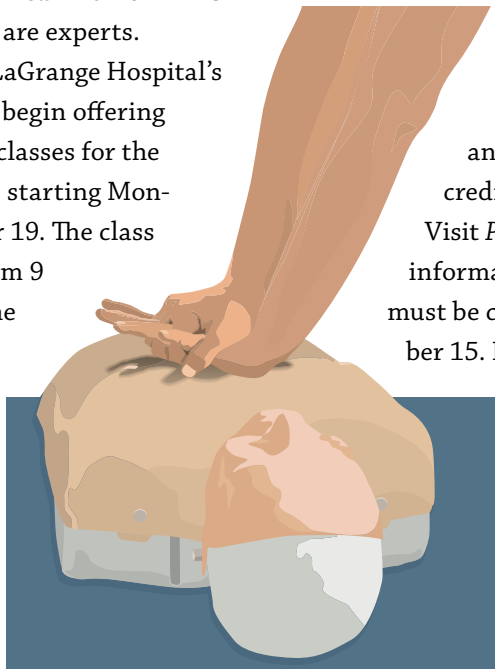
become familiar with the technique for performing CPR on someone whose heart has stopped beating. Participants will practice on training mannequin, so class size is limited to twelve people per session to ensure everyone gets to practice. In addition, basic first aid is covered in the class.

Anyone age 13 or older may participate. Cost for the class is \$20 per person. Participants will receive American Heart Association certification in the form of an official CPR card, delivered electronically.

Pre-registration and pre-payment by credit card are required.

Visit Parkview.com/CPR for information. Registration must be completed by September 15. Individuals who have

registered will be contacted in order to make their payment. The next class is scheduled to begin December 5. 



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LaGrange County Library

Shipshewana Branch

256 Depot St. • 260-768-7444
T-F • 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Saturday • 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

LaGrange County Public Library

203 West Spring Street • 260-463-2841
M - Th • 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
F • 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. | Sat • 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Topeka Branch

133 North Main Street • 260-593-3030
T - F • 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Saturday • 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Below are the events planned for September 2022.

Call the main library at 260-463-2841 for further information. **All branches of the library will be closed on September 5 for Labor Day.**

Youth Department

Preschool Storytime (Ages 0-5)

LaGrange • Tuesdays, September 6, 13, 20, 27 • 10:30 a.m.

Shipshewana • Tuesdays, September 6, 13, 20 • 1 p.m.

No storytime at Shipshewana on September 27 (See below)

Topeka • Wednesdays, September 7, 14, 21 • 11 a.m.

No storytime at Topeka on September 28 (See below)

Registration is appreciated but is not required.

Teen Games (Grades 6-12)

LaGrange • Monday, September 12 • 4 p.m.-5:45 p.m.

Theme: Board Games!

Limited registration. Must register by Friday, September 9.

Elementary Book Club (Grades 2-5)

LaGrange: Tuesday, September 20 • 4 p.m.

We will discuss "The Legend of Spud Murphy" by Erin Colfer, do a fun activity, and pass out the next book club book. We will be dividing the book clubs to start a new one beginning in October. At the September meeting, we will have a book for children in grades 1-4 and a different book for children in grades 4-8. Fourth graders may choose which book club to participate in.

Movie and Popcorn (All ages)

LaGrange • Friday, September 23 • 6:00 p.m.

Movie: *To Be Announced*

Free popcorn is provided! Bring your own covered drink, if desired.

Teen Book Chat & Craft (Grades 6-12)

LaGrange • Monday, September 26 • 4:00 p.m.

Limited registration. Must register by Monday, September 19.

We will discuss "The Hound of the Baskervilles" by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and make a fun craft! We will be dividing the book clubs to start a new one beginning in October. Kids in grades 4-8 will have one book choice and kids in grades 8-12 will have a different book. Eighth graders may choose which book club to participate in.

Special Zoo Storytime!

LaGrange • Tuesday, September 27 • 10:30 a.m.

Fort Wayne Children's Zoo will be bringing the Zoomobile to LaGrange County Public Library to present "Move Like the Animals Do" during our storytime hour. There will not be storytime at the branches this day, please join us at LaGrange for this fun program.

STEAM Program (Ages 8-12, Grades 3-6)

(Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math)

LaGrange • Wednesday, September 28 • 4:00 p.m.

Must register by Friday, September 16. Class is limited to 12 kids.

We will be making Lego candy dispensers to take home.

Adult Interest

Hillsdale College Free Online Course:

Mark Twain: Tom Sawyer, Huckleberry Finn, selected short stories

LaGrange • Nine Fridays, September 2 - October 28 • 9:30 a.m.

Mark Twain, pen name of Samuel Clemens (1835-1910), has been called the father of American literature. Twain's realist fiction reveals timeless truths about human nature and encourages reform in the reader and society. Join us as we watch the nine 30-minute lectures in this series and discuss afterward. *Nine weeks. No pre-requisites. Non-credit. Ages 12+.*

Please call 260-463-2841 x1030 to register.

Second Saturday Book Club

LaGrange • Saturday, September 10 • 11 a.m.

This month: "The Women in the Castle" by Jessica Shattuck. At the end of WWII, in a crumbling castle that once played host to all of German high society, live three widows whose lives and fates become intertwined. Ages 16+. *Copies of the book available at LaGrange Library's Adult Desk.*

Musical Tuesday: Singin' in the Rain

LaGrange • Tuesday, September 13 • 2 p.m.

Starring Gene Kelly, Donald O'Connor, and Debbie Reynolds.

A silent film star falls for a chorus girl just as he and his delusional, jealous screen partner are trying to make the difficult transition to talking pictures in 1920s Hollywood. Free admission and free popcorn!

Rated G • 1 hr 43 min.

Painting with Carl Mosher - Rowboat

LaGrange • Friday, September 16 • 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Even if you've never painted before, you'll be amazed at what you're capable of! Carl will supply all the materials. Cost is \$25, payable to Carl at class.

Classes fill fast. Please register at 260-463-2841 x1030. Ages 12+

Patchwork Trails: Metz Fen Trail (All Ages)

Pine Knob Park • Tuesday, September 20 • 6 p.m.

2835W SR 120, Howe, IN.

Meet at the program center. We'll combine exercise, education, friendship, and fun! No fees or registration required. All ages.

Make-N-Take: Macramé Leaves/Feathers (Ages 12+)

LaGrange • Wednesday, September 21 • 6 p.m.

We will make a stunning piece of wall art with simple macramé techniques. All supplies furnished. Ages 12+. Cost is \$25 per person. **Space is limited.** Registration and \$10 deposit required at LaGrange by

Friday, September 16.

Musical Tuesday: Babes in Arms

LaGrange • Tuesday, September 27 • 2 p.m.

Starring Mickey Rooney and Judy Garland. A group of vaudevillians hits the road. Frustrated to be left behind, all of their kids put on a show themselves to raise money for the families and prove they have talent, too. Free admission and free popcorn! 1 hr 34 min.

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

Facebook Page - m.facebook.com/lagrangelibraryindiana

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MYSTERY FARM

CONTEST

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 20, 2022.** Allow time for mail delivery.
- 4) Winners will be drawn and prizes mailed.
- 5) Correct entries listed in our next issue!



MORE FARMS NEEDED!

September Contest sponsored by The Connection and LaGwana

Last Month's Mystery Farm



There were 66 correct entries this month. Others that guessed correctly were: Martha

Hershberger, Ben & Wilma Borntreger, Roman & Ruth Yoder, Devon & LaVera Yoder, Ruth Lambright, Junior & Mabel Miller, Jeryl & Clara Miller, Junior & Edith Lambright, Mike & Rosanna Lambright, Delbert & Waneta Mast, Mark & Erma Miller, Daniel & Erma Miller, Ruth Lehman, Wilbur & Dorren Herschberger, Larry & Elise Bontrager, Edna S. Miller, Levi & Mary Kuhns, Dave & Ruth Yoder, Myron & Marla Miller, Dale & Janie Helmuth, Loren L. & Ruth Yoder, Steven & Gertie Yoder, Edward & ruby Herschberger, Delbert & Mary Bontrager, Lonnie & Mary Beachy, Lee Andrew & LeAnna Yoder, Floyd & LeAnna Bontrager, Mervin & Mary Miller, John Allen Yoder, Glenn & Ruth Yutzy, Jesse & JoAnn Nisley, Leonard & Darla Miller, Perry & Carolyn Miller, Norman & Susan Miller, Glen & Carolyn Lambright, Crist D. Miller, Ervin & Linda Bontrager, Ernest & Mary Alice Yoder, marion & Ida Miller, Paul & Mary Sue Yutzy, LaVern & Wanita Borkholder, Richard & Ruth Miller, Doretta Fry, Floyd & Sharon Lehman, Larry & Deanna Miller, Harley & Loranna Bontrager, Wyman & Ruby Yoder, David & Marilyn Lehman, Devon Ray & Lavera Yoder, Ernest & Erma Bontrager, Jason D. & Elaine K. Fry, Doretta Kauffman, Vernon & Paula Hochstetler, Kenny & Dorothy Eash, Joe & Wanetta Bontrager, Earl & Mary Miller, Richard & Rachel Fry, Devon & Kathryn Miller, Dave & Loretta Yoder, Ervin & Edna Bontrager, Wilbur & Wanda Fry, John Miller, David & Wilma Hochstetler, Sam & Alice Lambright.

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

The Hometown Treasure · September '22

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;
Lima Presbyterian, Howe

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



Did You Know?

The **OWL** is the only bird to drop its upper eyelid to wink.
All other birds raise their lower eyelids.



The Hometown Treasure

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Deadline for October 2022 Issue:

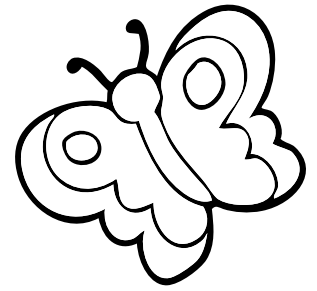
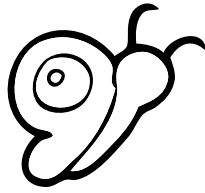
12 noon, Tuesday, September 20

Thursday, September 15 if you need a proof.

October Issue Date is Tuesday, September 27

Country Garden Center

4640 W 400 S
Topeka, IN 46571
260-593-3747 x1



Name: _____ Age: _____

Coloring Contest: kids age 6 and younger. Sponsored by Country Garden Center in Topeka this month! Winner gets a **FREE LARGE MUM OR A LARGE PUMPKIN** from the Country Garden Center. The Winning Drawings will be on display. **ALL PARTICIPANTS** claim your drawing for **A FREE SMALL PUMPKIN** at the Country Garden Center in October. Mail submission to: LaGwana, Coloring Contest, PO Box 70, Shipshewana, IN 46565. **Entry deadline is September 20, 2022.**

Address: _____

Smart Choices

By Trevor Thain, PharmD

Sharps Safety and Unwanted Drug Disposal

Nine million Americans use “sharps”: a term used to describe needles, syringes, lancets, pen devices or other sharp items like used razor blades. Each sharp has the potential to injure or pass disease to trash workers, janitors, housekeepers, children and others if not disposed of correctly.

FREE SHARPS CONTAINERS

The safest way to dispose of sharps are to place them in red sharps containers which are clearly labelled as “sharps.” Red sharps containers are free and can be picked up at Topeka Pharmacy or you can call Northeast Indiana Solid Waste Management District at 1-800-777-5462 to find out where else in the area you can pick up a free sharps container. You can also use empty bleach bottles or empty plastic liquid laundry detergent containers.

Important points of disposal include:

- Always place sharps in a sharps container.
- When the sharps container is full, close the lid tightly and place the container out for regular trash pickup.
- Never place sharps in recycling bins.
- Never throw away sharps while traveling—take along a safe container with you.


DO'S AND DON'TS DISPOSAL OF MEDICATIONS

Many people also have questions about how to dispose of prescription or over-the-counter drugs after they have expired or are no longer used. Keeping old medications around increases the risk of children or pets ingesting them. Keeping old narcotics around increases the risk of drug overdose, theft or even death. Some guidelines to follow for disposing of old medications:

DON'T: Flush prescription or over-the-counter drugs down the toilet. Flushing them contaminates the community's rivers, streams and lakes. This can have devastating effects on fish and aquatic wildlife in the area.

DO: Return unwanted prescription and over-the-counter drugs to a drug take-back location. Local places include the LaGrange County Sheriff's Department, 875 SR9, LaGrange Indiana. If you cannot get to a drug take-back location, dispose of medications safely in the following way:

- Remove the drugs from original containers.
- Mix them with an undesirable substance such as coffee grounds, dirt or used kitty litter.
- Place mixture in a sealable container to prevent the drug from falling out of the trash bag.

Topeka Pharmacy wants you and our community to be safe! Please call us if you have questions about disposal of old medications or sharps. 



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Coloring Contest Winners

Six-year-old Janelle Diane Miller of 500 S, Topeka was our winner for the August Coloring Contest. She won an ice cream treat of choice at Brenda's Ice Cream in Wolcottville.

Everyone else that sent in a page can stop by Brenda's Ice Cream for a free ice cream cone through September.

Runners-up were Adrian Michael Miller, age 6; Emily Yoder, age 5; Ava, age 4; and Ryan Yoder, age 3.. Honorable Mentions: Bella Horner, age 6; Maddy Lambright, age 6; Ava Lehman, age 6; Jaydon Helmuth, age 6; Jayden Yoder, age 6; and Neva Yoder, age 6. 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 do not want you to miss out! Remember, the contest is only for children up to six years old. 



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What Investors Can—and Can't—Control

As an investor, you can easily feel frustrated to see short-term drops in your investment statements. But while you cannot control the market, you may find it helpful to review the factors you can control.

Many forces affect the financial markets, including geopolitical events, corporate profits and interest rate movements – forces beyond the control of most individual investors.

In any case, it's important to focus on the things you can control, such as these:

- *Your ability to define your goals*—One area in which you have total control is your ability to define your goals. Like most people, you probably have short-term goals—such as saving for a new car or a dream vacation—and long-term ones, such as a comfortable retirement. Once you identify your goals and estimate how much they will cost, you can


create an investment strategy to help achieve them. Over time, some of your personal circumstances will likely change, so you'll want to review your time horizon and risk tolerance on a regular basis, adjusting your strategy when appropriate. And the same is true for your goals—they may evolve over time, requiring new responses from you in how you invest.

- *Your response to market downturns*—When the market drops and the value of your investments declines, you might be tempted to take immediate action in an effort to stop the losses. This is understandable—after all, your investment results can have a big impact on your future. However, acting hastily could work against you—for example, you could sell investments that still have solid fundamentals and are still appropriate for your needs. If you can avoid decisions based on short-term events, you may help yourself in the long run.

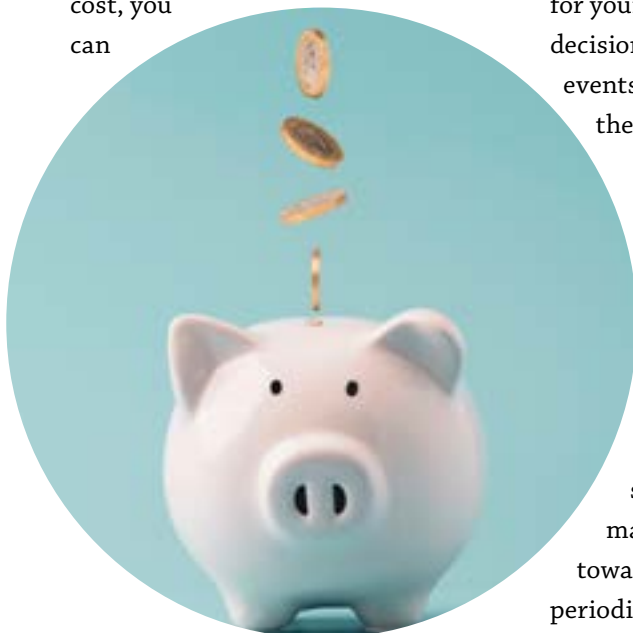
- *Your commitment to investing*—The financial markets are almost always in flux, and their movements are hard to predict. If you can continue investing in all markets—good, bad or sideways—you will likely make much better progress toward your goals than if you periodically were to take a “time

out.” Many people head to the investment sidelines when the market tumbles, only to miss out on the beginnings of the next rally. And by steadily investing, you will increase the number of shares you own in your investments—and the larger your ownership stake, the greater your opportunities for building wealth.

- *Your portfolio's level of diversification*—While diversification itself can't guarantee profits or protect against all losses, it can help greatly reduce the impact of market volatility on your portfolio. Just how you diversify your investments depends on several factors, but the general principle of maintaining a diversified portfolio should govern your approach to investing. It's a good idea to periodically review your portfolio to ensure it's still properly diversified.

The world will always be filled with unpredictable, uncontrollable events, and many of them will affect the financial markets to one degree or another. But within your own investment world, you always have a great deal of control—and with it, you have the power to keep moving toward all your important financial objectives. 

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor, Sheldon Q Shrock, AAMS®, 120 N Harrison St, Shipshewana, IN 46565, 260.768.4348, Edward Jones, Member SIPC



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Meadowview Elementary

Save Fred Then Escape!

Fred was a gummy worm who found himself in trouble. His squishy, wormy body made its way to Meadowview's 3C class before seeking help from the students there.

Fred struggled to inch his skinny self into a life preserver. With no arms and no legs and no way to stay afloat, Fred asked his newfound elementary friends to help him.

The students paired up and experimented until they each found success in getting his life preserver on

his wormy body, thereby saving the gummy Fred!

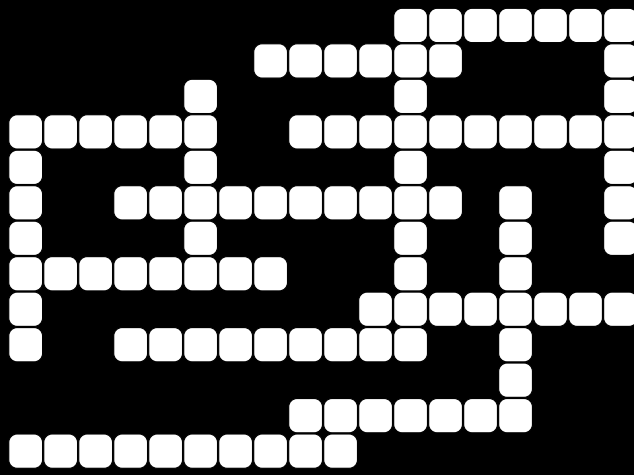
Saving Fred was not the only collaboration work these students participated in. Their problem-solving skills were further put to the test as they were presented with a series of problems needing to be solved. Each solution led them closer to finding the "key" to unlock the school. Only then would the students be able to "escape" back to school! 🗝️



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Clueless Crossword

Solution to Clueless Crossword is on pg 20.
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.

B A G W O R M S'
C O M M O N
V I C T I M S A R E
C O N I F E R S

Want a different way to advertise?

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

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BACK TO SCHOOL

Shipshe-Scott Elementary



#2



#1

#1 New staff members: *Back (left to right):* Kristin Kraft, Tara Christner, Katrina Overton, Kaelee Michels, Diane Hooley, and Hope Russell. *Front:* Abby Bontrager, Bradi Yoder, Megan Risser, and Eden Miller.



#3

#2: Mrs. Miller gave her kindergarten students a tour of the building on the first day of school including where the mailboxes are located.
#3: Mrs. Bontreger's first graders listen to a story being read aloud.
#4: Fourth graders had a problem to solve using



#4



#5



#6



#7



#8

#5: Mohammed Aldhurabi and Maverick Calvillo work on a writing assignment.
#6: Second grade students used a number line to help them figure out addition problems. They enjoyed learning through movement.
#7: Mrs. Hooley and Darcy Baker work together.
#8: Third grade students did an experiment with toothpaste to learn about the impact words can have on each other. Pictured is Santiago Dominguez.

All Photos Submitted

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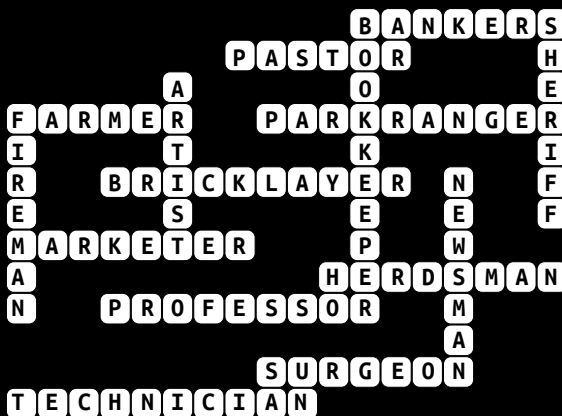


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Clueless Crossword
By Emily Vandevander
Solution
to the puzzle on page 18.

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We are looking for sponsors for the Clueless Crossword, a new advertiser each time. Call for more details! 260-463-4901.

Topeka Elementary

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL

On Monday, August 8, Topeka Elementary hosted a fun and successful Open House. Many students and their families came to the school to meet teachers and staff members, greet the new principal, tour the building, and enjoy a cookie in the cafeteria.

Soon, the first day of school arrived and staff members were excited

to have students back in the building. The first few days were full of smiles and excitement for a brand new school year. The students and staff met together for an assembly to introduce all of the new staff members who joined Topeka Elementary this year. 1

Photos listed in numerical order

#1: Mrs. McDonald introduces the staff members to the students at an assembly.

#2: Kindergarten students, Case Grossman, Kaleb Miller, and Dixon Mast enjoy eating lunch together.

#3: Pictured is Mrs. McDonald, the new principal, with Xaviah Howard, Maverick Turner, and Noah Howard.

#4: Students assemble in the gym for the first day of school assembly.

#5: Mrs. Leatherman enjoys teaching the 4th graders a new song.

#1



#2



#3



#4



#5



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First Day Activities

Activities were happening all around the school as the first day for students finally arrived. One such activity involved a blindfold, a puzzle, and teams working hard to communicate and function together.



Westview Elementary

Students were put into groups, given a puzzle, and told to choose a leader. This leader was then blindfolded.

Only the leader was given permission to touch the puzzle pieces but since each leader was blindfolded, the leaders had to rely on the directions

given by the team members on how to assemble the puzzle properly.

As you can imagine, the team members had to use their best communication skills to direct the sightless one among them. **i**



Westview Junior High



Westview Wins at First Ever Cougar Hokum Kareem Relays

Relay Results

Central Noble hosted their inaugural Cougar Hokum Kareem Relays where Westview's Junior High combined boys and girls cross country team placed first, beating all other eleven schools in the conference.

The first place team at the event was Daniel Yoder and Merrill Warren. The runner-up team was also from Westview and was comprised of Austin Schlabach and Hannah Miller. **i**

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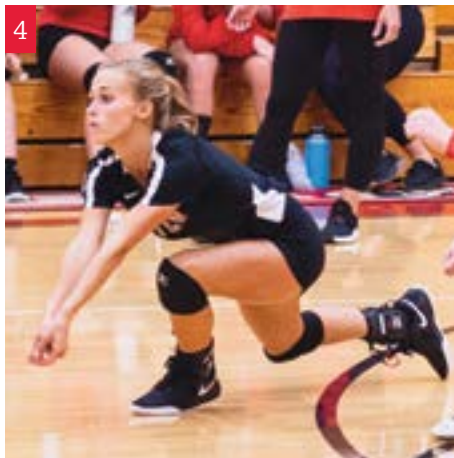
1



2



3



4



5

- 1) Lucy Rensberger scores a point for Westview after a successful block.
- 2) Kylie Yoder returns a volley to the Jimtown court.
- 3) Ella Clark keeps Jimtown from scoring and keeps the ball in play.
- 4) Ella Yoder gets low and keeps the ball in play.
- 5) Mia Bontrager gets a powerful serve across the net.

Photos by Abby Wenger

These photos and more will be available for purchase at lagwanaphotos.com.

The Hometown Treasure · September '22



BOYS JV SOCCER

Sponsored by



Boys JV Soccer Team: Back (left to right): Jaxon Engle, Max Engle, Jackson Massey, Eli Atra, Jacob Watts, Omar Saleh, Bentley Ryall, and Hussein Aldawshan. Middle: Aiden Norberg, Armando Nieves-Rubio, Dominic Sweet, Ilias Cherif, Kaiden Miller, Kaiden Liechty, Bryan Yoder, and JV Coach Libbie Martin. Front: Austin Mullins, Dallas Yoder, Landon Harris, Caiden Schrock, Levi Trethewey, and Samuel Miller.

Photo by Abby Wenger



BOYS VARSITY SOCCER

Sponsored by



Boys Varsity Soccer Team: Back (left to right): Braden Kauffman, Bodie Martin, Evan Litwiller, Valentino Cevese, Adrian Miller, Braden Eash, and Ethan Konkle. Middle: Asst. Coach Ehren Misner, Judson Hershberger, Brandt Norberg, Ian Bontrager, Mohammde Aamer, Ahmed Alamari, Aidan Kohlheim, and head coach Jamie Martin. Front (left to right): Jacob Peruski, Caleb Bontrager, Teague Misner, Braden Rogers, Nico Cochs, Carson Brown, and Brady Yoder.

Photo by Abby Wenger



GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

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Girls Cross Country Team: Back (left to right): Annagail Warrener, Bailey Manns, and Gwendolynn Owsley. Front: Coach Meghann Rainsberger, Adelyn Rainsberger, Kiana Mast, Eden Mauck, and manager Emily Bontrager.

Photo by Abby Wenger



BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

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Boys Cross Country Team: Back (left to right): Christien Noward, Lyndon Miller, Quinton Yoder, Adrian Miller, and Curtis Miller. Front: Chad Hershberger, Nic Bontrager, Cole Bontrager, Noah Bontrager, Mearl Miller, and Alex Yoder.

Photo by Abby Wenger



JV VOLLEYBALL

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JV Volleyball Team: Back (left to right): Coach Taylor Eash, Sammi Gibson, Madison Grossman, and manager Lauren Vanderpool. Middle: Madison Penick, Alexis Warren, Kylie Singleton, Hailey Lambright, and Jasmine Litton. Front: Lilly Mullet, Briana Kaufman, Alyssa Kauffman, Liliana Terrones, and Tori Persing.

Photo by Abby Wenger



VARSITY VOLLEYBALL

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Varsity Volleyball Team: Back (left to right): Mia Bontrager, Lucy Rensberger, Samantha Stump, Natalie Privett, and Head Coach Heidi Brohm. Middle: Asst Coach Allyse Yoder, Abigail Poncé, Ella Yoder, and Kylie Yoder. Front: Ireley Sherman, Sydney Posey, Ella Clark, and manager Lauren Vanderpool.

Photo by Abby Wenger



BOYS TENNIS

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Boys Tennis Team: Back (left to right): Coach Tyler Miller, Mason Clark, Kylan Bender, Isaiah Hostetler, Jethro Hostetler, and Dawson Schrock. Front: Aaron Roth, Dylan Schrock, Gavin Engle, Cole Mast, and Jace Lang.

Photo by Abby Wenger



GIRLS GOLF

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Girls Golf Team: Back (left to right): Ava Brown, Danika Yoder, and Hope Haarer. Front: Lilyan Bennett, Becky Moore, and Coach Jeff Marchant.

Photo by Abby Wenger



GIRLS SOCCER

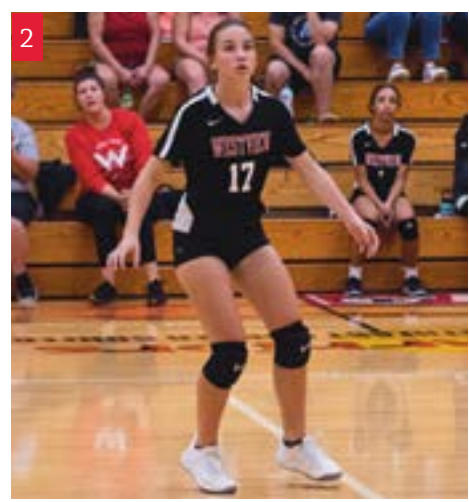
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Girls JV & Varsity Soccer Team: Back (left to right): Varsity Assistant Coach Chad Bender, Goal Keeper Coach Nicole Streby, Faith Beechy, Hannah Sprunger, Kaitlin Nuzum, Breann Cory, Paige Riegsecker, Madison Hooley, Myra Miller, Jalayna Whetstone, and Varsity Head Coach Jesse Ward. Middle: JV Assistant Coach McKenzie Hershberger, Leigha Schrock, Andrea Miller, Eve Niccum, Morgan Rich, Stacy Stutzman, Bianca Leonard, Olivia Jasso, Hope Bortner, JV Head Coach Madison Yoder, and Varsity Manager Andrew Byler. Front: Taryn Kistler, Kylee Liechty, Paige Schwartz, Rebecca Miller, Janissa Lehman, Dayshayla Miller, Brianna Munoz, Morgan Riegsecker, Kelsie Ward, and Dena Miller.

Photo by Abby Wenger

Sponsored by JV Girls Volleyball



- 1) Lilly Mullet returns the ball to Jimtown's court.
- 2) Hailey Lambright prepares to set the ball for a teammate to spike.
- 3) Jasmine Litton waits for the ball to come to her while Lexi Warren gets ready to move into action.

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

3D Mammography Now Available




Getting an annual mammogram should be an essential part of routine health check-ups for women forty and over. If they live in LaGrange or Noble counties, state-of-the-art 3D mammography is available close to home to make that task easier. Parkview LaGrange Hospital (PLH) and Parkview Noble Hospital (PNH) have upgraded their imaging equipment to offer the latest technology for monitoring breast health.

“3D mammography is the ‘gold standard’ when it comes to women’s healthcare, and northern Indiana residents deserve easier access to this quality of care,” said Jordi Disler, president of PLH. 3D mammography is a proven tool in discovering breast cancer early on when it is most treatable. In fact, with 3D technology, doctors can detect the disease an average of

fifteen months earlier than with conventional, 2D mammography.

This state-of-the-art technology produces highly detailed, multi-layered images—like pages in a book—giving clinicians a clearer view inside the breast tissue. This means tiny details are no longer hidden by the tissue above or below because clinicians can view it layer by layer.


Mammograms represent the front line in diagnosing and defeating breast cancer. According to breastcancer.org, eight out of nine women who are diagnosed with the disease have no family history of it. Men can develop breast cancer, too, although the disease is less common in males. The process of getting a mammogram is essentially the same for 3D as for 2D, so patients can expect a similar type of exam. 

Shipshewana Area Historical Society

The Shipshewana Area Historical Society (SAHS) will meet Monday, September 19 at 6:30 p.m. in the Farver School Museum at 315 N. Morton St., Shipshewana, Indiana.

The program for the evening will be given by LaGrange County Historian Bryan McCoy of LaGrange. He will present the “St. Joseph Valley line Railroad” which ran from Elkhart, Indiana to Columbia, Ohio. The railroad line was built by Herbert E. Bucklen of Elkhart. It stopped in Shipshewana to pick up passengers who rode to Angola, Indiana to attend Tri-State University. This train ran from 1905 to 1918.

Come to hear about the rail line that helped make transportation more accessible. Our meetings are open to the public; come and share the evening with us.

Thank you for making our BBQ Chicken Sales this summer a success! 

Miller Bontrager Promoted to Vice President, Consumer Loan Officer



Lake City Bank is pleased to announce that Sarah J. Miller Bontrager has been promoted to Vice President, Consumer Loan Officer.

In this position, Miller

Bontrager helps clients with loan requests and assists in approving direct and indirect consumer loans. She is a key contributor to the bank’s centralized underwriting and indirect lending groups. She has been with the bank for 28 years.

Miller Bontrager has a bachelor’s degree in business administration from Anderson University. She volunteers with Junior Achievement, teaching courses to elementary students, LaGrange County Community Foundation, reviewing scholarship applications, and LaGrange County Habitat for Humanity.

Lake City Bank, a \$6.6 billion bank headquartered in Warsaw, Indiana, is the sixth largest bank headquartered in the state, and the largest bank 100% invested in Indiana. Lake City Bank operates 52 branch offices in northern and central Indiana, delivering technology-driven solutions in a client-centric way to individuals and businesses. The bank is the single bank subsidiary of Lakeland Financial Corporation (Nasdaq Global Select/LKFN). For more information visit lakecitybank.com. 





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SEPTIC PERMIT PROCEDURES: SOIL BORINGS

FIRST: To receive a septic permit (RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL including dog kennels), a soil investigation will need to be completed by a soil scientist. Some scientists who will work in LaGrange County are:

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New Podiatrist to Serve Patients in Noble and LaGrange Counties

Starting in mid-August, Jason DeDoes, DPM, a podiatric surgeon who has treated patients at both the Parkview Center for Wound Healing at Parkview Hospital Randallia and Orthopaedics Northeast (ONE), will now focus on the needs of patients in Noble and LaGrange counties. He will take over for Parkview Physicians Group (PPG) Podiatry provider Vincent Coda, DPM, who retires August 31 after decades of service in northeast Indiana.

Dr. DeDoes completed his residency in podiatric medicine and surgery at Texas A&M Health Science Center College of Medicine in Bryan, Texas. He received his Doctor of Podiatric Medicine (DPM) degree from Kent State University in Kent, Ohio.

DeDoes is board certified by the American Board of Podiatric Medicine and the American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery.

Most recently, he has been a practicing podiatric surgeon at a Richland Center, Wisconsin hospital. Prior to that, DeDoes was a podiatric surgeon with ONE in Fort Wayne for eight years and a wound care provider with the Parkview Center for Wound Healing for five years. He also served as a podiatric consultant for a Dallas, Texas manufacturer of orthopedic surgical products related to foot and ankle surgery.

DeDoes attended Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Michigan for his bachelor's degree in biology, minoring in chemistry.

Inspired to go into podiatry while

working as a medical assistant for a Kalamazoo podiatrist during his undergraduate studies, DeDoes has a particular interest in podiatric surgery. However, he wants patients to know that surgical treatment is not automatically a given.

"I try to educate each patient and discuss every option for treatment so they can make the best decision for their healthcare," he says. "The majority of the time, that is not surgery."

DeDoes also emphasizes that poor foot health can be an indicator of other disease processes in the body.

"What folks may not realize is that so many medical comorbidities affect the entire body including the lower extremity," he said. "In wound care, for example, people tend to think that the reason a wound is not healing is due to not using the right bandage or 'ointment' on it. Actually, if a wound is not healing, it's revealing something about the bigger health picture. It's not 'just a foot problem.' Frequently, I end up coordinating care that a person needs not only to fix their foot problem, but also to help improve their overall health."

Dr. DeDoes will collaborate with the Parkview Noble Center for Wound Healing, which provides care for a wide variety of chronic, non-healing wounds. The center offers state-of-the-art treatments such as hyperbaric oxygen therapy, bioengineered tissue substitutes, compression therapy and other proven approaches to stimulate the body's natural healing process.


"Since I have worked in orthopedics, wound care, and now a general podiatric setting, that experience has given me a well-rounded approach for treatment of patients," DeDoes says. "I'm a pretty good listener, too, which is important in helping to gauge the true extent of issues when a patient comes to me with a foot condition."

Earlier in his career, he shared his skills and expertise through medical mission work. Now, in his time away from the office, DeDoes spends quality time with his children. Downhill skiing, golfing and watching movies are also among his favorite activities.

Dr. DeDoes will occupy the same Kendallville and LaGrange offices that Dr. Coda has used:

- 213 Fairview Blvd., Kendallville (Monday, Wednesday, Thursday)
- 207 N. Townline Road, LaGrange (Tuesday)

Office hours are 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. at each location.

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BEARS DOWN SCOTTIES 1-0 for 1959 Championship

by Harold D. Gingerich

The headline on the sports page of the October 20, 1959, issue of *The Student Echo* read "Topeka - - County Baseball Champs." The mimeographed print edition celebrated the glorious victories of the underdog hometown baseball heroes who had found a way to bring home the championship. And let's be honest, other than in boys' volleyball, there were few shining moments in the sun for Topeka High School (THS) athletes.

Today, high school baseball is played in the spring. However, back in the day, you played over the summer, but it was the fall season that really mattered when it came to bragging rights.

The semi-final round to the 1959 LaGrange County Baseball Championship featured the host LaGrange Lions taking on the Topeka Bears coached by Frank Hostetler and assisted by G.

Merrill Swartley. Senior Lester Bender took the mound for the Saturday morning, October 3 win-or-go-home matchup. Gene Troyer, Bender's battery mate, was behind the plate.

Unfortunately, *The Student Echo* only printed the Topeka portion of the box score. Fortunately, Lester Bender had noted the player positions on the Bears starting line-up. Leading off at second base was junior Gail Stoltz, followed by freshman Dave Miller at shortstop, Lester Bender pitching, senior Gene Troyer hitting clean-up and catching, junior Robert Slabaugh at first base, sophomore Gerald "Sonny" Wingard in right field, Richard Slabaugh, Robert's twin brother, in center, sophomore Alan Swartley at third base, and freshman Larry Stout in left field. Coming off the bench with a time at bat were junior Duane Rheinheimer and sophomore Bruce Oesch.

The paragraph recounting the game one victory gives us a hint that the game did not start well for the Topeka boys who were underdogs going into the tournament. "After a rugged first inning, the Bears were determined to win." Evidently the Lions must have scored several runs in their half of the first inning. The box score does provide what was clearly the key to winning the game. Topeka only came up with two hits, both by Bender. But LaGrange pitching gave up 15 walks! Gail Stoltz scored two runs, Miller, Robert Slabaugh, Wingard, Swartley, and Stout also crossed the plate en route to the 7-4 victory.

With only a few hours to rest the Bears took on their archrival, the Shipshewana-Scott Scotties, in the county championship game. Les Bender seems to recall that Shipshewana may have



Standing: (L to R) Frank Hostetler, Alan Swartley, Duane Rheinheimer, Richard Slabaugh, Robert Slabaugh, Gerald Wingard, G. Merrill Swartley. Seated: David Miller, Larry Stout, Eugene Troyer, Bruce Oesch, Lester Bender, Gail Stoltz.



beaten Wolcottville to earn their way into the championship round. Since Topeka had already beaten the Scotties twice earlier in the season, the boys from Shipshewana were determined not to lose.

Again, it is unfortunate that we only have Topeka's portion of the box score. It would be very interesting to know who was in the line-up for the Scotties. In this game, Stoltz was again in the leadoff spot but now playing third base, Dave Miller was catching, Les Bender was at shortstop, Gene Troyer in left field, Robert Slabaugh at first base, Sonny Wingard in right field, Richard Slabaugh in center, Alan Swartley was on the mound, and Duane Rheinheimer at second base.

The game's only run came in the top of the second inning. *The Student Echo's* account of the scoring leaves us wondering how things played out. "In the second inning, three walks in a row and two base hits accounted for the Bears only run that day." How do you have three walks, two hits, and only

score one run? Was a runner thrown out at the plate? Did someone get picked off base? Even Les Bender, who told me the story, can't remember.

Bender did say, "Alan Swartley probably pitched the game of his life." Topeka went into the bottom of the seventh inning clinging to a tenuous one run lead. We are grateful that the school paper provided a more detailed play-by-play of the final three outs.


"Playing for seven full innings with only a one-run lead, the Bears started the bottom of the seventh knowing three outs would give them the championship. After getting

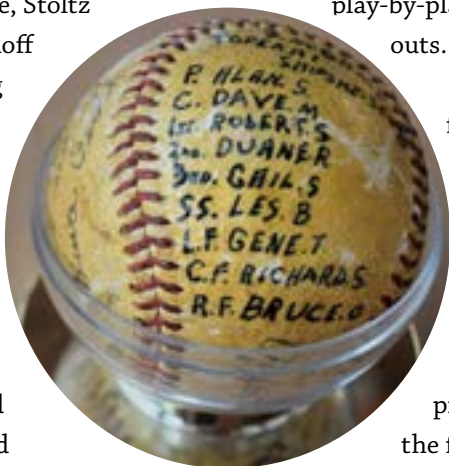
the first two men on a strike (out) and ground ball, the third man up, collected a base hit. After getting the fourth man to fly out, the Topeka Bears were county champs." And with that, the celebration began.

Along with bragging rights, members of the winning teams were presented with commemorative metals. However, the metals were tiny! They are about the size of a small charm on

a girl's charm bracelet (3/4 inch high and 1/2 inch wide). The front has the image of a batter and on the back, it is engraved with the words "County Champs 59).

Recently, Les Bender donated the championship medallion, along with several county volleyball championship medallions ('58, '59 '60), to the Topeka Area Historical Society. He also donated the championship game ball that was signed by all the players and the coaches. The starting line-ups, by position, for both the semi-final and championship games are on the ball. The information on the game ball for the championship games differs from the box score in the school newspaper. While the newspaper lists Sonny Wingard in right field, the ball has sophomore Bruce Oesch.

It is worth noting that Larry Stout (THS Class of '63) went on to pitch in the Pittsburgh Pirates organization being drafted in the 22nd round of the 1966 MLB June Amateur Draft. His career was cut short due to an arm injury, but Larry did become a highly successful high school baseball coach at Tekonsha High School in Tekonsha, Michigan. In 1992, Stout was inducted into the Michigan High School Baseball Hall of Fame. 



This article sponsored by



In recent months, Parkview Health has conducted a community health needs assessment, seeking input from clinicians, local decision-makers and citizens alike about what they perceive are the most pressing health needs in each county Parkview serves. On September 6, Parkview LaGrange Hospital (PLH) leaders will hold a community meeting to present the local results of that assessment process to area residents.

The community meeting will take place from 5 to 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 6 at American Legion Post 215, 100 Industrial Parkway, LaGrange.

The community health needs assessment takes place every three years. Community needs shift over time, and the assessment provides a tool for ensuring that healthcare resources and funding are appropriately invested to

address the needs that are most crucial to the health of the community as a whole. The top three community health priorities are used to guide the Community Health Improvement (CHI) process, which enables local nonprofit organizations to apply for grant fund-


ing in support of programs aimed at improving physical and mental health. PLH's Community Health Improvement Committee can also choose to use CHI dollars for specific projects that address the priority areas.

Following the needs assessment that took place in 2019, a group of community stakeholders and part-

ners formed collaborative groups for each of the top three health priorities identified: mental health/substance use (regional priority), obesity, and child health, specifically childcare and child abuse/neglect. An update on their progress will be given at the Sept. 6 meeting.

The presentation will also outline the 2022 assessment process, review the data, and reveal the region's number one health priority for the coming three-year period.

Christina Blaskie will present data and guide the community meeting. Questions may be directed to her at *christina.blaskie@parkview.com* or 260-463-9389.

Reservations are recommended. Reserve your spot at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2022-community-health-needs-assessment-findings-tickets-406805535307?aff=2022CHNA>. 



PARKVIEW LAGRANGE HOSPITAL Health Priorities Presentation





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By Harold D. Gingerich

You will need to look long and hard to find another Indiana county that can rival the parks system of LaGrange County Department of Parks and Recreation. From the smell of fresh maple syrup at the Maple Wood Center to the beaches at Dallas Lake Park to the native habitat of Pine Knob to the new disc golf course at spacious Delt Church Park or to David Rogers Memorial Park where history comes alive, more and more people are discovering that LaGrange County offers the per-

fect family getaway.

Who would have ever dreamed that someone as eccentric as Dr. David Rogers (1786-1871) would be looked to as the father of LaGrange County's parks? And yet, it was his donation of land and the proceeds from his estate which gave LaGrange County what would become its first public park. While the property has undergone change, what emerged was the beginnings of our modern parks system that now maintains eleven sites throughout

the county.

Local folklore remembers Dr. Rogers for traveling the countryside with a team of oxen to visit patients and to fill his cart with wild herbs, roots, and tree bark. Tradition says that he dried the herbs and shipped them to eastern markets. He manufactured and sold his own extracts, essences, and herbal medicine. Rogers was also known for not charging those who could not afford it. The inscription on his monument at Rogers Park reads: "He was the

friend of the invalid, gave medicine without money and without price.”

David Rogers died on February 24, 1871. His will, dated March 7, 1868, provided resources for the use and benefit of the orphan poor and destitute of the county. An eighty-acre tract of land, adjacent to the clear spring, was bequeathed to the commissioners of LaGrange County for the specific purpose of building and maintaining an orphanage. The will was contested by Rogers’ nephew, but it stood up in court. The David Rogers Children’s Fund was established with the proceeds from his estate, and the LaGrange County Commissioners subsequently built the Rogers Children’s Home (Orphanage).

When the State of Indiana took over the care of children, the orphanage was no longer needed by the county and was closed in the 1960’s. The home and all but fifteen acres were sold. The David Rogers Children’s Fund, under the administration of the LaGrange County Circuit Court, continues to serve the needs of the county’s children more than 130 years after the death of Dr. Rogers. It is worth noting that from the time land first became available for purchase in LaGrange County, the fifteen acres, which is home to the David Rogers Memorial Park, has only had two owners—Dr. David Rogers and LaGrange County.

Every year, on the fourth weekend in August, David Rogers Memorial Park reverts to the year 1845. The park’s authentic pioneer log cabins and 1826 log barn come alive with period

music, storytellers, pioneer crafts and workmen, and nightly folk dancing. There is even a circuit riding preacher who arrives on horseback. It is an event that allows park visitors a glimpse into what life was like during the early days of LaGrange County.


Mary Franke, Director of Parks, says, “We just want people to know that our parks are here. Currently, we have eight miles of Americans with Disability Act (ADA) compliant trails. And, at Delt Church, you can ride bikes on the trails.” Franke went on to say that several more miles of trails are in the process of being added to Pine Knob Park, located on SR 120 east of Howe.

Maple Wood Nature Center has become a springtime family favorite. On the third weekend of March, Maple Wood plays host to Maple Syrup Days. It is a great opportunity to see how sap is collected from maple trees and then watch the process of it being cooked down into maple syrup. And before you go home, the family can enjoy a hearty breakfast of pancakes and sausage with the proceeds going to a worthy cause.

On the first Saturday of August 2022, the Parks Department partnered with Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI), LaGrange County Youth Centers (LCYC), and several police and fire departments for a first ever Youth Connection. It was an opportunity for building positive relationships between young people, local law enforcement, and the community. Thanks to the generosity of local businesses, everything was FREE.

The nearly 300 who attended could eat their fill of BBQ chicken, baked beans, chips, maple cotton candy, and a freshly made Ben’s pretzel. Topeka Pizza also donated several hundred gift certificates for personal pizzas.

Numerous community organizations, such as the Bowen Center, Parkview LaGrange, the Prosecutor’s Office, Sheriff’s Office, Probation, the Indiana Excise Police, Topeka and Wolcottville police departments, Conservation Officers, and Topeka Fire were all on hand to operate a variety of activities and information booths. There were also numerous activities such as archery, disc golf, climbing on a ladder (fire) truck, and several K-9 demonstrations. The day wrapped up with drawings for the stockpile of donated prizes which included two kayaks. Franke summed up the event by saying, “This has been such a great opportunity for everyone to come together and interact. With all that has gone on (Covid-19) we have just gotten so isolated, and people have just been staying home. And kids get to see that the community cares about them.”

The Parks Department operates parks all across the county with year-round activities. Plus, if you are planning a special event, they have pavilions available for rent. For more information, be sure to visit their website at www.lagrangecountyparks.org. You can also find them on Facebook or you can call their office at (260) 854-2225. Their office is located at Dallas Lake Park, 0505 W 700 S, Wolcottville, IN 46795. 



The Hometown Treasure • September '22



LaGrange County Parks and recreation




Photo credit: J. Schmidt 2019



September Events at the Parks

Artifact Identification

Saturday, Sept 3 • 10 am–12 pm
Craig Arnold, Archaeologist for Weintraut & Associates, Inc., will be on-hand to help you identify your collection of Native American arrowheads and stone tools. Mr. Arnold is not an appraiser; he will do his best to date the artifact and describe its purpose. Please limit your collection to 10 pieces at a time so everyone can participate.

Hunter Education Course

Photo Scavenger Hunt with Prizes
September 6–8 • 5:30 pm–9 pm
Pine Knob Park

Indiana law states that all hunters born on or after December 31, 1986, must complete hunter education certification before purchasing a hunting license. This hunter education course will be taught by Jake Carlile, Indiana Conservation Officer. Registration is online only; registration will not be open until mid-August. Visit the website link below to sign up for this class or view other classes available in Indiana.

<https://www.register-ed.com/programs/indiana/103-indiana-hunter-education/agency:25>

Make-n-Take Crafts

Photo Scavenger Hunt with Prizes
Saturday, Sept 10 • 10 am or 2 pm
Maple Wood Nature Center - **Free!**

Folk Jam

Sunday, September 25 • 1:30–5:00 pm
Maple Wood Nature Center - **Free!**

Jams are mostly folk, country, and bluegrass music, with other styles occasionally added. Bring a snack to share if you like. For more information, contact Erv Troyer at 463-2247 or reo43@aol.com.

Quilt Classes

Saturday, Sept 17 • 9 am–3 pm
Maple Wood Nature Center
4550 E 100 S, LaGrange, IN

Fee: \$25 (\$5 is given back to Parks).

Pokagon Pines: A forest of pine trees either made into a throw or table topper. Flying geese add a nice touch but are optional.

Registration is required. Instructions are provided upon registration. To register, call the Park Office, at 260-854-2225. For more information, contact instructors Julia Wolhuter, 260-367-1449, or Ira Johnson, 260-367-1438. Please bring a sack lunch and/or potluck contribution.

Patchwork Trails Walk

Tuesday, Sept 20 • 6 pm

Mike Metz Fen Trail

2835 E SR 120, Howe, IN - **Free!**


Meet in the Pine Knob parking lot in front of the lodge. Patchwork Trails is a partner program with the LaGrange County Public Library. For more information about the walking series, contact the Library at 260-463-2841.

Sewing Group

Wednesday, Sept 28 • 9:30 am–3:30 pm

Maple Wood Nature Center

\$5.00 donation for LaGrange County Parks

What is a UFO? If you answered an unfinished 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. RSVP to Linda Grobis at (260) 351-3609. 

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