



Gregory Miller shows his story, “The Galloping Goat,” which will be published in the *Grannie Annie Vol. 11*.
MIRROR PHOTOS BY KAREN GERHARDINGER



Benjamin Ni holds a copy of *The Grannie Annie*. His story, “Shame to Lose to You,” tells how his mom won a Rubik’s Cube contest at age 6.

Gregory Miller And Benjamin Ni Have Stories Published In Book

BY KAREN GERHARDINGER
MIRROR REPORTER

Monclova student Benjamin Ni tells of his mom’s Rubik’s Cube competition win. Waterville student Gregory Miller tells of his great-grandfather’s galloping goat.

The two Anthony Wayne fourth-graders’ stories will be published in *Grannie Annie Volume 11* this month. A nonprofit organization, The Grannie Annie Family Story Celebration encourages students in grades 4-8 to share historical family stories.

Benjamin and Gregory had their stories chosen out of 555 submissions, according to Connie McIntyre, executive director of The Grannie Annie. Just 36 stories will be published in an eBook and at www.TheGrannieAnnie.org.

In addition, *The Mirror* received permission to reprint the local boys’ stories here:

“Shame to Lose to You” By Benjamin Ni

My grandma told me something that I never knew, that in my family, we had someone who won third place in a college Rubik’s Cube competition. In 1982, my mom, Tianyu Weng, participated in a Rubik’s Cube contest when she was 6. With 41.05 seconds, Tianyu got third place. At that time, Tianyu was only in kindergarten.

About six months before the competition, my grandpa, Weichang Weng, bought Tianyu her first Rubik’s Cube. When she first started, it took her about 10 to 20 minutes to finish one side of the cube.

After practicing by the manual, she could finish all six sides of the Rubik’s Cube in 10 minutes all by herself. Normally, it takes about 130 steps to complete all six faces according to the manual. But, one of my grandpa’s class-

mates discovered a new method to solve the Rubik’s Cube within 70 steps.

Tianyu learned from this person and mastered the skills he taught her. After daily practice, she could solve all six faces within one minute.

Then, one day, my grandpa brought Tianyu to his old college to visit. They ran into a campus Rubik’s Cube competition, and my grandpa asked if Tianyu could participate. Nobody thought she would win, so they allowed her to compete with those college students.

Surprisingly, she beat all other competitors, to place first in the first round. They felt it was a shame to lose to a 6-year-old, so they requested to make a preliminary round and have a new, final round. Before the contest started, they made the most difficult pattern of a Rubik’s Cube in which each tile next to each other was a different color. In the

final round, she was third with a time of 41.05 seconds to solve all six faces of the Rubik’s Cube.

This news spread out very quickly, and a reporter from a very famous Shanghai evening newspaper even went to Tianyu’s kindergarten to interview her. She became the first one in our family to appear in a newspaper.

In the report, it says: “According to an American professor, James G. Nourse, the author of the book *The Simple Solution to Rubik’s Cube*, anyone who can solve six faces within three minutes can be deemed a master. Tianyu did it under one minute, so she can be called a super master.”

My grandparents still kept the newspaper clipping that reported the event and interview with Tianyu.

Tianyu, my mom, at that time was only 6 years old, and she beat almost all college students who participated. My

grandparents were very proud of her. So am I.

**“The Galloping Goat”
By Gregory Miller**

It was the summer of 1943. My great-grandparents owned a small farm where they grew vegetables. They also raised goats for their milk and chicken for their eggs.

Because goats are very playful when they are young, they are fun to be around. One afternoon, my grandpa and great-uncle had a great idea. They decided to make a cart that the goat could pull through the field. They used some wood from orange crates and wheels from an old wagon. Then they made a harness from rope and attached it from the goat to the cart. My great-uncle, who was 9 years old at the time, got into the cart and waited for the goat to start moving, but the goat was as still as a statue!

The boys tried to think of

a way to make the goat move. They found an 8-foot-long pole and attached some string to the end of it. Then they went hunting for some food that the goat would like. Their goats ate all sorts of things, such as grass, hay and the bark off of trees. They even ate rose bushes with sharp thorns on them, but they especially liked corn. So they picked some field corn from the farm and tied an ear to the end of the string.

My great-uncle picked up the pole, got back in the cart and dangled it in front of the goat’s face. All of a sudden, the goat shot off like a bullet toward the chicken coop. The cart got stuck in the fence and chickens went scattering everywhere. Luckily, my great-uncle and the animals did not get hurt. Who knew a goat could gallop so fast?

Note: Gregory reports that he later learned that the chickens stopped laying eggs because of the trauma of the accident.

Whitehouse Historical Society Considers Museum Options

BY KAREN GERHARDINGER
MIRROR REPORTER

Scattered in individual homes, the Whitehouse library and the historic log cabin, the artifacts and memorabilia of Whitehouse’s 150-year history often are overlooked and underappreciated.

To give the public an opportunity to see these items in one place, Whitehouse Historical Society members are looking into the possibility of a volunteer-run museum. WHS member Louann Artiaga has just the location, and an anonymous donor is willing

to pay rent the first year.

The former Bell Technologies office at 10902 Maumee St., in the building that houses Inspire Salon and the Buzz Diner, is a tiny storefront, but Artiaga envisions a museum filled with display cases, framed paintings and other historical

items. Volunteers could sign up to keep the museum open several days a week.

“We’ve been talking for a long time about what we have stored in the log cabin. It’s not the most ideal of circumstances. It’s too hot, too cold and damp. If we don’t find a home for some of those things, they may eventually deteriorate,” Artiaga said. “If we opened tomorrow, we would already have a lot of items to display.”

Several other Whitehouse residents or natives have mentioned having items to donate, such as a Civil War soldier’s certificate, collections of stories and yearbooks.

Discussion of a museum heated up when residents voiced their viewpoints on Facebook about whether or not to move the Civil War-themed statue, erected in 1900 in Whitehouse Park. It’s currently being renovated and should be returned to the park by Cherry Fest.

“When all of that talk was going on about moving the statue, I heard people say they had this or that piece of

memorabilia,” Artiaga said.

With plans underway for a Veterans’ Memorial at the corner of Maumee and Providence streets, a nearby museum makes sense, she said. She anticipates a need for \$10,000 to open the doors, including \$5,000 for annual rent. The other portion would pay for display cases and renovations.

“We’re moving forward with this, but we’re not going to throw funds at it without community support,”

Artiaga said. “We’re putting the message out there to ask how many people would be willing to volunteer a few days a month or a few hours a week.”

To share comments, contact Artiaga at louann@springvalleytax.com or (419) 877-9704, or contact WHS President Susan Muenzer at (419) 832-0239 or susan@nilssonlandscaping.com.

Comments may be submitted through Wednesday, June 15.



Whitehouse Hosts Spring Cleanup, Recycling
Allshred Services, BASF and the village of Whitehouse teamed up to host a recycling event in the park on Saturday, April 30, collecting everything from paper and clothing to tires and computers. Allshred destroyed unwanted documents, Goodwill collected clothing, and residents donated food items for distribution through the Anthony Wayne food pantry located in Zion United Methodist Church.
MIRROR PHOTO BY KAREN GERHARDINGER

Generals 5K, Fun Run And Health Expo Slated At Fallen Timbers Middle School

Anthony Wayne Local Schools, Awake Community Coalition and Dave’s Running Shop are hosting a Generals 5K on Saturday, May 14 at 9:30 a.m., starting at Fallen Timbers Middle School.

To sign up, visit www.runsignup.com. The \$20.00 fee includes a race shirt, and proceeds will benefit AW students.

A 400-meter kids’ fun run for students in grades K-4 will start at the track at 9:00 a.m. The run is free and registration is not required. Preordered T-shirts are available for \$6.00 by visiting www.awawake.org.

A health expo will be held from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. that same day, with local vendors set up in the Fallen Timbers Middle School cafeteria. Giveaways and drawings are also slated.