

NEWS

Miller's Modern Market carrying on family legacy

By **Kyle Kotecki**, Staff Writer

Dec 1, 2025



Miller's Modern Market is located at 65 Cypress St. in Manist

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MANISTEE — Lance Miller, owner of Miller's Modern Market, believes fresh fruit should be available to everyone.

"My number one belief for my store is I want to have local fruit that is flavorful and grown honestly, and that the opportunity to have it be an everyday, regular commodity."

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Miller's Modern Market, located at 65 Cypress St. in Manistee, opened in June and offers fruit, vegetables, baked goods, soups, smoked fish and more.

Miller discussed his business Nov. 20 during [Ign](#) competition presented by [West Shore Bank](#) and [Chamber of Commerce](#), the [Michigan Small Business 20Fathoms](#).



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"My family has been in Manistee County since the 1860s, in farming and agriculture," he said. "My grandpa used to have a roadside stand where he would polish his Petoskey stones and have cherries, strawberries and apples. I grew up on the farm, too."

Community is important to Miller, and his store's offerings are locally sourced.

"I deal with 35 to 40 farmers within Manistee County," Miller said.



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Lance Miller, owner of Miller's Modern Market, discusses his business Nov. 20, 2025 during Ignite Manistee at the West Shore Community College Manistee Downtown Education Center in Manistee.

Kyle Kotecki/Manistee News Advocate

The business is open 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday.

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"Potentially, I'm going to be open seasonally from April to December," Miller said. "I'm also toying with the idea of being open a couple days during the week in the offseason."

Miller's parents, Lynn and Phil, ran Miller's Produce at the same location from 2008 to 2019.

"I opened up basically the same thing, but modified a little bit," he said. "I changed the name. I'm trying to make it more modern."

Going forward, Miller said he would like to put more of a focus on organic produce.

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"Some other businesses in town that focused on
"I wanted to do sandwiches and subs, but I thin
draw. I'm changing it all the time. I'm going to d
pies."

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Miller said he enjoys being involved with the coi

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"I had a zucchini competition for the biggest zucchini," he said. "Someone brought in like a 9-pounder. They're on the Wall of Fame inside the store."

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Dec 1, 2025



Kyle Kotecki

REPORTER, MANISTEE NEWS ADVOCATE



I was born and raised in Manistee. I earned a bachelor's degree in English from Grand Valley State University. My hobbies include fishing, reading and playing music.

I have been with the News Advocate since 2018 and have won multiple Michigan Press Association awards during my tenure.

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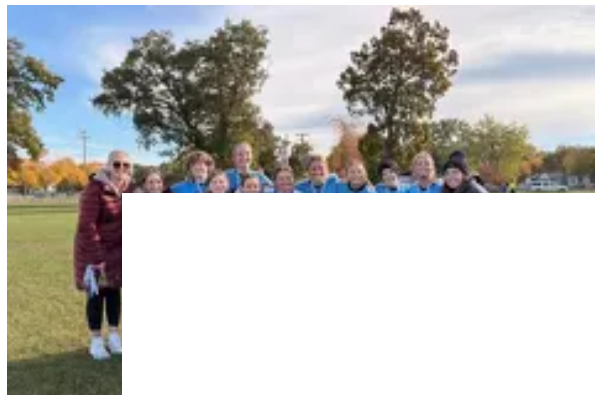
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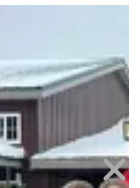
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