



Lackawanna Trail senior Hunter Sherwood has already begun carving a niche for himself in carpentry.

One of his biggest woodworking accomplishments to date has been building a pie safe.

Pie safes are old-fashioned pieces of furniture with shelves and two cupboard doors that are made to store pies after baking.

“I had to make something in wood shop and I didn’t have any ideas. I asked my aunt what she would like me to make and she said a pie safe. I said I’ll get it done,” he explained.

Sherwood began working on the pie safe in September of last year and is almost ready to install the doors.

The cabinet is made from Cherry wood with Poplar for the shelves.

“I didn’t want it to be 100 lbs so I used something a little lighter for the shelves,” he said.

He estimates a total of 30 hours has gone into the construction of it.

His interest in carpentry started at an early age when he would admire handmade items that his grandfather, Charles Fisher, crafted.

“What inspired me to do all this was when my grandpa passed away because he was a major woodworker and I admired all the things that he did. It was just beautiful work,” said Sherwood.

His mother, Sarah Van Fleet, commented on his wood working skills.

“He always had an interest in putting things together. In ninth grade he took a wood working class which is what the pie safe was for but he never got it finished in school because it’s such a big project,” she said.

Sherwood also credits the Lackawanna Trail high school with being able to increase his potential for carpentry and claims if it wasn’t for the school he wouldn’t have had the opportunity to do this kind of work.

The school holds a fair at the end of the school year where students can show off their wood shop projects.

“A lot of teachers came up to me and complimented me on it. It was awesome because I never got that before,” he said.

For his senior project he plans to construct something similar in size to the pie safe and donate it to the school.

He plans to attend a future school board meeting to ask what might be an appropriate piece of furniture that the school could use.

After graduation is he hoping to attend a trade school for carpentry in Elk Lake and hopes that the completion of the pie safe will serve as an example of the work he is capable of.