



STOCKBRIDGE COMMUNITY NEWS

a nonprofit newspaper

May 2019

for the common good and welfare of residents in the Stockbridge area

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Stockbridge FIRST Robotics wins regional, state competitions; eligible to compete in World Championship



The Stockbridge High School team built what they hoped was a world-class robot and headed off to the Jackson and Lansing regional competitions. User provided photo

by Patrice Johnson

The Stockbridge FIRST Robotics team is capping off its short 3-year history with a landmark season. In January, FIRST, an acronym for For Inspiration and Recognition in Science and Technology, revealed its annual game challenge for this year's FIRST Robotics competition. All participating teams then had six weeks to design, build, and program a robot to address the challenge.

The Stockbridge High School team built what they hoped was a world-class robot and headed off to the Jackson and Lansing regional competitions. Bam. The SHS team made a run in the elimination rounds and won several awards, thereby qualifying for its first-ever State Championship.

Next up, the team made a splash at the State Competition. It had now earned a chance to compete at the World Championship in Detroit, April 24 through 27.

Coach Bryan Tasior announced, "We will be competing against the top 405 of 3,647 teams from all over the world!"

But this amazing opportunity came with a significant financial burden. The SHS team needed \$5,000 for registration plus four nights' lodging in Detroit in order to participate in the tournament.

At the time of this writing, the team lacked the resources and was seeking donations. Check out SCN's website to see how they fared.

Celebrating 100th anniversary of American Legion: Up close and personal

by Mary Jo David

To the families of those who have died in military service for the United States, May is the month we pay our respects for their ultimate sacrifice. But this year, prior to Memorial Day, many living veterans across the country have cause for celebration because May 8, 2019, is the one-hundredth anniversary of the approval of The American Legion's constitution, which took place at the St. Louis Caucus in 1919. In other words, it is the 100th anniversary of the approval of the American Legion.

Here in Stockbridge, the Mackinder-Glenn American Legion Post 510 has been one of the pillars of the town since the post was founded in 1947. As is the tradition for many American Legion posts around the country, the Stockbridge Legion was named for local military people who were killed in action during their service. In this case, the Mackinder-Glenn American Legion Post was named for Russell Mackinder, KIA in World War I, and J.T. Glenn, KIA in World War I. Property donated by William Domine prompted the local Legion to purchase the balance of the land for building its current home at 830 S. Clinton St. in Stockbridge.

See Legion on page 5.



J.T. Glenn, KIA, World War I, August 1918.

Memorial Day: More than just a three-day weekend

by Judy Williams and Jim Aust

Back in 1968 when Congress moved Memorial Day from May 30 to the last Monday in May, many people opposed the change for fear the public might forget the meaning of the day. As the bereaved sister of young man who gave his life for this country, I attend Memorial Day services every year. In the past, the Stockbridge High School gymnasium used



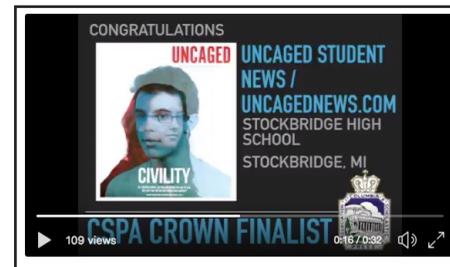
Navy Lt. Josh Fox and daughter, Emma, walk through the Field of Heroes in Westerville, Ohio. Photo credit Kayla Fox

to brim with families. Now, the service is held at the American Legion Hall, and a small group attends. I have to ask: Have people forgotten that Memorial Day is more than just a three-day weekend?

Now, the service is held at the American Legion Hall, and a small group attends. I have to ask: Have people forgotten that Memorial Day is more than just a three-day weekend?

See Memorial on page 17.

Uncaged student news receives Silver Crown award



On March 22, Uncaged Stockbridge High School student journalists learned that they earned the 2019 Silver Crown from the CSPA (Columbia University, NYC) for its

print news magazine and the online news website. Please join me in congratulating this tiny group of relentless students for their national ranking.

—Elizabeth Cyr, SHS journalism and yearbook teacher

Memorial Day falls on May 27, and National Nurses Week is May 6 to May 12. SCN is dedicated to giving thanks to our veterans and our nurses. Our special section to honor our local veterans begins on page 26, and we recognize our local nurses on page 16.



American Legion Riders serve up 10th Annual Chili Cookoff to blockbuster crowd



Sue and Ken Horner's chili is voted People's Choice winner. Pictured above: Sue Horner receives plaque from Jerry Kunzelman.

Article and photos by Becky Whitaker

The Stockbridge American Legion Riders Post 510 held its 10th annual Chili Cookoff to a blockbuster crowd at the Mackinder Glenn American Legion Hall, Saturday, April 13.

Nineteen chili contestants competed for awards, and attendees enjoyed mouthwatering chili dishes, door prizes, 50/50 drawings and raffles throughout the afternoon.

Bob Stolarz won the big raffle this year, a barbecue grill.

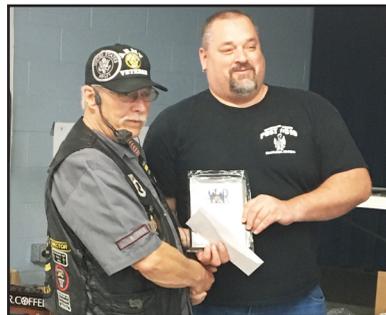
The American Legion Riders help many veteran causes and give back to the community, and the American Legion organization counts more than 110,000 Riders among its ranks nationwide. Its website states that its chapters, "are well known for their charitable work." Meanwhile, here in Stockbridge, the Riders were cooking up a difference in their local community.



Best booth goes to Mr. and Mrs. Veryl Tisch.



Terry Spada wins Third Place Judges' Choice. Jerry Kunzelman (left) presents award to Terry's nephew, accepting on Spada's behalf.



Al DeCroix Jr. (right) wins Second Place Judges' Choice. The award was presented by Jerry Kunzelman.

THE OPEN AIR MARKET

MAY 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 ~ 4 pm to 7 pm

9th SEASON May 3 ~ Opening Day On-the-Square
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New Hannah Lorraine Glair Memorial Scholarship to launch at SHS graduation

by Julie Glair and Tina Cole-Mullins

The family of Hannah Glair announced the inception of the Hannah Lorraine Glair Memorial Scholarship. Under the administration of the Stockbridge Area Educational Foundation, one \$500 scholarship will be awarded each year in Hannah Glair's honor, beginning with this year's Stockbridge High School graduating class.

Students who wish to apply for the scholarship are asked to submit two letters of recommendation and meet the following criteria: A minimum 2.5 grade point average or above, have demonstrated a community service commitment, be a kind and caring person, be goal oriented and be a team player.

"We are so excited that this has been set up quickly enough to have the first recipient be a classmate of Hannah's," said Julie Glair, Hannah's mother. "We're sure this would please Hannah greatly."

Hannah Glair, 17, of Munith, lost her life in a car accident Nov. 15, 2018.

Initial funding of the scholarship was provided through donations from Kerri Allen, teacher at Smith Elementary School and area business owner. Donations for further support of this scholarship may be sent to Superintendent Karl Heidrich at 100 Price Ave, Suite A, Stockbridge, MI 49285. Checks should be made out to SAEF with a clear note in the memo line that the funds are to go to the Hannah Glair Memorial Scholarship.

The Happy Hustler's 4-H Club is currently selling Hannah Glair Memorial T-shirts to raise funds to help with an annual award given to qualified 4-H members at the Ingham County Fair.

"We are hopeful this will be put in place by this year's fair," Julie Glair said.



Construction begins along Lakelands Trails



Funding. Engineering plans. Meetings. Bids. Approvals. Now construction begins along Lakelands Trails from Unadilla Township through Stockbridge. Photo credit Patrice Johnson.



The trail intersection at Dutton Road is shown, facing east. Photo credit Patrice Johnson

SCN honored for excellent work

by Agnes Geiger

"If I could give an award for hard work and dedication, you and SCN's volunteers would win. Outstanding efforts. Please keep up the great work," a judge wrote. "Talk about lots of work and



Pictured left to right: SCN board members Patrice Johnson, Hope Salyer and Judy Williams accept awards at the 2018 NFPW conference in Bethlehem, Pa. User provided photo

dedication. Community news is so important and you are doing just that. Hats off for all your team's hard work and efforts."

These were among judges' comments as the Stockbridge Community News earned nine awards in statewide competitions in the annual National Federation of Press Women's Communications Contest.

In the At-Large division of the contest, Stockbridge Community News writers competed against entries from about 16 other states that do not have NFPW chapters. Columnist Eric Rasmussen earned an award in NFPW affiliate Colorado Press Association.

SCN, a monthly newspaper that marked its second year of operation in November, was awarded five first-place awards, three second-place awards and one honorable mention.

This is the second year that SCN was recognized by the nationwide organization. Last year SCN took home nine At-Large awards.

SCN writers Patrice Johnson, Eric Rasmussen, Hope Salyer and Judy Williams all received awards.

Contest entries were judged and ranked by professional communications experts throughout the United States, according to Teri Ehresman, of Idaho, NFPW contest director, and Michele Cook, of Virginia, contest manager.

Patrice Johnson, SCN president and editor-in-chief, was surprised and pleased that the NFPW recognized the online and print newspaper for the second straight year. She credited the hard work and dedication of the entire SCN team for the paper's success.

"More than 35 volunteers devote untold hours each month to providing local news and information—all as a public service to build a stronger, healthier local community. It means a great deal when readers express appreciation and journalism professionals recognize our efforts."

All first-place contest entries will continue on to the national contest and compete with other first-place entries from across the country. National winners will be honored at an awards dinner during the NFPW National Conference on Saturday, June 29 in Baton Rouge, La.

See SCN on page 18.

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Obituaries

Margaret “Peg” Zick



Margaret “Peg” Zick, age 96, passed away on Wednesday, March 27, 2019 at Green Acres Assisted Living Facility in Ionia, MI. She was born June 16, 1922 in Indianapolis IN to Harold S. and Grace Y. Soper. She lived most of her young life in Grand Rapids, MI and graduated from Creston High School. She was also a graduate of Western Michigan University. She married Thomas R. Zick on June 16, 1947 and together they had seven children. Her husband passed away January 4, 1982. She is survived by her seven children: Thomas (Marilyn) Zick of Curtis, Michigan; Robert (Pat) Zick of Tallahassee, Florida; Edward (Lori) Zick of Stockbridge, Michigan; Mary Van Auken of Byron Center, Michigan; William (Carol) Zick of Tucson, Arizona; Stephen (Darby) Zick of

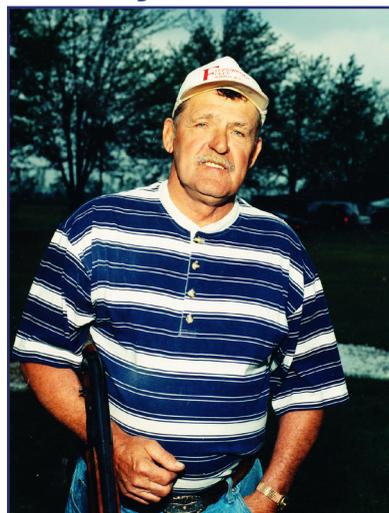
Clarksville, Michigan; and Elizabeth (Garry) Lancewicz of Mesick, Michigan. She is also survived by sixteen grandchildren, twenty-four great-grandchildren, plus another soon to be born. She is also survived by her brothers, Harold Soper of Grand Rapids, MI, Lloyd (Doris) Soper of Grand Rapids, MI, and her sister, Barbara Forwood of Onkama, MI, and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Thomas, and her sister, Grace Tremblay.

Peg was a career teacher and among other places taught in Battle Creek, MI, Belmont, MI and for 30 years taught first grade in the Stockbridge Community School District in Stockbridge, MI.

Peg was a loving wife, wonderful mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. In addition to her family, she was a great influence on many young lives in Stockbridge, as she taught them in school and Sunday school.

The family received friends at the Caskey-Mitchell Funeral Home in Stockbridge on April 10, 2019 from 5 to 8 p.m. and at the Stockbridge First Presbyterian Church on April 11, 2019 from 10 a.m. until the time of funeral which began at 11 a.m. The service was officiated by Reverend Deb Powell. In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy may be made to the Stockbridge Community Schools or the Stockbridge First Presbyterian Church.

Dewayne “Bud” Kitley



Dewayne “Bud” Kenneth Kitley, of Munith, Michigan, passed away at his home surrounded by his family. He was born the son of Kenneth and Shirley (Brown) on May 21, 1935. On October 24, 1953, he married Connie Sue Cowan, and she survives. For over 65 +years Bud was owner of K&D Kitley Sanitation and Excavation in Munith. Bud had a passion for trap shooting and was in the Michigan Trap Shooters Hall of Fame. He was a life member of the NRA. Bud was also President of the Michigan Trap Shooters Association, where he was instrumental in getting laws passed to protect gun clubs. One of his other favorite past times was reading and watching the birds. Most of all, he loved being with his family.

In addition to Connie, his wife, Bud is survived by his children, Patricia (Reginald) Riba, Charles (Jo) Kitley, Carl (Teri) Kitley, and Dawn (Clark) Titus. Also surviving are 11 grandchildren, Heather, Justin, Amber, Staci, Mike, Canada, Matt, Jake and Brandon; 13 great-grandchildren, Ben, Nick, Kevin, Cooper, Avery, Lucas, Hunter, Parker, June, Kaitlin, Kara, Kathryn and Brenton; brother, George (Jan) Kitley, and sister, Janet (Ed) Senyko; and a sister-in-law, Betty Cowan. Bud was preceded in death by two grandchildren, Clark Titus Jr, and Brad Reilly, his sister, Barbara Smith, sisters-in-law Irene Biehn, Mary Wright, and Betty Martin; brothers-in law, Dan Cowan, Bill Biehn, and Paul Wright.

Funeral services were held at the Staffan Mitchell Funeral Home, Chelsea on April 16, 2019. The family received friends at the funeral home in Chelsea on April 15. Expressions of sympathy may be made to the Munith United Methodist Church.

Mike Jones



Michael Todd Jones, age 51, of Gregory, Michigan passed away unexpectedly on Monday, April 8, 2019 at his home. He leaves behind his loving wife Christene (Schlupe) Jones and sons Wesley Robert and Ethan Michael. Mike was born in Southfield, Michigan on September 5, 1967 to parents Merton (Bud) and Judith (Lange) Jones, both of whom survive. On September 30, 1995 he married the love of his life, and Mike and Chris set up their home in Gregory. Mike is also survived by his in-laws Skip and Sally Schlupe, his brother Wesley (Lori) Jones, and sister-in-law Becky (Jeff) McEldery; nieces and nephews Olivia and Anna McEldery, and

Blake, Taylor, Sydney, Peyton and Griffin Jones; as well as several aunts and uncles and many special friends.

You'd think a man with the name of Mike Jones would be ordinary. Our Mike Jones was anything but ordinary. He was a husband and father who was madly in love with his wife and boys. Mike held a Master of Fine Arts from Michigan State University (1993), and proudly wore his green and white. He was an incredibly talented, self-employed figurative sculptor. When Wes was born, Mike chose to be a stay-at-home dad and taught himself to cook, providing fantastic meals for his family. He was always around for his boys, filling their days with adventure, fun and laughter, including laughing contests when they were young. Mike was very proud of his boys and was involved in everything they did. He was an assistant den leader for Cub Scouts, a soccer coach, and volunteered many hours to support the Town Hall Players. He loved watching his boys play soccer, welcomed all of their friends to the Jones household, and truly enjoyed interacting with all of the kids. He built a studio and a garage, and put an addition on the house to make space for his growing family, and completed most of the work himself, with the help of friends and family.

Mike loved traveling, reading, playing guitar, listening to music, socializing, and hiking. He had a wealth of knowledge about art, music, American history, politics, the space program, movies, The Lord of the Rings books, and countless other topics. He was a walking encyclopedia, and everyone wanted to be on his team for a game of Trivial Pursuit. Mike was always ready with quotes from movies and song lyrics. Mike was a musician who loved sharing music with others; he particularly enjoyed The Beatles and Bob Seger. He loved playing guitar and pulling people in for some strumming on the porch. He passed his love of music, art, cooking, and nature to his boys, as well as his quick sense of humor, kindness and charm.

Mike loved people and saw the best in everyone. Mike was unbelievably generous. He spent as much time as possible with his family and friends, and had a way of making everyone feel like they were his best friend. He cared deeply for his friends and was quick to call them for a chat, and loved to tease people. He always had time for everyone – family, friends, neighbors, and people he didn't yet know. He was very giving of himself and his time, taking care of those around him. Mike found amusement in nearly every situation. He was quick with a joke (usually good ones, often including characteristically colorful language) and a teller of tales. He was creative with elaborations and often said his job was to entertain his wife. “Fun is the best thing you can have.”

We love you and will miss you terribly, Michael. We were all so lucky to have had you in our lives.

An open house celebrating Mike's life was held on April 20 at Staffan-Mitchell Funeral Home in Chelsea. Contributions may be made to a fund for Wesley and Ethan.

Deborah Cipta



Deborah L. Cipta, age 66, of Stockbridge, MI, passed away at her home on Wednesday, April 17, 2019. She was born on October 10, 1952 in Jackson, MI the daughter of Harry and Maxine (Minix) Arnett. On April 14, 1973, she married Gregory M. Cipta, and he survives. Also surviving are three children, Loretta (Jason) Yoder of Hastings, MI, Ginger (Stephen) Hardy of Arizona, and Joseph (Micki) Cipta of Gregory; six grandchildren, Travis, Alisha, Lauren, Paxson, Macy and Owen; two sisters, Linda Satterthwaite of Ann Arbor, and Gerry (Harry) Green of Rives Junction; two brothers, Johnny (Maxie) Arnett of Salyersville, KY, and Harry (Gwen) Arnett of

Salyersville, KY.

Deborah had lived in the Jackson area most of her life. She worked for Chelsea Milling Co. for 18 years. She loved cooking, gardening, and going to Bluegrass Festivals. She was a caring person, and would do for others before herself.

Funeral services were held on April 20, 2019 from the Caskey-Mitchell Funeral Home, Stockbridge with Larrel Whitaker officiating. Burial followed at Oaklawn Cemetery. The family received friends at the funeral home on April 19. Memorial contributions may be made to SAESA.

Legion page 1

Years ago, the local Legion sponsored activities ranging from baseball to oratory contests and from Poppy Day sales for disabled veterans to the once popular Carnival (or "Free Fair" as locals liked to refer to it). To this day, the Mackinder-Glenn Post can be depended upon to provide memorial honor guards as needed for veterans' funerals and to host the annual Ceremony for Disposal of Unserviceable Flags every June.

The Mackinder-Glenn Post has its fun side as well—hosting regular activities open to the community, like bingo, euchre, the annual Chili Cookoff, the Lenten Fish Fry tradition, and weekly Thursday night specials that rotate through tacos, sliders, chicken wings, and coney dogs. Local Legion members march in the Parade of Lights and the Homecoming Parade in Stockbridge and in Gregory's Fourth of July parade.

They also continue to sponsor Stockbridge Cub Scout Pack 4768. Currently, the oldest member of the Mackinder-Glenn American Legion Post is a 92-year-old World War II veteran and the newest member is a 38-year-old veteran who joined two weeks prior to the writing of this article. Many join for the camaraderie, but for the veterans who have been longtime members of the Mackinder-Glenn American Legion Post, commitment to the Legion runs deep, as does their appreciation for the years in the service that earned them the opportunity to join the Legion.

If you would like more information about the Mackinder-Glenn American Legion Post 510 in Stockbridge, MI, call 517-851-8445.

Devotion to service in the Legion runs deep

"If you haven't got direction, consider joining the service for discipline you wouldn't get otherwise, and the schooling benefit was wonderful," emphasized a current Mackinder-Glenn Post member who wished to remain anonymous. Many don't realize that the GI Bill, known for its generous education benefits, evolved from a draft proposal written by a former American Legion national commander, Harry W. Colmery.

"In my life, I've probably used more of my Army experience than even my college experience," noted Russel Schuchaskie, of Plainfield. He added, "And now, as a veteran and Legion member, and with the help of Legion-sponsored service officers, I'm able to help some of my fellow veterans learn their way around the VA system." Did you know: The American Legion was a major player in getting all of the major veterans services under one federal umbrella—now known as Veterans Affairs, changing its name from the Veterans Administration.



Jerry Kunzelman, commander of the Mackinder-Glenn Post, treats the writer to a tour of Post 510's history. User provided photo



A 1952 flyer advertising the Annual Free Fair, hosted by the Mackinder-Glenn American Legion Post 510.

Death Notices

Included below are names of community residents who have recently died and of whom we have been notified. Death notices were also listed on Stockbridge Community News website within the past month. If you wish to have a death notice included in a future edition, please contact Stockbridge Community News.

There is no charge for this public service. Full obituaries are available for a fee.

- Robert "Bob" Green - died Feb. 28 - Memorial April 6
- Minnie M. Lathrop - died March 26 - Stockbridge
- Clifton E. Evans - died March 26
- Margaret Zick - died March 27 - Stockbridge
- Thurmond R. Mays - died March 30 - Jackson
- Ellie Grace Allen - died April 2
- Michael T. Jones - died April 8 - Gregory
- DeWayne "Bud" Kitley - died April 12
- Irma M. Smith - died April 15 - Formerly of Stockbridge
- Olive Farrington - died April 16 - Stockbridge
- Deborah Cipta - died April 17

In Remembrance

Stockbridge Community News publishes death notices and obituaries on our website, Facebook page and Twitter feed as soon as we receive notice. This way, friends and loved ones will learn of your loved one's passing right away, so they won't inadvertently miss funeral and memorial services. All too often weekly publications circulate after services are held.

Obituaries include a color photo, print and online publication for these low prices:

- Print and online, \$100 (up to ¼ page, 300 words or less)
- Print and online with photo, \$125
- Online only \$75

We publish death notices at no charge as a public service.

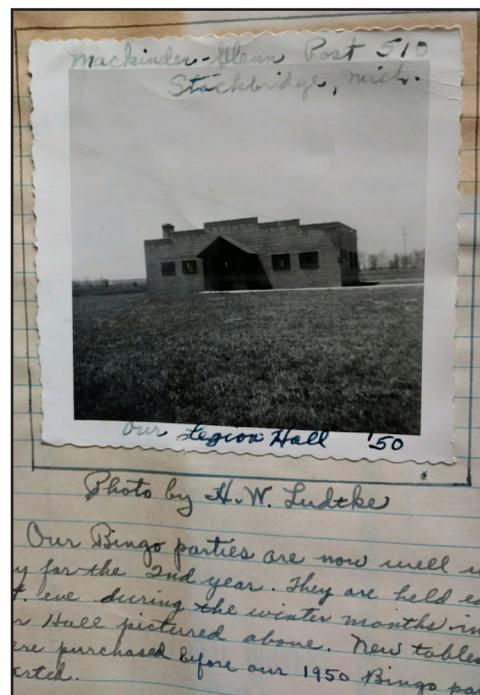


SCN's print edition circulates free of charge to every household in the local, 125-square-mile area. We print 8,900 or more copies each month, so 21,000-plus local residents receive each edition.

More than 20,000 people each month view our news and information online. It's not uncommon for an obituary to attract up to 2,000 views and receive dozens of online expressions of sympathy and remembrance.

In contrast, the former local paper no longer circulates within Ingham County, and only a small percentage of residents in the area subscribe to or read daily papers from Jackson and Lansing.

When the time comes, please send, or ask your funeral director to send, your loved one's obituary to stockbridgecommunitynews@gmail.com



The original Mackinder-Glenn American Legion Post 510 building before the addition and outbuilding were added.



A Post 510 ad featuring the State Legion commander, Duane Brigstock, that appeared in the Stockbridge Brief Sun in 1965.

Post commanders: A long list of dedicated veterans

Post commanders in Stockbridge have hailed from all walks of life, including the postal service, accounting, mortuary services, auto dealerships, factory workers, equipment operators, insurance salesmen, and more. Below is a complete list of Mackinder-Glenn American Legion Post 510 commanders, spanning from 1946 through 2019.

Paul Stephens, William Caskey, Wendell Barber, Herold Ludtke, Pat McDonald, John Nichol, Robert Rose, Robert Mackinder, John Horst, Elmer Lehman, Walter Barbour, Max Cool, Gilbert Neill, Roland Cobb, Ed Marshall, Norman Jacobs, Robert Price, Loren Collins, Russell Hartsuff, Floyd Ward, Richard Switzer, Lester Herrick, Robert Frinkel, Reid Hartsuff, Paul Collings, Lloyd May, Don Negus, Thomas Collings, Roland Stoffer, Lloyd Olson, David Stoffer, Kenneth Amerman, Don Davis, Alvin Myer, William McLeod, Clete Carlton, Stan Daily, Richard Koker, Elmer Schulte, Harold Duquesnel, Tom Clark, Douglas Bowman, Tom Kelly, James Lobdell, Al Matyzius, Frank Strzaulka, Jr., Joe Kimbirauskas, William Cool, Dennis Costello and Jerry Kunzelman.

Community Calendar

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May 1 - Coffee Chat Wednesday, 11 a.m. to noon at the Stockbridge Library

May 1 - Preschool Storytimes with Crafts (Ages 3 to 6), 12:15 to 1 p.m. at the Stockbridge Library

May 1 - Live Animals in the Library, 4 to 4:45 p.m. at the Stockbridge Library

May 3 - Market Music Series, 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the Stockbridge Township Square

May 3 - Escape from the Stockbridge Library (Ages 13 and up), 7:45 to 8:30 p.m. at the Stockbridge Library

May 4 - St. Joseph Mercy Chelsea's 30th Annual Heart and Sole Run Walk, 8 a.m. to noon at Chelsea High School

May 4 - Plainfield United Methodist Church Chicken and Biscuit Supper, 5 p.m. at the Plainfield UMC

May 6 - St. Joseph Mercy Chelsea free mental health classes, 6 to 6:30 p.m. at St. Joseph Mercy Chelsea

May 8 - Coffee Chat Wednesday, 11 a.m. to noon at the Stockbridge Library

May 8 - Japanese-American Experience: the internment camps of WWII, 4 to 5 p.m. at the Stockbridge Library

May 8 - Kids Read to Oliver (Ages 6 and up), 6 to 6:30 p.m. at the Stockbridge Library

May 10 - Market Music Series, 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the Stockbridge Township Square

May 10 - Minecraft Game Night (Ages 8 to 15), 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Stockbridge Library

May 11 - Stockbridge Cemetery Clean Up

May 15 - Coffee Chat Wednesday, 11 a.m. to noon at the Stockbridge Library

May 17 - Family Game Night, 5 to 6:45 p.m. at the Stockbridge Library

May 17 - Market Music Series, 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the Stockbridge Township Square

May 18 - Church of Christ Free Food and Clothes Closet, 10 a.m. to noon at the Stockbridge Church of Christ

May 18 - Stockbridge and Unadilla Townships Joint Spring Clean-Up, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Unadilla Township Hall

May 22 - Coffee Chat Wednesday, 11 a.m. to noon at the Stockbridge Library

May 24 - Market Music Series, 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the Stockbridge Township Square

May 27 - Memorial Day Service, 10 a.m., Parade, 11 a.m. at the Stockbridge American Legion

May 27 - Stockbridge Fire Department Chicken BBQ, 11:30 a.m. at the Stockbridge Fire Station

May 29 - St. Joseph Mercy Chelsea free mental health classes, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. at St. Joseph Mercy Chelsea

May 31 - Adult Book Discussion, noon to 1 p.m. at the Stockbridge Library

May 31 - Market Music Series, 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the Stockbridge Township Square

For more community events visit:
www.stockbridgecommunitynews.com

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First place winner, National Federation of Press Women 2019 Communications Contest.

Who we are

The Stockbridge Community News is a Michigan nonprofit organization (IRS #C4-4001565), operated by an unpaid, volunteer board of directors. Our print edition serves more than 8,000 households in the 125-square-mile area of the Stockbridge school district, reaching approximately 19,000 residents. Our website and Facebook pages host more than 30,000 views per month and have more than 1,400 regular followers.

Our Mission

To promote the common good and general welfare of residents in the greater Stockbridge area through the collection and dissemination of local educational news and social-benefit information.

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'This I Believe' 2nd place winner, Brynn Tatar, finds strength in adversity

Brynn Tatar, 16, and a student at Stockbridge High School, earned second place for her 'This I Believe' essay. The semi-annual contest, offered in collaboration between the school and Stockbridge CADL library, recognizes outstanding works of local students. Below, Tatar's words speak for themselves.

Third-place winner Brooklyn Baker's essay was published in SCN's March edition. Stay-tuned for the first-place winning essay in SCN's June edition.

This Does Not Define Me

by Brynn Tatar



I have always known more than I should have. I always heard things and observed the way people interacted, and I understood the adult mindset very early on in life. From a young age, I could tell my family situation was off. My parents are split up, they've been split up since I've been 5 years old. I don't live with either of my parents now, and I haven't lived with either of them in about 8 years.

My mother was addicted to opiates, and very distant. She worked two jobs and had three kids. I don't ever remember a, lovey, mother-daughter moment with her. I don't think I ever truly bonded with my mother or my father for that matter.

It was a rather confusing situation actually, my dad was distant and uninterested in being a family man, but he was around every day. He was dependent on my mother and mooched off her income. My father would try anything to get a high. All the way

Brynn Tatar, second-place winner

from smoking crack to taking mass amounts of Benadryl medication. He was and continues to be an alcoholic. The sad truth is I don't think he loves me like a father should love his only daughter, and that hurts most because I just want that feeling. In actuality, I'd rather have a deadbeat dad, than

one I have to sit and stare at every day, wishing and hoping that he'd wake up one day and love me.

When my mom was 38 she got her head on straight and went to a clinic. She received help and treatment that she needed for the next 4 years. She was clean. Around this time my father was so broke, he couldn't even afford drugs. He lived off of leftover pizza and bud light. I suppose my relationship with them was sort of there. My mom and I joked around a lot, we talked but not about anything serious or important. As for my dad, we had brief conversations, short and vague.

It wasn't until recently that my mom went off the rails and started abusing drugs again. She left the state with a random guy. Although I didn't know him, I could read him. I knew he was trouble. I didn't hear from her for 4 months, and that hurt more than any pain I've ever felt. She had abandoned us, once again. When things went sour for my mother like I warned her it would, she showed up, and the funny thing about that is my emotions didn't. Walking into the room and seeing her bruised up and all teary-eyed didn't have the same effect on me. Instead I just froze up and felt nothing but sickness. She started bawling and grasping my shirt. I stayed quiet, feeling nauseated and angry. It was different now. I felt no pity nor sadness. No disappointment like I had in the past. Just emptiness.

I had an epiphany: I realized I had finally overcome the need for a love that my mother was incapable of giving me. I stepped away from her and the havoc she wrecked on me. Having been dealt this hand in life has taught me well, and I don't let it define me. I have a job, good grades, and some wonderful friends. My success in life will be determined by my tenacity and determination, and my ability to rise above my raising. This I Believe.

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Staff Spotlight: Cheryl Walsh and Nancy Wisman lead fresh Stockbridge Community Virtual School



by Amy Haggerty

Not every student is academically inclined, and since 1994, Stockbridge Community Schools have provided students different pathways to complete their graduation requirements. The new Stockbridge Community Virtual School, reborn of the former Alternative Education program, provides students a different pathway to complete graduation requirements. Two devoted teachers, Cheryl Walsh and Nancy Wisman, are leading the team to help academically challenged students obtain the high school credits necessary to earn their high school diplomas.

“Our program is supported by all of our staff and our remarkable virtual coordinators, Cheryl Walsh and Nancy Wisman,” Jeff Trapp, high school principal and administrator of the program, said. “We are fortunate to have this opportunity

“Our program is supported by all of our staff and our remarkable virtual coordinators, Cheryl Walsh and Nancy Wisman,” Jeff Trapp, high school principal and administrator of the program, said. “We are fortunate to have this opportunity for our students right here at our building.” User provided photo for our students right here at our building.”

Located just behind the office and across from the media center at the Junior/Senior High School, SCVS offers all its classes online through the Michigan Virtual High School Program.

Cheryl Walsh has been a classroom teacher for Stockbridge Community Schools for 24 years, and Nancy Wisman has mentored students in the program for four years.

For classroom help, the current 20-plus students enrolled in SCVS may attend classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. On average, five or six students complete the program each year and receive high school diplomas.

Students fall behind in credits due to many reasons. Many hold down a job and have adult responsibilities that don't allow time to attend traditional classes every day. This program, available at no charge, offers students the opportunity to take care of personal needs while completing classes during their free time.

“It's been a privilege to work with Cheryl,” Wisman said. “I began substitute teaching for her almost 20 years ago. We've seen many success stories, and other students who just couldn't prevail.” She and Walsh encourage students to obtain their high school diploma, she said, and remind them of its long-term importance for securing employment. “Cheryl and I take a personal interest in all of our students and are very proud of their success stories,” Wisman added.

Walsh, the first teacher along with administrator Jane Clarke, developed the original curriculum to meet school district and state graduation requirements. The program was housed at the old middle school building and limited to a small class size, so the students had more personal attention. Over the years as technology developed, the program came to include computer classes contracted through Michigan Virtual.

Today, the classroom is open, allowing students to drop in for personalized assistance whenever they face challenges and would like a helping hand. Students must also take exams with an instructor present at the end of each course.

Helping students graduate who might otherwise have dropped out of school or fallen through the cracks is what Walsh considers her greatest accomplishment as a teacher.

“I love the small community and family feeling of the staff,” she said. “I have always felt supported by my peers and administration.”

Her advice to her students? “Put in the hard work to finish your classes and graduate. School is an accomplishment, not a gift!”

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Outreach settles in at the SAC



“We are expecting a second shipment of donated, brand-new Bombas socks—1,000 pair!—this summer,” Program Director Karen Smith said. L-R: Jo Mayer, Kathy Walz, and Smith. User provided photo

“What a relief not to have to worry about leaky faucets, broken ceiling tiles or furnaces,” exclaimed Karen Smith, social worker and part-time program director for Stockbridge Community Outreach in her bright new office at the Stockbridge Activity Center.

According to Smith, Outreach is now able to put its energies toward helping its clients instead of worrying about what is going to break next. “We are much more visible and accessible here than we were in our old trailer where our ramped entrance was difficult to traverse,” she said. “It’s funny that the trailer was adjacent to this building, sharing a parking lot, but it was worlds away in terms of visibility to the community.”

Since moving to the Stockbridge Activity Center, Smith said Outreach has met many new

clients and donors.

The former middle school was purchased by L & M Family Investments a year ago.

“We feel more a part of the community here, and it is so easy to collaborate with the other tenants—like the Chamber of Commerce and the Wellness Coalition,” Smith added. “Our monthly costs are about the same as they were in the trailer, which we owned, and we don’t have to clean the bathrooms or shovel snow or mow the lawn or do any landscaping.”

The Outreach board recently voted against leasing space in the Stockbridge Township Hall, newly available due to SAESA’s relocation to the south side of town. Though the rent would have been negligible to free, potential maintenance costs and inefficiencies led to the board’s decision.

Outreach has also been awarded more grants, she said, “Now that there is time to focus on researching and applying for them.” Smith pointed to Outreach’s recent award of a \$15,000 grant from Enbridge to help Outreach clients with utilities. “We are expecting a second shipment of donated, brand-new Bombas socks—1,000 pair!—this summer,” Smith said.

Outreach coordinates the Tide Me Over backpack program, sending a weekly bag of food home to needy preschoolers through sixth-graders during the school year.

Cheryl Holloway, who oversees that TMO program, voiced Smith’s enthusiasm.

See Outreach on page 17.



Kelly Schmidt receives Outreach’s first shipment at the SAC.

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May Student of the Month: Eighth-grader Josephine Beutler



by Cindy Lance

When posed interview questions, this month's "Student of the Month" Josephine Beutler responded with a question herself. "Why was I chosen as Student of the Month? There are so many deserving students who bring much more to Stockbridge Schools, I am really just an average kid who tries to bring positivity to their school, while trying not to stand out." This spirit and humbleness are just a couple of the many reasons that she was selected by Junior High Principal Meghan Kunzelman.

Beutler lives in the community with her mother, Shannon; father, Allen, two brothers and two sisters (with two more sisters and a brother in heaven, by her words). She is the second youngest and some of her favorite pastimes are spent with her siblings playing outside, mostly soccer. Another of her hobbies includes playing video games with a specific love of old school "Call of Duty." Bow making, another hobby,

"Thank you to my teachers from Mrs. Pashkevich to Ms. Brooks, my elective teachers and all the staff," Josephine Beutler said. "Thank you to all my family and friends. You're my support and my source of happiness."

is an essential element in her style, along with reading books like "Divergent," "Gregor the Overlander," Harry Potter and any by Nicholas Sparks with the classic boy-meets-girl storyline.

Recently Beutler received leadership, fitness, and a few most-likely-to titles. She loves choir, English, history and theater. Her grades have been all As for three years straight. To say she is a driven young lady would be an understatement. She plans to graduate college in the ROTC program, fulfill her officer command in the Army, get married and have children, achieving her happily ever after. She wrote, "My grandparents taught me to be creative and kind, my parents gave me my strength and leadership skills, while my siblings taught me patience."

In her years spent in Stockbridge Schools, Beutler's most memorable moments have been the dances including her first semi-formal. She loves sporting events, assemblies and just being outside in the fresh air. The kindness of staff members and their willingness to help students stand out as great things about living in this area and attending the school.

When asked if there were any additional comments she wanted to share, Beutler broke into a long shout out.

"Thank you to my teachers from Mrs. Pashkevich to Ms. Brooks, my elective teachers and all the staff," she said. "Thank you to all my family and friends. You're my support and my source of happiness. Thank you God for my very life, I truly wouldn't be here if it wasn't for you thinking the world needed me in it."



John and Theresa Kightlinger

Ask an expert

by John and Theresa Kightlinger of My Body Shop

Vehicles these days are as advanced as computers. They are loaded with modules, sensors, cameras, and microprocessors. Because state-of-the-art technology is involved, it has become necessary to know that, when an accident

happens, your vehicle is repaired to pre-loss condition. Safety, function, performance and value are all at stake. That's why we are writing this column.

Basic rights — your vehicle, your choice

As a vehicle owner, be aware you do not have to take your vehicle to one of your insurance company's preferred shops. You have the right to choose to take your car to the shop of your choice. Choose wisely. Seek out a shop that will look out for you and your family's personal safety and economic well being.

We recommend consumers seek recommendations from those they trust and respect and then visit the suggested repairer and interview them just as one would make any other important financial decision. Once you have made your decision, request a written estimate of required repairs which promises to restore your vehicle to its pre-loss condition. This estimate should then be presented to the paying party as your claim and demand for damages.

Note: Understand that an estimate is just that, an estimate. It's not uncommon for additional and hidden damages to be discovered once repairs are started. For this reason be aware and make sure your insurer is aware that there may be additional damages, and costs may be forthcoming until all repairs are properly completed.

Have a question or experience you'd like answered or shared? Email mybodysshops@gmail.com. Maybe we'll select yours to answer in the next edition of "Ask an Expert."

John and Theresa Kightlinger own My Body Shop at 401 N. Clinton St., Stockbridge. The couple has lived in the area and raised their children here over the past 20 years. John has been in the auto body business since 1985, and Theresa began work at General Motors after high school. Between the two, they have been working on cars for more than 75 years.

SRSLY Stockbridge Community News is grateful to SRSLY for sponsoring 'Student of the Month'

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Letters we receive Surprise, surprise

Dear Editor:

What happens when an atheist newspaper reporter, award-winning legal affairs editor of the Chicago Tribune, no less, thoroughly investigates Christianity so as to prove to his wife that she was wrong to have become a Christian? In the case of Lee Strobel, he ends up writing a book titled "The Case For Christ."

After 21 months of reading books both for and against Christianity, thoroughly exploring and questioning experts in ancient history, archaeology, philosophy, medicine, psychology, and theology, he concluded that the avalanche of evidence pointed so powerfully toward the truth of Christianity that it would take more faith to maintain his atheism than to become a Christian.

Here are excerpts from his book to illustrate just some of that avalanche of evidence, which is very powerful if a person thinks about it carefully and closely with an open mind.

"After the crucifixion the disciples were fearful, doubtful about Jesus being sent from God, and in despair. They believed anyone crucified was accursed by God. Seeing him alive after crucifixion is what changed their lives and started the church. These were eleven credible people with nothing to gain and a lot to lose from a human point of view, facing a life of hardship, most of them ultimately tortured and executed, because they knew - they had seen him up close, talked with him, eaten with him.

"If they weren't absolutely certain, they wouldn't have allowed themselves to be tortured to death for proclaiming the resurrection had happened. Nobody knowingly and willingly dies for a lie. Saul of Tarsus persecuted and even executed Christians, but then did a complete 180 and became known as the Apostle Paul after, as he affirmed in his writing, he personally encountered the resurrected Christ. Why else would a man totally reverse his course of action, ultimately being executed himself, in order to devote the rest of his life proclaiming that Jesus willingly went through torture and died to pay for our sins but was resurrected by God?"

"Sir Lionel Luckhoo, the brilliant and savvy attorney whose astounding 245 consecutive murder acquittals earned him a place in The Guinness Book of World Records as the world's most successful lawyer, subjected the historical facts about the resurrection to his own rigorous analysis for several years before declaring, "I say unequivocally that the evidence for the resurrection of Jesus Christ is so overwhelming that it compels acceptance, by proof which leaves absolutely no room for doubt."

"Jesus' resurrection, not to mention his many miraculous feats of healing and other miracles that were witnessed by reliable sources, proves He is divine and is thus who He claimed to be — Son of God, the anointed one of God, the final Messiah. No leader of any other major religion has claimed to be God."

Concluded Strobel, "My journalistic skepticism toward the supernatural had melted in light of the breathtaking historical evidence that the resurrection of Jesus was a real, historical event. . . The atheism I had embraced for so long buckled under the weight of historical truth."

I have bought a few of "The Case For Christ" at Hobby Lobby for about \$10, and it is available at varying prices, probably most anywhere books are widely sold.

Larry White
Stockbridge

Editor's note: This is an abridged version of Larry White's letter. To read his complete letter and learn more about the evidence and "The Case for Christ," go online to stockbridgecommunitynews.com.

Catching up on my reading

Dear Editor:

My husband and I are new to the area, and it's great to have a publication that keeps us up-to-date on what's happening locally. My schedule sometimes causes me to have to catch up on a couple editions of the Stockbridge Community News in one sitting, which is why I'm just now writing to tell you how much I enjoyed reading about the couples who have been together for 50+ years (February edition).

Each story was special, but I especially enjoyed the story about the gentleman who saved up for his wife's wedding ring by collecting bounty on woodchucks! I was also very impressed with the March installment of "This I believe," written by student contributor Melanie Eskew. Her great-grandparents sound very special, and I'm glad she appreciates the memories she has of her great-grandpa.

Mary Jo David
Stockbridge

Leah Ogden leads in Pledge at Stockbridge Township Board Meeting

by Mary
Wilson

Leah Ogden opened the April 15, Stockbridge Township Board Meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Stockbridge Township is working to start renovations in the old ambulance area of the Hall. They also are planning to make improvements



C.G. Lantis presents certificate to Leah Ogden. Photo credit Mary Wilson

to the outside grounds of the Hall by adding new benches to replace old one, putting new light poles beside benches at the front of the Hall by the road, placing stone around canon instead of cement, replacing lights in poles to LED bulbs, removing and replacing two decaying trees, and to update sprinkler system.

The supervisors indicated the grounds will look beautiful when done, and the Board seeks to keep the Township Hall looking wonderful inside and out.

Unadilla and Stockbridge Townships are hosting a joint spring clean-up day Saturday May 18 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Unadilla Township Hall, 126 Webb Street, Gregory. All from both Townships are welcome to bring furniture, mattresses, stoves, washers, dryers, laptops, monitors, scrap metal and tires. This is a good time to get rid of unwanted items, and those with questions should call Stockbridge Township Offices, 517-851-7658.

Stockbridge Masonic Lodge along with Stockbridge Township will be doing Child ID program at Stockbridge Township Hall grounds on June 15, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This program gives parents a thumb drive that has fingerprints, dental impressions, voice recognition, and picture recognition of their children. There is no information kept by the Township or Masonic Lodge. This program is free to the public. Questions? Call Stockbridge Township Offices, 517-851-7658.

The Board is planning to have free outside movie nights on the Stockbridge Township Hall grounds. There will be no selling of items during the movie. The Board wants this to be a fun and free family event.

Supervisor, CG Lantis, adjourned the meeting.

VILLAGE OF STOCKBRIDGE SYNOPSIS
April 1, 2019 at 7 p.m.

Meeting called to order by President Howlett at 7:00 pm. Roll Call: PRESENT: President Molly Howlett, Pro-Tem Frederick Cattell, Trustee Greg Uihlein, Trustee Richard Mullins, ABSENT: Trustee Heath Corey, Trustee Chadwick Quintanilla, Trustee Patrick Harden; Others Present:Debbie Nogle, Village Clerk, Johnnie Torres, Police Chief, Citizens were also present, Pledge of Allegiance President Howlett led the pledge of allegiance.Approval of Agenda MOTION by Cattell SUPPORTED by Mullins to approve the April 1, 2019 agenda as presented. Motion carried with unanimous ayes. Approval of Minutes MOTION by Cattell, SUPPORTED by Uihlein to approve the minutes of March 4, 2019 as presented. Motion carried with unanimous ayes. Public Comment – None. PROCLAMATION: President Howlett introduced Eagle Scout Alexander Michael Stefan Sanford and read aloud his proclamation achievement. 2019 SDDA Plan Amendment: MOTION by Cattell, SUPPORTED by Mullins, APPROVED; Ordinance 2019-04.001 an Ordinance to Adopt and Approve the 2019 Amendment to the Village of Stockbridge Downtown Development Authority's Development Plan Pursuant to the Act 51 Public Acts of Michigan of 2018, as Amended.. AYES: Cattell, Mullins, Uihlein, Howlett NAYS: NONE ABSENT: Harden, Quintanilla, Corey MOTION PASSES FINANCIAL REPORT: Accounts Payable MOTION by Uihlein SUPPORTED by Mullins APPROVED; the accounts payable as presented by Clerk Nogle. AYES: Mullins, Uihlein, Cattell, Howlett NAYS: None ABSENT: Harden, Quintanilla, Corey MOTION PASSED President Report President Howlett – Elizabeth Street Culvert Grant Request was completed by David Artur Consultants and sent to MDOT for approval. (3) Aerators were returned from being repaired and will be installed back into the lagoons soon. Police Report – Police Chief Torres gave his report. NEW BUSINESS Special Assessments-Utility Bills MOTION by Corey, SUPPORTED by Uihlein, APPROVED; resolution approving the Delinquent Utility Bills to be Placed as a Lien Against the Premises Issued by the Tax Assessing Officer on the Tax Rolls. AYES: Uihlein, Mullins, Cattell, Howlett NAYES: NONE ABSENT: Corey, Quintanilla, Harden MOTION PASSES Public Comment- There were comments made by the public. ADJOURNMENT MOTION by Cattell, SUPPORTED by Uihlein, APPROVED to adjourn the Council Meeting at 8:04pm.

Respectfully submitted:
 Debbie Nogle,
 Village Clerk

Waterloo Township Board Unapproved Meeting Minutes 26 March 2019 7:00 P.M. 9773 Mt. Hope Road Munith, MI 49259

Call to Order: 7:00 p.m. Pledge Present: Lance, Walz, Kitley, McAlister, Morency. Also present: 6 residents.
 Public Comment: Jim Moss again asked the board to start the process for a speed study on Portage Lake Road from Seymour to Schrah Drive. There is too much speeding through the area and a lot of foot traffic. Lance assured him that it would be addressed. He is still concerned about the bike-a-thons through our Township. Kitley told him letters had been sent to all those in charge of previous events to ask for dates and routes for events so that we can let our residents know.
 Consent Agenda: Kitley motioned with support from Lance to approve the consent agenda as presented. Aye/all; no/none. Motion carried.
 Correspondence: The Resolution from MTA regarding our position on non-partisan township elections was tabled until the April meeting. It's not due until April 30
 Old Business: Walz gave a report on the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting. There is still talk of monthly events at the Township such as a farm market, local businesses bringing in their products for people to see, and a free library service. Lester Brothers will begin work on the walking path after frost laws are lifted. Someone has offered to make a sign. Possibility of rain garden being put in. Grass seed has been purchased for the footpath. She said that interest has been expressed on history of the cemeteries that Township owns. Lance stated that Five Healthy Towns is looking to have Mindfulness classes. An instructor is needed and fee structure. More information will come later. May 8th there will be a non-motorized vehicle public meeting here at the Township from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sarah Lightner, our State Representative will be here for an open coffee hour on May 3'd from 11:00 to 12:00. Everyone is invited to talk with her.
 New Business: Morency stated that the Planning Commission is looking at the Jackson County Master Plan and being checked into. There will be a public hearing on April 16at 7:00 p.m. regarding solar farms. Planning Commission also mentioned stand- alone extraction ordinances if desired by Board. Looking for things to consider regarding ordinance updates. Tiny house issues to be addressed in updated ordinances. They will be looking at policy, zoning and other things people need to know about what they can do

on their property. Beals gave us the Planning Commission Work Sheet for Tables of Uses, and Definitions in Zoning Ordinance to look over. He did a brief presentation regarding this. Looking for input regarding new land uses. Lance suggested reconsidering our Extraction Ordinance as currently written. It was suggested that the Extraction Committee and Board be invited to the Planning Commission meeting to give input. He also said we will need to watch what Jackson County Commission does regarding the Master Plan from their perspective on the comprehensive plan. They could have an impact on uses in our Township. • Kitley motioned with support from Walz to accept the HSC assessing contract which reflects a \$100/month increase putting it at \$2,850 beginning September 1, 2019. Roll call vote: Yes/Lance, Morency, McAlister, Walz, Kitley. No/none. Motion carried. • Lance motioned with support from McAlister that because Green Road is a Natural Beauty Road, it is our intention to have a public hearing on Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. here at the Township due to possible gravel extraction which would close a portion of it. Aye/all; no/none. Motion carried.
 Other Business That Comes Before The Board: Beals gave a presentation on problems with vehicular access to properties. It was extremely informative.
 Public Comment: Josh McAlister said he had been in contact with the supervisor from Henrietta Township regarding sharing the cost of a new emergency siren in the Munith Lions Park because it serves as many residents in Henrietta Township as does residents in Waterloo Township. When a quote is received, we will send them a copy for consideration of sharing the cost. Beals stated that regarding the non-partisan election issues coming from the MTA, he is favorable toward it. He asked the board to consider the option. He also stated how sad the loss of Rex Hannewald's life was.
 Adjournment: Lance motioned with support from Morency to adjourn at 8:50 p.m. Aye/all; no/none. Motion carried.
 The next Planning Commission meeting will be on Tuesday, April 16 , 2019 7:00 along with a public hearing regarding solar farms.. The next regular Board meeting will be on Tuesday, April 23, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in Minutes will be published in the Stockbridge Community News at the end of each month, on our website at www. waterlootwpmi.com and on our Facebook page at: waterlootownshipmichigan.
 Submitted by:
 Janice Kitley,
 Clerk

STOCKBRIDGE TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES April , 2019

Stockbridge Township Supervisor CG Lantis called the Regular Stockbridge Township Board Meeting to order on April 15, 2019 at 7:32 pm at the Stockbridge Township Hall. Members present at the Stockbridge Township Regular Board Meeting; Supervisor CG Lantis, Clerk Becky Muraf, Treasurer Kris Lauckner, Trustee Ed Wetherell Trustee Terry Sommer Member absent from meeting: None
 Pledge of Allegiance Lead by Leah Ogden
 Moment of Silence
 Citizen's Comments None
 Sommer motion to accept the Stockbridge Township Regular meeting agenda as written Wetherell second All in Favor Motion Carried.
 Sommer motion to except the Stockbridge Township Board Meeting Minutes as printed from March 18, 2019 Wetherell Second All in Favor Motion Carried
 Sommer Motion to accept The Stockbridge Township 2019-2020 Budget meeting as printed Lauckner Second All in Favor Motion Carried
 Wetherell motion to accept the March 27, 2019 Budget Hearing as printed with the correction of the second from last line in the fourth paragraph change Sommer Second to Wetherell Second. Sommer Second with corrections All in Favor Motion Carried
 Sommer motion to accept the Stockbridge Township Financial Report as printed Lauckner Second All in Favor Motion Carried
 Stockbridge Township Building Department first Quarterly report for 2019 is as followed Zoning 7 New Permits, Building 10 New Permits (2 New Houses/ 4 Pole Barns/2 Re-roof/1 Garage/1 Window), Electrical 2 New Permits, Mechanical 6 New Permits, Plumbing 0 New Permits, Driveways 2 New Permits, Addresses 2 New Permits,

Demolition 0 New Permits.

Old Business:
 Blueprints for Stockbridge Township Renovations are being worked on and should be done by July 1, 2019
 Sommer motion to have Lantis contact Dean Boyce to fix the humidifier water drain in the Stockbridge Township Old Fire Hall with a limit of \$ 300.00 Lauckner Second All in Favor Motion Carried
 Stockbridge Township is still education themselves on Marihuana
 New Business:
 Lauckner motion to add Ag use (provide Proof) to the Stockbridge Township Zoning, Building & Address Permit Application Sommer Second AL in Favor Motion Carried
 Sommer Motion to accept new building fees as followed Zoning Permit Administration fee to \$30.00, Addresses Administration fee to \$30.00, Driveway Permit Administration fee to \$30.00, Deck & Porches & Additions Plan review-Deck to \$60.00, Pole Barn Plan Review to \$ 60.00. Roll Call Vote Sommer Yes, Lauckner Yes, Wetherell Yes, Muraf Yes, Lantis Yes All in Favor Motion Carried
 Sommer motion that Stockbridge Township hire Jim Eccelton to take care of the Stockbridge Township square and Library Lawn Wetherell Second All in Favor Motion Carried
 Sommer motion to trust Lantis's judgement to look at bids on both trees since planting time is getting short Wetherell Second All in Favor Motion Carried
 Lantis motion to allow MS Bike Ride to use the square on July 20, 2019 thru July 21, 2019 Sommer Second All in Favor Motion Carried
 Sommer motion to pay Stockbridge Township bills in the amount of \$23,428.18 Lauckner Second All in Favor Motion Carried
 Lantis motion to adjourn the Stockbridge Township Regular Board meeting at 9:10 PM Lauckner Second All In Favor Motion Carried
 BM

UNADILLA TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT Activity from Feb. 15 to March 11, 2019

Thursday, 2/14 Property Damage Accident-M-36/Dexter Trail, Welfare Check-Spearswood Dr./Thorton Dr.
Friday, 2/15 Assist EMS-Orlando Dr/Oliver Ct., Assault Report-Main St./Dewey St.
Saturday, 2/16 Noise Complaint-Park Dr./Woodside Dr., Welfare Check-Main St./M-36, Assist Unadilla Township Fire Department/Barn Fire-Doyle Rd./VanSyckle Rd.
Sunday, 2/17 Welfare Check-Doyle Rd./Kane Rd.
Monday, 2/18 Verbal Domestic Disturbance-Bowdish Rd./Walnut Ln., Assist EMS-Orlando Dr./Oliver Ct., Assist Village of Pinckney Police Department-E. Main St./Stuart St.
Tuesday, 2/19 Property Damage Accident-Vehicle versus Deer-M-106/Dutton Rd.
Wednesday, 2/20 Animal Complaint-W. M-36/Arnold Rd., Suspicious Situation-W. Trebesh Cir./Winifred Ct.
Thursday, 2/21 Assist Unadilla Township Fire Department-Donohue Rd./Spears Rd., Assist Village of Pinckney Police Department-Livermore Rd./W. Trebesh Cir., Suspicious Situation-Woodside Dr./Lakeview Dr., Animal Complaint-Graves Rd./Doyle Rd., Welfare Check-Wasson Rd./Weller Rd.
Friday, 2/22 Property Damage Accident-Woodside Dr./Kaiser Rd., Property Damage Accident/Vehicle versus Deer-W. M-36/Arnold Rd.
Saturday, 2/23 Property Damage Accident/Car versus Deer-Dexter Trl./Dutton Rd.
Monday, 2/25 Property Damage Accident-Park Dr./Kaiser Rd.
Wednesday, 2/27 Personal Injury Accident-Worden Rd./Doyle Rd.
Friday, 3/01 Suspicious Vehicle-W. Lakeland Trl./Dutton Rd.
Saturday, 3/02 Road Hazard-Injured Deer-Bradley Rd./Wasson Rd., Larceny-San Luray Dr./San Marino Ave.
Sunday, 3/03 Domestic Verbal-Main St./Bullis Rd., Suspicious Person-Raspberry Ridge/Meadow Park Dr.
Monday, 3/04 Stalking-Kuhn St./Main St., Noise Complaint-Park Dr./Woodside Dr. Property Damage Accident-San Luray Dr./San Marino Ave.
Tuesday, 3/05 Welfare Check-Kuhn St./Main St.
Saturday, 3/09 Assist EMS-Williamsville Rd./Holmes Rd., Welfare Check-Berkshire Dr./Gregory Rd.
Monday, 3/11 Property Damage Accident
 Chief David S. Russell
 Unadilla Township Police Department
 126 Webb St.
 Gregory, MI 48137
 734-498-2325



Rural perspectives

by Rose Collison

Cottontail rabbits can be found throughout most of Michigan but are less common in the northern portions of the state. Cottontails prefer areas with ample vegetation and hiding places such as brush piles and thickets. Summertime foods include grasses, clover and garden vegetables. In the winter, they eat twigs, buds, and bark of many shrubs. Breeding can take place between March and September and

adult females could have up to three litters a year. Rabbits can breed at 2-3 months old. Females from the first spring litter can breed that same summer. Baby rabbits are born about a month later with little hair and their eyes closed. A cottontail's litter is usually three to eight babies. The mother only visits her nest once or twice a day to nurse her young. After about three weeks the young rabbits are weaned and on their own. Many predators, such as coyote, fox, hawks, and owls seek cottontails as prey.



The cottontail rabbit, out and about in search of grasses or clover for dinner.

After retiring from Stockbridge Community Schools, Rose Collison joined the board of Stockbridge Community News. She serves as volunteer photographer and manages the Where's Waldo contest. She and husband Ken have lived in the area for a number of years.



Eric Rasmussen studies the colors of objects as they warm up. The light given off slowly shifts from infrared light to visible red light. Warmer still objects become white. Crank the temperature all the way up, and objects glow blue.

The Wonders of Science: The sun is a yellow star...not

by Eric Rasmussen

We see this all the time. In drawings, animated shows, web content, educational books. Almost anywhere we turn, our sun always is portrayed as yellow.

In reality, stars can be one of three colors: red, white and blue. Now, this is not because the universe is inordinately patriotic, but because the color of stars is directly related to their surface temperature due to a physics phenomenon known as black-body radiation.



Almost anywhere we turn, our sun always is portrayed as yellow. In reality, stars can be one of three colors: red, white and blue.

Black-body radiation describes the relationship between the color of an object and its surface temperature. Cool objects shed heat in the infrared portion of the light spectrum. Humans represent one such object, which is why our bodies glow like light bulbs when on infrared cameras.

As objects warm up, the light given off shifts from infrared light to visible red light. Warmer still objects become white. Crank the temperature all the way up, and objects glow blue.

A star's surface temperature is dependent on how massive it is. Small stars have low surface temperatures; whereas the largest stars have the highest surface temperatures. Our sun is on the smaller side with a surface temperature of 10,000 degrees Fahrenheit. This results in its white coloration.

But let's not put the yellow Crayolas away. Yellow is a happy color.

Eric Rasmussen, BS, M.Ed., obtained his bachelor of science degree at the University of Colorado at Boulder. He majored in ecology and evolutionary biology, and now serves as a Learning Technology Coach at Erie High School and Erie Middle School in the St. Vrain Valley School District, CO.

It takes a community to stay safe. Call 811 before digging.



by Lou Kraus, Right of Way and Claims & Public Affairs Specialist at Wolverine Pipe Line Company, and SCN's Patrice Johnson

With springtime comes the urge to dig in the soil, to build, to excavate. But before you

jam that shovel into the earth to put up a mailbox or plant a tree, consider this: Underneath our neighborhoods and communities, stretching across farms and forests, crossing below streams and roads is a network of life-giving and life-threatening utility lines. Wires, pipes, cables and even tunnels thread unseen below the feet of us surface dwellers.

The United States has the highest per-capita energy use in the world, and its labyrinthine web possesses the amazing ability to bring our households heat, telecommunications, electricity, television and internet access. Tubes drain away rushing stormwaters and deliver fresh water to our homes and schools. About 2.4 million miles of oil and gas pipelines deliver most of the energy that fuels the vehicles we drive. In some locations, national defense communication lines, mass transit, rail and road tunnels also compete for underground space.

See Digging on page 17.

Ever wonder what the color-coded paint means? Here's the key used by U.S. companies:

- █ Red: Electric Power Lines, Cables, Conduit & Lighting Cables
- █ Yellow: Gas Oil, Steam, Petroleum or Gaseous Materials
- █ Orange: Communication, Cable TV, Alarm or Signal Lines, Cables or Conduit
- █ Blue: Potable Water
- █ Green: Sewers and Drain Lines
- █ Purple: Reclaimed Water, Irrigation and Slurry Lines
- █ Pink: Temporary Survey Markings
- █ White: Proposed Excavation

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Adult Cleaning	\$95	2 at no charge
Fluoride	\$49	2 at no charge
Emergency Exam	\$85	1 at no charge

COSMETIC DENTISTRY

Service	Our Fee	Your Cost
Zoom Whitening	\$399. ⁰⁰	\$339. ¹⁵
Clear Aligner Braces	\$5,500. ⁰⁰	\$4,675. ⁰⁰

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A look back in time

by Diane Rockall



One hundred years ago in May 1919, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows celebrated its 100-year anniversary, the Order at that time was a major international organization.

Liberty iron workers were given German helmets for distinguished service during the just-ended war with Germany. The helmets were confiscated when Germany was defeated.

These two stories led the news for the Stockbridge Brief-Sun in early May 1919. On a local note, eggs cost 12 cents per dozen and butter was priced at 35 to 50 cents per pound. North Waterloo UB Church held an evangelical meeting featuring R.I. Chapman as speaker. The local Eastern Stars elected officers. Servicemen still stationed in peacetime Germany continued to write home. Earl Smith was in Krupp, Germany, where he wrote that the weather was nice and warm.

Internationally, Moscow and Petrograd (earlier St. Petersburg and later Stalingrad) had a severe food shortage raising prices on horse, dog and cat meat. At the same time, people were dying in the street of typhus. There were reports that dead bodies awaiting burial were lying in the cemetery.

May 1929

Ten years later in May 1929, comic strips made an appearance in the local paper. In May of that year, veterans were encouraged to file for adjusted service certificates. The high school Junior Hop dance was a great success.

Concerns were being raised nationwide for the number of automobile fatalities. In the first 18 months of reporting, more than 77,000 deaths had been reported, the Brief-Sun reported from government statistics.

Stockbridge's bond issue for a new school was approved. Livingston County announced orchard spraying. The village of Munith held a community birthday party. The Stockbridge Exchange Club held a pep meeting. A Mother-Daughter Banquet was held at the Fitchburg Grange Hall. The Ingham County Extension Service announced preliminary plans for an electric farm vehicle coming soon.

Memorial Day exercises were held May 30. After the program, Stockbridge played Consumers Power in a baseball game.

Perhaps from the presentation of this piece those who are regular readers will notice that the microfilm reader has finally returned to the Stockbridge CADL library and is ready for use once again.

Diane Rockall serves in several capacities as a member of the Stockbridge Community News Board of Directors.



In May 1929 a Stockbridge bond issue for a new school was approved. Ninety years later, in April 2019, the building referred to as the Old Middle School was sold to Mike Dalton and is now the Stockbridge Activity Center. Photo credit Patrice Johnson



New police officer and horse rescuer comes full circle

by Chief John Torres

Employee retention ranks high among the challenges a small town police chief faces, and it was no surprise when a few folks in Stockbridge asked, "Who is the new officer?" It is my pleasure to introduce Kevin Marshall: police officer, husband, father and horse rescuer.

Officer Marshall joined Stockbridge Police Department in February and is currently assigned as the school resource officer for the Stockbridge School District. But this new hire is no stranger to the community.

Officer Marshall was raised in Stockbridge and graduated from Stockbridge High School in

2000. His wife Kristen graduated from SHS, too.

"We're both from the area," the officer said. "Our moms and dads are all from the area." Kristen Marshall teaches preschool in Holt, and the couple has three children. Daughter Carley, 9, and Caitlyn, 5, attend Stockbridge Schools. Conner is 3.

"It's a busy house," Marshall chuckled.

Marshall attended Lansing Community College and graduated with an associates degree in law enforcement and emergency medical services. After college, he moved to New Orleans and worked as a patrolman, crime scene investigator, and detective for the New Orleans Police Department. A few years ago, Marshall accepted a position with the Lansing Community College Police Department and moved back to Michigan. Prior to taking the job with SPD, he worked briefly as a police officer for the cities of Leslie and Lansing.

The Marshalls own a home in the area, and the family works with rescue and rodeo horses. They currently have 10 horses, three of which are Officer Marshall's "charity cases" as he calls them. Of the rescues, two were abused; one was neglected.

"They're recovering well," he said. "They were on their way to be slaughtered. Now one is actually coming back and will be ride-able. It's kind of nice to take something that someone has thrown away and see it come back to life and thrive again." Eldest daughter Carley is showing promise as a competition barrel racer, he added with pride.

How does he feel about returning to his roots?

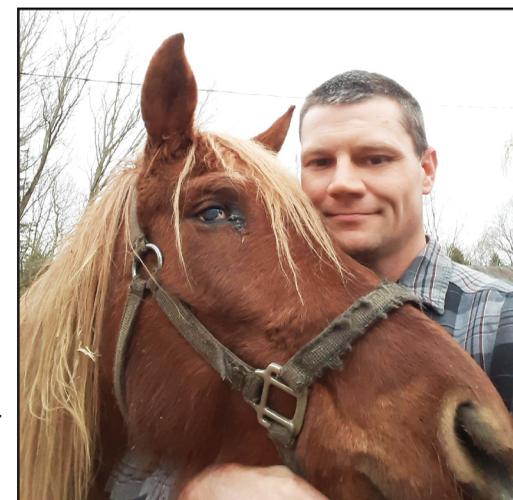
Marshall indicated he is grateful to return home and looks forward to using all his training, knowledge and experience to serve the community that raised him.

"Some things have changed, but a lot of things have stayed the same," he said. "I'm absolutely glad to be back."

Be vigilant. Be safe.

Chief Torres

Chief Torres, a native of Flint, joined the Stockbridge Police Department in 2009 and became its chief in 2011. He holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan-Flint and is married with two adult children.



Officer Kevin Marshall pictured with Satin, blinded when a competitor sprayed hair spray in her eyes. "The owner sold her to be slaughtered, but I stepped in," Marshall said. "She can be ridden and does great with children."



Marshall children with Sassy, a 3-foot-tall mini carousel horse. "The circus sells them for meat after they age out," Kevin Marshall said. "I took Sassy in and trained her to be a leader animal for the blind one."

May's 'Where's Waldo' mystery location

Think you know the area? Here's a chance to prove it. Each month, SCN photographer Rose Collison is selecting a mystery location within the Stockbridge School District. Names of readers who correctly identify the subject of the photo will be entered into a drawing, and one overall winner will be selected.

May's winner will receive a \$20 Farmers State Bank Branded Prepaid Visa gift card. Thank you to Farmers State Bank.

Congratulations to last month's winner, Nate Glenn, for correctly identifying the photo of Nichol's Lake off Brogan Road.

To participate, enter your best guess as to the subject of the photo along with your name, address



Recognize the subject of this picture and its location? Enter to win a \$20 Farmers State Bank Branded Prepaid Visa gift card. Photo credit Rose Collison

and phone number. Email Rose at stockbridgecommunitynews@gmail.com or snail mail to Stockbridge Community News (c/o Rose), P.O. Box 83, Gregory, MI 48137.

Entries must be dated or postmarked no later than May 10.



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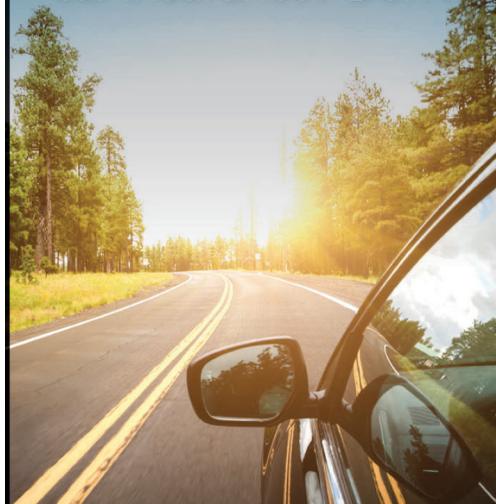
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Stockbridge Community News is happy to recognize and honor our local nurses

**National Nurses Week
May 6 to May 12**



Recognition of Stockbridge Area Nurses

Nurse's name	Years experience	Last worked at
Angie Adiska RN, ADN	9	Saint Joseph Mercy Chelsea (SJMC)
Karen Barbour RN	Approx. 40	Saint Joseph Mercy Chelsea
Danielle Barr RN		
Kathleen Bishop RN		Sparrow Hospital
Sarah Bouchard APRN, FNP-C	2	Planned Parenthood, Burlington, VT
Brook Boyd RN		
Elaine Boyd RN	25 plus	Saint Joseph Mercy Chelsea (SJMC)
Joann Brooks RN	15 plus	Michigan Medicine University of Michigan
Diane Howe	Approx. 40	Saint Joseph Mercy Chelsea
Edie Lindeburg MSN, RN, ACNP-BC	31	Presbyterian/St. Luke's Medical Center, Denver, CO
Debbie Lockhart RN, ADN		
Michelle Lockhart RN	Approx. 20	Henry Ford Allegiance Health
Lezlie Loundsberry RN, BSN	45	Saint Joseph Mercy Chelsea (SJMC)
Beth McLellan RN, IBCLC	41	Retired—Sparrow Hospital Lansing
Joe Moscato RN	Approx. 5	Care Link in Jackson
Autumn Munsell	Approx. 15	Saint Joseph Mercy Chelsea
Stacey Pena RN		Saint Joseph Mercy Chelsea
Julie Perron RN, ADN	19	Saint Joseph Mercy Chelsea
Marianne Pratt RN, ADN	10	Saint Joseph Mercy Chelsea
Amber Quinn RN	15	Saint Joseph Mercy Chelsea
Lindsey Quinn RN		Saint Joseph Mercy Chelsea (SJMC)
Emily Reilly RN, BSN	6	Thome PACE
Jackie Rhines RN, ADN	37	Saint Joseph Mercy Chelsea (SJMC)
Judy Richards RN	39	Sparrow Hospital
Deb Casey Rivard RN, BSN	30	Saint Joseph Mercy Chelsea (SJMC)
Karen Salow RN, BSN	30 plus	Sparrow Hospital Lansing
Audra Salyer	18	Henry Ford Allegiance Health
Peg Smith RN, BSN	35 plus	Retired—Saint Joseph Mercy Chelsea (SJMC)
Julie Snyder RN		Michigan Medicine University of Michigan
Susie Stephens RN	27	Henry Ford Allegiance Health
Phyllis Stutzman RN, BSN	25 plus	Saint Joseph Mercy Chelsea
Amy Tomlin RN	45	Sparrow Hospital Lansing
Jordon Topping RN		Saint Joseph Mercy Chelsea (SJMC)
Joan Tucker RN, BSN	39	Retired—Saint Joseph Mercy Chelsea (SJMC)
Mariah Ward RN, BSN	2	Michigan Medicine University of Michigan
Emily Whitaker RN		Henry Ford Allegiance Health
Greg Wisman RN	4	Henry Ford Detroit - ICU

** We realize this information is incomplete, but wanted to recognize as many RNs as possible. We regret not having the ability to include all RNs & LPNs.**

New Onondaga Dragway closes again...for now



Haizy Mae Haindel, at 10 years old, raced all 2018 in a lower class based on her age, with a maximum speed of 52 mph. This year she would have been able to increase her speed to a 65 - 70 mph class. User provided photo

by Tina Cole-Mullins

The recent closing of the new Onondaga Dragway's short, eighth-of-a-mile track in Onondaga, Mich., has left several local and area drag racers unsure where to turn, or even if they will continue racing.

Stockbridge residents Steve and Cindy Mullins were looking forward to this season's opening day. "My husband's car sat for almost 20 years. It seems everyone remembers Steve from his '69 Camaro back in high school... when he meets up with people from high school, they always ask if he still has the car. He is proud to say he still does!" Cindy Mullins related. "Once Onondaga opened, he actually had an agenda to pull it out again."

Mullins indicated her husband had been working on the vehicle for two years to get it ready. She said she and her husband planned to take it out this year "and are crushed." Milan would be their next closest track, but she said, "We would have to get a trailer—more of an expense to what we have already put in for this. I was looking forward to racing Jimmy Long."

Jim Long, also of Stockbridge, had the opportunity to run his '87 Camaro a half dozen times during the 2018 season. "I work a lot of weekends, so didn't make it out as much as I liked," he said. "I was planning on going there a lot this year."

See Onondaga on page 18.



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Memorial page 1



Jim Aust stayed for three days, sleeping in John Donohue's bedroom, all too aware that just 5 or 6 months prior he was sleeping there as a 17-year-old kid. Each morning he took John's dog for a run over the hills of the farm. When he returned, Mrs. Donohue always had coffee waiting. Then the two would sit at the kitchen table, and she would cry. User provided photo

Established in 1868 as Decoration Day, Memorial Day is a day to honor the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for this nation. Their sacrifices changed the order of history, and their families miss them daily. Here are two perspectives on the loss of young John Martin Donohue, 18, who shipped off to Vietnam and returned draped under a flag.

This reporter's story as his sister:

The day was Sunday, and I was home from college to celebrate my father's birthday. I was getting ready to go to church and out to dinner with my parents. Dad knocked on my bedroom door and told me to come quickly. I walked into the living room. My Mom was sitting on the sofa sobbing in the presence of two strangers in Marine uniforms.

I sat down beside her and held her as one of the Marines started talking. He explained that my brother had been killed in action six days earlier. He kept talking, but I stopped hearing. I remember the look on Dad's face and the sound of his voice as he looked at the Marines and said, "Today is my birthday."

The next few days were a fog. I was a sophomore at Michigan State University and stayed home with my family until after the funeral. I had to drop a couple of classes because it was impossible to catch up after missing their labs. A constant stream of friends and family visited, bringing food and flowers. Everyone shared stories of the past that made us laugh and cry at the same time.

A week later, my parents were contacted about the arrival of my brother's remains. The evening was late as Dad left to accompany Bill Caskey, the undertaker, to the airport to pick up my brother and bring him home. The next morning, I awoke to find a strange young man, the escort, at our home.

It seemed strange to have Jim Aust sleeping in my brother's room and going for runs with our family dog. I have often wondered how he felt about staying with our family during this grief-stricken time, so now I have asked him, and here is his story:

Jim Aust's story:

I was assigned the job of payroll at the Philadelphia Naval Base working in the Marine Corps Supply Depot. Only two things happened of any note for the next 14 months until I was discharged. First, I met Barbara, who one day agreed to be my wife. Second, I was given orders to escort a young Marine home who had been killed in Vietnam.

John Martin Donohue was 17 when he enlisted in the Marine Corps. He was sent to Guam to wait because you couldn't be in combat until you were 18. He turned 18 on Aug. 4, 1968, and was sent to Vietnam on Sept 7. Nine days later, on Sept 16, he was killed in combat.

It took two weeks for U.S. forces to recapture the area and recover the bodies. John returned home on Sept. 30.

I was assigned the honor of escorting his body home. His parents, I was informed, lived in a central Michigan town called Gregory, and they lived on a farm. John had one sister, Judy.

I went to Dover, Delaware, to the Marine Corps mortuary center to sign for John's body. My orders were to stay with the remains until the family took charge. I was to watch the loading of the casket on the plane and get off the plane when it landed to be sure it was properly unloaded. We had one stop along the way, and there I was to get off the plane, stand on the tarmac and watch to ensure no one accidentally unloaded the casket.

Afterward, I reboarded the plane. We landed in Detroit at midnight, and Mr. Donohue and the undertaker were standing on the tarmac waiting. I was to sign the remains over and ask if I could stay for the funeral. Mr. Donohue said of course I could stay, and I would stay at their house.

I stayed for three days, sleeping in John's bedroom, all too aware that just five or six months prior he was sleeping there as a 17-year-old kid. Each morning I took his dog for a run over the hills of the farm. When I returned, Mrs. Donohue always had coffee waiting. Then she and I would sit at the kitchen table, and she would cry.

I didn't know what to do or say. I was 21 years old. Each afternoon and evening for two days, we went to the funeral home for the wake. I stood in the back in uniform, and people often came up to me thinking that I was a friend of John's.

The day of the funeral, a Marine Corps color guard arrived from Detroit to give military honors. They shot their rifles and folded the flag to give to the parents. But Mrs. Donohue would not take the flag from the Marine captain. Instead, she asked that he give it to me, so that I could present the flag to her.

That was one of the most heart-wrenching days of my life. To this day, tears flood my eyes when I think about her.

Years after the Marine Corps, I found John's name on the Wall in Washington, D.C. I placed my hand over it remembering his mom, dad, and sister.

Remember, Memorial Day was set aside to honor all those who have died in service while defending the United States. Each name is a story of a person who did not live his or her life to its full potential, and this story is intertwined with families whose lives were changed forever.

You tell me. Has making Memorial Day part of a three-day weekend undermined the true meaning of the day?

Outreach page 9

The program had outgrown the old trailer a couple of years ago, she said, and they rented a room from the school district as soon as rooms became available.

"It's nice to now be in the same building with the rest of the Outreach programs and not to have to tromp through the snow to give Karen receipts," she said. "And we no longer have to have our food orders dropped in the parking lot. They can deliver the heavy pallets right inside the double doors, directly into our main food pantry."

Outreach is open Mondays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Wednesdays from 1 to 6 p.m. and can be accessed through door #20. Park in the back parking lot off of Elm and Cherry Streets.

Digging page 13

Each time a dig happens, there's a real risk of explosive effects from arcing current and associated flames. Coming into contact with a live power line can cause severe injuries and, in some cases, even death. Add to that, damage to underground lines can incur major expense and pollute the environment.

In the United States, anyone digging is required by law to check for underground facilities. The U.S. Federal Communications Commission assigned the 811 telephone number to create the One Call System, so landowners and contractors have a single point of contact to notify all utility companies of their intention to dig.

A single call to 811 will prompt utility companies to come out and mark underground lines. There is no charge for this service.

The leading cause of damage to underground pipelines comes from third party excavation or when individuals are digging. Time and time again, preventable accidents occur because this simple step of calling 811 is overlooked or thought unnecessary.

Whether undertaking a small household project or a more extensive one like putting in a swimming pool or building a deck in the backyard—any time you put a shovel into the ground—it is crucial to call 811.

According to a statement from Wolverine Pipe Line Company, safe underground oil and gas distribution "takes a partnership between the community and us, the pipeline operator."

Last year, Wolverine reported a near-miss situation in which a local farmer was putting up a pole barn on his property and did not follow the law by calling 811 beforehand.

"This man was a mere 8 inches away from striking our pipeline with equipment," a company spokesperson wrote. "Luckily, we were able to catch the activity in our right of way on one of our routine patrols, but if he'd decided to dig less than a foot from where he did, it could have been a serious incident."

Here are standard safe digging tips for those who plan to excavate:

- Contact 811 by calling 811 or visit call811.com at least three working days before digging to have underground utilities marked.
- Wait to start projects until all lines are marked or cleared by the utility. This can be confirmed by contacting the 811 system.
- Respect the marks and dig with care, especially when using power equipment. If your project is within 4 feet of the utility marks, modify your plans and stay more than 4 feet from the marks, or use a wooden handle shovel to carefully expose the lines before starting excavation.
- Ask your contractor to confirm 811 has been contacted before allowing digging work to proceed.

SCN page 3



Judy Williams

Winning first-place entries were:

- Judy Williams, In-Depth Reporting for "Thank You Veterans." The judge said, "It was a very nice story about an event worthy of recognition."
- Patrice Johnson, News story, print-based newspaper for "Michigan Department of Education visits Stockbridge Schools." "Nice use of adjectives to make what could be a routine story come to life," the judge said.
- Patrice Johnson, Continuing coverage or unfolding news for "Consultant calls for immediate evacuation of downtown Stockbridge retail building."
- Patrice Johnson, Personality profile more than 500 words for "Staff Spotlight: Michelle Burke adds STEAM to STEM at Smith Elementary." The judge wrote, "Solid story with lots of quotes and background."
- Patrice Johnson, Specialty articles, education for "Stockbridge Township's property tax valuations rise 25 percent last year." "Property taxes, valuations and money stories are tough to write about and difficult for the average reader to understand. You did a good job of making the information understandable and explaining why district taxpayers should care," the judge said.

The entries winning second-place awards were:

- Eric Rasmussen, Informational Column, online news and information for "A Gene Mutates in the Forest, and We See Red." Colorado chapter of NFPW.
- Hope Salyer, Feature Story, print-based newspaper. "Good story and well written with lots of references," the judge said.
- Hope Salyer, Videos for the Web, non-profit or government organizations. "I was happy to see women interviewed since that was also a part of the target audience you wanted to reach," the judge said. "The videos get the message across and are very informative."
- Patrice Johnson, Public Service for Stockbridge Community News (Judge's comments at beginning of this article on Page 3.)

The entry awarded an honorable mention was:

- Patrice Johnson, Feature story for "A butterfly's wings: S.A.E.S.A.'s move to cause ripple effects," The judge said the story was well researched.

NFPW is a nationwide organization of women and men pursuing careers across the communications spectrum, including print and electronic journalism, freelancing, new media, books, public relations, marketing, graphic design, photography,



Patrice Johnson



Hope Salyer



Eric Rasmussen

Onondaga page 16

"I put a lot of money into my car—I just bought a NOS (nitrous oxide system) so I can go faster."

Asked if he would continue racing at the Milan dragway, Long replied, "Don't know yet, my heart is at Onondaga. I remember going there when I was a kid. Have had some fun times there with all my friends."

After years of legal battles and the recent death of the new dragway's initiator and co-owner, Dan Pranshka on Jan. 21, 2019, it seemed the new Onondaga Dragway was finally here to stay. The operation completed a full 2018 season and planned another full season of racing for 2019 to begin the first weekend of April. Then the devastating blow came. In early March, the Michigan Court of Appeals ruled against the New Onondaga Dragway, and lawyers advised them to close while they plan their next step.

"We are fighting this!" Marcie Seavolt, spokesperson for the dragway community said. Seavolt vowed to carry on Pranshka's dream of resurrecting the Onondaga Dragway. "One man's dream became the dream of a community. We just want to move forward with Dan's dream and honor the wishes of the community and supporters who want us to keep it open."

Another Stockbridgian, Brian Diffenbaugh, recalled going there as a kid with his dad. "I thought it was pretty cool we could go there now with him and the family and, on occasion, race. I've never raced in the big money events, just to test. I did race my '92 Dakota truck with a 408 Stroker in the Capital Area Career Center Alumni Race last year and saw my old instructors, which was pretty memorable."

For many it was a family event, with even the kids racing, as is the case with Haizy Mae Haindel, of Onondaga. Her father, Ryan Haindel, bought his daughter her own Junior Dragster race car in the fall of 2017.

"I told her about the dragway having opened, and we lived close by, so she wanted to give it a try," he remembered. Haizy Mae, at 10 years old, raced all 2018 in a lower class based on her age, with a maximum speed of 52 mph. This year she would have been able to increase her speed to a 65 - 70 mph class.

When asked what triggered her interest in racing, she said, "I liked the idea of a kid being able to drive," and, with a giggle, agreed she "likes the idea of beating the boys, too." Would she look for another venue? She shook her head. "I'm not interested in racing anywhere else right now. I want to wait until we see what happens...if the track stays closed, I will sell my car and buy something else."

Seavolt, dragway owner Raymond Comer, and the drag racing community are fighting to keep the dream alive and bring the New Onondaga Dragway back. The situation has become national news among the racing community, and in the first seven days of fundraising, they have generated more than \$70,000, averaging \$10,000 a day.

Seavolt confided, "There's still a great deal of uncertainty before us, and raising the money for court costs and legal fees is just the start. We have a very short amount of time to take action in moving forward." Funds raised are targeted to go toward the appeal of the recent court decision, past and future legal fees, and ongoing operations.

Will Dan's dream and the new Onondaga Dragway die along with him? Not if the community has any say in it. "We can't stop. We won't stop!" Seavolt declared.

Those who would like may donate to the GoFundMe campaign at www.gofundme.com/fight-for-our-community-dragway or donate in person at the official cash donation drop-off site, the Onondaga Tavern, 5576 Oak St., Onondaga.

Project launches to interpret history along the Mike Levine Lakelands Trail



by Daniel Spegel

Thirty people attended a meeting at the Stockbridge Library on Wed., March 27 to learn about a project that will interpret history along the Mike Levine Lakelands Trail from Hamburg to Jackson. Dan Spegel, Heritage Trail coordinator for the Michigan DNR's Michigan History Center, and Josh Kaminski, graduate student from Eastern Michigan University, facilitated the meeting, hosted by the Stockbridge Area Wellness Coalition, Capital Area District Libraries and the Stockbridge Area Genealogical-Historical Society.

Spegel launched the meeting with a presentation on the value of adding history to the trail.

"The landscape and communities along a trail are like the last page you've read in a book," Dan Spegel said. "For it to make sense, you need to know what the previous chapters say." Photo credit Josh Kaminski.

"The landscape and communities along a trail are like the last page you've read in a book," he said. "For it to make sense, you need to know what the previous chapters say. That's what adding natural and cultural history does, it provides context for that place. It identifies why this place is special and unique, which enriches the trail experience." Spegel added that the history interpreted on the trail should be authentic and inclusive.

Attendees were then given an opportunity to share what they felt were the important historical stories and topics along the trail corridor. One person said Stockbridge was a portage point between the Huron and Grand River watersheds, making it possible for Native Americans to travel from Lake Erie to Lake Michigan almost entirely by canoe.

Other stories touched on the old Bartlett Resort on Pleasant Lake that hosted major acts like the Glenn Miller Band. Others discussed the important role that Hispanic and Appalachian migrant workers have played in building these agricultural communities.

Moving forward, Kaminski will lead a committee to determine which topics and stories should be shared on the trail. This group also will identify historical resources and images to develop the interpretive panels. Anyone interested in participating on this committee and all who have historical images or stories that could be useful for the project, please contact Kaminski at jkamins9@emich.edu.

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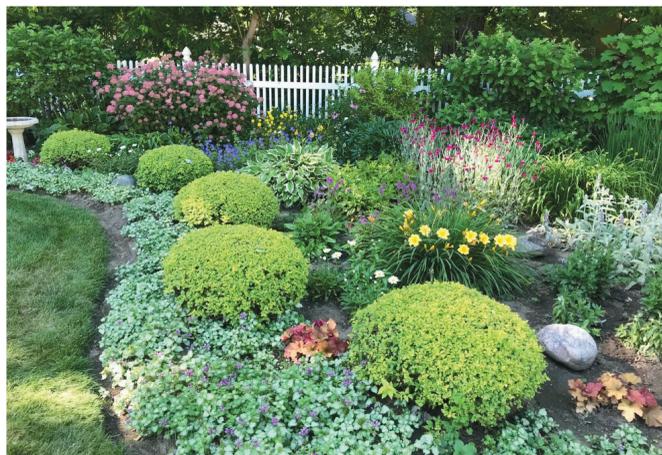


E=

Fishing wisdom. We didn't check the tackle box the night before, or get up before sunrise. But we did power the boat that would help him realize there's more to fishing than just catching fish. When the energy you invest in life meets the energy we fuel it with, beautiful things happen.



May Garden of the Month



A judge wrote, "This beautiful Spring garden offers many shades of green with a lovely white picket fence to show off the beautiful flowers."

readers will vote for their favorite garden. The winner will receive a \$25 gift certificate from Tulip Tree Gardens. To enter, email your photos to StockbridgeCommunityNews@gmail.com and use "Gardens" as the subject. Include your name, physical address of the garden, and a phone number.

by Joan Tucker

Dear Readers,
Congratulations to Susan Daily of Stockbridge, May "Garden of the Month" contest winner. A judge wrote, "This beautiful Spring garden offers many shades of green with a lovely white picket fence to show off the beautiful flowers."

We love your garden pictures! Send up to five photos by the 10th of each month. The contest will run from May 2019 - March 2020. Stockbridge Area Garden Club will select a garden to feature each month. In March 2020,



Stockbridge Community News is grateful to Pathway Landscape for sponsoring this garden contest.



(517) 745-6350 | Todd Schray | www.pathwaylandscape.biz

Vision loss in modern-day America: A series on blindness

Part I: Answering important questions about blindness



Many people may know someone affected by blindness, but may not understand the condition or how it impacts the lives of those impaired. Vision loss comes in many different forms and can influence a person's life in myriad ways. User provided photo

by Jill Marie Ogden

An estimated 3% of Americans are considered legally blind, and this population is expected to grow in coming years as the baby boomers head into their golden years. Age-related diseases such as macular degeneration, cataracts, diabetic retinopathy and glaucoma are the leading causes of blindness.

Many people may know someone affected by blindness, but may not understand the condition or how it impacts the lives of those impaired. Vision loss comes in many different forms and can influence a person's life in myriad ways.

Over the next few months, this series will examine aspects of blindness and how it is affecting people in modern-day America. First, let us begin with an overview of blindness and answer some important questions.

See Vision on page 21.

Seeking Father's Day nominations



User provided photo

June 16 is Father's Day, and SCN is planning to feature—you guessed it—dads. If you would like to recognize an outstanding father, please tell SCN what makes him special in 300 words or less on or before May 13. Send with photo to stockbridgecommunitynews@gmail.com or mail us at P.O. Box 83, Gregory, MI 48137.

Memorial Day tribute to Stockbridge's soldier monument and cannon

by Ron and Arlene Kaiser

Stockbridge: On July 27, 1894, the president of G.H. Ewing Women's Relief Corps (W.R.C.), Mrs. M. J. Brownell, asked the E. H. Ewing Post of the G.A. R. (Grand Army of the Republic) to begin working for a permanent monument, and though the question was often discussed, no action was taken until May 22, 1896, when \$15 was deposited as a starter of the monument fund.

From lectures, ice cream socials, dinners on election days, quilts and comfortables sold, patriotic entertainments, rummage sales and socials, the sum steadily grew until Post and Corps had on interest \$400. In August, 1904, the Post believed the time had come in which the good people of Stockbridge and vicinity would like to help toward this memorial of our country's defenders. A soliciting committee was appointed. A. G. Miller headed the list with \$100. C. E. DePuy, Frank P. Glazier, our genial state treasurer, and Stockbridge Elevator Co. each gave \$100. Through the kindly interest of F. E. Ives, the Stockbridge Agricultural Association donated the surplus left in their treasury, \$100 or more. The subscription grew by \$50s, \$25, \$10s \$5s and on down to day's labor given, which were duly appreciated by the committee.

A meeting of the Post and citizens was called in January 1905. A Monument committee was appointed of citizens, the W.R.C. and the Post and Corps. Bids were solicited from different cities in the state. The Firm of Leslie and Mitchell of Jackson was awarded the contract to furnish a Barrie Granite Monument for \$1,300, to be in place for May 30, 1905. With the consent of the township board the monument was placed on the northwest corner of the public square.

To A. G. Miller is due, more than to any other, the placing of the mounted cannon, donated from the U. S. Arsenal at Watervliet, N.Y. to E. H. Ewing Post of the G. A. R. on an opposite corner of the square from the monument.

These reminders of the trials and triumphs of the Union soldiers of the Civil War will be an object lesson to the generations to come of the loyalty and public spirited patriotism of the citizens of Stockbridge.

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Vision page 20

Next, we will take a look at basic life skills and coping mechanisms. Finally, we will explore how advancements in technology and the medical field are helping the blind.

First, here are some answers to basic and common questions about blindness.
What does it mean to be legally blind?

When visual acuity is 20/200 or less after correction or the visual field is less than 20 degrees, a person is deemed legally blind.

What does a blind person look like?

Only a small fraction of legally blind people are totally blind and less than 10% use a mobility device such as a white cane or dog guide. Others prefer to rely on their remaining vision or go with a sighted guide. There are no guidelines for what blind people look like. They are just as diverse as the rest of the population.

Does blindness limit opportunities such as education or employment?

The level of visual impairment, available resources, an individual's determination and public perception are a few elements that factor into this question. Certainly, many highly successful people are blind. Statistically speaking, less than 30% of the blind population is employed full time, and another 30% live under the poverty level.

I know someone who is experiencing vision loss. How can I help them?

There are many resources available. A start is to contact a local state organization. In Michigan it is called the Bureau of Services for Blind Persons. Additionally, the National Federation for the Blind (NFB) or American Council of the Blind (ACB) are excellent starting points.

If I see a blind person, should I offer to help them?

Before helping someone, you should always ask if the person wants help and be prepared to expect no as an answer. Many people are trained to handle things such as street crossings and help may be more of a hindrance. If help is accepted, then ask what can be done to best help. A blind person will be able to tell someone what he or she is most comfortable with.

A tip: When approaching blind people, it is helpful to greet them by saying hello and stating your name. They may not be able to identify you by your voice alone at first.

Coming in June: Basic life skills and some coping mechanisms.



From the superintendent's desk Junior High Panther Pride

In our second year as a Junior High and under the leadership of Meghan Kunzelman, students are finding success as our eighth-grade students are ready to transition to Senior High.

Our Junior High fosters collaboration among staff and has a focus that is both student- and subject-centered. Our staff focuses as an interdisciplinary team that works toward both the academic and emotional needs of our students. Our educational focus consists of four core subjects daily with a wide array of exploratory courses, ranging from fine arts to STEM. During the day and after school, our students have the opportunity to be part of structured activity programs, which includes extracurricular and athletics.

Increasing our support network for students continues to be a priority. One benefit to our students and families that assist in meeting their career, educational planning, and emotional needs is the addition of Natalie Kinsella, junior high school counselor. Providing our seventh- and eighth-grade students support from teacher teams, counselor, social worker, and administration is very important to the development of a positive school climate. Our goal is to continue to strengthen the support network and partnerships we have with our school families and students.

Our staff is working diligently to ensure we have a network of support for our current sixth graders transitioning to Junior High, as well as our eighth graders transitioning to ninth grade. Our matter of highest importance is to continue to provide students with the most rigorous and relevant educational opportunities possible during their junior high school experience.

Sincerely,
 Karl Heidrich,
 Superintendent

Karl Heidrich has been an administrator for Stockbridge Community Schools since 1999 and has been the Superintendent of Schools since 2013.

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Stockbridge Masonic Lodge gives surprise donation



by Mary Wilson

Terry Wireman, Stockbridge Heritage School librarian, wrote a letter to the Stockbridge Free and Accepted Mason Lodge 130. In it, she stated that the school would appreciate any funds the Masons could donate to help with new books for the library. The old books, she wrote, were getting worn out. Plus, there were new series of interest

to the children.

The Stockbridge Lodge discussed the letter, and members suggested donating \$300, then \$500. The group decided on \$1,000. The Stockbridge Lodge told Heritage Principal Sarah Bentley that it planned to donate \$1,000 and members asked if they might attend the Reading Program, March 29, to award the donation. Bentley said she would be pleased for them to attend and present.

Before C.G. Lantis, Dan Wilson and Greg Uihlein attended the program to represent the Stockbridge Lodge, the group increased the amount to \$2,000.

"We are so happy to help the students," Lantis stated in making the announcement, "because they are our future and reading is so important."

The \$2,000 amount came as a surprise to Bentley. Wireman, who knew nothing beforehand about the donation, was flabbergasted and appreciative of the funds.

"One of the main objectives of the Masonic Lodge is to help the community," Danny Wilson said. "We were excited to help the school and the children in our community."

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Mark your June calendar for 'A Day in the Village'

by Erin Clifton, D.C.

The Stockbridge Area Chamber of Commerce is busy planning the 25th annual "A Day in the Village" (ADIV), and they couldn't be more excited. Expect new and exciting changes in this year's festival that will shake things up a bit.

On Friday, June 14, all ADIV activities will be in Veterans Park. Starting in the afternoon a variety of family activities begin. Dance, cheerleading and clogging demonstrations will be happening on the stage (provided by Frey-Henderson Sound), along with live music throughout the evening. Local band favorite, FLYTE, will provide tunes from 7 p.m. until the start of fireworks.

New inflatables from Planet X include a thrilling laser tag game for the youngsters.

A pair of magicians will mystify crowds throughout the afternoon (Boyer's magic balloons, brought to you by Friends of the Stockbridge Library). Always popular face painting by Dee Dee returns, and kids and parents will cheer when the winner of the Father of the Year is announced.

Judy Conklin, of Juel Childcare, is organizing the first time ever Superhero Kids Race. Taking place on the quarter-mile track at the park, kids of all ages will run in their favorite superhero costume or cape to compete for a cute trophy. As dusk approaches on Friday, fire performers Fiend Fyre Charmers will arrive in a blaze of glory, followed by the always dazzling fireworks display. The Chamber gives a huge shout-out to Adiska Family Dental, who sponsors our fireworks every year. Bring a blanket or chair and spend the afternoon and evening with friends and family during this great community celebration.

Saturday, June 15, ALL ADIV activities are on the town square. Get your blood racing by participating, volunteering or cheering during Positively Chiropractic's "Be Fit 5K Fun Run," which starts at 8 a.m. Register at www.positivelychiropractic.com.

Vendor booths are open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Live music throughout the day will be provided by various artists such as Mo' Easy, Letha Allen, Bosco and Phil Tolliver.

Bring your cute pets and walk or carry them in our Pet Parade, organized and sponsored by Animal Blood Resources. After the awards ceremony for furry (or not furry) animal friends, Julie Glair will conduct dog training demonstrations beside the Township Square cannon.

Dee Dee the clown will keep the kids entertained from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. New this year is a kids' cool-down water sprinkle area behind the township hall from 3-5 p.m. At the same time, the Child ID program, run by the Masonic Lodge of Stockbridge, will be in the Township Hall.

At 5 p.m. winners of the bicycle giveaway will be announced. Children **MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN**. A local couple, who wishes to remain anonymous, generously provides bikes year after year for the sole purpose of seeing a child's face light up with joy when his or her name is announced. Stick around for the SRSLY movie presentation of "Willie Wonka" on the town square to conclude the festival.

Entries for our annual Baby and Toddler contest, along with essays for Father of The Year, may be mailed to P.O. Box 310, or dropped off to Abbott & Fillmore (cc: Deb Winnie) or Positively Chiropractic (cc: Dr. Erin Clifton) by the June 1 deadline. Digital Crumbs photography, Rook's Roost photography and Farmer's State Bank are co-sponsoring the Baby and Toddler contest this year, so get those photos submitted for a chance to win cool prizes.

Other activities include:

The Stockbridge Area Arts Council's annual Art Show in the township hall Friday and Saturday.

The Open Air Farmers Market on the square 3-7 p.m. on Friday.

At 11 a.m. Sunday there will be a community church service on the Township Square.

A "Classic Car Cruise In" at Doug Mills' Double Deuce Diner starts at 2 p.m. Saturday and will feature Fast Eddies Band kicking out the jams with 50s music, Shuffle dancing, Greasers and roaring hot rods.

A Day in the Village offers family fun for the entire weekend. Bring Dad and the family.

Downtown Stockbridge, MI

A special thanks to **Stockbridge Downtown Development Authority** for the funds for this ad and your many years of support to our community.

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Cars must enter from Church St.

Items NOT Accepted	Items Accepted
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • burn barrels • propane tanks • fuel tanks • oil drums • 55 gallon drums • yard waste • car or boat parts • commercial trash • household garbage • construction debris (roofing, siding, drywall etc.) • hazardous materials • televisions and monitors <p>Items must be 5 feet or under to fit in rubbish vehicle.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • furniture • mattresses • stoves • washer and dryers • laptops • computer towers • scrap metal • tires <p>TIRES MUST BE CLEAN! charges for tires: first 10 car or light truck tires are free. For each additional tire after 10: \$2.00 per tire. Tractor tires: \$15.00 a tire. Any tire with a rim: \$1.00 charge per tire. 20 Tire limit</p>

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Unadilla and Stockbridge residents only, proof of residency required!

SHS senior within reach of highest recognition, Stars & Stripes Final Level Award



Sarah Drew and Jean McKim, Director of Imagine Planet Science Center, display awards resulting from Drew's projects. User provided photo. User provided photo

by Jo Mayer

Few Michiganders have received the Stars & Stripes Final Level Award, and Stockbridge resident Sarah Drew hopes to see her name added to the short list.

The Stars & Stripes Award is the highest recognition available to an American Heritage Girl, an organization founded in 1995 and dedicated to the mission of building women of integrity through service to God, family, community, and country. In addition to badge work, references, and personal reflection, Stars & Stripes Award candidates must complete a substantial service project that they plan, lead and implement.

"The Stars & Stripes award requires a hundred hours of service and must make a large impact in the community," Drew, a home-school senior student, explained. "For my project, I am refurbishing Imagine Planet Science Center in Jackson. Imagine Planet is run by Jean McKim, who recently had cancer but is now in remission. I hope to help her get back on her feet with this project."

Imagine Planet Science Center opened as a nonprofit in 2015 and is within walking distance of downtown Jackson. It

features a variety of hands-on science activities, including a dinosaur dig, a water table, fossils, rocks, minerals, chemistry, and over 40 live animals. It is free to the public.

Drew spent every weekend in March refurbishing the center, cleaning rugs, windows, animal cages and more and painting where needed. "My favorite part was painting the gift shop sign," she said. "I also enjoyed directing my volunteers around while a corn snake was wrapped around my arm."

As noted, Drew had help with her work at the center. "I've had Consumers Energy workers volunteer on my project, as well as many faithful helpers from American Heritage Girls and Trail Life USA."

Not only did Drew directly improve the condition of the center, she also raised money to buy needed items by soliciting donations from area organizations, businesses, and her own friends. "For my project I have been able to donate \$2,000 worth of items," Drew said, "including a large U-shaped science table, 12 comfortable bar stools, 2 benches for the kids area, cabinet for the gift shop, name tags for the animal crates, pet supplies, science supplies, gift shop sign, a kids' table, and gift cards."

Other donors to her project included Grass Lake Chiropractic Center, Craig and Laurie Goodlock, Jon Fillmore from Abbott & Fillmore Insurance Agency, Kerry and Sharon Holmes, and members of the Henrietta Fire Department.

While proud of her accomplishments, Drew admits it tested her. "It is a difficult badge that has tested my faith [and] perseverance, and has been physically and emotionally draining. Yet I would gladly do it again to help support Imagine Planet and because of all the things I learned through it."

Imagine Planet, located at 632 E Michigan, Jackson, Mich., is open Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and is closed Fridays and Sundays.



"My favorite part was painting the gift shop sign," Sarah Drew said. "I also enjoyed directing my volunteers around while a corn snake was wrapped around my arm." Photo credit Sarah Drew



Thank You!

to the donors, sponsors and all who helped at this year's Festival of Tables. We are so thankful for your generous commitment to our community.



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Stockbridge Area Educational Foundation Mission: To fund programs and projects that create or enhance educational opportunities available to residents within the boundaries of the Stockbridge Community School District.

STOCKBRIDGE SPORTS

Softball opens with sweep Of Leslie



Taylor Carey (pictured above), Katelyn Knieper, and Paige Wooden each nail two hits and an RBI.

Article and photo by Keith Michaels

The Stockbridge softball team opened the 2019 campaign in a big way by sweeping a three-game series from GLAC rival Leslie.

The Panthers came away with a pair of mercy wins 16-0 and 16-1 over the Blackhawks on Tuesday, April 9.

Hannah Lockhart struck out seven and allowed just one hit on the mound for the Panthers. She also had two hits and two RBIs at the plate.

Taylor Carey, Katelyn Knieper and Paige Wooden each had two hits and an RBI.

The second game saw the Panthers score 11 runs in the second inning to pull away for the win.

Emily Breslin had two hits, including a home run and four RBIs to lead the offense, She was also the winning pitcher, allowing one hit and striking out four.

Lockhart and Wooden each smacked home runs as well for the Panthers. Lockhart finished with two hits and two RBIs and Wooden two RBIs. Carey finished with three hits and three runs scored.

The Panthers finished the sweep with a 15-0 pasting of the Blackhawks on Thursday, April 11.

Stockbridge scored early and often in the three-inning mercy. They put eight runs on the board in the first inning with five more in the second and two in the third to end the game.

Lena Jackson had a big day at the plate with three hits and two RBIs, including a home run. Lockhart added three hits and two RBI, while Breslin had three hits and scored three runs. McKenzie Noble had a hit and two RBIs, while Knieper, Hannah Gutting, Michelle Zemke, and Madi Mazuca had a hit and RBI each.

The Panthers had a rough day against Vandercook Lake, dropping a non-league doubleheader 8-3 and 15-5 on Friday, April 12.

Stockbridge took a 3-1 lead in the fourth on a two-run single by Noble, but the Jayhawks answered with five runs in the bottom of the inning and never looked back.

Breslin had two hits to lead the offense, while Noble had a hit and two RBI, and Zemke a hit and RBI.

The nightcap saw the Panthers leading 5-2 in the 4th, but the Jayhawks scored seven times to take a 9-5 lead and pull away for the win.

Lockhart had two hits, including a home run and two RBIs. Jackson and Noble each had a hit and RBI.

Soccer picks up first win

by Keith Michaels

After a pair of tough losses before spring break, the girls' soccer team came away victorious in their first game back from vacation with a 3-0 shutout of Perry Thursday, April 11.

The Panthers carried the offense and struck first when Baylee Heidrich hit Sylvia Whitt with a pass on a free kick early in the first half.

Leading 1-0 at the half, the Panthers continued to put on the pressure, while the defense of Heidrich, Whitt, Ori Hackworth, Hailey Howard, and goaltenders Peyton Killinger and Bethany Plennert locked down on the Ramblers.

The Panthers pulled away in the second half when Heidrich once again placed a nice pass into the box that was sent home by Alexis Killinger for a 2-0 lead.

Megan Catron sealed the win with an unassisted goal midway through the second half.

Stockbridge improved to 1-2 overall and 1-1 in the GLAC.

Baseball starts season strong



Alex Rose is nearly unhittable on the mound.

Article and photo by Keith Michaels

The Stockbridge baseball team had a strong opening to the 2019 season with a 6-2 record in the first two weeks of the spring.

After dropping the season opener to Michigan Center 7-2 prior to spring break, the Panthers opened GLAC play by taking three games from rival Leslie.

The Panthers opened the series by sweeping a doubleheader 3-0 and

13-1 at Leslie on Tuesday, April 9.

Alex Rose was nearly unhittable on the mound in the opener, allowing just one hit and striking out 12 for the complete game win. The Blackhawks got a leadoff single to start the game and Rose would not allow a hit the rest of the way.

Rose also drove in the first run of the game with a double in the fourth inning, which proved to be the game winner.

The Panthers added a pair of insurance runs in the fifth when Drew Davis stole home on a double steal and an RBI double by Aiden Trost.

Leslie loaded the bases with one out in the 5th on a walk, error, and hit batter, but Rose got a strikeout and ground out a great play by PJ Loso, who went deep in the hole to field the ball and threw the runner out at first for the final out.

The Panthers put runs on the board in each of the first five innings to cruise to the win in the nightcap.

Jeremy Pilch led the offense with three hits and an RBI. Trost was 2-3 with three RBIs, including a home run, while Brody Canfield had two hits and an RBI.

Trost earned the win on the mound with nine strikeouts and allowed two hits.

Stockbridge finished the three-game sweep with a 13-1 win Thursday. They scored three runs in the first and four in the second as the Panthers cruised to the win.

Pilch led the offense with three hits and an RBI, while Place had two hits and three RBIs. Canfield had two hits and two RBIs and Rose two hits and one RBI.

Pilch earned the win on the mound with four strikeouts.

Stockbridge then routed Vandercook Lake 17-0 and 21-1 April 12.

Loso allowed just two hits and struck out six for the win on the mound in the opener.

Daniel Ballagh had three hits and four RBIs to lead the offense. Trost and Canfield both had two hits and two RBIs, while Place had two hits and an RBI.

The second game saw the Panthers pound out 16 hits.

Rose had a big game with four hits and seven RBIs. Trost had three hits and two RBIs, while Loso had two hits and five RBIs. Place added two hits and two RBIs and Ballagh two hits and one RBI.

Ballagh earned the win on the mound with two strikeouts and allowing three hits.

The Panthers reached the championship game of the Napoleon tournament by defeating Brooklyn Columbia Central 3-2 April 13.

The game was tied 2-2 in the fifth when Place drove in Kaleb Adkins with an RBI single for a 3-2 lead.

Rose was masterful on the mound, striking out 11 and allowing just three hits for the win.

Stockbridge fell to Napoleon 6-1 in the championship game.

The Pirates jumped out to a 5-0 lead with three in the second and two in the third. The Panthers got one back in the fourth on a sacrifice fly by Place, but would get no closer.

Trost had a pair of hits to lead the Panther offense.

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Track Teams run at Lansing Catholic Relays

Article and photo by Keith Michaels

The Stockbridge track teams opened their season by running at the Lansing Catholic Relays Wednesday, April 10 in the 2019 season opener for the Panthers.

While the Panthers did not place well in the finals standings, they did have some strong individual performances.

The boys finished in 12th place.

Micah Beauregard came home first in the 800 to lead the Panthers. He was also part of the distance medley relay team along with Ron Tolson, Maison Beauregard, and Luke Suoljanan that finished 5th.

The girls finished 11th at the Relays.

Rylee Tolson finished in second place in the 800 to lead the squad. She was also part of the DMR relay team along with Brooklyn Rochow, Audrey Austin, and Gwen Rogozinski that finished 2nd.

Elysia Medina was seventh in the 100 hurdles.

Stockbridge students participate in ACES



by Jill Marie Ogden

May 1, Stockbridge K-5 students, in tandem with students across the nation, will participate in the annual ACES run. ACES, All Children Exercising Simultaneously, began in 1989 and has been referred to as the world's largest exercise class. Stockbridge physical education teacher, Rachel Jones, has organized the project in Stockbridge for the past 15 years.

"We have done such activities as Nature Walks, Whole School Walks, and the ACES Runathon which has raised thousands of dollars for the Parent Teacher Organization and the elementary physical education program," she said.

This signature program of the Youth Fitness Coalition takes place the first Wednesday of May, coinciding with national physical fitness and sports month and national physical education week. The run doubles as a fundraiser for the PE department and PTO. The PTO hopes to use funds raised from this year's

runathon toward playground repair and improvements.

Students collect pledges and earn prizes such as Panther water bottles, hats and sweatshirts. "The basic idea is to emphasize the importance of implementing exercise in our daily lives.

During March, which was Reading Month, the students took part in D.E.A.R., Drop Everything and Read. "The ACES program adopts the same concept but asks students to stop what they are doing and exercise," Jones said.

Stockbridge Township Board Meeting discusses an array of issues



Cheyenne Johnson and Gabe Nielsen lead Pledge of Allegiance. Photo credit Mary Wilson.

Building Department to compare cost and fees of permits. The cost for the Township renovations would cost under \$1,000, doing inspections through the State. Also SAESA would have been under \$1,400.00 through the State.

Township talked with the State Building Department, and learned that they needed to use the Village-hired building department unless the Village agreed to let the Township use the State Building Department. Stockbridge Township Board was going to contact the Village because they want to start renovations soon, hoping to save taxpayers money wherever possible.

Stockbridge Township has been negotiating with Stockbridge Community Outreach to lease the old fire barn on Cherry Street to Outreach for \$1 a year. Township received a message during their meeting stating Stockbridge Community Outreach decided not to move in the old fire barn, stating the building doesn't fit Outreach's needs.

This notification came as a surprise to the Township because they had been negotiating for a few months. In anticipation of the move and per Outreach's request, the Township conducted an environmental study, cleaned, painted and refinished the floors.

To better understand what stopped the move, this reporter talked with a representative from Stockbridge Community Outreach. The person's response was, Outreach received a letter from the Village that stated Outreach couldn't move in until the property was rezoned. The Township received a letter also that the property had to be rezoned. This made Outreach nervous, not wanting to get between the Village and the Township. Also Outreach was concerned about the potential dollar amount maintenance on the building in the future.

Among other items on its agenda, the Township continued to work on Commercial Marijuana Ordinance for recreational and medical marijuana. The Board indicated it is working to make a complete and fair ordinance that works for all.

by Mary Wilson

The March 18 meeting of Stockbridge Township Board Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Cheyenne Johnson and Gabe Nielsen, students of Stockbridge Community Schools.

Old business began with review of blueprints for the renovation of the new part of Township Hall, used by SAESA prior to its moving to a new location. Discussion has been occurring on the possibility of using the State of Michigan Building Department inspectors instead of the company the Village hired to do their building department inspections. This issue came up because of the large permit fees SAESA had to pay for their renovations at their new location: Building, \$5,090.00; electrical, \$208.00; plumbing, \$240.00; mechanical, \$214.50; with a total of \$5,756.50.

If the Village had stayed with their own building department, the one they had before they hired a firm to do the inspections for them, the cost would have been as follows: building, \$450.00; electrical, \$200.00; plumbing, \$200.00; mechanical, \$200.00, with a total of \$1,050.00.

The difference comes to \$4,706.50 more with the village-contracted inspections.

The Township downloaded forms from the State of Michigan Building Department to compare cost and fees of permits. The cost for the Township renovations would cost under \$1,000, doing inspections through the State. Also SAESA would have been under \$1,400.00 through the State.

Township talked with the State Building Department, and learned that they needed to use the Village-hired building department unless the Village agreed to let the Township use the State Building Department. Stockbridge Township Board was going to contact the Village because they want to start renovations soon, hoping to save taxpayers money wherever possible.

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Among other items on its agenda, the Township continued to work on Commercial Marijuana Ordinance for recreational and medical marijuana. The Board indicated it is working to make a complete and fair ordinance that works for all.

Americans aren't getting enough sleep and it's killing us



User provided photo

by Dr. Jonathan Fielding, opinion contributor — Reprinted from *The Hill*
Americans don't respect sleep.

As much as 40 percent of us say that we don't sleep enough, according to Gallup. Perhaps we have too much to do or work more than one job, preventing a normal sleep routine. Whatever our reasons, sleep is often not a high priority. We shouldn't take it so lightly: there is a growing mountain of compelling evidence that our casual disregard of

healthy sleep is downright dangerous.

A meta-analysis published in the journal *Sleep*, found that too little sleep leads to an "unambiguous and consistent pattern of increased risk of dying."

A recent study in the *European Heart Journal* — the latest to draw the connection between too little sleep and cardiovascular disease made news. Looking at data from 21 countries, researchers found that those who usually slept six or fewer hours increased their risk of death by stroke or heart failure by nearly 10 percent over a 7.8-year period. On the positive side, the study found that among those who under slept, daytime naps may compensate and mitigate these risks: more on naps to follow.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) defines inadequate sleep less than 7 hours for a healthy adult, 18+ years old, but some researchers define it at 6 hours or less. For decades, researchers have known that sleep deprivation can lead to a variety of serious health issues. These include weight gain, Type 2 diabetes and increased inflammation, as well as behavioral and cognitive problems: depression, anxiety, substance abuse and impaired memory function.

Researchers at the University of Colorado, Boulder found in a study published in the current issue of *Current Biology* that the body's metabolism has a very hard time recovering from sleep deprivation, with study subjects put on 5 pounds after five days of sleeping for only five hours a night. All-nighters push anxiety to clinical levels and even modest sleep reductions are linked to increased feelings of social isolation and loneliness. What can we do about it?

Shortcuts won't work. While it seems like we should be able to "make up" lost sleep on weekends, that myth has been put to rest. Sleeping-in won't erase the negative health effects of sleep deprivation during the week and irregular sleep patterns can compound health problems. You can't trade hours of sleep and not increase your health risks.

While weekend catch-up doesn't work, you can make up sleep on a daily basis through napping. Several studies show that an inadequate night's sleep can be supplemented through short, daytime naps, which benefit long-term memory and can improve functioning. We are just starting to understand how naps might affect regulation of emotion: A University of Michigan study found that after waking from a 60-minute midday nap, people were less impulsive and had greater tolerance for frustration than people who watched an hourlong nature documentary instead of sleeping. The benefits of napping for memory and learning are well described: a 90-minute nap confers the same benefits to test takers as an eight-hour night's sleep. Despite the positives, napping during the day, especially at work, is still accompanied by a stigma.

What else can you do to ensure that you are getting the right amount of healthy sleep? The CDC's sleep hygiene approach from *Tips for Better Sleep* recommends:

1. Be consistent.
2. Go to bed at the same time each night and get up at the same time each morning, including on the weekends.
3. Make sure your bedroom is quiet, dark, relaxing and at a comfortable temperature.
4. Remove electronic devices, such as TVs, computers and smartphones, from the bedroom.
5. Avoid large meals, caffeine and alcohol before bedtime.
6. Exercise: Being physically active during the day can help you fall asleep more easily at night.

Skimping on sleep or sleeping too long is like cheating at solitaire: it only hurts you. While fixing our own sleep hygiene is one issue; fixing the cultural sleep problem, another. The vast amount of new research is beginning to change policy in some areas, with school officials, for example, considering whether to push back school start times to better match teenagers' sleep cycles.

Congress is entertaining proposals on making daylight saving time run year-round in order to avoid the spike in sleep-related cardiovascular events that accompanies the time changes each year. Some states have already made this move.

A growing number of scientists, not normally known for being advocates, are bringing evangelical zeal to the message that lack of sleep is an escalating public health crisis that deserves as much attention as the obesity epidemic.

Jonathan Fielding, M.D., is a professor of public health and pediatrics at the University of California, Los Angeles.

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RONALD MAYER
ALBERT J. McCONEGHEY
PAT McDONALD
KARL MEAD
WILLIAM G. MEYER
ROBERT L. MILLER
EDWIN MINIX
RALEIGH MINIX
ROY MINIX
KENNETH G. MOECKEL
BRIAN MULLINS
ALVIN (BUD) MYER
ALLEN A. NAGLEY

GILBERT A. NEILL
JOHN I NICHOL
KENNETH OSBORN
JACK W. OSTRANDER
AUSTIN J. OTIS
DANIEL W. OWENS
JACK PELTON
MERRILL J. PIERCE
ELMER POE
HOWARD POMERENKI
ROBERT POWELL
RICHARD PRICE
ROBERT G. PRICE
MYREL RICHARDSON
PAUL E. RICHMOND
WAYNE RIGGS
WM. ROBINSON
ROBERT J. SCHMIDT
HENRY SCHREER
GEORGE S. SHANKS
HENRY SHELLNBARGER
HAROLD SHOUSE
FERRIS SMITH
LEON SMITH
REEVE S. SMITH
HAROLD J. SPRINGMAN
MAYNARD O. STANFIELD
EDWIN PAUL STEPHENS
MARVIN D. STEPHENS
WILLARD JAMES STEPHENS
EDWIN J. STOHL
R.C. STOWE
FRED STREETS
HAROLD EUGENE STREETS
HENRY THELAN
CHARLES A. THOMPSON
ROLLAND R. TOWNSEND
DALE M. TRAPP
WARDIE TRUSTY
HARRY WATTERS
EDWARD WEDDON, M.D.
CHARLES D. WELTON
CLEDEYS WHITAKER
CURTIS W. WHITE
GERALD J. WILLIAMS
HOWARD H. WILSON
ROBERT WOODMAN
JAMES WRIGHT
JOHN ALEX YOEMAN
THOMAS R. ZICK
KOREAN WAR
GARLAND ALLEN
JOHN W. ALLEN
DANIEL BALDWIN
BOB ORVILLE BASORE
DONALD D. BASORE
JERRY BEAUCHAMP
ADELBERT BOTT
DELOIS T. BOTT
DUANE BOTT
ARCHIE J. CARSKADON
HOWARD CASE
THOMAS CAVENDER
WILLIAM JOHN CULVER
ARTHUR L. EVERTS
ALFRED FLETCHER
CARL FLETCHER
GARLAND FLETCHER
GERALD G. FLETCHER
JAMES FLETCHER
HOWARD FRINKLE

HONORING OUR VETERANS

ROBERT GLADSTONE
EUGENE A GREEN
SAMUEL J. HARPER
GEORGE THOMAS KELLEY
HAROLD G. LEWIS
LLOYD LOBER
RICHARD J. MACKNIK
DAVID MARSHALL
ROBERT MARSHALL
RALPH MARZ
JAMES J. McFARLAND
ROBERT D. MILLARD
LARREY NIEL MILLS
ROLAND M. MINIX
WAYNE PENIX
WM. REYNOLDS
N.H. ROWE
CLAYTON SALYER
ELMER SCHULTE
FLOYD (IKE) WARD
RALPH WATSON
JAMES J. WIEGAND
ODUS H. WILLIAMS

VIETNAM WAR
JERRY ASQUITH
DENNIS BARBER
RAYMOND BESSEY
ARNOLD CARPENTER
RICHARD COBB
RON COLLINS
JOHN CULLEN
JOHN DONOHUE
EDWARD B. FURTNEY
JACK HAMLIN
PAT HARDEN
GERALD HOPKINS
JAMES HENSLEY HORN
KENNETH E. JOSEPH
RICHARD LANTIS
DANIEL McCONEGHY
ROBERT L. MILLER
ROBERT H. MITTEER III
RONNIE PATRICK
CHARLES R. PHELPHS JR.
WALTER PRATER
THOMAS QUINN

HUGH ROBERTS
DALE W. ROWE
DONALD L. RUNCIMAN
MICHAEL RUOLO
MICHAEL L. SALOW
ROBERT N. SCHROEDER
MARK SPANBURG
EDWIN WATSON
JOHN H. WARDEL
GULF WAR
GREGORY STULL
PEACETIME SERVICE
DALE BAILEY
STEVEN LYNN BATDORFF
LESLIE BENSON III
MARTIN R. BLISS
BYREN D. BOWDISH
AARON BROOKS
EVELYN BUCKINGHAM
DUANE CARLEY
BOBBIE M. CHRISTIAN
LARRY CORNISH SR.
ROLLAND HARDT

BLAINE HOWARD
WILLIAM KERR
RONALD DEAN LEWIS
BOBBY LONG
WILLIAM F. MAYER
HARVEY J. MORRELL
TOD MORRIS
GORDON NAWROCK
WILLIAM PALMER
EDWARD PASKO
JOHN SALYER
JAN LEE SHACKELFORD
DAVID THOMPSON
JAMES WARD
JAMES (HENRY) WIREMAN
SONS OF GOLD STAR MOTHERS
MAURICE BIEHN
HAROLD GLEN CRAFT
JOHN M. DONOHUE
JAMES LOSO

Deceased local veterans, not members of Mackinder-Glenn Post 510

The following information was provided by families of the deceased veterans.

WWII
ROBERT DONALD ANDERSON
RICHARD ALLYN LAWS
CHARLES RUGGLES
CHARLES EDGAR SALYER
RALPH HARRY SEBOLD
RALPH HARRY TEACHOUT
DOUGLAS DEMPSEY WISMAN
KOREA
ROBERT DONALD ANDERSON
ARNOLD MARSHALL
VIETNAM
ROBERT DONALD ANDERSON

Open Air Market hits Stockbridge Township Square

by Suzi Greenway

The Open Air Market of Stockbridge begins its ninth season, May 3 on the Township Square from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Your favorite vendors are returning also. ParaPara Creamery cheeses, Lake Divide Farm organic produce, Betty's Veggies and Fruit, Son in Law hot sauce, Beemer honey, Breadzilla breads and pies, Great Lakes Baker chocolates, cookies and cakes, Genei Sugarbush maple syrup, Zumo Eco Farm pesto and chips, Samuel's Soaps and Candles, Austin Family, Sue's Woodworking, Baskets by Kathleen, and Whimsical Art by Carolyn. Three new vendors will be join with herbal teas, extracts and salves, totes and purses and crocheted items.

Market Music from 5:30 to 7 p.m., May through August. Bring your own chair, or we can provide one.

The 4th Annual Community Garage Sale will start May 17, 11 a.m. through 7 p.m. with food nutrition information and recipes several times a month. Not every vendor is present each week, so check our weekly online ads on Stockbridge Community News website and monthly ads in the print edition.

Bring a blanket, hang out on the grass, and visit with your friends. Meet us at the Market on the Square. For more info, contact Suzi, 517-851-7437

Schubert aces at Waterloo; Woods wins fifth Masters

by Alex Weddon

Tiger Woods won the Masters golf tournament for a remarkable fifth time Sunday, April 14, but he didn't have a shot as sweet as Stockbridge native Ron Schubert.

Schubert started his golfing year off with a perfect shot on the 12th hole of Waterloo Golf Course on Monday, April 15. The proud linkster used a 9-iron to drain his tee shot on the 120-yard par-3 hole. Course owner and PGA professional Keith Haglund said it was the first of the year for the course.

"Ron and his group watched the ball go in for his first ever ace, and their shouts could be heard around the course!" Haglund said.

Mark your calendar for 123rd SHS Alumni Banquet

The 123th Stockbridge High School Alumni banquet will be held June 8, 2019, at Heritage Elementary School in Stockbridge at 5:30 p.m. The Class of 1969 will be honored in celebration of its 50th anniversary.

Graduates of all classes are urged to attend this time-honored event. Tickets may be purchased at the Stockbridge Pharmacy, Eaton Federal Bank (formerly Stockbridge State Bank), Farmers State Bank or Country Petals for \$20 per attendee. Checks payable to the Stockbridge Alumni Association may also be mailed to the Association at Post Office Box 503, Stockbridge, MI 49285.

The Alumni Association has prepared an event in which friends old and new may come together to remember high school days. Graduates are encouraged to call fellow classmates in hopes that their particular year of graduation will have the most in attendance.

For more information, email marylouclifton@hotmail.com or call 269-720-3780.

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Annual Stockbridge Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt a success despite frigid temperatures and high winds

Article by Hope Salyer. Photos by Kathleen Mullins

Frigid temperatures, high winds and the threat of rain couldn't scare off Stockbridge area residents at the annual Stockbridge Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 20. Despite the 40-degree temperature and rain clouds hovering, parents and children alike gathered Veteran's Memorial Park to participate in the family friendly event.



Classroom library: Spring cleaning means spring reading

by Jessica Martell

With Marie Kondo's juggernaut, "The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up," recently adapted to a Netflix original, and books like "The Gentle Art of Swedish Death Cleaning" on the New York Times best-seller list, it's no surprise people are ready to clean house. What is surprising, is one of the possible beneficiaries of this cleaning frenzy sweeping the nation: classroom libraries.

In the last two months, one classroom library at Stockbridge Jr/Sr High School has accepted more than 50 donated books from people wanting them to find new purpose in the hands of young readers. Tracy Dunford was the first to reach out, asking if our libraries were accepting donations.

When asked what prompted her donations, Dunford said, "I feel like teachers have much more of an appreciation of books. I felt like I had so many different kinds to offer, and I thought just maybe a student would benefit from reading some of the books I donated."

The benefits of classroom libraries are well-documented. In 2017, the National Council of Teachers of English released this official statement: "Classroom libraries—physical or virtual—play a key role in providing access to books and promoting literacy; they have the potential to increase student motivation, engagement, and achievement and help students become critical thinkers, analytical readers, and informed citizens."

In the summer of 2017, former Stockbridge Jr/Sr High teacher, Alaina Feliks, obtained an SAEF grant to launch classroom libraries in all English classrooms at the high school. The district curriculum cycle continued the initiative by allocating yearly funds to grow the libraries with high-interest, relevant texts.

The English teachers also stock their shelves with titles from their own collections. However, even with these investments, it's difficult to keep up with trending titles and the rate at which students devour the works of their favorite authors.

If you, like many others around the country, have been cleaning house, the classroom libraries at Stockbridge Jr/Sr High School are eager to accept any literary (or monetary) donations you wish to make. You may direct any donations to the English Department at Stockbridge Jr/Sr High School, 416 N. Clinton, Stockbridge, MI 49285.



Home is where the hospitality is

by Mary Jo David

My husband and I moved into our first home, in Detroit, when our oldest child was an infant. Shortly thereafter, a newer neighbor moved in next door. We quickly discovered I had a working hand mixer with a missing beater and she had a broken hand mixer but two working beaters. For about a year, that was a match made in heaven! Finally, one of us bought a new mixer, the other got all the working parts of the old mixer, and we've remained fast friends ever since.

Later, my husband and I changed things up and moved to a suburban subdivision. Recently I asked our now grown children about some of their fondest memories of growing up there. They all recalled the 10-year-old neighbor, "John," who showed up on our doorstep with a pizza for our first day in the new house. His mother later told me that John used his paper route money to get us that "Welcome Pizza"—and we've never forgotten it.



They would not take money for it, and instead said it was their way of welcoming us to the neighborhood. We felt very welcome, indeed, and the chair held a place of honor in our empty living room, right next to a cardboard-box end table. Photo credit Mary

Jo David

Fast forward to our recent move to Gregory—our empty-nest home. It took us months to officially move in as we prepared our old home to put on the market after we closed on our new home. When he had days off work, my husband spent time in Gregory learning the ins and outs of country life. It seemed as if every time he'd come home from the new house he'd have stories about friendly new people he'd met. One day, while he was in Gregory, I phoned him to ask a quick question, and he told me he'd have to phone me back. He was enjoying a roast beef dinner with our new next-door neighbors!

That did it! It was time for me to get to know some of our new neighbors, too. So while our old house was on the market, we decided to make the move out to Gregory. That meant roughing it a bit since we wanted to show the old house with our furniture in it until it sold. In the meantime, our new house consisted of a card table and chairs in the living room and four patio chairs in a screen room.

News travels fast in the country! One day, while we were finishing supper, we heard, "Hello? Is anyone home?" With that, a very pleasant woman appeared in our screen room and said, "Do you guys want a chair?" I was caught a bit off guard and a tad embarrassed thinking people thought we had no furniture. But she quickly explained that my husband had attended her late mother's estate sale where he mentioned, conversationally, we were temporarily doing without some of the comforts of home. The estate sale finished and her mom's upholstered swivel rocker had not sold. They would not take money for it, and instead said it was their way of welcoming us to the neighborhood.

We felt very welcome, indeed, and the chair held a place of honor in our empty living room, right next to a cardboard-box end table! When our old house sold, our own furniture was moved to our Gregory home, and the "hospitality chair" was passed along to a young couple with a new baby that needed rocking.

Looking back, our first two moves forged strong friendships, and this third, and hopefully last move, is on course to do the same. Thank you to all who have been so welcoming—you know who you are!