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Look who's retiring from Stockbridge School District

by Amy Haggerty

Three district employees are retiring as of the end of the 2022/23 school year— Lisa Bolton, elementary teacher; Anne Rouse, paraprofessional; and Sarah Vowels junior/senior high teacher.

Together, they represent a combined 60 years of working with our children, district, and community, where they've given so much of themselves. Hopefully their retirements will be as rewarding as their contributions to our schools have been.

These staff members are being sent off with many wishes for good health and lots of fun, travel and time with family and friends. The impact of their leaving will be felt across each of the schools; it's never easy to replace such dedicated and passionate staff.



Together, Lisa Bolton (left), Sarah Vowels (center), and Anne Rouse (right) represent a combined 60 years of working with children in the Stockbridge School District. Photo credits Amy Haggerty (Bolton), Sarah Vowels (Vowels), and Bonnie Rattai (Rouse)

Stockbridge Junior/Senior High Yearbooks achieve Jostens Program of Excellence



Information provided by Stockbridge Jr./Sr. High School yearbook adviser Sarah Vowels

Jostens, the leading producer of yearbooks and student-created content, today announced that Stockbridge Junior and Senior High's yearbook programs have both achieved the Jostens 2023 National

Yearbook Program of Excellence award at the Gold Level. The National Yearbook Program of Excellence recognizes engaging yearbooks that reflect a broad representation of the student body while helping students develop 21st century skills such as communication, collaboration, and information and communication technologies (ICT) literacy.

The High School award-winning yearbook program is led by Danielle Hood under the direction of Sarah Vowels, yearbook adviser. The Junior High yearbook program is led by Zoie Spadafore and Katelyn Rusnock under the direction of Alexis Dyer and Sarah Vowels, yearbook advisers.

"Having worked on my own yearbook in high school, it has been a joy working with our students to create lasting memories for this generation. I love how the technology makes everything so easy. The representatives from Jostens were great to work with, supporting the students all the way through," Sarah Vowels said.

See Yearbook on page 4.

Meet Chief Matthew Bartus, Village of Stockbridge Chief of Police

by Joan Tucker

Since November 2022, Matthew Bartus has been serving as the new chief of police in Stockbridge. He began this new position after filling in as the interim chief of police for four months, beginning in July 2022.

Bartus has a bachelor's degree in chemistry and completed an internship in forensic science. He then attended a nine-month police academy in Dallas, after which, he accepted a position with the Dallas Police Department. He



July 2023 marks one year since Chief Bartus was hired by the Village of Stockbridge—first as interim chief then, in November 2022, as Chief of Police. Photo credit Joan Tucker

worked in Dallas for six years in road patrol and specialized detail and events, to name a few of his responsibilities.

See Chief Bartus on page 10.

Glider crashes in local field



Photo provided by Unadilla Township Police Department.

Information provided by Unadilla Township Police Department

Just before 3 p.m. on June 21, 2023, first responders were dispatched to a field on Unadilla Rd north of Doyle Rd where a glider had crash landed. A witness reported seeing the glider flying low over the trees and then saw a puff of dust and knew it had crashed in the field, and called 911.

The pilot and passenger sustained serious injuries, not believed to be life threatening, and were transported by ambulance to U of M Hospital. Survival Flight was placed on standby but was not needed.

See Glider on page 2.

Rural Perspectives: The Eastern American Toad is a gardener's friend

by Diane Constable



Diane Gray Constable

The Eastern American Toad (*Anaxyrus anaxyrus americanus*) is found in many places, such as gardens, woodlands, grasslands and marshes, as long as there is some water and cover to hide in.

To protect itself, it turns shades of green, brown and yellow, depending on its living quarters. Toads also have other tools to fool their predators, including playing dead, excreting a bad-tasting substance from its "bumps," and even peeing on itself.

In the spring, these toads find their way to the nearby pond they grew up in so they can find a mate and lay their eggs. It's interesting to note that they avoid their siblings by recognizing their close relatives partly by their individual songs.



The Eastern American Toad (*Anaxyrus anaxyrus americanus*) protects itself by turning shades of green, brown and yellow, depending on its habitat. Photo credit Diane Constable

The female lays a jelly-like string of up to 15,000 eggs along grasses at the water's edge. The tadpoles hatch within 3-12 days then spend 40-60 days in the pond as they morph into mini-toads less than an inch long. The young toads leave the pond for good to spend most of their lives on land and immediately start gobbling up tiny insects, ants, and spiders. The male toad will grow to about 3.5 inches long; the female is much bigger, up to 5.5 inches long. They live up to 10 years.

An adult can eat up to 1,000 insects, flies, mosquitos, worms, and slugs each day — definitely a gardener's friend. Although toads do hop, they will sit and wait for prey to come along, then grab the prey with their sticky tongues. These toads make their homes under logs, near rocks, or dug into soft dirt. In the winter they hibernate by digging in deeper to get below the frost line.

Fun Fact: When it sheds its skin, the Eastern American Toad wraps the skin around its tongue and consumes it.

Diane Constable is an avid photographer. She serves on the Unadilla Township Planning Commission and is a member of the township's Parks and Recreation Committee. Diane also enjoys her dogs and gardening.

Glider page 1

It appears the pilot was attempting to make an emergency landing but the cause of the crash remains under investigation. Emergency personnel responded from the Unadilla Township Police Department, Unadilla Township Fire Department, Putnam Township Fire Department, Livingston County Sheriff's Department, Livingston County Ambulance, Stockbridge Ambulance, and the Federal Aviation Administration.

Community Music & Worship Concert hosted by Waterloo Village UMC Saturday, July 22 from 3 to 7:30 pm

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Shuyler Clark

Reading Between the Lines

Characters in this adult novel resolve regrets through short bursts of time travel

by Shuyler Clark

In Tokyo, a cafe has gained renown for its promise that visitors can travel through time. Though many make the pilgrimage to see this for themselves, the abundance of rules turns most of these people away. This month's selection, *Before the Coffee Gets Cold*, follows four people who visit the cafe over the course of a summer in hopes of easing their regrets through time travel.

Toshikazu Kawaguchi's debut novel adapts his stage play of the same name. Each of the four chapters follows a different character in their quests to meet someone at a different point in time. Although characters recur across the chapters, each installment works as a standalone story. Cases of repetition between chapters, such as constantly repeating the rules of time travel, make it feel more like a stitched-together short story compilation than a novel.

Although re-explained far too often, the plethora of time travel rules helps ground the story — including the rule requiring that travel must be completed before the coffee gets cold. Time travel can be a finicky plot device, easily falling apart if the writer does not take all outcomes into account. The cafe's rules help avoid such pitfalls, especially considering the visitor cannot change the present when they time travel. This creates a mostly consistent timeline that focuses on character development and spares readers confusion.

Unfortunately, the time travel is not entirely without faults. The inclusion of extra rules in the later chapters muddles previous ones. The final chapter, while the most heartfelt, also has the most inconsistencies in this regard. The book's theme is also vague until Kawaguchi states it outright in the final page. This culminates in an ending that is the literary equivalent of leaning one's head out a moving car window and slamming it against a road sign.

Kawaguchi also interrupts the narrative with information that is not wholly important. For instance, the reader learns early on that one of the characters has Alzheimers. Kawaguchi delivers more information about the disease than is needed for the character's arc. Given adults are the novel's intended audience, the over-explanation of minute details seems unnecessary.

Despite the flaws, *Before the Coffee Gets Cold* provides an intriguing time travel system with compelling characters. Readers who enjoy heartfelt narratives will appreciate Kawaguchi's message.

Shuyler Clark is a graduate of Stockbridge High School and Lansing Community College. When she is not reading or writing, she can be found snuggling with her birds.



The plethora of time travel rules helps ground Toshikazu Kawaguchi's debut novel, which is structured in four chapters, each focusing on a different character. Image credit Amazon.com

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Pickleball — Learn about the latest craze to hit our area



Lyn St. Dennis (left) and Jill Peck work to set up the final portable net for the night.
Photo by Jo Mayer

Information provided by Jo Mayer

If you happened to be at Veterans Memorial Park in Stockbridge on June 19, you may have noticed 12 women engaged in the sport of pickleball on the newly painted courts at the park. (With the addition of a portable net and the new lines, the tennis courts at the park can also be used for pickleball.)

You can think of pickleball as a mix of badminton, tennis and ping pong with a quirky scoring system and a forbidden zone called the “kitchen.” If you'd like to learn more and maybe try your hand at it, the village Parks and Recreation Committee is offering four opportunities for beginners and others to meet interested players and learn the ins and outs of pickleball.

See Pickleball on page 19.



Clyde Whitaker

Clyde's Corner The pump overflows with memories for this former 'water boy'

by Clyde Whitaker

Isn't it funny — or maybe not — how something you have not seen in years can spur old memories back to the top, just like it was yesterday.

This happened to me recently, as my wife and I were biking down the old railroad track, now the Lakeland Trail, running past the old Krummrey Farm, now Scott's Turf.

We were almost to the outer buildings on the farm when I saw it in the distance. The pump! Instantly my mind took me back to the '60s and early '70s, with me walking to this pump from afar to fill two 1-gallon glass jugs with fresh, cool water for the weeding crew.

Working on the Krummrey Farm back then, tending to the onions, was a job requiring many hands to pull the weeds from around the onions. It was a back-breaking and tough job.

At times my dad, Jim Whitaker, could be supervising up to 30 people in the fields out in the baking sun as it reflected back off the black, hot muck, so drinking water was something very important for the crew.

Since I detested crawling in the hot, dry muck on my knees, my dad instead assigned me to the position of "water boy." This required me to walk great distances to the nearest water pump, filling the two jugs with cool, refreshing water, and bringing them back to hydrate the workers.

I carried a small tin cup that everyone used to take their drink. I would pour a little water into the cup and the worker would swish it around, to "rinse" it, lol, then toss the water out. I proceeded to fill the cup with water and everyone usually drank one to two cups during each water break.

I went through this process several times per day, walking to the nearest water pump that I could find. It usually was a long, long way away, but it kept me out of the muck. Getting back ASAP to the thirsty workers was my priority.

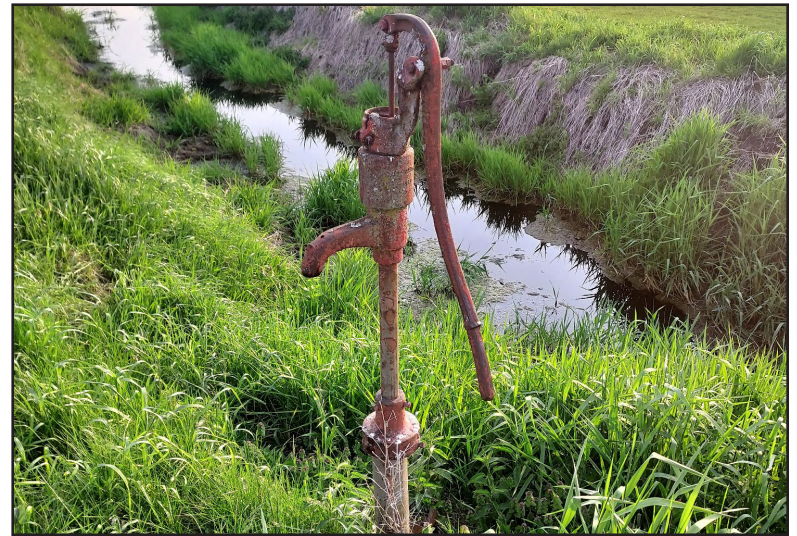
Life on the farm back in those early years definitely built character, and all of us who worked on the farm understand what I am saying.

As you can see from the photo, a pump is still there, more than 50 years later, standing proud with the original red paint now faded and peeling, but she still pumps cool, refreshing water after three pumps of the handle.

Ask me if I would do it all over again, and my answer would be "Yes" because it molded me into the person I am today, forever grateful and thankful for the opportunity to make a difference.

Clyde Whitaker is a 1973 Stockbridge graduate. He and his wife, Mary, raised four children in Stockbridge, and they still reside in the Stockbridge area.

For additional photos, visit www.stockbridgecommunitynews.com.



This old water pump provided water for the farm workers over many years. Photo credit Clyde Whitaker

Yearbook page 1

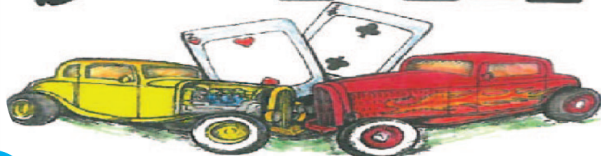
The Jostens National Yearbook Program of Excellence Awards are presented twice a year, in spring and in fall based on the yearbook's arrival date at the school. The award was presented to the Stockbridge Jr. and Sr. High yearbook program for achieving defined criteria in between one and three of the following categories: creating an inclusive yearbook, generating school engagement, and successfully managing the yearbook creation process.

"Jostens is proud to recognize those individuals who have created an exceptional yearbook for their school and community," said Tammy Whitaker, Jostens VP and COO Yearbook Division. "These schools did an exceptional job on multiple levels, despite the challenges presented by this school year. Yearbooks are a critical part of capturing and telling a school's story, and Jostens is dedicated to supporting yearbook staff members as they do their important work."

Jostens has produced school yearbooks for over 60 years. Schools rely on Jostens and their local Jostens representatives to provide a combination of journalism education and technology tools to deliver a learning experience that helps students develop 21st century skills in journalism, photography, writing and design, leadership and business while creating the permanent record of the school year.

Both yearbooks are still available for purchase. The Junior High book arrives soon, while the High School book will arrive this fall.

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Published in *Uncaged*, April 2023

Senior Brianna Polenz wins Prestigious Award

by Jamie Phillips, *Uncaged* Reporter

This article is being published as it appeared in the April 2023 edition of Uncaged Student News.

Last year senior Brianna Polenz was awarded the Horatio Alger Association scholarship, which earned her \$25,000 and a paid trip to Washington D.C. Unlike most Scholarships, the criteria is based less on academics, though it was a consideration when it came to the last of the finalists. Instead it was need based and awarded to students who show determination, integrity and perseverance, as well as a financial need.

Polenz's parents were severe drug addicts, so she was adopted by her grandparents when she was young. "Having a parent come in and out of your life and nearly dying like seven times is a little traumatic."

Despite facing the unimaginable, Polenz's determination to be the best earned her accolades that few can hope to achieve in high school.

"I maintained a 4.0 as well as getting my associates degree."

On March 29th, Polenz traveled to D.C. While on her trip, she and other students went to the Supreme Court and were the first group in history to see the inner chamber without being part of a court case. Her group also attended an inauguration ceremony for the 13 new members of the association, as well as a separate ceremony honoring the students who were awarded scholarships and their achievements.

"We met with members of the association and talked with them about where they came from, who they are now, how they did that and to get advice," Polenz said. "My interest in psychiatry stems from a general interest in abnormal psychology as well as personal experience. I've witnessed the impacts untreated mental illness has on not only the individual, but their friends, family and loved ones around them, and have had my own struggles with depression and anorexia nervosa."

Brianna Polenz's Horatio Alger Association scholarship earned her a paid trip to Washington D.C. in March 2023. Photo credit Brianna Polenz

Polenz is using this scholarship as well as many others she's been awarded due to her academics and family situation to further her education at the University of Michigan studying pre-medicine to eventually become a psychiatrist.

"I want to be able to help others, particularly adolescents and young adults, get the help they need to live the best life they can," Polenz said. "I chose the

University of Michigan as my undergraduate school, since it's close to home and has an amazing medical school."

For more information about Stockbridge's award-winning student newspaper, go to <https://uncagednews.com>.

Uncaged articles are sponsored by The Stockbridge Area Educational Foundation. SAEF is currently looking for new board members.

For more information on SAEF, visit [www.panethernet.net/our district](http://www.panethernet.net/our%20district).



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From CADL Stockbridge

'Wednesday Wonders' at library provide summer fun



Drumcommunity, a community drumming circle, will be held July 12 at CADL Stockbridge. Photo provided by CADL

by Head Librarian Sherri McConnell

The summer fun continues at the Stockbridge Branch! Our "Wednesday Wonders" events happen all through July at 10:30 a.m. These include Drumcommunity, a community drumming circle on July 12; Let's Learn about Honeybees on July 19, and the Freshwater Mussels Outreach Program from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife staff on July 26. Weather permitting, Drumcommunity will be outside at the library, but if it rains, we have a backup location.

Call us at 517-851-7810 before coming to this event, for further information.

Also, this month our library will be hosting "Storytime in the Park" on Mondays, July 10, 17, 24 and 31 from 10-10:30 a.m. We will provide stories and a craft, so join us for some fun in the shade. If you're not already registered for the Summer Reading Challenge, you haven't missed your chance! It doesn't end until Aug. 5, so there's still plenty of time to enjoy the challenge and the fun rewards that come along with it. For more information about any of these events and programs, go to cadl.org/events, the CADL Stockbridge Facebook page or stop by the library.

Capital Area District Libraries' Stockbridge Branch is located at 200 Wood St. For more information, call 517-851-7810 or visit cadl.org.



Who We Are

Founded in 2016, the Stockbridge Community News is a Michigan nonprofit organization, IRS-licensed to operate as a 501(c)(4) organization (# C4-4001565).

An unpaid, volunteer board of directors oversees all SCN operations.

Our monthly, printed newspaper is free and mailed at no-cost to members of the local community. Complementary printed copies are also made available at strategic locations in the community. Print subscriptions are available for a fee to those outside SCN's postal distribution boundaries.

Articles are posted online throughout the month and are available to view for free at stockbridgecommunitynews.com

Our Mission

To promote the common good and shared well-being of residents in the greater Stockbridge area through the collection and publication of local news and useful community information.

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Our Writers

Stockbridge Community News depends on our team of talented, local writers who regularly volunteer their time to ensure we deliver newsworthy content each month. Writer names are reflected in the bylines that appear with each story.

Editor-in-Chief Emeritus

Patrice Johnson, an SCN founder and first editor-in-chief (2016-2021)

We would love to hear from you!

Please share any article ideas or community events you think SCN readers would be interested in. You are also encouraged to contact us with your advertising questions or for information about volunteering.

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John and Theresa Kightlinger

Ask an Expert: What you need to know about repairing your vehicle's hail damage

by John and Theresa Kightlinger

Hail damage season is upon us. As the seasons change from spring to summer, it's important to be aware that hail often comes along for the ride. The Midwest faces severe weather that usually produces seven to nine hail days per year. With those storms

come hundreds of pop-up paintless dent repair shops, many from out of state. Before you choose a company, review this list of things you should know about repairing your car's hail damage.

Hail season goes from mid-April to mid-August. The states of Colorado, Wyoming and Nebraska make up America's "Hail Alley." These three states have closer freeze levels (the level of atmosphere at 32 degrees Fahrenheit or below) than anywhere else, resulting in larger, more damaging hail hitting the ground. There are, however, a lot of other states that get hail in the spring.

Insurance companies regularly underwrite hail estimates. Your insurance company is a for-profit business. It is aware that many people claim hail damage to receive a check, but then decide to pocket the cash instead of repairing the car.

Because of this, many insurance companies write estimates that are significantly lower than the cost to properly repair the vehicle. They are banking (literally) on the hope that the insured just cashes the check significantly increasing the insurance company's profit margin. Even if you decide not to repair your car, it would be wise to make sure that the amount the insurance company gives you is enough to do the right job. If you don't, you could be leaving as much as 50% of money owed on their table... not yours.

Paintless dent repair (PDR) can only go so far. If the hail that dents your vehicle is small and light enough, it's possible to work the dents out with metal tools. In the hands of a qualified expert, these tools can massage the metal back into shape from underneath. Sometimes your car may experience hail damage that is large and heavy enough to put microscopic cracks in your car's paint. When this happens, your vehicle is damaged beyond even the ability of the best paintless dent repair expert. The integrity of your car's paint has been compromised, and if not properly addressed by sanding and repairing, rust and further cracking will take place.

Hail damage can total your car. Insurance companies use mathematical formulas to decide whether or not it's worth it (to them — not you) to repair your car. When the cost of repair is higher than the amount the insurance company is willing to pay, it will declare your car "totaled." At that point, it will offer a settlement equivalent to what it feels your car is worth and write a check for that amount. It would be wise to check that settlement offer with a professional body shop to make sure that the insurance company is offering a fair value.

See Ask an Expert on page 20.



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John Robinson

Rock 'n' Roll Trivia How Mötley Crüe members selected the name

by John Robinson

Q: Why are there dots over Mötley Crüe's name?

A: The dots included in the spelling of the band name Mötley Crüe are called "umlauts." The band members settled on their name after hearing a friend refer to them as "a motley looking crew." They changed the spelling of the word "crew" and added umlauts based on the ones used for Löwenbrau beer, which they happened to be drinking that particular night.

Q: I know David Cassidy's father was actor Jack Cassidy. But was David's mother someone famous as well? I know that Shirley Jones was his stepmom.

A: David Cassidy's biological mother was actress Evelyn Ward. She never became a big star and only appeared on a few television shows between 1949-1965! During the '60s, she appeared on the programs "The Man From U.N.C.L.E.," "Dr. Kildare," "Ben Casey" and "Perry Mason." In 1953, she had a role on "Hallmark Hall of Fame" and her first TV job was for the 1949 program "Manhattan Showcase."

Q: Was Joe Cocker at Woodstock?

A: Yup. In fact, the 1969 Woodstock Festival was the first time Joe Cocker appeared in an American tour.

Q: In the early 2000s, I heard a different version of The Beatles' "Here Comes the Sun" on the radio. Please tell me who does it.

A: It could be a handful of people but the one that comes to mind is a version by vocalist Odette Telleria. It appears on a various artists CD called "A Tribute to The Beatles /Chill Out Versions" that came out in 2006. As for the song, "Here Comes the Sun" debuted on The Beatles' 1969 album "Abbey Road," written by George Harrison as he wandered with an acoustic guitar through Eric Clapton's garden. Not long before, George had temporarily quit The Beatles and was hanging out at Clapton's in order to avoid meetings at Apple Corps. After rejoining the band and working long hours to complete "Abbey Road," George felt the phrase "here comes the sun" mirrored his relief when the nights' recording sessions came to an end. "Here Comes the Sun" was intended to be included in a two-part composition, which included "Sun King," also found on "Abbey Road." John Lennon was not part of The Beatles' recording; at the time he was recuperating from an automobile accident.

Q: Who was the famous guy who sang lead on "Everybody Plays The Fool"?

A: That was a No. 3 hit in the summer of '72 for the Main Ingredient; the lead vocalist was Cuba Gooding, father of actor Cuba Gooding Jr. After the Main Ingredient released a handful of minor singles in the early '70s, original lead vocalist Don McPherson died of leukemia in 1971. Cuba Gooding replaced him as vocalist and the group had its first Top 10 (and Top 40) single with "Everybody Plays The Fool."

See Rock 'n' Roll on page 12.

Artisan Market – A local Event

by Joan Tucker

Waterloo Township Parks and Recreation Committee hosted an Artisan Market on June 24 on the property at the Township Hall. The event was an effort to support local businesses and artisans and was organized and offered at no cost to the vendors. By choice, it was held the same day as the Blacksmith event at the Waterloo Farm Museum to give folks an opportunity to go to a couple local events in a day.

The market hosted approximately 30 vendors offering many products, including pressed dried flowers, pottery, pastel painting, homemade jams, hand-knit hats, crystal garden art, stone work, antiques, and many other interesting creations. Happy Trails Beverage truck and Chelsea BLD Bistro truck were there to provide delicious food and drink.

As heavy clouds blew away, people wandered, enjoyed the art, visited, and snacked on treats. This Artisan Market turned into an enjoyable summer day for visitors and vendors alike.

All photos by Joan Tucker.



Waterloo Township Board Unapproved Meeting Minutes

23 May 2023 7:00 P.M. 9773 Mt. Hope Road Munith, MI 49259

Call to Order and Pledge: 7:00 p.m.

Present: Lance, Walz, McAlister, Beck. Also present: 7 residents and guests including Deputies Jim Moore and Andrea Denoyer. Public Comment: Sharon Houck said a prayer for the Township.

Bill Richardson reported on State House Committee regarding gravel pit legislation. He testified a couple of weeks ago. The legislation is still in Committee. He also brought up Proposition 2 regarding early voting and encouraged the Township to keep early voting here rather than in Jackson. If it becomes an issue to get people to work, he is willing to work each of those days.

Consent Agenda: Walz motioned with support that we accept the consent agenda as printed. Aye/all; no/none. Motion carried.

Walz motioned that we accept post audit report in amount of \$1063.49. Beck seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Building and Zoning: Beck, no report.

SAESA: Beck. The meeting was rather short. The back parking lot has been leased to Northern Clearing for \$4500 for three months. This money will go into the SAESA General Fund. There have been cold patch repairs to the parking lot. The Board also discussed pay increases for employees.

Police Report: Deputy Moore's report for April was as follows: Deputy Moore and deputies assigned to Waterloo Township worked 147 hours and patrolled 2197 miles. Deputies responded to 26 calls for service. Deputies conducted 42 traffic stops and issued 18 citations. Two misdemeanor arrests were made in response to property damage traffic crashes. Deputies from the Sheriff's Office responded to 20 calls for service. The Michigan State Police responded to 10 calls for service. Deputy Moore announced his retirement. His last day on the road in Waterloo Township will be Thursday, May 25, 2023. Walz said thank you for your service.

Andrea Denoyer will be our new Deputy. She introduced herself. She has been with the Sheriff's Office 5 years. She is excited to meet everyone and thanks us for the opportunity to work here.

Correspondence:

Lance noted that we have received a map from Jim Cole. Jan had corresponded with him to get information on roads that have been rehabilitated. Wendy said that we need to hold the County accountable for road maintenance. All rehabilitation is scheduled in Blackman Township. Lance will contact Jim Cole to get additional information and see what the status is. Lance read an unsigned letter complaining about money donated to the Stockbridge Schools Foundation.

SPECIAL ORDER: Stockbridge Outreach gave a presentation on the services available through them and the needs that they meet.

SPECIAL ORDER: Lance motioned with support from McAlister to approve the 2023 renewal permit for Aggregate Resources for one year with the following conditions:

1. The new permit expires on June 1st, 2024.
2. Aggregate Resources retains the existing

surety bond language, and dollar amount of \$50,000 (this includes the 10% Twp administrative fee).

3. Insurance policy remains in place as required.

4. No mining shall occur below 990' in the pit floor.

5. Aggregate Resources will maintain eroded slopes and undertake final reclamation including tree plantings and pit floor reclamation.

6. Aggregate Resources will provide current contact information showing the persons or entities with a current interest in the land or operations, including the business owner and property owners, whether individuals, trust beneficiaries, heirs or otherwise by June 1, 2023.

7. Aggregate Resources will provide an updated contract agreement with the property owner or evidence from the property owner to continue operations under the September 1, 2011 Material Extraction Agreement as soon as possible.

8. Aggregate Resources will either present the renewed soil erosion and sedimentation control permit, or evidence of a good faith effort to obtain the renewal, by June 1, 2023.

9. Aggregate Resources and the Property Owner will provide a joint closure plan before expiration of the current permit including what equipment will be removed and how and what materials may remain on the property after the operation has completed under Ordinance section 6.05(W) including fencing, signage, scale and scale house, etc.

Aye/all; no/none. Absent: Kitley Motion carried.

Old Business:

New Business:

Parks & Recreation: Walz said the June 24 Artisan Market is very well set and has 30+ vendors. There will be a coffee truck and a food truck, also. She thanked the Stockbridge Alt Ed group of students who worked at cleaning up the Munith Park and did a great job.

Planning Commission: They reviewed Zoning information spreadsheet using Township and County data. They also reviewed Zoning maps for Munith, Waterloo and Clear Lake communities for possible zoning classifications. Proposed Sections 15 Sign Ordinance distributed to Planning Commission members. They discussed pending state legislative committee bill regarding aggregate mining.

Action Items:

- Walz motioned with support from Beck to approve the quote for 2 computers. Roll call vote: Yes/Beck, McAlister, Walz, Lance. No/none. Absent: Kitley. Motion carried.

- Beck motioned with support from Lance to approve Amendment O-23-05-23-1 Sign Ordinance. Aye/all; no/none. Absent: Kitley. Motion carried.

Public Comment:

Adjournment: Walz motioned with support from McAlister to adjourn at 8:05 p.m. Aye/all; no/none. Absent: Kitley Motion carried.

The next Planning Commission meeting will be Tuesday, June 20, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. The next regular board meeting will be on June 27, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. Budget Hearing will be 6:30 p.m. Minutes will be published in the Stockbridge Community News at the end of each month, The Exponent, on our website waterlootwpmi.gov and on our Facebook page at: waterlootownshipmichigan.

Submitted by: Janice Kitley, Clerk

Community Calendar

Mondays in July- Storytime in the Park for stories and crafts, 10 to 10:30 a.m. at the Stockbridge Library

Tuesdays - Stockbridge Farmers Market, 5 to 8 p.m. at Mackinder Glenn Post 510

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays – Prepared Meals for Seniors through Stockbridge Area Senior Center, noon to 2 p.m. at the Stockbridge Area Senior Center

Wednesdays – Pop-up food distribution for anyone in need, 1 to 3 p.m. at Stockbridge Community Outreach

Thursdays – Coffee chats, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Stockbridge Library

Fridays – Open Air Market, 4 to 7 p.m. on the Stockbridge Town Square

Occasional Fridays (Call Library for dates) - Keep Calm and Carry Yarn, 1 to 2 p.m. at the Stockbridge Library

July 4 – The Sons of the American Legion Monthly Meeting, 7 to 8 p.m. at Mackinder Glenn Post 510

July 4 – Annual Gregory Fourth of July Celebrations (See schedule on page 18 for more information)

July 7 – SRSly at the Open Air Market, 4 to 7 p.m. (See ad on page 2 for more information)

July 10 – The American Legion Monthly Meeting, 7 to 8 p.m. at Mackinder Glenn Post 510

July 11 – Pickleball: Learn the basics, 10 to 11:30 a.m. (ages 10 and up) and 6:30-8:00 p.m. (adults only) at Veterans Memorial Park

July 12 – Wednesday Wonders. Drummunity community drumming, 10:30 a.m. at the Stockbridge Library (Call the library for alternative location if it rains).

July 13 – Pickleball: Learn the basics, 6:30-8:00 p.m. (adults only) at Veterans Memorial Park

July 15 – Pickleball: Learn the basics, 10 to 11:30 a.m. (aimed at families) at Veterans Memorial Park

July 19 – Wednesday Wonders. Let's Learn about Honeybees, 10:30 a.m. at the Stockbridge Library

July 24 - July 28 – Vacation Bible Study, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Jeruel Baptist Church

July 25 – The American Legion Ladies Auxiliary Monthly Meeting, 7 to 8 p.m. at Mackinder Glenn Post 510

July 26 – Wednesday Wonders. Freshwater Mussels Outreach Program from U.S. Fish and Wildlife staff, 10:30 a.m. at the Stockbridge Library

For more community events visit: www.stockbridgecommunitynews.com. To add your community events to our free community calendar, email submissions to stockbridgecommunitynews@gmail.com.

STOCKBRIDGE TOWNSHIP MEETING MINUTES

June 19, 2023

Stockbridge Township Supervisor CG Lantis called the Regular Stockbridge Township Board Meeting to order on June 19, 2023 at 7:34pm at the Stockbridge Township Hall. Members present at the Stockbridge Township Regular Board Meeting; Supervisor CG Lantis, Clerk Becky Muraf, Treasurer James Wireman, Trustee Ed Wetherell, Trustee Terry Sommer. Member absent None. Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence
Sommer motion to accept the Stockbridge Township Regular meeting agenda as printed Wetherell Second All in Favor Motion Carried

Citizen's Comment: None

Sommer motion to accept the Stockbridge Township Meeting Minutes from May 15, 2023, as printed Wetherell Second All in Favor Motion Carried

Wireman motion to except the Stockbridge Township Financial Report as printed Muraf Second All in Favor Motion Carried Jackie Scheller from Stockbridge Outreach did a presentation on Outreach and how they help the community.

Old Business

Sommer gave an update on the Stockbridge Memorial Wall and the Application Process.

Wireman motion to hire Granger for the

Stockbridge Township Cleanup Day on September 16, 2023 from 10 AM to 2 PM for Four associates Two Garbage trucks at a rate of \$ 321.50 an hour per truck Sommer Second All in Favor Motion Carried Stockbridge Township remaining movie nights are July 21, August 18, September 18, October 31.

New Business

Lantis is going to talk to Randy Bodenmiller who is interested in donating his time to paint the Canon that is on the Stockbridge Township Square. Stockbridge Township will purchase the paint and supplies.

Wireman motion that Stockbridge Township accept the bid to reseal the Parking area at 125 S Clinton Stockbridge MI for \$1,500.00 to Badall Sealcoating Roll Call Vote Wetherell Yes, Sommer Yes, Muraf Yes,

Wireman Yes, Lantis Yes. Motion Carried Wireman Motion table Stockbridge Library request to put in Native plants in front of the Stockbridge Library Wetherell Second All in Favor Motion Carried

Sommer motion to pay the Stockbridge Township Monthly Bills in the amount of \$45,994.93 Wireman Second All in Favor Motion Carried

Citizen's Comment Discussion

Sommer Motion to adjourn the Stockbridge Township Board regular monthly meeting at 8:42 Pm Wireman Second All in Favor Motion Carried

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'This I Believe'

For the past several years, Stockbridge High School and the Stockbridge Friends of the Library have collaborated to offer an essay-writing contest in order to engage Stockbridge High School students in an exploration of the core beliefs that guide their daily lives. Held twice a year, the contest is based on NPR's four-year-running and now defunct "This I Believe" program.

Winners of the semiannual "This I Believe" contest are in, and the third, second and first place winners would like to remain anonymous, but we are happy to still be able to publish their essays.

SCN is pleased to publish the third-place winner's essay below in the student's words, usually with no edits made by SCN editors. Be sure to check out the August and September issues for the second-place and first-place winning essays.

Third-place winning essay

Have you ever felt like you're lost? Hopeless? Maybe even trapped between a rock and a hard place? If so I definitely can relate to that feeling. Growing up I was trying to raise my 4 younger siblings along with going to school and taking care of myself. I've always felt like I was trapped and like I had no way out.

I was angry at my dad because he was always gone. The girl he was with was no better. While I changed diapers, prepared their food, and watched them for hours, she got to sit on the couch and watch what she wanted on tv. Then when I'd do something wrong she would berate me and sometimes even get physical with me. I had a very strong growing resentment for my siblings because even tho it wasn't their fault, in my mind I thought it was.

Around 6th grade, I became very hateful and would take that rage out on anyone who bothered me. When I went home I'd confine myself to my room to try to get away from everyone and everything, little did I know that was the worst decision of my life. As a result, I began to feel empty, lonely, cold, anxious, and like I was just a burden. That's when I would resort to anger as my escape.

In June of 2022, I got into a really heated argument with my dad. Everything in my mind went black and when I came back I found myself outside in the car. I still don't know all what happened but I remember my dad coming out and talking to me about the past. That's when he told me something I would have never expected to hear. He was on meth while with my old stepmom and that's why he was gone all the time. He began to break down some of the walls he had up before and tell me everything that really happened. I had never seen my dad like that before, and during those few moments, I felt like a little light just appeared. Little did I know that small light was about to turn into the sun.

It wasn't until December of 2022 that I tore down what rest I had up. That was when I regained connection with my best friend. He was one of the best things that has happened to me. He helped me see that there was more to the world outside of my 4 wall bedroom. When I went outside with him I didn't just see the trees swaying with the wind, but I felt the wind on my bare arms, I could hear the sweet song of morning doves, and I felt like I could feel again.

I guess what really opened my eyes to perceive the world as much more than the distance my eyes can see was when I went to Tennessee with him. Something about the way the sun shines on my face when it peered through the mountain gaps, the way the river felt when guiding my kayak up to a waterfall, and the feeling as if the rest of the world seemed to disappear alongside with the anger and sadness that came with it every time he would talk to me. He made me see the orange in the sunrise, the purple in the sunset, and the green in the trees. He made me feel like I could see colors that I'd never seen before.

See 'This I Believe' on page 13.



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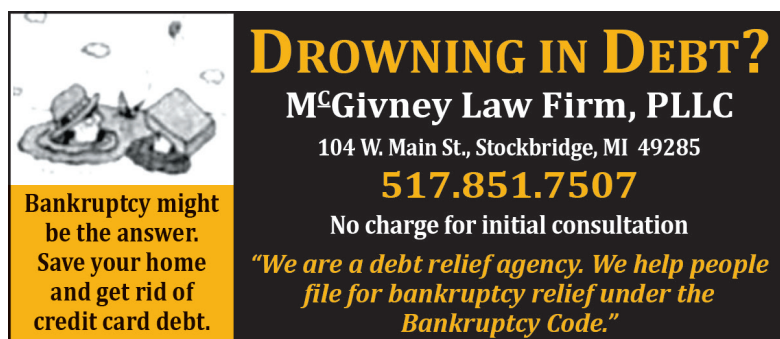
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Chief Bartus page 1

An opportunity closer to home opened up, landing Bartus a position in Pittsfield Township, Mich., where he worked until he began as the interim chief of police in Stockbridge.

Bartus's interests have included working as a firearms instructor, supervising command training, and performing community service. He led school programs for autism awareness and other mental health workshops and developed a list for area kids with autism who were at risk for flight. Having a child with autism has given him an understanding of their issues, and Bartus has a passion for keeping these kids safe.

Currently, Chief Bartus is completing a master's degree in police administration.

Community is very important to Bartus. He moved his family to the Stockbridge area and attends one of our local churches. Meeting with local businesses, the Village of Stockbridge, and Stockbridge Community Schools, he has opened lines of communication to assess and meet the needs of our community. He has also made it a point to attend local events to introduce himself to folks. Just this year he taught high school programs on cyber safety and anti-bullying.

Having a presence in our school system is a priority for Bartus. Interacting with students and staff will give the Stockbridge Police Department the opportunity to educate and develop programs to keep schools safe. In spite of no budget for a school resource officer, the school obtained a grant. That, along with extra money from Stockbridge, Waterloo, and Unadilla Townships, along with the Village of Stockbridge, has enabled the community to support a full-time school resource officer position. The grant was approved for three years with ongoing work to sustain the position. An active candidate search has begun for filling this position.

The Stockbridge Police department currently consists of two full-time positions (one of which Bartus filled) and two part-time positions. Ronald Smith will be the second full-time officer; he is currently finishing the police academy sponsored by the Stockbridge Police Department. Once the school resource officer position is filled, there will be three full-time officers.

David Mckeeon serves as a part-time road patrol officer, and Myranda Fairbotham, a reserve officer, is in the process of being hired for the second part-time position.

When asked about some of his goals for Stockbridge, Chief Bartus had an impressive list. He cited a need to update police policies and procedures, which would cover police reform and training with more focus on mental health. He also would like the Stockbridge Police Department to comply with The Michigan Police Agency's accreditation guidelines. Understanding these needs, Bartus applied for and received an initial grant from the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police to help with the lengthy accreditation and training process, and he has applied for a federal grant to supplement costs for continued training. The police department should hear a decision about this in October.

Another of Chief Bartus's goals is to ensure that community members are comfortable coming to him with their issues. While he is learning about our community through social media, he would value more direct personal conversation. So next time you see Chief Bartus, introduce yourself and give him a warm welcome!

NOTE: The Police Department has moved to the Stockbridge Area Emergency Services Authority (SAESA) building on the corner of M-106 and M-52.

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Obituaries

Duane C. Kunzelman



Duane C. Kunzelman
Oct. 10, 1947 to May 25, 2023

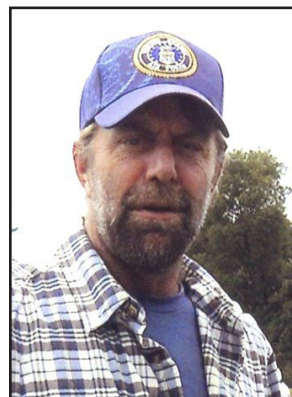
Duane C. Kunzelman, age 75, of Gregory, MI, passed away on May 25, 2023 at his home in Unadilla Twp, MI. Duane was born on October 10, 1947 in Ann Arbor, MI to Phillip and Margaret (Bovee) Kunzelman.

He had lived in the Gregory area all of his life. Duane loved to hunt and fish. He also loved to farm. Duane served in the US Army from 1966-1968. He remained an active member of the Mackinder Glenn American Legion Post #510 in Stockbridge. Duane had worked for DANA Corporation in Chelsea as a machine operator for many years. He married Chita (Moeckel) on February 15, 1969, and they enjoyed 54 years of marriage before she passed away in 2020.

Surviving are his children, Eric (Beth) Kunzelman and Kenneth (Kristina) Kunzelman, all of Gregory; three grandchildren, Brooke Kunzelman, Kayden Kunzelman, and Kristopher Kunzelman; his brother, Gordie (Penny) Kunzelman of Gregory; as well as many nieces, nephews, and other relatives. In addition to his wife, Chita, he was preceded in death by his parents, and a brother, Harold Kunzelman.

Per his wishes, cremation has taken place, and a private service was held. Memorial contributions may be made to the Unadilla Twp. Fire Department. Arrangements by Caskey-Mitchell Funeral Home, Stockbridge.

Timothy "Bub" Beal



Timothy "Bub" Beal
Aug. 30, 1962 to May 26, 2023

Timothy "Bub" Beal, age 60, of Gregory, MI, passed away on May 26, 2023 at his home.

He was born on August 30, 1962 in Ann Arbor, MI, to Paul and Loretta (Schmitz) Beal. Bub had lived in the Gregory area most of his life, graduating from Stockbridge High School in 1980. He had worked as a farmer for most of his life, working for Ted Watters & Sons Farm. He enjoyed NASCAR, partying with his friends, playing poker. He took great pride in his 1983 Mustang GT.

On April 28, 2017, he married Laurie (Allen), and she survives. Also surviving are two sons, Garrett Cole of Stockbridge, MI and Michael (Robin) Perry of Texas; mother-in-law, Terry Risner of Stockbridge; brother, Mark (Theresa) Beal of Stockbridge, and sisters, Marcia (Jim) Bisonet of Homer, and Denise (James) Estle of Newnan, GA; two grandchildren, Matthew and Harper; two aunts, Delores Fouty and Nancy Guenther; nephews, Jeremy Beal, Robert Beal, and Marcus Beal; and nieces, Kendra Winn and Amber Walz; as well as many great-nieces and great-nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, Paul and Loretta Beal, and a nephew, Jacob Walz.

A Memorial Service was held on Friday, June 2, 2023, 12:00 p.m., at the Family Tabernacle Church of God, 15901 M-36, Pinckney, with Pastor Jeff Howard officiating. Burial followed at Plainfield Cemetery. The family received friends at the church on Friday from 10:00 a.m. until the time of service.

Memorial contributions may be made to Stockbridge Community Outreach. Arrangements by Caskey-Mitchell Funeral Home, Stockbridge.

Death Notices

If you wish to have a death notice included in a future edition and posted on the SCN website, please contact Stockbridge Community News.

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

- Jessie James Mays, of Munith, died in May 2023
- George H. Menge, of Waterloo, died June 14, 2023
- Georgie "Jean" Fletcher, of Stockbridge, died June 16, 2023



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Sat., July 15th - 3 to 6 p.m.

Annual Ice Cream Social and Classic Vehicle Show

The Waterloo Village UMC is hosting its annual Ice Cream Social and Classic Vehicle Show on Saturday, July 15 from 3 to 6 p.m. The church is located within the Village of Waterloo at 8110 Washington St.

Classic trucks, tractors and motorcycles are welcome! Dinner is a Free Will donation and includes: pulled pork, brats and hot dogs as well as many side dishes, and don't forget the ice cream and pies for dessert.

There will be a bake sale and we are looking for local crafters to set up booths during the event.

For more information, contact:

Ice Cream Social – Nancy Hughes at 734-475-8180.
Classic Car Show – Dan Lancaster at 734-475-0444.

Active Aging

Independence: The need for connection and purpose is very real.



For seniors, loss of independence should not equal isolation. Photo by Gene Gallin at unsplash.com

by Dana Blaszkowski

Independence Day is upon us! Happy Fourth of July! Independence is defined as “freedom of control by an external power.” We celebrate our American colonies signing the written declaration in 1776 stating that they would no longer be ruled by Great Britain.

When we raise children, we do it with the ultimate goal of helping them attain successful independence. Let’s face it, for busy parents, it’s often quicker and easier to just do everything for them. But when we encourage toddlers to use their own utensils to feed themselves, to get dressed on their own, and eventually to tie their own shoes, we are launching their independence. Later teenagers and young adults strive for freedom and independence, as is only natural.

Life goes on and freedom rings. Experience will season us, and we will sometimes find ourselves

challenged again, this time to remain independent ourselves. When older adults make the tough decision to stop driving or to move to a new and different living arrangement, it’s the independence that is so hard to give up.

Independence requires special consideration for things we know may become more challenging as we age, such as personal care, household chores, meals, money management, health care and transportation. It's also essential to find appropriate activities and friends.

Older adults can be at greater risk for isolation and loneliness because of health changes. Gradual loss of social connections can sometimes accompany aging, especially where disabilities like hearing, vision, or memory loss are involved or when transportation becomes a challenge. Loss of time with family and friends can have a profound effect on our well being. The need for connection and purpose is very real. Humans are social

creatures and we thrive on engaging, meaningful, productive activities. Loss of independence should not equal isolation.

A variety of resources are available today, with a positive trend toward planning ahead and being prepared to age in place successfully. We invite you to look into your Stockbridge CADL library, the Outreach program, community service groups, churches, and of course your Stockbridge Area Senior Center for a calendar full of activities. We facilitate and encourage connection, friendship, purpose and fun. We’d love to have you join us!

Dana Blaszkowski is the director of the Stockbridge Area Senior Center, a great place to spend some time!

Rock 'n' Roll page 7

Q: Who sang "Am I Fool Number One?" Was it Brenda Lee?

A: Yup. "Fool #1" was a No. 3 hit for Brenda in late 1961. It was originally titled "The Biggest Fool Of All" and was intended as a hit record for Loretta Lynn.

Q: The Carpenters' song "Close to You" – written by Barry Manilow or not?

A: Nope; that hit was written by Burt Bacharach and Hal David as "They Long to be Close to You" in 1963. The songwriters originally intended the song to be recorded by Herb Alpert but Alpert turned it down; instead it was recorded by Dionne Warwick. In the early '70s, Alpert strongly suggested the song to Richard Carpenter (Alpert was the Carpenters' boss at A&M Records). Richard took the liberty of shortening the title to simply "Close to You." He and sister Karen made the recording and it went all the way to No. 1 during the summer of 1970.

John Robinson grew up in Stockbridge and graduated from Stockbridge High School in 1969. He's been an author, TV host, columnist, actor, producer, emcee and radio broadcaster. Robinson's favorite music of all time includes surf, psychedelia, garage bands, Motown and just plain ol' good-time rock 'n' roll. To read more rock 'n' roll trivia, "Paranormal Michigan" stories, and lots more, check out Robinson's books on his author page at facebook.com/johnrobinsonauthor.

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Bridge to Wellness Nurturing Healthy Connections

by Anna Webber, LMSW

Do you remember how easy it was to make friends when you were younger? It seemed like a simple swing on the swings could lead to an instant connection and a lifelong bond. As you grow older, however, making immediate connections doesn't happen as often. You may become busier and more cautious about how you spend your time and who you choose to spend it with. Nevertheless, fostering positive and fulfilling relationships remains crucial for good health and well-being.

But how do you discern which connections will uplift you rather than drain your energy?

Active listening and showing a genuine interest in others' lives is a great starting point for figuring out if someone shares your values and interests, and whether that person is interested in establishing a relationship with you. For example, make sure your body language shows you are interested in what the other person is saying. Put down your phone and focus your attention on the other person, asking open ended questions that encourage that person to share more deeply. By discussing and bonding over shared experiences, values and interests, you set a strong foundation for a healthy and lasting relationship.

However, not all connections are going to be positive ones. If you notice, for example, the genuine interest you are showing in someone else's life is not reciprocated, it might be a sign that this is not the beginning of a long-lasting, healthy connection. Constant negativity, lack of trust, disrespectful behavior, and disregard for boundaries are common behavioral warning signs that may signal an unhealthy dynamic in relationships. Trust your intuition and assess the situation. If a relationship consistently exhibits these behaviors or causes significant distress, even after you have communicated your needs, thoughts and feelings, it may be necessary to reevaluate and consider creating distance or seeking support from trusted individuals or professionals.

Fostering healthy connections and building positive relationships is an ongoing process that requires self-awareness and open communication. Surround yourself with individuals who uplift and support you, and be willing to let go of relationships that no longer serve your well-being.

By nurturing positive connections, you can create a network of relationships that contribute to your personal growth and happiness.

This column is sponsored by the Stockbridge Area Wellness Coalition (SAWC). Anna Webber is a licensed social worker and, along with the Community Health Improvement Team at Chelsea Hospital, coordinates the SRSly Manchester and Stockbridge programs.



It's typically much easier to make friends when you are young. But fostering positive and fulfilling relationships is crucial for good health and well-being as you get older too. Photo by Robert Collins at unsplash.com



'This I Believe' page 9

I feel like everyone who's struggling should reach out and try to step outside of their realm of comfort. By doing so much as getting outside and really taking in the world for what it is and not just what you can see, you'll learn to perceive the world as much more than the distance your eyes can see. Sometimes all it takes is one light bulb to create a lifetime of sunshine. It's important to take notice of things, even when you can't particularly see them. It will improve the positivity in your life, and you'll begin to see improvements in your well-being. Remember that there's nothing that you can't overcome as long as you put your heart into it. Even Snakes shed their skin off when they're in between a rock and a hard place.



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GRAND SLAM SUNDAE

STOCKBRIDGE SPORTS

Stockbridge girls softball season ends in D3 Districts

by Mike Williamson

A rebuilding year for the Stockbridge softball team ended with a 2-0 loss to Perry at the D3 Districts in Leslie June 3.

The Panthers squad that started several freshmen throughout the year saw its season end with a 9-27 overall record.

Stockbridge could muster just one hit in the 2-0 loss to the Ramblers in the D3 district semis.

Liliana Ramalia had the lone hit for the Panthers in the loss.

Bailey Bartrum allowed just two unearned runs, while allowing three hits and striking out 11 in the circle for the Panthers.

Durand The Panthers split a doubleheader with Durand May 30, dropping the opener 5-4 and winning the second 17-13.

Bartrum had a three-run triple for Stockbridge, while Jessica Sparks had a hit and two runs scored. Maddie Rusnock and Jolie Smith had a hit and run scored each.

Sparks had a big second game for the Panthers with two hits, including a triple and five RBIs.

Makayla Surline had a double and triple with two RBIs, while Rusnock had a hit and two RBIs. Melanie Satkowiak added a hit and RBI. Sparks earned the win in the circle with four strikeouts.

Corunna The Panthers took a pair of games May 25 from Corunna 3-1 and 11-6.

Sparks had two hits and an RBI, while Surline had two hits and two runs scored. Satkowiak added two hits and a run scored, while Arianna Place had a hit and RBI, and Ramalia one hit.

Bartrum struck out 13 for the win.

The Panthers pounded out 17 hits in the second game, led by Bartrum with a 4-4 night.

Place added three hits and two RBIs, while McKenna Mezo had two hits and three RBIs. Surline had two hits and two RBIs, while Sparks and Ramalia had two hits and one RBI each. Rusnock and Smith added one hit each.

Bartrum struck out 10 for the win in the circle.



Macy Cipta fires a runner out at first base. Photos by Mike Williamson



Bailey Bartrum fires a pitch for Stockbridge.



Noah Sandecki brings the heat for the Panthers. Photo credit Mike Williamson

Rough season ends for Panthers baseball team

by Mike Williamson

A very young Stockbridge baseball team saw its season end with a 13-0 loss to Grass Lake in the D3 Districts at Grass Lake June 3.

The Panthers had just one senior on this year's squad and finished with a 2-28-1 record.

Stockbridge could muster just one hit against the Warriors in the district semifinals.

Grass Lake scored six in the first inning and never looked back against the Panthers. Noah Sandecki had the only hit for the Panthers.

Leslie The Panthers dropped a tough 1-0 decision to the Blackhawks May 26.

The only run of the game came in the third inning on a two-out error by the Panthers.

Zach Fletcher struck out seven and allowed four hits on the mound for Stockbridge, while Jayden Pilch and Nick Graves each had a hit.

Pinckney The Panthers dropped a doubleheader May 25 to the Pirates 13-3 and 12-1.

Sandecki had a two-run single to lead the Panthers offense, while Collin Cook had a single in the opener.

The second game saw Cruz Medina pick up a hit and RBI, while Fletcher had a hit and run scored. Trevor Patterson, Graves and Kyle Cheesman also had hits for the Panthers.

Vermontville Maple Valley Stockbridge dropped a 10-0 and 16-3 doubleheader to Vermontville Maple Valley May 23.

After not collecting a hit in the opener, Cook and Pilch each had a hit and run scored in the second, while Connor Fitzsimmons had a hit for the Panthers.

STOCKBRIDGE SPORTS



Gracee Robidou earned D3 all-state honors in the long jump and 300 hurdles. Photos by Mike Williamson



Azora Parks set a PR at the D3 state finals in the discus.



Micah Bolton finished 13th in the 3200 and was part of the 4x800 relay that was 20th.

Robidou All-State in two events at D3 State Finals

by Mike Williamson

D3 State Track and Field Finals

Stockbridge junior Gracee Robidou had one of the best finishes in Stockbridge track history by earning All-State honors in two events at the D3 State Track and Field Finals in Kent City June 3.

Robidou improved on her own school record with a fourth-place finish in the 300 hurdles with a time of 48.12 to earn All-State honors.

She also jumped a season-best and earned All-State honors in the long jump with an eighth-place finish. Robidou did not qualify for the finals but finished 12th in the 100 hurdles with a PR time of 16.77.

Megan Mackinder had a strong showing for the Panthers at the finals with a 13th-place finish in the discus and a 17th-place finish in the shot put.

Azora Parks set a personal record and finished 27th in the shot put, while Jaylee Chapman was 22nd in the 1600.

Chapman also teamed with Anna Ransom, Ava Vaccaro and Kristina Wilde to finish 23rd in the 4x800 relay.

Micah Bolton led the boys team with a 13th-place finish in the 3200 and was part of the 4x800 relay team, with Collin Cook, Ethan Wright and Brock Rochow, that finished 20th.

Foster Pybus earned a 23rd-place finish in the high jump.

GLAC Finals

The teams competed in the GLAC Finals May 24; the girls earned a second-place finish and the boys were fifth.

Robidou had a huge day for the girls with second-place finishes in the 100 hurdles and 300 hurdles, third in the long jump, and fifth in the 100.

Chapman was second in the 1600 and part of the 4x800 relay that finished second with Ransom, Vaccaro and Wilde.

Vaccaro was second and Ransom third in the 3200, while Ransom teamed with Wilde, Chapman and Samantha Nothnagel to finish third in the 4x400. Alora Mullins, Nothnagel, Eliana Johnson and Tayla Trapp finished fourth in the 4x200 relay, while Chapman was third and Wilde fourth in the 800.

Mackinder finished third in the shot put and fourth in the discus, while Nothnagel was fifth in the long jump.

Pybus won the high jump to lead the boys squad.

Bolton was third in the 1600 and 3200 and was part of the 4x800 relay, with Cook, Rochow and Wright, that finished third.

Jake Sawicki was fifth in the 200, Wright fifth in the 1600, and Cook fifth in the 3200.

Damien Hayes, Pybus, Remi Samek and Sawicki earned fourth-place finishes in the 4x100 and 4x200 relays, while Hayes, Cook, Pybus and Bolton were fourth in the 4x400.

Panthers golfers finish 11th at D3 Regionals

by Mike Williamson

The Stockbridge golf team wrapped up its first season in five years with an 11th-place finish at the D3 Regionals at Hawk Hollow Golf Course in Lansing May 30.

The Panthers finished with an 18-hole team score of 400 in the regionals won by Lansing Catholic with 316.

Wyatt Loso shot a round of 96 to lead the Panthers.

Drew Robinson shot 99 and Kegan Collins 102, while Evan Sandecki finished with 103 and Noah Beaugard 112.

Stockbridge finished fifth out of seven teams at the GLAC league tournament at Forest Akers East Golf Course at Michigan State University May 24.

The Panthers finished with a score of 385 in the event won by Lakewood with 347.

Collins led the way with a round of 91 and Sandecki followed with 95.

Robinson finished with a 99, Loso 100, Chase Kunzelman 102, and Lucas Hoard 113.

Tickets now on sale for Farm to Table 8th Annual Fabulous Feast

Information provided by 5 Healthy Towns

An apple a day keeps the doctor away — or so the story goes! Join us on Sunday, September 10, to celebrate our local farmers markets and our great Michigan seasonal bounty at this year's Farm to Table Fabulous Feast event. Tickets are now on sale.

WHAT: 5 Healthy Towns Farm to Table Fabulous Feast, a multi-course dinner and celebration

WHEN: Sunday, September 10, 2023, 3 p.m.-6 p.m.

WHERE: Alber Orchard & Cider Mill, Manchester

COST: Tickets are \$75. Available online at Eventbrite or at the Farmers Markets in Chelsea, Dexter, Grass Lake, Manchester, and Stockbridge.

This annual event has come full circle, being hosted by each of the 5 Healthy Town communities since 2016, including last year when the event made its way back to Chelsea. For 2023, the volunteer planning committee is excited about working with community members from each of the towns, as well as this year's host, **Alber Orchard & Cider Mill in Manchester.**

"Alber Orchard has welcomed us for the second time," said Laura Wohlgemuth, planning committee member. "This venue is the perfect place to celebrate the fall harvest season, local farmers, and a wonderful dinner prepared and served by your friends and neighbors. This year we will use the barns and inside seating areas accessible to everyone, so we will be protected, rain or shine!"

The planning committee has lined up local chefs to prepare the feast and is pleased to welcome back chefs from Smokehouse 52, Silver Maples, Chelsea Alehouse, and Moveable Feast. New contributors include Lakehouse Bakery, Manchester Market, Smokey Michigan, River Raisin Distillery, Chateau, and Millie's Coffeehouse.

This year's silent auction features great gifts, services, and gift cards from local businesses. The auction will open on the day of the event, and donations can be made using the link.

Steve Petty, CEO of the 5 Healthy Towns Foundation, sees the event as much more than a dinner.

"Our local farmers markets are our partners in every way — helping families in our communities to eat better and connect with each other — two important elements of the Foundation's mission. Our farmers markets play an essential role in the five healthy towns to support greater access to fresh, local foods at affordable prices."

To volunteer, sponsor, donate or attend this year's event, use this link: <https://www.5healthytowns.org/farm-to-table-dinner/>

For more information about the 5 Healthy Towns Foundation or the five farmers markets, visit www.5healthytowns.org.



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—Dennis, McCarthy.

Duchess Potatoes.—Peel and boil enough potatoes to make a pint when mashed. Mix them with the yolk of an egg, two tablespoonfuls of melted butter and the same quantity of cream. Turn this mixture on a pastry board and press it flat and smooth. With a sharp knife cut the potato paste into squares of uniform size, remove with a pancake turner to a greased baking sheet. Set in the oven to set, sprinkle with grated cheese of any kind and bake a delicate brown.

Nellie Maxwell

Stockbridge Brief-Sun • July 5, 1923

The rebirth of this 100-year-old Duchess Potatoes recipe from Nellie Maxwell may give rise to a new potato-crust pizza craze.



Woah Nellie!

Move over cauliflower crust. Duchess Potatoes could lead to a new 'potato crust' craze

by Mary Jo David

Growing up, my family sat down to a home-cooked meal every night, and that meal generally consisted of a meat, a vegetable, a salad, and a starch—and by starch, I mean potatoes! Sure, there was the occasional pasta or rice, but more often than not, we had some form of spuds—mashed, baked, parslid, or the requisite French fries or potato chips to go with our Saturday night chili dogs. Amazingly, none of us ever got tired of potatoes.

I'm not alone in my love for all things potato. It turns out, lots of famous people love potatoes—Dolly Parton, Trisha Yearwood, Mary J. Blige, and Mr. T to name a few. So when it came time to pick this month's recipe from the late Nellie Maxwell's syndicated column that ran in the Stockbridge Brief-Sun 100 years ago, it's not surprising that I went searching for a potato recipe. I landed on Duchess Potatoes (see recipe clipping).

Nowadays if you Google "Duchess Potatoes" you'll find fancy-looking individual servings that have been ornately piped with a large star decorator tip and then baked. But our Nellie was a practical cook, and to her, Duchess Potatoes were about the addition of an egg to the mash, not about piping them into rosettes.

Nellie was very specific about boiling a pint of mashed potatoes for this recipe. That required just over four medium russets. I added the egg, butter and milk, per her instructions, and although I used salted butter, I made the executive decision to also add salt and fresh-ground pepper, crushed rosemary (less than 1/8 of a teaspoon), and the same amount of poultry seasoning.

Where this recipe turned dicey was at the instructions for turning the potato mixture out onto a pastry board, shaping it flat and smooth, then cutting it into squares and moving those squares to a greased baking sheet. To this I say, "No way!" I first tried turning the mixture onto a wooden board, then onto my lightly floured countertop, and even onto wax paper. But every time I attempted to move the individually cut squares to the cookie sheet they landed like a pile of mush.

Finally, I simply spread the mixture onto a parchment-lined cookie sheet, sprinkled colby jack cheese on top, and cut the large rectangle into squares without moving them. Into the oven they went, but I couldn't help noticing my Duchess Potatoes were looking a lot like a deep-dish potato-crust pizza.

Alas, Nellie took to her grave with the recommended oven temperature for this recipe, so I did some more Googling and decided on a 375-degree oven. If I waited for the potatoes to turn a delicate brown, I'm afraid I'd still be waiting. So, after a 25-minute bake, I turned the oven broiler on low until the potato top turned a nice golden brown. After cooling for about 5 minutes, I re-cut the rectangle slices because the potatoes had puffed up, and my original cuts were no longer visible.

Upon tasting a portion, I came to the conclusion that Duchess Potatoes taste a lot like potato pierogi, even though there is no dough on the outside.

But my work here is never complete until I hear from my husband, the official taste tester, who, after a moment of thought, declared that Duchess Potatoes taste like ... (wait for it) ... potato pierogi! He also mentioned he thinks this recipe is the best of the nine recipes I've tried from Nellie's collection. And as A.A. Milne, author of the Winnie the Pooh stories, once said, "If a fellow really likes potatoes, he must be a pretty decent sort of fellow!" So, I think I'll keep him!

Current photos by Mary Jo David.

STOCKBRIDGE COMMUNITY NEWS

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Outreach in Action

Diaper Bank works with Stockbridge Outreach to provide supplies for all ages

by Jo Mayer and Paul Crandall

Outreach has a new, “undercover” partner: a diaper and adult disposable briefs bank.

“I like to say it’s all about bottoms,” explained Sandy Andresen, volunteer at the Diaper Bank, located in the basement of the First Congregational Church of Chelsea, UCC.

“We have diapers for children, adult disposable briefs, bed pads, wipes, and feminine hygiene products for those who need them,” she said. “Everything is free to whomever walks in — all we ask is for a name for our records.”

The Diaper Bank recently pitched a proposal to Outreach: For any Outreach clients needing help getting diapers, feminine hygiene products, or adult disposable briefs, volunteers from the church would help address the need with local deliveries. They’d make the run to Stockbridge every other week, giving Outreach clients a source for these must-have supplies close to home.

“We have always had trouble keeping diapers in stock for those who need them, so this is such a big help to struggling families in our area,” said Outreach Director Gwen Reid.

The brainchild of Pastor Barb Edema, the idea was quickly embraced by a dedicated group of 8-10 church women. After a few months of planning and organizing, the doors opened to the public in September 2022.

Experience over these months has led to some fine-tuning.

“We had thought that when we opened, people would stampede through the doors to access the free products, but that didn’t happen,” Andresen said. “We’re finding that we need to spend more time and energy on getting the word out to those who could use these services.”

Part of that new emphasis, she said, is partnering with groups like Outreach.

The bank’s basic model is to encourage folks in need to visit the Chelsea location on a weekly basis for as long as their need lasts. It’s meant as a supplement to the family’s supplies.

So far, it’s children’s diapers that are attracting the most visitors to the bank. As their babies grow and move to bigger sizes, some parents have returned the leftover, unused diapers to be passed on to another family.

“It really is a neighbors-helping-neighbors program. And who’s our neighbor? Everybody!” Andresen said.

All are welcome to visit the diaper bank during open hours or contact the Outreach office to sign up. Donations — whether supplies or cash — are greatly appreciated.

To get to the Diaper Bank, enter through the side door of the First Congregational Church of Chelsea, 121 East Middle Street, Chelsea. The bank is open on Mondays from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturdays from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and by appointment if you call 734-475-1844. (The church office is open M, W, F, 8am – 2pm.)

This column is sponsored by Stockbridge Community Outreach, our local food pantry, crisis, and referral center located in the Stockbridge Activity Center (old middle school) near Cherry and Elm streets in Stockbridge. Office hours are 1-3 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday and by appointment. Outreach49285@gmail.com, 517-851-7285, or find us on Facebook.



Sign pointing to side door (West Entrance) of the First Congregational Church of Chelsea, where diapers and briefs can be picked up. Photo by Jo Mayer.



Diaper Bank volunteers Sandy Andresen (left) and Laura Gordon show their stock. Products are also available, on a scheduled basis, through Stockbridge Outreach. Photo by Paul Crandall.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS 2023

GREGORY'S 48TH ANNUAL 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION!

10:00 am Parade line up begins (M106 closed to general traffic.) You MUST be in place by 11:30 for card collection. All horse/animal groups must include a 'scooper.'

11:30 am Decorated bike contest for kids 3-12 at 11:30 at the kids' gathering spot M106 & Stonehouse Rd.

Noon Parade begins. Gordie Kunzelman as emcee.

Josie & Clare Beutler singing the National Anthem.

Grand Marshals: Mr. and Mrs. Bob Wallo and son Greg.

1:00 pm. "Cathy's Famous Baked Goods" 4th of July Committee Bake Sale at the Township Hall

Face Painting in the playground or park by Clare & Josie Beutler

1:00 pm Unadilla Firefighters Hamburger, Hot Dogs, and Brats lunch sale on Webb Street and the fire station during the parade.

Assorted vendors & activities in the park, playground, and Webb St. throughout the afternoon.

Jeff Boyer the Magic Guy roaming the grounds with balloon twisting activities.

1:30 pm Pie-Eating Contest on Webb Street (3 age groups) 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prizes.

2:30 PM Comedy Magic Show by Boyer the Magic Guy under the tent in the park.

6:00 pm Music by The Leaky Tiki's Band. Bring your dancing shoes!

Fireworks at DUSK! Park in the ball field.
We need and appreciate your donations to fund our celebration!

First-year success at Chelsea Hospital's combined Emergency Department and Urgent Care



Gregory Gafni-Pappas, D.O.

by Gregory Gafni-Pappas, D.O.

Dr. Gregory Gafni-Pappas, medical director of the combined Emergency Department and Urgent Care at Chelsea Hospital shared with the Stockbridge Community News about the positive impact the hospital believes the Urgent Care has had on the community since opening last year and some common things they treat in the summer.

Q: How have things been going at the Urgent Care?

Dr. Gafni-Pappas: It has been doing great since opening in Feb. 2022.

The year prior to opening, the hospital treated about 24,000 patients at the Emergency Department. In 2022, with both the Emergency Department and Urgent Care, we saw just under 30,000. In 2023 we expect to see 33,000–34,000 patients. This is fantastic growth that shows the significant benefit of the urgent care to our community.

Q: What type of response have patients given for the Urgent Care?

Dr. Gafni-Pappas: Our patients have been pleased to have the Urgent Care conveniently located inside the Emergency Department. This helps us determine the level of care the patient needs and, in turn, provides them with the highest quality of care possible.

Q: What have you recently been treating at the Urgent Care?

Dr. Gafni-Pappas: We are seeing some upper respiratory infections — coughing, sore throats, things like that. But in general, there has never been a big viral pattern around this time of year in Michigan; that's more of a winter issue, so we likely won't have to worry about anything like that for several months. However, with the warm weather upon us, we do anticipate seeing more injury-related cases over the next few months.

Q: What type of injuries do you normally see in the summertime?

Dr. Gafni-Pappas: This is around the time of year many people come to the Chelsea area for recreational activities, so we treat a lot of broken bones and lacerations, to name a few. These injuries can happen to anyone at any time. Whatever it is you like to do outdoors this time of year, please make sure you are being as careful as possible and, if needed, wear proper protective equipment if you are boating, biking or horseback riding, for example.

Q: Is there anything else you would like to share with the community?

Dr. Gafni-Pappas: We are constantly introducing improvements to make the Urgent Care a better experience for everyone involved. We take our

patient's feedback very seriously, and we take pride in making adjustments to better suit the needs of our patients.

This is really beneficial to residents of Chelsea and the surrounding areas. Patients no longer have to decide where they think they should go to receive their health care; we take the decision-making out of their hands and provide them with the highest quality care at the appropriate level. Just like the Emergency Department, the Urgent Care is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, so please don't hesitate to come in if you need our help.

Gregory Gafni-Pappas, DO, is the medical director of the Emergency Department and Urgent Care at Chelsea Hospital, a unique model where the Urgent Care is located inside the hospital's Emergency Department. For unexpected illnesses or injuries, the Chelsea Hospital Urgent Care is open 24/7 and is in the Emergency Department, 775 S. Main Street.

Pickleball page 3

Coach Van McWilliams will lead the free classes on the following dates and times at the park:

- Tuesday, July 11, 10-11:30am, aimed at ages 10 and up
- Tuesday, July 11, 6:30-8pm, for adults
- Thursday, July 13, 6:30-8pm, for adults
- Saturday, July 15, 10-11:30am, aimed at families

To register for one or more of the classes, you have a couple options:

- Use the sign-up sheet at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c084ca5a82ea0fec07-pickleball#/>
- Send an email to hlega@stockbridgedda.org
- Or, just show up.

Extra equipment will be available to use if you don't have any. The Stockbridge Library also has sets of paddles and balls and a portable net that can be borrowed overnight, even by those without a library card.



Entrance to the combined Urgent Care and Emergency Department at Chelsea Hospital. Photo provided by Chelsea Hospital

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Outreach Christmas in July: Your donation matched dollar-for-dollar

Information provided by Outreach supporter

It is hard to believe we are almost through spring and on to a brilliant summer. At Stockbridge Community Outreach, we are neck-deep in preparing for our community's needs in 2023-24 and raising money to support those needs.

This year's Christmas in July Matching Money event is more important than ever as many of our neighbors and friends are really feeling the impact of inflation. We here at Outreach, and all community-funded agencies, are seeing an increase in requests for basic needs support, like food, energy and rental assistance. Please consider joining us on this very impactful fundraising opportunity as we work to make positive change in our hometown.

All donations raised from Christmas in July go directly to help our local seniors, families, and disadvantaged, many of whom are struggling to put food on their tables and keep their homes warm with heat and lights.

All donations received during the month of July will be matched, dollar-for-dollar, up to total funds available! Christmas in July is the single largest fundraiser for Stockbridge Community Outreach!

Have you ever wondered how matching works? It is from the generosity of amazing sponsors who go above and beyond to cover the match each year. Christmas in July 2023 is being sponsored by State Bank (Stockbridge/Munith/Grass Lake). Double your donation this year simply by making a donation in July.

Thank you for your support and continued generosity!

This really is your Christmas gift to the Community!

How to donate:

- Mail your check to SCO, P.O. Box 682, Stockbridge, MI 49285
- Drop off your donation on M-W-F at Outreach, 305 W. Elizabeth, Stockbridge.
- Donate on our website at www.stockbridgecommunityoutreach.org.

Stockbridge Community Outreach is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Donation receipts are available.

Ask an Expert page 6

Claiming hail damage on your insurance should not raise your rates. In most cases, a hailstorm is considered an "act of God," and therefore will not raise your insurance premium rates. This will be covered under the comprehensive area of your policy, not under collision.

You should repair hail damage before the next season. Most insurance providers do not put a timeline on how long you have to claim hail damage. Some of them advise you to make a claim sooner rather than later. You should make note of your vehicle's location and time of day when the hail occurred to properly advise your insurance adjuster.

You cannot claim the same damage twice. You do not have to repair your vehicle after making a hail damage claim. However, if your car is subjected to damage from a second hailstorm, you must be able to prove that there is new damage to the vehicle. In such an event, your insurer is likely to require another deductible and then will reassess the damage, deduct its original payment and pay the difference. Keep in mind, your insurer may have underpaid you the first time and could do the same on the subsequent claim.

John and Theresa Kightlinger own My Body Shop at 401 N. Clinton St., Stockbridge. The couple have 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.



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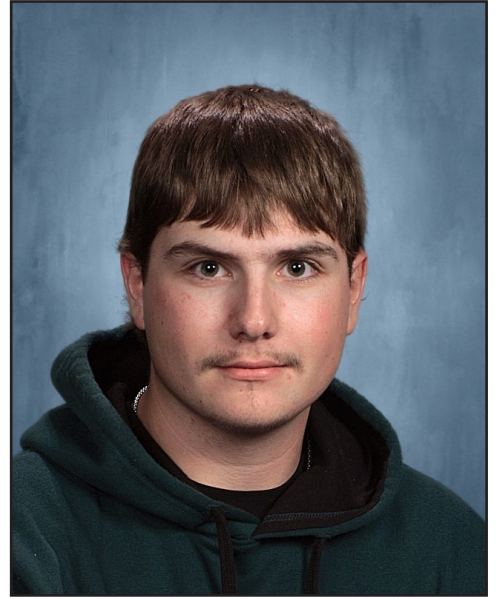
Trystin Burton



Mya Cheesman



Ashlee Chubb



Jacob Collin



Collin Cook



Stuart Cook



Aliviah Craw



Wesley Crew



Aaron Croley



Krista Culver



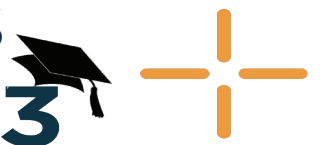
Makenzie Dalton



Barrett Diffenbaugh



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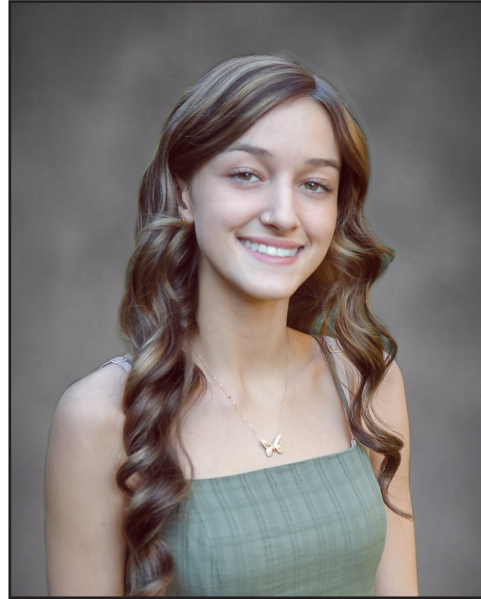
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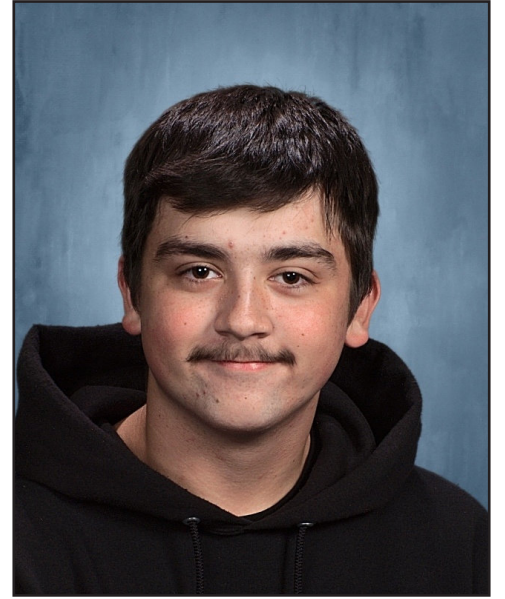
Emily Jones



Kaylee Kapke



Mason Keene



Hayden Keiser



Wyatt Kilgore



David Kluesner



Noah Lewis



Colin Mackinder



Maggie Mahler



Hannah Marshall



Paul Marshall



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Sofia Morales



Devon Moser



Alora Mullins



Grace Niec



Dominick Odem



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Arianna Place



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Charles Porter



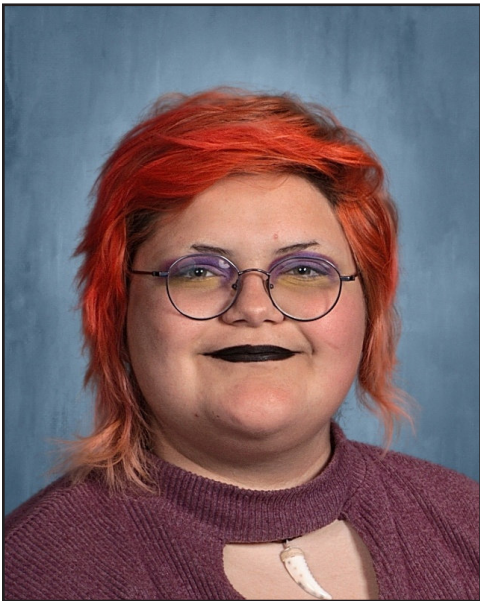
Press Puckett



Rylee Recchy



Janelle Risner



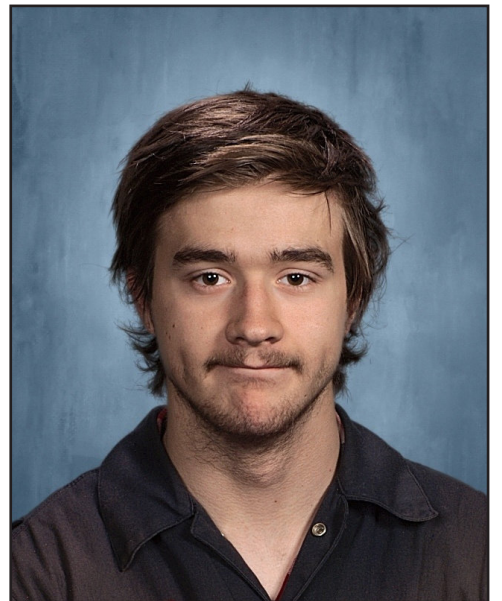
Teresa Rooney



Jacob Sawicki



Thalia Sayre



Landen Schipul



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Christopher Smith



Jolie Smith



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Emily Vaccaro



Alyssa VanHook



Emily VanPelt



Timothy Vliet



Dakota Whitaker



Kristina Wilde



Lillian Williams



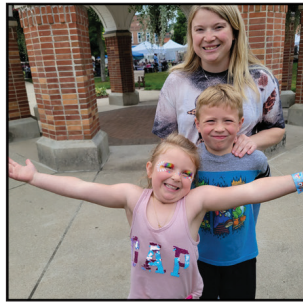
Todd Williams



HATS OFF!

(TO THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 2023)

2023 A Day in the Village: Fun for all



SAAC Art Show dazzles at A Day in the Village

by Andrea Stickney

Smaller than last year, but more impressive than ever, the 2023 Art Show held by the Stockbridge Area Arts Council on June 16 and 17 was a real knockout. The submissions by area artists were on display at the Township Hall in Stockbridge and, as with previous years, coincided with A Day in the Village activities.

Featured Show Poster for 2023

Near the end of the school year, the SAAC held a contest in the third- and fourth-grade classes at Smith and Heritage Elementary schools for selecting the Council's Show poster artwork. Art teacher Jaelyn Lennemann provided her help and guidance for the contest. The theme was "Celebrating Dads," and, while it was tough to select one winner, it's likely lots of dads were delighted with their Father's Day portraits created by someone who loves them very much.

The winner of the art selected for the posters was Kayleigh Johansson, who received a special Honorable Mention award for her piece. The posters with Kayleigh's artwork were displayed all throughout area businesses in the lead-up to the show. In addition, a contribution of \$150 will be made by the Arts Council to the Stockbridge Schools elementary art programs for Smith and Heritage.

SAAC Awards for 2023

The **Featured Artist** for 2023 was Jan Werfelmann, a local photographer with unparalleled skills and talent with the camera. Jan's wonderful work was a priceless addition to the show.

The 2023 **Mike Jones Award for Contributions to the Arts** was deservedly given to Jeff Boyer, whose very humble and eloquent acceptance speech moved everyone. The family of Mike Jones selected the winner of this award, and there wasn't a more deserving recipient, as Jeff has done so much for so many young people in the community over the years.

Once again this year, awards were given for First (\$200), Second (\$100) and Third (\$50) place in two categories: fine arts (two- and three-dimensional) and photography. The winners were selected by an independent, outside panel of three judges.

Participating artists were Molly Anderson, Laura Bowen, Danielle Burkhart, Eileen Conti, Dorothy Craft, Beverly Glynn, Dawn McCann, John McPherson, Carolyn Pascoe, Colleen Redfield, Dan Reid, Andrea Stickney, and Lily Woodman. The artwork was spectacular and every piece a winner in the eyes of many, but the judges had the hard work of making difficult selections.

Fine Arts Category: First Place in the Fine Arts category was awarded to Eileen Conti, for her beautiful textile, "The Under World." Second Place was awarded to

Dan Reid for his exquisite clay-and-antler piece, "Lidded Vessel." Third Place was awarded to Danielle Burkhart for her captivating colored pencil and ink, "Welcome to New York." And a very special Honorable Mention was awarded to elementary student, John McPherson, for his mixed media piece, "Lucy."

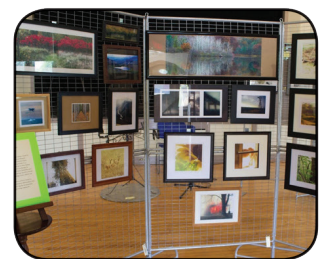
The coveted **People's Choice award** (\$100) was overwhelmingly selected this year by audience members who cast their votes over the two days of the show; the award was presented to Danielle Burkhart for her impressive chalk pastel, "Moechel Road."

Photography Category: First Place in the Photography category was awarded this year to Dawn McCann, for her fascinating photo, "Where the Lines Lead." Second Place was awarded to Andrea Stickney for her nature photograph, "Her Favorite Flower." Photographers take note – we had a smaller number of entries this year and had to forego Third Place. This should spur your creativity and enthusiasm to enter next year's show. The SAAC knows you're out there and would love to see your work in the 2024 show!

The SAAC thanks corporate donors Whipped Zen Wellness, Certified Tractor Repair, and The State Bank, and all of the generous individual donors for their support. The organization also appreciates Stockbridge Township for faithfully supporting the Art Show by making the Hall available year after year. It is a great venue for the arts.

Calling all artists for the 2024 Stockbridge Area Arts Council Art Show at A Day in the Village: Please begin creating your masterpieces now. The SAAC can't wait to see and share them!

All photos by Digital Crumbs Photography.



An impressive array of photography styles exhibited by Featured Artist, Jan Werfelmann.



Student Kayleigh Johansson receives a special Honorable Mention Award along with a poster featuring her art.



The People's Choice award for "Moechel Road" is graciously accepted by artist Danielle Burkhart, accompanied by "the boss."



Ethan Jones presents the Mike Jones Award for Contributions to the Arts to Jeff Boyer.



Eileen Conti accepts her award for First Place in the Fine Arts category with a few heartfelt words.



Dawn McCann receives First Place in Photography from SAAC presenter Andrea Stickney.