



STOCKBRIDGE COMMUNITY NEWS

Promoting our common good and shared well-being

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Local FFA students chosen to present at Student Technology Showcase at State Capitol



(L-R): MACUL President Amy Dirlam, Andrew Hayes, William Gancer, Owen Cipta, Owen House and Ethan Salyer. Photo provided by Robert Richards

by Robert Richards

Local students from Stockbridge Jr./Sr. High School headed to the State Capitol on Dec. 6, 2023, to participate in the 22nd annual AT&T/ Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning (MACUL) Student Technology Showcase, highlighting the incredible applied technology efforts they've developed in the classroom.

During the showcase, the Stockbridge Jr./Sr. High School students presented their project to state lawmakers. The project, a Laser Engagement Device, motivates broiler chickens to move using specially designed lasers that can boost animal welfare and improve meat quality.

"Our students are thrilled to showcase their tech-driven skills at the upcoming Student Technology Showcase," stated Bob Richards, agriculture teacher and FFA advisor at Stockbridge Jr./Sr. High School. "Connecting new technology into our students' learning process has transformed their educational experience, expanding their horizons and exposing them to exciting new possibilities."

See FFA students on page 7.

Fun for all ages at a combined gathering of Stockbridge-area teens, seniors and Masons



Members of Mason Lodge No. 130 in Stockbridge offer their support—personally and financially—to the Teen Center (represented by director Bonnie Davidson in the red plaid) and to the Senior Center (represented by director Dana Blaszkowski in the black sweater). Photo provided by Dana Blaszkowski

by Dana Blaszkowski

On Wednesday, Dec. 6, amid the hustle and bustle of the lead-up to the holidays, the Stockbridge Teen Center, Stockbridge Area Senior Center and many of our Stockbridge Masons made time for a terrific meet-up at the Teen Center.

Teen Center Director Bonnie Davidson and Senior Center Director Dana Blaszkowski had been looking forward to this gathering for months. The two directors previously met in the summer and spent time getting to know one another, touring both centers together, and learning about the organizations each one directed. The idea for bringing the respective groups of youth and older adults together evolved from this summertime meeting.

See All ages on page 13.

Stuff a Bus: Another example of community heart



Thanks to the Stuff a Bus event benefiting Stockbridge Community Outreach, area families in need will have a better Christmas. Pictured from left: Outreach board members Diane Tandy and Cheryl Holloway; drivers Brittany Monette, Rachel Jones, and Brenda Clear; Outreach board chair Jo Mayer; and driver and union president Nikki Clear. Photo provided by Jo Mayer

by Jo Mayer

It's always heartening to experience the generosity of the community, and Stuff a Bus was another example of the the Stockbridge area's largesse. Bags and bags of donated toys, not to mention generous donations of cash, were collected during the event, which was held on

Dec. 2 on the Stockbridge Township Square. Many of the toys were purchased by the Stockbridge School District's school support staff and the MEA ESP union using proceeds from the organization's light-pole decorating contest winnings. Stockbridge Community Outreach has a program in place to ensure these donations help out local families for the holidays.

Smith, Heritage students discover holiday joy at annual Winter Carnival



Soloists in the first grade class perform. Photo credit Tina Cole-Mullins by Tina Cole-Mullins

The smiling faces of merry children dressed in red and green, some wearing festive ribbons and bows, could be seen in the decked halls of Smith and Heritage schools on Dec. 20. They were joined by parents, grandparents, family and friends for the annual Smith and Heritage Elementary Winter Carnival and Christmas program.

See Winter Carnival on page 11.

Rural Perspectives: Red-bellied woodpeckers common in our area all year

by Diane Constable



Diane Gray Constable

The red-bellied woodpecker (*Melanerpes carolinus*) is a year-round visitor to local suet feeders. An adult is up to 10 inches long and is one of our larger woodpeckers. The black-and-white pattern, partially red head, and pale gray underside make it easy to identify. Females have red along the nape of their neck and none on the top of their head. Not as easily seen is the pale red-brown hue low on the belly, for which it is named.



The red-bellied woodpecker is named for the pale red-brown hue on its belly that is not easily seen, but visible on this photo of a male. Photo credit Diane Constable

Red-bellied woodpeckers have an interesting flight pattern – flapping their wings to gain height, resting for a second causing them to drop a few feet, then flapping again, which makes their flight look like they are on a roller coaster.

These woodpeckers are common in our area and prefer to live near wooded or semi-wooded areas. The male finds a nest site in dead branches and dead or damaged tree crevices. The couple work to carve out a new hole or will enhance former nesting holes of other birds. The resulting wood chips are used for nesting material. The female lays two to six eggs. Both parents take care of the eggs, which hatch in about 12 days. In about four weeks, the chicks are ready to leave

the nest, and the parents will continue to care and feed the fledglings for at least another 10 weeks.

Red-bellied woodpeckers perform a valuable service to our trees by eating adults and larvae of destructive wood-boring insects. They also enjoy suet and berries. Acorns, nuts and seeds are a favorite and are stored in tree and bark crevices for winter eating.

Fun Fact: This bird has sticky spit and a long, barbed tongue, which makes it easy to reach into cracks and crevices to capture unsuspecting insects.

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.

Lakelands Trail Veterinary Clinic

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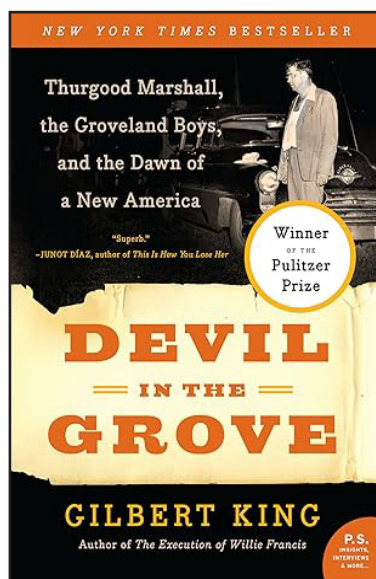
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Reading Between the Lines Historic court case gives rise to legendary Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall

by Chuck Wisman

"Devil in the Grove: Thurgood Marshall, the Groveland Boys, and the Dawn of a New America," by Gilbert King, is a gripping page-turner even as a work of historical nonfiction. It was a New York Times bestseller (2012) and won the 2013 Pulitzer Prize, as a "distinguished and appropriately documented book of nonfiction by an American author."



Thurgood Marshall argued the Groveland case twice before the U.S. Supreme Court—a case that ultimately helped set the stage for the nascent civil rights era. Image credit Amazon.com

The book chronicles the story of four young Black men falsely accused of rape by a young white woman in the Jim Crow South, specifically the orange groves of Lake County in central Florida. The story begins in 1949 when Lake County was in the grip of an active Ku Klux Klan and a racist county sheriff, Willis V. McCall, and his deputies. Often, at that time and in that place, the line between membership in law enforcement and the KKK was blurred or nonexistent. Sheriff McCall viciously ruled over Lake County on behalf of the citrus farm owners who enriched themselves on the backs of Jim Crow labor.

Minorities were drawn to the area for the abundant field work, picking oranges and other crops. Under the prevailing laws of Jim Crow, "separate but equal" prevailed in 1949 and well into the 1950s and beyond. Segregation in restaurants, housing, courts, health care, education, and society at large was strictly enforced. Although separate, it was anything but equal. In this atmosphere and environment, three Black men stopped to assist a young white couple who had car trouble late at night. The encounter dramatically changed the lives of four Black men—two of whom were army veterans—as well as the lives of many others after the woman, Norma Lee Padgett, falsely accused the men of rape.

Gilbert King writes an engrossing story of extrajudicial murders, torture, bombings, mob rule, arson, and rampant racism. Into this maelstrom waded a young attorney, Thurgood Marshall. You may remember him from your history books, as Marshall later became the first Black justice on the U.S. Supreme Court. In the case of the Lake County trial, Marshall refused "to shrink from the fight despite continuous death threats against him."

The author uses passages like the following to describe what occurred at the subsequent criminal trial in Lake County:

"[Padgett] had that look—chin held high, lips pursed—when in her best dress [she] slowly rose from the witness box to identify for the jury the three Groveland, Florida, boys whom she had accused of rape. Her pale finger extended, it dipped from boy to boy as she spoke out each name, like a young school teacher counting heads in class, and in her breathy cadence sent a chill through the courtroom. '... the nig--- Shepard ... the nig--- Irvin ... the nig--- Greenlee ...'"

King also made this now famous comparison: "And like Harper Lee's heroic lawyer, Atticus Finch, Thurgood Marshall found himself at the center of a firestorm."

Marshall ultimately argued the Groveland case twice before the U.S. Supreme Court. It's fair to say this case helped set the stage for the nascent civil rights era.

See *Reading Between the Lines* on page 14.

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Fire Up Panthers!

Stockbridge students create a small business

by Judy Williams

Look out, Stockbridge. There's a new small business in town that is not only successful, but it has ignited an entrepreneurial spirit in one Stockbridge Jr./Sr High School classroom.

Fire Up Panthers, a microbusiness involved in making and selling fire starters, is operated by eight energetic young men in the school's special education program.

With the help of classroom teacher Ms. Kelsey Jennett, the students step by step turned a vague idea to an actual working and profitable business.

Developing a plan

They needed a business plan, especially since permission is required to run the business from school. Jennett helped the students develop the plan and a PowerPoint presentation to go with it.

Step One was to prepare a list of the educational benefits of operating a business. Following multi-step directions and applying money skills and independent work skills were some of the expected benefits.

Perhaps the biggest challenge came next: Deciding what business could be successful. Jennett gave the young entrepreneurs several suggestions. After a lot of discussion on the pros and cons of each, the class decided to make and sell fire starters.

But what would this business be named? After more brainstorming, the students decided to call their business Fire Up Panthers. And drawing inspiration from the name, class artist Grady Giddings created a logo.

"I could just picture in my mind what the logo should look (like)," Giddings said. "I started out by just drawing a panther paw and added the fire."

Now that things were on a roll, some major planning still was ahead. How was this going to work? Students, under the guidance of Jennett, listed the steps for production and the needed materials.

But money is necessary to buy these materials and start production. Jennett's parents, Tom and Jodi Jennett, came to the rescue by donating \$200 to the project. With the \$200 budget, the students had to be frugal and bargain shop for the best deal for two paper shredders, cupcake pans, cupcake liners and soy wax, packaging materials, and construction material for making the tags.

Getting down to business

Armed with their information, the eight young business tycoons presented their newly developed business plan before Stockbridge Jr./Sr. High School Principal Jeff Trapp. With the help of Jennett, the students used a PowerPoint presentation to prove they had a doozy of a plan.

Trapp agreed, and permission was granted for Fire Up Panthers.

Now, the real work could begin. Equipped with new supplies, students developed stations to work on various elements needed to create the fire starters.

Fire Up Panthers' fire starters are advertised to burn over 23 minutes, compared with the same amount of paper alone burning for 40 seconds. According to Braden White, the whole class set up a test on their product in the woodworking classroom. Jennett used a lighter to start the fire, and the classmates timed how long the fire lasted.

The students are hoping their business is not just a flash in the pan and will continue after the holidays.

See *Fire Up Panthers* on page 7.



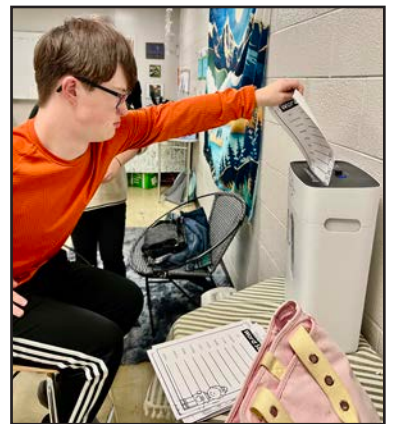
Grady Giddings, Brendon Fletcher, Paul Baird, Braden White, Travis Whitney, Tim Clark and Ms. Kelsey Jennett following a PowerPoint presentation on Fire Up Panthers. Missing from the photo: Matthew Poole and Dustin Whitney. All photos by Judy Williams



Tim Clark shreds paper with the assistance of Austin, a Link student.



Travis Whitney (left) and Braden White (right) add cupcake liners to the pans and fill with shredded paper.



Using the second shredder, Brendon Fletcher keeps up with the demand.



Grady Giddings (left) and Paul Baird bag and tag the orders. They are using tags that the class made earlier. The two are using Christmas-themed bags to package three fire starters.



Senior classmate Dustin Whitney carefully handles the task of pouring the hot soy wax into the cupcake liners.

Early voters, absentee voters, traditional voters: Here's what you need to know

by Mary Jo David

Municipalities have been hard at work prepping for the 2024 elections, beginning with the presidential primary that takes place on Feb. 27, 2024. Michigan has over 8 million registered voters. In an effort to make sure all voters in the state are in the know and ready to vote, townships, counties, and the state have been mailing and posting information about what voters can expect.

SCN has recapped information that may be helpful to those in and around Stockbridge who plan to vote in the February primary. **Do not hesitate to look online at your local clerk's webpage or contact your county or township clerk's office if you have questions about voting.**

- **Voting Absentee:** All registered voters in Michigan can vote "Absentee."

- **Indicating Ballot Type for Presidential Primary:** Although Michigan does not have a party registration requirement for voters participating in presidential primary elections, absentee voters do have to complete a Ballot Selection Form before the Feb. 27 presidential primary in order to receive a mailed ballot. This form is used to indicate whether you are requesting a Democratic Party ballot, a Republican Party ballot, or a nonpartisan "Ballot without Presidential Primary" for the February primary election. NOTE: Municipalities don't store your party selection over an extended period of time, so you will receive a Ballot Selection Form anytime you wish to vote in a primary election in Michigan.

Michigan's presidential primary is Feb. 27, 2024. Voters can vote early (absentee or in-person) or they can vote on primary day. Check your mail, look online, or contact your clerk's office if you have questions before the election. Image credit Element5 Digital on unsplash.com

primary in order to receive a mailed ballot. This form is used to indicate whether you are requesting a Democratic Party ballot, a Republican Party ballot, or a nonpartisan "Ballot without Presidential Primary" for the February primary election. NOTE: Municipalities don't store your party selection over an extended period of time, so you will receive a Ballot Selection Form anytime you wish to vote in a primary election in Michigan.

- **Indicating a Temporary Address for a Ballot:** You can also use the Ballot Selection Form mentioned above to provide a temporary, one-time address for receiving an absentee primary ballot.

- **Permanent Ballot Request:** Use the Permanent Ballot Request checkbox on the above-mentioned Ballot Selection Form to indicate you want to automatically receive absentee ballots by postal mail for all future elections.

- **Ballot availability:** Municipalities are expecting that ballots will become available for distribution beginning Jan. 16, 2024.

- **Same-day voter registration:** Legal Michigan residents can register, in-person, up to and including on the day of the election, so long as that person can show proof of residency. That proof must be shown "to an election official responsible for maintaining custody of the registration file where the person resides, or their deputies." NOTE: Early, in-person voting sites will not offer voter registration services. The exception to this is for Michigan residents who vote at their Clerk's office (e.g., township clerk, County clerk, etc.) or satellite office.

- **Turning in an absentee ballot:** If you choose to use an absentee ballot, you have the following options for turning in your completed ballot:
 - o Mail your completed ballot using U.S. postal mail Michigan. Ballot must arrive at your clerk's office by 8 p.m. on Feb. 27, 2024.
 - o Drop your completed ballot into a locked, official ballot drop box for your municipality before 8 p.m. on Feb. 27, 2024.
 - o Bring your completed absentee ballot to your in-person voting location (during early voting or on Election Day) and insert it into the voting tabulator before 8 p.m. on Feb. 27, 2024. Important: You cannot turn in an absentee ballot for someone else at an in-person voting site.

- **Traditional Voting:** Voters can still vote using the traditional method of casting an in-person ballot at their precinct on the day of the election.

- **Early, In-Person Voting:** The opportunity to vote early, in-person, is a new option for most precincts. Michigan mandates a minimum of nine days of early voting, but municipalities can use their discretion, up to a maximum of 29 days total. (Nine days seems to be the most common choice by municipalities contacted for this article.) No early, in-person voting will take place on Monday, Feb. 26, the day before Election Day. To help defray the costs and manpower required for early, in-person voting, many of the townships and counties, like those listed below, are teaming with other municipalities to offer sites for early, in-person voting.

- o **Henrietta Township** residents and **Waterloo Township** residents can vote early in person at the Blackman Charter Township Hall in Jackson or at the Summit Township Hall in Jackson.

- o **Ingham Township** and **White Oak Township** residents can vote early in person at the Ingham Township Hall in Dansville.

- o **Iosco Township** residents can vote early in person at the Iosco Township Hall in Webberville.

- o **Lyndon Township** residents can vote early in person at the Sylvan Township Hall in Chelsea or at the Washtenaw County Learning Resource Center in Ann Arbor.

- o **Unadilla Township** and **Putnam Township** residents can vote early in person at the Putnam Township Hall in Pinckney.

- o **Village of Stockbridge, Stockbridge Township, and Bunker Hill Township** residents can vote early in person at the Stockbridge Township Hall in Stockbridge.

See *Voting Guidelines* on page 11.



SAVE THE DATES
March 10-16, 2024 for the on-line
"Festival of Tables" auction event
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This festival is our annual fundraiser, with all proceeds supporting our community.

SAVE THE DATES!
March 10th-16th

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 COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

The Stockbridge Area Educational Foundation serves the community of the Stockbridge School District. Our mission is to fund programs and projects that create or enhance educational opportunities available to area residents.



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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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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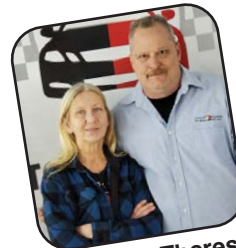
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John and Theresa Kightlinger

Ask an Expert

7 things you might not know about collision repair

by John and Theresa Kightlinger

Accidents are terrible. If you've avoided injury, there's trauma, cost and downtime. This time can be fruitlessly extended if you get bad advice, pick the wrong shop, or otherwise get misdirected. Since years may pass while a motorist deals with the aftermath of an accident, we are sharing these seven tips to better inform the general public.

1) Your car can be restored to its pre-accident condition. The first unibody car was built in the 1920s. It wasn't until the 1970s oil shock that manufacturers adopted the unibody construction en masse due to its weight savings. With the accumulated experience of body-on-frame models then, there was a steep learning curve initially. The past four decades have produced tremendous strides in terms of tools and techniques deployed to repair cars. The shops that invest in searching OEM procedures and that have serviced thousands of vehicles can correctly restore your car's appearance, structural integrity, and functionality to factory specifications.

2) The determination of a car being totaled is not solely based on cost to repair. The main equation influencing your insurer rendering a "total loss" decision is: current replacement value compared to repair cost. In general, the newer your car, the higher its value. The more extensive your damage, the costlier the repair. OEM parts compared to aftermarket parts will likewise drive costs.

Finally, the ability to restore functionality, such as air bags or aligned frame will impact whether you receive the go-ahead with a repair or get a replacement value check.

3) A collision could have hidden damage. In terms of getting accurate repair costs and the repairs done correctly the first time, you'll want your car to be properly assessed. You'll want an experienced auto body shop that knows where to look for and how to spot hidden damage.

4) More experienced appraisers are more accurate. For experienced appraisers, it isn't their first rodeo. They can more credibly convince the insurance company to cover repairs that might otherwise be overlooked. Their experience enables them to guarantee their work – which should be of utmost importance to you.

See Ask an Expert on page 15.



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FFA students page 1

David Lewis, president of AT&T Michigan stated, "Michigan's younger generations never fail to impress us with their innovative use of technology to enhance their education. They are our future leaders, and their ability to use technology for learning is truly remarkable. AT&T is delighted to sponsor this event and looks forward to seeing the incredible advancements in technology that are improving learning in schools."

"The projects students bring to the Capitol for the Student Technology Showcase always amaze us," said Mark Smith, MACUL executive director.

Fire Up Panthers page 4

According to student Paul Baird, they plan to continue the business after Christmas. People can use the fire starters for campfires, he said.

As far as using the profits, the students have a long list of possibilities, including a field trip, supplies and games for lunchtime, and guest speakers for assemblies. Student Tim Clark would like "cool guest speakers, like Dude Perfect."

For now, Fire Up Panthers sales have been hot, with one customer buying 100 starters. As of Dec. 1, the class sold 143 packages of three, plus the 100, after only one ad on Facebook and by word of mouth. Kudos to our young businessmen and their teacher for a job well done.

To purchase fire starters, contact Jennett by email at jennettk@panthernet.net. A package of three fire starters is \$3.

UTPD Activity November 1-30, 2023
Wednesday 11/01 - Assist EMS-Doyle Rd./Unadilla Rd., Lockout-Unadilla Rd./Williamsville Rd., Animal Complaint-Doyle Rd./Unadilla Rd., Wellness Check-Bridgets Way/Howlett Rd.
Thursday 11/02 - Wellness Check-Van Syckle Rd./Doyle Rd., Animal Complaint-Dexter Trl./Gregory Ridge Rd., Assist CMH-Van Syckle Rd./Doyle Rd., Suspicious Vehicle-Spears Rd./Donohue Rd.
Saturday 11/04 - Noise Complaints-San Marino Ave./San Juan Ct.
Sunday 11/05 - Assist CMH-Doyle Rd./Van Syckle Rd., Intimidation/Harassment-Barton Rd./Spears Rd.
Monday 11/06 - Hazard-Roepke Rd./Williamsville Rd., Animal Complaint-Doyle Rd./Kane Rd., Littering/Dumping-Kaiser Rd./Unadilla Rd.
Tuesday 11/07 - Disturbance-Whispering Meadows Dr./E M36, Follow up Animal Complaint-Doyle Rd./Worden Rd., Welfare Check-Bull Run Rd./Wasson Rd.
Wednesday 11/08 - Citizen Assist-Canal St./Hickory St., Assist UTPD-Unadilla Rd./Williamsville Rd.
 Friday 11/10 - Citizen Assist-E Trebesh Cir./Livermore Rd.
Monday 11/13 - Medical-M36/Main St., Indecent Exposure-Dexter Trl./Dutton Rd., Abandoned Vehicle-Williamsville Rd./Homes Rd., Welfare Check-Dutton Rd./Dexter Trl., Property Damage Accident-W M36./Bullis Rd.

Tuesday 11/14 - Hazard-Unadilla Rd./Doyle Rd., Property Damage Accident-W M36/Bullis Rd., Welfare Check-Holmes Rd./Williamsville Rd., Larceny-Berkshire Dr./Gregory Rd., Citizen Assist-Kathryn Ct./W M36, Property Damage Accident-W M36/Arnold Rd.
Wednesday 11/15 - Conservation Issue-Unadilla Rd./Doyle Rd.
Thursday 11/16 - Property Damage Accident-Doyle Rd./Williamsville Rd.
Tuesday 11/21 - Lost/Found Property-Ibbetson Dr./M106, Hazard-Doyle Rd./Kane Rd.
Wednesday 11/22 - Suspicious Vehicle-San Souci Ave./San Marino Ave., Suspicious Vehicle-Josline Lake Rd./Hadley Rd.
Thursday 11/23 - Property Damage Accident-Dutton Rd./M36
Saturday 11/25 - Property Damage Accident-Spears Rd./Van Syckle Rd.
Sunday 11/26 - Suspicious Vehicle-Barton Rd./W M36
Tuesday 11/28 - Citizen Assist-Williamsville Rd./San Luray Dr.
Wednesday 11/29 - Abandoned Vehicle-Joslin Lake Rd./Barum, Property Damage Accident-M 106/Dutton Rd.
Thursday 11/30 - Medical Alarm-Roepke Rd./Williamsville Rd., Domestic Dispute-Canal Dr./Woodside Dr., Court Order Pick up-Van Syckle Rd./Doyle Rd.
 Chief David S. Russell
 Unadilla Township Police Department

From CADL Stockbridge

Library activities can brighten winter days



The Stockbridge library is a one-stop shop for all things cozy in January. **Photo credit Pavan Trikutam via unsplash.com**

by **Head Librarian Sherri McConnell**
 January is the time to stay cozy inside with something to read, something to watch and something to do. The Stockbridge Branch is your one-stop shop for all things cozy. Stop by the library for books and magazines, including audio books if you prefer to listen to a book while you enjoy hot chocolate by the fire.

We've added several new magazine titles including Smithsonian, Garden & Gun, Hobby Farms, Outside, Game & Fish Midwest, Time, Threads, HGTV and Practical Homeschooling. Many more magazines and books are available through our Libby app. Our hoopla app also provides downloadable books and audio books.

If you'd rather get cozy with a movie, check out Kanopy and hoopla. Both streaming services are available with a CADL card. Kanopy has many classic, independent, documentary, and foreign films; and hoopla carries full TV series and exercise videos as well as films. Both services include sections full of kid-friendly movies.

If you are looking for ideas for starting a new project, we have several shelves of cookbooks, woodworking books, sewing and fiber arts books and much more. On our website, cadl.org, you can find the link to the Hobbies & Crafts Reference Center covering ideas and guides for many pastimes and provided by the Library of Michigan. The community puzzle exchange is full of stuff to take home, as is the Recycled Reads used book sale in the back of the library. Check them out!

You can always ask for help from the friendly staff at the library circulation desk to learn about any of these services and how to access them.

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



You're Invited...

Married 50 years or more? Valentine's Day is just around the corner, and SCN's February edition will feature, on a complimentary basis, local couples' photos and stories.

If you or a loved one has been married half a century or more, send your sweetheart photos and background info to:

**stockbridgecommunitynews@gmail.com
 or snail mail SCN, P.O. Box 83, Gregory MI 48137
 on or before Jan. 8, 2024**

Please include names (with maiden name), year and place of marriage, township or village of residence, and advice for sustaining a long, happy relationship. How you met? Obstacles overcome? No doubt, you have a story or pearl of wisdom to share. *Sweethearts with less longevity are invited to purchase business-card-sized announcements for \$50, to appear online and in print.*



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Published in Uncaged, October 2023

There's a first for everything

Secretary turns teacher

by Kaitlyn Oversmith, *Uncaged* Reporter

This article is being reprinted, with minimal edits, from the Uncaged Student News October 2023 edition.

Once upon a time, Jennifer Paton was a dance teacher, running a whole studio by herself. Today, almost six years later, she's a teacher again. This time, however, she's teaching seventh grade Social Studies instead of Jazz.

With new students to teach, Paton is settling in for a year full of geography, culture, and history.

"I like it a lot so far," Paton said. "The kids are energetic and excited."

After running Stockbridge's then local studio, Jazzy Jens, for 10 years, Paton handed over ownership to get her degree in education. During these transition years, Paton worked as an office and teacher assistant at Dansville High School, where her 3 little boys attended.

Last year, Paton made the swap from Dansville to Stockbridge, coming to work as an office assistant here instead. Paton expressed that she liked the Stockbridge community so much that when a teaching position opened up, she interviewed for the spot.

This year Paton made the official switch from assistant to teacher, securing the position of our new seventh grade Social Studies teacher.

This is Paton's first year teaching, stationed in room 118 down the Junior high hallway.

"I like the staff here," Paton said. "And I just like Social Studies, I could make them read maps everyday, but they get bored."

Paton isn't the only one excited about her new position, however, her friends from the office were excited to see her advance in her career. They knew Paton has been striving to teach in a classroom for a while now and were happy to see her succeed in her goal. Although, they will miss seeing her everyday. She was known for bringing a lighter atmosphere to the office.

"She could just like dance on a moment's notice," Secretary Julie Weiland said.

Paton is excited to press on in her career and continue to teach what she loves, whether that be Social Studies or dance. As once said by Poet Anatole France, "The whole art of teaching is only the art of awakening the natural curiosity of young minds for the purpose of satisfying it afterwards."

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.panthern.net/our-district.



While other students get to work, Mrs. Paton makes sure to help struggling students. Photo credit Evan Sandecki via UncagedNews.com

SEWING AND ALTERATIONS

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SCN names annual Award of Excellence and Readership Award winners for 2023

Congratulations Chuck Wisman and Clyde Whitaker

by Agnes Geiger

In 2020, the Stockbridge Community News introduced two annual awards—the Award of Excellence and the Readership Award. Both awards honor dedicated people who make essential contributions to our newspaper and its mission to promote the common good of residents through publication of local news and useful community information.

Award of Excellence Winner: Chuck Wisman

This award was created to recognize unsung heroes—those who often work in the background but have a critical role in making the Stockbridge Community News a quality publication. In 2023, the Award of Excellence is granted to Chuck Wisman, our volunteer subscription coordinator. Yes, it's true that the newspaper is delivered free to all households in the area, but many of our readers order subscriptions for themselves or their family members and friends who don't live in this area any more. Wisman makes sure those subscription mailings make it out promptly each month.

Wisman also delivers extra free copies of the printed newspaper to at least 20 local businesses, such as McDonald's and the Stockbridge Branch Library, where he leaves them for interested readers.

He recently agreed to write book reviews on a quarterly basis for SCN's "Reading Between the Lines" column. His latest review, "Devil in the Grove: Thurgood Marshall, the Groveland Boys, and the Dawn of a New America," can be found in this January 2024 edition.

"Over the years, and without prompting, Chuck has come up with some great story ideas, and he's also been willing to step in and write some of those stories for us—like the full-length Women of Note feature about Fay Odeh last year," Mary Jo David, SCN editor-in-chief said.

Wisman was born in Inkster, and his parents moved to Stockbridge when he was 4 years old. He graduated from MSU and moved to Alpena for his first job in Social Services. He received his MSW from U of M in 1978 and has been employed in Protective Services, Juvenile Delinquency, and Adult Protective Services. Chuck retired from working for the state after almost 40 years of service.

Wisman and his wife, Nancy, who is SCN board vice president, live on the Wisman family farm that was established in 1883 by the Farmer family of Stockbridge. The couple have three grown sons and three grandchildren.

He also has been active in the Lions Club for more than 40 years and served with the Stockbridge Community Education Foundation for at least 10 years. "He is very modest and likes to stay below the radar, but he loves this community," Nancy Wisman said of her husband.

Readership Award Winner: Clyde Whitaker

The Readership Award recognizes an SCN writer who, through the written word, regularly touches the hearts and minds of area residents. The award also recognizes professionalism of the writer in terms of initiative and deadlines. In 2023, the Readership Award is granted to Clyde Whitaker, author of the popular monthly column "Clyde's Corner."

In his column, Whitaker often recalls his days growing up in Stockbridge. Favorite teachers, the Krummrey farm (from the eyes of a youngster), former downtown businesses, Stockbridge High School sports and Graduation Day 1973 all have been column topics his readers have enjoyed. And thanks to Whitaker, we all shared in the excitement of local celebrity coach—Coach Phil Hora—being voted into the Coaches Hall of Fame by the Michigan High School Coaches Association.

"Clyde's stories really connect to the hearts of our nostalgic readers," Joan Tucker, SCN board president said. "The SCN appreciates his recollections and his monthly commitment as a volunteer writer."

The numbers certainly support SCN's choice for this year's Readership Award winner.

According to Mary Jo David, SCN editor-in-chief, "Clyde's column regularly receives notably high readership 'hits' on our Facebook page and our SCN website. Area residents—many who grew up in Stockbridge—indicate their enjoyment by frequently commenting on his reminiscences about life back in the day."

Whitaker is a 1973 Stockbridge High School graduate. He and his wife, Mary, raised four children in Stockbridge and still live in the area. He studied business at Jackson Community College and human resources at EMU. He spent much of his career working as a human resources manager and as a quality manager in manufacturing.

Whitaker has also been a local coach to area athletes for almost 40 years. He is a regular presence in Stockbridge's gyms and football fields where he cheers for and sometimes coaches his grandchildren.

Like many Stockbridge Community News volunteers, he is willing to take on the occasional unexpected story assignment when needed. Whitaker is also known to many in the area for his breathtaking photos of area landscapes, which he regularly shares on his own Facebook page. He has an eye for capturing local farm fields, sunrises, and sunsets that many take for granted until they see them through Whitaker's lens.

Chuck Wisman, Award of Excellence 2023

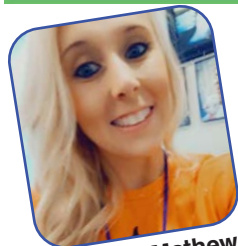


Wisman, one of our writers and our subscription coordinator, works in the background mailing papers to readers outside our area and delivering extra free copies to several locations within our area.

Clyde Whitaker, Readership Award 2023



Whitaker, author of the popular column "Clyde's Corner," writes stories that connect to our nostalgic readers as he recalls his life back in the day. He is also an avid photographer.



Amanda Mathews

Positive Parenting

Oh no, my child is bored! What should I do?

by Amanda Mathews

Sometimes the answer to the question in this headline is, "Nothing," because that is when creativity and imaginative play happen. These are important parts of a child's development because they make the mind grow in a new way.

Your initial response may be, "Oh no, my child is bored. It is my fault. I'm not making life fun enough right now. How can I fix this?"

When children walk up and tell you they are bored, try saying, "Great! You're ready to learn," or "I love being bored, it's the best!"

"Children need to sit in their own boredom for the world to become quiet enough that they can hear themselves." –Dr. Vanessa Lapointe, author and parenting educator

Children's lives and adults' lives are so busy; yet, when there is down time for our kids, we try to plan for what's next. As a result, children do not know what to do for themselves when there is down time, and that is where the problem lies. The moments that happen when children say, "I'm bored," are amazing! Something sparks the fire for children's development and learning when boredom occurs and children figure out, on their own, what to do with themselves.

When children are bored their brains have to:

- Problem solve.
- Think creatively.
- Better understand themselves.
- Think for themselves.

All of the above can improve a child's psychological well-being.

It is very easy to want to give your child technology—whether it is the iPad, TV, smartphone, etc.—to help them become "un-bored," but that can make it more difficult for a child's creativity to come to light. When children are aware, they become inspired, and the next big idea can arise.

It is OK for your child to be bored. All children have great minds; just wait and see what they create the next time they are bored.

See *Positive Parenting* on page 13.



It is OK for your child to be bored. All children have great minds; just wait and see what they create the next time they are bored. Photo credit Marissa Hicks

Waterloo Township Board Meeting Minutes 21 December 2023 7:00 P.M.

9773 Mt. Hope Road Munith, MI 49259

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

Present: Lance, Walz, Kitley, Beck.

Absent: McAlister. Also present: 4 residents, Margie Walz (Jackson Planning Commission), Deputy Desnoyer.

Public Comment: None

Consent Agenda: Kitley motioned with support from Walz to accept the consent agenda as presented. Aye/all; no/none.

Absent: McAlister. Motion carried.

Building and Zoning – Matt Wood has been hired as the township's new electrical inspector.

Police Report: Deputy Desnoyer's report for November 2023 was as follows:

Deputies put in 174 hours, drove 2033 miles, answered 28 calls for service, made 31 traffic stops and issued 6 citations.

Sheriff's office responded to 20 calls.

Correspondence: Email from Jackson County of Transportation was read, updating the status on skip paving within the Township and inquiring about potential future projects next year. Skip paving has been completed on portions of Hannewald Rd, Leeke Rd, Musbach Rd, and Territorial Rd and they are currently under budget for this project. Further skip paving will be completed next spring on Reithmiller and Trist Roads.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Parks & Recreation: The committee met at Munith Park with people from Five Healthy Communities, Jackson County Parks, the Iron Bell Trail, and Henrietta

Township about the current condition of the park, how to make the park safer, more user friendly, and how to finance the improvements. Partnership matches were discussed along with other funding sources. Flags are down and Christmas decorations are up in both Munith and Waterloo.

Planning Commission: Discussion was completed on the outdoor gathering ordinance and a vote is expected on the final edited version at next month's meeting. The Planning Commission has decided to use a special committee to update the wind and solar ordinances. Any Other Business That Comes to the Board: The Jackson County Board of Commissioners has some grant money for rural broadband and is forming a committee to address broadband requirements within the county.

Public Comment: C.Richardson thanked the board for putting up the Christmas decorations in Waterloo.

Adjournment: Walz motioned with support from Beck to adjourn at 7:20 p.m. Aye/all; no/none. Absent: McAlister. Motion carried.

The next Planning Commission meeting will be Tuesday, January 16, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. The next regular board meeting will be on January 23, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. Minutes will be published in the Stockbridge Community News at the end of each month, on our website waterlootwpmi.gov, on our Facebook page at: waterlootownshipmichigan, and The Grass Lake Exponent. Submitted by: Janice Kitley, Clerk

STOCKBRIDGE TOWNSHIP MEETING MINUTES December 18, 2023

Stockbridge Township Supervisor CG Lantis called the Regular Stockbridge Township Board Meeting to order on December 18, 2023 at 7:30pm at the Stockbridge Township Hall. Members present at the Stockbridge Township Regular Board Meeting; Supervisor CG Lantis, Clerk Becky Muraf, Treasurer James Wireman, Trustee Terry Sommer Member absent Trustee Ed Wetherell Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence
Wireman Motion to accept the agenda as printed Muraf Second All in Favor Motion Carried

Citizen Comments: None
Sommer Motion to accept the Stockbridge Township Board meeting minutes for November 20, 2023 as printed Wireman Second All in Favor Motion Carried

Wireman motion to accept the Stockbridge Township Financial report from April 1, 2023 thru December 18, 2023 Muraf Second All in Favor Motion Carried
Old Business None

New Business

Muraf motion to accept Arbor Lawn quote for the Stockbridge Township Square Lawncare Program for 737.20 Sommer Second All in Favor Motion Carried

Muraf motion to accept Stockbridge Township Insurance quote from Burnham & Flower Insurance Group for \$19,859.00 wireman Second Roll Call Vote Sommer Yes, Wireman Yes, Muraf Yes, Lantis Yes All in Favor Motion Carried

Muraf Motion to have an AV Counting Board for all elections during the year 2024 Wireman Second All in favor Motion Carried

Stockbridge Township will continue communication with Ingham County Leap Program

Stockbridge Township will continue to gather information for networking commercials.

Sommer Motion to pay the Stockbridge Township Bills in the Amount of \$320,116.68 Wireman Second All in Favor Motion Carried

Citizen's Comment None

Lantis adjourn the Stockbridge Township Regular Meeting at 7:46PM
BM

Winter Carnival page 1

Students of Smith Elementary's kindergarten, first and second grade classes shared a joyous holiday chorus selection before a gymnasium filled with parents and others in the audience who rotated seats between the grade-level performances.

The special guest appearance of a visitor from the North Pole drew excitement from the children, as Santa took some time away from his busy season to arrive at Smith. The students and parents also enjoyed the Winter Carnival events including a cake walk, crafts, storytime, bounce house slide, and games in the gym.

"The Christmas carnival is the best place for children, young and old, to see Santa and have unlimited time telling him their wishes," Deanna Kruger, Heritage Elementary administrative assistant said. "A great night was had by all."

Events and activities such as the Winter Carnival are hosted and organized by the Panther Cubs PTO. It takes active and dedicated volunteers and their support and fundraising to offer these activities for the students.

"Thank you to all those that came out to support Panther Cubs PTO's Winter Carnival," Reagan Walz, a mom and PTO coordinator said. "We also had several other volunteers that were instrumental in making it all work out. It basically takes our whole Stockbridge family and then some to make it happen."

Along with volunteers, Walz said her children pitched in to help.

"I also feel like I owe my kids a thank you," she said. "They help prep for the event, they do all the running around with me. They set it up. They take it down, and they help wherever I ask them."

Author's Note: See upcoming article on the Panthers PTO and Watch D.O.G.S. volunteers.

Our Little Corner of the World

Information gathered by Tammy Salyer

What we're noticing in and around town:

NEW BUILD: Across from McDonald's in Stockbridge is the new Tractor Supply making progress with walls up and roof added.

NOW OPEN: DG Market, located at 530 W. Main St. in Stockbridge, opened its doors to customers on Dec. 4.

DONATIONS NEEDED: Stockbridge Area Educational Foundation is requesting donations for its March 10 online auction. Go to facebook.com/StockbridgeAreaEducationalFoundation

Voting Guidelines page 5

• **Showing ID to vote:** When voting in person in Michigan, be prepared to show a state of Michigan driver's license or state of Michigan personal ID. Some other forms of photo ID can be used in lieu of these. Contact your clerk or look online for a list of acceptable forms of photo ID. If you do not have an acceptable photo ID when voting in person, you can request to fill out a form called "Affidavit of Voter Not in Possession of Picture ID" before voting. NOTE: Showing a photocopy or cellphone image of a photo ID will not be accepted in lieu of the actual ID.

• **Ballot Tracking:** After you vote, you can track your ballot by filling out the required fields at the following website: <https://mvic.sos.state.mi.us/Voter/Index>.

Please visit the Michigan Voter Information Center at www.Michigan.gov/vote for more information on your voter registration status, finding your polling place, understanding the absentee voting process, and more.

Sources:

- "Background Brief: Absentee Voting in the Post-Proposal 3/COVID-19 Era," House Fiscal Agency, on the house.mi.gov.
- "Questions and Answers: Michigan's Presidential Primary," State of Michigan Bureau of Elections, on the michigan.gov website.
- "Unadilla Township 2024 Presidential Primary Voter Options," on the twp.unadilla.mi.us website.

CHICKEN THIGHS WITH CREAMY MUSHROOM SAUCE

Ingredients:

Chicken Thighs

- 5 chicken thighs
- 1 fresh lemon
- 2 garlic cloves minced
- 1 tsp each: dried thyme, rosemary, and salt
- 1/2 tsp black pepper
- 2 tbsp olive oil

Creamy Mushroom Sauce

- 1 tbsp Olive Oil
- 8 oz Sliced Mushrooms
- 2 garlic cloves minced
- 1 tsp each: parsley, thyme, rosemary and nutmeg
- 1 cup heavy cream
- salt and pepper to taste
- 1/2 cup fresh parmesan cheese shredded

Chicken Thighs

1. Pat chicken thighs dry with paper towel and trim off excess fat. Season the chicken thighs with lemon juice and salt. Let it absorb the lemon juice for 15 minutes.
2. Combine the garlic cloves, thyme, rosemary, and pepper.
3. Coat the chicken evenly with the combined seasoning.
4. Heat 1 tablespoon of oil in a large pan or skillet over medium-high heat and sear chicken thighs in batches until browned on each side and no longer pink in center (about 8 minutes each side, depending on thickness).
5. Transfer to a plate; set aside and keep warm.

Creamy Mushroom Sauce

1. In the same pan or skillet, put the olive oil and add the mushrooms. Season with salt and pepper and cook until soft (about 3 minutes).
2. Add the garlic, parsley, thyme and rosemary; sauté until fragrant (about 1 minute).
3. Stir in heavy cream, bring to a simmer, then reduce heat and continue cooking until sauce has thickened slightly. Add nutmeg. Stir in the parmesan cheese and allow it to melt through the sauce for a further 4 minutes, while occasionally stirring.
4. Return chicken to the pan. Taste test and season with salt and pepper to your taste. Garnish with fresh parsley and parmesan cheese. Serve immediately.



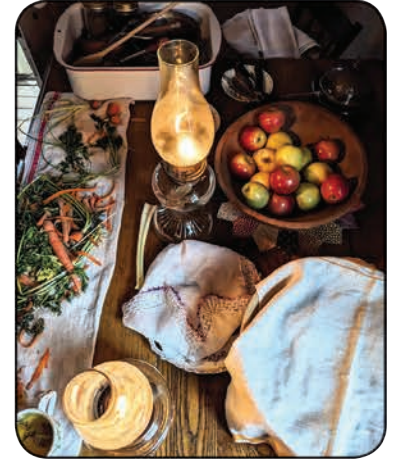
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CHRISTMAS On The Farm

Waterloo Farm Museum • Grass Lake, MI
Photos provided by James Clark-Swalla, DigitalCrumbs Photography





Jennifer Matthews

Bridge to Wellness

Persistent depression? The winter blues? It's important to know the difference for proper care

by Jennifer Matthews, RN

[Ed. Note: On behalf of SCN and the Stockbridge Area Wellness Coalition, a special thank-you goes out to Emily Stewart and her team of writers who provided excellent Bridge to Wellness topics and tips in 2023. As this column begins its fourth year in the Stockbridge Community News, we'd like to welcome registered nurse Jennifer Matthews, who will be the Bridge to Wellness content creator for 2024.]



Seasonal affective disorder (SAD) involves a clinical diagnosis; those suffering from SAD may need a physician consultation and, possibly, medication. Photo credit Nik Shuliahin on unsplash.com



The winter blues are temporary and can usually be managed without a physician. Photo credit Annie Spratt on unsplash.com

the winter, especially if you don't like to go out into the cold. Exercise causes the release of natural endorphins and can really help battle depression symptoms. So, bundle up for a walk, head to the gym, walk at a mall, or go to an indoor swimming pool whenever you can.

- **Monitor vitamin D:** Oh, how we miss the sun in Michigan during the winter! The sun is our primary source of vitamin D. Vitamin D is linked to emotional health and sharper thinking. Supplements may be needed if levels drop too low. Check with your doctor about whether a vitamin D supplement is right for you.

- **Introduce light therapy:** The limited daylight in the winter can increase depression symptoms. Find opportunities to be in the sun by moving workout equipment or your daily work area near a window. Many great natural-light simulating lamps are available for purchase and can be used daily.

- **Eat well:** The holiday season brings lots of treats that are OK in moderation. However, ensuring that we also are getting good nutrients into our bodies each day promotes good health and emotional well-being. Make sure to eat fruits, vegetables and whole grains daily.

- **Be creative:** Our outlooks can be improved by stimulating our senses through creative activities. Creative outlets look different for different people—some examples include painting, cooking, or tinkering. Being creative is a great way to feel accomplished and motivated.

- **Nurture your spirit:** Winter is the perfect time to slow down and rest. See *Bridge to Wellness* on page 21.

Winter can bring many wonderful things: beautiful snow, sparkling lights, and time with family and friends. Winter also can bring a not-so-wonderful lack of sunshine, shorter days, and cold and flu season. Along with changes in our environment, we can experience changes in mood.

If you find yourself experiencing persistent feelings of depression during the winter months, you could be experiencing seasonal affective disorder or SAD. SAD is a type of seasonal depression. It is a clinical diagnosis and can interfere with daily living for an extended period of time, affecting both how we think and how we feel. SAD is a depressive disorder; those suffering from SAD may need a physician consultation and, possibly, medication.

The winter blues, on the other hand, are common for many at this time of year, but they are temporary. Winter blues can usually be managed without a physician. The following steps can help people tackle the winter blues.

- **Exercise:** This can be challenging in

Positive Parenting page 10



Photo credit sweetfrugallife.com

Activity Highlight: Cloud Dough. Mix hair conditioner and cornstarch to create a dough. You can then use a variety of materials, such as toothpicks, butter knives, cookie cutters, etc. to expand the play. This is a great way to build fine motor skills!

Looking Ahead: Mark your calendars for Parent University at Smith Elementary School, Stockbridge, to be held on the first Wednesday of the month, February through June 2024. Parent University

is a chance for families to learn more about topics related to children. We will begin by exploring Love and Logic. Dinner, child care and a chance to win prizes will be available. We also will be offering a virtual Zoom option if you are unable to attend in person. Free registration by Feb. 1 is required at <https://bit.ly/48wG2Ua>.

Amanda Mathews is a mother of two girls and a Young 5s teacher in Stockbridge. She has been in the early childhood field for more than 10 years. Her family moved to Gregory two years ago, and they love getting to be part of this amazing community.

All ages page 1



Uno proves to be a game for all ages and was enjoyed by event attendees.

The members of Mason Lodge No. 130 had similar thoughts. The Masons planned to help support both organizations and wanted to bring them together, as well. From there, the wheels were in motion, and a great gathering was planned.

When the day of the event arrived, the Masons sponsored pizza and salad, the Teen Center provided hospitality, and the Stockbridge Area Seniors showed up ready to party! Fun, games, food and great conversation were enjoyed by all. The Masons proudly presented donation checks to both community organizations in support of the missions they serve.

The Teen Center and Senior Center are grateful to the Masons and excited to plan their next events together.

All photos provided by Dana Blaszkowski. See additional photos at www.stockbridgecommunitynews.com.

Clyde's Corner

'Whoa, oh, listen to the music': '70s rock has endured to this day

by Clyde Whitaker



This month I'd like to highlight some of the musical groups many of us listened to back in the '70s, groups I'm sure some of you remember and still listen to today on classic rock stations. The music of the '70s is enduring enough that even some younger folks enjoy listening to it and aren't embarrassed to sing along occasionally.

My generation experienced so many great musical groups and solo artists; we were very fortunate to grow up in those times. Carole King, Carly Simon and Jethro Tull are just a few who had many great hits we all listened to. Songs like King's "You've Got a Friend," and Simon's "You're So Vain," are easily recognizable today, as is any song featuring Tull's magical flute.

Beginning in the early '70s, The Carpenters had several hits, many of which we danced to after big Panther basketball wins on Friday nights. I recall specifically enjoying when a Carpenters song came on because it meant time for a slow dance!

I also loved listening to Rod Stewart singing "Maggie May" and "You Wear It Well," so much so that we named one of our golden retrievers Maggie May!

And who can forget Creedence Clearwater Revival, or as we called them, "CCR"? Hits included "Run Through the Jungle," "Fortunate Son," and their own remake of Gladys Knight and the Pips' "I Heard It Through the Grapevine." I remember entering the locker room for basketball practice one time when the radio was blasting out "Jeremiah was a bullfrog ..." from "Joy to the World" by Three Dog Night. I still can see Gary Allen and Rod Owen sitting on the bench, trying to sing while lacing up their basketball shoes.

Who can forget Chicago's "25 or 6 to 4" and "Wishing You Were Here" or The Doobie Brothers' "Listen to the Music" and my favorite of theirs, "Long Train Running"?

Another great slow dance song was Led Zeppelin's "Stairway to Heaven," especially the awesome eight-minute version if you were dancing with the right person.



The music of the '70s is enduring. Pictured are just a few of the vinyl albums in Clyde Whitaker's collection from the 1970s, featuring Chicago, CCR, Pink Floyd and Rod Stewart. Photo credit Clyde Whitaker

I loved Pink Floyd, singing "Money" and "The Dark Side of the Moon"—two more of my top picks, especially if you've ever paid attention to their great lyrics.

Another of my favorite bands The Doors—made a name for themselves in the late '60s and early '70s with hits like "Riders on the Storm" and "Light My Fire."

See Clyde's Corner on page 15.

Reading Between the Lines page 3

"Devil in the Grove" contains numerous photographs of the participants and various aspects of the criminal case, which help bring the reality of the story to life. It is a depiction of one of our most legendary Supreme Court justices in the pursuit of justice on the cusp of one of his most famous cases as a young attorney—the 1954 landmark civil rights case *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas*.

This book is both compelling and provocative, and highly recommended. Be forewarned, readers will confront the N word liberally in quoted court testimony and the speech of KKK members and law enforcement officials of the time. Many events described in the book are most certainly disturbing, yet they accurately depict the reality of race relations in central Florida at the time.

While reading "Devil in the Grove," readers would do well to recall the old quote, "If we don't learn from history, we are doomed to repeat it."

Note: Read the book to find out why four men were accused but only three were tried. The book is available through the Stockbridge Library.

Chuck Wisman still resides locally on the family farm and is retired from state government after almost 40 years of service.

Obituaries

Sarah 'Ann' Liming



Sarah "Ann" Liming
March 6, 1941 to Dec. 23, 2023

Sarah "Ann" Liming, age 82, of Lansing, MI passed away December 23, 2023 in Lansing, MI.

Ann was born March 6, 1941 in Detroit, MI to Carl and Neva (Hoard) Liming. She grew up in Gregory, MI and later moved to and spent the rest of her life in Lansing. She attended nursing school at St. Lawrence, then went on to Michigan State University to earn her Master's Degree in nursing.

She became a Professor of Nursing at Lansing Community College for more than twenty years. After retiring from teaching and having such a large impact on so many future nurses, some of whom cared for her in her final days, she went on to become an advocate for the hearing impaired. After dealing with hearing loss herself, she devoted herself to advocating for deaf individuals on the state and national level. Ann worked for the Michigan Department of Civil Rights for the Division on Deaf, Deaf/Blind and Hard of Hearing for many years. She also served as President of the National Hearing Loss Association of America.

She was a Spartan at heart and avidly followed MSU basketball and volleyball. She was a devoted dog lover, who rescued several over the years. She enjoyed bowling, craft shows, and gardening. She also enjoyed traveling and went on many lighthouse tours around Michigan.

Ann is survived by her sister, Shirley (Lewis) Moss of Gregory, her niece, Theresa (Jeff) Best of Stockbridge, her nephews, Tim (Beth) Moss and William (Kaila) Figueroa, and great-nephews, Reese Best and AJ Best.

Visitation was held at the Gregory Community Church, 126 Church St., Gregory, MI, on Thursday, December 28, 2023 from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. Funeral Services were held at the church on Friday, December 29, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. with Rev. Dan Miller officiating. Burial was at Plainfield Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the Hearing Loss Association of America, the American Humane Society, or the Gregory Community Church.

Clyde's Corner page 11

We played them over and over back in the day, and they're still played today.

My recollections here have only scratched the surface of the really great music that came out of the 1970s; so many more great groups existed besides these. That's why, nowadays, I enjoy SiriusXM radio tuned to '70s on 7 pretty much all the while I am tooling around in my truck.

Even if you're not familiar with the music of that era, give it a chance, and be sure to listen to the lyrics. The words were often as creative as the melodies and held so much meaning. And at the risk of aging myself, I'll also add that when I listen to the music of the '70s, I can actually understand what the musicians are singing—LOL!

The 1970s: A different time. A wonderful time. Peace!

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.

Ask an Expert page 6

5) Warranties matter. A warranty for a repair shop is backed by the service provider, not your insurance company. Be sure to determine that the collision center you select offers a warranty. Additionally, check past customers' testimonials and business history to validate their claim.

6) The auto body repair shop selected is 100% your choice. Part of your due diligence in shop selection is asking for advice from trusted sources such as friends, neighbors, and insurance companies. Continue your evaluation by reviewing photo galleries, reading reviews, and validating overall business operations. At the end of your investigations, pick the shop and the people who inspire confidence. This may or may not dovetail with all your sources – but know that your insurer is obligated to underwrite your repair from a duly licensed and authorized provider.

7) New techniques and tools enable paintless dent repair without fillers. The best indicator of a quality shop is one that, like Goldilocks, does not over or under do it. New paintless dent repair (PDR) techniques allow lightly damaged panels to be repaired without the need for body filler or sanding. A fender bender or a hailstorm that does not chip paint might be more suitable for a less extensive process.

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.

In Remembrance

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

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

- Print and online, \$110 (up to ¼ page, 300 words or less)
- Print and online with photo, \$135
- Online only \$85

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



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

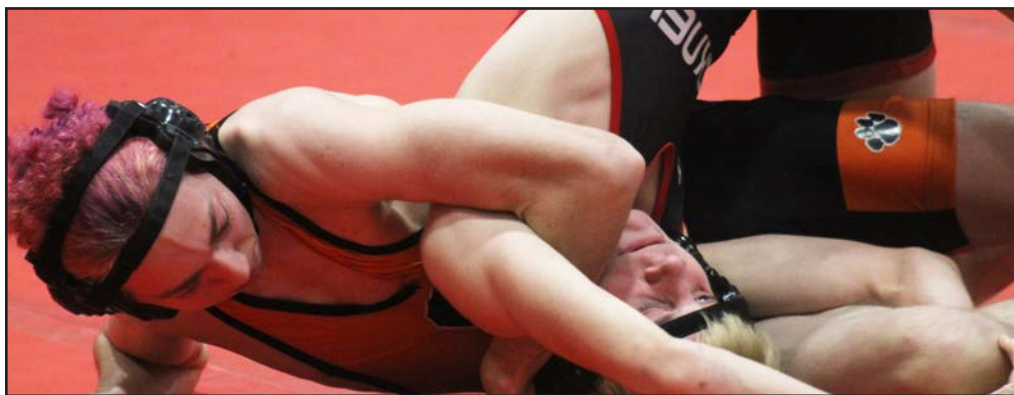
More than 20,000 people each month view our news and information online. It's not uncommon for an obituary to attract up to 2,000 views and receive dozens of online expressions of sympathy and remembrance.

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

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

STOCKBRIDGE SPORTS

New coach hopes to bring Stockbridge wrestling back to glory days



Remi Samek controls his opponent from Pinckney. Photos provided by Mike Williamson



Chris Conant with the pin against Pinckney

by Mike Williamson

It has been a long time since the Stockbridge wrestling program has had a strong team, let alone being able to fill a full squad, but new wrestling coach Jacob Adams is hoping to turn things around for the Panthers this season.

The Panthers have struggled to fill weight classes in recent years, but the Panthers return a good core of wrestlers this season and hope to bring some excitement to the mat for the first

time since Kael Bunce finished state runner-up in 2020 for Stockbridge

Adams is from Stockbridge and he has a lot of memories of the glory days of Stockbridge wrestling.

"I recall from a young age the wrestling atmosphere and community here always thriving with packed gyms and excitement," Adams said. "I'd like to bring that back and hope to see people at upcoming events we may have!"

Key returnees for the Panthers include senior captain Remington Samek.

The Conant brothers, Chris and Jayson both return after each came up just one match short of qualifying for regionals last season.

Junior Spencer Steinkraus and sophomore Evan Arbenowske also return to the mat and will be keys to leading the younger first-year wrestlers for the Panthers.

"Despite the fewer numbers of our team, we mean to maximize our season schedule and obtain as many matches as feasible, for all our wrestlers," Adams said.

The Panthers have some fresh faces on the mat to join the five returning wrestlers.

Freshmen Camron Stratton, Marcus Pikur, Jason Porzio, and Alex Mugg, and junior Mateo Ortiz-Martinez are expected to make their mark for the Panthers this season and help Stockbridge to try to fill out the weight classes for their matches.

"We don't necessarily have any expectations as to wins/losses, both individually and as a team, but we do wrestle with the intention to win every match as it is legitimately doable," Adams said. "Fortunately, all our wrestlers have some sort of grappling familiarity, so even our newcomers have a taste of the sport."

"As coaches, I like to say we're of the "old Stockbridge" and recognize what wrestling once was and what it ought to be; we intend to restore the town's spirit and fervor for the sport like it once was, and then some," Adams continued. "We encourage and call on all of Stockbridge – new and old – to come out to our meets, even if you have no direct ties!"

Girls basketball defeats Quincy for season's first win



Taylor Asquith battles for a rebound. Photos provided by Mike Williamson



Gracee Robidou drives to the basket.

by Mike Williamson

The girls basketball team snapped a three-game losing streak Dec. 14 by defeating Quincy.

The Panthers took an early lead 14-8 after one quarter and used a big 20-9 run in the second to take control with a 34-17 halftime lead and never looked back.

Taylor Lockhart hit four triples and led the Panthers with a double-double of 14 points and 10 rebounds.

Alaina Kellenberger also had a double-double of 14 points and 10 rebounds, while Gracee Robidou had 10 points and seven steals.

Maddie Dalton chipped in with four points, Madeline Topping four points and Taylor Asquith one point.

Michigan Center

Stockbridge let a double-digit lead in the fourth quarter slip

away Dec. 4 in a 41-38 season opening loss to Michigan Center.

Kellenberger had 10 points and nine rebounds, while Robidou finished with 10 points.

Lockhart added nine points and 11 rebounds, Madisyn Atkins four points, Melina Sayre three points, and Dalton two points.

Grass Lake

The Panthers were outscored 32-15 in the second half in a 48-32 loss to the Warriors Dec. 7.

Dalton led the way with nine points and four rebounds.

Robidou had eight points, while Lockhart had eight points and six rebounds, and Kellenberger seven points and nine rebounds.

Fowler

The Panthers struggled Dec. 8 in a 47-33 loss to Fowler.

Kellenberger led the Panthers with a double-double of 13 points and 11 rebounds.

Robidou finished with 10 points and seven rebounds, while Sayre chipped in with six points. Lockhart and Dalton finished with two points each.

STOCKBRIDGE SPORTS

Panthers boys basketball off to fast start after winning season opener against Dansville



Joey Ballagh tries to get by a Charlotte defender. Photos provided by Mike Williamson



Jacob Dalton goes for a shot for the Panthers.

by Mike Williamson

The boys basketball team got off to a fast start to its season by opening with a 6-4 overall record.

Dansville

The Panthers opened their season Nov. 27 by taking down Dansville 73-54. Stockbridge held a one-point lead after one and pushed the lead to 35-29 at the break.

The Panthers started to pull away in the third with an 18-11 run and put 20 on the board in the fourth to put the game away.

Ten Panthers scored on the night with Drew Robinson leading the way with 12 points, four rebounds and four assists.

Brock Rochow added 11 points, while Kegan Collins and Joey Ballagh finished with nine each. Foster Pybus chipped in with seven, Zac Rogozinski six, Jacob Dalton six, Zach Fletcher three and Evan Sandecki two.

Napoleon

The Panthers were outscored 12-7 in the third Nov. 28 as Napoleon pulled away for a 50-43 win.

Collins led Stockbridge with 14 points, while Shannon Henderson added 11.

Ballagh chipped in with seven, Rochow five, Fletcher and Pybus two each, Robinson and Dalton one each.

Olivet

Stockbridge outscored Olivet 21-15 in the third to pull away for a 56-44 win over the Eagles Dec. 1.

Collins led Stockbridge with 19 points.

Ballagh had 11 points and six rebounds, while Pybus and Rogozinski scored six each. Robinson added eight points, Dalton four, and Henderson two.

Onsted

The Panthers trailed 49-48 after three but rallied to pull out a 68-65 win over Onsted Dec. 5.

Henderson led the way with 18 points, while Collins added 16.

Dalton finished with 13 points, Ballagh 11 points and six rebounds, Fletcher five points, Rogozinski three and Pybus two.

Waterford Oakeside Prep Academy

The Panthers rolled to a 66-20 win Dec. 8 over Waterford Oakeside Prep Academy.

Ballagh and Henderson scored 14 each to lead the Panthers.

Rochow just missed a double-double with nine points and 14 boards, while Collins added 10 points. Dalton had nine points and six assists, Fletcher and Sandecki three points each, and Robinson two.

Detroit Henry Ford

The Panthers took part in the Moneyball Showcase in Holt Dec. 9 and took down Detroit Henry Ford 61-40.

Henderson had a big game with 19 points and eight rebounds for Stockbridge.

Collins finished with 17 points and Rochow nine points and seven rebounds. Dalton added eight points, seven assists and six rebounds, while Robinson chipped in with six points and five rebounds. Fletcher two points and seven rebounds.

Charlotte

The Panthers dropped a back-and-forth decision Dec. 18 to Charlotte 48-40.

Collins hit four triples and finished with 12 points to lead the Panthers.

Ballagh finished with 10 points, while Dalton had six. Rochow and Fletcher scored four each, while Henderson and Pybus had two each.

Photo credit: Clyde Whitaker

MERRY
Christmas
FROM THE
STOCKBRIDGE COMMUNITY NEWS



The concept of a Stockbridge school-based health center is taking shape



The new, school-based health center will operate like a local doctors' office. Since it will be considered one of the Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC), the center can provide primary care services regardless of ability to pay. Photo credit CDC on unsplash.com

identified access to health care as one of the four most pressing needs in the Stockbridge community, for all ages.

Q: Why build the health center on school property, and will that limit use to only students?

A: The committee involved in this health center project considered other potential locations in the community. Two major advantages of locating the health center on school property include 1) health services will be conveniently located in close proximity to a large population (students) for taking advantage of the services, and 2) other funding sources may be available as a result of locating the site on school property.

Q: Which community members have been involved in the planning of this school-based health center?

A: A number of people have been involved with planning—too many to name. But those who are most involved include Friddle; Rev. Brian Johnson, executive minister of ABC-MI (formerly senior pastor of Crossroads Church); Dr. Virginia Rezmierski, adjunct associate professor at the University of Michigan (Ph.D. in educational psychology); and local businesswoman and school board vice president Kary Gee. Committee members have visited six other school-based health centers in Michigan to learn what works and what doesn't. Members of the planning committee report their findings back to the Stockbridge Community Schools school board.

Q: Who will be able to use the health center once it is operational?

A: The health center will operate similarly to a local doctors' office. Anyone in the community and outside the community can make appointments and be seen at the center. Since it will be considered one of the Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC), the center can provide primary care services regardless of ability to pay. Note: The health center will not operate as an urgent care and likely will not offer imaging/radiology services.

As part of their due diligence for this project, in 2021, the planning committee sent out a community medical needs survey to Stockbridge Village and six surrounding townships. They received 485 responses to the survey. Following are some of the survey findings:

- 86% responded they would use a family health center in the service area.
- 83% indicated a need for wellness examinations.
- 84% indicated a need for laboratory services.
- 67% indicated a need for mental health diagnoses and support.
- 67% indicated that cost/lack of insurance might be a barrier for use a center.

Q: Will the community be responsible for keeping the health center running?

A: The funds for constructing the health center are already available through a federal grant. As for operating the center once it is built, the planning committee will select an existing medical practice/medical system to be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the facility. Currently a frontrunner for this role is Packard Health, a nonprofit primary care medical practice that operates multiple FQHCs in Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti. However, no operating agreement is in place yet.

Until such time that the health center is operational and an existing medical practice takes over, decisions about the health center are being handled by the Stockbridge Community Schools school board.

While the community of Stockbridge will not be responsible for financing or operating this health center, a community board will be created to work with the selected medical practice. This community board will be made up of local parents, health care workers, businesspeople, and even students, to ensure the medical practice operating the health center takes into account the best interests of the community.

Q: Will this school-based health center attract drug addicts and sex offenders to our community and place them in close proximity to our school children?

A: Community members can expect the health center will attract the same type of people any typical doctor's office would attract. This will likely be a range of people—young and old—mostly from among our own community who are in need of health care. The Stockbridge Area health center will not serve as a methadone clinic and will not attract sex offenders any more than any other doctor's office attracts addicts and sex offenders.

According to Friddle, "We lost a doctor's office in town and we're trying to replace that. You, me, teachers, people who work in town, and others who live near here, those are the people you'll most often see being treated here. And they'll be treated for colds and pneumonia, or they'll see the doctor for checkups and immunizations—all the things a standard doctor's office offers."

Ten existing school-based health centers were surveyed to determine potential risks. The surveys included a question asking whether these centers attract drug users on school property and another question asking whether the centers increase the presence of sexual predators on school grounds. For both questions, ALL survey respondents replied that the school-based health center on school property did NOT increase the presence of drug users or sexual predators on school grounds.

Q: How do we get more information about the plans for this school-based health center?

A: Recognizing that the health center concept is generating many questions, Friddle expects an informational meeting about the health center will be announced to the community in January. He looks forward to sharing what he knows with community members, but he warns that he will not have all the answers at that meeting about construction schedules and operational timelines. Those answers will be more readily available once an architect, construction manager, and operational medical practice have been identified.

For reference: Previous articles about the Stockbridge Area health center may be found at the following links:

- <https://stockbridgecommunitynews.com/from-the-superintendents-desk-18/>

- <https://1f29dd.a2cdn1.secureserver.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/SCN-November-22-Layout-Reduced.pdf>

Outreach in Action

In the new year, many things old (if clean and usable) can be new again

by Jo Mayer and Paul Crandall

Happy New Year! Time to sweep out the old and usher in the new, right? But what to do with the old stuff?

Stockbridge Community Outreach takes many reusable items and gives them to anyone who stops by our clothing and household goods "free store." Our volunteers maintain a neat, pleasant shopping experience with a lot to choose from.

We appreciate the donations, but in these times of "peak stuff" we cannot use everything our generous community wants to donate. Here's an overview of what Outreach takes and some ideas of other places you might consider for your clean and usable things.

LOCAL TO STOCKBRIDGE:

Stockbridge Community Outreach: Off Cherry and Elm streets, Door No. 20 (in the back of the Stockbridge Activity Center at 305 W. Elizabeth St., Stockbridge.) Store and drop-off hours are 1-3 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday or by appointment. 517-851-7285.

From the second week of January through early November, we accept seasonal clothing for all ages and sizes, outerwear, footwear, dishes and small household appliances (like a microwave or toaster), some toys, accessories (belts, purses, scarves, etc.), bedding, blankets, towels, curtains, glassware, and pots and pans. We also accept non-expired shelf stable food to offer in our pantry.

Heritage and Smith Schools' K-4 STEM program: 222 Western St., Stockbridge. Instructor: Donnie Anderson. Some specific things the grade K-4 STEM classes can use include: Legos, marbles, AAA and AA batteries, glue, baking soda, bubbles/bubble wands, pool noodles, craft supplies, highlighters, space/science toys, kinetic sand/modeling dough, disposable cups/plates/bowls, balloons, plant seeds, zip-lock bags and magnets. To arrange a donation, email andersond@panthernet.net

Heritage School's Kids Club After-School Child Care Program: Taught by Lynn Balkus, who always is looking for gently used board games, puzzles, arts-and-crafts supplies, sports equipment and building sets. To arrange a donation, email balkusm@panthernet.net

Smith Elementary School: 100 Price Ave., Stockbridge. Principal Brad Edwards reports that they always can use winter clothing, including boots, snow pants, coats, hats, mittens and gloves. Facial tissues also are in high demand, especially in winter. Call the school at 517-851-7735 or email welchm@panthernet.net.

Stockbridge Jr/Sr High School Art Program: 416 N. Clinton, Stockbridge. Jay Langone, art instructor, is looking for paper, art supplies, old magazines and crafting supplies. Contact Jay at langonej@panthernet.net

Stockbridge Library: 200 Wood St., Stockbridge. Accepts donations of books, but due to limited space, staff ask that patrons only bring in a small number of books at a time (perhaps one grocery bag full) during open hours. www.cadl.org/Stockbridge or call 517-851-7810.

REGIONAL LOCATIONS:

In addition to donating things locally, many regional organizations accept a variety of items. Following are a few ideas:

Faith in Action: Accepts and offers many of the same things as Outreach but also accepts and gives out medical equipment such as walkers, crutches and wheelchairs. Open most Mondays-Fridays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Wednesday hours extended to 7 p.m. Located at 603 S. Main St., Chelsea, MI. 734-475-3305

Diaper Bank: Accepts and offers diapers for children, adult disposable briefs, bed pads, wipes, and feminine hygiene products. Diaper Bank entrance is through the side door of the First Congregational Church of Chelsea, 121 E. Middle St., Chelsea. Mondays from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturdays from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., and by appointment. Call 734-475-1844.

See *Outreach in Action* on page 21.



Stockbridge Community Outreach accepts many reusable items for others who use the organization's "free store." Those things Outreach cannot accept often can be donated elsewhere. Photo credits (l-r) Kai Pilger, Aaron Doucett, and Alexander Grey, all on unsplash.com

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Community Calendar

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

Wednesdays – Family Storytime (Ages up to 6), 10:30 to 11 a.m. at the Stockbridge Library

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

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

Jan. 1-6 - Union 4 Life Online Silent Auction to benefit the University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center. Register to bid at fundraiser.bid/union4life2024

Jan. 2 - Sons of American Legion Meeting, 7 to 8 p.m. at the American Legion Mackinder Glenn Post 510

Jan. 8 - Stockbridge Community Schools School Board Meeting, 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Stockbridge Jr/Sr High School Media Center

Jan. 8 - American Legion Meeting, 7 to 8 p.m. at the American Legion Mackinder Glenn Post 510

Jan. 13 – 2024 Open Air Market Winter Market, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church CE Building

Jan. 13 – Plainfield Methodist Church Chicken Supper, 5 to 7 p.m. at the Plainfield United Methodist Church

Jan. 22-26 – Stockbridge Community Schools Coming Home Spirit Week

Jan. 22 – Stockbridge Area Arts Council Annual Meeting, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church CE Building

Jan. 26 – Stockbridge Community Schools Coming Home Ceremony during Varsity Basketball Game at Stockbridge Jr/Sr High School

Jan. 27 – Winterfest Dance, 7 to 10 p.m. at the Stockbridge Jr/Sr High School

Jan. 30 – American Legion Ladies Auxiliary Meeting, 7 to 8 p.m. at the American Legion Mackinder Glenn Post 510

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

Outreach in Action page 20

House N2 Home: Ypsilanti. Accepts furniture in good condition, which it uses to furnish homes for the recently homeless. Please check website for guidelines at <https://www.houseN2home.org/>. House N2 Home offers pickup service within Washtenaw County. For questions, contact contactus@houseN2home.org. 5361 McAuley Drive, Suite 1125 Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Goodwill Industries: Accepts most things. Uses sales of items to fund its nonprofit mission of helping people build career skills and find jobs. For more on what donations they accept and a location near you, check out <https://www.goodwill.org/donors/donate-stuff/>

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.

Bridge to Wellness page 13

Activities such as reading, journaling, and watching inspirational programming can be a great way to find joy during the long winter months.

• **See a therapist:** Therapists can assist us in changing to a more positive perspective—one that can help us feel better both physically and mentally.

Remember, if you are having more severe symptoms of depression, you may need to see a doctor. The tips and tricks listed in this column can be useful, but seeing a physician can help you determine if further treatment for clinical depression

is needed. *This column is sponsored by the Stockbridge Area Wellness Coalition. Jennifer Matthews, RN, is a registered nurse in the Stockbridge School System. She has worked as a community nurse for the last eight years and is an active volunteer within the Jackson County foster care system. Jen has a passion for helping individuals advocate for their health and learn to navigate the health care system.*



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Woah Nellie! 'Roly Poly' beats out 'Banana Salad with Popcorn' and 'Breakfast Mackerel' for first recipe of the new year

by Mary Jo David

In honor of the New Year, we're now turning the pages of old Stockbridge Brief-Sun newspapers to rediscover Nellie Maxwell recipes from the year 1924!

As I perused the old January editions, I decided to skip right over the recipes for "Banana Salad with Popcorn" and "Breakfast Mackerel." (You can thank me later!) Nellie also featured a few sweet potato recipes in the January editions, but I've never been a huge fan of these tuberous root vegetables, so I skipped right over them. FUN FACT: I just learned that sweet potatoes belong to the morning glory family.

In the Jan. 17, 1924, edition, Nellie focused on uses for leftover pastry. This caught my eye, since I often freeze small portions of leftover pie dough after I roll out a pie crust. I decided the recipe for "Roly Poly" showed the most promise, since we're big fans of apple desserts in our house. How could you go wrong wrapping apples in leftover pastry?

I set to work gathering my ingredients, chopping the apples, and mixing them with the raisins. The combination reminded me of "Apples and Ants"... a simple recipe featured in a children's cookbook back when my kids were just toddlers.

In true Nellie fashion, she decided to forego specifying amounts, and instead left it up to the cook, with instructions like rolling a small circle of pastry "as large a one as the size of the family warrants."

As one of seven kids raised by a mom who was one of nine, I found myself wondering if families back in the 1920s had much leftover pastry—or anything else for that matter. Some quick research yielded interesting information. According to an infoplease.com chart on U.S. Households by Size, Americans experienced a steep drop in the percentage of households with seven or more persons between 1900 and 1930 (from just over 20% in 1900 to not even 11% in 1930). But even with smaller families, if you think your budget is stretched nowadays, consider that, according to the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, the average earnings in 1924 were \$1,303!

Enough with googling; it was time to head back into the kitchen to continue making the "Roly Poly." I'm happy to report the recipe came together nicely even though I had to guess at most measurements. After eyeballing the pastry circle I rolled, I ended up chopping two large apples (for about 3 cups) and adding 3/4 cup of raisins. As instructed, I rolled those up in the pastry, forming a log shape, and placed the log into a baking pan. I sprinkled it with 1/4 cup of brown sugar and dotted that with 2 tablespoons of butter. Lastly, I heated up 5 cups of cider to pour over the log in the baking dish.

At this point, I was quite skeptical as I looked down into a baking dish of "Roly Poly" lying in a pool of liquid. It turns out, I was right to be concerned! After baking for 1 hour and 20 minutes, the top of the "Roly Poly" was nicely browned, but it was still lying in a barely thickened mass of cider.

The pastry had obviously broken open because I noticed loose raisins floating in the cider. Suddenly my "apples and ants" experiment looked more like I had uncovered a crypt from an episode of the old show "Bones"! When dishing out the dessert, the two end pieces held their form for the photo shoot, but the rest is a mess and not something I'd ever serve to company. The flavor, however, was very good—like tart apple pie in cider soup (my husband's words, not mine). The only thing missing was a scoop of vanilla ice cream.

As I wrap of this month's column, on behalf of my family and the late Nellie Maxwell, I'd like to wish you all a Happy New Year—and good times in the kitchen in 2024!

Current photos by Mary Jo David.

Sources:

- infoplease.com/us/family-statistics/us-households-size-1790-2006
- gilderlehrman.org/history-resources/teaching-resource/statistics-american-economy-during-1920s



(©. 1924, Western Newspaper Union.)

Art thou poor, yet hast thou golden slumbers?
O, sweet content!
Art thou rich, yet is thy mind perplexed?
O, punishment.

USES FOR LEFT-OVER PASTRY

Roly Poly.—Roll out a small circle of pastry, making as large a one as the size of the family warrants. In the center place chopped apples and raisins, using three times as much apple as raisins. Roll up, place in a deep baking dish and cover with enough brown sugar to sweeten; add a tablespoonful or two of butter. Pour over boiling hot fruit juice, cider, or boiling water to cover, and bake in a moderate oven for at least an hour. Usually there will be sauce enough to serve; if not, serve with cream and sugar.

Stockbridge Brief-Sun • January 17, 1924

"Roly Poly" teases the baker into a false sense of confidence until that moment when you immerse the pastry log in cider. Live and learn: Next time I will use half the amount of liquid the recipe calls for.



Waterloo Township Board Meeting Minutes 28 November 2023 7:00 P.M. 9773 Mt. Hope Road Munith, MI 49259

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

Present: Lance, Walz, Kitley, McAlister, Beck. Also present: 6 residents, Margie Walz (Jackson Planning Commission), Deputy Desnoyer.

Public Comment: B.Richardson provided an update on wind & solar legislation recently passed in Lansing.

Consent Agenda: Kitley motioned with support from Walz to accept the consent agenda as amended. Aye/all; no/none. Motion carried. Kitley motioned with support from Walz to pay the Post Audit checks in the amount of \$1,512.49. Roll call vote: Yes/Walz, Kitley, Lance, Beck, McAlister. No/none. Motion carried.

Zoning – complaint on Gorton Road is being addressed.

Police Report: Deputy Desnoyer's report for October 2023 was as follows: Deputies put in 160 hours, drove 2124 miles, answered 28 calls for service, made 38 traffic stops and issued 9 citations. Sheriff's office responded to 25 calls.

Correspondence: Supervisor read correspondence regarding the anti-blight ordinance and clean-up opportunities within the township. Discussion ensued about where some issues exist and how to address those issues.

Old Business: None
New Business:

Parks & Recreation: Walz spoke of the Munith Halloween Parade, and discussed the removal of the chimney and fireplace in Munith Park. Also discussed concerns about the cost of repairs necessary to get the park up to date. Plan is to hold the December Parks and Rec meeting at the park to better address what is needed. Funds may be available from other benefactors to help with the cleanup. A \$10,000.00 grant has been approved from the wellness coalition to apply to the Munith Park effort. New playground structure is in place at Clear Lake Park. Flags are down in Munith and the Christmas decorations are up. Also plan to put up some Christmas decorations in Waterloo after the brackets are finished. Planning Commission: The Planning Commission has been reviewing the by-laws. Also started work on the outdoor gathering ordinance, which will be a police power ordinance. The Planning Commission will expect the Board to define the fee structure. Also reviewed input from the attorney on the solar ordinance and discussed the best approach to update that ordinance.

Land Division request: Request for a land division at 11681 Waterloo Munith Road. A 3.01 acre parcel will be split off of the parent parcel. Motion by Lance, support by Beck to approve the land division of the original parent parcel #000-05-17-451-001-00 into new parent parcel #000-05-17-451-001-01 and new split parcel #000-05-17-451-001-02. Aye/all; no/none. Motion carried.

Metro Permit Application: A Metro Act Permit application from Midwest Energy and Communications was reviewed. They will be expanding fiber to broadband home services in Waterloo Township. Application was complete and maps were provided. Also provided was a website that gives information on what they will be doing and where they will be doing it. They also provide information on where the funding came from for this project. (www.teammidwest.com/internet/fiber-construction-explained/). Motion made by Lance with support from

Walz to approve resolution 23-11-28-1, the permit for Midwest Energy and Communications Company to extend fiber to home broadband services within the rights-of-way of Waterloo Township, pursuant to the metropolitan extension telecommunications rights-of-way oversight act #48 of the public acts of 2002 as amended. Yes/Walz, Kitley, Lance, Beck, McAlister. No/none. Motion carried.

December meeting change: December's Township Board meeting date is a holiday, so the meeting date will be moved to Thursday December 21st, 7:00 pm. Motion made by Lance, supported by Walz. Aye/all; no/none. Motion carried.

Fee Schedule Change: Fee schedule has been updated to reflect the new hourly wage for office workers. Motion by Lance to adopt the new fee schedule under resolution #23-11-28-2, supported by Lance. Aye/all; no/none. Motion carried.

Employee Handbook: Discussed the proposed employee handbook and reporting structure within the township. Handbook was modeled after SAESA's handbook. Motion by Lance, support by McAlister to accept the November 2023 Waterloo Township Employee Handbook as presented. Aye/all; no/none. Motion carried. After minor grammatical changes are made, all employees of Waterloo Township will be provided a copy and will be asked to sign the back of it agreeing to follow the guidelines in the handbook.

Any Other Business That Comes to the Board:

Electrical Inspector: Electrical Inspector is retiring. The township advertised for the position and received several applications. Matt Wood works in Stockbridge and Bunker Hill, seems to be a good candidate and will be the likely choice.

Text Message System: No luck in this area so far, but discussions are ongoing. Options were also discussed during the meeting.

Road updates: Discussion about what roads may be updated within the township. Preference is to allow the county to decide what roads to repair first in order to allow them to be as efficient as possible.

Public Comment: Commissioner Walz spoke of Clear Lake Park. The building by the water may be removed or have some safety features added to it. She also spoke to the county parks department about more clean-up at the park and they plan to send someone out to take a look at it. The jail ad-hoc committee may be reconvened to take another look at the jail situation. This will also be discussed in the December 11th safety committee meeting, and then go to the full county commissioner board meeting on December 19th at 5:00 pm. Lastly there are many open board positions available at the county level. Visit the Jackson County website to apply. C.Upton recognized treasurer Walz for her efforts regarding Clear Lake Park. B.Richardson inquired about the fiber installation for broadband, how above versus below ground was selected, and what the timing was for the project. Also asked about Christmas ornaments in Waterloo and offered help.

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

The next Planning Commission meeting will be Tuesday, December 19, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. The next regular board meeting will be on December 21, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. Date change due to holidays. Minutes will be published in the Stockbridge Community News at the end of each month, on our website waterlootwpmi.gov, on our Facebook page at: waterlootownshipmichigan, and The Grass Lake Exponent.

Submitted by: Janice Kitley, Clerk

Active Aging

Driving tips for all ages when the weather turns frightful

by Mandy Bartus

One of my favorite parts of living in Texas was the warm weather and sunshine. At the slightest dusting of snow, the whole state would shut down for the foreseeable future. When we moved back to Michigan, I knew those days were coming to an end. I would need to bust out my car scraper again and get ready to trek snow-covered roads.

Whether you need to get to the Stockbridge Senior Center—or to work, a medical appointment, school, or to run errands, it's important to know how to change your driving in the snow. I turned to the local police department for some safety tips and tricks.

Stockbridge Police Department's Officer Ronald Smith advised the community to "slow your speed down on ice and snow and keep a longer distance between you and the car in front of you."

"Give the car in front of you plenty of warning by using your turn signal," Smith said. "Regardless of two-wheel drive or four-wheel drive, it still takes a significantly longer distance for a vehicle to stop in icy conditions."

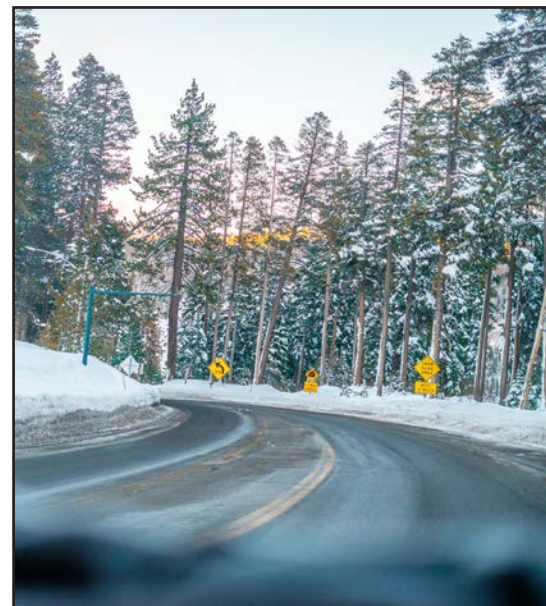
The state of Michigan reported more than 220,000 winter-related car crashes between 2015 and 2019, indicating that caution is significantly more important in slippery conditions. Stockbridge's Officer Josh Howe urges drivers to "fully clear off your car from snow and ice before driving and keep your tires properly inflated."

Chief Matthew Bartus recommends keeping an emergency kit inside of your vehicle, especially during the winter months. Important contents for this kit include jumper cables, emergency tool kit, flashlight, blanket, snow brush, reflective triangle, first-aid kit, cellphone charger, hat and gloves, and even a good pair of boots. "If you do become stranded in your vehicle in a snowstorm, stay in your vehicle and call 911 for help," Bartus said. "During a snowstorm, it may take time for first responders to respond to all accidents and standing alongside the road could put you at risk of being hit by other sliding cars."

School Resource Officer Crystal King loves a good snow day but not every snowy day can be a snow day. "It is important to remember to avoid sudden, quick moves. Accelerate and brake slowly and don't stomp on your brakes. Slow and steady," King said.

Another important reminder: When the schools close, the Stockbridge Area Senior Center also closes, so stay home and stay warm on those days. Stay safe, Stockbridge!

Mandy Bartus is a member of the board of directors of the Stockbridge Area Senior Center (SASC)—a great place to spend time. Visit stockbridgeareaseniors.org or call 517-480-0353 for more information.



Regardless of whether you're headed to the Stockbridge Area Senior Center or somewhere else, it's important to know how to change your driving in the snow. Image credit Jairo Gonzalez on unsplash.com

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SCN 2023 Top Stories. Thanks for the memories!

~JANUARY~

Stockbridge to Sri Lanka: Traveling the world on a budget
by Terri Grant



~FEBRUARY~

Local business owner fights for her own life after losing 5 in family
by Tina Cole-Mullins



~MARCH~

Stockbridge Coach Hora to be named to Coaches Hall of Fame
by Clyde Whitaker



~APRIL~



Stockbridge Sixth Grade Boys' basketball team wins state title
by Mike Williamson

~MAY~



2023 Senior Honors Night
by Judy Williams

~JUNE~



Gregory Fourth of July: Parade highlights!
By Mary Jo David

~JULY~



Adult Co-Ed Softball returns to Stockbridge
by Mike Williamson

~AUGUST~

Salyer wins first-place award for page design in 2023 NFPW national contest
by Agnes Geiger



~SEPTEMBER~

Photo Gallery: Stockbridge 2023 Homecoming Court
by Mike Williamson



~OCTOBER~



Marvin and Jeanne Cook are celebrating 62 years together
by Kayla Fletcher

~NOVEMBER~



Stockbridge students create a small business
by Judy Williams

~DECEMBER~

New coach hopes to bring Stockbridge wrestling back to glory days
by Mike Williamson

