



STOCKBRIDGE COMMUNITY NEWS

Promoting our common good and shared well-being

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What's happening in and around town



In Stockbridge, a new store opens and another is coming, and in Washtenaw County, North Territorial is still closed at Dexter Town Hall Road. Photo credits Mary Jo David

Progress is moving along on construction of the new Tractor Supply Co. in Stockbridge (on M-52, also across from McDonald's). A conversation with the builder on April 16 confirmed that store "fixturing" should begin in mid-May, signs should be up soon, and, if all goes well, the store could be opened by mid-June.

See *New Businesses* on page 9.

by Mary Jo David

The new DG Market is open for business in Stockbridge. Located on West Main Street, between the UHaul dealer and Ace Hardware, the store opened in early December. Although DG Market is affiliated with Dollar General, Stockbridge Community News knows of no plans to close the existing Dollar General, which is on M-52 across from McDonald's.

Children report inappropriate message: Jackson County man arrested and arraigned

by Mary Jo David



Monitoring social media use and having open conversations with your children are two ways to help keep your children safe online. Image credit Giovanni Gagliardi on unsplash.com

A 23-year-old Jackson County man was arraigned in Jackson District Court on April 2 after an Ingham County Sheriff's investigation into his alleged possession of child sexually abusive material and using a computer to commit a crime. The man was initially arrested on five felonies and, according to court records, more were added after a search warrant on the man's home led to authorities finding more sexually abusive materials.

Two Ingham County children reported an adult had contacted them inappropriately, and that led to the Ingham County Sheriff's investigation.

See *Jackson County Arrest* on page 7.

On Memorial Day: Remembering Elias Sweet and more than 1 million others



by Ben Fidler

Elias strung together his sack filled with boots and woolen socks, maybe fresh bread from his mother Eunice. His father, Lamech, may have hugged him so tightly it held back their tears. Behind the family, at the Sweet Farm in Waterloo Township, the dairy cows bellowed. Elias turned one last time to his family, then readied himself for what was to come.

He mustered in Jackson on Aug. 15, 1862, and by the first of September, Company K of the Michigan Infantry, 20th Regiment was on the march to Washington, D.C. Within weeks they were in service, first at Sharpsburg, then Fredericksburg, then winding through Virginia and Kentucky, then back again to Vicksburg. In early May 1864, Elias was engaged in the Battle of the Wilderness, and days later, fighting in Spotsylvania in a battle that would last 20 hours. He charged with Grant's advance on May 12, bayonet

Remember to make time over your long Memorial Day weekend to remember those who, like Elias Sweet, made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. Photo source: ancestors.familysearch.org

in hand, one last time. It might have been, as the National Park Service states, "the most ferociously sustained combat of the Civil War."

Elias made the ultimate sacrifice from wounds he sustained that day or within months of that battle (the records are unclear). He was not fighting a foreign adversary, but his own countrymen in a war, hopefully, we will never see the likes of again.

See *Elias Sweet* on page 12.

May 2024

Features

Stockbridge Community News is dedicating the May 2024 edition to all of our local veterans who have passed away.

Memorial Day Veterans List: Each year, SCN publishes an updated list of deceased veterans in honor of Memorial Day. See pages 4-5 to view this year's feature.

Mother's Day Special: With the help of two SCS teachers and their students, SCN highlights what makes local mothers laugh the hardest. See page 24.

Rural Perspectives: Fleabane daisies are tiny, tall, and prevalent in spring



Diane Gray Constable

by Diane Constable

Native plant daisy fleabane (*Erigeron annuus*) blooms in late spring and is found in fields, recently disturbed areas, and along our roadsides.

The fleabane belongs to the composite family of flowers and is related to asters. The white rays, or outer flowers, are not viable. They surround the yellow center, which contains up to 100 tightly clumped individual flowers called florets. The complete flower is about the size of a nickel. The light green leaves are about 4 inches long and 1 inch wide and are alternately placed along the thin stem that measures from 1 to 3 feet long.

Fleabane daisies spread easily by seed and bloom most of the summer. They like sunlight and slightly moist soil but will grow in tough places, such as freshly disturbed soil and building sites. This has earned them the status of a "pioneer flower" because of their ability to grow and improve soil unfit for other plants. They also complement gardens and wildflower gardens.

A variety of insects are attracted to these daisies, including bees, small wasps and butterflies, which feed on its sap. Deer and rabbit will feed on the plant. Larvae of grasshoppers, some beetles, and crickets also feed



Found in fields and along roadsides, the flowers on tiny fleabane daisies are no bigger than a nickel, but their stems can grow from 1 to 3 feet long. Photo credit Diane Constable

on this plant.

Native Americans have used fleabane daisies to make a poultice for treating wounds and as an astringent.

Fun Fact: The early pioneers called the plant "fleabane" because they believed it repelled fleas. They would stuff mattresses with it and hang sprigs in the house. Unfortunately, over time, this theory has been disproven; the plant does not repel fleas.

As an avid photographer, Diane Constable regularly puts her formal education in both nature and photography to good use. Diane also enjoys gardening and her dogs and serves on the board of the Ann Arbor Dog Training Club.

BE FIT 5K FUN RUN

Saturday,
June 15 @ 8 am

Starts at S. side of the Stockbridge town square. Certified race for competitive runners and a race for all ages. It's a blast!

Lakelands Trail Veterinary Clinic

Dr. Cindy Anderson
517-655-5551
akvet1@yahoo.com

4525 S M-52
Stockbridge, MI 49285

Facebook:
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THE OPEN AIR MARKET

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

May 3: Opening Day On-the-Square

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14th
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OPEN AIR MARKET OF STOCKBRIDGE

May Mental Health Trainings



Adult & Youth Mental Health First Aid

Anyone 18+ can take these FREE trainings to learn more about mental health challenges and how to help an adult or youth in need.

Adult Mental Health First Aid

May 20th & 21st*

5:30 – 8 pm

*learners must attend both sessions

Chelsea Hospital
775 South Main St., Chelsea, MI 48118
Registration Required, see email below

Youth Mental Health First Aid

May 1st & 8th*

5:30 – 8 pm

*learners must attend both sessions

Virtual Via Zoom
Registration Required, see email below

Question. Persuade. Refer. — A suicide prevention training

Anyone 14+ can take this FREE training to learn how to recognize and respond to the warning signs of suicide.

Monday, May 13th

6–7 pm

Chelsea Wellness Center
14800 E. Old US Hwy 12,
Chelsea, MI 48118

Thursday, May 16th

6–7 pm

Dexter Wellness Center
2810 Baker Rd.,
Dexter, MI 48130

Online Anytime at
qrtraining.com/setup

1. Enter the organization code **SJMC**
2. Create account and complete the registration form.
3. Begin training!

If you have any questions or want to register, please email
sarah.wilczynski@trinity-health.org



Implementation of Mental Health Awareness and Training Grant



Thank You

FOR YOUR SUPPORT

- Jeannine Wayman
- Jo Ann Waller
- Denise & Larry Allen
- Marjorie Pregitzer
- Diane & John Tandy
- Sally Nichol

The Stockbridge Community News team would like to thank those in the community who continue to send donations in response to our article in the February edition about rising costs. Special thanks to those listed above whose donations were received between March 23-April 26, 2024. We truly appreciate the support of our community, and we look forward to continuing to provide a quality, local paper. Donations can be sent to Stockbridge Community News at P.O. Box 83, Gregory, MI 48137



Camping or glamping – the choice is yours for lots of vacation fun



Fifth-wheel trailers vary in length, but most tend to be 28 to 40 feet long, with about 5 feet in front extending over the pickup truck bed. Image credit Mary Jo David

by Mary Jo David

After many enjoyable years of tent camping and then pop-up camping, our kids grew up, and we morphed into cushy campers, meaning we switched gears to trailer camping with real walls and a television!

Some may consider our current mode of fifth-wheel camping as "glamping," but if you've ever seen celebrity motor homes like the ones owned by race car driver Jeff Gordon or mega movie star Will Smith, you'd realize that "glamping" is in the eyes of the beholder, and we're not there yet!

A lot can be said for any form of camping, but here we'll compare the pros and cons of pull-behind trailers vs. fifth-wheel trailers. Most of these insights are based on personal experience. Note: Check out SCN's April edition if you're interested in comparing tent camping vs. pop-up trailer camping.

To clarify, when you hear "pull-behind trailer," or just "trailer" visualize one that attaches to a vehicle using a bumper hitch. On the other hand, a "fifth-wheel trailer" or just "fifth wheel" hooks into a hitch mounted in the bed of a pickup truck. As such, about 5 feet or so of the fifth-wheel trailer sits above the bed of the truck.

Towing: Trailers offer more flexibility when it comes to the vehicle you drive. They can be towed using a car, SUV, truck, or van, whereas a fifth wheel requires a pickup truck with a truck bed. Fifth wheels also tend to be larger recreational vehicles, so depending on the size, you'd likely need a 3/4-ton or 1-ton pickup. That said, most who have experience towing each kind of RV agree that fifth wheels are generally more stable, including in windy conditions, and easier to maneuver on turns and backing into camping spots.

Size does matter: When it comes to recreational vehicles, you'll find more length flexibility when you're looking at trailers vs. fifth wheels. Pull-behind trailers can range from 15 feet to 40 feet. While you can find some short-ish fifth wheels, the 28-foot model we first owned was a pretty standard size, and they go up from there, with many fifth wheels being 35- to 40-foot long.

Steps: Trailers are easier to get into and move around in. Their height from the ground usually only requires a step or maybe two. Once inside, trailers are all on one level. Fifth wheels generally require three or four steps from outside.

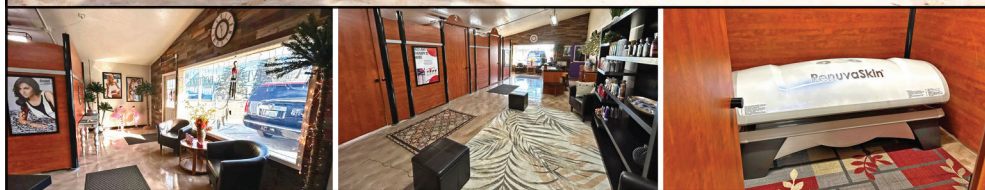
See Camping on page 16.

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Honoring our Veterans



Honoring deceased former members of Mackinder-Glenn Post 510

At one time, the following veterans were members of the Mackinder-Glenn Post 510 and are interred here in Stockbridge or at other cemeteries.

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KENNETH E. AMMERMAN
MICHAEL BASNAW
HOWARD J. BERRY
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CHARLOTTE CAMPBELL
CLETE CARLTON
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JACK COLLINS
LOREN COLLINS
MAXINE COLLINGS
PAUL COLLINGS
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DONOVAN G. CRONKHITE
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ALFRED J. DAVIS
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ANDREW KOLEVAR
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MAURICE BIEHN
HAROLD GLEN CRAFT
JOHN M. DONOHUE
JAMES LOSO
UNKNOWN SERVICE TIME
GARY L. CORNISH

Deceased local veterans list provided by the Pleasant Grove Cemetery Association in Munith

The following information was provided by the Pleasant Grove Cemetery Association in Munith.

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GRANT CLARK
JOHN CLARK
JACOB ECKMAN
WILLIAM JUMP
JOSEPH KILPATRICK
EVERETT A. LARKINS
FRED POWERS
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GEORGE RICKMAN
ROBERT RICKMAN
ESTILL LEE SHEPHARD
DELBERT L. STEVENS
MELVIN VANFLEET

VIETNAM WAR

DONALD DEAN
ANDREW DUSZYNSKI
PATRICK JERRY
ROBERT G. LOSEY
KENNETH McENTIRE
HARRY RICKMAN
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JOHNNY R. SISK
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LARRY W. WIREMAN
DANIEL YOUNG
WORLD WAR I
GLEN CHENCY
ROBERT COLLINS
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DAVID JOHNSON
ESLIE MAIN
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EDWARD C. ADAMS

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BERTRAM BAIRD
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ELMER WETZEL
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DALE R. ABBEY
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DENNIS G. FRINKLE
MICHAEL FRINKLE
WILLIAM C. GARTON
LORNER H. HARVEY
KENNETH HICKS
JOHN H. HYDEN
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LAVERN E. KNICKERBOCKER
THOMAS MARSHALL
CLETUS D. McKEE
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JOHN E. PETERSON
CARLEY RICHARD RUSSELL
KINCH RUSSELL
DEWEY SAWYER
GERALD SCOTT
HARVEY SHORT
EDWARD RAY STURGILL
ROBERT H. TITUS
GARLEN WARRENS
MARLEN WARRENS
FREEMAN A. WHETSTON

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

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

WORLD WAR II

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RICHARD ALLYN
MORT BAILEY
MERLIN R. BAUM
WALTER E. CHALLENGER
CHARLES LAWS
CHARLES RUGGLES
EDGAR SALYER
RALPH HARRY SEBOLD
EDWARD J. SUTLIFF
RALPH HARRY TEACHOUT
DOUGLAS DEMPSEY WISMAN

KOREAN WAR

ROBERT DONALD ANDERSON
RICHARD BUCKINGHAM
WILLIAM V. EARL
ELDEAN J. EISELE
HARLAN "HOD" R. FRITZ
JAMES M. FULLER
JACK JEFFERS
ARNOLD MARSHALL
MURRAY E. "GENE" SMITH

VIETNAM WAR

DANNY ALLEN
ROBERT DONALD ANDERSON
THOMAS E. CAPLIS
NORMAN W. COOPER II
MICHAEL SLANE
JOHN O. WEST
FRED J. WHITE
IRAQ WAR
MARTIN H. TOBIN
PEACETIME SERVICE
THOMAS BACK
THERESA FULLER-ANDERSON
EDWARD M. "TED" LANE

Deceased local veterans, unknown service times or legion affiliations

The following information was provided by families of the deceased veterans and/or local funeral homes.

TED ADDISON
LAUMER "JACK" BARBAR
JOANN CLOUSE
KEVIN COOK
ROBERT H. CUNNINGHAM
RICHARD A. CUTHBERT
HAROLD EDSON
JOSEPH "PATRICK" DAVISON
See Memorial Day List on page 7.

Woah Nellie!

What happens overnight in the kitchen stays in the kitchen!

by Mary Jo David

Winner, winner, chicken dinner! Well—not exactly a chicken dinner, but something that could maybe go with a chicken dinner. This month's 100-year-old recipe is Nellie Maxwell's "Potato Pancakes (Russian)" from the May 3, 1924, edition of the Stockbridge Brief-Sun. And I daresay, it has been one of her best so far.

I don't recall being this enthused about a Nellie recipe since I started this column. So why was this recipe such a standout? It's not really because the potato pancakes tasted so delicious—although they were good. Rather, this recipe is a winner in my book because Nellie's "Potato Pancakes" cooked up exactly how they should—brown and crispy on the outside with soft centers. And from experience, I can tell you this is not always easy to achieve with potato pancakes.

Interestingly, the recipe has you peeling potatoes and letting them stand overnight. I assumed this was to dry out the potatoes a bit so the pancakes wouldn't be too wet. But upon grating them the next day, the potatoes still produced quite a bit of moisture. Frankly, I had my doubts these would fry up to be crispy, but I continued to follow the recipe as written. And as an aside, I highly recommend you don't show anyone the potatoes after they've sat out all night; they are not attractive!

Once the potatoes were grated, I added the flour, baking powder, salt and pepper. Then I beat the egg and added it to this potato mixture and stirred well. Meanwhile, I heated oil in a frying pan on the stove. I was tempted to use a nonstick pan, but since Nellie probably didn't have this option in 1924, I decided a nonstick pan would be cheating. Plus, it's been my experience that a non-nonstick pan (i.e. a regular stainless steel pan) is better for crisping.

Besides not mentioning how much salt and pepper to use, Nellie also didn't specify a quantity for the milk. I took a guess and added about 1/2 teaspoon of salt, 1/4 teaspoon of pepper, and two tablespoons of milk. With no help from Nellie, I figured the best temperature for the oil was one that would cause a sizzle when I dropped a tiny bit of batter into the pan. I heated the oil over medium heat until it reached that point.

The batter was quite wet, so I did my best to form rough pancakes in my hand and let each slide out of my hand and into the pan. I was as surprised as anyone to find the pancakes held together while frying. As they sizzled in the pan, the outsides began to look like crispy hash browns—YES! I fried the pancakes for three to four minutes per side, depending on the size of the pancakes in the batch.

Before I began to fry the second panful, I decided to make an adjustment to the recipe. I don't like to waste food, and I wasn't convinced the potato batter was going to have enough flavor with just salt and pepper. So, to the remaining batter, I added about 1/2 cup of shredded cheddar cheese and 1/2 teaspoon each of garlic powder and onion powder. I'm very glad I did; the pancakes in the second batch tasted much better than those in the first.

The recipe yielded three batches of about four pancakes each. After placing them on paper towel to drain, they were ready to serve. While they were not bursting with flavor, if you're a potato pancake or hash browns fan, you'll be pleased with the outcome of this recipe.

The proof is in the pancake. After trying one with a dollop of sour cream, my husband remarked that the potato pancake was "pretty good," and added, "I think I'll start putting sour cream on my hash browns." This was not exactly the result I was hoping for!



(©, 1924, Western Newspaper Union.)

Potato Pancakes (Russian).—Peel three large potatoes and let them stand over night. In the morning grate them into a bowl, add one-half cupful of flour, one teaspoonful of baking powder, one egg and salt and pepper to taste, with just milk enough to make the batter of the right consistency. Fry like ordinary pancakes and serve with butter, sirup or jelly, as liked.

Stockbridge Brief-Sun • May 3, 1924



I had my doubts these would fry up to be crispy but was pleasantly surprised. If you're a potato pancake or hash browns fan, you'll be pleased with the outcome of Nellie's "Potato Pancake" recipe from 1924.

Can you dig it?

Check with Miss Dig (811) first



Image credit: Michigan Public Service Commission

by Mary Jo David

Lately, in our area, utility flags are as plentiful as dandelions. The flags are color-coded based on the types of lines located below the ground.

Remember to call Miss Dig (811) or visit MissDig811.org to submit a request if you're starting a DIY project that involves digging.

When you submit a request, public facility companies are notified to mark, for free, the locations of their underground lines. Allow at least three full business days for utility locators to respond.



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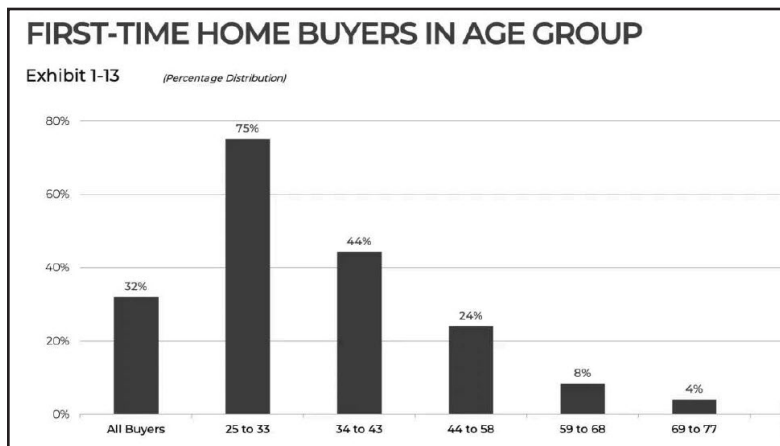
Real Estate News and Views

Prospective first-time homeowners (FTHOs) must get creative

by Jackie Scheller

As Matt Vernon, head of consumer lending at Bank of America, puts it, there will be "both opportunities and challenges in the upcoming spring season."

Buyers have been under pressure over the past two years as mortgage rates rose and inventory dwindled. Given the level of uncertainty in the market, the process of getting a new home or selling your current property this spring and summer will not be any less stressful.



Millennials (adults born between 1981 and 1996) currently represent the largest group of first-time home buyers. Image credit National Association of Realtors

soon as July 2024. Sellers may choose to continue offering a split fee and pay full commission, offer a reduced commission, or opt not to pay buyer agent commissions at all. The latter means the homebuyer may have to pay their agent out-of-pocket, negotiate on the home price to account for the change, or take some other action.

Home ownership is a privilege and most likely your largest investment. Reach out to a local Realtor for a no obligation (free) consultation to have your questions answered and to help determine your strategy. We are here to help!

Success does not come from luck, it comes from preparation. Get prepared and be creative!

If you are financially prepared and do your homework, you should be able to take advantage of an opportunity to buy or sell when it presents itself. It is never too early to meet with a lender or Realtor to discuss your situation.

Data from Redfin and Realtor.com point to double-digit gains in supply. Combined with an interest rate reduction, these supply gains will be good for both buyers and sellers.

FTHO buyers are becoming creative; for example, some are asking family and friends for financial assistance. Millennials in the FTHO category are the most likely generation to say they purchased a multigenerational home—a home that includes two or more adult generations. This pooling of incomes and other resources has enabled them to afford a larger home. NOTE: Millennials are represented in the "25 to 33" and "34 to 43" age groups in the chart that accompanies this article.

Recent news on the legal front: The impact of a recent legal settlement that changes how Realtors get paid and by whom—the buyer or the seller—cannot be ignored. While there's uncertainty over the effects and exact timing of the changes, they could happen as

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Jackie Scheller is a licensed Realtor/real estate broker in Stockbridge, local business owner, entrepreneur, and retired business teacher. She holds a master's degree in education from Wayne State and a bachelor of arts from Eastern Michigan University.

Deceased local veterans, unknown service times or legion affiliations (cont. from page 5)

- RALPH HACKWORTH
- FRANCES H. HAIDLER
- BOB HARDING
- JOHN M. HAROOK
- ANDREAS HOFER
- LINWOOD HOWLETT
- JOSEPH KRUSE
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- ROBERT L. SOOY
- DAVID B. STEINBACH
- MICHAEL M. VALENTINE
- FLOYD W. YOUNG

Jackson County Arrest page 1

Detectives working the case found evidence suggesting that, in addition to having child pornography in his possession, the accused also was allegedly soliciting underage children on social media in an effort to add images to his collection.

According to the Child Rescue Coalition, 40% of parents of 7- to 12-year-olds who were surveyed said it was too time consuming to monitor their child's use of social media apps. Yet, monitoring is one of the more common recommendations for keeping children safe online. Initiating open conversations with your children is another way to keep them safe. Talk to your children about what they should do if approached—online or in person—by those seeking inappropriate actions, photos, etc.

For other age-appropriate tips on how to safeguard your children online, click the Education tab at childrescuecoalition.org.



Who We Are

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

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

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

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

Our Mission

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

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Our Writers

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

Editor-in-Chief Emeritus

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

We would love to hear from you!

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

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Active Aging

Three-week Dementia Caregiver Series begins in June at SASC

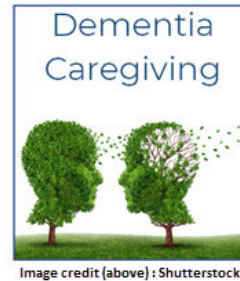
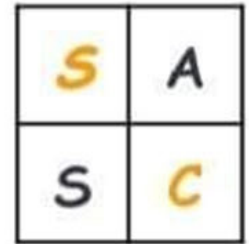


Image credit (above): Shutterstock



The Dementia Caregiver Series will be offered, free of charge (donations accepted), at the Stockbridge Area Senior Center (SASC) on Mondays, June 3 through June 17, from 1 – 2:30 p.m.

by Christine Histed, Tri-County Office on Aging

Have you ever wondered what the difference is between dementia and Alzheimer's disease? According to the Alzheimer's Association, and simply put, dementia is an overall term for a group of symptoms related to memory difficulties. Meanwhile, Alzheimer's disease is a specific disease that causes brain changes that result in dementia.

Do you provide care for an adult with dementia, Alzheimer's disease, mild cognitive impairment, or undiagnosed memory loss? Do you feel overwhelmed with this responsibility and want more information?

If you answered "yes" to any of the above, join us in Stockbridge at the Dementia Caregiver Series, to be offered, free of charge, at the Stockbridge Area Senior Center (SASC). The workshop series is sponsored by the Tri-County Office on Aging and will be held on Mondays, beginning June 3, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. The series runs weekly through June 17. It is recommended you attend all three sessions, but it is not required.

This caregiver series assists with reducing caregiving stress by providing useful tools and information about dementia and its impact on brain function. In this workshop you will learn how to:

- Communicate more effectively with someone who has dementia.
- Recognize the stages of dementia.
- Provide meaningful daily activities based on your loved one's interests and abilities.
- Better understand and address dementia-related behaviors.
- Create a positive caregiving environment.
- Appreciate the strategies and benefits of self-care.
- Build your network of support.

Everyone is welcomed to attend the Dementia Caregiver Series, including family caregivers, professional caregivers or anyone who wants to learn more about dementia.

Although the workshop is free of charge, donations will be accepted. To register, call Tri-County Office on Aging at 517-887-1465 or register at the SASC.

The Stockbridge Area Senior Center, located at 219 W. Elm St. in Stockbridge, is a great place to visit. SASC website: stockbridgeareaseniors.org. SASC phone: 517-480-0353.

Christine Histed is a registered dietitian and the evidence-based program manager at the Tri-County Office on Aging in Lansing.

WWW.SPADSTWISTERS.COM

Also visit: King Kone in Perry & Dairy Dan on Cedar St., Lansing

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SUMMER HELP WANTED

The village of Stockbridge is looking for a part-time recreation coordinator (~10 hrs/wk) to organize and manage summer activities at Veteran's Memorial Park in Stockbridge from mid-May until mid-to late August, 2024.



Apply: villageofstockbridgemi.gov/employment-opportunities/ or send a cover letter and resume to Village of Stockbridge, Attn: Recreation Dept., PO Box 155, Stockbridge, MI 49285.



Staff Spotlight: Fifth grade teacher Emily Shepherd is not one to sit still for long

by Don Porter

Emily Shepherd, a fifth grade teacher at Heritage School took an interesting path to becoming a teacher in Stockbridge.

She grew up all over in Michigan; she was born in Muskegon, then lived in Grosse Pointe, Cheboygan and Jackson due to her father's job. Shepherd had to adjust to new schools and friends several times.

According to her, moving and learning to fit into new places made her the person she is today. She attended school in Grosse Pointe as a lower elementary student, and Cheboygan for her upper elementary and middle school years. Her high school years were spent in Jackson, where Shepherd was an avid soccer player. During that time, she even competed in a traveling soccer team throughout Michigan, which she recalls as a wonderful experience.

Growing up in the family as the youngest of three girls made for a busy household. Shepherd describes her parents as awesome and incredibly supportive of the three of them. Over the years, she has become very close to her older sisters. Emily says they each went their own unique way, and while they are all quite different, they really enjoy each other. Her older sister Tori went to the U.S. Naval Academy and became a pilot; now she will be flying for Delta. Her sister Hannah is creative and an incredible actress.

While attending Michigan State University, she met her future husband, Austin. During her first two years of college, she followed an engineering course of study. It just didn't seem like the right fit. She credits her future husband for encouraging her to become



Don Porter



Pictured with her father, Michael Overton, Heritage School teacher Emily Shepherd feels as though she's been sailing since the day she was born. Photo provided by Emily Shepherd.

a teacher. She always had a passion for working with kids and helping them in any way she could. It was the right choice, and she loves her job. Interestingly, Austin attended Heritage when he lived in Stockbridge. So now, Emily Shepherd has had the chance to work with some of the same teachers Austin had when he attended the school years ago.

The Shepherds were married in 2021 and now have a 14-month-old son. They live in Pinckney.

When not busy teaching and raising her son, she loves sailing. Shepherd feels as though she has been a sailor since the day she was born. Growing up, every chance they had to go out on the boat or participate in a race they did. Even now she says that she watches the wind and thinks to herself, "Wow, this is great sailing weather."

While living in Cheboygan, she developed a passion for snowboarding thanks to a program at Boyne Mountain for students during the winter. According to Shepherd, nothing is prettier than fresh snow on a mountain in the total silence of early morning.

A busy young woman, Shepherd wishes she had more time for writing stories. Someday she would love to write a book and become an author.

See Staff Spotlight on page 23.

New Businesses page 1

Although it's not right around the block, many residents in our area have found themselves impacted by the North Territorial Road closure at Dexter Town Hall Road. Washtenaw County has been posting regular updates on the Road Commission's progress. These can be found at www.wcroads.org/wcrc-project/n-territoria-rd-dexter-townhall-rd-safety-improvements/. In addition, a phone call to the project manager for this project has confirmed that, weather permitting, the road should be reopened no later than the end of May, and possibly earlier.

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Salvatore Vanadia is a Financial Advisor with The State Wealth Advisors, a financial advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC in Fenton, MI. He specializes in fee-based financial planning and asset management strategies and has been in practice for 11 years. Contact Sal at <https://www.ameripriseadvisors.com/s.vanadia/>, 810.593.5567, 175 N. Leroy St, Fenton, MI 48430.
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Published in Uncaged, April 2024

Beyond City Limits

The differences between rural and urban schools

by Olyvia Hoard, *Uncaged* Social Media Manager

This article is being reprinted, with minimal edits, from the Uncaged Student News April 2024 edition.

Education serves as the cornerstone of society, yet the landscape of schooling varies greatly between rural and urban settings. While both environments strive to provide quality education, their unique challenges and resources shape distinct educational experiences.

Understanding the differences between rural and urban schools is essential for crafting effective policies and initiatives tailored to each.

Class size and teacher-student ratios differ significantly between rural and urban schools. According to Pisa In Focus, urban schools tend to have larger class sizes and higher student-to-teacher ratios due to the dense population.

Brie Quick, a senior at Portage Northern High School, has spent her high school career attending an urban school.

"I don't know everyone who goes to school here," Quick said. "It makes it harder to connect with the people around me."

Conversely, rural schools generally boast smaller class sizes, allowing for more personalized instruction and stronger teacher-student relationships, according to UWA Online.

"At a small school, you get more of a one-on-one experience with teachers," Stockbridge freshman Anya Harden said. "You get to know everyone better." Technology integration varies between rural and urban schools, largely influenced by available infrastructure and funding.

According to Hop Skip Drive, urban schools typically have better access to high-speed internet, computers, and digital learning tools. Meanwhile, rural schools often face challenges in acquiring and maintaining technology due to limited connectivity and financial constraints, hindering students' exposure to modern learning resources.

Community involvement plays a significant role in shaping the educational landscape of both rural and urban schools. In rural areas, schools often serve as the heart of the community, with strong connections between educators, students, and families.

"Smaller schools give you more opportunities to easily meet people and make friends," freshman Eli Wells said.

This close-knit environment fosters collaboration and support but may also limit exposure to diverse perspectives.

"Smaller schools tend to be a lot less accepting of minority students," Wells said.

Extracurricular activities contribute to students' development, yet their availability differs between rural and urban schools. Urban schools typically offer a plethora of extracurricular options, ranging from sports teams to academic clubs and performing arts programs.

Ken Sanabria, a West Ottawa High School senior, has access to many extracurriculars including fashion club, a Taylor Swift club, rugby and lacrosse.

"Even though we have a lot of students, I truly believe that there is something for everyone at my school," Sanabria said. "If you search for it, it's easy to find a group within the community."

In contrast, rural schools may have fewer extracurricular activities due to limited resources and student participation, potentially limiting students' exposure to diverse interests and talents, according to Extracurricular Activities and The Rural High School by Don Vandersnick.

"I wish we had more extracurriculars," junior Averie Rosedale said. "I think some different clubs and maybe a dance team would be cool."

The curriculum offered in rural and urban schools may vary in scope and diversity. Urban schools often provide a wider range of elective courses, advanced placement classes and specialized programs to cater to diverse student interests and academic abilities.

Ella Morofsky, a senior at Portage Northern High School, has had the opportunity to take many specialized courses, including pre-university IB courses. "My school offers many specialized classes to help students start their passions early," Morofsky said. "They offer EFAs that allow students to spend half of their days at a police academy, cosmetology school, teaching assistants and so much more. My school not only offers AP classes but also IB classes as well." In contrast, rural schools may have a more standardized curriculum, focusing on core subjects due to limited resources and staffing.

"I feel like I don't have many options for classes that I actually want to take," freshman Lincoln Sartorius said.

While both rural and urban schools share the common goal of educating students, their distinct contexts shape vastly different educational experiences. Recognizing and addressing the unique challenges and strengths of each setting is essential for fostering equitable access to quality education for all students, regardless of their geographic location. By understanding the differences between rural and urban schools, policymakers, educators and communities can work together to ensure that every student receives the support and resources they need to thrive academically and beyond.

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.panthernet.net/our-district.



"Smaller schools are a lot less accepting of minorities," freshman Eli Wells said. "But it is a lot easier to get to know everyone." Photo from Uncagednews.com

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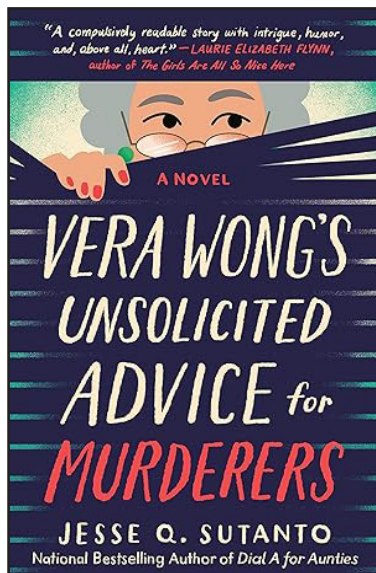


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Reading Between the Lines Can't go wrong with Vera Wong

by Jessica Martell



Vera Wong is one of the most charismatic, outrageous and lovable characters in contemporary fiction. Set in a fading corner of Chinatown in present-day San Francisco, "Vera Wong's Unsolicited Advice for Murderers" by Jesse Q. Sutanto is a laugh-out-loud murder mystery featuring a victim who had it coming and an eclectic collection of sympathetic suspects.

Vera Wong is a 60-year-old widow who runs a tea shop and a tight ship. Vera has the discipline and rigidity of a drill instructor, rising at 4:30 a.m. each morning.

"The upper half of her body levitates from the mattress—no lazy rolling out of bed for Vera, though admittedly, sitting up in bed now comes with about half a dozen clicks and clacks of her joints."

Early on, it is subtly revealed that Vera is neglected by her son and her tea shop is neglected by customers;

A meddling tea shop proprietor puts her considerable talents to use assisting in a murder investigation after the victim is found dead on the floor of her teahouse.
 Image credit: amazon.com

indeed, readers might be tempted to feel sorry for her except she's a battle-ax who needs no sympathy. In fact, Vera isn't above using all manner of machinations—fibs, guilt, bribery—to steamroll her way into doing what's best for her son, her customers

and her murder suspects.

In her orthopedic shoes and sun visor, Vera puts a comedic spin on the meddling old woman trope. She holds traditional values, but she refuses to get left behind by the trends of the younger generation. This is especially evident in her texts with her son Tilbert, whom she refers to affectionately as "Tilly."

"Tilly, I notice that this girl @NotChloeBennet has liked TWO of your videos on the TikTok! I think this means she likes you. I look at her profile and she pout a lot, but I think she will make good wife. She went with her mother for manicure last week, this means she is a filial daughter. Perhaps you should slip and slide into her DM. Kind regards, Mama."

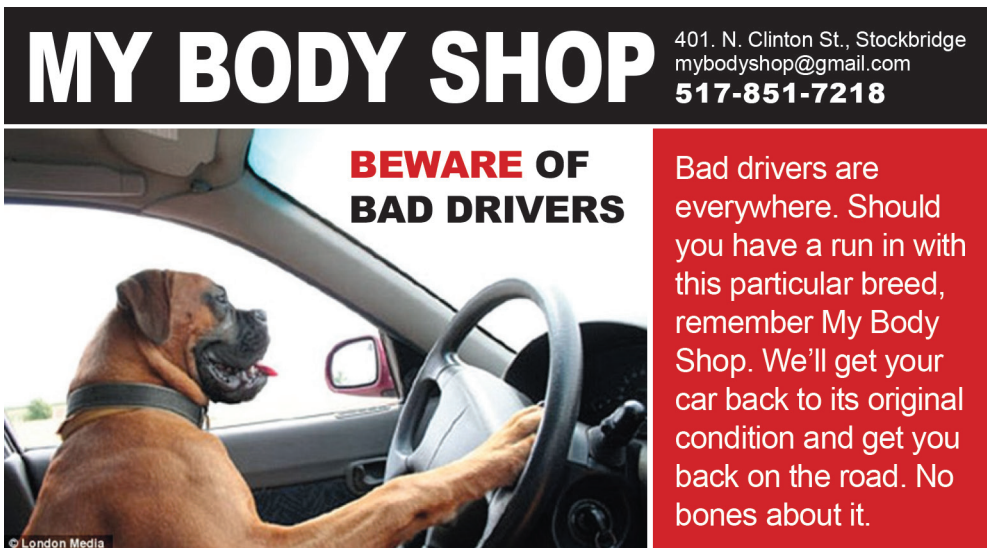
The clash of Vera's old-world values and her valiant attempts to stay relevant are absurdly hilarious and charmingly realistic.

This tea shop proprietor gets the opportunity to put her considerable talents to use when she awakens one morning to find Marshall Chen's dead body on the floor of her teahouse. Suddenly, Vera has a number of new customers, each of whom she considers a suspect in a death the police don't consider suspicious. While Vera "assists" the investigation, it turns out that the real work she's doing is acting as an antidote to the toxicity Chen inflicted on those closest to him.

A unique feature of this whodunit is that it is told by a third-person-limited narrator who rotates through the perspectives of several characters. Most of the chapters focus on Vera, but the reader also meets the victim's widow, Julia, along with Riki, Sana and Oliver. For additional texture, Sutanto also treats readers to pages of the notebook housing "Vera Wong's Murder Case."

In "Vera Wong's Unsolicited Advice for Murderers," this unlikely sleuth mixes teas like potions, and she is a fierce warrior for those who need one. Fans of murder mysteries will surely get a hoot out of Vera, and find themselves hoping this stand-alone novel eventually becomes book one of an endless series.

Jessica Martell spent 17 years as a high school English teacher before accepting her current position as an educational consultant. She and her husband live in Munith with their two cats.



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John and Theresa
Kightlinger

Ask an Expert Five examples of hidden damage found after common car accidents

by John and Theresa Kightlinger

Believe it or not, rear-end collisions are the most common type of car accident, making up about one-third of all collisions. If you've ever been involved in a rear-end crash or you experienced some other type of accident, you probably know that a car crash can cause obvious damages to the exterior of your vehicle. In addition to this visible damage, collisions also frequently cause hidden damage that can be missed by both the driver and the auto body repair shop.

Hidden damage can cause major issues down the road if the damage isn't discovered and remedied. It's easy to think that if you don't see damage, it doesn't exist. But that's often not the case, and it's important to get any damage fixed as soon as possible after an accident.

Following are some of the most common types of hidden damages found after a car accident and the next steps to take if you should find yourself in this situation.

Frame damage: A vehicle's frame is its main supporting structure, or skeleton. It provides structural support, helps align the wheels, holds the suspension, and supports the radiator, among other things. "Frame damage" is a broad term used when a structural component on the frame of a vehicle has been damaged or compromised. Most cars have plastic bumpers. These don't offer much-added protection for the frame, leaving your vehicle vulnerable to serious internal frame damage as a result of a collision, which may not be easily noticeable.

If you've been in an accident and suspect there may be hidden frame damage, it's essential that you take your car to a certified collision expert so it can be professionally inspected and assessed. A good collision expert will be able to diagnose the potential side effects of internal frame damage, such as misalignment and doors not closing properly.

Trunk damage: Hidden bumper damage and hidden trunk damage are common types of issues following a rear-end collision. The angle and speed of the crash can impact the kind of damage, but generally, the bumper and trunk take the brunt of the impact. Some damage to your trunk may be visible and obvious, but there are a few very common types of hidden trunk damage to be aware of, including: lock-mechanism issues, difficulty opening, seal and moisture issues, and lid opening unexpectedly.

These issues can lead to frustration and even distracted driving, especially when your trunk lid opens unexpectedly while you're driving. It's worth getting these concerns addressed by a collision repair shop as soon as possible.

Alignment issues: Although it's difficult to diagnose alignment issues just by looking at your vehicle, misalignment is one of the most common problems to arise from many types of accidents. Even what seems like a minor damage car accident can lead to serious alignment concerns. If you notice a difference in how it feels to handle and drive your car following an accident, it's likely your alignment is off.

Common symptoms of misalignment include the following: the vehicle favoring or pulling to one side, wobbly steering, odd vibrations, noisy steering and squealing tires.

When left without repair, poor alignment can lead to other serious issues over time. It puts tires, brakes, suspension, and other parts of your vehicle under undue stress, which causes them to wear out much faster than they otherwise would.

See *Ask an Expert* on page 23.

Elias Sweet page 1

But regardless of his foe, his sacrifice was for the ultimate goals of freedom, security, and ironically, peace.

It's easy to write this off as old news, stale history. The Civil War raged over 150 years ago. Any veteran who survived has long since passed. Their children, too. But the battles and wars we fight around the world haven't. It's probably fair to say almost no one wants war. But when it comes, many men and women still are motivated to serve, even if that means giving the ultimate sacrifice.

The Sweet Farm still stands. I've driven by it, but I've never thought about Elias. I've never thought about his march from Jackson to Washington, the horrors he must have witnessed at the Battle of the Wilderness, the courage he must have felt in his final charge. I didn't know about Elias until I sat to write this. But now I do. And on this upcoming Memorial Day weekend, I will be thinking about him.

Near the end of this month, we will sink into a long weekend. We will shed our jobs framing houses or driving trucks, answering phones or writing memos. If the weather holds, we will unfold into summer. Drive to the beach, flip burgers on grills—char a few, out of practice from the long winter. We will spend time with friends and family. There will be stories. Lots of stories.

Hopefully you make time to sacrifice a bit of your long weekend, at a cemetery or in quiet prayer, remembering someone who has paid the ultimate price for our country. And as you pass a barn on your way to a picnic, know there very well might once have been an Elias in there, carrying a lantern as he made his rounds one last time, willing to give it all up for you.

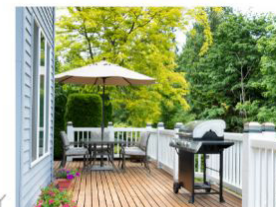
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Will Bower

Positive Parenting

Ensure your kids don't lose learning momentum this summer

by Will Bower

The air is warmer and the days are longer, which means the end of the school year is coming! This change can be joyful for students but can also bring challenges. Here are some ideas for young people to make the most of the summer months. Find a couple that fit your child and family.



Students can enjoy summer but continue to develop a love of learning to avoid the knowledge loss that can accompany these vacation months. Photo credit Alexis Brown at unsplash.com

for someone else, local fast food restaurants or other businesses are obvious places to start out. The benefits of a summer job can be as simple as earning some spending cash, but these jobs also can help students learn responsibility and organization and planning skills.

Stay active

Summer is a great time to get into a regular habit of physical activity. The cool mornings are great for hiking, biking, or trail running. Twenty minutes of aerobic activity has been shown to have mental and physical benefits. Starting slow and building up gradually are some keys to developing a lifelong enjoyment of exercise. If exercising on your own does not seem interesting, call some friends or family to play an active game outside. Or, you can see what is available at the Wellness Center or Stockbridge Community Schools Community Education.

Make a difference

When students recognize a need and help others, they develop a sense of purpose, connection, and capability. Students can make a difference at home, in the neighborhood, and in the community. Stockbridge Community Outreach is a local organization that may have opportunities for youth (www.stockbridgecommunityoutreach.org/). Local faith-based organizations are also a good place to make a difference.

Grow something

Learning how to cultivate flowers and plants can be enjoyable and rewarding. Admittedly, growing certain flowers, fruits, and vegetables may require a bit of knowledge to keep them from being gobbled up by pesky critters and to ensure plants get just the right amounts of sunshine and water. Planting something in a place it can thrive has the potential to teach children about patience, caring, and harvesting (i.e., cause and effect). The Stockbridge Library has some books, magazines and seeds to help you get started. Local stores, the internet, or a neighbor with a green thumb also may have suggestions.

Music and arts

Research at the NIH's National Library of Medicine indicates that performing music increases mental function and health. A variety of methods are available for learning, including books, online options, and local teachers. Fine or performing arts connect us with culture, help us express ourselves, require a level of skill and discipline, and can just be fun!

This is just the beginnings of a long list of ways to to keep learning this summer. I encourage you and your family to discuss some of these options, then get out and enjoy the summer together!

Will Bower (M.Ed., M.A.) is a school counselor at the Stockbridge Jr/Sr High School. He works to support students and families with alternative education and support interventions.

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Clyde Whitaker

Clyde's Corner Rediscovering Emma Smith's special 'Everyday Diary' from 1936

by Clyde Whitaker

Well, admittedly, I don't think I can top my story from last month about my grandfather, but this story is special, too. It's about a local educator from long ago—Emma L. Smith—and her beloved 1936 diary.

Many, many years ago, my mother-in-law, Alice McGinn, was at a garage sale in Chelsea and came upon an old diary. Opening the diary, she saw "Emma L. Smith" written on the inside, along with the date 1936. What a coincidence! This was the diary of one of Alice's favorite elementary teachers from Stockbridge.

Well, somehow, we ended up with this diary on our bookshelf, where it stayed in total obscurity for years, until a recent book purge by my wife, Mary, brought it back to light.

Mary showed me the diary, saying, "Look. It says 'Emma L. Smith' and '1936.'" This immediately piqued my interest! Upon a review of Emma Smith's diary, titled, "The Everyday Diary," I found her entries for every day in 1936.

Smith was a teacher and a principal in the Stockbridge School District for 36 years, from 1917 until 1953. She also taught for six years at another school district.

As many of you know, Emma L. Smith is also the name of our current elementary school in Stockbridge. The then-new, 13-room elementary school was originally dedicated in her honor on Sunday, Oct. 7, 1956.

So, without further ado, I will list a few of the highlights from Emma Smith's diary, in her words.

Jan. 3, 1936. Listened to President Roosevelt's night message to Congress, the only one since Wilson declared war.

Jan. 18, 1936. Was weighed and it was 137 pounds, quite decent.

Jan. 27, 1936. Lucille went to a lecture on "Why Women Smoke."

Feb. 16, 1936. Dr. Culver's house burned.

March 17, 1936. Big floods in the Eastern states.

March 18, 1936. Floods increasing, 200,000 reported homeless.

April 3, 1936. Bruno Richard Hauptmann electrocuted for the murder of Charles Lindbergh's baby son.

July 12, 1936. Still in heat wave, with temperature about 103 degrees. Spent most of the day in the basement reading and writing.

Sept. 8, 1936. My birthday! I began school—have 24 in the third grade and 11 in the second.

Sept. 17, 1936. Saw by paper I had a new job—Primary Superintendent. Shall I keep it? I can't tell.

Oct. 1, 1936. Had a teacher's meeting after school to discuss report card changes. Of course, I blurted out a radical change, "S, U, and I," instead of "A, B, C, D," etc.

Nov. 5, 1936. Dan Reason paid his election bet by giving Henry Smith a wheel barrow ride around the square!

Nov. 7, 1936. Don Dickinson and Jocille Smith were married.

Dec. 13, 1936. Marguerite Rowe and Hazen Mayer killed by a train.

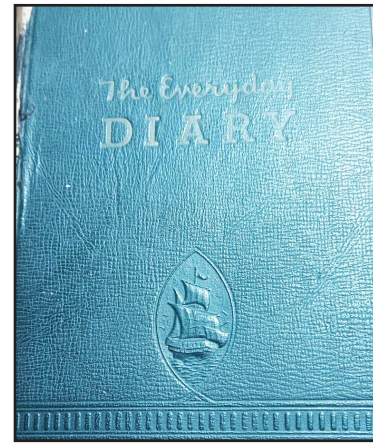
Dec. 29, 1936. Mr. and Mrs. Seckler called. We went to Mason with them, sold the farm on a contract for \$3,000.00.

Dec. 31, 1936. A beautiful day! In the evening, we went to a midnight show. Goodbye to 1936!

In closing, I have to say, it was so cool doing this story. It was like bringing history to life from 88 years ago. Wow!

See additional photos at www.stockbridgecommunitynews.com

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.

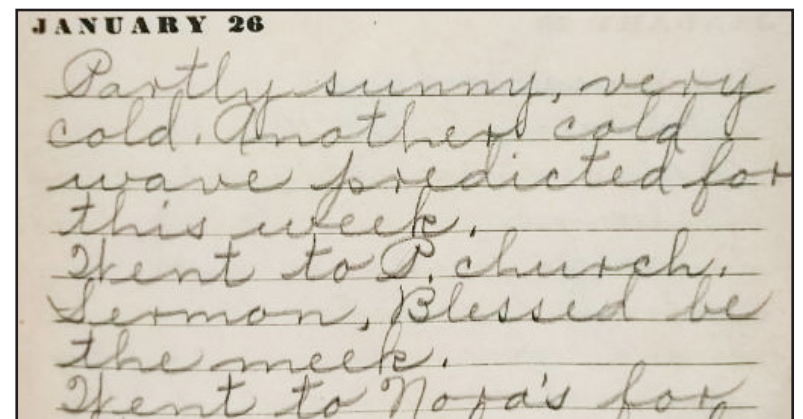


The well-worn cover of Emma L. Smith's diary from 1936.



A portrait of Emma L. Smith is displayed in Smith Elementary School in Stockbridge.

Original portrait by Olan Mills Inc.



Emma Smith's diary entry for Jan. 26, 1936. Photos provided by Clyde Whitaker

Bridge to Wellness

Mental health issues: Signs, symptoms, coping strategies

by Jennifer Matthews, RN

May is National Mental Health Awareness Month, which was established in the U.S. in 1949 to help expand awareness and decrease the stigma associated with mental health issues. The month is observed with media, local events, and film



Jennifer Matthews

screenings, both locally and nationally.

So what exactly is mental health? The World Health Organization defines mental health as a state of mental well-being that enables people to cope with the stresses of life, realize their abilities, learn well and work well, and contribute to their community.

Being mentally healthy is an integral part of good health and well-being and is crucial to personal and community development. Mental wellness is important at every stage of life from childhood through adulthood.

Many factors can contribute to mental health issues, including biological factors such as genetics; life experience, including trauma or abuse; and a family history of mental health problems. It is important to know the signs and symptoms of mental health issues and to seek treatment if needed.

See Bridge to Wellness on page 20.

**STOCKBRIDGE TOWNSHIP
MEETING MINUTES
April 15, 2024**

Stockbridge Township Supervisor CG Lantis called the Regular Stockbridge Township Board Meeting to order April 15, 2024, at 7:03pm at the Stockbridge Township Hall. Members present at the Stockbridge Township Regular Board Meeting; Supervisor CG Lantis, Treasurer James Wireman, Clerk Becky Muraf, Trustee Terry Sommer, Trustee Ed Wetherell Member absent None Pledge of Allegiance Moment of Silence

Wetherell Motion to approve the Stockbridge Township Monthly Board meeting agenda as printed Sommer Second All in Favor Motion Carried Citizen Comments: Discussion Sommer Motion to approve the Stockbridge Township meeting minutes as printed from March 18, 2024, Wireman Second All in Favor Motion Carried

Wireman motion to accept the Stockbridge Township financial report as printed from April 1, 2023, thru March 31, 2024 and from April 1, 2024 thru April 15, 2024 Sommer Second All in Favor Motion Carried

Stockbridge Township 2024 first quarter building report is as followed 3 New Zoning Permits, 1 New Land Split, 9 New Building Permits (1 pole barn, 1 roof, 13 shingles, 1AG barn, 1 Window install, 1 New Home Build) 2 New Electrical Permits, 4 New Mechanical Permits, 1 New Plumbing Permit, no new Driveway, Address Permit, Demolition Permits. Old Business

Memorial Wall update Stockbridge Township is moving forward and will start accepting request soon.

Stockbridge Township Clean up day is happening April 27 from 10am to 2pm behind SAESA 1009 S Clinton. Please use the entrance by BP gas station any questions please reach out to Stockbridge Township

Village of Stockbridge has asked if Stockbridge Township would be interested in joining the LEAP Committee they are creating. Stockbridge Township is going to have James Wireman sit on the LEAP Committee for the Township of Stockbridge

Stockbridge Township is working with Stockbridge Townshio Lawyer Mariah Fink on the Stockbridge Township Hall rental updates.

New Business

• Muraf motion to approve Jerald Wilson Special Use permit for a Winery at 18850 Kane Rd with the recommendations of the planning commission with the following recommendations:

• Hours of business to conclude no later than 9:00 p.m., Sunday thru Thursday and Friday and Saturday Midnight.

- Provide copies of all State and County Licenses
- Provide copies of all State and County inspections
- Provide copies of liability insurance
- Annual inspection by Stockbridge Township Zoning Administrator
- Wireman Second Roll Call Vote Wireman Yes, Wetherell Yes, Muraf Yes, Sommer Yes, Lantis Yes All in Favor Motion Carried
- Muraf motion to approve Calvery Kennels on Shepper Rd with the recommendations of the planning commission with the following recommendations.
- Hours of business for pick up and drop off dogs to be 8am – 7pm
- Dogs must stay within fenced area
- Dogs to be inside indoor kennels between the hours of 9:00pm and 8:00am
- Fence slats to be installed to prevent dogs from viewing outside of the fenced area.
- Applicant to provide township board with boarding checklist.
- Applicant must require clients to have a backup person that can pick up dog in case of emergency or excessive noise / barking. (Suggest - Behavior that inhibits the safety or quiet enjoyment of neighbors.)
- No dogs allowed outside without supervision.
- Outdoor Lighting must comply with Township Standards
- Provide copies of all State and County Licenses
- Provide copies of all State and County inspections
- Provide copies of liability insurance
- Annual inspection by Stockbridge Township Zoning Administrator
- Wireman Second Roll Call Vote Wireman Yes, Muraf Yes Wetherell No Sommer Yes, Lantis yes All in Favor motion carried.
- Wireman motion to approve the All-clubs Day Square usage agreement Sommer Second All in Favor Motion Carried
- Muraf motion to approve the WOW Franchise Agreement as requested Wireman Second All in Favor Motion Carried
- Wireman motion to approve the Stockbridge Township Planning Commission dates at requested May 8, 2024, June 12, 2024, July 10, 2024, August 14, 2024, September 11, 2024, October 16, 2024, November 13, 2024, December 11, 2024 at 7:00 PM wetherell Second All in Favor motion Carried
- Muraf motion to approve the Crowd Gathering Permit for Wheeling Down on the Farm for May 18, 2024 and September 14, 2024 Sommer Second All in Favor Motion Carried
- Sommer Motion to pay the Stockbridge Township bills in the amount of \$ 44,665.87 Wetherell Second all in Favor Motion Carried
- Citizen Commet Discussion
- Lantis adjourned the regular Stockbridge Township meeting at 8:09 PM on April 15, 2024
- BM

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
 - May 1** - Parent University, 6 to 7 p.m. at Smith Elementary
 - May 3** - Sparrow Hospital's Mobile Health Clinic, 1 to 4 p.m. at Stockbridge Community Outreach, 370 Cherry St., Stockbridge
 - May 6** - Wellness Social Hour sponsored by Stockbridge Area Outreach, 3 to 4 p.m. at the Stockbridge Area Senior Center
 - May 11** - Stockbridge Jr./Sr. High School Prom
 - May 11** - Plainfield Methodist Church Chicken Supper, 5 to 7 p.m. at Plainfield Methodist
 - May 15** - Free, One-Hour QPR Suicide Prevention Training sponsored by Outreach. To register, contact the Outreach Office at 517-851-7285 or outreach49285@gmail.com
 - May 20-24** - Book Fair at Heritage School
 - May 21** - Evening with the Arts, 5 to 7 p.m. at Stockbridge Jr./Sr. High School
 - May 23** - Stockbridge Jr./Sr. Honors Night
 - May 27** - Memorial Day Ceremony, 10:30 a.m. to noon at the Oaklawn Cemetery
- For more community events visit: www.stockbridgecommunitynews.com. To add your community events to our free community calendar, email submissions to stockbridgecommunitynews@gmail.com.**

**Summary of Waterloo Township Board Meeting
March 26, 2024**

A regular meeting of the Waterloo Township Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:00pm. The following motions were made and approved: Approval of Consent Agenda including the February Board meeting minutes; resolution R#24-03-26-01 to release the Special Use Permit from Aggregate Resources Operation, with conditions; appointment of 3 planning commission members to two year terms; approval of a PA116 application for parcel ID#s 000-05-17-351-002-00 & 000-05-20-100-005-00, totaling roughly 56 acres; acceptance of a lawn mowing bid from Green Shades Lawn Mowing. The April and May Board meeting dates were moved to April 30th and May 30th respectively. Meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m. Complete minutes can be found on the Waterloo Township website. (<https://waterlootwpmi.gov/meeting-minutes/>). Bill Richardson, Clerk

From CADL Stockbridge

Too many books? You can donate them



Consider donating your gently used books to the Stockbridge Library this spring. Photo provided by CADL Stockbridge

encyclopedias, textbooks, manuals, video and cassette tapes or vinyl records.

The library has a plastic bin the size of a large laundry basket beside the service desk for donations. Because we don't have storage space, we ask that people limit their donations to what will fit inside the bin. People often drop off books several times so they can donate all they have to the book sale.

However, if you need to get rid of several boxes of books at once, the Holt-Delhi, Haslett and Okemos branches can handle larger donations. You can find their addresses at cadl.org/locations. You also can check with the Henrietta Branch of Jackson District Library and the libraries in Chelsea, Pinckney and Dexter. Goodwill takes book donations, and you can find the closest drop-off locations at goodwill.org/locator. If you have books that are out-of-date or in poor condition, you can go to cadl.org/booksales and find recommendations for recycling centers at the bottom of the page.

Good luck with your spring cleaning and yard sales and we hope to see you at the library.

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

Camping page 3

Inside a fifth wheel, you will encounter another set of steps to get to the area that rests above the pickup truck bed. This area is frequently the main bedroom, but newer models sometimes use that area for a living room.

Height: Trailer ceilings, which are typically about about 7 feet high (sometimes less), are generally lower than fifth-wheel ceilings, which average 8 feet in height. Be aware, though, that the ceiling in the front of a fifth wheel can be lower—usually 6 to 7 feet high in newer models and less in some older models. Because of their outside height, fifth-wheel owners need to pay closer attention to low bridges, low-hanging branches, building overhangs, and other potential hazards.

Storage: In general, fifth wheels offer more storage beneath the RV—many refer to this storage as a "basement." The larger basement in a fifth wheel is great for accommodating bulkier items like lawn furniture, golf clubs, storage bins, and a generator. On the other hand, if you're pulling your fifth wheel with a pickup truck, you'll find that you have less room for storage in the bed of the truck because the hitch for the fifth wheel sits inside the truck bed.

Resale: According to jdpower.com, the larger the camper, the more quickly it depreciates. Also, limitations in the types of vehicles that can pull a fifth wheel may mean fewer buyers are in the market for a fifth wheel vs. a pull-behind trailer. However, that may not impact sellers as heavily in rural areas like ours where many residents own pickup trucks.

No matter which you choose—a pull-behind trailer or a fifth wheel—there's always something new to learn. A plethora of YouTube videos, online information forums, and even television shows offer advice on purchasing, maintaining, and selling recreational vehicles. How do I know? Because we use them—frequently.

by Head Librarian Sherri McConnell

It's spring-cleaning and yard sale season and those full boxes of books need somewhere to go. The Stockbridge Branch has been getting a lot of calls recently about whether it takes book donations. The Friends of the Stockbridge Library run an ongoing used book sale within the library and it's always in need of fresh stock. They take books in good condition, DVDs and CDs.

They cannot take magazines,

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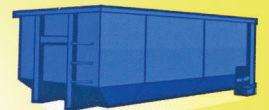
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Brian Friddle

Superintendent's Desk Stockbridge schools using structured approach to reinforce, teach positive behaviors

Hello Stockbridge Families.

Stockbridge Community Schools desires to foster a positive and supportive environment to promote the success and well-being of our students and staff. The Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) framework is a tool that we use to cultivate a culture of positivity, respect, responsibility, safety and kindness. Rooted in evidence-based practices, PBIS offers a systematic approach to behavior management that integrates character traits, promoting social-emotional growth and academic achievement.

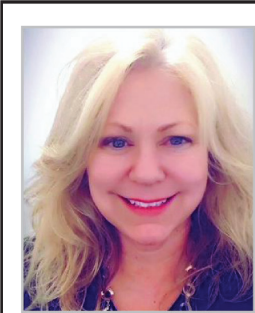
PBIS is a proactive, multi-tiered framework designed to address the behavioral needs of all students within our school community. PBIS operates on the principle of teaching and reinforcing positive behaviors rather than focusing on punishment for negative behaviors. It provides our school with a structured system for defining, teaching, and reinforcing appropriate behaviors, which create an environment for learning and social development.

Collaboration with families and the broader community is a key part to the success of PBIS. We need to engage parents and caregivers in the PBIS process, seeking your input and support in reinforcing positive behaviors and character values at home. Partnerships with community organizations also can provide us with resources and support to reinforce our PBIS efforts.

Research has shown that schools implementing PBIS experience improvements in academic outcomes, including increased attendance rates, reduced disciplinary incidents, and higher academic achievement. By addressing behavioral barriers to learning, PBIS creates an environment for academic success that we can benefit from.

By focusing on prevention, intervention and support, PBIS will allow us to create an environment where students can reach their potential. Through emphasis on positivity, data-driven decision-making, collaboration and character development, PBIS can help us create a culture of respect, responsibility, safety and kindness for our students.

Brian Friddle
Superintendent of Schools



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May 1974

Please wish a Happy Anniversary to James and Patrice Johnson. They celebrate 50 years since their wedding ceremony in the Stockbridge United Methodist Church. Cards may be sent to PO Box 591, Stockbridge, MI 49285.

STOCKBRIDGE SPORTS

Panther track and field teams off and running

by Mike Williamson

Without a league this season, the Stockbridge boys and girls track teams have been filling their schedule with multiple invitationals and dual meets with future Big 8 opponents.

The Panthers opened their season April 5 at the Fowlerville Early Bird Invite. The girls finished fifth and the boys 12th out of 15 teams at the meet.

Gracee Robidou had a big day by winning the long jump and placing second in the 100 hurdles and 300 hurdles. She also was sixth in the 100 dash. Megan Mackinder earned a second-place finish in the discus and was seventh in the shot put.

Samantha Nothnagel was fourth in the long jump and Azora Parks eighth in the discus. The 4x100 team of Gabrielle Heath, Shelby Okoney, Arabella Allison and Nothnagel was seventh, while Jaylee Chapman was 10th in the 1600 and Ava Vaccaro 10th in the 3200.

Brock Rochow led the boys with a third-place finish in the 800. He also was part of the 4x400 team that finished eighth along with Foster Pybus, Remi Samek and Ethan Monaghan, and the 4x800 relay with Ethan Wright, William Gancer and Finn Coffman that also finished eighth.

Pybus finished fourth in the high jump and was part of the 4x100 relay that placed eighth with Brandon Hamlett, Jude Castro and Jason Gruber. Monaghan was ninth in the 300 hurdles and Josiah Muzzin 10th in the 110 hurdles.

Grass Lake Dual The teams took part in a dual meet April 9 with Grass Lake. The boys lost by just one point 68-67, and the girls fell 80-54.

Castro won the 100 for the boys, and Rochow was first in the 800. Wright won the 1600 and 3200 and Monaghan the 300 hurdles. Hamlett, Pybus, Castro and Gruber teamed to finish first in the 4x100, while Pybus also teamed with Samek, Monaghan and Rochow to win the 4x400.

Wright picked up his third win in the 4x800 relay by teaming with Gancer, Coffman and Rochow. Pybus also picked up a win in the high jump and Samek won the long jump.

The girls were led by Robidou with three first-place finishes. She won the long jump, pole vault and 100 hurdles for the Panthers. Mackinder took first in two events, winning the shot put and discus, while Chapman won the 1600 and Vaccaro the 3200.

See Track and Field on page 19.



Brock Rochow won the 800 at Grass Lake. Photos provided by Pam Mackinder



Gracee Robidou won the 100 hurdles at Grass Lake.

Young softball team can't escape tough start

by Mike Williamson

The Stockbridge varsity softball team and coach Don Lockhart entered the season with a very young squad and, as expected, the Panthers are suffering some growing pains as the players gain game experience.

Not only have the Panthers had growing pains, but they also fought with Mother Nature as well, with several games already postponed because of weather.



Jessica Sparks bringing the heat for the Panthers. Photo by Mike Williamson

The team is 1-5 on the season to date, with some busy weeks coming up.

Stockbridge opened the season by dropping a 13-8 decision to Dansville.

The Aggies jumped out to a 7-1 lead in the third, but the Panthers fought back with three runs to cut the lead to 7-4. Dansville put the game away with six runs in the fourth.

Jessica Sparks led the offense with a double and two RBIs. Zoey Horstman, Arianna Smith and Chyanne Lindquist each had a hit and RBI. Melanie Satkowiak added a triple and scored two runs. Sparks took the loss, striking out eight.

The Panthers ran into a buzz saw in a very strong state-ranked Grass Lake team, falling to the Warriors 17-0 and 18-0.

Grass Lake scored eight in the first inning of the opener and cruised to the win. Laura Humrich had the lone hit for the Panthers.

The second game was much the same, as the Panthers could muster just one hit, a Jailyynn Nelson single in the game.

See Softball on page 19



Annie Borowy fights for the ball against Charyl Stockwell Academy. Photo by Mike Williamson

Girls soccer off to a rough start this season

by Mike Williamson

It has been a rough start to the 2024 season for the girls soccer team, with the Panthers sitting at 0-5 to begin the year.

The Panthers opened the season April 2 with a 3-1 loss to Charyl Stockwell Academy.

CSA took a 2-0 lead into halftime, but Annie Borowy found the net with 25 minutes left to cut the lead to 2-1. CSA sealed the win with a late goal. Grace Lackey made nine saves in net for the Panthers.

Stockbridge then hit a rough stretch with a 15-0 loss to Leslie April 4 and a 9-1 loss to Potterville April 8. Borowy scored the Panthers' goal against Potterville.

Stockbridge then fell to a strong Pinckney team 15-0 on April 9 and lost to Jackson Christian 9-1 on April 18. Borowy scored for the Panthers against Jackson Christian.

STOCKBRIDGE SPORTS

Panthers baseball team starts slowly this season Boys golf team finishes 14th at Dick's Sporting Goods Invite

by Mike Williamson

The Stockbridge baseball team got off to a slow start and began the season with a 1-9 record.

The Panthers dropped a pair in the season opener, falling to Lake City 3-2 and 18-3 April 5.

Lake City scored three in the fourth in the opener, but the Panthers rallied for two in the sixth to make it 3-2. The Panthers had a chance in the seventh, but could not tie the game.

Zach Fletcher led the Panthers with two hits and an RBI. He also took the loss on the mound, striking out six.

The Panthers led 2-1 after one in the second game, but Lake City blew the game open with nine in the third and eight in the fourth to pull away for the win.

Xavior Zimmerman drove in a run for the Panthers, while Fletcher, Collin Trost and Kyle Cheeseman scored runs.

Stockbridge then dropped a pair to Grass Lake 15-3 and 23-2 on April 8.

Nick Graves had a hit and RBI to lead the offense. Trost had a double and two runs scored and Fletcher had a hit and a run scored.

In the second game, Jayden Pilch ripped a triple and drove in a run, and Trost collected a hit for the Panthers.

Stockbridge next fell to Columbia Central 15-0.

Noah Sandecki and Pilch had hits for Stockbridge.

The Panthers then fell to Napoleon 4-3 in an April 13 game where the Pirates walked off with a run in the bottom of the seventh.

Trost had two hits and Pilch a hit and RBI for the offense.

On April 16, Stockbridge scored six runs in the fourth to take a 6-2 lead, but Perry scored one in the fifth and nine in the sixth for a 12-7 win.

Trost, Sandecki and Kayden Nielsen had two hits and an RBI each to lead the Panthers. Fletcher had two hits and two runs scored and Pilch a double for the Panthers.

Stockbridge scored 10 runs in the first inning to take the nightcap 10-2.

Sandecki had a triple and RBI, while Connor Fitzsimmons had a hit and RBI. Trevor Patterson had a hit and Graves earned the win on the mound, striking out one.

On April 18, Springport earned a sweep of the Panthers 12-2 and 12-7.

Pilch and Fletcher had the only hits for Stockbridge in the opener.

Patterson had a big game in the second with two hits and four RBIs. Pilch had a double and two RBIs. Trost and Sandecki had a hit and run scored each, and Cruz Medina one hit.



Collin Trost fires a pitch against Grass Lake.
Photo by Mike Williamson

Softball page 18

The Panthers picked up their first win of the season 6-5 in eight innings over Addison at the Concord tournament.

Stockbridge fell behind 3-1 after two, but scored three runs in the fourth to take a 4-3 lead. The big blow in the inning was a two-run homer by Horstman to tie the game.

Addison retook the lead 6-5 in the fifth, but the Panthers tied it on an inside-the-park home run by Horstman to make it 6-6.

In the eighth, the tiebreaker rule put a runner at second with no one out. Sparks and Horstman walked to load the bases and McKenna Mezo scored on a wild pitch for the walk-off win.

Horstman finished with two home runs and three RBIs. Nelson and Smith each had a hit and run scored, and Anya Harden had one hit. Sparks earned the win in the circle with 10 strikeouts.

Stockbridge dropped a 6-4 decision to Concord in the finals.

The game was tied at 4-4 after three innings, but the Yellowjackets scored two in the fifth and held on for the win.

Nelson and Sparks had two hits and an RBI each to lead the offense. Humrich had two hits and a run scored and Mezo two hits. Smith added a hit and RBI and Horstman a hit and run scored. Sparks took the loss, striking out eight.

The Panthers had a rough time with Springport, falling to the Spartans 18-0 and 22-0.

Humrich had two hits to lead the offense. Horstman and Smith had one hit each in the opener.

Madison Rusnock and Satkowiak had the lone hits for the Panthers in the second game.

by Mike Williamson

The varsity boys golf team competed in the Dick's Sporting Goods Invitational at Glenbrier Golf Course in Perry and finished 14th out of 20 teams at the event.

The Panthers tied with Fowlerville with a team score of 397 in the event won by Haslett with 336.

Wyatt Loso led the Panthers with an 18-hole score of 93. Evan Sandecki shot 99 and Drew Robinson 100. Kegan Collins finished with 105 and Lucas Hoard 118.

The team took on Pinckney in a dual meet and fell to the Pirates 183-193.

Loso fired a round of 41 to finish first overall. Robinson finished with 49 and Sandecki 51. Collins followed with 52 and Chase Kunzelman 56.

The JV team fell to Pinckney 211-221.

Jackson Gauthier led the team with a round of 51. Nathan Chrisinske shot 55 and Bradley Rowe 57. Carson Lewis and DJ Sheedy each shot 58, Devin Bennett 62, and Brendon Fletcher 69.

Track and Field page 18

Napoleon Invite The girls finished sixth and the boys 11th at the Napoleon Invitational April 12.

Robidou won the long jump and was third in the 100 hurdles and second in the 300 hurdles to lead the girls. Mackinder won the discus and was sixth in the shot put, while Chapman was sixth in the 800 and eighth in the 1600. Vaccaro finished fourth in the 3200, while Allison was eighth in the 200 and 400 races.

Rochow won the 800 to lead the boys, while Castro was fifth in the 100. Pybus finished fourth in the high jump and teamed with Monaghan, Gancer and Rochow to place seventh in the 4x400. The 4x800 relay team of Wright, Coffman, Gancer, and Rochow also was seventh.

Reading Dual On April 17, Wright came home with three first-place finishes to lead the Panthers. He won the 1600 and 3200 and was part of the winning 4x800 team with Gancer, Coffman and Rochow.

Rochow also won three events. To go along with the 4x800 win, he won the 800 and was part of the winning 4x400 with Monaghan, Coffman and Gancer.

Monaghan won the 300 hurdles and Castro the 100. Pybus won the high jump, Ethan Bradley the pole vault, and Isaac Reifschneider the long jump.

For the girls, Robidou won the long jump, pole vault and 200, while Mackinder won the discus. Chapman won the 800 and 1600, while Vaccaro won the 3200. Heath, Okoney, Allison and Nothnagel teamed to win the 4x100. Heath, Macy Cipta, Okoney and Alana Porzio the 4x200, and Allison, Nothnagel, Chapman and Robidou the 4x400.

Union City Dual Wright was a three-time winner against Union City, April 19, winning the 1600 and 3200 and teaming with Coffman, Gancer and Rochow in the 4x800.

Castro won the 100 and Rochow the 800, while Pybus won the high jump and Bradley the pole vault for the Panthers.

Chapman led the girls by winning the 800 and 1600, while Vaccaro won the 3200. Robidou won the 300 hurdles, the pole vault and long jump, while Mackinder won the shot put and discus.

Bridge to Wellness page 14

Some of these early signs and symptoms can include the following:

- Eating too much or too little.
- Sleeping too much or too little.
- Having low energy.
- Feeling numb or like nothing matters.
- Experiencing unexplained aches and pains.
- Feeling of helplessness or hopelessness.
- Using substances such as tobacco and alcohol more than usual.
- Feeling confused, forgetful, on edge, worried, or scared.
- Facing conflict(s) with family members.
- Suffering severe mood swings that cause problems with relationships.
- Having persistent thoughts and memories you can't let go of.
- Hearing voices or believing in things that are not true.
- Thinking of harming yourself or others.
- Experiencing difficulty performing daily activities, such as showering and going to work.

Experiencing the above symptoms does not mean there's something "wrong" with you. But, it does mean you should likely talk to a doctor or therapist before symptoms become severe. Every county in the state of Michigan has a community mental health program. If you feel you need assistance but don't have a doctor to see, local mental health services may be able to help.

If you are diagnosed with a mental health condition, many tools and treatments are available for support. Following are some tips and strategies that can help.

- Stick to your treatment plan.
- Make sure to update your physician regularly.
- Learn about your condition; knowledge is power.
- Practice good self-care.
- Don't go through it alone; reach out to family and friends.
- Develop healthy coping skills.
- Get enough sleep.
- Eat well and get daily exercise.

If you have concerns about your mental health and well-being, the Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham Counties (www.ceicmh.org) provides a link to an anonymous online screening questionnaire. You can go directly to the anonymous questionnaire at www.screening.hfihub.com/cei.



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.

Suzin Bernadette Greenway



Suzi Greenway
Aug. 10, 1952 to April 23, 2024

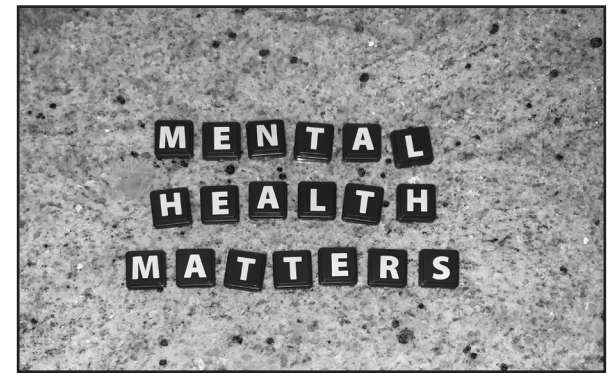
Suzin Bernadette Greenway (née Sue Marie Bernadette Neff), aged 71, passed away peacefully on April 23, 2024, under the care of The Willows at Okemos and Heart to Heart Hospice. She was born on August 10, 1952, in Oakland County, Michigan, to Robert and Mary Neff and was the youngest of five children. She was preceded in death by her parents and her brothers Robert and John Neff. She is survived by her sister, Mary Ann (Randy) Fulkerson; brother, Thomas Neff; nieces, Jennifer (Jason), Stephanie (Mark), Shannon, and Julie (Doug); nephews, Matthew, Mark (Rachel), and Kenneth (Tyra); dear friend Lucas Haines; and her

beloved one-eyed barn cat, Thompson.

Suzi (as she was informally known) was a proud resident of Stockbridge, Michigan, for nearly fifty years. She also lived in England for four years after high school where she met and married her first husband, Richard Greenway. Her many interests included community activism, gardening, baking, cooking, motorcycling, managing the local farmers market, and photography.

Oaklawn Cemetery in the Village of Stockbridge will be her final resting place. Memorials in her honor are being planned for a later date. Suzi was an avid supporter of public radio and TV. If you would like to honor her memory, please consider making a charitable donation to your local public radio and/or TV station.

To view a detailed version of her life remembered, visit www.mitchellfuneral.com



Mental well-being enables people to cope with the stresses of life. It's important to know the signs and symptoms of mental health issues and to seek treatment if needed. Photo credit Marcel Straub at unsplash.com

Obituaries

Arlene (Kaiser) Koker



Arlene (Kaiser) Koker
Sept. 3, 1944 to March 25, 2024

Arlene (Kaiser) Koker, age 79, passed away surrounded by her family on March 25, 2024 at the Courtyard Manor Nursing Home in Howell, Michigan.

She was born September 3, 1944 in Detroit, MI to Norman "Jack" and Wilma (Scheppe) Kaiser. On January 4, 1964, she married the love of her life and devoted caregiver, Richard Koker, and they enjoyed 60 years together. She is survived by her husband, Richard, her children, David (Wendy) Koker, and Daniel (Angela Christiansen) Koker, and the apple of her eye, granddaughter, Taia Koker. She is also survived by her brother, Ronald (Arlene) Kaiser, as well as nieces, Tracy, Jennifer, and Michelle, and their families. The family would also like to thank her very special friends, Glenn and Hilda Buckmaster, for their continued love and support. She also enjoyed her extended Koker family, Marion (Frank) May, John (Nancy) Koker, Jerry (Betsey Spink), Karen (Larry) Kurzynowski, Mike (Rachel) Koker, and Stephanie (Tom) Heyden.

She was predeceased by her parents, and her father- and mother-in-law, John and Helen Koker. Her family was the joy of her life, and we are grateful for the memories that were built together. May they carry us through the days ahead.

Arlene especially enjoyed traveling and making beautiful jewelry. She began her working career as a very skilled cosmetologist. However, Sales Consulting was in her blood. She worked for many years in the Furniture Department of JC Penney at Briarwood in Ann Arbor. Always looking for new adventures, she found her real love as an extremely successful real estate agent. Arlene retired from Reinhart Realty.

The family would like to thank Courtyard Manor Nursing Home and Careline Hospice for their exceptional care and support. According to her wishes, Arlene has chosen cremation.

Visitation was at the Caskey-Mitchell Funeral Home, Stockbridge, Michigan, on Friday, April 5, 2024, from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

A Celebration of Life was held on Saturday, April 6, 2024, 11:00 a.m., at the Richard F. Smith American Legion Post 29, 3200 Lansing Ave., Jackson, MI, with a visitation one hour prior to the service. Funeral service was celebrated by her niece, Pastor Tracy, followed by a luncheon.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Waterloo Farm Museum.

Obituaries

Mary "Dorene" White



Mary "Dorene" White
Nov. 11, 1922 to Apr. 7, 2024

Mary "Dorene" White, of Stockbridge, MI, age 101, passed away on Sunday, April 7, 2024. She was born November 11, 1922 in Stockbridge, MI, the middle child of Caspar and Ethel Glenn.

Dorene graduated from Stockbridge High School in 1940. She then attended Michigan State Normal College (now EMU) and Lansing Secretarial School.

She married Curtis W. White on October 10, 1942. After WWII, they settled back in Stockbridge and raised four children. In addition to her beloved family, she had many interests. Dorene was always active in the schools, church, and community. She was the first recipient of the Volunteer of the Year community award in 1999, and she was also a founding member of the Stockbridge Area Educational Foundation. Dorene actively participated in area art guilds, garden clubs, and community theater and music groups. She joined the First Presbyterian Church in Stockbridge in 1931 and served in many capacities throughout her life. She especially enjoyed watercolor painting, collecting flower frogs and Stockbridge history, and traveling.

Dorene is survived by her children, Richard (Melissa Barnard) White of Midland, Sally (Bill) Layton of Colorado Springs, and Barbara VanDyke of Mason; grandchildren: Brian (Michelle) White, Mary "Betsey" (Matthew) Pohl, Elise Layton (Richard Krautheim), Emily (Elliott) Bauder, Samuel VanDyke, Mason VanDyke, Lara (Daniel) Jacobs, Alyssa (Eric) Ward, and Noah (Evelyn) Lofquist; great-grandchildren: Keaton, Kennan, and Evie Jacobs, Henry and Isaac Tallon, Caidra VanDyke, and Ethan and Maddie Lofquist, Chloe (Bryan)

Hover, Jacob (Marissa Edwards) Beasley, Nicholas Beasley, and Macy (Luke) Pohl-Kohnen, Audrey Krautheim, and Katelyn, Maxton, Beau, and Luke Bauder; great-great-grandchildren, Ella and Tanner Hover; as well as many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Dorene was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Curt, a son, Larry White, her siblings: Robert Glenn, William "Billy" Glenn, David Glenn, and Gene M. Barton; daughter-in-law, Amilyn White, son-in-law, Steven VanDyke, as well as sisters-in-law, Peggy Glenn, Mary White, and Jean White; and brothers-in-law, Jim Barton, Al White, and Willard "Bob" White.

Visitation was held on Sunday, April 21, 2024 from 4-7 p.m. at Caskey-Mitchell Funeral Home in Stockbridge.

A Memorial Service was held at the First Presbyterian Church of Stockbridge on Monday, April 22, 2024, at 12:00 p.m., where the family received friends from 11:00 a.m. until the time of service.

A private burial was held at Oaklawn Cemetery.

Those wishing to make a memorial contribution in honor of Dorene may do so to the Stockbridge Educational Foundation, the First Presbyterian Church of Stockbridge, or Stockbridge Community Outreach.

Beatrice "Bea" Fraker



Beatrice "Bea" Fraker
July 26, 1932 to Mar. 25, 2024

Beatrice "Bea" Fraker, age 91, passed away Monday, March 25, 2024 at Legacy Assisted Living in Jackson. She was born July 26, 1932 in Coleman, Michigan to Carl and Rhuey (Alberts) Baker. She was preceded in death by her parents and husband.

Bea married Marvin Fraker on August 3, 1957, who she was married to for 63 years. She is survived by their four sons and their wives: James (Marcela)-Oceanside, CA., Gerald (Bobbie)-Roanoke VA, Donald (MaryJane)-Grand Rapids MI, and Daniel (Janet)-Manitowoc WI. Eight grandchildren: Tanya, Joel, Pamela, Kimberly, David, Sarah, Amy and Elliot. Six great-grandchildren: Payton, Cali, Brent, Elizabeth, Tomas

and Gabriel. Several nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Bea graduated from Coleman High School in 1950 and St. Mary's School of Nursing in Saginaw MI, in 1953. She was a participant in the Nurses Health Study at Harvard Medical School. She was active in her church—Southwest Church of the Nazarene in Gregory, MI—where she taught Sunday School, was on the Board of Stewards, was missionary president and treasurer for many years. She was awarded the Queen of the District & Distinguished Service Award from the Nazarene Eastern Michigan District Missionary Society and the Doris Dicky Award.

Highlights of her life were her family, especially her grandchildren, great-grandchildren and serving her Lord.

Funeral services were Monday, April 1, 11:00 am at Southwest Church of the Nazarene, 14555 Holmes Rd, Gregory, MI. The family received friends from 10-11 am at the church. Following a luncheon at the church, burial was at Washtenong Memorial Park in Ann Arbor. In lieu of flowers, make donations to Southwest Church of the Nazarene Missionary Society in Gregory MI. Arrangements were entrusted to Cole Funeral Chapel.

Angelo "Abe" Parente



Angelo "Abe" Parente
Aug. 12, 1933 to Mar. 15, 2024

Angelo "Abe" Parente, born August 12, 1933, passed away on March 15, 2024. He was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather, affectionately known as "Poppy." An exemplary figure in both his personal and professional life, he was widely regarded as an honest and respected businessman, neighbor, community member, and friend.

Having served his country with honor, Angelo bravely served in the Korean conflict as a member of the Army 82nd Airborne, completing an impressive 22 jumps never knowing what it was like to land in an airplane.

Throughout his remarkable 63-year career as a sod farmer, Angelo's dedication and expertise left an indelible mark on both the Michigan and Florida farming communities. His passion for aviation led him to become a skilled pilot, while his commercial driver's license and engineering prowess reflected his versatile skill set and commitment to excellence.

He is survived by his wife Ruth Anne Parente, daughter Josephine "Josie" Smith (Hershel "Chip" Smith) and grandson Hunter Smith. He was preceded in death by his son Steven John and daughter Kimberly Jane.

The family will host a Celebration of Life on May 25, 2024, at the American Legion Post 510, 380 Clinton Street, Stockbridge, Michigan at 12:30 p.m. Those who wish to make a memorial contribution in lieu of flowers may do so to the Mackinder Glenn American Legion Post 510, 380 Clinton Street, Stockbridge, Michigan 49285.

Outreach in Action

'I need help.' These words hold so many meanings, but Outreach is there for those in need

by Jo Mayer and Paul Crandall

"I need help." Difficult words to say—and hear—but common words heard in the Stockbridge Community Outreach office. Sometimes the words indicate someone needs a financial hand with utility bills or filling their food needs, but other times, these words mean their world is spinning out of control and they need help in a deeper, more personal way.

To get a look at how Outreach fits as a channel for helping those suffering, we turned to Gwen Reid, Stockbridge Community Outreach director. Here is an excerpt of our interview with Reid, edited for length and clarity.

JO: I know Outreach is primarily known for helping with food and other emergency needs, but when your clients come in they may also be distraught and stressed out. How do you deal with that?

GWEN: I give them plenty of time to talk it out. Sometimes it helps just to know someone is listening and actually cares. I ask questions and reflect back to them their answers.

JO: So mental health support becomes intrinsic to your job here at Outreach. What guidance do you offer to those who are feeling overwhelmed and anxious?

GWEN: I help them identify ways they have dealt with difficult things in the past. We talk about what they do that brings them joy or helps them calm down. When you are stressed out, you can't always remember the good things or the coping skills you already have. I help them remember their strengths and past successes and reassure them they have the ability to handle this current situation, and they are not alone in this struggle.

JO: What tips would you offer to others trying to help someone who is struggling and at their wits' end?

GWEN: Try to help them focus on identifying the actual facts of the situation, and don't let them think of what "could" happen. Try to keep them from "catastrophizing" their worst-case scenario. Practice deep breathing with them. Actively listen when someone is in distress—that means no phones, no distractions. Ask clarifying questions. Help identify some calming activities for the person in distress, such as taking a walk, listening to music, or reading a book.

JO: In what other ways does Outreach help with mental health support?

GWEN: Outreach helps by making referrals to agencies that can provide support based on where clients live. Last year, we started working with Sparrow's Mobile Health Clinic to bring physical- and mental-health support right to our area. We are bringing them back on May 3 to offer their free, drop-in services from 1 to 4 p.m. in the parking lot behind the Outreach office (Cherry and Elm streets) in Stockbridge—no appointment needed.

On May 6, we'll kick off our new Monthly Wellness Social Hours, with a goal of bringing people together and fighting social isolation. Led by the dynamic duo of Kathy Walz and Anna Weber, behavioral health navigators from Chelsea Hospital, this group is open to all. Join us on the first Monday each month in the Outreach meeting room inside the Stockbridge Activity Center. We'll have light refreshments and a short focus on the topic of the day, followed by conversations from 3 to 4 p.m.

See Outreach on page 23.



Stockbridge Community Outreach listens and is in a position to connect those in need with resources that can help. Photo credit Austin Kehmeier on unsplash.com

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Ask an Expert page 12

Not only is it a good safety decision to address alignment issues quickly after an accident, but it's also likely to save you the cost of having to repair or replace other parts in your vehicle earlier.

Electrical system damage: Even a minor, low-impact car accident can loosen the wires connected to your tail lights, headlights, and other vehicle components. This can compromise the electrical systems that are vital to your car's ability to continue operating. Over time and without professional inspection and repair, minor problems can lead to major problems.

These loose wire connections could impact your brake and tail lights, which could pose a serious risk of further collisions. In addition, they could impact your sound system or cause your battery to stop working, which can prevent your car from being able to start.

These potentially hidden electrical-systems damages may not be visible, but that can have a serious impact on your car's ability to function and get you where you need to go. It's better to be safe than sorry and have them checked by a professional certified collision expert.

Rust: As we've seen, minor car damage can lead to more serious and long-term issues. For example, small scratches in your vehicle's frame can cause paint to rub away over time and result in the exposure of bare metal to the elements, leading to rust buildup.

On the most basic scientific level, rust is just another name for iron oxide. When any iron-containing metal — such as the steel on your car — is exposed to oxygen, iron oxide begins to form. Over time, rust eats away at the metal on your vehicle. This causes an unsightly appearance and can weaken the car's frame over time.

Even just a small scratch left unrepaired can cause the primary supportive structure of your vehicle to weaken. It's much better for your car and your wallet to address the problem early, when it's just a small scratch and more easily treatable.

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.

Outreach page 22

Also, Chelsea Hospital received a grant last year to focus on the topic of mental health and suicide prevention. The director of that program, Sarah Wilczynski, will be coming to Outreach on Wednesday, May 15, to lead a free, one-hour "QPR" suicide prevention training. "QPR" stands for Question, Persuade, Refer and the purpose of the program is to give participants guidance on how to help someone they fear may be suicidal. Those interested in attending should contact the Outreach office at 517-851-7285 or email me at outreach49285@gmail.com.

JO: Is there anything else you'd like to add?

GWEN: If you or a loved one is struggling with suicidal thoughts there is a national helpline number available 24 hours a day—just dial 988. It is an emergency number dedicated to suicide prevention. Other resources for those looking for help coping with their own or someone else's mental health issues include:

- National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) at <https://www.nami.org>.
- Mental Health America is the nation's leading, national nonprofit dedicated to the promotion of strong mental health and well-being along with illness prevention. Visit <https://www.mhanational.org>.

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.

Staff Spotlight page 9

As a fifth grade teacher, forming positive relationships with the students and their families and watching her students grow into awesome individuals has been very rewarding. As Student Council adviser, she believes that helping to grow the future of our great country is important. Her hope for the future is that funds become available to make classrooms livelier—a more fun environment. She hopes they stay involved in the community, and along with her counterparts at Heritage, she plans to work together to provide what is needed for students to succeed.

The Stockbridge community and Heritage School is fortunate to have Emily Shepherd helping to mold our fifth graders into good citizens.

See additional photos at www.stockbridgecommunitynews.com.

Don Porter is a former Stockbridge Schools deputy superintendent. He also served as assistant principal at the Jr./Sr. High School, and then principal at Smith Elementary, Katz Elementary, and Heritage School. He and his wife, Tammy, live in Stockbridge and enjoy fly fishing, golf, traveling, and working in the yard.

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Moms laugh at the darndest things!

Happy Mother's Day to all the moms out there! In an effort to put the spotlight on moms this month, Stockbridge Community News reached out for help to the two teachers who spearheaded our Positive Parenting column. We asked Amanda Mathews (young 5s teacher) and Kelsey Rasmussen (high school science/physics teacher) to poll some of their students for answers to the following question:

What makes your mom laugh the hardest?

Young 5s

General responses from young 5s students:

"When I make silly jokes." ... "When I say funny things." ... "When I tell jokes."

Other young 5s students:

"This joke—Why is the chicken so funny? Bawkause!!!!—and my brother!" – **Bailee**

"When I do my crazy dance!" – **Carter**

"When my sister shakes her booty at her!" – **Kamryn**

"When I chase her really fast" – **Clay**

"Her two friends!" – **Paisley**

"When things scare her!" – **Memphis**

"My two daughters make my mom laugh the hardest!" – **Ms. Mathews**

Senior Students

General responses from seniors:

Being silly." ... "When she is told funny jokes." ... "When I tell her a joke." ...

"When we make up funny things."

Other senior responses:

"When my stepdad makes funny faces at her." – **Mady**

"Me." – **David**

"Me getting injured. (I inherited clumsiness from her.)" – **Gavin**

"My stepmother laughs a lot at her cat's actions of being cute." – **Antonio**

"When terrible things happen to terrible people." – **Nicole**

"Talking about funny memories or the family joking around." – **Clarissa**

"My jokes always make her laugh the most." – **Casey**

"When I say something unexpected and catch her off guard." – **Isabelle**

"When we make jokes or mess up and are able to be playful about it." – **Melanie**

"Silly memes." – **Jason**

"My mom laughs the hardest when her grandkids experience joy and laugh contagiously!" – **Ms. Rasmussen**

