



STOCKBRIDGE COMMUNITY NEWS

Promoting our common good and shared well-being

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What's happening in and around town



Photo credits: (top, left-right) Award (Giorgio Trovato on unsplash.com) and Waterloo substation (JoanTucker). (below, left-right) UTFD rescue truck (Mary Jo David) and Jarvis Building (Google Maps).

by Mary Jo David

- SCN writer wins national award.
- Waterloo Township dedicates new SAESA firehouse.
- Unadilla Township receives new rescue truck.
- Jarvis Building in Stockbridge is sold.
- Update: North Territorial/Dexter Town Hall Road closure.

Stockbridge Community News was recently notified that **Judy Williams**, treasurer and writer, has once again placed in the national finals for the 2024 NFPW Professional Communications Contest. The details of the award and identification of Judy's winning stories will be announced at the 2024 NFPW Conference, to be held in St. Louis, June 20-22. Stay tuned to the SCN July edition for more details.

Waterloo Township dedicated a **new SAESA firehouse substation** on April 30. The station was dedicated to Jan Kitley, longtime Waterloo Township resident and clerk. Read the full story below.

See Around town on page 22.

New firehouse in Waterloo Township dedicated to Jan Kitley, longtime township clerk



Chris Harrison and grandchildren explore a fire engine parked at the substation for the grand opening. Photo credit Joan Tucker

by Joan Tucker

On April 30, at 5 p.m., Waterloo residents gathered next to the Waterloo Township Hall to unveil a new, three-bay fire barn substation. The new substation is an extension of Stockbridge Area Emergency Services Authority (SAESA).

Both the Waterloo Township Board and SAESA provided community members the opportunity

to look at the new building and hear about their service plan. Kids were encouraged to get an up-close look at the firetrucks, including trying out the fire hose on the brush truck. Refreshments were provided.

The township board and SAESA worked together to secure funds from the American Rescue Plan Act, which provided federal money from a COVID relief program. The funds were required to be used by 2025. The township was able to accrue the funds at no additional expense to the taxpayers, according to Supervisor Doug Lance.

SAESA General Manager and Waterloo Township trustee John Beck explained that the first phase of the project will enable a pumper firetruck and a brush truck to be parked at this location. Eventually, in Phase 2, an EMS truck and crew will be added for quicker medical response to the area.

Later that evening, at the Waterloo Township board meeting, the fire barn substation was dedicated to Jan Kitley, township clerk for more than 20 years.

See Firehouse on page 12.

Heads up: Severe weather season is here again



We are entering severe weather season. The 211 non-emergency number can be used to find helpful resources after a community disaster. Photo credit: JaZmi on unsplash.com

that hit the Williamston area last August.

One non-emergency resource to call following severe weather is 211. Their response partners and resource managers are available 24/7 to assist with recovery efforts and connect you to resources like temporary housing, transportation, and financial assistance. (Also available online at mi211.org)

It's also essential that emergency crews are able to quickly clear downed power lines and other debris. If a storm hits your community, please avoid traveling to hard-hit areas if possible, as it can hinder cleanup efforts.

See Severe weather on page 12.

Information provided by U.S. Rep. Elissa Slotkin's office

We are entering severe weather season. Given the early May tornadoes that hit west Michigan, it's important to share some reminders and resources for folks, including lessons learned in the aftermath of the tornado

JUNE 2024

Features

Stockbridge Jr./Sr. High School 2024 Honors Night events:

See page 3 for Underclassmen Honors

See pages 4-6 for Senior Class Honors

Stockbridge High School Prom: See pages 18-19 to view this year's event photos.

Memorial Day: See page 25 to view photos from the ceremony at Oaklawn Cemetery.

Father's Day Special: SCN highlights local students' favorite pastime activities with their dads. See page 32.

Rural Perspectives: Dame's rocket can bloom off and on all summer

by Diane Constable



Diane Gray Constable

Dame's rocket (*Hesperis matronalis*) is a non-native plant that belongs to the mustard family and can be found along our country roads and field edges. Other common names are sweet rocket, dame's violet, and mother-of-the-evening.



Dame's rocket can be found in this area along country roads and field edges. It is a member of the mustard family.

Photo credit Diane Constable

It is a biannual plant that grows in a small mound the first year. The second year it grows 2 to 4 feet tall. The flowers are light to dark shades of lavender. They start blooming in May and bloom off and on all summer. Each plant can produce up to 2,000 seeds. These flowers resemble our native phlox, but have four petals where the phlox blooms have five petals.

Originally from the Mediterranean region of Europe, settlers to this country brought seeds over for their flower gardens as early as the 1600s. They were used as an ornamental plant and for

cut flowers. The young leaves were eaten sparingly in salads and sprouted seeds mixed with vinegar were used to combat freckles.

Today, the seed oil is used in the manufacturing of perfumes, and it continues to be a hardy garden plant, although some states list it as an invasive because it can crowd out native wildflowers.

Hummingbirds, bees, butterflies and moths feed on the nectar, and some caterpillars use the plant for food.

Fun Fact: Because the flower has little scent during the day but becomes quite fragrant toward evening, it also is called "the flower of deceit."

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.

Lakelands Trail Veterinary Clinic

Dr. Cindy Anderson

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akvet1@yahoo.com

4525 S M-52
Stockbridge, MI 49285

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Items: honey, eggs, maple syrup, dried herbs, baked goods, soaps, candles, lotions, art and more.

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Have a

SRSLY

Safe & Fun

Summer!

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srslystockbridge.org

Stockbridge Athletics, Project Stockbridge mark Mental Health Month



Stockbridge student-athletes promote mental health awareness through inspirational messages on warm-up shirts provided by the Project Stockbridge community partnership. Photo credit: Project Stockbridge

Project Stockbridge

Stockbridge Community Schools Athletic Department to provide free warm-up shirts for the spring athletic teams; the shirt included the Stockbridge and Project Stockbridge logos, "988" (the crisis line phone number), and a positive mental health phrase.

See Project Stockbridge on page 29.

Information provided by SRSly Stockbridge

If you attend a Stockbridge sporting event this spring, you may notice the teams sporting new warm-up shirts. These shirts are one part of a larger mental health campaign, Project Stockbridge, that launched in 2022 and is highlighted every May, in recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month.

Project Stockbridge, which was developed in partnership between SRSly Stockbridge, the Chelsea Hospital Mental Health Awareness and Training program, and Stockbridge youth, has three main goals:

1. Increase knowledge and awareness of mental health resources in Stockbridge Community Schools and the community.
2. Increase education on mental health language and how to talk about mental health with others.
3. Increase respect and understanding of mental health in the community.

To address a couple of these goals this year, Project Stockbridge partnered with the

Honors Night • Stockbridge Jr./Sr. High School • Underclassmen

2024



Jeffrey Trapp, Principal at Stockbridge Jr./Sr. High School prepares to kick off the Underclassmen Honors Night.

photos by Mary Jo David

English 11: Logan Hollenbeck, Chase Kunzelman, Ava Vaccaro

AP Language and Composition: Eliana Johnson, Brock Rochow

Geometry: William Gancer, Emily Satkowiak

Algebra 2: JayLee Chapman, Christopher Conant, Brandon Hamlett, Tessa Hoskins, Grant Howlett, Cecelia Szekely, Elliya Vogel

Precalculus: Zavien Torrey

Biology: JayLee Chapman, Aiden Collins, Wendy Cowan, Brandon Hamlett, Grant Howlett, Bradley Rowe, McKenna Mezo, Madison Rusnock, Tayla Trapp, Edward (Daniel) Villegas

Chemistry: William Gancer, Haley Warren

Physics: JayLee Chapman, Ethan Monaghan, Brock Rochow, Zavien Torrey, Ava Vaccaro

US History: Bralynn Philipp, Emily Satkowiak, Haley Warren, Eliana Wells

Government: JayLee Chapman, Wendy Cowan, Denton Doyle, Brandon Hamlett, McKenna Mezo, Madison Rusnock, Tessa Hoskins, Bradley Rowe, Tayla Trapp, Edward (Daniel) Villegas

World History: Chase Kunzelman, Brock Rochow, Zavien Torrey, Ava Vaccaro

AP World History: Eliana Johnson, Matthew Peckham

Spanish 1: Micaela Forcum, Tessa Hoskins, Madeline Topping

Spanish 2: Brandon Hamlett, Brock Rochow, Madison Rusnock, Tayla Trapp, Edward (Daniel) Villegas

LINKS: Miley Moser, Ethan Monaghan

National Honor Society: Clare Beutler,

Ethan Bradley, Finn Coffman, Xavier Curtis, Logan Hollenbeck, Eliana Johnson, Daniel Loomis, Megan Mackinder, Ethan Monaghan, Miley Moser, Brock Rochow, Zavien Torrey, Ava Vaccaro, Elliya Vogel

Yearbook: Madison Rusnock, Lilianna Ramilia

Freshman Scholar Athletes: Arabella Allison, Aidan Bradley, Ashlee Buddenborg, Zoe Buddenborg, Micaela Forcum, William Gancer, Bella Glenn, Anya Harden, Ella Hardesty, Klara Hays, Owen House, Laura Humrich, Annabelle Lane, Kaylee McClellan, Emma Monaghan, Bralynn Philipp, Kira Puckett, Isabella Pybus, Kayleigh Risner, Ethan Salyer, Emily Satkowiak, Madeline Topping, Haley Warren

Sophomore Scholar Athletes: Makayla Bruening-Elrod, JayLee Chapman, Nathan Chrisinske, Wendy Cowan, Brandon Hamlett, Tessa Hoskins, Grant Howlett, McKenna Mezo, Shelby Okoney, Shelby Palmer, Bradley Rowe, Madison Rusnock, Gavin Suter, Tayla Trapp, Edward (Daniel) Villegas

Junior Scholar Athletes: Alayna Adkins, Ethan Bradley, Finn Coffman, Brendon Fletcher, Eliana Johnson, Chase Kunzelman, Megan Mackinder, Ethan Monaghan, Anna Ransom, Miley Moser, Brock Rochow, Ava Vaccaro, Elliya Vogel

Junior Scholar Athletes: Alayna Adkins, Ethan Bradley, Finn Coffman, Brendon Fletcher, Eliana Johnson, Chase Kunzelman, Megan Mackinder, Ethan Monaghan, Anna Ransom, Miley Moser, Brock Rochow, Ava Vaccaro, Elliya Vogel

Class of 2025 Top GPAs
4.0 Brock Rochow, Ava Vaccaro
3.99 Zavien Torrey

Class of 2026 Top GPAs
4.0: JayLee Chapman, Brandon Hamlett, Bradley Rowe, Madison Rusnock
3.9633: Wendy Cowan, McKenna Mezo, Edward (Daniel) Villegas

Class of 2027 Top GPAs
4.0: Ashlee Buddenborg, Zoe Buddenborg, William Gancer, Ella Hardesty, Emma Monaghan, Dana Moody, Kira Puckett, Rein Puckett, Emily Satkowiak, Madeline Topping, Haley Warren, Eliana Wells
3.945: Micaela Forcum, Kaylee McClellan, Bralynn Philipp



Teachers from the Stockbridge Jr./Sr. High School are ready to present Underclassmen Awards.



Congratulations Stockbridge Jr./Sr. High School Honors Night Award Winners!

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Senior Honors Night

Asterisks (*) indicate SAEF-managed scholarships.



Top Ten Students (left to right): Isabelle Queen (3.8402), Jason Gruber (3.9169), Abigail Roberts (3.9336), Jaylynn Ellsworth (3.9338), Melanie Satkowiak (3.9732), Madelynn Dalton (3.9787), Nicole Wadkins (3.9868), Clarissa Hill (4.0), Maggie Jones (4.0). Not pictured: Taylor Lockhart (4.0)



Left to right: Salutatorian Nicole Wadkins and Valedictorians/summa cum laude graduates Clarissa Hill, Maggie Jones, and Taylor Lockhart (not pictured).



Graduating magna cum laude, from left to right: Brady Cole, Claire Schray, Alaina Kellenberger, Isabelle Queen, Kaitlyn Oversmith, Taiyler Stanfield, Madelynn Dalton, Jason Gruber, Abigail Roberts, Jaylynn Ellsworth, Melanie Satkowiak, Nicole Wadkins. Not pictured: Amber Knoll.



Graduating cum laude, from left to right: Antonio Henderson, Zachary Fletcher, Chloe Suter, Grace Burg, Ethan Wright, Gavin Hart, Zane Whitt and Jordan Huskey-Wright. Not pictured: Joseph Ballagh and Coco Cesarz.



Michigan Governors Youth Service Award: Principal Jeff Trapp with award winner Nicole Wadkins (right).



National Scholars Award: Award winner Jaylynn Ellsworth (left) with Principal Jeff Trapp.



Lansing Community College Board of Trustees Award: Angela Matthews, chair of the LCC Board of Trustees, awards the board scholarship to Nicole Wadkins (right).



Stockbridge Masonic Lodge #130 Award 2 of 2: Fellow Lodge brothers applaud after Ian Crumb awards the second Masonic Lodge scholarship to Gaven Numinen.



Excellence Award: Principal Jeff Trapp (left) awards Paul Baird (center) with the Excellence Award in Business Leadership and Dustin Whitney (right) with the Excellence Award in Construction Trades.



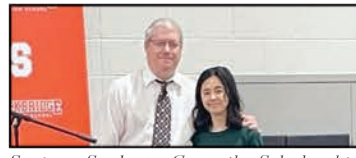
*Talan Tolliver Memorial Scholarship (1 of 3 awarded): Christina Tolliver awards one of the Talan Tolliver scholarships to Jason Gruber.



*Richard Hoard Memorial Scholarship: Annie Hoard hugs award recipient Azora Parks (center) as fellow award recipient Olyvia Hoard looks on.



*SAEF Bruce Brown Scholarship: Erin Gancer looks on as Bruce Brown presents award to Taiyler Stanfield (right).



Senior Student Council Scholarship: Presenter Corey Baird with award winner Nicole Wadkins (right).



*Jeff Becker Memorial Scholarship: Derek Douglas congratulates award winner Alaina Kellenberger. Not pictured: award winner Joseph Ballagh.



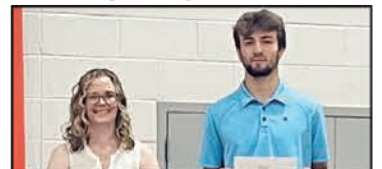
*2024 SAEF Student Scholarship: Erin Gancer (far right) presented awards to (l-r): Kaden Carpenter, Jason Gruber, Gaven Numinen, Zachary Fletcher, Claire Schray, David Villegas, Nicole Wadkins.



*Talan Tolliver Memorial Scholarship (awards 2 & 3): Christina Tolliver awards the second of three Talan Tolliver scholarships to Kegan Collins. Not pictured: Third Tolliver Scholarship winner Joseph Ballagh.



Eaton Federal Savings Bank Floyd M. Jewell Memorial Scholarship: Eaton's business development officer, Louis Salow, presents the award to Abigail Roberts.



*SAEF Deputy Grant Whitaker Memorial Scholarship: Erin Gancer with award winner Kegan Collins (right).



President's Award for Educational Achievement: Leslie Cummings (at podium) announces awards to the following (left to right): Paul Baird, Andrea Borowy, Grace Burg, Jaylynn Ellsworth, Lucas Fletcher, Alaina Kellenberger, Zachary Fletcher, Antonio Henderson, Brady Cole, Claire Schray, Chloe Suter, Nicole Wadkins, David Villegas. Not pictured: Joseph Ballagh and Amber Knoll.



Senior Class Scholar Athlete Awards, pictured left to right: Zachary Fletcher, Jordan Huskey-Wright, Gavin Hart, Jason Gruber, Clarissa Hill, Jaylynn Ellsworth, Grace Burg, Alaina Kellenberger, Maggie Jones, Madelynn Dalton, Brady Cole, Melanie Satkowiak, Abigail Roberts, Zane Whitt. Not pictured: Joseph Ballagh, Taylor Lockhart.



Congratulations

Stockbridge Jr./Sr. High School

Honors Night Award Winners!

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• May 23, 2024



Asterisks (*) indicate SAEF-managed scholarships.

STOCKBRIDGE
COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
Panther Pride
All photos taken by Joan Tucker
and Tom Tucker.



National Honor Society Award: Christina Villegas (background) presents awards to (from left to right): Macy Cipta, Gavin Hart, Clarissa Hill, Abigail Roberts, Brady Cole, Maggie Jones, David Villegas, Gabrielle Heath, Melanie Satkowiak, Olyvia Hoard, Jason Gruber, Nicole Wadkins, Taiyler Stanfield, Isabelle Queen, Kaitlyn Oversmith, Zane Whitt. Not pictured: Joseph Ballagh.



*Pfc. John Donohue Good Citizenship Memorial Award: On behalf of Judy Williams, Ralph Schumacher presents the award to Melanie Satkowiak.



LINKS Award: Principal Jeff Trapp (right) presents the LINKS Award winners, from left to right: Antonio Henderson, Zane Whitt and Stephanie Lozano.



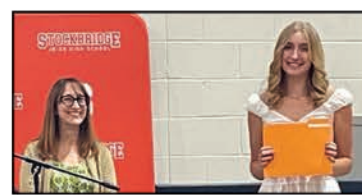
Phil Harris Outstanding Male Athlete: Derek Douglas congratulates award winner Drew Robinson (right).



Phil Harris Outstanding Female Athlete: Gracee Robidou accepts her award from Derek Douglas.



AP World History Award: Corey Baird (left) presents awards to Nicole Wadkins (center) and Chloe Suter (right).



Stockbridge Education Association Scholarship: Math teacher Lissa Avis presents the award to Maggie Jones.



*SAEF Don E. Krummrey Memorial Scholarship: Erin Gancer congratulates award winner Jason Gruber (left).



Michigan Interscholastic Press Association (MIPA) Award: Award winners are (from left to right): Macy Cipta, Taiyler Stanfield, Olyvia Hoard, Nicole Wadkins, Maggie Jones, Kaitlyn Oversmith, Andrea Borowy, Melanie Satkowiak, David Villegas, Grace Burg, Evan Sandeck, and Connor Fitzsimmons. Not pictured: Samantha Wilson and Daniel Loomis.



*Chris C. Kruger Memorial Scholarship: Deanna Kruger (far left) poses with award winners (l-r) Gracee Robidou, Alaina Kellenberger, and Maggie Jones.



Student Council Senior Leadership Award: Corey Baird congratulates award winner Melanie Satkowiak (right).



Sousa Award: Patty Pntewski poses with award winner Chloe Suter (right).



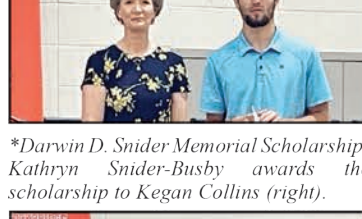
National Choral Award: Bryan Gilbey (at podium) surprises Abigail Roberts (left) with the announcement that she has won the National Choral Award, as Travis Salyer (center) and Coco Cesarz (right) share in the news.



*Hannah Lorraine Glair Memorial Scholarship: On behalf of the Glair family, Principal Jeff Trapp presents the award to Abigail Roberts.



Advanced Art Award: Jay Langone presents the award to Olyvia Hoard (right).



*Darwin D. Snider Memorial Scholarship: Kathryn Snider-Busby awards the scholarship to Kegan Collins (right).



Judy Heeney Board of Education Scholarship: Carrie Graham (left) presents award to Melanie Satkowiak.



Michigan Department of Education Award – Bilingual: Nancy Coria-Chavez (left) and Daisy Coria-Chavez (right) display awards presented by Christina Villegas (podium left) and Martha Opland (podium right).



*SAEF Richard Howlett Scholarship: Erin Gancer presents award to Melanie Satkowiak (right).



General Ostrander Memorial Science Award: Principal Jeff Trapp presents the award to Jason Gruber (left).



*SAEF Mumith-Fitchburg American Legion Post 525 Memorial Scholarship: Erin Gancer presents award to Alaina Kellenberger (right).



Senior Math Annual Award: Lissa Avis presents the award to Abigail Roberts (right).



*Mason Cutler Memorial Cross Country Scholarship: Derek Douglas congratulates award winner Brady Cole (right).



Computer Graphics Award: Jay Langone presents the award to Nicole Wadkins (right).



*Deb Marshall Memorial Scholarship: Bruce Brown (left) presents award to Andrea Borowy.



*SAEF Thomas D. Basore Memorial Physics Excellence Scholarship: Erin Gancer awards the scholarship to Kaitlyn Oversmith (right).



Congratulations Stockbridge Jr./Sr. High School Honors Night Award Winners!

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Other college-awarded scholarship winners, pictured left to right: Clarissa Hill (LELY Company), Jason Gruber (U-M & WMU), Taiyler Stanfield (EMU), David Villegas (MSU), Olyvia Hoard (NMU), Abigail Roberts (NMU), Melanie Satkowiak (NMU), Nicole Wadkins (NMU), Maggie Jones (SVSU), Lucas Fletcher (Wilson Talent Ctr.), Kyle Kettenbeil (Wilson Talent Ctr.). Not pictured: Casey Brown (NMU), Taylor Lockhart (NMU), Joseph Ballagh (Spring Arbor U & Wilson Talent Ctr.)

President's Award for Educational Excellence: Leslie Cummings (at podium) announces awards to the following recipients (pictured left to right): Jordan Huskey-Wright, Gavin Hart, Clarissa Hill, Madelynn Dalton, Maggie Jones, Jason Gruber, Abigail Roberts, Melanie Satkowiak, Isabelle Queen, Kaitlyn Oversmith, Taiyler Stanfield, Elizabeth Vliet, Ethan Wright, Zane Whitt. Not pictured: Taylor Lockhart, Coco Cesarz.



Choir Award: Bryan Gilbey (background) announces the winners of the Choir Award. Pictured left to right, Abigail Roberts, Travis Salyer, Coco Cesarz, Antonio Argento, Drew Robinson and Jamie Muscoe.



Judy Lentz Memorial Scholarship: Bruce Brown (far left) steps back as Kim (Lentz) Williamson and Phil Lentz present award to Olyvia Hoard (far right).



AP Calculus Award: Lissa Avis (far left) is proud to hand out awards to students (left to right): Bryton Breese, Jason Gruber and Abigail Roberts.



Senior Portfolio Award: Rita Stricklin (at podium) announces the award winners—Azora Parks (left) and Kaitlyn Oversmith (right).



English 12 Award: Rita Stricklin (at podium) presents awards to (from left to right) Claire Schray, Madelynn Dalton and Abigail Roberts.



Joe Heeney Memorial Scholarship: Leslie Cummings (left) presents this award to Macy Cipta.



Geri and Greg Uihlein award the GU Crew Scholarship to Gaven Numinen.



AP Computer Science Award: Kelsey Rasmussen (near podium) was pleased to present awards to Brady Cole (left) and Nicole Wadkins (right).



Senior Band Award: Patty Pniewski presents awards to (l-r): William Marshall, Brady Cole, and Chloe Suter.



Stockbridge Lions Club Scholarship: Bruce Brown (far left) presents scholarships to students (l-r) David Villegas, Nicole Wadkins, and Maggie Jones.



*John Graven Technology Scholarship: Gary Teague presents the award to Clarissa Hill.



Journalism / MIPA Award: Rita Stricklin (far left) looks on as Alex Doering (at podium) proudly names the Journalism / MIPA Award winners (from left to right): Nicole Wadkins, Macy Cipta, and Taiyler Stanfield. Doering also invited social media manager Olyvia Hoard (far right) onto the stage to be recognized for her efforts.



Lansing Community College Star Scholarship: LCC Board of Trustees chair, Angela Matthews, applauds award winner Elizabeth Vliet (right). Not pictured: Award winner Megan Rosul.



Construction Technology and Engineering: Gary Teague stands back as Bryton Breese (center) and Clarissa Hill (right) accept their awards.



*Donna E. Schumacher Memorial Scholarship: Ralph Schumacher presents awards to Elizabeth Vliet (left) and Clarissa Hill (right).



DAR Award presented by Rita Stricklin to Melanie Satkowiak.



AP Literature and Composition Award: Rita Stricklin (at podium) presents awards to Nicole Wadkins (left) and Maggie Jones (right).



*Laura M. Goodin Memorial Scholarship: Becky Humrich congratulates award winner Olyvia Hoard (right).



Stockbridge Masonic Lodge #130 Award 1 of 2: Dan Wilson addresses the audience about the choice of Lucas Fletcher (far right) for one of the two Masonic Lodge scholarships.



All photos taken by Joan Tucker and Tom Tucker.

Congratulations

Stockbridge Jr./Sr. High School

Honors Night Award Winners!

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Paws and Claws

Keeping your pets safe during the hot days of summer

by Cindy Anderson, DVM

We all love spending the long, sunny days of summer outdoors with our furry companions, but it's important to remember that summer can come with hazards.

Fleas, ticks and heartworm are important pet care concerns in the summer. Make sure you recognize the signs and symptoms so you can help your pets if necessary.



Cindy Anderson, DVM



As much as we—and our pets—enjoy summer, it's important to remember that summer can come with pet hazards. Photo credit: Josh Rakower on unsplash.com indoors when it's extremely hot.

Know the symptoms of overheating in pets: These symptoms include excessive panting or difficulty breathing, increased heart and respiratory rate, drooling, mild weakness, stupor or even collapse. Symptoms also can include seizures, bloody diarrhea, and vomit along with an elevated body temperature of more than 104 degrees.

Never leave pets alone in a parked vehicle: This can lead to fatal heatstroke, and it's illegal in several states!

Know that animals with flat faces, like pugs and Persian cats, are more susceptible to heatstroke: These animals cannot pant as effectively. These pets, along with elderly or overweight pets and those with heart or lung diseases, should be kept cool as much as possible.

Do not leave pets unsupervised around bodies of water: If you plan on spending time near a pool, lake or beach with your pets, make sure you give them fresh water and avoid letting them drink from pools, lakes, or oceans. When swimming, introduce your pets to water gradually and make sure they wear flotation devices when on boats. Rinse your dog off after swimming to remove chlorine or salt from their fur.

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Close unscreened windows and doors; secure screens: Make sure adjustable screens are tightly secured. Open, unscreened windows pose a real danger to pets, who often fall out of them.

Trim longer hair, but never shave your dog: Dog coat layers protect them from overheating and sunburn. Brushing cats more often than usual can prevent problems caused by excessive heat. Any sunscreen or insect repellent product you use on your pets should be labeled specifically for use on animals.

Don't let dogs linger on hot asphalt: Your pooch's body can heat up quickly because it is so close to the ground. Sensitive paw pads can burn. Keep walks during these times to a minimum.

Use caution when using herbicides, insecticides and fertilizer: When applying these products to your yard, it is best to keep your pet away from the area being treated, follow directions on the packaging and prevent your pet from accessing the area until it is dry or has been appropriately watered. Additionally, keep citronella candles, tiki-torch products and insect coils out of pets' reach as well.

See Paws and Claws on page 23.

Family Treasures

Estate & Tag Sale Service

507-461-2688 or 507-461-1327

Fantastic Ann Arbor Estate: June 7, 9-5 & June 8, 9-3
Collectibles, artwork, yard & garden items, tools, small furniture, rugs, etc.

Awesome Estate Sale, Brighton: June 14, 9-5 & June 15, 9-4
Cigar Store Indian figure, furniture, collectibles, pottery, etc.

Amazing Estate Sale, Chelsea: June 28, 9-5 & June 29, 9-4
Collectibles, pottery, furniture, artwork, tools, yard & garage items, etc.



Annual Rummage Sale

**North Lake
United Methodist Church
14111 N. Territorial Rd., Chelsea**

**Thurs., June 13: 9 – 6
Fri., June 14: 9 – 6
Sat. June 15: 9 – 2**





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.

Our Board of Directors

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Chuck Wisman	Subscription Coordinator

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.

Email:

stockbridgecommunitynews@gmail.com

Also find us at: [facebook.com/stockbridgecommunitynews](https://www.facebook.com/stockbridgecommunitynews)
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Active Aging

WAVE shuttle expands door-to-door service hours to benefit area residents

by Sasha Grifka



WAVE's door-to-door service will now be available from Monday through Friday, with expanded hours from 6 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Photo provided by WAVE.

transportation solution.

WAVE's door-to-door service now will be available from Monday through Friday, with expanded hours from 6 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. These new hours help to ensure commuters have access to a reliable transportation option throughout their day, whether for work, appointments or leisure activities.

One of the distinctive features of WAVE's services is its inclusivity and reach. Unlike traditional public transportation systems that may have limitations in rural or less densely populated areas, WAVE's door-to-door service covers dirt roads and rural locales within western Washtenaw County. This aspect is particularly beneficial for residents in these areas who may face challenges accessing essential services or commuting to urban centers.

As previous director of the Stockbridge Area Senior Center (SASC), Dana Blaszkowski has become very familiar with the WAVE services offered to Stockbridge area residents. She offered the following insight:

"The WAVE shuttle has served as a much-needed connector in our area, especially for our older adults. WAVE serves us with transportation options around the area—including to the senior center and area businesses—and to medical appointments in Chelsea. My interactions with all the WAVE staff have been pleasant, giving me confidence to continue referring this service often."

WAVE also can provide specialized shuttles for MDOT-approved groups and community events, further bolstering its commitment to serving diverse transportation needs within the region. By catering to specific group transportation requirements, WAVE contributes to fostering community engagement and supporting local initiatives and events.

See SASC on page 16.

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Staff Spotlight: Christina Villegas goes out of her way to reach her students and learn with them

by Ben Fidler

If you consider family tradition, it seems Spanish teacher Christina Villegas had no choice but to become an educator. Her grandmother had been a teacher, as were her mother and father. Her mother taught fourth grade and was a speech pathologist for 38 years, and her father taught industrial arts for 36 years. One of her brothers and a sister became educators. In fact, everyone in her family—save an older brother—was, or is, an educator.

Villegas has been teaching in Stockbridge for 23 years, and although it is challenging at times, she acknowledges the deep rewards she experiences working with students. She just wishes there was a bit more time to curl up with a book!

Long before becoming a teacher, Villegas grew up in Wittimore, a small town outside Tawas, Michigan. In eighth grade, she had an amazing Spanish teacher, who ignited in Villegas a love of the language, but she ignored the subject all throughout high school. It wasn't until she began college at Central Michigan University that she reconnected with the language thanks to "another amazing teacher."

She graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Education, majoring in Spanish and minoring in French. She would have double majored, but her mom nudged her into wrapping up her collegiate stint, reminding her, "it's time to graduate." After graduation, she landed a teaching job in Oscoda and jumped right into a master's program for teachers of Spanish. She taught all week, then she attended advanced courses in literature and language on the weekends.

Around this time, Carlos entered her life. He arrived from Guadalajara, Mexico, to Central Michigan University as a liaison for a tour group. They met soon after. He asked her to tutor him in English, but Villegas quickly discovered Carlos' English was nearly as good as his Spanish! It didn't much matter, as they soon realized there was something special between them. As this couple likes to say, "Love speaks all languages."

They married and Carlos began a Ph.D. program at Michigan State University. Christina left Oscoda and began teaching in Stockbridge in 2004. The house soon filled. Christina and Carlos have three children. David, the oldest, is a graduating senior from Stockbridge High this year and will attend MSU in the fall to study computer science. Daniel is a sophomore in Stockbridge, and Madelyn is in eighth grade. The family also shares the house with Ginger, an English shepherd, and two cats, Luna and Lio (which means "trouble" in Spanish).

It doesn't take long to understand why Villegas is an educator. She has deep compassion for her students. She admits she'll twist around in her head "19 different ways" to reach a student. Another teacher who has been teaching for over 20 years might fall back on old lesson plans, but not Villegas. The classroom is not only a place of learning for her students, but also for her.

"I teach because I love to learn. I love the psychology of it," she said. "Spanish can be a difficult language to learn. I want to make it accessible."

She gives pause to the question, "What message do you have for new teachers?" Teaching, like many careers, has changed drastically since Villegas began. She understands teachers today are faced with their own sets of challenges.

See Staff Spotlight on page 23.



Ben Fidler



Christina Villegas and her husband Carlos believe that "love speaks all languages." Photo provided by Christina Villegas



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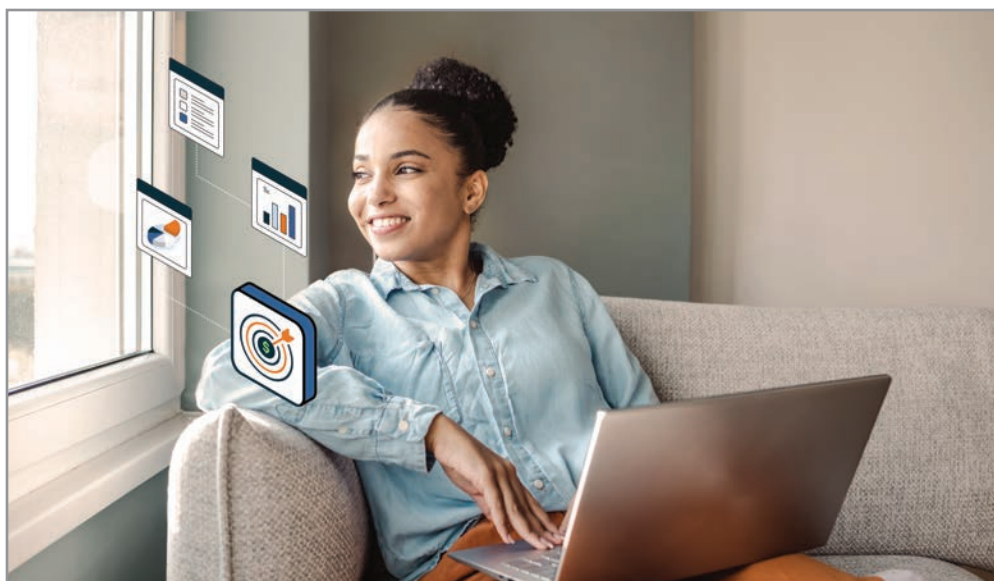


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Photos by Macy Cipta and Olyvia Hoard

Published in Uncaged, May 2024

Reaching for the Stars

Students give advice to first graders who want to go into the same field

by Maggie Jones, *Uncaged* Reporter

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

TEACHER

Axl's why: I want to be a teacher because I really like reading everyday, and I like helping people," Axl said.

Macy is going to Saginaw Valley State University for elementary education.

Macy's advice: "Keep following your dreams and don't let people tell you can't do something," Macy said. "It is something to be proud of that you want to share knowledge to make our world a better place."

VETERINARIAN

Cheyenne's why: "I have a cat, Tabby, that I want to help take care of and I also want to help other animals" Cheyenne said.

Elizabeth will be attending Michigan State University for their vet tech program.

Elizabeth's advice: "The best way to learn is to get as much experience with animals as you can while you're young," Elizabeth said.

AUTOMOTIVE

Nolan's why: "My Dad is a car salesman and I want to be like him," Nolan said. "I want to sell BMWs because they are my favorite car."

DJ plans to work part time at NAPA and Gee Farms to eventually become a mechanic.

DJ's Advice: "Watch YouTube for help and if you get a chance to work with your hands on something, do it," DJ said. "There is no better way to learn than with practice."

ANIMAL SCIENCE

Olivia's why: "I want to be a zookeeper because you get to see the lions and giraffes and feed them," Olivia said. "I also like when the elephants spray water. I like animals and I already take care of my guinea pig and cat."

Kaden is going to Eckerd College in Florida to study Marine Biology.

Kaden's Advice: "Don't let anyone minimize your goals," Kaden said.

MEDICAL

Liliana's why: "I want to help people get better," Liliana said. "I want to take people's temperature, their blood sugar, and take x-rays."

Samantha is going to LCC for their nursing program and plans to follow up with med school after earning her associates degree.

Samantha's Advice: "Don't give up no matter how much school it takes," Samantha said. "Start out young and find others who have the same passion so you can connect to them."

SPACE SCIENCE

Tristan's why: "I want to study water on the moon and the planets because I like learning about the universe," Tristan said.

Antonio is going to Central Michigan University where he will major in Meteorology.

Antonio's advice: "Try to be outside with nature more and try observing more of how the environment acts and reacts with all the different weather phenomena like rain and water," Antonio said.

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. For more information on SAEF, visit www.panthernet.net/our-district.

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Reading Between the Lines Erma Bombeck paved the way for these Gen-X humor writers



All four of these selections are fun reads, especially if you're a woman in the vicinity of middle age (or older) and as long as you can handle coarse language and cutting-edge humor. Photo credits: Amazon.com

by Mary Jo David

Lately, when visiting some older friends and family, I've started taking short essays or poems I can read to them. In most cases, these visits are with people who can't or don't read anymore, and they seem to enjoy the selections I take with me.

These visits prompted me to go back to old Erma Bombeck columns to find short, light reading I could share. For those too young to remember, Bombeck was a humorist who wrote a syndicated column and many books. Her primary audience consisted of moms—at that time a majority of them were stay-at-home moms. Bombeck's hilarious, down-to-earth stories about trips to the ER in her pajamas and last-minute costume requests for school programs made everyone laugh—not just the moms.

Personally, I think Bombeck was one of a kind, but lately, I found myself asking, "Who are the Erma Bombecks of the new millennium?" It turns out, a number of Gen-X humorists write for the middle-age, female audience. And whether those authors and their audiences have kids or not, readers are drawn to their skillful and humorous depictions of what it's like to be a woman in the 2000s. Admittedly, that's also code for "watch for liberal use of the 'F' word," so consider yourself warned. (Let me add, these are not the selections I take when I make my visits to read to elderly family and friends.)

If you've read Jenny Lawson's books you know they're not the "wholesome" reading that the old Bombeck books provide. But the reality is: It's 2024, and June Cleaver doesn't

live here anymore! Two of her books, "Let's Pretend This Never Happened" and "Broken (in the best possible way)" have readers laughing out loud within minutes of starting either book.

Mixed in with many laugh-out-loud moments are some truly sad times as well. Lawson, who suffers from depression, anxiety, and rheumatoid arthritis, doesn't shy away from these realities. Writers like her share these moments in a way that only skilled humorists can while still keeping the reader engaged. So, in "Let's Pretend," besides sharing about growing up in a household with baby raccoons dressed in homemade pajamas that live in the bathtub, you also learn they had the baby raccoons because her dad, a taxidermist, had killed the mother raccoon. In "Broken," you laugh with her about how she regularly loses a shoe while she's wearing it, and you also stay with her as she describes her real-life experience with transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS), a treatment for depression.

"Southern Lady Code," by Helen Ellis is a fast, funny read. Like Lawson's books, Ellis will have you laughing right out of the gate. Both women write from their life experiences; however, where Lawson's books mix *funny hilarious* with sad, Ellis interjects a little bit of "ewww" in the LOL moments she shares, especially the first one. Stay with her; the laughs far outweigh anything gross.

See *Reading Between the Lines* on page 13.

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Severe weather page 1

This was an issue for emergency responders last August when people wanted to survey tornado damage around Interstate 96.

If your home or business is damaged, you'll want to document it with photos and report it to your county's emergency management team. That documentation helps officials provide the full scope of damage in assistance applications filed with the state or even federal government.

Those affected by last August's tornado in our district have taught us a big lesson: The road to recovery is long, but help is available. When severe weather hits, please watch for declarations from federal, state and local officials detailing the resources available. You can learn more about preparing for these unforeseen events at MIREADY (michigan.gov/miready) and at FEMA.gov.

Firehouse page 1

"Jan was a strong supporter who always kept this idea at the forefront at meetings," Lance said. He added, "Despite her illness, she was always available to make progress payments keeping the project on schedule."

According to Treasurer Wendy Walz, "Clerk Kitley's dream was achieved and she was able to see phase one of the project completed before succumbing to cancer."

Those who knew her know that Jan loved to serve her community, engaging folks in fun activities like the Munith Halloween Parade—a long-standing tradition. Jan would have been proud to see the completion of this much-needed firehouse project.

See additional photos at www.stockbridgecommunitynews.com.

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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 April 27 - May 28, 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

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John and
Susanne Twining

Positive Parenting

Dads: You're a family for life, so play the long game

by John Twining

I watched the youngest of my four children walk across the stage to receive his college diploma last month. This signaled the end of one era of fatherhood and the beginning of a new one. They are all now solidly planted in the adult world. My wife and I are not feeling unappreciated or unloved, but the concept of being depended on and needed by our children is mostly a thing of the past.

I have had some time to prepare for this moment; it has unfolded over the last 11 years, since the first one exited the house. But I loved being a father of young children, and I miss everything from diapers to chauffeuring, to being a short-order cook. Giving my children advice, experiencing sad moments together, consoling them when they felt let down by friends, experiencing nightly laughter around the dinner table, and camping out at sports events—these are now in the rearview mirror of life. I miss it.

My children have begun to reflect on their childhood and on me as a father, and I am often surprised by what they valued most from me. On the day of our son's recent graduation, during a multi-family celebration, several of our adult children got competitive during a spike-ball game. An argument went badly. I was disappointed that this happened and a bit angry that this was taking center stage over my son's celebration and in front of nonfamily members. I was frustrated, but I watched as all of them worked their way through this. It took time, but they apologized, talked together, acknowledged being overly competitive, insensitive and too quick to anger, and then, more or less, moved on.

The next morning, my daughter, who was also a part of the disagreement, recounted how she appreciated as a family that we made it a priority to talk through problems. She reminded me about "couch time" when they were very young. As parents, my wife and I had decided we didn't want to be in the middle of all the sibling problems. Couch time was what happened if two or more of our children came to me complaining or angry about another sibling.

I would say, "I don't even want to know what happened. That is for you to solve. Go to couch time."



When siblings bicker, try a creative "couch time" approach. Your kids may start out angry, but eventually laughing ensues. Image credit: Matheus Ferrero on unsplash.com

The kids would have to sit on our couch and discuss the problem. I was in another room and not even listening in. After several minutes of couch time, they often just wanted it to end.

They'd yell to me, "We fixed it." I would respond with, "OK, but you have to sing a song together before you can leave."

Sure they were angry at me for making them sing together. They usually picked some song they had learned in Sunday school, thinking they were

fooling me by getting around my request to talk it out.

See Positive Parenting on page 14.

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Reading Between the Lines page 11

Each chapter is a short stand-alone essay, but throughout the book Ellis weaves a thread of what it's like to "adult" in New York City after being raised in the South. Turns out you can't take everything Southern women say at face value. Her interpretations of Southern lady code are interspersed throughout the book—and quite funny. I also appreciated that Ellis is open about the decision she and her husband made not to have children, making her life experiences much different from Erma Bombeck's. Of course, if I truly appreciated Ellis' take on life, I'd have immediately sent a thank-you note to the friend who gave the book to me, and I just realized, I did not. (Read the book, you'll understand!)

The title of Wendi Aarons' book, says it all—"I'm Wearing Tunics Now: On Growing Older, Better, and a Hell of a Lot Louder." If I was smart, and paying attention to word count (which I never do), I'd end here. But I'd be shortchanging Aarons and the creative spin she puts on what it's like to surpass age 50. She doesn't start there; she begins with a lengthy explanation of the horrors of turning 30. As she eventually makes her way to chunky heels and twinsets, then conference wear and—as the title suggests—tunics, Aarons is quite relatable to many woman on the fringe or full-into middle age, as long as you can handle snark. From single womanhood to stay-at-home-mom, to political activist, it turns out, with her evolving wardrobe, Aarons eventually finds her voice and her confidence, and she uses them—loudly. On the bright side, although she's middle-aged, Aarons is "still on the right side of the dirt, as they say in Texas."

All four of these selections are fun reads, especially if you're a woman in the vicinity of middle age (or older) and as long as you can handle coarse language and cutting-edge humor.

Mary Jo David is a retired business and technical writer who contributes occasional book reviews to Stockbridge Community News. She and her husband reside in Gregory.



Clyde Whitaker

Clyde's Corner Mrs. Anderson's patience and encouragement paid off—in the long run

by Clyde Whitaker

Hello again everyone. I feel obliged to start off my column this month with a "thank you" to all of you who have told me how much you enjoy reading my column. It is very humbling and I really do appreciate your kind words and support. In fact, it makes me smile when some of you tell me that Clyde's Corner is the first thing you look for as soon as you receive the Stockbridge Community News. That's pressure—LOL!

The truth is, our small, local community has been blessed with some outstanding writers, including Alex Weddon, Patricia C. Zick, Allison Spooner, Patrice Johnson and John Robinson, to name a few. These people have all written books! I'm just in the T-ball league compared to these major leaguers!

As I think about my process, I just write stories, mostly from my past, that I hope people find interesting.

In school, spelling, history and sports were my favorite classes and pastimes. Sad to say, English was at the bottom of my priorities.

One of my English teachers in my senior year of high school was Mrs. Jean Anderson, a very patient and caring teacher. She tried her best to help me understand verbs and adjectives, adverbs, prepositions, and more. Even with all of her efforts back then, these concepts never did sink in. I was lucky to pass with a "D" average. I guess she gave me some credit for trying.

Today I would like to think that Mrs. Anderson would be proud to see the interest I have taken in writing since high school.

I hope to continue writing stories you enjoy, and I want to thank the Stockbridge Community News staff for all of their help in getting "Clyde's Corner" published each month.

Thank you again, Mrs. Anderson. With every passing year, I appreciate you more and more.

That's something to think about, for those of you in high school now. Don't ever give up if you really want to try something—even if it is years later.

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.

Positive Parenting page 13

As they sang, they always ended up laughing and thinking they had pulled something over on me. What mattered to me was that they had moved on, and my wife and I were not forced to take sides and micromanage every argument.

Back to that recent morning with my daughter. She said she appreciated that we accepted conflict but not hostile withdrawal from family. The expectation was to work it out with siblings and parents no matter what. Fix it now. Perfect solutions were not as important as consistent effort to resolve.

Over the years, at one point or another, each child has told me that they were not fond of another sibling in the family, and could do without them. But we reminded them that we are family, and we have no choice but to fix it.

The topper was when one of my adult children chided me once for walking away from an argument.

"Hey, Dad, you taught us not to do that."

Indeed I did. I took a deep breath and stuck around to finish the discussion.

Today, my children live in three different states, but I am pleased that they reach out to one another—even more than they reach out to us parents. They call one another for advice, family updates and just to check in. Sometimes I feel left out of the information flow, but I am still thankful. Stormy moments still happen, but that is part of family life together. I grew up distant and disconnected from my own siblings. I wanted something different for my own children.

During that recent celebration, as my son was working through his feelings about the fight, I received feedback about one of my shortcomings as a father, something that had negatively impacted him from my parenting. He said as a father I was too quick to apologize when we had an argument, so as a result, he has a hard time apologizing to others because he didn't feel he needed to apologize.

I thought I had been a pretty strict parent; in fact, they all had told me I was at various times. So when my son shared that I had been too quick to apologize, I was stunned. I thought about it, felt sad about it, and was ready to open my mouth and—apologize! But I caught myself and resisted the temptation.

Fatherhood is amazing. My advice to fathers: Be intentional, be strong, give hope and lead your family toward faith and love. Play the long game, remembering that you and your children have a lifetime of being part of a family. Happy Father's Day!

John Twining has been a school social worker at Stockbridge Jr./Sr. High School since 2007. He received his Master of Social Work degree from the University of Michigan in 1989. John and his wife, Susanne, have been married for 30 years and have lived in Stockbridge for 27 years. His four children all attended Stockbridge schools.



At Stockbridge High in the 1970s, Mrs. Jean Anderson tried her best to help Clyde understand grammar and parts of speech, and he believes she gave him credit for trying. Photo from the 1973 Panther yearbook

Bridge to Wellness

Find your place in the sun, but be sure to make it sun-safe

by Jennifer Matthews

The sun is back, and boy do we need it here in Michigan! Sun is so good for us—in moderation. However, it can also be bad for us if we don't protect ourselves when necessary. Here are some important facts and tips to make sure you have



Jennifer Matthews

a summer full of safe fun in the sun!

The benefits

Sunlight can have important benefits, like those listed here:

- **Boosting vitamin D:** This vitamin is crucial to the body and can positively affect bone and muscle health, blood pressure, immune function, brain function and blood sugar regulation.
- **Killing bacteria:** Studies have shown bacteria survive longer in a dark environment than an environment exposed to sunlight.
- **Improving sleep quality:** Sunlight plays a big role in our natural wake and sleep schedule, also known as circadian rhythm.
- **Helping your mood:** Many people suffer from seasonal depression during the months the sun isn't out much. Getting plenty of sun can help keep serotonin levels in the brain where they need to be to boost your mood.

Safety recommendations

Many things in our world, while good for us, can also become dangerous if not used wisely. The sun is no different.

See Bridge to Wellness on page 20.

STOCKBRIDGE TOWNSHIP MEETING MINUTES

May 20, 2024

Stockbridge Township Supervisor CG Lantis called the Regular Stockbridge Township Board Meeting to order May 20, 2024, at 7:07pm 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

Wireman motion to approve the Stockbridge Township Regular Board Meeting agenda as written Wetherell Second Discussion Muraf motion to amend the Stockbridge Township Meeting agenda adding Driveway Coating underneath New Business after Building Permits Updates. Sommer Second All in Favor Motion Carried

Sommer motion to approve the Stockbridge Township Board meeting minutes from April 15, 2024, as printed Wetherell Second All in Favor Motion Carried

Wireman motion to approve the Stockbridge Township Financial Report from April 1, 2024, thru May 20, 2024, Sommer Second All In Favor Motion Carried Wireman meets with Leap from Ingham County May 20, 2024, and will continue working with them and the Village of Stockbridge

Old Business

Chief Bartus and Village Officers were present to discuss the Village Police department to expand into Stockbridge Township with a Milage or an Assessment Sommer motion to start a committee to expand Village PD to Stockbridge Township. Wetherell and Wireman will represent Stockbridge Township Roll Call Vote Wireman Yes, Sommer Yes, Wetherell Yes, Muraf Yes, Lantis Yes All in favor motion carried.

Stockbridge Township will now begin taking application for the Stockbridge Area Memorial Wall. Please come into Stockbridge Township to pick up an application or check Stockbridge Township website. There is a \$10.00 fee per plaque and Stockbridge Township will approve or deny any application at the Stockbridge Township monthly meeting.

Muraf motion to approve Main Street Computer quote of \$3,500.00 to put an ADA door at the Stockbridge Library Sommer Second roll call vote Sommer Yes, Muraf Yes Wireman Yes, Wetherell Yes, Lantis Yes All in Favor Motion Carried

New Business

Wireman motion to sponsor the bounce house for Day in the Village for a cost of \$500.00 Muraf Second All

in Favor Motion Carried

Muraf motion to accept the Stockbridge Township updated light ordinance as printed Sommer Second All in Favor Motion Carried

Stockbridge Township is looking into the quote from Main Street Computers for the Dream Machine.

Sommer motion to upgrade Stockbridge Township internet thru WOW increasing the internet speed to 1000 GB upload and 50Gb download Wetherell Second All in favor Motion Carried

Muraf motion to move \$25,000.00 from Stockbridge Township General Fund to Stockbridge Township Tax Collection account to qualify for Eaton Municipal Checking account Sommer Second Roll call vote Wetherell Yes, Muraf Yes, Wireman Yes, Sommer Yes, Lantis Yes All in Favor Motion Carried

Muraf off motion to add Treasurer James Wireman to Stockbridge Township Independent bank account. Also to add Deputy Clerk Amanda Urquhart and Deputy Treasurer Samantha Sanchez to all Stockbridge Township Bank Accounts Sommer Second All in Favor Motion Carried

Muraf motion to table Cintas until we can get more information from Cintas Rep Wireman Second All in Favor Motion Carried

Stockbridge Township is ok with SASC to investigate the cost of redoing the parking lot and drive for 219 Elm Street. Once they have Found SASC will come back to Stockbridge Township Board with a plan.

Wireman motion to accept the Stockbridge Township Termination of agreement between Stockbridge Township and Bunker hill Township Sommer Second All in Favor Motion Carried

Muraf motion to have ZBA Chair Doug Sommer to attend the ABC's of ZBA training class for a cost \$125.00 wireman Second All in Favor Motion Carried

Wireman motion to sell the Lift that Stockbridge Township purchased 2 years ago at auction on June 20th, 2024, at 6 PM at 219 Elm Street starting bid \$5,000.00 to be paid for in cashier check Sommer Second All in Favor Motion Carried

Muraf motion to spend up to \$500.00 for hot dogs and chips for the Highest Praise backpack giveaway event on August 3, 2024, Sommer Second All in Favor Motion Carried

Sommer motion to spend up to \$2,000.00 to reseal the Stockbridge Township Hall drive Wetherell Second Roll Call Vote Sommer Yes, Wetherell Yes, Wireman Yes, Muraf Yes, Lantis Yes All in Favor Motion Carried

Sommer Motion to pay the Stockbridge Township bills in the amount of \$252,464.76 Wireman Second All in Favor Motion Carried

Lantis adjourn the Stockbridge Township regular monthly meeting at 8:31PM on May 20, 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

June 2 - Quandary of a Quirky Quercus Quest, 2 to 4 p.m. at the Eddy Discovery Center

June 3 - Dementia Caregiver Series Workshop, 1 to 2:30 p.m. at the Stockbridge Area Senior Center

June 3 - Wellness Social Hours sponsored by Stockbridge Area Outreach, 3 to 4 p.m. at the Stockbridge Area Senior Center

June 5 - Parent University at Smith Elementary, 6 to 7 p.m. at Smith Elementary School

June 8 - Toy Car Painting, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Stockbridge Library

June 8 - K-9 Officer Mohawk and Officer Smith visit the Library, 1 to 2 p.m. at the Stockbridge Library

June 9 - Uncommon Creatures, 2 to 3 p.m. at the Eddy Discovery Center

June 10 - Dementia Caregiver Series Workshop, 1 to 2:30 p.m. at the Stockbridge Area Senior Center

June 12 - Wednesday Wonders P.O.P., the Pollinator Outreach Program, 10:30 a.m. at the Stockbridge Library

June 13-15 - Rummage Sale at North Lake United Methodist Church. Thurs/Fri 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

June 14-15 - Annual A Day in the Village Festival. See ad on page 28 for more information

June 14 - A Day in the Village Art Show, 3 to 7 p.m. at the Stockbridge Township Hall

June 15 - A Day in the Village Art Show, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Stockbridge Township Hall

June 17 - Dementia Caregiver Series Workshop, 1 to 2:30 p.m. at the Stockbridge Area Senior Center

June 26 - Visit from the Zoo in Your Neighborhood program, 10:30 a.m. at the Stockbridge Library

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

Summary of Waterloo Township Board Meeting April 30, 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 March Board meeting minutes; agree to Comcast "Uniform Video Service Local Franchise Agreement" and assess a 0% franchise fee to Waterloo residents; Extension of Ordinance O-23-10-24-02, a Solar Energy Moratorium; approve updated zoning amendment request form; Accept bid from K&V Custom Carpentry for Munith Park Pavilion repair; accept bid from Emmons Service for trash dumpsters for the Waterloo Township Trash Clean-up day in September; accept budget amendments; agree to 30 year contract with Consumers Energy for natural gas service to residents, Ordinance #O-24-04-30-01; agree to stipends for Munith, North Waterloo and Mt. Hope cemeteries. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Complete minutes can be found on the Waterloo Township website. (<https://waterlootwpmi.gov/meeting-minutes/>).

Bill Richardson, Clerk

Waterloo Township Public Hearing Notice

The Waterloo Township Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, June 18, 2024, at 7 p.m. at the Waterloo Township Offices located at 9773 Mt. Hope Road, Munith, MI 49259. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comment on a Special Land Use application for a used car lot on Parcel 000-05-02-151-003-06. The parcel is located at 13090 Grosshans Road, Stockbridge, MI, 49285 and is owned by Turbo Charms, LLC, 5670 McKinley Court, Dearborn Heights, MI 48125. A copy of the application and supporting documents may be viewed at the township offices during regular business hours.

Written comments should be mailed to: Waterloo Township Offices, 9773 Mt. Hope Road, Munith, MI 49259 or dropped off at the offices during regular business hours prior to June 17, 2024.

Individuals with special needs requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Waterloo Township Board by writing or calling the Clerk's Office, 9773 Mt. Hope Road, Munith, MI 49259. Phone: 517-596-8400.

Ralph Schumacher

Planning Commission Secretary

From CADL Stockbridge

Summer Reading Challenge begins at the library

by Head Librarian Sherri McConnell

Library staff look forward to summer, and not just because we can stop wearing our cardigans.

It is time for the Summer Reading Challenge, when everyone from babies to adults can earn points by reading and doing fun stuff to win prizes. Register for the challenge at cadl.org/summer or at the library. Look for us on the Square June 15 during A Day in the Village for more information and summer fun.

The theme this year is Adventure Begins at Your Library. The adventure is waiting in our summer series



Join the Stockbridge Library Summer Reading Challenge starting on June 1. Photo provided by CADL Stockbridge

Wednesday Wonders, our weekly science and art activities, as well as within the many books on our shelves.

We kick off Summer Reading on June 8 with toy car painting from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., while supplies last, and a visit from K-9 Officer Mohawk and Officer Smith of the Stockbridge Police Department from 1-2 p.m.

The Wednesday Wonders series starts on June 12 at 10:30 a.m. with P.O.P., the Pollinator Outreach Program. Staff from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will talk about endangered butterflies and bees in our area.

On June 26 at 10:30 a.m., we will get a visit from the Zoo in Your Neighborhood program. There are no live animals, but we will hear stories about Michigan animals and have the opportunity to feel pelts and other items.

We hope to see you soon at the library and let the adventure begin! Capital Area District Libraries' Stockbridge Branch is located at 200 Wood St. For more information, call 517-851-7810 or visit cadl.org.

SASC page 8

Thanks to the support of municipalities and Chelsea Hospital covering fares, residents in Stockbridge can avail themselves of convenient door-to-door service without bearing any financial burden. This service allows individuals to be picked up from their doorstep in Stockbridge, transported to any location within Chelsea, and safely brought back to their homes, enhancing connectivity between these areas.

A 50% fare discount is offered for senior citizens, people with disabilities, and K-12 students (children ages 12 or older can ride by themselves). Also, if you have an appointment that requires someone to wait in the waiting room, WAVE can give you a ride to and from the appointment and also works with a company in the area that will send someone to sit in the lobby during your appointment.

As transportation remains a crucial aspect of everyday life, especially in areas with diverse demographics and geographical challenges, initiatives like WAVE play a pivotal role in promoting accessibility, connectivity, and overall well-being within the community. With the upcoming changes in service hours, WAVE reaffirms its dedication to being a reliable and accessible transportation option for all residents of western Washtenaw County.

Book a ride with WAVE today: call 734-475-9494, email book.my.ride@wavebus.org, or download the Ride Pingo app to book the ride on your phone.

Sasha Grifka, from *Western-Washtenaw Area Value Express* is a guest writer for the *Stockbridge Area Senior Center*. The SASC—a great place to visit—is located at 219 W. Elm St. in Stockbridge. Call 517-480-0353 or visit the SASC website at stockbridgeareaseniors.org.

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CONGRATS GRADUATES!

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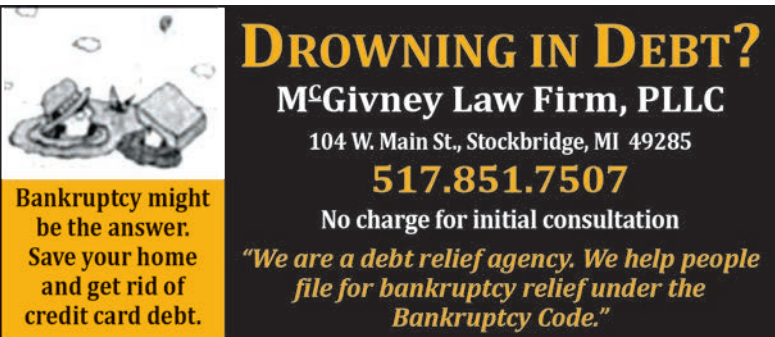
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Brian Friddle

Superintendent's Desk
School millage renewal vote Aug. 6

Hello Stockbridge Families,

We are pleased to inform our community about an important upcoming event. On Aug. 6, 2024, there will be a vote to renew our existing school millage. This renewal is critical to maintaining

the high standards of education and the quality of facilities that our students and teachers currently enjoy.

What is the millage? A millage rate is the amount per \$1,000 of property value that is used to calculate local property taxes. The revenue from these taxes is vital for funding our public schools. The current millage of 18 mills, which is \$18 per \$1,000 of taxable value, supports a wide range of essential services and programs within our school district.

Why is the renewal important? This is not a new tax; it is a renewal of an existing millage that our community has supported for many years. By renewing this millage, we ensure continued funding without increasing the tax rate. The existing millage has been instrumental in allowing us to provide a quality education and maintain our facilities. Renewing it will sustain these benefits without any additional financial burden on taxpayers.

How does the millage benefit our schools? The funds from the current millage have been used effectively in several critical areas:

1. Educational programs: The millage supports a wide variety of programs that enhance the educational experience, including advanced placement courses, arts, music and athletics. These programs are essential in providing a well-rounded education and helping our students excel.

2. Technology: In today's digital age, technology is an integral part of education. Millage funds have enabled us to equip our classrooms with up-to-date technology, ensuring our students are prepared for the future.

3. Teacher support: Quality education begins with quality teachers. The millage helps us attract and retain highly qualified educators by offering competitive salaries and professional development opportunities.

4. Facilities maintenance: Properly maintained facilities are crucial for a safe and effective learning environment. Millage funds are used to repair and upgrade school buildings, ensuring they meet safety standards and are conducive to learning.

What happens if the millage is not renewed? Failing to renew the millage would have significant negative impacts. Without this critical funding, our schools would face severe budget shortfalls. This could lead to cuts in educational programs, larger class sizes, outdated technology, and poorly maintained facilities. The quality of education that our community values and expects would be at serious risk.

Community involvement and voting. Your involvement is crucial. We encourage all community members to participate in this important decision. Voting on Aug. 6, 2024, is your opportunity to ensure your voice is heard. Early voting options will be available. More information on polling locations and times will be provided closer to the date. If you are unable to vote in person on Aug. 6, absentee ballots will be available.

Key details:

- **Date of vote:** Aug. 6, 2024.
- **Current millage rate:** 18 mills (\$18 per \$1,000 of taxable value).
- **Purpose:** Renewal of the existing millage, not a new tax.
- **Impact:** Continued support for educational programs, technology, teacher salaries, and facility maintenance.

Conclusion. Our community has a proud tradition of supporting education, and this millage is an essential part of continuing that tradition. It allows us to maintain the quality of our schools without increasing taxes.

See School millage on page 22.



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Senior Class Prom attendees gather on the Stockbridge Township Hall steps.



Lisa Purcy and Dustin Whitney



Connor Fitzsimmons, Chase Sommer, Lucas Fletcher and Gaven Numinen



Grace Burg, Gary Killinger, Joey Ballagh and Annie Borowy



Samantha Cowan

Photos by Terry Sommer

A light mist was falling as prom attendees assembled on the Town Square, but there were smiles, laughter, and some tears of joy. Many attendees were accompanied by several generations of their families. Fortunately, the weather cleared and attendees were able to enjoy all the amenities at Robin Hills Farm in Chelsea.



Grace Dancer, Kortni Stitt and Cheyenne Calhoun



Kyle Kettenbeil and Anna Ransom



Alaina Kellenberger and Owen Cipta



Cruz Medina and Ashlee Willcutt



Zac Rogozinski, Marcus Hill, Griffin Goodreau, Foster Pybus, Jalen Rogozinski, Shannon Henderson, Joe Muzzin, Jacob Dalton and Gary Killinger



Lexi Spencer and Troy Steenbeke



D J Chapman and Clarissa Hill



Owen Cipta, Greg Cipta, Macy Cipta and Brock Rochow



Line dancing



Roasting marshmallows to make s'mores

S
H
S

Bridge to Wellness page 14

Practicing safe sun exposure is one of the best ways to reduce your risk of sun-related cancers and illnesses. Following are some safety recommendations for sunlight exposure.

- **Pay attention to the UV index.** Too much UV light exposure can contribute to certain cancers. UV rays are the strongest from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Use sun protection when you are out for long periods of time during this time of day.
- **Use sunscreen.** A broad-spectrum sunscreen will have an SPF of 15 or higher. Don't forget to reapply every couple of hours or after prolonged water exposure or sweating.
- **Incorporate other sun protection.** Besides using sunscreen or lotion, staying in shade when out for long periods can be helpful.
- **Cover your skin.** When you're out for a long time, keep your skin covered with a T-shirt or beach coverup. Clothing from a tightly woven fabric is best.
- **Wear a hat.** A hat with a brim all the way around is best to protect your face, ears, and the back of your neck.
- **Protect your eyes.** Wearing sunglasses to protect your eyes from UV rays can reduce the risk of cataracts. The skin around your eyes is thin and sensitive and also benefits from the coverage provided by sunglasses.

Healing from sunburn

If you do find yourself or a loved one dealing with a sunburn, use these tips and tricks to help with the healing process.

- **Cool off with water.** Frequent cool baths or showers can relieve pain. Leaving a little water on the skin to air dry after also will feel good.
- **Moisturize.** Use a moisturizer containing aloe vera. Aloe is soothing to the skin and can help reduce pain and retain moisture.
- **Use a pain reliever.** Take an aspirin or ibuprofen. Both of these medications can help with redness, swelling, and discomfort. Follow instructions on the bottle for use.
- **Drink lots of water!** A sunburn draws fluid to the skin and away from other parts of the body. A sunburn can increase the risk of dehydration.
- **Allow blisters to heal.** If your skin blisters, do not pop them; they protect you from infection while the tissue underneath heals.
- **Protect sunburned skin.** Take extra care to protect already sunburned skin from the sun. Subsequent sunburns will make things much worse.

In my opinion, Michigan is the best place to enjoy a beautiful sunny summer. Staying informed can help us all to enjoy our summer safely. Happy Safe Sunning!



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.



Understanding the benefits and risks of sun exposure can help you enjoy a summer full of safe fun in the sun. Photo credit: Daoudi Aissa on Unsplash.com

Open Air Market and All Clubs Day: Suzy would approve

by Mary Jo David

Suzi Greenway was instrumental in organizing two popular events that take place in Stockbridge—the weekly Open Air Markets held in the Township Square on Fridays from April through October and the All Clubs Day Rides held twice a year in downtown Stockbridge.

Sadly, Suzi passed away on April 23, but ask anyone at these events, and they'll likely tell you her spirit remains in the hearts and minds of all those who attend.

Here James Clark-Swalla shares his photographs from the May 3 Open Air Market and the subsequent All Clubs Day Ride that assembled in downtown Stockbridge on May 5.

Photos provided by James Clark-Swalla, DigitalCrumbs Photography.

See additional photos at www.stockbridgecommunitynews.com.



Obituary Mark J. Yonish



Mark J. Yonish
Nov. 23, 1957 to May 26, 2024

Mark J. Yonish, of Wayne, MI, age 66, passed away on May 26, 2024 in Stockbridge, MI. Mark was born on November 23, 1957 in Livonia, MI, the son of John and Barbara (Molinik) Yonish. Mark had lived in Wayne, MI for the past 10 years, and prior to that he lived in Stockbridge.

Mark had a passion for boating and cherished his time spent at the lake, especially the summers he spent at Houghton Lake during his younger years. He helped coach high school wrestling at Bentley High School in Livonia, where he impacted many lives through his commitment and mentorship.

Mark is survived by two children, Dillon Yonish (Aubrey Schaefer) of Stockbridge, and Nicholas (Loren) Yonish of Gregory, MI; the mother of his children, Kimberly (Christopher) Schniers; two grandchildren, Brooks and Bodie; two sisters, Darlene (Donald) LeAnnais of Livonia, and Patricia (James) Hamlet of Romulus; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, and a sister, Kathryn Aalto.

Funeral Services were held on Friday, May 31, 2024, 12:00 p.m., at Caskey-Mitchell Funeral Home, where the family received friends from 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Burial took place at Plainfield Cemetery in Unadilla Twp.

Memorial contributions may be made to Stockbridge Area Emergency Services Authority (SAESA).

Obituaries

Ralph "Gary" Lewis



Ralph "Gary" Lewis
May 23, 1953 to May 1, 2024

Ralph "Gary" Lewis, age 70, of Stockbridge, MI, passed away on May 1, 2024 at his home. He was born May 23, 1953 in Stockbridge, MI, the son of Leslie and Ada (Heselschwerdt) Lewis.

Gary had lived in the Stockbridge area all of his life. He graduated from Stockbridge High School and worked as a foreman for OmniSource in Jackson for 41 years. He married Carol Sue Scherbert on June 16, 1972 in Plainfield, MI, and they enjoyed nearly 52 years of marriage.

Gary's faith was central to his life. He was a life-member of Crossroads Community Church, where he was very involved, from Vacation Bible School to serving as a church elder. Gary found solace in spending time outdoors, whether he was hunting, fishing, foraging for mushrooms, or riding his motorcycle. He was a loving husband, father, and grandfather, and a friend to many. His kind and compassionate sense will be missed by all who knew him.

Gary is survived by his wife, Carol, three daughters, Tracy (Chris) Caroen of Pleasant Lake, Christy (Chad) Minix of Stockbridge, and Kelly Risner of Munith; five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; two brothers, Donnie (Linda) Lewis of Stockbridge, and Ronnie (Virginia) Lewis of Unadilla; and a sister-in-law, Sally Lewis; as well as many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, a brother, Kenneth Lewis, and a sister, Mary Jane Anderson.

A Memorial Service was held on Wednesday, May 8, 2024 at Crossroads Community Church, Stockbridge, where the family received friends from 10-11 a.m.

Michael Joseph Beauregard



Michael Joseph Beauregard
July 13, 1937 to May 6, 2024

His Legacy... **Michael Joseph Beauregard**, 86, passed away May 6, 2024. He was born on July 13, 1937, in Petoskey, Michigan to Raymond and Louise (Bernie) Beauregard. Michael was married to Susan Andres, on April 20, 1968, in East Lansing, Michigan. Starting their new life with just a canoe and car, faith and family were the most important to Michael. Being an avid outdoorsman, he enjoyed hunting, fishing, bird watching, canoeing and camping. Michael was a skilled woodworker and enjoyed carving wood and building furniture. His love for botany and his forestry degree led him to open Whiffletree Plant Nursery, which he operated for 10 years after retirement. Michael loved to help people, whether it be through prison ministry, missionary work, or helping someone work on their projects. He was very involved in the Catholic Church and was a father figure to many. Michael was a joy to know and will be deeply missed by his family and friends.

His Family... Michael will be missed by his wife, Susan Beauregard; his children, Michelle (Keith) Noch, Marc (Lynn) Beauregard, Marie (Tim) Rea, Carolyn (Luke) Kuschel; siblings, Karen Beauregard, Douglas (Anna) Beauregard; grandchildren, Thérèse, Józef, Kolbe, Marijana, Maison (Alexis), Micah, Claire, Rose, Noah, Blaise, Kateri, Stephen, Rebekah, Samuel, Isaiah, Ethan, Anthony, Natalie, Genevieve, Vivienne; great-grandsons, Myles and Waylon. He is preceded in death by his parents, Raymond and Louise Beauregard; brothers, Raymond Beauregard Jr. and Kenneth Beauregard.

His Farewell... Michael's family and friends gathered Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at Borek Jennings Funeral Home, Hamburg Chapel. His Mass of Christian Burial was held on Wednesday, May 15, 2024, at 11AM (10AM gathering) at St. Mary Catholic Church, Pinckney, Michigan. Father Dan Kogut served as celebrant. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions are suggested to Pious Union of St. Joseph. Please leave a message of comfort for Michael's family at 1-877-231-7900, or sign his guestbook at www.borekjennings.com.

Edward D. Abbey



Edward D. Abbey
Sept. 29, 1952 to May 19, 2024

Edward D. Abbey, of Munith, MI, age 71, passed away on May 19, 2024 in Jackson, MI.

Edward was born on September 29, 1952 in Jackson, MI, the son of Dale and Kathleen (Oaks) Abbey. He had lived in Jackson County most of his life. He married Bonnie Jean (Wright) on September 7, 1974, and she survives. Edward's life was marked by his passion for tinkering with cars, a skill he honed over many years as a dedicated mechanic. He had a love for trains and a fascination with astronomy and the mysteries of the paranormal. He also had a soft spot for cats.

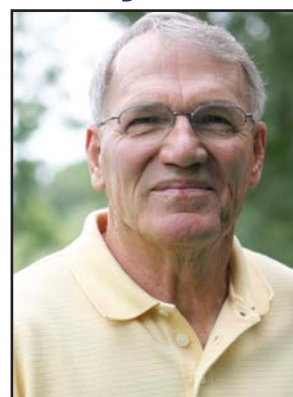
In addition to his wife, he is survived by three children, Cristina (Nova) Lindow of California, Melissa (Ian) McClure of Stockbridge, and Edward (Paige) Abbey of Stockbridge; as well as four grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents.

A funeral service was held on May 22, 2024, at Caskey-Mitchell Funeral Home in Stockbridge, MI, with Pastor Stephan Weinberger officiating. The family received friends at the funeral home on Wednesday from 10-11 a.m.

Burial took place at Pleasant Grove Cemetery in Henrietta Township, MI.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Munith United Methodist Church.

Terry Joe Ward



Terry Joe Ward
May 23, 1937 to Apr. 6, 2024

The world became brighter on May 23, 1937, the day **Terry Joe Ward** was born in Saginaw, Michigan to Harold and Arlene (Schnetzler) Ward. Terry was one of eleven children. Terry passed quietly on April 6, 2024 after a long and happy life.

Terry moved to Stockbridge, Michigan in 1952 where he met the love of his life of 67 years, Phyllis Wilde. Terry's family owned the Ward Feed Store, where he worked along with his siblings through high school. Terry was very involved in the Stockbridge community, where they raised their four children. He served on the Stockbridge Town Council and was a

member of the Jaycees. Many fall Friday nights you would find him in the booth at the football field, running the clock for the football games. Terry retired after a long career with Michigan Bell Telephone, where he started out as a lineman and worked his way up to an engineer, without a college degree. He and Phyllis loved to travel and spent many winters in Arizona. Their travels took them all across the United States and Europe but their fondest memories were of family vacations at Big Twin Lake, MI. He was an outstanding athlete and an avid sports fan (Go Blue). He lettered in 3 sports, football, basketball and baseball, all four years of high school. Everyone who knew Terry, knew he had quite the sense of humor and he was extremely competitive. His competitive spirit flourished as he enjoyed golf and all outdoor sports and activities. He especially loved playing cards and board games with family and friends.

Terry is survived by his loving wife, sisters Joan Bumpus and Mary Curtis, sons Doug (Barbel), Daniel (Robin), daughter Lisa Seiferth (Kurt), son Terry (Sherry), ten grandchildren and fourteen great-grandchildren.

Terry will be remembered for his loving, kind and compassionate nature, and his complete love and devotion to his family. Terry was the best husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. He will be missed by his family and friends.

A celebration of Terry's life will be held Saturday, June 29, 2024, from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Mackinder-Glenn American Legion Post 510, located at 830 S. Clinton Street, Stockbridge, MI.

Expressions of sympathy may be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital.

Stephen Clark



Stephen J. Clark
Dec. 7, 1966 to May 22, 2024

Stephen J. Clark, age 57, of Mason, MI, passed away on May 22, 2024. He was born on December 7, 1966, in Jackson, MI, the son of Lee and Betty (Boring) Clark.

Stephen worked as a Warehouse Manager for Safety-Kleen in Mason, where he was known for his hard work and dedication. Outside of his professional life, Stephen had a passion for muscle cars and John Deere tractors. He also took great pleasure in music, making people laugh, and working in his yard.

On March 26, 2019, Stephen married Shannon D. (Millhouse) in Tennessee, and she survives him. He is also survived by his children, Jessica (Kevin) Dwight, Michael Clark, and Mitchel Clark, all of Stockbridge, and his step-children, Evan Pregitzer of Munith, Kassie Vanantwerpen of Spring Lake, Grace Pregitzer of Munith, and Sarah Pregitzer of Munith. Additionally, Stephen is survived by his sister, Shelley Gottschalk of Dansville, and his beloved grandchildren, Presley and Briar. Stephen was preceded in death by his father, Lee, in May 2023.

Private services will be held at a later date.



John and Theresa
Kightlinger

Ask an Expert Insurance fraud works both ways

by John and Theresa Kightlinger

We've all heard the term "insurance fraud," which often is used in the collision repair industry in instances where a consumer or service provider does something that an insurer representative or insurer's Special Investigative Unit (SIU) perceives to be wrong or illegal.

Insurance fraud can constitute many things, including when a consumer submits a false claim when trying to get unrelated damage included in a recent loss. There's also the fraudulent repairer who actually creates damages to increase the repair costs or doesn't provide the parts and/or services that the consumer paid for.

Let's not forget arson, disposing of a vehicle and reporting it as stolen, causing a fake accident and claiming injuries (for example, "slip and fall") and numerous other intentional, fraudulent claims perpetrated by dishonest parties.

Then there is the insurance fraud perpetrated by an insurer. Unfortunately, this goes on every day and is far too often unaddressed by those who commit it and those who are responsible for protecting others from it.

Not every insurer commits fraud, but unfortunately, some do as part of normal and frequent business practices ... and as of late, it's gotten much worse.

Common infractions: In the collision repair industry, the most common infraction by insurers is the effort to deny or underpay or short-pay the claimant (both insured parties or their victims) for the necessary and recommended parts, materials and procedures. This orchestrated fraud is committed daily by insurers who intentionally ignore proper and thorough repair procedures.

Another common infraction is to under-compensate consumers for total losses and property damage claims, injury disability claims and medical expenses — all in the name of profit. The result of this is "unjust enrichment."

Insurance is a product that offers peace of mind to those who purchase it. The intentional denial and/or underpayment of a claim (withholding proper claims payment) is against most, if not all, state regulations across the country and is generally considered to be "deceptive business and unfair claims practice," which, in some cases, equates to "bad faith."

Some of the abuses and fraud perpetrated by insurance companies may be more subdued, for example, in cases where they actually use state laws and regulations to support their fraudulent activities. One example that comes to mind is insurers totaling perfectly repairable vehicles in an effort to encourage (steer) a repairer's customer to move the vehicle to a more insurance-friendly shop.

Some insurer representatives literally tell consumers, "You either move it or we total it!" I also know of some shop owners who have had insurers deem perfectly repairable vehicles as total losses in an effort to harm the repairer as well as their customer, telling them, "Had you selected another shop, your vehicle wouldn't have totaled."

Consider an insurer totaling a repairable vehicle merely as a predatory practice against a repairer and consumer; in most states, the insurer has the right to deem a damaged vehicle a total loss regardless of the repair cost or vehicle's value, so it does so with impunity and zero accountability.

In most instances, the salvage value is significant enough to the point that the insurer can reduce its payout significantly.

See *Ask an Expert* on page 23.

Around town page 1

The **Unadilla Township Fire Department** is now the proud owner of a new rescue truck, to be used for, among other things, medical runs, farm accidents, and water and ice rescues. The purchase was originally approved to receive Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP) grant money from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). After UTFD received the necessary grant approvals and sent in the rescue truck order, the NHTSA funds did not come through, so no funds were received from OHSP. Unadilla Township has had to fund the vehicle purchase or incur a large cancellation fee. The township is still hoping to receive grant funds at the state or federal level.

On May 16, the **sale of the Jarvis Building** closed at 120 East Main St. in Stockbridge. Brian Adiska is the new owner of this two-story building with lots of Stockbridge history that spanned two generations of the Jarvis family. The GU Crew powered by Howard Hanna (for buyers) and Susan Pidd Realty (for sellers) helped to facilitate the sale.

Based on information SCN received on May 28 from the Washtenaw County Road Commission: Due to weather-related delays, the **North Territorial Road closure at Dexter Town Hall Road** is expected to reopen in mid-June.

School millage page 17

Your vote is vital in ensuring that our children have access to the best possible education and that our schools continue to thrive.

Remember, this vote is about maintaining our current level of support and ensuring that our schools remain a place where students can learn, grow and succeed. Mark your calendars for Aug. 6, 2024, and make your voice heard.

Together, we can continue to build a bright future for our students and our community.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

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from Gary & Kate Humrich

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Ask an Expert page 22

Meanwhile, the consumer is left with a lowball settlement that cannot replace his or her vehicle, suffering an economic loss and significant and unfair abuse at the hands of those who are supposed to indemnify the customer in his or her time of need.

I'm confident that every collision repair professional has asked himself or herself how some insurers continue to get away with the abuse and fraudulent practices they perpetrate on consumers and repairers. The truth is they don't always get away with it. However, the monetary rewards (benefits) gained overall exceed the collective risks they take when they do.

As I've often stated, "Only when the risks begin to outweigh the rewards will behaviors change." In other words, it's economically feasible for insurers to continue to short-pay and deny settlements because they earn more profits from what they don't pay out versus fines and settlements they may be forced to pay when held accountable. This in part is due to the consumer's failure to hold an abusive insurer accountable by seeking legal counsel to assist him or her in attaining a fair settlement.

It also is caused by a repair professional's failure to involve and edify his or her customers and expose the offending insurers' behavior as it occurs. Repairers would do their business and the industry at large a great benefit by exposing insurers' behavior and standing by their customers, encouraging them to not merely sit back and take it.

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.

Paws and Claws page 7

Be mindful of what you are planting in your garden: Identifying possibly harmful plants in your yard or garden ahead of time may prevent unwanted exposures. Always keep an eye on your pet when it is outside as even nontoxic plants can cause stomach upset if ingested.

Food and drink can pose big threats to pets: Stick to your pet's normal diet and treats and avoid food high in fat or foods that may be toxic. Keep the garbage out of reach and away from snooping noses. If you're enjoying alcoholic beverages at your festivities, keep your drinks up and away from pets and clean up any spills before your pets get to them.

Never use fireworks around pets: Exposure to lit fireworks can potentially result in severe burns or trauma, and even unused fireworks can contain hazardous materials. Many pets also are fearful of loud noises and can become lost, scared or disoriented around fireworks, so try to keep them away from the noise in a quiet, sheltered and escape-proof area of your home.

If you have any questions about how to keep your pet safe during the summer months, please call us at Lakelands Trail Veterinary Clinic, 4525 S. M-52, Stockbridge; 517-655-5551.

Cindy Anderson, DVM, is a graduate of MSU Veterinary College (1992) and has practiced veterinary medicine for over 28 years.

Staff Spotlight page 9

In addition, the hours are long and the work, at times, can be draining. But her answer circles back to the core of what makes Villegas an outstanding teacher—her focus on the students. She passes over advice about navigating the bureaucracy and workload, past learning dozens of pedagogical practices; instead, her response focuses on the students. She knows—and has proof—that at the end of the day, good teachers teach to touch a life. They do what they do to help someone get ahead in this world. To give them skills so they will grow and succeed.

Her advice to other teachers: When the days are long and you are longing for a break, know that "someday, someone will think of you kindly."

See additional photos at www.stockbridgecommunitynews.com

Ben Fidler is filling in for Spotlight columnist Don Porter this month. He is a writer and builder and lives with his wife and two dogs outside Munith.

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Outreach in Action

Mary Myer, dedicated volunteer and board member, retires after 25 years with Outreach

by Jackie Scheller

In the field of volunteerism, there are some genuinely amazing, pioneering leaders whose stories are sure to motivate you. Mary Myer, of Stockbridge, is one of those people.

Like so many other volunteer leaders, Myer learned from the late Margaret Wild, a founder and champion of Stockbridge Community Outreach, along with several UMC church members. Together, they saw a need, believed there was a solution, and advocated for it. They drew others from various churches to the cause, and with a dedicated team, achieved success serving the community and surrounding area for the past 40 years.

Stockbridge Community Outreach (SCO) was established in the fall of 1981 and is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that has grown with the demands of the community.

For the past 25 years, Myer has been a dedicated volunteer and board member helping to oversee this growth. Her welcoming attitude and generous smile—not to mention, a laugh that resonates with all—will be missed as she enters full retirement.

Recently, Mary shared a story about the time she joined Mrs. Wild and went business-to-business asking for donations. And by gosh, they got what they asked for! Apparently Margaret left quite an impression and many businesses wrote checks that day. From that point on, Mary was hooked!

Mary has worked many jobs in her professional life, including as an apartment manager and Realtor. These jobs made her keenly aware of the needs of tenants, so she first began working with Outreach to fulfill tenant needs.

It was after her retirement that she dedicated her time to volunteering with Outreach. She first served as a board member then became the volunteer coordinator. In 2001, she was recognized as the Outreach "Volunteer of the Year" and was presented with a plaque by Jon Fillmore.

Volunteers are motivated by passion, values, and purpose, and nonprofits cannot exist without them. Mary has advocated for volunteerism, managed and reinforced her team of volunteers, and led the way for growth at Stockbridge Community Outreach. In fact, volunteer recruiting and retention is one of Mary's greatest gifts!

Lori Hendrick was one of Mary's many recruits and is now the volunteer coordinator. According to Hendrick, "I have worked with Mary for almost a decade at Outreach. She is kind, caring and so much fun to work with."

Gwen Reid, Outreach director, had this to say about Myer, "Our organization depends on community volunteers and we would not be nearly as effective without them. Mary is appreciated and will be missed."

Stockbridge Community Outreach wishes Mary Myer a happy retirement and continued health and happiness. In recognition for her years of service and dedication, a celebration was held for Mary at Outreach on May 13.

If you would like to learn about Outreach volunteer opportunities, please call 517-851-7285.

Jackie Scheller is a Stockbridge Community Outreach board member. 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.



Mary Myer's generous smile and commitment to expanding the volunteer network will be missed as she retires after 25 years with Stockbridge Community Outreach. Photo credit: Gwen Reid

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MEMORIAL DAY



DAY

Photos by Susan Daily and Judy Williams



American Legion Post 510 Honor Team




American Legion Post 510 Commander Jim Grime reads the roll call of the fallen.



The program began with everyone joining in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the talented Sarah Parsons singing the national anthem.




"Day is done. Gone the sun. From the hills. From the lake. From the skies. All is well. Safely rest. God is nigh." The haunting melody of taps ends the service.



SCHOLARSHIP

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



Congratulations Class of 2024 Scholarship & Award Winners!

The Stockbridge Area Educational Foundation would like to congratulate and recognize the SAEF managed 2024 Scholarship and Award Recipients!

<p><u>Stockbridge Area Educational Foundation:</u> Carlos David Villegas, Claire Schray, Gaven Numinen, Jason Gruber, Kaden Carpenter, Nicole Wadkins, Zachary Fletcher</p> <p><u>Richard C. Howlett Education:</u> Melanie Satkowiak</p> <p><u>Munith-Fitchburg American Legion Post 525 Memorial:</u> Alaina Kellenberger</p> <p><u>Don E. Krummrey Memorial:</u> Jason Gruber</p> <p><u>Thomas D. Basore Memorial Physics Excellence:</u> Kaitlyn Oversmith</p> <p><u>Richard Hoard Memorial:</u> Olyvia Hoard, Azora Parks</p> <p><u>Darwin D. Snider Memorial:</u> Kegan Collins</p> <p><u>Deputy Grant Whitaker Memorial:</u> Kegan Collins</p> <p><u>Donna E. Schumacher Memorial:</u> Clarissa Hill, Elizabeth Vliet</p>	<p><u>Laura M. Goodin Memorial:</u> Olyvia Hoard</p> <p><u>Hannah Lorraine Glair Memorial:</u> Abigail Roberts</p> <p><u>Talan Tolliver Memorial:</u> Joseph Ballagh, Kegan Collins, Jason Gruber</p> <p><u>Chris C. Kruger Memorial:</u> Alaina Kellenberger, Gracee Robidou, Maggie Jones</p> <p><u>Bruce Wm. Brown:</u> Taiyler Stanfield</p> <p><u>John Graven Technology Industrial Arts Award:</u> Clarissa Hill</p> <p><u>Jeff Becker Memorial:</u> Joey Ballagh, Alaina Kellenberger</p> <p><u>Mason R. Cutler Memorial Cross Country:</u> Brady Cole</p> <p><u>Pfc. John Donohue Good Citizenship Memorial Award:</u> Melanie Satkowiak</p>
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Congratulations Class of 2024, we wish you success, joy and adventure as you continue your education! Best of Luck to the entire Class of 2024!

From small town to the sun: Stockbridge FFA students launch satellite to capture information, photos of April 8 solar eclipse

by Eliana Johnson

For Stockbridge High School senior Jason Gruber, studying space isn't a simple hobby; it's a complete and utter obsession.

Gruber always has loved space. The mysticism, untold stories, and endless opportunities waiting to be discovered have constantly drawn him in.

"It's always been fascinating because you never hear stories about students doing research in space. It's a lot harder to do this research, and there's so much to learn about space," Gruber said.

To nurture and foster his infatuation, Gruber found himself drawn to space education. In a town with only one flashing red stoplight, no grocery store, and 98 kids in the current graduating class, authentic space education simply didn't seem attainable.

However, with few elective and extracurricular options to choose from, Gruber as a sophomore found himself in a lucrative, student-led STEM class called "Special Projects Lab," which since has merged with the Future Farmers of America (FFA) program.

"I joined this class because of the projects that cause a positive impact and contribute to society," Gruber said.

Special Projects Lab has worked with Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Michigan State University, University of Toledo and nonprofit POW recovery organizations such as Project Recover. Joining this class, Gruber felt a spark. This spark lit a passion for engineering and an unrelenting desire to learn and grow.

In December of his sophomore year, Gruber and his colleagues from Special Projects Lab attended the annual American Geophysical Union Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana. While at the hotel, Gruber and fellow student, Jack Hammerberg, struck up a conversation with a government research scientist over a dimly lit table and a can of Diet Coke. The scientist explained how he was working on miniature satellites—also known as CubeSats—which can collect atmospheric and meteorological data, while remaining small and cost-effective.

These 10-by-10-by-10 centimeter satellites can be launched on high-altitude balloons (HABs), or packed into rockets to be launched into the stratosphere. Gruber and Hammerberg instantly knew that this was the project they wanted to pursue.

"I mainly wanted to do a CubeSat because it was different from the other projects we had done. It was both software- and hardware-based, and I wanted to continue our relationship with NASA, as we'd previously helped them on agricultural research projects," Hammerberg said.

Over the next nine months, the two students enlisted help from their peers, as well as NearSpace education, a CubeSat manufacturer and educator, to help complete this project. After tireless efforts and an unshakable resolve, Special Projects Lab's team launched their first CubeSat in September 2023.

"It was satisfying to see the students' work finally come to fruition. It's not often in today's school environment that you have an academic team stick together over two school years to complete such a substantial project," Robert Richards, Special Projects Lab teacher said.

The satellite was loaded onto a Styrofoam-packed payload equipped with sensors and cameras, hung off of a hydrogen-filled HAB, and launched into the stratosphere, capturing atmospheric data and pictures of the curvature of the Earth. Their initial mission was a success, but the students were hungry for more.

"We wanted to collect more atmospheric data that we weren't able to with our rudimentary CubeSat," Gruber said.

However, with Hammerberg's impending graduation, Gruber, a junior at the time, needed to recruit more students to his project. Gruber recruited sophomore engineers Alayna Adkins, Logan Hollenbeck and Brock Rochow to blaze a trail to the stars.

"I felt like this was a great opportunity to be there, have fun, and get outside of my comfort zone. I was glad to help out and grow my skills," Hollenbeck said.

The students took their original design and modified it to meet the needs of their next project: putting their CubeSat on a rocket. Partnering with South African rocket company MaxIQ, and New Jersey-based satellite company A3Sat, Special Projects Lab launched the same satellite on a MaxIQ rocket in South Africa in March of the same year. The atmospheric results were used to further future launches by MaxIQ.

Come Gruber's senior year, Special Projects Lab may have merged with the FFA and taken on a new name, but Gruber and his team's passion for space education and exploration never faltered.

"FFA is all about agriculture, but space still has a big impact on agriculture, such as satellites and weather conditions," Gruber said.

Though re-branded, Gruber took the emergence of FFA and its required supervised agricultural experiences (SAEs) as an opportunity to capitalize on the impending solar eclipse. Armed with the full force of the FFA community and a fiery passion to see his ultimate mission to fruition, Gruber set off to capture this monumental, once-in-a-20-year event.

"It was my first total eclipse in person, so I was super excited to see it," Gruber said.

Instead of planting flowers, raising bunnies, or milking cows like typical SAE projects, Gruber yearned for the seemingly impossible, given his rural circumstances.

"It's all about influence and guidance. With Mr. Richards' help, we're able to go to levels that most people aren't able to go. We don't let our circumstances define us. If you have passion and determination, nothing is impossible," Gruber said.

On April 8, millions of Americans crowded plazas, parking lots and playgrounds to watch a rare occurrence that only happens roughly every 20 years. Gruber and his team were in Marion, Indiana, preparing for the launch of their satellite on NearSpace Education's HAB.

With the assistance of NearSpace and hours of preparation, the time had come. Equipped with GPS trackers, numerous cameras, and other data sensors, the team members launched their satellite.

See *Stockbridge FFA* on page 27.



Senior Jason Gruber (left) and freshman Will Gancer work on piecing together the high-altitude balloon that will carry the satellite. Photos provided by Robert Richards



The curvature of the Earth taken from Stockbridge students' satellite roughly 70,000 feet up. The photo was taken with a GoPro 360 camera on the satellite.



Three decades of A Day in the Village have celebrated the coming of summer

by Tina Cole-Mullins

When it's Father's Day weekend, school's out and temperatures warm up, it's time to get out and celebrate.

For three decades, Stockbridge's annual A Day in the Village has enabled families and friends to gather together for fun, food and festivities in town. This year, the festival marks a special anniversary.

"The 2024 A Day in the Village is our 30th year," said Mike Klimkiewicz, of the Stockbridge Area Chamber of Commerce (SACC). The chamber sponsors the annual event, held each year on the Friday and Saturday before Father's Day.

The festival begins this year on Friday, June 14, and will continue Saturday, June 15.

"A variety of food, festivities and fun can be found for the entire family between the park and the Town Square in Stockbridge," Klimkiewicz said.

Friday evening's entertainment is a local favorite with classic rock band Flyte, beginning at 7 p.m. in Veterans Memorial Park.

The Father of the Year Award will be presented at 9 p.m. Friday, followed by fireworks sponsored by the Stockbridge DDA.

Saturday's events at the Town Square and Veterans Memorial Park include kids' inflatables, Peddle Pullers, belly dancers, balloon guys and food vendors. A street party will be held from 2 to 5 p.m. Saturday on Elizabeth Street. The band Renegade will be featured.

SAAC Art Show coincides with A Day in the Village

Another popular attraction of the festival is the annual A Day in the Village Art Show sponsored by the Stockbridge Area Arts Council (SAAC). In the show, local artists can display their work and compete for awards and cash prizes.

SAAC is accepting entry applications for A Day in the Village Art Show 2024. Entry deadline is June 10; artwork must be delivered to the Stockbridge Township Hall on June 13 (from 3 to 7 p.m.). If you participated as an artist in 2023, you should receive a letter and application by email. Application forms are available at the Stockbridge Library and also can be dropped off there. A small fee of \$10 will allow for up to four entries by an artist.

The artwork will be on display from 3 to 7 p.m. Friday, June 14, and from 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Saturday, June 15, in the Stockbridge Township Hall. Awards and cash prizes will be presented at 4 p.m. Saturday for first, second, and third place in fine arts and photography categories. In addition, a cash prize for People's Choice will be awarded based on votes cast by visitors to the show.

The Stockbridge Area Chamber of Commerce is key to organizing A Day in the Village. According to Klimkiewicz, "Our SACC future looks great and we're considering many new innovative ideas to help Chamber members in the upcoming year." In addition to Klimkiewicz, the SACC board includes Carrie Graham as vice president and Shannon Sandecki, Donnie Anderson and Andrea Place.

The SACC is looking for volunteers with additional ideas or suggestions for A Day in the Village or to join the committee. Contact Mike Klimkiewicz by calling 734-648-6111, or stop in most evenings at the Stockbridge Bowl, stockbridgebowl@gmail.com.

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!

POSITIVELY CHIROPRACTIC
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Rock 'n' Roll Trivia

Eric Clapton's Persian rug may carry hidden message

by John Robinson

Q: I noticed while watching an Eric Clapton DVD there is a large ornate rug on the stage floor which looks like the same rug I noticed in other videos. There must be some significance to the rug. Can you find out what it is?

A: That large Persian rug is a favorite of Eric's and I think I may have found out



John Robinson

why. Back when George Harrison was married to Patti Boyd, Clapton kept flirting with her, trying to get her to "be" with him. She kept turning him down, which depressed him to a point where most of the music on his next album, "Layla and Other Assorted Love Songs," was based on his feelings for Patti. The song "Layla" was based on "The Story of Layli and Majnun," written by Persian poet Nezami Ganjavi. The story tells about a man named Majnun who fell in love with an unavailable woman named Layli...and Majnun goes crazy when he realizes he never can have her. Clapton found this story to be a parallel to how he felt about Patti (they eventually DID marry but are now divorced). So, I'm thinking that this Persian tale prompts Eric to use his Persian rug onstage as sort of an homage to his love for Patti.

Q: Who actually came up with the "Batman" TV show theme?

A: That was composer Neal Hefti, who also was a jazz trumpeter, songwriter and arranger. He began composing while he was a trumpeter for Woody Herman. When he left Herman in 1946, Hefti mainly wrote and arranged, leading his own bands every once in a while and arranging for Harry James and Count Basie. When the 1960s arrived, he wrote and arranged many TV and movie themes; two of his most popular TV themes were for "The Odd Couple" and "Batman." Hefti took his single, "Batman Theme," to No. 35 in 1966, but that same year, The Marketts charted higher with their version (No. 17). Hefti's Batman theme always will be linked with that character and has been used in many other Batman-type records.

For additional trivia, visit www.stockbridgecommunitynews.com.

Stockbridge FFA page 26

Even with the danger of rough winds potentially blowing the HAB off course, the team persevered and was rewarded with the fruits of its labors. The HAB flew into the stratosphere and effectively captured raw images of the total solar eclipse. The HAB reached nearly 80,000 feet, flying so far as to capture pictures of the Earth's curvature. This was it. Gruber and his team had done it. Their toils, setbacks and obstacles were behind them as they watched their satellite ascend into the stratosphere.

"There was a lot to learn from this project, we had to dodge some obstacles and mistakes, but overall, I'm so proud of our team and the moment we captured," Gruber said.

Now, with the impending graduation of the project's front-runner, the team still will persevere.

"Although a valuable member of our team is graduating, we'll still be attacking many different projects next year, including more HAB launches," junior Brock Rochow states.

Hoping to further their project, the team will launch its satellite at local agricultural showcases, with the aim to launch its CubeSat on a NASA rocket.

"We're hopefully going to launch on a NASA rocket before I graduate this next year. We'll make some small changes to ensure everything runs smoothly," junior Alayna Adkins said.

From the streets of Stockbridge to the stars, and to the sun, these students didn't let pre-conceived notions and inhibitions tie them down. They let their dreams take flight and captured something monumental, shattering the rural ceiling in the process.

Woah Nellie!

It takes a village to fix a jam

by Mary Jo David

If you read the headline and assumed this month you'd be following along making a 100-year-old jam recipe from Nellie Maxwell, you'd be—wrong!

This month, I was at the mercy of my desk drawer, which was "jammed" shut. It's the desk drawer where I store my thumb drive that holds all the old Stockbridge Brief-Sun editions. You know what that means: 1) When I finally get it open, it's time to clean out that drawer, and 2) I have an excuse to veer from testing a 100-year-old Nellie Maxwell recipe and try something different this month.

Truth be told, I could have visited the Stockbridge Library to access the vintage Brief-Sun editions on their thumb drives. But I really wanted to write about rhubarb this month, and I wasn't confident I'd find a rhubarb recipe in Nellie's June 1924 columns.

In trying to keep with the theme of this column, though, I'm using very old rhubarb. Or to be more specific, my rhubarb plants were thinned from rhubarb plants that likely had their start 70-plus years ago.

And it really does take a village. By that I mean, my two rhubarb plants were gifted to me by Stockbridge's Patrice Johnson—the founding editor-in-chief of the Stockbridge Community News. Patrice's rhubarb plants were originally from plants her mother, Willah Weddon, grew. According to Patrice, the original plant was at least 65 years old.

I never had the pleasure of meeting Willah, but from everything I've heard, she flourished as a writer, wife, and mother. Not surprising then, that from the moment I was gifted those rhubarb plants, they just took off growing. Every year since, I've had a bountiful harvest from each plant. I feel very fortunate to have my plants because, according to HighAltitudeRhubarb.com, the U.S. has only about 1,300 acres devoted to rhubarb production. That's not a lot!

Spring is the time to cut rhubarb. While most people only think of using it to make strawberry-rhubarb pie, rhubarb sauce is my preference. It's as good as applesauce, and last year I discovered it's a great addition when making a trifle for dessert.

Rhubarb sauce is so easy to make. The plant leaves are toxic, so make sure to cook only the stems, chopping them into about one-half-inch pieces. In a heavy saucepan over medium heat, mix together 6 cups of chopped rhubarb, 1/2 cup of granulated sugar, and 3 tablespoons of water. In about 20 minutes, your rhubarb should soften to the texture of applesauce. As it begins to soften, add about 1/8 teaspoon (or to taste) of cinnamon, or leave the cinnamon out if you prefer. Continue to stir and mash the rhubarb mixture until it is the desired consistency. Use an immersion blender, if you have one, to get the consistency you prefer.

Alternatives: At our house, we prefer the rhubarb to retain some of its tartness. But if you like a sweeter sauce, many recipes call for up to 1 cup of sugar.

See *Woah Nellie* on page 29.



Spring is the time to cut rhubarb. Most people only think of using it to make strawberry-rhubarb pie, but rhubarb sauce is my preference. It's as good as applesauce and so easy to make.

June 14 – 16, Friday thru Sunday

A Day In The Village

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FRIDAY, 6/14

TOWN SQUARE AND VETERANS PARK:

Art and Craft Vendors: 10-5
SAAC Art Show at Town Hall: 3-7
Kids' Games: Bus Drivers/SRSly
Live Band at Park: 7pm (Flyte)
Father of the Year Award at Park

FIREWORKS AT DUSK
FOOD VENDORS

SATURDAY, 6/15

TOWN SQUARE AND VETERANS PARK:

Art and Craft Vendors: 10-5
SAAC Art Show at Town Hall: 10-3:45
School Bus Activities
Positively Chiropractic Be Fit
5k Fun Run (starts: 8 am)
Pedal Pull (registration: 10 am)
Inflatables: 10-5
Boyer the Magic Guy: 10:30 am
Bennett's Balloons: 12 pm
Phil Tolliver: 1 pm
Face Painting Booth
Home Depot STEM Activity: 1-3
Kids' Games: Bus Drivers/SRSly
Swag Chainsaw Art
Belly Dancers: 12 pm
Bike Drawing—2 boys/2 girls: 4:30
Live Music: 2-5 (Renegade)

FOOD VENDORS

SUNDAY, 6/16

WORSHIP ON THE TOWN SQUARE — Bring your own chair.

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"Progress Over Perfection" is just one of the inspirational sayings available, through Project Stockbridge, to teams selecting warm-up shirts for promoting mental health awareness. Photo credit: Project Stockbridge

Project Stockbridge page 3

"Mental Health Awareness Month is very important to me," said Ernie Rivers, the Stockbridge Community Schools athletic director. "It is something we need to do better at having conversations about and being more proactive with all of our students and staff."

To encourage this conversation, each team was tasked with deciding the phrase for their shirts. This allowed team members to discuss the topic of mental health with their team and take ownership over the message they would be sharing with others.

"Mental health for athletes is often brushed under the rug or chalked up to 'try harder' or 'stop getting in your head,'" said a Stockbridge junior athlete. "With school, practice, and the demands of competitions, student-athletes are frequently stretched thin. Their mental health gets disregarded, and they aren't offered the necessary means of support."

To encourage mental health conversations and let students know there is support out there, the teams selected from four mental health phrases: "Progress Over Perfection," "The Storms Never Last," "It's Okay to Have Bad Days," and "Setbacks Do Not Equal Failure."

To further support these messages and the Stockbridge students and community members, mental health information and resources were being distributed at some home sporting events and other activities in Stockbridge throughout May.

"By allowing our student-athletes to freely express their emotions and get the help they need, we not only create better students and athletes, but better people," said a Stockbridge junior athlete.

These shirts are just one part of the larger Project Stockbridge campaign that has shared statistics and positive mental health messaging with students through apparel and banners. The project also plays a role in helping staff at Stockbridge Jr./Sr. High School become trained in youth mental health first aid.

"I have lost some close friends because of their mental health struggles, and I want to do all I can to help those who continue to struggle," Rivers said. "I am grateful for the partnership with our local mental health providers and Project Stockbridge for helping to start the conversation."

For more information about Project Stockbridge, SRSly Stockbridge, or the Cheslea Hospital Mental Health Awareness and Training Grant, please visit srslystockbridge.org or chelseahospital.org/mhat.

Woah Nellie page 28

Also if you enjoy the pairing of rhubarb and strawberry, by all means add some fresh strawberries to the chopped rhubarb before cooking. It is very hard to mess up rhubarb sauce! I've also used half sugar and half honey from another local friend's hives. And when I ran out of that, I used honey from the Stockbridge Open-Air Market. (See what I mean, it does take a village.)

This month's recipe received an A-plus from my resident taste-tester. I might add that he looked a little too relieved that I had veered away from making a Nellie recipe this month. He was more than happy to taste-test the rhubarb sauce. After all, I learned how to make it from his grandmother.

Also within our "village" of neighbors and friends, we were the lucky recipients of some home-grown asparagus from our friend and longtime Gregory resident Al. He has opened our eyes to how good asparagus is right after it's cut. To make the most of this asparagus, I made a simple and delicious Asparagus Soup with Lemon and Parmesan that I found online at OnceUponAChef.com.

Village of Stockbridge 2023 Water Quality Report

This report covers the drinking water quality for Village of Stockbridge for the 2023 calendar year. This information is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided to you in 2023. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and state standards.

Your water comes from two groundwater wells, each over 200 feet deep. The state performed an assessment of our source water to determine the susceptibility or the relative potential of contamination. The susceptibility rating is on a seven-tiered scale from "very-low" to "very-high" based on geologic sensitivity, well construction, water chemistry and contamination sources. The susceptibility of our source is low. Call Stockbridge Village Offices at 517-851-7435 for more information.

There are no significant sources of contamination in our water supply. We are making efforts to protect our sources by PARTICIPATION IN THE WELLHEAD PROTECTION PROGRAM.

If you would like to know more about this report, please contact: David DeGrand, 517-242-2313; David Dillard, 517-920-0738; or village offices, 517-851-7435.

We invite public participation in decisions that affect drinking water quality. Village of Stockbridge holds Council Meetings first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. For more information about your water or the contents of this report, see www.vosm1.org, or call the Village of Stockbridge 517-851-7435 For more information about safe drinking water, visit the USEPA at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater>.

To view the entire Water Quality Report, visit <https://bit.ly/3wYMJRN>.

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STOCKBRIDGE SPORTS

Panther baseball continues to push forward

by Mike Williamson

The Stockbridge varsity baseball team has continued to push forward after a slow start to the season, including a stretch of winning four of five games in early May.

Quincy The Panthers dropped two to the Orioles 13-0 and 15-5 on April 25.

Noah Sandecki, Collin Trost, Nick Graves and Jason Porzio had hits for the Panthers in the opener.

The second game saw Jayden Pilch and Trost collect a hit and two RBIs each. Zach Fletcher had a hit and run scored and Kayden Nielsen one hit for the Panthers.

East Jackson On April 26, Stockbridge split a pair with the Trojans, dropping an eight-inning decision 2-1 and winning 9-1.

Sandecki had a hit and run scored, while Graves, Trevor Patterson and Porzio each had one hit.

Stockbridge used a five-run third inning to pull out the 9-1 win.

Sandecki earned the win with 12 strikeouts and allowed five hits in six innings on the mound and had a hit and two RBIs at the plate.

Fletcher had a big game with a home run to go along with four hits and an RBI.

Connor Fitzsimmons had two hits and a run scored, Nielsen a hit and two RBIs, and Trost three hits and an RBI.

Webberville On April 29, the Panthers split a pair with the Spartans, winning a wild opener 17-16 and dropping the second 4-3.

Stockbridge scored five runs in the seventh and held off a Webberville rally to win the first game.

Trost had a big game with three hits and five runs scored to lead the Panthers.

Sandecki, Pilch, and Fletcher had a hit and two RBIs each, while Graves and Fitzsimmons had a hit and run scored each. Porzio added two hits and two RBIs. Johnny Salyer was the winning pitcher for the Panthers.

The second game was called in the third inning after the long first game.

Trost had two hits and an RBI. Sandecki had two hits, Porzio a hit and two RBIs, and Graves a hit and run scored.

Lansing Eastern On May 2, the Panthers took a pair from the Quakers with big 18-2 and 20-9 wins. Cruz Medina had three hits, an RBI, and three runs scored to lead the Panthers.

Sandecki had two hits and five RBIs and Fletcher two hits and two RBIs. Kyle Cheesman added two hits and an RBI, Trost a hit and three runs scored, Pilch a hit and three runs scored, and Bryton Breese a hit and RBI.

Trost led the offense in the second game with three hits and three RBIs. He also struck out six and allowed three hits for the win on the mound.

Sandecki had two hits, including a home run and three RBIs, while Pilch and Nielsen had two hits and two RBIs each. Xavier Zimmerman had a hit and two RBIs, Medina a hit and RBI, and Fletcher a hit and three runs scored.

Graves earned the win with three strikeouts on the mound.

Panther golfers improving throughout season

by Mike Williamson

The Stockbridge golf team continues to improve by taking part in numerous events, including a few best ball scramble events with other schools.

Marauder Cup Scramble The Panthers competed in the event that featured four players and a coach in a five-person scramble Friday, May 3, at The Emerald Golf course in St. Johns, Michigan. Stockbridge teamed up for a round of 64 to tie for 14th place. Drew Robinson, Evan Sandecki, Kegan Collins and Wyatt Loso teamed with coach Lance Woodland in the tournament.

Oriole Classic The Panthers finished sixth out of 10 teams May 9 in the Quincy Golf Invitational tournament at the Coldwater Golf Course. Loso led the Panthers with a round of 46. Robinson shot 52, Lucas Hoard 55, Noah Beauregard 57, and Nathan Chrisinske 59.



Nick Graves brings some heat on the mound.
Photo provided by Pam Mackinder

Panther soccer team prepping for districts

by Mike Williamson

The young Stockbridge soccer team continues to play hard, even though it's been a struggle this season.

The Panthers still are looking for their first win of the season with just a handful of games left and districts coming up.

Perry The Panthers played a strong game and dropped a tough 3-1 decision to Perry on April 29. Annie Borowy scored the Stockbridge goal.



Grace Lackey makes a diving save for the Panthers. Photo by Mike Williamson

Charyl Stockwell Prep Academy On May 8, the Panthers fell to Brighton's Charyl Stockwell Prep Academy 4-1 in a tough game. Alayna Adkins scored for the Panthers.

Springport The Panthers had their highest scoring output of the season in a 6-2 loss to the Spartans on May 10. Adkins and Clarissa Hill found the net for Stockbridge.

Jackson Christian The Panthers came up short in a 5-1 loss to the Royals on May 20. Borowy found the net for Stockbridge.

Onsted Stockbridge hosted Onsted in the first round of districts May 22.

Drew Robinson signs to play football at Anderson

by Mike Williamson

Stockbridge senior Drew Robinson's love for football was known before he even started kindergarten and it has never slowed now that he is graduating high school.

Robinson's love for the game has led to much success and is now leading him to the next step with his signing to play football at Anderson University in Indiana.

Being a three-sport athlete,



Drew Robinson signed his letter of intent to play football at Anderson University. Photo provided by Mike Williamson

Robinson said football wasn't his only favorite sport.

See full story at www.stockbridgecommunitynews.com.



The Stockbridge golf team in just its second year after a long lay-off, continues to show a big improvement. Photo provided by Mike Williamson

STOCKBRIDGE SPORTS

Track and field teams send 10 to D3 State Finals

by Mike Williamson

The Stockbridge track and field teams had a strong showing at the D3 track regional that the Panthers hosted May 18 with the girls finishing runner-up and the boys finishing third.

The teams combined for 10 regional champions and had 10 athletes qualify for the state finals in 12 different events.

The mighty girls team with just 12 athletes nearly pulled off a regional title with a second-place finish. The Panthers finished with 132 points, being beaten out by Almont with 149.

Gracee Robidou had a day to remember with three regional titles and a second-place finish in which she set a new personal record (PR).

Robidou won the 100 and 300 hurdles, as well as the long jump for the Panthers. She also was second in the 200 with a new PR.

Megan Mackinder was the regional champion in the shot put and discus for the Panthers.

Also qualifying for the Panthers were JayLee Chapman with a second-place finish in the 1600 and Ava Vacarro with a second-place finish in the 3200. Both ran in the 800 and finished third and fourth to earn All-Region honors. Vacarro also was All-Region in the 1600 with a third-place finish and Chapman All-Region with a third-place finish in the 3200.

Other All-Region athletes that earned top eight finishes were Arabella Allison fourth in the 400, the 4x100 relay team of Gabrielle Heath, Allison, Shelby Okoney and Samantha Nothnagel fifth, the 4x200 team of Heath, Macy Cipta, Nothnagel, and Alana Porzio fourth, the 4x400 relay of Porzio, Chapman, Okoney, and Allison third, and the 4x800 relay team of Eliana Johnson, Cipta, Okoney, and Porzio third.

Azora Parks was eighth in the shot put and third in the discus, and Nothnagel seventh in the long jump.

The boys team finished with 90 points to finish third behind Detroit Voyager and Almont.

Brock Rochow was a regional champion in three events. He won the 800, was part of the winning 4x800 relay team with Ethan Wright, Finn Coffman, and William Gancer, and the winning 4x400 relay with Foster Pybus, Ethan Monaghan, and Gancer.

Gancer also was the regional champion in the 1600 to go along with his two relay titles, while Pybus won the high jump.

Wright also qualified in the 1600 and 3200 for the Panthers.

All Region honors went to Jude Castro with a sixth-place finish in the 100, Brady Cole seventh in the 3200, Josiah Muzzin eighth in the 110 hurdles, Monaghan fifth in the 300 hurdles, the 4x100 relay team of Spencer Steinkraus, Jason Gruber, Remi Samek, and Castro seventh. Ethan Bradley finished third in the pole vault, and Samek third in the long jump.

Spartan Invite

The girls finished fourth and the boys fifth out of 20 teams at Webberville April 26.

Picking up wins for the girls were Mackinder in the discus and Robidou in the long jump.

Robidou was second in the 100 hurdles, third in the 300 hurdles, and fourth in the pole vault.

For the boys, Pybus was second in the high jump and Rochow second in the 800.

Wright was third in the 3200 and part of the 4x800 team with Coffman, Gancer and Rochow that finished third.

Monaghan was fourth in the 300 hurdles and fifth in the 110 hurdles, and the 4x400 relay team of Pybus, Samek, Gancer, and Rochow was fifth.

44th annual Stockbridge Invite

The girls finished third and the boys eighth at the 44th Stockbridge Invitational May 3.

Robidou won the 300 hurdles and the long jump and was second in the 100 hurdles for the Panthers.

Mackinder was second in the discus, while Allison was fourth in the 400.

Chapman finished fourth in the 1600 and sixth in the 800.

Rochow in the 800 and Pybus in the high jump earned second-place finishes for the boys team.

Castro was fifth in the 100 and Gancer fourth in the 3200. Monaghan was fifth in the 3200 and the 4x800 relay team of Wright, Coffman, Gancer and Rochow was fifth.

East Jackson Dome Classic

On May 10, the girls finished eighth and the boys 12th in East Jackson.

Mackinder won the discus and Robidou the long jump for the Panthers. Robidou also was second in the 300 hurdles and third in the 100 hurdles, while Mackinder was fifth in the shot put.

Pybus was third in the high jump to lead the boys.

Castro was fifth in the 100, Monaghan fifth in the 300 hurdles, and the 4x800 relay team of Wright, Coffman, Gancer and Rochow was fifth.



Foster Pybus won the D3 Regional title in the high jump for Stockbridge. Photos by Mike Williamson



Megan Mackinder won the D3 Regional title in the discus and shot put.

Young Panther softball team continues to improve

by Mike Williamson

After a slow start to the season, a very young varsity softball team has shown a big improvement, including a stretch where the Panthers won seven of nine games.

After starting 1-12, the Panthers went 7-6 with districts just around the corner.

East Jackson On April 26, the Panthers split a doubleheader with the Trojans, dropping the opener 9-8 and winning the second 13-4.



Jailynn Nelson lays down a bunt for the Panthers. Photos by Mike Williamson

Jessica Sparks hit her first career home run to spark the Panthers in the opener.

Laura Humrich had a huge game with four hits and three RBIs, while Arianna Smith also had four hits and scored two. Zoey Horstman had three hits and one RBI, while Madison Rusnock and Emily Satkowiak had two hits and an RBI each.

The Panthers took the second game by pounding out 12 hits.

Sparks led the way with three hits and two RBIs, Lilliana Ramalia had two hits and two RBIs.

Humrich had two hits and an RBI, Rusnock a hit and two RBIs, and Lyla Thomas a hit and RBI. Melanie Satkowiak added a hit and two runs scored, while Sparks was the winning pitcher with eight strikeouts.

Webberville The Panthers swept a doubleheader from Webberville 6-0 and 12-6 on April 29.

Sparks tossed a complete game one-hitter with 15 strikeouts in the opener for the Panthers. She also had two hits and an RBI at the plate.

Melanie Satkowiak led the hitting with two hits and two RBIs, while Humrich had two hits and an RBI, and Horstman two hits and an RBI. Rusnock added a hit and RBI and Thomas a hit and run scored.

The second game saw the Panthers' bats boom with 16 hits.

Sparks and Melanie Satkowiak had three hits and an RBI each, while Humrich had two hits and two RBIs. Rusnock chipped in with two hits and two RBIs, Horstman two hits and two runs scored, Anya Harden two hits and an RBI, Thomas a hit and RBI, and Emily Satkowiak a hit and run scored.

Perry On May 10, the Panthers dropped two to the Ramblers 5-1 and 17-7. Sparks had a hit and RBI and Humrich one hit for the Panthers in the opener. Melanie Satkowiak had two hits and two RBIs and Sparks two hits and an RBI to lead Stockbridge in the second game.

Horstman had a hit and two RBIs and Humrich a hit and two runs scored.

Springport On May 13, Stockbridge avenged two early season losses to sweep Springport 11-1 and 13-9.

Sparks tossed a two-hitter and struck out nine for the win. She also had two hits and two RBIs at the plate in the opener.

Ramalia had three hits and a run scored, Humrich two hits and three runs scored, Arianna Smith had a hit and two RBIs, Alecia Smith a hit and RBI, and Melanie Satkowiak a hit and RBI.

Stockbridge took advantage of 13 walks by Spartan pitching to win the second game.

Jailynn Nelson had a hit and scored three runs, while Rusnock had a hit and run scored for the Panthers.

Potterville On May 14, the Panthers then took a pair from Potterville 16-3 and 18-2.

Sparks struck out 12 for the win and added a hit and RBI.

Horstman had a huge game with four hits and six RBIs and Rusnock added two hits and three RBIs. Humrich had a hit and three runs scored.

Emily Satkowiak struck out three for the win in the circle in the second game.

Horstman had a home run and four RBIs for Stockbridge. Rusnock had two hits and three RBIs and Arianna Smith two hits and two RBIs. Thomas had two hits and two runs scored, Ramalia a hit and two runs scored, and Alecia Smith a hit and two runs scored.



Activities of all sorts make some of the best times with Dad

Soon it will be time to celebrate dads, and local Stockbridge kids wanted in on that action. Here, a group of seventh graders from Ms. Jennifer Paton's social studies class at the Jr/Sr High School in Stockbridge shared their responses to the following question:

What is your favorite pastime when spending time with your dad?

"I like going fishing with my dad. When we were up north we went fishing at a dam and caught over 20 catfish." – **A.G.**

"Fishing is my favorite thing to do with my dad. During spring break we went to the Detroit River and went walleye fishing." – **C.A.**

"I like hunting with my dad because he scouts out the deer while I sleep. We also go shopping at LULULEmon and I enjoy spending his money!" – **K.S.**

"I like when my dad and I ride the ATV. This one time he was driving the ATV through the pond and we both got stuck. Another time we were coming home from the tractor pull and I was driving the back hoe and took out the call line." – **K.K.**

"I like going to the beach and the lakes because we go tubing with the boat. One time we were going really fast and hit a large wave and flew super high and belly flopped into the water." – **M.W.**

"My dad and I go to the arcade a lot. He beats me repeatedly in air hockey and Galaga. He has 30 years of experience on me." – **D.D.**

"My dad and I go fishing, and when we are done we have lunch together and it is really special. I also helped my dad propose to my mom, which made me really happy." – **L.R.**

"We play basketball and I like when we shoot around and he gets my rebounds. He offers advice on post moves and other things to improve my game." – **L.T.**

"My dad and I play paintball together. I enjoy defeating him although he is usually better than me." – **R.R.**