

NEIGHBORS

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REGIONAL NEWS

Cass Historical Society programs

The Cass Historical Society has released the following list of upcoming events and programs for 2019. All events will be at the Cass District Library, 319 M62 N., Cassopolis, 7 pm, unless noted: June 18 - Potawatomi history and culture, Marcus Winchester
July 16 - Down the Sauk Trail - across southern Michigan, Dr. John Geisler
August 20 - Annual Picnic, Russ Forest Pavilion East, 6 pm
September 17 - Bonine House and Carriage House, Cathy LaPointe, at Bonine House, Vandalia
October 6 - Fall Festival at Newton House, 1-4:30 pm
October 15 - Review of the year, 6:30 pm

The historic Newton House has open houses from 1-4:30 pm on the first Sunday of each month from June to September.

Edwardsburg Museum

The Edwardsburg Area Museum's 2019 season, continues with Tom Haikin, whose extensive research has led to the authorship of 17 books, including The Edwardsburg Mysteries, as the season's opening speaker at 7 pm, Thurs., June 20.

Roy Smothermon, the administrator of the Edwardsburg Area Chamber of Commerce, will address the state of current businesses in the area at 7 pm, July 18.

The second exhibit of the season will be "Tools Around the House," which will open on Aug. 15. The display will feature a vintage collection of tools from the museum's inventory, with two speakers

on the agenda. Ann Sakaguchi Silverman, is Edwardsburg High School's retired home economics teacher. Her topic will be women's tools used in the kitchen, the garden, and for cleaning. She will speak at 7 pm, Aug. 15. At 7 pm on Sept. 19, John Sindelar, will share his knowledge about tools around the house based on his experience of collecting items dating to 150,000 BC.

The final speaker of the season will be Edwardsburg native Lee Montgomery, who will entertain guests with stories of his growing up years. The interview with him will be at 7 pm on Oct. 17.

The season will end with the Christmas display, "All Dolled Up," which opens on Nov. 6 and will showcase dolls from the museum's collection and from area residents.

The museum will close for the season on Dec. 14.

Paradise Lake Meet and Greet

Come meet your Paradise Lake Neighbors for some fun, food and conversation on Saturday, June 8, from 1-3 pm at Allen's Landing (next to Public Access) just off Day Lake Road. Time for us to get to know one another. Bring your chair and smiling faces. We will serve some light refreshments. RSVP to Cynthia McCarroll Coleman via email at Cynthia.m.coleman@gmail.com or phone (312) 519-9050.

Swim, sail, tennis classes at DLYC

The Diamond Lake Yacht Club is offering week-long swimming, sailing, and tennis lessons and activities for youth in the community. Details and all

contact info at www.dlycmi.org.

The swimming program follows the American Red Cross "Learn to Swim Program" as taught by the YMCA. The program is designed for children of all ages. All participants will be required to sign a release form prior to class. Swimming skills must be assessed by the YMCA prior to placement in class. Week 1 will be on July 1-5 (no class July 4); Week 2 will be July 8-11, and a Lifesaving Course will be July 15-18. Contact Sammee Schaller-Niles Y at www.ymcaswm.com, sschaller@ymcaswm.com Facebook at YMCA SWM page.

The Diamond Lake Yacht Club sailing program is open to all and will focus on learning the science of sailing, teaching basic sailing technique and getting kids in the boats and on the water for hands-on experience and fun. This summer will include lessons in several classes, including Pram (Opti's), Dinghy and Scow (Sunfish and Butterfly) and Adventure (various boats). Dates include July 1 - July 5 (no class July 4), July 8 - July 11, July 15 - July 18, July 22 - July 25, July 29 - Aug 1, and Aug 19 -Aug 22. Exact times & levels TBD. Pricing and other details are available at dlycmi.org.

Information is subject to change based on registration. All participants should bring a life jacket, water bottle, change of clothes, water shoes and towels. Check the www.DLYCMI.org website for details.

Pioneer Log Cabin Day Festival

The Log Cabin Museum at 1700 M-60/M62 in Cassopolis is open Memorial Day through Labor Day on

Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from 12:30 to 4:30 pm. The Pioneer Log Cabin Day Festival will be June 30, from Noon to 4 pm. The festival is free, all are welcome.

Cass County Fair Registration

Hailey Harman, Cass County 4-H Program Coordinator is reminding all youth exhibitors to the Cass County Fair that the registration deadline is midnight June 17th. New this year is the requirement that ALL youth registrations must be done on-line at: <https://www.blueribbonfair.com/BRFairProd/BlueRibbon-Start.aspx?ID=1466>

Anyone not having the ability to register at home is welcome to attend one of the "help sessions" or visit the MSU Extension office from 8 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday.

Harman states, "We realize the required on-line registration may be different for some of our youth, even though this will be the third year this system has been in place, so we have set "help sessions" where families can come and get completely registered." Those help sessions are scheduled for June 11 from 5:30-7 pm and June 15 from 10 am to 2 pm. Both sessions will be in the Gregarek Building at the Fairgrounds.

Youth showing as new members of a Cass County 4-H Club have to be enrolled in a club by May 31; youth living within Cass County do not need to belong to a 4-H club in order to show at the Cass County Fair, but they do have to adhere to all the same rules and deadlines.

Also due on June 17 are any pen reservation forms, which are available at the Extension office or on the Fair website:

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REGIONAL NEWS

www.mycasscountyfair.com. Complete instructions regarding the on-line registration are also available on the Cass County Fair website, as is the Cass County Fair book.

Underground Railroad Days

The Underground Railroad Society of Cass County (URSCC) celebrates its 10th year of collaboration with the Village of Vandalia, on Underground Railroad Days, a celebration of the legacy of the Underground Railroad (UGRR) in the community. The annual event is held ! July 12, 13& 14.

Opening Night, Friday July 12, 7 pm features "Seven Stops To Freedom," a

play performed by Dr. Von and Fran Washington, at Ross-Beatty High School in Cassopolis. On July 13 and 14, 11 am - 5pm there will be guided tours of sites of the 1847 Kentucky Slave Raid, UGRR presentations and displays in the Vandalia Youth Center, 102nd USCT Civil War Living History Encampment, and entertainment at the "Ramptown Cabin" in Milo Barnes Park. The Bonine House, Carriage House and Bogue House will be open for tours.

There is a soul food dinner in the Vandalia Village Hall (\$10), and arts & crafts booths and family events on the Vandalia village green. Call Beverly Young, Vandalia Village President, for

booth space (\$20) at 476-2344.

On Saturday at 5:30 pm there will be a gospel sing and community cook out on the Vandalia village green, and on Sunday at 11 am there will be a community church service at this location.

UGRR Days is a free community event, sponsored in part by the Michigan Humanities Council. More information can be found on www.urscc.org

Niles summer concerts


Niles' Riverfront Park, expects to draw big crowds to listen and dance to a variety of bands across genres when the Summer Concert Series returns. This year, the stage will see bands that

enchanted listeners last summer as well as new artists, too.

The concerts will kick off at 6 pm June 6 at the Riverfront Park amphitheater. The series will continue at 6 pm Thursdays through Aug. 29. The shows are free and open to the public to attend.

This year, several new bands will play, such as Kennedy's Kitchen and Justin McCormick. McCormick is a 16-year-old Nashville Recording Artist.


The Niles Summer Concert Series board has plans for a Fourth of July celebration which will be announced at a later date. To learn more about the Niles Summer Concert Series, those interested can visit the board's Facebook page.



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REGIONAL EVENTS CALENDAR

June 5 - Cass County non-motorized summit, 7 pm, Mathews Library, SMC, Dowagiac, 925-1137, ext 1521 or martink@swmpc.org

June 5, 12, 19, 26 -- Summer Story Time, Wednesdays at 10 am, Little ones will enjoy stories, music, hands-on activities and more. Cass District Library - Mason/Union Branch, 357-7821

June 6 - Aug 29 - Niles Sumer Concert series, Thursdays at 6 pm, Riverfront Park amphitheater, free, 683-8545, ext. 112

June 7, 8 - Swap Meet, 8 am, Michigan Flywheelers Museum, 06285 68th St, South Haven, <http://www.michiganflywheelers.org>

June 7, 14, 21, 28 -- Summer Story Time, Fridays at 10 am, Little ones will enjoy stories, music, hands-on activities and more. Cass District Library - Edwardsburg Branch, 487-9215

June 8 - Paradise Lake Meet and Greet, 1-3 pm, Allen's Landing, RSVP to m.coleman@gmail.com, (312) 519-9050.

June 8 -- Super Fun Color Run Warriors Against Trauma, 9 am, This color run is free to attend. Every participant needs a signed waiver, forms available at www.cass.lib.mi.us, Run is at Cass County Council on Aging. Questions? Call Cass District Library - Main Library, 357-7822

June 8 -- Summer Reading Club Begins, Open business hours at all Cass District Libraries, All ages are welcome to join our reading club, A Universe of Stories! Cass District Library - All Locations, 1-866-808-7323

June 8 - 2019 Diamond Lake Association Annual Meeting (all lake residents welcome) 10-11:30 am, Diamond Lake Yacht Club; dlacassopolis@gmail.com, www.dlacassopolis.org June 8 - Cass Area

Artists' ART SHOW, 10 am - 4 pm at Sinclair Station, Cassopolis, 228-8047

June 11 - Van Buren County non-motorized summit, 7 pm, Van Buren Conference Center, Lawrence, 925-1137, ext 1521 or martink@swmpc.org

June 13 -- Sweet Comfort Sign Painting Party, 6 pm, Adults only, cost is \$10 per person. Registration required. Cass District Library - Main Library, 357-7822

June 13-16 - Youth Play 'King Midas and the Golden Touch, Barn Swallow Theatre, Edwardsburg, 7:30 pm on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 2 pm Sunday, 228-6672

June 18 - Cass Historical Society program Potawatomi history and culture, Cass District Library - Main Branch, 7 pm

June 20 - Edwardsburg Area Museum program on the Edwardsburg Mysteries, 7 pm

June 21 & 22 - Diamond Lake All-Lake Garage Sale, 9 am - 2 pm Friday, 9 am - Noon Saturday; dlacassopolis@gmail.com, www.dlacassopolis.org

June 25 - 5 pm, National Association of Retired Federal Employees SW Michigan Chapter 572 monthly meeting of the year at the Super Buffet, Benton Harbor (next to Big Lots). All retired/current federal employees, spouses/families welcome. Jean Rowe, 782 2769 or e mail jeanrowe70@comcast.net

June 25 -- Birds of Prey, 11 am, Don't miss this live bird program! Sponsored by Midwest Energy. Cass District Library - Main Library, 357-7822

June 25 -- Birds of Prey, 1 pm, Don't miss this live bird program! Sponsored by G. W. Jones Exchange Bank. Cass District Library - Mason/Union Branch, 357-7821

June 27 -- Birds of Prey, 11 am, Don't miss this live bird program! Sponsored by Tyler Automotive. Cass District Library - Howard Branch, 487-9214

June 27 -- Birds of Prey, 1 pm, Don't miss this live bird program! Sponsored by Mayhew Funeral Home. Cass District Library - Edwardsburg Branch, 487-9215

June 27 -- Wonder Park, 6 pm, Join us for this family friendly movie! Popcorn also provided. Cass District Library - Main Library, 357-7822

June 30 - Log Cabin Day Festival, Cassopolis, 12:30 - 4:30 pm

July 1 - 18 - DLYC swimming program, www.dlycmi.org

July 1 - Aug 22 - DLYC sailing program, www.dlycmi.org

July 6 - FIREWORKS at Diamond Lake, Birch Lake.

July 16 - Cass Historical Society program Down the Sauk Trail, Cass District Library - Main Branch, 7 pm

July 18 - Edwardsburg Area Museum program on the current state of area business, 7 pm

June 18 -- Galaxy T-shirts, 1 pm, Bring your own black t-shirt to create your unique design! Other materials provided for free. Cass District Library - Howard Branch, 487-9214

June 18 -- Galaxy T-shirts, 3 pm, Bring your own black t-shirt to create your unique design! Other materials provided for free. Cass District Library - Edwardsburg Branch, 487-9215

June 19 -- Movie: Treasure Planet, 1 pm, Join us for this family friendly movie! Popcorn also provided. Cass District Library - Howard Branch, 487-9214

June 20 -- Galaxy T-shirts, 1 pm, Bring your own

black t-shirt to create your unique design! Other materials provided for free. Cass District Library - Mason/Union Branch, 357-7821

July 19, 20 - Summer in the City Festival, 10 am - 5 pm, Dowagiac, 782.8212, VPhillipson@Dowagiac.org

June 20 -- Galaxy T-shirts, 3 pm, Bring your own black t-shirt to create your unique design! Other materials provided for free. Cass District Library - Main Library, 357-7822

July 20 - Cass Area Artists' ART SHOW, 10 am - 4 pm at COA, Cassopolis, 228-8047

July 20 - 2019 Diamond Lake Triathlon, 7:30 - 10:30 am, Diamond Lake Marina; dlacassopolis@gmail.com, www.dlacassopolis.org, <https://runsignup.com/Race/MI/Cassopolis/DiamondLakeTriathlon>

July 23 - 5 pm, National Association of Retired Federal Employees SW Michigan Chapter 572 monthly meeting of the year at the Super Buffet, Benton Harbor (next to Big Lots). All retired/current federal employees, spouses/families welcome. Jean Rowe, 782 2769, jeanrowe70@comcast.net

July 25 - Ed's Open Header, "Cruise for the Cause" 5:30 - 8:30 pm, Dowagiac, proceeds will be given to the Cass County Cancer Service, 782-8212

July 27 - Steve's Run, 9 am - 1 pm, Southwestern Michigan College, 782.1000, <http://StevesRun.SWMich.edu/>

July 28-August 3 Cass County Fair <http://MyCassCountyFair.com>, 445.8265

August 15 - Edwardsburg Area Museum program on the tools around the house, 7 pm

August 17 - Rod & Roll Classic Auto Show, 7 am - 4 pm, Dowagiac, 782.8212

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REGIONAL EVENTS CALENDAR

August 20 - April 16 - Cass Historical Society annual picnic, Russ Forest pavilion, 6 pm

August 27 - 5 pm, National Association of Retired Federal Employees SW Michigan Chapter 572 monthly meeting of the year at the Super Buffet, Benton Harbor (next to Big Lots). All retired/current federal employees, spouses/families welcome. Jean Rowe, 782 2769 or e mail jeanrowe70@comcast.net

August 31 - Kee-Boon-Mein-Kaa Pow Wow, 9 am, <http://PokagonPowWow.com>, 782.8998

September 5-8 - Antique Engine & Tractor Show, Thursday - Saturday 8 am to 8 pm, Sunday 8 am to 4 pm, Michigan Flywheelers Museum, 06285 68th St, South Haven, <http://www.michiganflywheelers.org>.

September 17 - Cass Historical Society program

Bonine House and Carriage House, Cass District Library - Main Branch, 7 pm

September 19 - Edwardsburg Area Museum program on the tools around the house, 7 pm

September 24 - 5 pm, National Association of Retired Federal Employees SW Michigan Chapter 572 monthly meeting of the year at the Super Buffet, Benton Harbor (next to Big Lots). All retired/current federal employees, spouses/families welcome. Jean Rowe, 782 2769 or e mail jeanrowe70@comcast.net

October 6 - April 16 - Cass Historical Society Fall Festival at Newton House, 1-4:30 pm

October 12 - Under the Harvest Moon Festival, 10 am - 4 pm, Dowagiac, 782.8212.

October 15 - Cass Historical Society review of year, Cass District Library - Main Branch, 7 pm

October 17 - Edwardsburg Area Museum program on Lee Montgomery stories, 7 pm

October 22 - 5 pm, National Association of Retired Federal Employees SW Michigan Chapter 572 monthly meeting of the year at the Super Buffet, Benton Harbor (next to Big Lots). All retired/current federal employees, spouses/families welcome. Jean Rowe, 782 2769 or e mail jeanrowe7@comcast.net

October 27 - Trunk 'n Treat, 6 - 7 pm, Dowagiac, 782-0000

November 6 - Edwardsburg Area Museum Christmas program, 7 pm

November 15, 16 - Christmas Open House Weekend, 10 am - 5 pm, Dowagiac, 782.8212.

November 30 - Small Business Saturday, 10 am - 11 pm, Dowagiac, 782-8212

December 3 - 1:30 pm The National Association of Retired Federal Employees SW Michigan Chapter 572 will hold their annual holiday dinner at Coach's Bar & Grill, Stevensville. All retired/current federal employees, spouses/families welcome, no RSVP needed. No business meeting, new officers will be sworn in. Next meeting is March 24, 2020. For information call Jean Rowe, 782 2769 or e mail jeanrowe70@comcast.net

December 6 - Candlelight Christmas Parade, 7 - 9 pm, Dowagiac, 782.8212

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PASTA ITALIA CON CHEF DONATO

Fettuccine with morels & asparagus in tarragon cream sauce

by Chef Dennis Bamber

This is a seasonal dish with morels popping out of the ground after this wet spring and Michigan asparagus available. With the ingredients being used in this recipe, this is actually a French dish and not Italian. Because this is such a rich dish, you could use this as a smaller serving as an appetizer as well. I used this sauce without the Parmesan cheese and asparagus as a sauce or veal recently. It would also be great on steaks on the grill.



INGREDIENTS

- 1 lb of fettuccine
- 1 or 2 shallots finely minced
- 3-4 cloves of garlic finely minced.
- 1 splash of white wine
- 1/1/2 cups of chicken broth

- 2 cups of cream or 1/2 and 1/2
- 3-4 pats of butter
- 2 tablespoons of olive oil
- 2 tablespoons of finely chopped tarragon
- 1 tablespoons of finely chopped thyme
- 1 cup of grated Parmesan cheese
- 2 cups or more of morels mushrooms, washed, rinsed and salted and peppered
- 2 cups or more of fresh asparagus cut into 1/2 " pieces, tops and part of stem,

not the thicker part.
salt & pepper to taste

DIRECTIONS

1. Melt the butter and olive oil in a pan. add the shallots and saute for 4-5 minutes. Add the garlic and cook for 1-2 minutes, then add the mushrooms and cook for 3-4 minutes. Then add the white wine and let it reduce.

2. Add the chicken stock, the tarragon, the thyme and let it reduce by 1/2.
3. Add the asparagus, cook for a minute or 2 and then add the cream. Let the sauce reduce and thicken a bit and before serving add the Parmesan and stir well.
4. Cook the fettuccine in salted boiling water until very Al Dente, then drain and add to the sauce and finish cooking, stirring often.
5. Serve in bowls or plates putting the mushrooms and asparagus on top as much as possible.

~Buon appetito

Dennis Bamber is an avid cook. He grew up in the restaurant business and has traveled extensively worldwide as well as being a partner in a business in Paris for 9 years. He is a second generation Italian-American. He is currently a Realtor with Cressy & Everett, Licensed in Michigan and Indiana, and specializes in lake property.



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LAKE LIFE WITH JANE

Just saying 'June' makes me happy!

by **Jane Boudreau**

Hey Neighbors, it's June and just saying that makes me happy. I've been here at the lake since the beginning of May and I was blessed to see my beautiful flowering plum tree bloom. As the petals fall, they look like confetti. Very magical. This tree is on the street side of my house so it doesn't get much attention but for the mailman and UPS.

We do however, have a groundhog



living under our shed, and it's in the garden where I normally put my little dog, Layla, on a lead (she's a runaway psycho). Last weekend the fat woodchuck was spotted on the patio and it actually came up the steps and peered into the doors. I was stunned, but also amazed to see the funny little face and long whiskers that close--and behind the safety of the door. When Layla finally focused on it she nearly slammed into the glass going after it. She's fearless. When I saw Mr. or Mrs. Woodchuck scurry under my shed, I knew that wasn't going to be safe for Layla so now I bring her out front and sit on the porch while she sniffs her new territory and rolls in the unknown.

In late 2017 I shared with all of you, my readers, that my dog, Milo, had cancer.



He had chemotherapy and did incredibly well. He actually surpassed what his veterinarian expected. He came out of remission last September, and again had the doctor shaking his head in amazement. Lymphoma in dogs hits fast and hard. We came up to the lake a few weeks ago and it wasn't long before he started to go downhill fast. Last week we had to say goodbye to each other. I was grateful we made it here for the start of one last summer, his 16th. And though I was very close with the clinic in Chicago, it just felt right to be here when there was nothing left to do for him. I have to give a big thank you to Bergman Veterinary and Small Animal Hospital in Cassopolis. They got me in quickly when I explained how Milo had taken a turn for the worse. We saw Dr. Scot Moore, who spoke with me professionally and with warmth. I was able to sit and hold my boy once he was sedated, and they

gave me a blanket to wrap him up in. I wanted to bring him back home like that, calm and snoring. The technician made a mold of his paw print with a card signed by the staff. She finally took him from my arms, cradled him like a baby and left. It has been very, very hard. I've had the support of all my blog followers and readers of my columns--there's nothing much better to unite people than a good faithful furry friend. And again, thank you Bergman and Dr. Moore. I'm hanging in there.

By the time you read this we will have our gardens and pots planted, grass all greened up, outdoor furniture in place,



and grills cleaned and shiny. Sometimes I'm grateful for rainy days so that I can focus on the indoors. It's usually a whirlwind of washing sheets and towels for summer guests, spiffing up, and replacing some worn out things. I don't know why I do this, but I'll look at bath towels that I can practically see through and know I have to replace them as they are so worn out. And when I come home with bright, clean new towels, I can't bring myself to cut up the old ones for rags or just toss them. Am I really this cheap? I personally don't care what I dry off with, but I don't expect others to like faded and torn towels. But I did manage to get a great deal at Target on oversized towels and picked up a huge wicker basket at Hobby Lobby to store them in. Still, I secretly stored the old ones on a shelf in my closet.

As far as decor, I wanted to share just a little something I find to be a bit of a dilemma if you have a lakehouse, or any type of house with very large rooms. The "open concept" way of building makes a great visual impact, but it can seem cold and impersonal. We have a Great room with a 19 foot ceiling. It can seem cavernous, and hard to furnish in a way that provides some coziness. I have the sofa and love seat around the fireplace, and that gets used a lot in the winter and for afternoon naps. Along a long wall is our harvest table that seats 200. Maybe, it seems like it can. And then I created this little conversation area in a corner and it is the most used spot in the room. It's cozy, comfy, and you can look out at the water. I used an ottoman because there is no such thing as a small coffee table, and actually saved a bundle with the thrifted black table. I also had the twenty-eight year old furniture recovered. Another tip I have is when you have a large wall space, use large pieces. I have done a gallery wall arrangement here and it just felt like a mish mash of unrelated things. I love old salvaged pieces and have a few vintage windows at my other home, but this particular window was a steal at Hobby Lobby. Having a smaller piece next to it keeps it from feeling alone and boring.

Another problem people might have with lake homes is an expanse of windows, and even more problematic, is windows that reach the floor. Should you put anything in front of them? Can it be



treated like a wall? I wasn't sure what to do and for the longest time I had a jade plant that grew into a monster from all the sun, and a tall bar type of table with two chairs. That bothered me to no end because even though it was compact in size, it was tall and blocked the view. I came across this table/cabinet/shelf at Sweet Comfort Shop in Edwardsburg. It's very solid, hand painted and distressed, with a beautiful dark stain on the top. I'm loving it and it was so fun just finding pieces from around the house to style it with. A burning candle on it at night adds a soft glow inside and out. So ... proof positive that you can definitely have furniture in front of expansive windows.

On to recipes. My favorite part of the column and yours, and I do love summer cooking. We only have about 4 months to get that on, so much to be shared with friends and family, and while I think the tried and true is always good, there is not



going to be enough days in my life to try all the recipes I have. So I encourage you to switch it up, take chances, try a new ingredient or combination of ingredients that you never thought to use together.

So first up I have Chinese Sticky Pork Ribs. While slabs of ribs are always good on the grill, and hey--'tis the season, this can go from your stove to a platter to serve inside or outdoors. You can serve it as dinner for 4, or an appetizer for 6+. While they are braising, cook up some rice and make a salad or some sliced, refreshing cucumbers. This sauce is sweet, tart, spicy, and sticky, of course!

Chinese Sticky Pork Ribs

Ingredients:

2 lbs. pork spare ribs (ask your butcher to

slice them individually and then cross-wise into 3 pieces)

- 1 T dry sherry
- 3 T cider vinegar
- 2 T dark soy sauce
- 4 T sugar
- 5 T water

Directions:

Place the ribs in a large heavy sauce pan. Mix together the sauce and pour over the ribs. Bring to a boil, stirring well. Lower heat, cover and simmer about 45 minutes until tender. Serve with lots of napkins.

This is a wonderful pasta salad with a nice twist of cheese tortellini in place of your regular old pasta. You can also buy the fresh tortellini in the refrigerated section of your store if you don't want to use frozen. Feel free to throw in or top with a palmful of fresh or dried herbs. I love



rosemary and basil.

Cheese Tortellini Salad

Ingredients:

- 1 9 oz. package frozen cheese tortellini, cooked and drained
- 1 6 oz. can of medium size black olives, drained
- 1 7 oz. jar of green, olives, drained
- 1 14 oz. bottle of good Italian Dressing.
- 1/4 cup of finely grated Parmesan cheese.
- 1/2 pound hard salami, thinly sliced and cut into bite-size pieces or about 4 slices cut into 1/4 inch thick slices and cubed

Chopped parsley and grated Parmesan for garnish

Directions:

Cook the tortellini according to package directions. Drain both types of olives. Place the tortellini and olives in a large bowl. Add the diced hard salami. Add 3/4 the bottle of well shaken dressing. Stir until all ingredients are well combined. Allow to chill for 2-3 hours or overnight. Stir just before serving. If needed, add more dressing. Garnish with Parmesan Cheese and chopped Parsley. Serves 4

I'm not giving you a burger recipe, I'm sure you know how to make your fave. For this recipe I ask that you fry up some bacon and have good cheese and some nice lettuce leaves to add freshness and crunch. The star of the show is a relish to replace the ketchup, mustard and pickle relish. Try it on your friends-honest friends, and then go forward confidently with it at all of your cookouts. It is that good.

Red Onion Relish

Ingredients:

- 1 small red onion, chopped
- 2 T vegetable oil
- 1/4 c light brown sugar

Continued on next page. See:

JANE

OUR CHILDREN

Prioritizing family time this summer

You've heard it over and over: What your children want most from you is your attention. This summer, why not build some family fun into your schedule? Your kids will enjoy it (whether they admit it or not), and you will be building bonds that last a lifetime. Educators and psychologists agree that positive and fun time spent with parents is hugely valuable for kids, teaching them social skills, values, and much, much more.

It's All About Attitude

Family time only works when everyone has the right attitude. This starts with the adults in the group. Put your focus where it belongs-on the other members of the family! Turn off the phone and tablet, and pay attention to what's going on around you. Live in the moment, so to speak, and make sure it's obvious to the kids, especially. They need to know that they are your priority right then.

Nearly any time you spend with the kids can be 'family time,' even if the whole family is not present. There's value in enjoying the interactions in more private moments, so much so that it is usually a great idea to plan some of them. Take each kid on a special outing with just one parent. Plan a time to enjoy the company of a few of the kids while the others are away with friends, at camp, or participating in other activities. Remember that they won't be this age much longer, and the time to treasure them and make memories is right now.

It's Not the 'What' But the 'How'

Going through daily or weekly routines (like grocery shopping or having bath time) can and should be just as special as taking a family vacation. Time spent doing chores together can count as family time. The secret is in how you approach the activities with the kids. Do things with them instead of for them. Help them learn but don't make it too hard for them to be successful. Share your attitudes and values by example without being preachy. These are the secrets to turning nearly every activity into fun.

For example, take cooking. It's something that most adults do every day, and it's a necessary part of life. You can include the kids sometimes. They will be thrilled and you will get some needed assistance. Best of all, they will learn, be

part of a key activity, and learn along the way. Nearly every child is excited to get into the kitchen, so take the opportunity to cook together whenever you can. The youngest of little ones can stir, crack eggs (yes it can get messy, but the experience is well worthwhile), spread things on bread, assemble sandwiches, and more. Give hands-on supervision when needed, and be sure to teach the skill to them before you expect them to perform independently. Older kids can be responsible for reading and following recipes, using some appliances, and even choosing some of the dishes for the meal. Your preteens and teens are ready to take responsibility (after they've learned the basics) for planning and preparing meals. Start simple, with lunch or breakfast, and then graduate to more complex and intricate meals. At the end of the process, your child will be fully capable of feeding his or her own family nutritious and delicious meals when the time comes.

What if you yourself don't know how to cook? There's no time like the present to learn! Learn together with your child, laugh at the mistakes, and take pride in the accomplishments. Learning together can be an experience like no other, and learning new cooking skills will help everyone live better. This is the way that routine, dull chores turn into projects and memories.

What if your children are reluctant to join you in the kitchen? This one is easy. Choose a type of food that they love, and help them learn to fix it. You might use the internet or specialty cookbooks to create the best pizza in the world or to find great desserts from other cultures. The possibilities are nearly endless.

What if you don't have the ready cash for some of that fancy stuff? No problem! Make it a project to learn how to cook on a budget. There are loads of resources out there, and made-from-scratch foods are usually much less expensive than the processed, prepared kind. In the long run, you will save tons of cash. Check for recipes that use beans, eggs, and other less expensive ingredients, and have a competition to see who can plan the best meal on a limited per-serving budget. You will be teaching some great skills and helping your child be ready for any type of circumstances that life may throw at them later.

And that's just a quick example of how you can turn every day activities into family time. No need for lots of extra time or expense; just be creative and

bring the right attitude to the table and you will create family time.

It's Not the 'What' But the 'Who'

The best family times do not have to be the most expensive or elaborate ones. What actually counts in the children's eyes is your attention. So while we all dream of taking the family to Disney or being able to pack up and go to Europe for a few weeks, remember that having a picnic out in the yard may well be just as meaningful to your family. Here are a few ideas for simple, quick, local fun that you might enjoy this summer.

Head to the park. Our area is full of fabulous park properties, and most are only a few moments away from anywhere. You can hike, learn about nature, experience playgrounds, play games, and much more. Take a picnic and spend the day, or go for a thirty-minute walk in the woods. Whatever you choose to do, make sure you plan for the things that will help your family be comfortable, like wearing the right clothing, taking the bug spray, and using the sun screen.

Visit the zoo. There are a few of them within short drives of here and they make for wonderful day trips. Most allow you to bring your own picnic, but check ahead to be sure. This is a good way to save a bit of cash since concession foods are usually pretty expensive. Learn about the animals, and maybe try a scavenger hunt. Who in the family can be the first to find everything on the list?

Change your routines. Sometimes you don't even have to go anywhere or pay for anything to shake things up and make a fun family memory. Just switch up the usual, make it novel, and you enter a whole new realm of fun for kids. Try having a meal in an unusual location. Picnic in the living room? Snack on the porch? Climb to the top of the jungle gym to eat? Set up a tent with chairs and blankets? Set up a real tent and sleep outside? Have a "Backwards Day" where you eat supper for breakfast and work your way back to bed? Kids love novelty, and if you ask them, they will dream up all sorts of crazy things to try. Most of them are quite do-able, too.

Hold a photo scavenger hunt. Nearly everyone has a phone that can take pictures these days, and that makes photography much less expensive than it used to be. How about a family photo scavenger hunt? Make up a list of things to find and snap shots of, then go out and be creative. Your list can be specific, concrete

things out in the real world, or you can get creative with each item by asking for things such as the largest amount of water in one place or use riddles for clues, such as "The more I dry, the wetter I get" (a towel). Have fun!

Do some volunteer work as a family. Plant some flowers around important places (with the owners' permission). Work in a community garden. Help pack food at the local pantry. Hold a drive in the neighborhood for pet food to donate to the local shelter. Helping others is a great way to bring your family together and give everyone a feeling of satisfaction.

Have a family work day. When folks are home from school and work, there might be enough free time to get some of those long-neglected chores done around the house. Have everyone pitch in with an age-appropriate job, then get a treat for all, like a popsicle or an ice cream cone. Many hands make light work, and you'll be nurturing a work ethic that will serve your kids well when they have homes of their own.

Set aside a few family game nights. Look through the kids' game closet and find some great family games that everyone can play, then spend an hour or two enjoying them together. Kids will benefit from playing more experienced players because they will learn rules, strategies, and more. Adults will benefit from the relaxing, no pressure fun. Everyone will have a great time, too. What if you don't have a family game closet? Well, next time you are at the Dollar Store, grab a deck of cards or two. They are very inexpensive and you can play an endless number of games with them. Grab a Book of Hoyle at the library or search for appropriate card game rules on the internet. Remember that many favorite commercial card games like Uno and Skipbo have their origins in games that can be played with regular decks of cards.

What other ideas can you dream up? Jot a few of them down and ask the kids to write some down (or dictate them) too. Put each idea on a separate piece of paper and drop them into a hat or a bowl. Take turns drawing one out to guide what you will do next during this great season for family fun!

Sandy Fleming is an educational consultant, tutor, and writer living in Edwardsburg. Check out the website for more learning fun: <http://sandy-flemingonline.com>.

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HISTORIC POSTCARDS

Historic postcards depict rich scenes of our area's past

In this issue of Neighbors, Jerdon Real Estate of Dowagiac, owned by Floyd Jerdon and his son Tom, has provided antique postcards of a few of the many lakes in our area.

Floyd and his wife Donna started collecting post cards more than 20 years ago, and since Jerdon Real Estate specializes in marketing lake property, it was a natural fit that Floyd's interest be directed to the lake cards. The collection now numbers many thousands.

Jerdon has recently used many of his postcards featuring the Sister Lakes area in a book written by RL Rasmussen. The book, which retails for \$19.99, is in its second printing by the publisher, Arcadia Publishing.

Among other places, the book may be purchased at the Jerdon Real Estate office on M-62 West, and at Whistlestop Gifts, which is operated by the Dowagiac Chamber of Commerce.

For more information or to get a copy of Jerdon's book, visit the website: www.arcadiapublishing.com


In this edition of Neighbors we have selected postcards showing images of Sister Lakes and the nearby area. In future issues, we will couple additional cards from one or more of the area's lakes with views of nearby communities, lakes and countryside.



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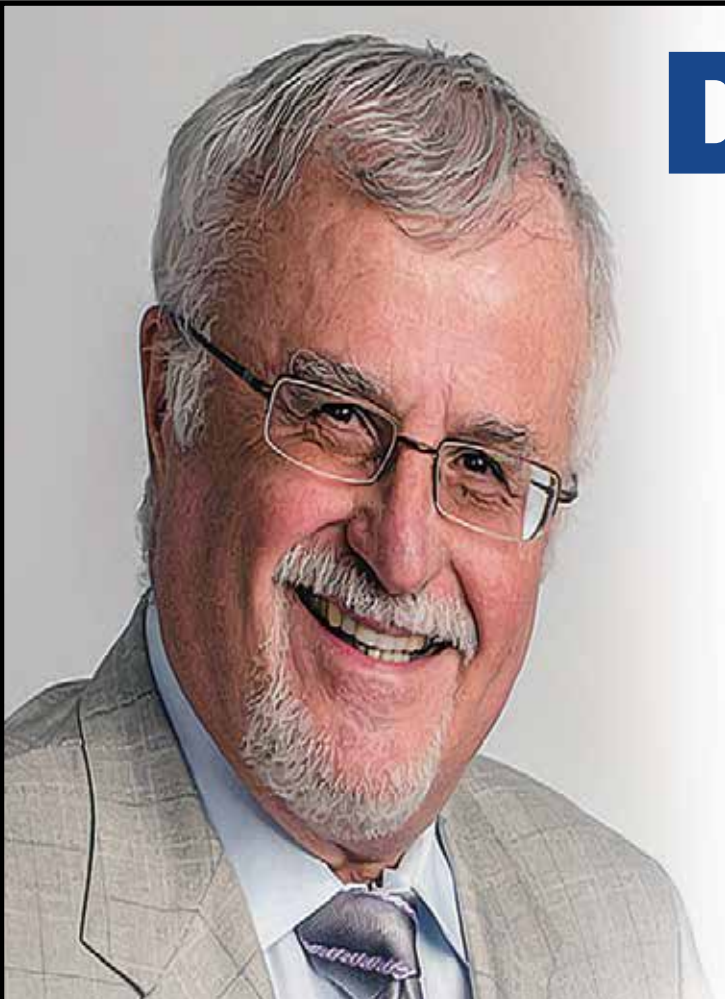
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NATURE NOTES

Spring migration brings many bird species

Provided by Cass District Library
Local History Branch

Male yellow-headed blackbirds tend to catch the eye of even the casual bird waters. Within the past few weeks two of the species, both males, have turned up at area feeders, including one on April 21 near Benton Harbor's Jean Klock Park, at the feeder of Kerri Teachout. Another male yellow-headed blackbird was photographed on April 29 in St. Joseph by Stanley Masters.

Yellow-headed blackbirds are common in Wisconsin and northern Illinois, and over most of the western US and Canada, but excluding the west coast. It winters in the southwestern US and Mexico. The species prefers large expansive marshes and grasslands, which are found on the Great Plains.

Michigan's first documented yellow-headed blackbird came in 1890 in the UP, but in the Lower Peninsula the species was not recorded until 1960.

There are disjunct breeding populations in Michigan at Muskegon Wastewater Facility, and along the Muskegon River and around the Saginaw Bay region. In Berrien County, an average of less than five yellow-headed blackbirds are reported each year, all local sightings are migrants.

Elizabeth Gravitt of Sodus Township saw several species of wood warblers on May 13 at Warren Woods State Park. Highlights included a male black-throated green warbler and a male black-throated blue warbler, near the Galien River. Both species nest farther north in Michigan and Canada among large tracts of forests, although the black-throated green will nest sparingly in the woods adjacent to the Lake Michigan shoreline in Berrien County.

The yellow-throated warbler is common in the southern US in the summer and a few of them barely reach southern Michigan, which is the extreme northern edge of their range.

Berrien County is known for harboring a reliable population of yellow-throated warblers along the Galien River and its tributaries. The yellow-throated warbler has a particular liking for the American sycamore tree, in which it nests and feeds on insects. Thus, the photo of one at the bird feeder Kristo Brazo of Bertrand Township was noteworthy.

Rob Pearce on staff at Sarett Nature Center reported a yellow-throated warbler, seen low to the ground near the nature center building on Sunday morning, May 12.



Top left: Male yellow-headed Blackbird, Jean Klock Park, Benton Harbor, April 21, 2019. Kerri Teachout. Top right: Male Baltimore oriole, May 7, 2019 in Lincoln Township. Scott Glenn. Middle left, Male black-throated blue warbler along Galien River inside Warren Woods State Park. Elizabeth Gravitt of Sodus. May 13, 2019. Bottom left: Yellow-throated warbler at the feeder of Kristi Brazo of Bertrand Township. The yellow-throated warbler spends most of its time among the high branches of the American sycamore, and thus a visit to a ground-level bird feeder is a treat for bird watchers. Above, center: Male ruby-throated hummingbird (left) and male rose-breasted grosbeak (right). Scott Glenn, Lincoln Township, May 7, 2019. Above right: Male orchard oriole at hummingbird feeder on May 3, 2019, Oronoko Township by Dick Schinkel.

Pearce also reported a female hooded merganser with 10 young, seen last week on the nature center grounds, on Waxwing Pond. Hooded mergansers are regular migrants through Southwest Michigan in spring and fall but are quite uncommon as a resident, nesting species. There are fewer than 10 records of hooded mergansers nesting within the county since 1962.

Spring migration reaches its peak in early May, lasting until the middle of the month. Over the course of the last few

days I have received dozens of reports of Baltimore and orchard orioles, rose-breasted grosbeaks, ruby-throated hummingbirds and scarlet tanagers. Scott Glenn of Lincoln Township captured an image of a male ruby-throated hummingbird and male rose-breasted grosbeak at his feeding station on May 3.

The rose-breasted grosbeak winter in the tropics, and thus is a long-distance migrant, commuting between North and South America each spring and fall. Rose-breasted grosbeaks are primarily

insect eaters, but will eat seeds in May, when they are low on calories from their long journey.

Baltimore and orchard orioles also migrate between the tropics and North America, and are a welcomed sight at hummingbird feeders in the spring. Many bird watchers put out jelly and citrus fruit, which are appreciated by both

Continued on next page. See:
NATURE

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NATURE NOTES

NATURE

Continued from previous page

species as they arrive back to their summer range.

Species such as orioles and rose-breasted grosbeaks will segue from the high calorie sugar diet to mostly insects or other invertebrates as seasonal high temperatures increase.

A male summer tanager appeared at the feeders of Robert and Marlene Smith in Lake Township, May 7. Summer tanagers occur every year in Berrien County, but in very small numbers. The species summer range extends northward to southern Indiana and Ohio. Over the past 20-30 years more summer tanagers have been recorded nesting north of their traditional summer range.

Warren Dunes State Park has harbored at least one pair of summer tanagers every nesting season (June-July) over the last 15 years.

Scarlet tanagers have arrived back in our area within the last week. Males of this species are red with black wings while the female is olive green with black wings. Scarlet tanagers nest in forested areas throughout the Great Lakes region,



Top left: Male scarlet tanager at Warren Dunes State Park, May 7, 2019. Brad Anderson. Above and right: Male summer tanager photographed by Marlene Smith in Lake Township, May 7, 2019. Summer tanagers have been nesting north of their traditional summers range in recent years.

but have declined larger woodlots have become fragmented due to development. The species also falls victim to



brown-headed cowbird parasitism, being with one of her own. when the female cowbird removes the tanager egg from a nest and replaces it



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LOCAL HISTORY

Early Cassopolis railroad depots

Provided by Cass District Library
Local History Branch

The old Air Line Railroad, owned in its later years by the Michigan Central Railway Company, ran from Jackson, through Cass County to Niles. It was constructed from 1869-1871 and began passenger service in February 1871.

The brick depot shown in one accompanying photo was located on the east side of O'Keefe Street, where it intersects Railroad Street, Cassopolis, and replaced an earlier frame structure that served as depot from 1871 to 1906. The brick depot open in 1906 and was used until February 11, 1943 when passenger service ceased.

An intriguing photograph showing the original Air Line depot taken in the 1870s was published in the February 18, 1943 edition of the Cassopolis Vigilant, and ran with a story about the history of the Air Line Railroad. No original print of this photo is known to exist, but it was said to have been taken by Henry Deal of Cassopolis. The print loaned to the Vigilant was supplied by Ellsworth Phillips and in addition to the old depot, showed a very old steam locomotive with two gentlemen standing next to it wearing stove pipe hats. This photograph is one of



Michigan Central Railroad Depot on 11 June 1920, near Community Mills is currently located.

the earliest non-studio photographs taken in Cassopolis.

Another railroad, the Grand Trunk Rail, was built through Cassopolis in February 1871 and began operating in June of that year. The depot can be seen on the left side of the photo which also shows a



Grand Trunk Western Railroad circa 1920 at Depot and Water Streets.

large steam engine. This depot was reportedly built in Granger, Indiana in 1888, and moved sometime around 1900 to Cassopolis to the intersection of Water and Depot Streets, where it was used until 1937. Sometime after the mi-1980s, the building was moved to its present location, 137 Depot Street.

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THE LAST WORD

Peace and acceptance and tolerance ...



about a million years ago, when I was just a lad of 13-ish, a rock and roll band called The Byrds released a hit single called "Turn, Turn, Turn." Unlikely as it might seem for the otherwise turbulent and often violent 1960s, the song, which was based on a Bible verse, was an equal success with beatniks, peace-niks, protesters, hippies, draft dodgers, pot smokers, long-hairs, student agitators and about a hundred different kinds of revolutionaries and activists of the era.

*To everything (turn, turn, turn)
There is a season (turn, turn, turn)
And a time to every purpose, under heaven
A time to be born, a time to die
A time to plant, a time to reap
A time to kill, a time to heal
A time to laugh, a time to weep*

Like most of my peers of the era, I bought a 45 rpm recording of the song and stacked it (along with a half dozen or so other 45s) onto the plastic adapter of the gray-and-black hi-fi my older brother and I used day and night, strategically placed the speakers at each end of our shared bedroom to achieve the maximum "stereo" effect that the mono device could achieve, blasted the volume and harmonized like a couple of badly tuned chainsaws into our fake microphones while The Byrds played backup.

Flash forward more than half a century and an old man is sitting in the sun on his deck when some oldies station blasting from a neighbor's house plays Turn Turn Turn ... and suddenly this old

man became that same 13 year-old kid for a few minutes as my mind struggled to put the simple lyrics back into the right order as I hummed (off tune) the melody and remembered that scene that took place a lifetime ago.

It was about peace and acceptance and tolerance I remembered just before a jet ski cut across the water in front of my house, shattering the calm, still air with its motorized squeal and throwing a jet of water into the air as it roared past.

Peace and acceptance and tolerance. Despite the annoyance I let my mind wander back to the happy memory; let the hackles on my back relax.

The rider did an abrupt U-turn and came back by for another pass that was noisy enough to make my teeth itch, shrill enough to draw my last unfrayed nerve taut as a drumhead.

Turn Turn Turn, I mumbled, willing myself calm as I watched the pesky water nymph roar between the end of my pier and three slow moving pontoon boats, oblivious to its traffic flow breach of etiquette and common sense.

Tarnation and brimstone burst from my lips ... Slow down boy!

Let it go, I told myself.

Turn Turn Turn, I refrained as I retracted my talons.

Peace and acceptance and tolerance.

I leaned back in the lounge chair and let the sun warm my cold thoughts. My mind drifted back to the 1960s, and I thought about fireflies in a mayonnaise jar on a hot summer night; and about the sweat that gathered in the folds of my neck when I rode my bike across town to the neighborhood pool; and about the quiet, peaceful rumble of a far-off freight

train humming on distant railroad tracks into the still of the night, the sound wafting in on the soft breeze through the screen in my bedroom window.

I could almost turn my head and see my brother asleep in his bed across the room, and I could almost make out the dark shape of our prized hi fi record player in the corner by the desk.

I could almost feel the easy, carefree days of my childhood wash over me, cleansing away the stress and worries of adulthood; ridding me of the burdens that accompany responsibility; relieving me of the aches and infirmities of advancing age.

The jet ski roared past again, this time joined by its twin in a raucously roaring race that instantly collapsed whatever was left of my calm.

Tarnation and brimstone.

I felt my blood pressure rise; felt the little vein on my forehead start to pulse.

Calm, I told myself.

Turn Turn Turn I hummed softly.

Peace and acceptance and tolerance.

I closed my eyes and once again sought the serenity of that darkened bedroom of my youth. Slow, deep breaths I reminded myself as the dental-drill hum of the overgrown dragonflies grew in intensity as the riders pivoted by for yet another annoying pass at my sanity.

One eye opened in a squinty, evil glare as they again buzzed the end of my pier and spun into an intricate dance that reminded me of a punk-rock slam dance at a damp-smelling Seattle bar.

My forehead started to itch and my teeth pulsed in frustration. I was pretty sure I was close to an eruption of gray matter from my ears.

"Noisy, aren't they," a voice said from off the right. My neighbor was casually leaning against the deck rail, watching the offending mosquitoes buzz.

"Kinda makes me wish we had an anti-noise ordinance," he said, the spite dripping off his words. "It's not as bad as it used to be ... the old ones were really noisy. I guess I'm getting old ... they bother me more now-a-days."

Bathed in the buzz of the rampaging, infernal machines, we were lulled into a quiet watchfulness as we awaited their boisterous return.

Once more they blew past.

"I still think we should look into an anti-noise ordinance," he said as he walked away.

Left to my thoughts, I tried desperately to tune out the dull drone.

They roared past again.

And again.

And again.

My brain was melting (and I'm pretty sure it wasn't from the sun).

Calm down, I told myself.

Turn Turn Turn.

Peace and acceptance and tolerance.

*To everything (turn, turn, turn)
There is a season (turn, turn, turn)*

That's it, I eureka-ed! A season!

An anti-noise ordinance would never work ... but if we made a season for those noisy monstrosities ... that might work ... especially if we set a bag limit of, say, two or three a day!

That'd thin 'em out quick!

Turn Turn Turn

Peace and acceptance and tolerance. Not!



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