**Heat from A/C starts afghan on fire**

A polyester afghan sealing off a window around an air conditioning unit caught fire last weekend in a mobile home in Cedar Springs Mobile Estates.

According to Cedar Springs Fire Chief Marty Fraser, they received the call at 11:07 a.m., Saturday, July 22, for 336 Carol Street. When they arrived on scene at 11:11 a.m., smoke and flames were coming out the front door. And by 11:14 a.m., they had the fire under control.

He said that the fire was contained to the sofa area in the living room. The air conditioner was above it, with the air in the living room. The air conditioner was above it, with the fire in the living room.

The Kent County Sheriff Department was on scene and helped evacuate the family, which consisted of a mom, dad, and three children, including a six-week-old baby. Several animals were also rescued.

**Wife convicted in husband’s murder**

Glenna Duram, 49, was convicted Wednesday, July 19, of first-degree murder in the May 2015 shooting of her husband, Martin Duram, 45. The jury deliberated about eight hours before rendering its verdict.

“We are happy Glenna is finally convicted; it took over 2 years to happen,” said Christina Keller, Martin Duram’s ex-wife, on behalf of their children and herself. “And we give gratitude and thanks to the 12 fine people of Newaygo that took the time and made the hard decision to convict Glenna.”

According to the original police report, firefighters responded to a garage fire on 128th Street, near Balsam, on Wednesday, May 13, 2015. A neighbor reportedly asked firefighters to check on some neighbors, and they found a man and a woman inside the house, and apparently deceased.

Troopers from the Michigan State Police Hart Post responded to the scene, and after making the scene safe, determined that the woman, Glenna Duram, was seriously injured, but still breathing. She had two gun-shot wounds to the head. Martin Duram reportedly had been shot five times. Glenna was transported to the hospital.

On the following day, when Martin’s three children (from a previous marriage) were going through things in the house, they found a manila envelope with suicide letters written to Glenna’s children and ex-husband. They said she was sorry, but didn’t admit to killing Martin.

According to Keller, Martin and Glenna were married in 2005, and Glenna managed the money and the bills. About two weeks before the murder, a family member called Martin and told him that his house was in the paper in foreclosure, and was to be auctioned off. He reportedly got a copy of the paper and showed it to Glenna, who said it was a misprint and that she would call the paper. However, papers reportedly strewn around at the scene of the crime showed it was indeed going to be put up for auction.

In an odd twist to the case, the African grey parrot that was the Duram’s pet ended up with Keller after the murder, and began to repeat a conversation he had heard—complete with expletives—that ended with “Don’t f**k shoot!”

“After Marty’s murder my kids brought me the bird. He used to be mine and I have another parrot here so it made sense to give him to me,” explained Keller. “Anyway, a few weeks after Bud being here I started ranting in two voices I recognized...so I recorded him and realized what he was saying and it upset me that he saw what happened to Marty,” she said. A video of the bird’s rant can be heard on the Justice for Marty Facebook page.

It had been a year since Duram’s murder, with no arrest, when a family member alerted a television reporter about the bird. “Bud helped us get attention for Marty’s murder and I believe it put pressure on the prosecutor to make the arrest with all the media pressure,” remarked Keller.

Duram is due to be sentenced August 28 on the first-degree murder charge and a firearms charge.
Post travels to Dominican Republic for wedding

The Post traveled to Punta Cana, Dominican Republic in June, with Amy Johnson and Grant Gould, of Cedar Springs, for a destination wedding! Grant and Amy became Mr. and Mrs. Grant Gould on June 20, 2017 on Bavaro Beach in Punta Cana. They stopped to take a photo on the beach with the Post during their wedding reception, where they celebrated with 40 of their close family members and friends. The Post they are holding in the photo had their engagement inside.

While in the Dominican Republic, the couple went out on the ocean in a boat and went snorkeling, swam with sharks, swam with stingrays, and got kissed by a sea lion on the cheek! “Punta Cana was absolutely beautiful,” said Amy.

Congratulations to the happy couple, and thank you for letting us be a part of it!

Are you going on vacation? Take the Post with you and snap some photos. Then send them to us with some info to news@cedarspringspost.com or mail them to Post travels, PO Box 370, Cedar Springs, MI 49319. We will be looking forward to hearing from you with your photos and stories.

Check out these classic cars

This painting of an Old Packard was created by Tim Hindenach and is currently hanging in the Cedar Springs Community Library. Photo courtesy of Claudia Mabie.

The library is open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturdays 9 a.m. to noon.

Kent County Youth Fair to kick-off 83 years of family fun and education

The Kent County Youth Fair (KCYF) opens August 7-12 with more than 50 planned attractions, entertainment, and education for West Michigan families.

Earlier this year, the Kent County Youth Agricultural Association (KCYAA) announced a major purchase agreement for the organization. In September of 2017, it will officially purchase a large piece of land, with development beginning in spring of 2019. The area will house new fairgrounds for the annual fair along with many other events throughout the year.

“The has been an especially exciting year for the entire fair community,” says Jon Bieneman, President of the Kent County Youth Fair. “While we look forward what the future holds for the Kent County Youth Fair, we are focusing on making these final years at this location exceptionally memorable. It seems appropriate, considering these grounds have been the source of many family memories and growth in our community for the past 82 years.”

This year’s fair theme is “Raising the Steaks.” Event highlights include:

*Free Carnival rides with completion of registration on Tuesday, August 8
*Expanded Ag Adventure Barn and new FairTRADE Educational Trading Cards
*Handicapped Day rides and lunch on Friday, August 11
*Racing Pigs with shows three times daily
*Free Entertainment Tent with performances daily
*1 full scale Ninja Obstacle Course open daily

To see the full list of events and daily themes, check out the Kent County Youth Fair schedule on their site at https://www.kcyf.org/fair-schedule or turn to page 9-10 to see the schedule in our paper.
Michigan State Attorney General Bill Schuette filed charges on Monday, July 24, in Grand Rapids 61st District Court against eleven former caregivers of the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans.

The charges resulted from a 13-month long investigation. Schuette’s investigation began after the Michigan Attorney General issued a report in February 2016 that was highly critical of operations and conditions at the home.

The charges filed today flow from one of the findings in the Auditor General report dealing with falsification of room checks at the GRH.

In 2016, the Auditor General’s report stated: “The Grand Rapids Home for Veterans was charged in the report with providing misleading or inaccurate information. In particular, the report states that the GRH’s record-keeping was highly questionable.”

In a statement released by the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans, the GRH said: “The former employees being charged are accused of falsifying records to the extent that patients were placed in the home. We are currently working with our legal team to determine the best course of action moving forward.”

Eleni charged in Veteran’s Home investigation

The 13-month investigation included dozens of interviews, comprehensive review of all emergency records now detailed in new report

Jennifer Colin, new 6-12 principal for CTA.

The Cedar Springs Post Thursday, July 27, 2017

Creative Technologies Academy names new 6-12 principal

Creative Technologies Academy, 350 Pine Street, in Cedar Springs, completed a search and announced the appointment of Jennifer Colin as the new principal of grades 6-12 of the Ferris State University-authorized public school academy.

Ms. Colin begins her new position July 26. The searching was created with the departure of Mrs. Carrie Paddock, the principal administrative coordinator with curriculum assessment, and instruction for all grades. Paddock left CTA on July 1 after twelve years as a teacher and administrator to pursue an administrator/instructional coaching position with Choice schools, a charter school management company. CTA is restructuring the instruction and administration team with this transition.

Dan George met with superintendent, School Leader, Autumn Dean, Former Dean of Students, Former Mattson will assume the title and responsibilities of K-5 Principal and Colin

Davenport University will provide the opportunity for WMAES students to gain college credit and facilitated Advanced Placement courses to that school’s curriculum.

Colin’s credentials include a Bachelor of Psychology from Taylor University, a Master of Social Work from Grand Valley University, Master of Education in School Counseling from Grand Valley State University, and a Master of Arts in School Principalship from Central Michigan University. She holds a K-12 School Administrator Certificate, a School Counselor License, and a Master’s in Social Worker Clinical and Macro License from the State of Michigan. She has also received specialized training in the Future Leaders Institute.

Jennifer Colin: “I believe all children have the potential to achieve success. It is our job as educators to work with students and their families in providing the opportunity and help that they need to grow, and become young people who contribute in making our world a better place. Creative Technologies Academy shares this important mission. I chose CTA because they are passionately committed to investing in the lives of children by offering a whole-person approach to education which values developing the minds, character, and self-concept of its students.”

Ms. Colin is married to William Colin, and they have one son.
Have I got “Good News” for you! As Christians, we are the people of the “Good News,” but I wondered if we understand all that is meant by “Good News.” Yes, Jesus came to earth to become one of us. Yes, He lived a perfect life and died for our sins.

Many of us believe and have acted on Romans 10:9-10, “...if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved” (ESV).

We have confessed Jesus as Lord and Savior; we have asked for forgiveness of our sins and are saved from the penalty of those sins. When this happens, the bible tells us that we become a new creation. We become something new and wonderful “in Christ.”

Recently, at a bible camp, I tried to teach five lessons about what the bible tells us related to who we are “in Christ.” I only got through two of the lessons because there is so much. Therefore, I can’t say everything that I would like to say in this article.

The bible says that we who have asked Christ to be our Savior are pure, holy, and blameless. It tells us that we are children of God and have been given an inheritance that is reserved for the firstborn. God dearly loves us, and we are to help others experience that same love (Ephesians 1:4, 1:11, Colossians 3:12, 2 Corinthians 5:18-19).

The word grace in the New Testament means more than graciousness. It literally means that the God who lives in us will move on our hearts to express his character. What does that mean to us? It means that we do not need to be controlled by fear, anger, hate and bitterness. We do not need to be controlled by habits, or impulses or additions. As we let God have control in our lives, his character shines through.

We don’t have to let our tempters get the best of us, or addictive behavior rule our lives. In Luke 4:18-19, Jesus quoted a passage from the Old Testament that said that he was anointed to proclaim the good news; to proclaim liberty or freedom to those in captivity; recover sight for those who are blind; and to set at liberty those who are oppressed (ESV).

In Christ, we are a people who can thrive not just survive. Salvation is not just for when we die, it is for life now. Let me encourage you when you read your bible to look for those phrases, “in Jesus,” or “in Christ.” Embrace all of the blessings God has for you.
Obituary

JOYCE A. EMPIE

Joyce A. (Bremmer) Empie, a lifelong resident of Cedar Springs, passed away Wednesday, July 12, 2017. She was born December 20, 1930 to Morise and Vera (Porter) Bremmer in Cedar Springs, Michigan. She leaves behind her daughter Jomay (Bob) Brand; grandchildren Dana Brand, Justin (Nikki) Brand, and Katie Brand along with great-grandchildren Gavin, Maddie, and Harper. She also leaves behind to cherish her memory her brothers Arwin “Ed” (Nancy) Bremmer, Rex (Kathy) Bremmer, and Arden (Denise) Bremmer; and several nieces and nephews. Joyce was preceded in death by her husband Stanley, her brother Jack, and parents Morise and Vera. Joyce worked at Beach Elementary for many years and enjoyed camping, hunting and spending time with her family. In High School she was a member of the choir. Future Homemakers of America, a cheer leader for three years and a member of the Red Flannel Queen Court. A memorial visitation was held at Pederson Funeral Home after cremation had taken place.

Birthday

Joyce A. (Bremmer) Empie...continued from front page

our area if weren’t for the local newspapers. The Clipper told us about the early days of our town and the surrounding townships. And we can find most issues on microfiche at the Cedar Springs Historical Museum. That’s 100 years of history! The Post carries on that heritage by having a year’s worth of Post newspapers bound in a book each year. We then give that book to the Museum so that future generations can look back on the history we are living today.

Our readers tell us they love the paper. We continue to print 5,000 copies each week with the bulk delivered to newsstands and businesses, and they are gone within days. We wish we were able to cover even more of your local news and print more copies; but as advertising evolves, our revenues have declined, and so has our budget and our staff. The paper is free to our readers, but printing the paper is not free. We have overhead such as payroll, taxes, equipment, and supplies, along with the cost of just getting the paper printed. The Post is supported 100 percent by local businesses advertising on our pages. We sincerely appreciate those businesses that choose to advertise with us because they know that the newspaper and the information it supplies is important to this community.

Besides our printed paper, you can also visit our website at www.cedarspringspost.com to read some of our news stories, or you can download our e-edition from our website, which is an exact replica of our printed paper, as a pdf. You can also like our facebook page for breaking news and/ or updates.

Thank you for letting us into your home each week, and we look forward to our 30th year of serving you.

Fire

...continued from front page

were also evacuated safely. The family was renting the home, and had no insurance. Red Cross was called in to help render aid. Sand Lake Fire was automatically toned out for mutual aid, but then told to disregard, as was Rockford Ambulance.
Community Picnic at Salisbury Park
Aug. 5: The Village of Sand Lake is having a community picnic with free games, food, and fun at Salisbury Park on Saturday, August 5th from 1 to 3 pm. #30

Summer Gospel Music Blowout
Aug. 5: This benefit to support 2nd Chance School will be held on Saturday, August 5th from 3 to 9 pm at 2nd Chance School, 810 – 17 Mile Rd., Cedar Springs. Music starts at 3 pm and will feature a new group each hour with Old Time Gospel Singers, Wayne Jarvie, Stroll Over Heaven, Northwoods Brothers, Traditional Country and Gospel Singers and North Country Band. There will be food, Chinese raffle, and 50-50 raffles. Come enjoy the music and support 2nd Chance. For information contact Mike Hubert 231-335-0728 or Harvey Becker 616-460-1318. #30,31b

Register Now For Free Hunter Education
Aug. 8: To register for firearm Hunter Safety Classes at the Red Flannel Rod & Gun Club, call Jim Pope at 231-834-5445 after 6 pm. Classes at the Club, 7463 18 Mile Rd. Cedar Springs, will be Tuesday, August 8th, from 6-9 pm, Thursday, August 10th from 6:99 pm, Saturday, August 12th, from 8-4 am. Class size limited to 50 students. #29,30b

Pet Show at KDL
Aug. 8: Your pet is a star! Every critter’s a winner in this unique show designed to put the spotlight on your furry, scaly or feathered friend. All acts must pre-register. 616-784-2007. Tuesday, August 8, at 10:30 am – Nelson Township/Sand Lake KDL Branch, 88 Eighth St. For more information visit www.kdl.org. #30

God’s Kitchen in Cedar Springs
Aug. 8-15, 22-29: Join us for dinner every Tuesday. God’s Kitchen – Cedar Springs welcomes families from Northern Kent County and the surrounding area to a Tuesday Evening Meal. No charge – no registration required! Served from 5:30 – 6:30 pm at the St. John Paul II Parish, 3110 – 17 Mile Rd., Cedar Springs. For more information, call the Church office at 616-696-3904. #30

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Mad scramble golf outing for sports boosters
Cedar Springs Brewing Company presents the Kitt F. Fisher Memorial mad scramble golf outing on Monday, August 14, at 11 a.m. at North Kent Golf Course, 11029 Stout Ave. NE. The outing will benefit the Cedar Springs Athletic Boosters. There will be prizes, a hole-in-one contest and a fabulous prime rib dinner by Chef Shaun. Go to csbrew.com/event/mad-scramble-golf-outing/ for more information and to print out a flyer. You can stop by Cedar Springs Brewing Company to sign up or download and print out the flyer and mail to PO Box 34, Cedar Springs, MI. Must be received by Thursday, August 10.

Joke of the Week
A guy came home to his wife and said, “Guess what? I’ve found a great job. A 10 a.m. start, 2 p.m. finish, no overtime, no weekends and it pays $600 a week!” “That’s great,” his wife said. “Yeah, I thought so too,” he agreed. “You start Monday.”
Red Hawk wrestler named All-American

Ryan Ringler received the title of “All American” after placing in the top eight at the Fargo National Wrestling Tournament this summer. Courtesy photo.

Ryan Ringler, 16, the son of Paul and Jane Ringler, is an outstanding athlete who qualified for the Fargo National Wrestling Tournament this summer. He placed in the top eight in both freestyle and Greco-Roman Cadet level, and received the title of “All American” wrestler.

Team Michigan, consisting of one to three wrestlers from each weight class, traveled to the Fargo dome in Fargo, North Dakota on July 15, for the highest level of wrestling competition for high school wrestlers in the U.S. This prestigious eight-day competition is unique. It is the largest, most competitive wrestling tournament, and it is common to see as many as 150-plus extremely tough competitors in a particular weight class. Competing in Fargo is invaluable for a wrestler who wishes to excel at the highest level, such as collegiate or international levels. College coaches and scouts attend looking for the best up and coming talent. Ringler was approached and invited to lunch with a group of college coaches.

This was Ryan’s first time to qualify and attend Fargo. As anticipated, the competition can be, he did exactly what he set out to accomplish, which was to place in both styles of wrestling. He placed 7th in freestyle, taking his first loss immediately and having to do something that is rare, which was to win his way back six consecutive times to place.

Ringler’s determination and upper body strength is remarkable. He was able to place third in Greco-Roman with just one loss to the Illinois Cadet Greco champ, who media claimed was unstoppable. Ringler was dominating this important match with the only points scored, however, after a throw by Ringler and being awarded two points, Illinois challenged it and the two points were removed from Ringler and four points were awarded to Illinois. Illinois gained another point due to Ringler’s head position. Ringler scored the last two points, but time ran out before Ringler could score another 2 points to win. The match ended 4-5. The sting of losing to the Champion by one point was tough, but placing top three and being awarded membership into the USA National team was a goal realized.

Up next for this amazing student athlete is forth weekend where he plans to lead the Cedar Springs varsity team in tackles for the third consecutive year. Then it’s back to training for high school folk style wrestling and researching colleges to attend and wrestle for.

Band car wash

The Cedar Springs High School Band has been working very hard this summer marching and learning to make music come to life. On July 15, they did put on a car wash in a local business parking lot to raise funds to help the band cover the cost of their trips. They are grateful to the community for the generous support they received.

They will be having another car wash on August 26 at Family Farm and Home from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. “Please come out to see us. We’ll put a shine on your car and a smile on your face,” they said.

Cedar Springs grad selected to U.S. Youth Futsal team

Isaiah Schatz, 17, a 2017 Cedar Springs graduate and freshman goalkeeper on the Northern Kentucky University men’s soccer team, was selected to play for the national U.S. Youth Futsal team after participating in the national futsal trials earlier this month.

Futsal is the official indoor soccer game. It is small sided (5v5), played on a smaller pitch (roughly half a basketball court sized) and with a smaller ball. Schatz is currently in Costa Rica with the team, where they will train and play three international matches between July 23 and July 30.

“Anytime someone is called up to represent their country, it is a great honor, and I have no doubt Isaiah will benefit greatly from this experience ahead of his freshman year at NKU,” said head coach Stu Riddle. “I think it speaks volumes to the caliber of players we are recruiting to NKU, and I certainly expect to see plenty more National Team representation from members of this year’s incoming class and in future years.”

Schatz excelled in soccer while at Cedar Springs High School, and also was a member of the track and field team.

Cedar Springs Museum SUMMER CAR SHOW

Special Guest: Michigan State Police & Kent County Sheriff’s Mobil Command Bus

Meijer will serve a grilled hotdog lunch “free” to the public, from 11:00am to 1:00pm. Stop by for lunch. Thank you Meijer!

Cedar Springs SUMMER CAR SHOW in Morley Park on Saturday, July 29 • 8am-2pm

Free to all visitors and only $10.00 to register a car.

The F.F.A. students will sell donuts at 8:00am as a fund raiser for their organization.

Biggby Coffee of Cedar Springs will furnish coffee.

We will have Pat Patin as DJ with her fun collection of music.

Trophies will be given out at 1:00pm to “Best of Show” and the “Top 20” favorites.

The museum uses this car show to help bring programs to our community and especially to allow us to host family programs without charge. We are able to do this because of our generous sponsors. Be sure to thank them when you are in their businesses.


A Special Thank you to D M White for all the fund raising for the Car Show!
3pm-6pm Beef Cattle Check In – weigh in, tagging, RFID check Beef Barn

Saturday, August 6th
9am-6pm Beef Cattle Check In – weigh in, tagging, RFID check Beef Barn
9am-10pm Club Beef Set-Up Foreman Building
9am-5pm Sheep Check In Sharp Tent
Noon-2pm Goat Check In Tent/Tent Barn
1pm-4pm Rabbit & Cavy Check In – Market Rabbit Record Books Due at Check In Rabbit Tent
2pm-4:30pm Pulling & Testing, Health Evaluation & Weigh In of Poultry Poultry Tent
3pm Market Goat Weigh In Sheep Tent
3pm Swine Market Pictures Swine Barn
4:30pm-6pm Pork Dinner bbq pork or chicken with sides($7) or hot dog with sides(S)$4, In the Event Tent
3pm Alpaca Check In Barnyard
6pm All Beef cattle must be on grounds Beef Barn
6:30pm Opening Ceremonies & Royal Court Coronation Official Kick-Off Of Fair! In the Free Entertainment Tent Brought to you by Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce
7pm Goat Team Fitting Reath Barn
8pm Goat Exhibitor Meeting Reath Barn

Monday, August 7th - Heroes’ Day
Heroes’ park free! Active military, Veterans, Fire, Police and EMS show your ID at the gate for free parking and The Kent County Youth Fair thanks you for your service.
8:30am Goat Judging: Showmanship Breed and Market Classes; Costume Contest follows In the Reath Barn
9am Horse Judging: Showmanship In the Horse Arena
9am-1pm Off Road Vehicle Safety Class free, but please register for the class at www.keyc.org. In the King Building. Presented by Kent County Sheriff Department
Noon-2pm Youth Talent Contest Registration Entry forms available at www.keyc.org. Registration in the Free Entertainment Tent
Noon Rabbit Showmanship In the Rabbit Tent
2pm Horse Judging: Grand & Reserve Showmanship In the Horse Arena
3pm Horse Exhibitors: Explorer Showmanship & Riding In the Horse Arena
5pm Rabbit Breed & Market Judging In the Rabbit Tent
5pm Antique Tractor Pull Weigh In At the Track
7pm Antique Tractor Pull Open Event At the Track
6pm Swine Showmanship In the Reath Barn
6pm Horse Judging: Senior/Horsemasters Presentations In the Horse Arena
6:30pm Youth Modeling Judging and Fashion Show Free Entertainment Tent
7pm Youth Talent Contest Open Event with Cash Prizes: You must sign up between Noon and 2pm; see In the Free Entertainment Tent

Tuesday, August 8th - Reading For Rides Day
5pm Beef Steer Market Classes In the Beef Arena
8am Horse Judging: Hunt Seat Ground Poles In the Horse Arena
9am Goat Agility Registration At the Football Field
10am Cattle Fitting Clinic, Team Fitting Contest In the Beef Arena
5pm Cavy Showmanship followed by Breed Judging In the Rabbit Tent
3:30pm Horse Exhibitors: Stick Horse Parade From Midway to Horse Barns/Arena
7pm Club KCYF with the Mid-West Dueling Pianos Laugh, sing & dance with our West-Dueling Pianos In the Free Entertainment Tent
7pm Horse Judging: Pleasure, Hunt, Western In the Horse Arena

Wednesday, August 9th - Ag Adventure Day
8am Beef Steer Market Classes In the Beef Arena
8am Horse Judging: Hunt Seat Equitation In the Horse Arena
8:30am-10am Performing Arts: Storytelling, Puppetry & Theater Judging In the Free Entertainment Tent
9am Goat Milking Contest In the Goat Tent
9am Horse Judging: Hunt Seat, Saddle & Western Pleasure In the Horse Arena
10am Dairy Market Judging: Showmanship, Market In the Reath Barn
10am-12pm Noon Performing Arts: Dance and Other Evaluations In the Free Entertainment Tent
12:30pm-2pm Performing Arts: Clown Judging In the Free Entertainment Tent
1pm Feeder Beef Judging & Beef Breed Heifer Show (time approx. following lunch break) In the Beef Arena
2pm Rabbit & Cavy Individual Quiz Bowl and Breed Identification In the Rabbit Tent
4pm Horse Judging: Reining & Bareback In the Horse Arena
4pm Sheep Judging: Market, Showmanship & Breed In the Reath Barn
5pm Alpaca Obstacle Course At the Football Field
6pm Rabbit & Cavy Costume Class & Adult Showmanship In the Rabbit Tent
6:30pm Horse Exhibitors: Explorer Stick Horse Reining Event In the Practice Arena
6:30pm Horse Judging: Contesting; Speed & Action; Keyhole in the Horse Arena
7pm Draft Horse Pull Using Barnyard Rules. At the Track
7pm Sock Hop... Pull on your Bobby socks and saddle shoes and have a blast at an old-fashioned 50’s style dance! In the Practice Arena

Thursday August 10th - Auction Day
8am Horse Judging: Dressage Tests In the Horse Arena
8am Beef Showmanship In the Beef Arena
10am Rabbit & Cavy Explorer In the Rabbit Tent
10am Livestock Auction Begins; Sale Order: Rabbits, Poultry, Goats, Small Animal Sale of Champions, Swine, Sheep, Feeder Calf, Gallon of Milk, Beef,
Large Animal Sale of Champions in the Reath Barn
Night Horse Judging: Equestrian Dressage: Western: Gymkhana In the Horse Arena
1pm-3pm Youth Variety Show In the Free Entertainment Tent
2pm Tractor Games Check-In Open to the public. Bring your tractor to fair and compete in various events. At the Track
3pm Tractor Games Watch as tractors of all sizes compete in various fun events! At the Track
6:30pm Horse Explorers: Stick Horse Contesting Event In the Practice Arena
6:30pm Horse Judging: Contesting: Flag: Cloverleaf In the Horse Arena
7pm Extravaganza Demonstration Near the Foreman Bldg Presented by Lowell Area Fire Dept
7pm-9:45pm West Michigan Bluegrass Music Association Presents Steam Powered BlueGrass & Out of the Blue Bluegrass at its best! In the Free Entertainment Tent

Friday, August 11th - Handicapable Day
9am Horse Judging: Trail In the Horse Arena
10am Dairy Showmanship Classes: Dairy Breed Classes immediately following In the Reath Barn
11am-1pm Luncheon for Special Needs Individuals Enjoy lunch before your carnival fun! Attending is free but please register at www.kcyf.org. In the King Building

 Noon-2pm Carnival Rides for Special Needs Individuals Carnival rides open to our Handicapped friends only. Attending is free but please register at www.kcyf.org. On the Midway

Noon Horse Explorers: Stick Horse Trail Event In the Horse Arena
1pm Rabbit Agility & Cavy Obstacle Course In the Rabbit Tent
1pm Horse Judging: Grand & Reserve Equitation In the Horse Arena
2pm-4pm Teen Leadership Judging In the Event Tent
2:30pm Tractor Driving Judging At the Track
3pm Adult Goat Showmanship Class In the Goat Tent
3pm Alpaca Showmanship (including Explorers) In the Reath Barn
3pm Horse Judging: Versatility In the Horse Arena
6pm Horse Explorers: Stick Horse Team Games In the Horse Arena
6:30pm Horse Judging: Team Performance Games In the Horse Arena
6:30pm-10:30pm Country Karaoke with Diva Productions Sing & win CASH PRIZES! At the Free Entertainment Tent
7pm Extravaganza Demonstration Next to Foreman Bldg. Presented by Lowell Area Fire Dept
8pm-11pm Family Line Dance with Lia’s Line Dancing & Dance Moves A night of line dancing at our popular barn dance! In the Reath Barn.

Saturday, August 12th - Kids’ Day
$1 parking with 3 or more non-perishable food item donations to the F.R.O.M. food pantry from 9 AM to Noon
8:30am Showmanship Sweepstakes In the Reath Barn
9am Horse Award Ceremony In the Free Entertainment Tent
Noon-5pm DJ the Clown Strolling entertainment Throughout the Grounds
Noon-5pm Photo Booth Get your keepsake photobooth pictures for free
1:30pm DJ the Clown Free Entertainment Tent
2pm Ice Cream Social hosted by the Milky Way 4-H Club Free, while supplies last. Near Guest Services
2pm Alpaca Costume Classes In the Reath Barn
3pm Princess Tea Party Dress up in your finest and join the Royal Court for a party fit for a princess! In the King Building
3pm Puff the Dragon Pedal Pull - Show off your mightiness! In Front of Ron’s John Deere Play Tractor
3:30pm DJ the Clown Free Entertainment Tent
5pm-8pm Release of Horses
7pm Pickin’ Roots You’ll enjoy this journey back in time with Pickin’ Roots’ classic country style! At the Free Entertainment Tent
9pm Release of Breeding Stock & Still Exhibits
10pm Release of Market Animals
11pm Kent County Youth Fair Closes for 2017; Release of all other exhibits

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There is always so much going on at Fair so be sure to pick up a schedule at various Kent County businesses or print your own @ https://www.kcyf.org/fair-schedule/

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Six things we need to stop saying to bereaved parents

Joan Markwell knows the gut-wrenching, hollow feel - - - busy and active out of the body. While that wound may have healed, it is still a scar left as a reminder of the pain that still lives on for many grieving family members, including mothers who are surviving with that pain in many different ways. "When a mother loses a child, the grief dictates her life," says Markwell, author of the book Softening the Grief. "You don't see an end to the pain. As the body reacts to the stress you feel, physical pain follows. Sleep is out of the question." It's a grief that only they markwell—who lost her adult child to cancer—feel the sting of the wound that accompanies their loss.

While that wound may have healed, there is still a scar left as a reminder of the pain that still lives on for many grieving family members, including mothers who are surviving with that pain in many different ways. "When a mother loses a child, the grief dictates her life," says Markwell, author of the book Softening the Grief. "You don't see an end to the pain. As the body reacts to the stress you feel, physical pain follows. Sleep is out of the question." It's a grief that only they...
A sand dune at Silver Lake swallowed up a house in April. Photo from woodtv.com.

Reading the landscape is a development skill taught in middle school Earth science. It is taught to preschoolers by parents. Young minds are open to learning.

The local news reporting advanced sand dunes are burying homes. An Earth science lesson is easily forgotten without experiential learning. The dangers of building or buying a home too close to the big lake can be seen during family or school outings. It is a gamble to determine exactly which homes will get buried.

A trip to Lake Michigan’s shoreline dunes complex for a swim will be a fun outing where one can see trees buried by moving sand at Hoffmaster State Park or in other parks. Some of the trees have adaptations allowing them to produce adventitious roots from trunk roots as their original roots get buried too deep to survive. The new roots give the tree a continued life under tough circumstances.

At some future date, the sand dunes will shift and uncover tree trunks, exposing the roots developed from the growing trunk that was previously high in the air before being buried. If fortunate, the tree will have lived and died before sand is blown away to expose its skeleton.

One might refer to sand dunes as a living, moving, entity, but we are not as predictable as the sand dunes. The result is their home might be buried or exposed by sand depending on where the home was built.

The news showed a cottage that collapsed under the weight of moving sand. People were interviewed about nature’s destroying power. Owners are building barrier operators to move sand to save homes and reservoirs. The reporters hoped the home owners would win the fight against nature’s forces. It is an uphill battle. If the people refused to buy homes close to shore or on shifting dunes, their homes would not be endangered. Many want the shoreline view and are willing to gamble their home to die. The result is their home might be buried or washed into the lake. A Go-fund-me account has been established to help save homes because people cannot afford to hire contactors to keep moving sand.

Learning the risk has processing might have resulted in choosing to live in a safer location. In the 1980’s someone lived homes falling into Lake Michigan when high lake levels undercut foundations. I witnessed multi-million dollar homes fall into the Pacific Ocean as erosion undercut cliffs. The homes were too large to move and should not have been built close to the ocean.

Homes are built on barrier islands along the Atlantic Coast even though barrier islands are known to move and wash away. Classroom education is valuable but field trip experience is essential for learning to read the landscape. Book learning requires supplemental practical experiences to learn to read the landscape. That is why places like the Howard Christensen Nature Center and for parents to take families to natural areas.

I began as director at HCNC in 1986 when an Environmental Education Advocacy Council and School administrator administration required some Kent ISD teachers to bring HCNC to the students. I was told HCNC was securely funded by property taxes. As time passed, and shifting sand education politics changed. I was told environmental education was no longer a priority in America after the early 2000’s presidential election. The Kent ISD stopped funding HCNC. An impact of that decision might result in students losing their homes to nature’s forces when they are grown. We are in a phase of political temperature again when many want to focus only on the present without considering the triple bottom line of economic, social, and environmental impacts for the future. Economic health cannot be sustained without social and environmental sustainability. Security in our personal nature niche depends on the shifting sands of politics and how many want to focus only on the present without considering the future. Economic health cannot be sustained without social and environmental sustainability. Security in our personal nature niche depends on the shifting sands of politics and how many want to focus only on the present without considering the future.

We are in a phase of political temperament again when many want to focus only on the present without considering the future. Economic health cannot be sustained without social and environmental sustainability. Security in our personal nature niche depends on the shifting sands of politics and how many want to focus only on the present without considering the future.

When it’s time to head home from the lake, take steps to ensure aquatic invasive species don’t come with you:

- Remove weeds, mud and debris from boats and gear, and drain live wells and bilges before leaving the landing.
- Give boats and equipment at least five days to dry thoroughly before heading to a different body of water.
- If that’s not possible, clean boats, water receptacles and gear with hot water or a diluted bleach solution before the next trip.
- In short, remember to clean, drain and dry boats, trailers and equipment before leaving the lake.

Above: Michigan is blessed with all types of waterbodies, including scenic locations without much civilization in sight, like this view of Tahquamenon Natural Area between Newberry and Paradise in the state’s Upper Peninsula.

Left: Fishing and boating go hand in hand as staple activities on many of Michigan’s lakes, making huge contributions to the state’s economy, and after a day on the water. Concerned about aquatic invasive species? Consider inviting the free Mobile Boat Wash to a boat launch near you. https://www.michigan.gov/documents/invasives/Boat_wash_flyer_2017_554286_7.pdf or check them out on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/MobileBoatWash/

Take a friend or a young person fishing. Fishing Michigan’s lakes provides an opportunity to spend quality time with family and friends or meet new ones. It is a great way to enjoy one of Michigan’s outdoor recreational opportunities.

It was a team effort for the four kids to bring in the 27.5-inch dogfish and 18.3-inch bass. Sienna and Eli Wolfe and Lincoln and Jaxson Trolla had to take turns fighting the fish to land while recently camping in Empire. Grandpa Wolfe was on hand to keep them calm. Congratulations to Sienna, Eli, Lincoln, and Jaxson for a great Catch of the Week!
The Cedar Springs Post
Thursday, July 27, 2017

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that on Friday, August 18, 2017 at 7:00 a.m. the Planning Commission of the Township of Nelson, Kent County, Michigan, will hold a public hearing at the Township Hall, 2 Maple St., Sand Lake, Michigan, on proposed ordinances to amend the Zoning Ordinance of the Township of Nelson. The principal provisions of the proposed amending ordinances can be summarized as follows:

1. Sign Regulations

The first ordinance would revise Chapter 15 of the zoning ordinance in its entirety to provide for new sign regulations. The regulations include a comprehensive set of definitions to be used when approving sign regulations and provides, with certain exceptions, that a sign shall not be erected or replaced without a sign permit. The ordinance also includes general regulations applicable to signs in all districts covering matters such as sign structure and placement, measurement, illumination and other matters. In addition, the proposed ordinance includes a list of sign types that are specifically prohibited within the Township and includes regulations pertaining to the permissible use of portable and temporary signs. The proposed ordinance also includes provisions regulating signs that are allowed in the various zoning districts and contains other provisions pertaining to signs for special land uses and makes other revisions to Section 3.17 with respect to construction and panning of private roads and with respect to existing private roads.

The text of the proposed ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance are on file and may be examined at the offices of the Township of Nelson Township Clerk, 2 Maple St., Sand Lake, Michigan, during Township office hours. All interested persons may attend the public hearing and comment on the proposed ordinances. Written comments concerning the ordinances may be submitted to the Township office, at the above-stated address, up to the time of the public hearing.

Dated: July 27, 2017
PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NELSON

Lakes

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Skin

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Dr. Lamb suggests treating discomfort right away with a dermatologist-recommended solution that stops the itch and reduces redness. One easy way to apply steroidal treatment to consider is The Iitch Eraser, which contains soothing aloe, vitamin E and tea tree oil to calm, nourish and moisten the skin while reducing redness and inflammation. Available as a gel, spray or cream, it can be used to treat every kind of skin itch, (formulas vary). Find a retailer near you at Thelitchfraser.com. Dress for Success

Whether it’s your blanket on the beach or your sun dress, fabrics should be well-chosen for the warm weather. For maximum comfort, stick with cotton, linen and other breathable choices. Working out? Look for moisture wicking materials that will dry quickly. Also, be sure to protect your scalp from sunburn with a wide-brimmed hat.

Keep it Cool

Hot water is never great for skin, but after too much sun exposure, it can be particularly irritating. Luckily, it’s easy to turn down the heat on your shower in summer. Use the hot water as an opportunity to give skin a break and refresh with cooler water in the shower or bath.

Use Common Sense

Avoid burns and itches to begin with by applying plenty of sunscreen and don’t forget your “fifth,” by taking precautions in wooded areas to avoid poison ivy, oak and sumac. While preparation may not always be top of mind when you’re headed outdoors, be sure to follow the signs by getting side-lined by these issues is even more of a downer.

Additional tips on how to protect and treat your skin this summer can be found at Thelitchfraser.com.

Bereaved

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understand, however, and one that others usually don’t know how to deal with.

“The first time we meet a friend since the death of our child occurs, it’s an emotional day and says Markwell, “It’s not that we don’t want to see them; we just can’t face anyone without tearing up.”

To avoid those awkward situations, Markwell offers up some phrases you should avoid saying to grieving parents and instead offers the following:

• “You are so strong.” In reality we are exhausted from trying to look strong. Try this instead: “I know it’s hard to be strong right now, but I’m here for you to lean on anytime. I have an open heart and time to listen.”

• “Be glad you have other children.” We may have other children, but they cannot replace the child we’ve lost. Try this instead: “I know losing your child has made you feel lonely. I have an open heart and I’m here for you.”

• “My child had a close brush with death, which was terrifying enough. There can be no comparison to actually losing a child.”

• “Tears heal all wounds.” In time the mind covers wounds with scar tissue and pain less. But it’s never gone. Try this instead: “I hope in time your pain and grief will soften. Knowing it will take time, I’m here for you for the long haul.”

• “Everything happens for a reason.” There is never a good enough reason as to why our children were taken. Try this instead: “It is beyond reason for me to lose my child, and from a mother, there certainly was no good reason to lose yours.”

“Though awkward but common questions and statements can trigger grief over and over again,” says Markwell. “When talking to a grieving parent about their lost child, it’s best to take a step back and choose your words carefully.”

About Joan E. Markwell

Joan Markwell is a retired registered nurse and real estate owner who resides in Lovencehurg, KY. She is a former board member of the Lovencehurg (KY) Chamber of Commerce, former board member of the Spencer County (KY) Tourism Board and former vice president of the National Association of Women in Construction. Bluegrass Chapter (Lexington, KY). Markwell lost her daughter Cindy – who was a mother of two herself – to cancer in 2013. Cindy’s children, Autumn and Samuel, are a big part of Markwell’s life, as is her son, Kris Fields.

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The text of the proposed ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance are on file and may be examined at the offices of the Nelson Township Clerk, 2 Maple St., Sand Lake, Michigan, during Township office hours. All interested persons may attend the public hearing and comment on the proposed ordinances. Written comments concerning the ordinances may be submitted to the Township office, at the above-stated address, up to the time of the public hearing.

Dated: July 27, 2017
PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NELSON

Lakes

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time with someone, reunite a friend with a favorite hobby, or introduce someone to a new pastime. Whether it’s taking the boat to that favorite fishing hole or casting from a pier or quiet dock, fishing is a unique way to connect with the water.

Spend a day at the beach. A picnic or a day of swimming is a great way to get the kids outdoors in the summer. A sunset stroll along the shoreline can be a relaxing end to a long, hot day. Perfect day! Looking for a place to take your four-legged best friend? According to bringfido.com, there are 27 dog-friendly beaches across Michigan.

Float your boat. If that boat is still covered and sitting on the trailer, or the kayaks haven’t yet left the garage, it’s time to hit the water. Take a cruise or paddle around the shoreline of your favorite lake to admire the waterfront and flowering plants, or visit a new lake – with more than 1,300 public boating access sites in the state to choose from, it’s easy to plan a water-bound adventure.

The Lakes Appreciation Month proclamation was sup- ported by the Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership, an orga- nization that promotes collaboration to advance steward- ship of Michigan’s inland lakes.
Blood

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Who blood and platelet donations help

Blood shortages could lead to delays in patient care, something Arthur K. Bourget learned firsthand after being diagnosed with leukemia in July 2007. When he arrived for his second blood transfusion, he was told the blood he needed was not available. He waited eight hours for blood to arrive and to receive the transfusion he needed that day.

“One thing that I committed to my wife was that I was going to beat leukemia, no matter what, and I was going to do that,” said Bourget. “But what I wasn’t going to be able to do was survive without the blood that I needed.”

Bourget went into remission following a successful treatment plan, which included 28 blood and 34 platelet transfusions. He has been a faithful advocate for blood donations ever since.

He said. “My daughter would not have been here today,” he said. “My daughter would not have been here today,” he said.

“Look for the green canopy and bright yellow doors”

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The Cedar Springs Post
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Resurrection Lutheran Preschool is hiring a part time assistant teacher. Please email resume to churchresumed@gmail.com or send to P.O. Box 172, Sand Lake, MI 49343 before August 4, 2017. #30.

Treatment facility in northern Kent county area, welcoming new hires with no experience necessary with paid trainings, earned paid time off, flexible schedules, to help our individuals build skills necessary to be independent. We focus on community activities, volunteering, helping individuals become “new me’s”, job placement, daily house meetings, discussing problem-solving, anger management, coping skills, living skills, etc. Applicant must have a background and drug test. Starting pay is 10.00 an hour. Please call Regan 616-835-7680. #31.

We’re accepting new cases for family law, criminal law, business law, and personal injury. #32.
Big-impact ideas for small patio spaces

(BPT) - Do you have a small patio? Do you think you can’t do much with the space due to its size? There’s probably a lot more potential than you think.

From the influx of urban dwellers, empty-nesters in transition and even the tiny-home movement, the trend of downsizing continues across the United States. Contrary to popular belief, you can have an impressive patio even if you have a small outdoor space. Here are a few design ideas to help bring your limited patio area to life while maximizing the space:

Rugs
Add visual interest under foot with a patterned rug. A rug properly placed under a table can break up a smaller floor, giving the illusion of more square footage. Colored rugs are readily available in a variety of designs. Pick your favorite striped, chevron or paisley variety and see what a difference it makes.

Water features
The natural elegance, gentle gurgle and sparkle of a flowing water feature can add a sense of peacefulness to any patio. For smaller spaces, easily turn a decorative water-proof container or planter into a beckoning water feature by simply adding water and a smartpond Low Water Shut-off Fountain Pump. This smart pump automatically shuts off if the water becomes too low, preventing pump burnout. It’s also a great replacement pump option to revitalize a decorative premede fountain that has quit working. Learn more at www.smart-pond.com.

Think vertical
To get the most out of a limited space, think upward instead of outward. Hanging plants are a classic option, but vertical wall gardens are a top trend that’s sure to be a conversation starter. You’ll enjoy plenty of greenery but also open floor space for your furniture, water feature and entertainment to ensure a welcoming area for hosting summer parties.

Built-ins
To get the most out of every inch of your petite patio, look for furniture and features that multitask to help save space while maximizing functionality. An easy solution is to opt for a table that opens to become a cooler for beverages or a bench to hold blankets and other patio extras. Just remember to keep scale in mind so you don’t overwhelm your space with massive furniture.

Mixing materials
Matching is out for 2017, so forget about perfectly paired combos and explore a variety of decor. A great way to try this trend is to add visual interest by experimenting with different materials. Inject your own personality through this trend is to add visual interest by experimenting with combos and explore a variety of decor. A great way to try this trend is to add visual interest by experimenting with different materials.

Vibrant colors
Don’t make the mistake of thinking a small space must have muted colors. Vibrant hues inject energy and style, often making a small patio feel larger than it is in real life. From ocean blues to fuchsia, an accent pillow here and a throw blanket there will transform your space dramatically. From DIY water features to vertical gardens, a small patio doesn’t have to be short on style or functionality. Let these top trends help you create a space you’ll enjoy all year long.
New teen drivers more likely to be in a deadly crash

New teen drivers ages 16-17 years old are three times as likely as adults to be involved in a deadly crash, according to a study from the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety. This alarming finding comes during the “100 Deadliest Days,” the period between Memorial Day and Labor Day when the average number of deadly teen driver crashes climbs 15 percent compared to the rest of the year. Over the past five years, more than 1,600 people were killed in crashes involving inexperienced teen drivers during this deadly period.

“Statistics show that teen crashes spike during the summer months because teens are out of school and on the road,” said Dr. David Yang, AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety executive director. “The Foundation’s research found that inexperienced teen drivers are more likely to be in a deadly crash for Traffic Safety executive on the road,” said Dr. Da. Statistic showing that teen drivers are out of school and crashes spike during the

Fatal teen crashes are on the rise. The number of teen drivers involved in fatal crashes increased more than 10 percent from the previous year, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration’s (NHTSA) 2015 crash data. The latest data available. To reverse this alarming trend, AAA urges parents to help reduce the number of deadly crashes on the road by getting more involved and talking to their teens about the dangers of risky behavior behind the wheel.

“Parents are the front line of defense for keeping our roads safer this summer,” said Jennifer Ryan, AAA Director of State Relations. “It all starts with educating teens about safety on the road and modeling good behavior, like staying off the phone and buckling your safety belt.”

Three factors that commonly result in deadly crashes for teen drivers are:

- **Distracted Driving:** plays a role in nearly six out of 10 teen crashes, four times as many as official estimates based on police reports. The top distractions for teens include talking to other passengers in the vehicle and interacting with a smartphone.
- **Not Buckling Up:** In 2015, the latest data available, 60 percent of teen drivers killed in a crash were not wearing a safety belt. Teens who buckle up significantly reduce their risk of dying or being seriously injured in a crash.
- **Speeding:** speeding is a factor in nearly 30 percent of fatal crashes involving teen drivers. A recent AAA survey of driving instructors found that speeding is one of the top three mistakes teens make when learning to drive.

To keep roads safer this summer, AAA encourages parents to:

- Have conversations with their teens early and often about distraction and speeding.
- Teach by example and minimize risky behavior when driving.
- Make a parent-teen driving agreement that sets family rules for teen drivers. Find one at http://teendriving.aaa.com/MI/

The top distractions for teens while driving include talking to other passengers in the vehicle and interacting with a smartphone.

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AUTO LIFE

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